

Public Document Pack



Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa,
Aberaeron, Ceredigion SA46 0PA
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31 May 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

I write to inform you that a Meeting of Cabinet will be held at the Council Chamber, Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa, Aberaeron and remotely via video conference on Tuesday, 6 June 2023 at 10.00am for the transaction of the following business:

1. **Apologies**
2. **Personal matters**
3. **Disclosure of Personal/ Prejudicial Interests**
4. **To confirm as a true record the Minutes of the previous Meeting of the Cabinet and any matters arising from those Minutes FOR DECISION (Pages 5 - 8)**
5. **Any petitions received FOR INFORMATION (Pages 9 - 14)**
 - a. Objection to the proposed 20mph restrictions
 - b. Objection to the proposed 20mph restrictions
 - c. Objection to the proposed 20mph restrictions
 - d. Objection to the proposed 20mph restrictions
 - e. Objection to the proposed 20mph restrictions
 - f. Objection to the proposed 20mph restrictions
6. **Reports of any decisions (if any) having been called in from Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
7. **Any feedback from Overview and Scrutiny Committee not otherwise on the agenda**

8. **To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Economy and Regeneration upon the Community Housing Scheme Proposal including feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
FOR DECISION (Pages 15 - 92)**
9. **To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Highways and Environmental Services upon the Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (ETROs)
FOR DECISION (Pages 93 - 188)**
10. **To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Highways and Environmental Services upon the Adoption of Unclassified Road at 100 Acre Wood, Cenarth: Widened Road for Adoption
FOR DECISION (Pages 189 - 192)**
11. **To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Highways and Environmental Services upon the Ceredigion County Council (20 mph, 30 mph, 40 mph and 50 mph Speed Limits and Derestricted Roads) (Consolidation) Order 2014 (Various Locations Change to National Speed Limit) (Amendment Order No.23) 2023
FOR DECISION (Pages 193 - 264)**
12. **To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Democratic Services upon the Welsh Language Standards Annual Monitoring Report April 2022 - March 2023
FOR DECISION (Pages 265 - 304)**
13. **To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Democratic Services upon the Ceredigion Language Promotion Strategy Achievement Report over a 5-year period, 2018-23
FOR DECISION (Pages 305 - 382)**
14. **EXEMPT ITEM**

The report (Appendix 1) relating to the item below is not for publication as it contains exempt information as defined in paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended by the Local Government (Access to information) (Variation) (Wales) Order 2007. If, following the application of the Public Interest Test, the Council resolves to consider this item in private, the public and press will be excluded from the meeting during such consideration, in accordance with Section 100B(2) of the Act.

Members will be requested, when dealing with the items, to consider whether to exclude the public and press from the Meeting.

15. **To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Schools and Culture upon Aeron Valley New Area School - Build Contract
FOR DECISION (Pages 383 - 390)**
16. **To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Schools and Culture upon LA Representative on Governing Bodies
FOR DECISION (Pages 391 - 392)**

17. To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Porth Cymorth Cynnar upon the Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales including feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
FOR DECISION (Pages 393 - 422)
18. To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Porth Cymorth Cynnar upon the Official Opening of the Wellbeing Centre, Lampeter
FOR DECISION (Pages 423 - 430)
19. To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Porth Cynnal upon the Care Inspectorate Wales Performance Evaluation Inspection Action Plan including feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee
FOR DECISION (Pages 431 - 460)
20. To note the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Porth Cynnal upon the CYSUR/CWMPAS Combined Local Operational Group Safeguarding Report Qtr 3 2022/23
FOR INFORMATION (Pages 461 - 512)
21. To note the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Policy, Performance and Public Protection upon the Serious Violence Duty - Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022
FOR INFORMATION (Pages 513 - 518)
22. Any other matter the Chairman decides is for the urgent attention of the Cabinet

Members are reminded to sign the Attendance Register.

A Translation Service will be provided at this meeting and those present are welcome to speak in Welsh or English at the meeting.

Yours faithfully



Miss Lowri Edwards
Corporate Lead Officer: Democratic Services

To: The Leader of the Council and Members of the Cabinet
The remaining Members of the Council for information

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Public Document Pack Agenda Item 4

Notice of the Decisions of the **Meeting of the CABINET** held at the Council Chamber, Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa, Aberaeron and remotely on **Tuesday, 2 May 2023**

This Notice is published at 5.00pm on Thursday, 4 May 2023. Requests to call-in any decision to be delivered to the Head of Democratic Services by 5.00pm on Friday, 12 May 2023. The decisions will come into force (if no valid call-in application is received) on Monday, 15 May 2023.

PRESENT: Councillor Bryan Davies (Chair), Councillors Catrin M S. Davies, Clive Davies, Gareth Davies, Keith Henson, Wyn Thomas, Matthew Vaux and Alun Williams.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Councillors Euros Davies, Endaf Edwards, Rhodri Evans, Gareth Lloyd and Caryl Roberts.

(10.00am-11.35am)

195 Apologies

No apologies were received.

196 Personal matters

- i. Congratulations were extended to all involved with arranging the Barley Saturday event held in Cardigan on Saturday.
- ii. Best wishes were extended to Meinir Ebbsworth, Corporate Lead Officer: Schools and Culture as she leaves her role with the authority. She was thanked for her excellent work and wished well for the future. The Chief Executive reiterated the Leader's words.
- iii. Congratulations were extended to Hari Thomas and Dylan Pritchard-Evans on being awarded for their bravery in January 2022 at the Child of Wales Awards 2023 held recently.
- iv. Congratulations were also extended to Felicity Roberts, Welsh for Adults Tutor and Coordinator at Aberystwyth University on her success at the Inspire! Tutor Awards 2023.

197 Disclosure of Personal/ Prejudicial Interests

There were no disclosures of personal/ prejudicial interests.

198 To confirm as a true record the Minutes of the previous Meeting of the Cabinet and any matters arising from those Minutes

To confirm as a true record the Minutes of the previous Meeting of the Cabinet held on 4 April 2023.

Matters arising: There were no matters arising from the minutes.

199 Any petitions received: Objection to the proposed imposition of 20mph speed limit at Stags Head No. 69.1 - B4578 & B4343 intersection

It was noted that the above petition had been received and would be dealt with in accordance with the guidelines in the Petitions Protocol.

200 Reports of any decisions (if any) having been called in from Overview and Scrutiny Committee

None.

201 Any feedback from Overview and Scrutiny Committee not otherwise on the agenda

None.

202 To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Schools and Culture upon the Action Plan - Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-32 including feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

DECISION:

To agree:

- i. to adopt the Action Plan for the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-2032, to implement it from the beginning of the Summer term 2023 and to review it annually;
- ii. that the Action Plan will be monitored through the WESP Language Forum meetings and the Bilingual Futures Committee;
- iii. that an annual report on progress against the Action Plan for the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan is presented to the Language Forum, the Bilingual Futures Committee, the Learning Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and to the Cabinet;
- iv. in accordance with the School Organisation Code, that the Local Authority starts the statutory consultation process of changing the language medium in the Foundation Phase at Comins Coch, Llwyn yr Eos, St Padarn's, Plascrug and Cei Newydd school &
- v. that the consultation regarding changing the admission age at three schools namely Comins Coch, St Padarn's and Cei Newydd, to commence on 15th September 2023.
- vi. To note the feedback from the Learning Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Reason for the decision:

To comply with Section 84 of the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the Welsh Government Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (Wales) regulations 2019.

203 To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Schools and Culture upon the Principles for Ensuring Sustainable Education Infrastructure including feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

DECISION:

- i. To approve the 'Principles for Ensuring Sustainable Education Infrastructure' document (Appendix A).
- ii. To note the feedback from the Learning Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and to agree the role and membership of the already established workstream 'Ensure an effective and efficient infrastructure to meet our priorities'.

Reason for the decision:

Any future re-organisation proposal will be based on one or more of the principles noted in Section 1.2 of the Principles for Ensuring Sustainable Education Infrastructure document and in accordance with the Welsh Government's School Organisation Code 2018.

204 To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Schools and Culture upon the Relationships and Sexuality Education (RSE) Policy including feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

DECISION:

- i) To agree to adopt the contents of the Ceredigion RSE policy.
- ii) That any comments proposed by the Welsh Government are included as amendments to the RSE Policy.
- iii) To note the feedback from the Learning Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Reason for the decision:

To comply with the legal requirements of Curriculum for Wales and provide a clear overview of the responsibilities of schools, to ensure a consistent and high-quality approach to delivering RSE across Ceredigion.

205 To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Porth Gofal upon the Housing Strategy, setting out Ceredigion's vision and plans for housing in the county for the next 5 years including feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

DECISION:

- i. To approve and to begin the formal consultation on the DRAFT Local Housing Strategy 2023-2028.
- ii. To note the feedback from the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- iii. To agree that Cabinet write to Ms Elin Jones, Senedd Constituency Member and to the four regional Senedd Cymru Members, expressing concern that providing sufficient housing according to need in Ceredigion is not possible due to all regulations requiring LPAs under the Habitat Regulations, to consider the phosphorus impact of proposed developments on water quality within the SAC river catchment, as recommended by the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Reason for the decision:

To enable the Council to fulfil the requirements in relation to the strategic housing function.

206 To consider the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Porth Cynnal upon The Our West Wales Adult Advocacy Strategy including feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee

DECISION:

- i. To approve the West Wales Regional Adult Advocacy Strategy.
- ii. To note the feedback from the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Reason for the decision:

To ensure the obligations under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (SSWBA) are met in respect of adult advocacy provisions.

- 207 To note the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Porth Cynnal upon the Statutory Director of Social Services Annual Reports for 2020/2021 and 2021/2022 including feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
Cabinet noted the report and the feedback from the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 208 To note the report of the Corporate Lead Officer for Porth Cynnal upon the Independent Reviewing Service Performance Management Report Qtr. 3 2022/23 including feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
Cabinet noted the report and the feedback from the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 209 Any other matter the Chairman decides is for the urgent attention of the Cabinet**
None.

Confirmed at the Meeting of the Cabinet held on 6 June 2023

Chairman: _____

Date: _____

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 6th June 2023

Title: Petitions received

Purpose of the report: To inform Cabinet of any petitions received

For: Information

**Cabinet Portfolio and
Cabinet Member:** N/A

The following Petitions have been received by the Council:

Petition Title	Number of signatories	Cabinet Member	Local Member (if applicable)
'Objection to the proposed 20mph restrictions'	215	Cllr Keith Henson	Applies to all Members
'Objection to the proposed 20mph restrictions'	36	Cllr Keith Henson	Applies to all Members
'Objection to the proposed 20mph restrictions'	8	Cllr Keith Henson	Applies to all Members
'Objection to the proposed 20mph restrictions'	6	Cllr Keith Henson	Applies to all Members
'Objection to the proposed 20mph restrictions'	1	Cllr Keith Henson	Applies to all Members
'Objection to the proposed 20mph restrictions'	1	Cllr Keith Henson	Applies to all Members

The relevant service will now consider the contents of the petitions.

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If not, please state why N/A – this report informs Cabinet of the receipt of petitions only

Wellbeing of Future Generations: *Summary:*
Long term: N/A
Integration: N/A
Collaboration: N/A
Involvement: N/A
Prevention: N/A

Recommendation(s): For Cabinet to note receipt of the following petitions relating to 'Objection to the proposed 20mph restrictions'

Reasons for decision:	To inform Cabinet of the receipt of petitions, for further consideration by the relevant service as part of statutory consultation
Overview and Scrutiny:	N/A
Policy Framework:	Council Constitution and Petitions Protocol
Corporate Priorities:	N/A
Financial and Procurement implications:	N/A
Statutory Powers:	N/A
Background Papers:	N/A
Appendices:	Appendix A – Petition wording
Corporate Lead Officer:	Lowri Edwards, Corporate Lead Officer: Democratic Services
Reporting Officer:	Lowri Edwards
Date:	9 th May 2023

27/04/2023

Ceredigion Technical Services technical.services@ceredigion.gov.uk , clic@ceredigion.gov.uk or

Legal Services, c/o

Postroom, Ceredigion County Council, Canolfan Rheidol, Rhodfa Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr,
Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3UE

Please find enclosed a petition in response to the consultation on the proposed 20MPH restrictions

There are in excess of 200 names ,all local, on these forms.

I collected these names over at three local functions and they represent a good cross section of Ceredigion residents. I only encountered one individual that was in favour of the introduction of this restriction as the vast majority were aghast of the restriction.

Statistically this equates to 99.5% of the residents of Ceredigion agreeing that they are against the introduction of this 20mph. restriction.

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL
RECEIVED
27 APR 2023
CANOLFAN RHEIDOL

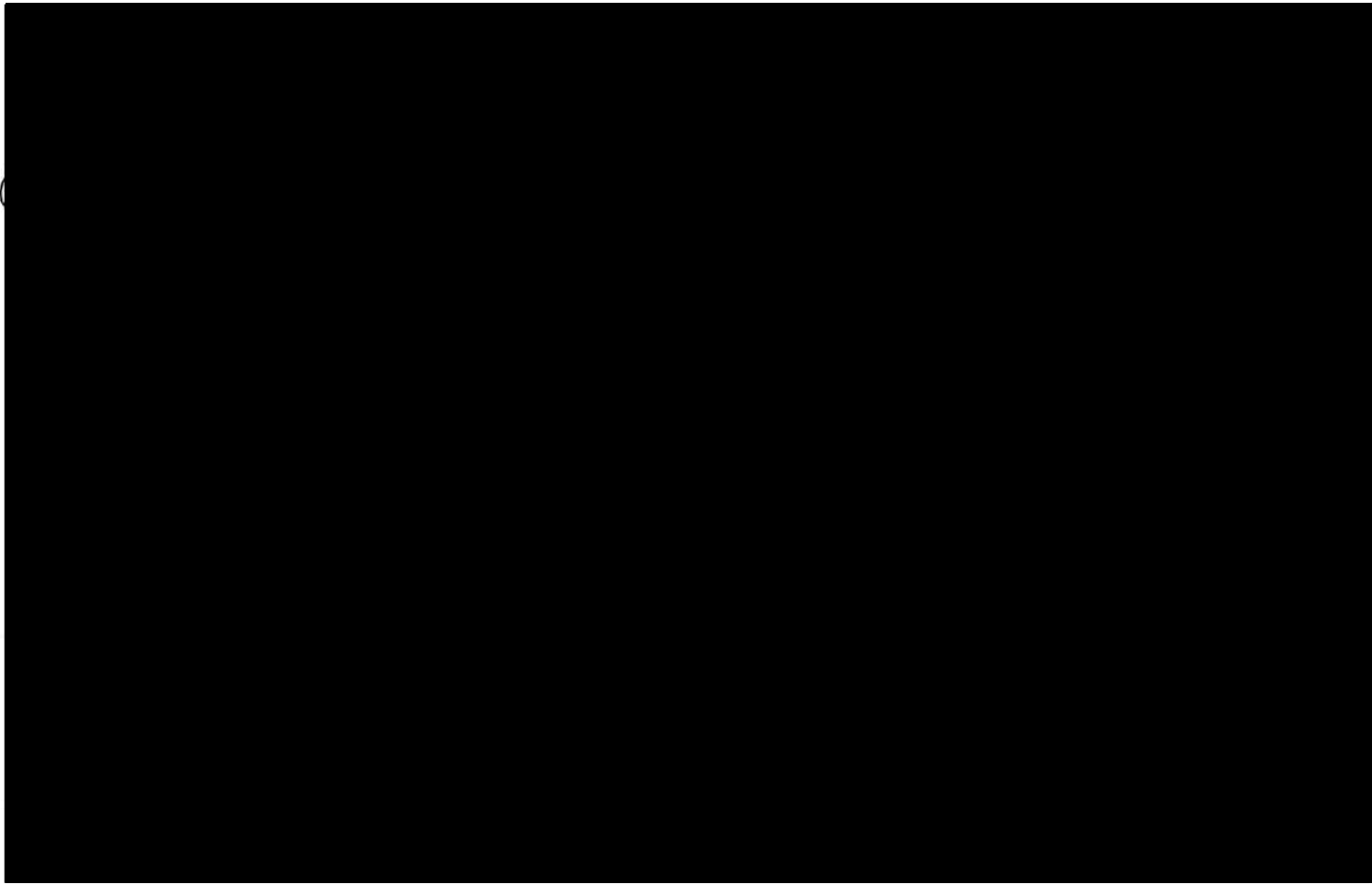
Yr ydym ni sydd wedi arwyddo isod yn gwrthwynebu i'r elfen 20mya sydd yn gynmwysiedig o fewn Gorchymyn Cyngor Sir Ceredigion (Terfynau Cyflymder o 20mya, 30mya, 40mya a 50mya a Ffyrdd Heb Gyfyngiad) (Cydgrynhai) 2014 (Newid yn y Terfyn Cyflymder Cenedlaethol Mewn Amrywiol Lefydd) (Gorchymyn Diwygio Rhif 23) 2023 am y rhesymau canlynol:-

Nid oes prwf ddigonol y bydd unrhyw welliant mewn diogelwch ar y ffordd , ac fe ellir dadlau y bydd gostwng y cyflymder I 20mys. Yn achosi mwy o ddamweiniau.

Mewn ardal wledig fel Ceredigion ni fydd gostwng y cyflymder yn annog teithio llesol a chynaliadwy , yn enwedig pan mae y gwasnaethau bws yn crebachu.

Mae cymffurfiaeth â terfynau cyflymder ardaloedd preswyl yn bodoli yn barod .

Mae angen I ni ddangos fod gennym feddwl ein hunan a peidio a dilyn polisiau Cenedlaethol sydd yn mynd I amhari ar fwyd ein cymunedau drwy heleuthu pob siwrnau a codi costiau pob busnes leol.



We the undersigned wish to formally object to the 20mph. Element of the Ceredigion County Council (20 mph, 30 mph, 40 mph and 50 mph Speed Limits and Derestricted Roads) (Consolidation) Order 2014 (Various Locations Reduction of National Speed Limit) (Amendment Order No.23) 2023, for the following reasons:-

We are not convinced that reducing the speed to 20mph. Will have any road safety benefits and will actually increase the amount of accidents.

In a rural area such as Ceredigion reducing the speed to 20mph will not encourage active and sustainable travel. especially when bus services are reducing

There is already consistency in the 30mph in most residential areas.

Ceredigion needs to stand against Welsh Government policies that are designed to have an adverse effect on our rural communities and increase the cost of rural businesses.

Enw /Name

Cyfeiriad /Address



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CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 6th June 2023

Title: Community Housing Scheme Proposal

Purpose of the report: For Cabinet to consider the proposal for the Community Housing Scheme

For: Decision

**Cabinet Portfolio and
Cabinet Member:** Councillor Clive Davies, Cabinet Member for
Economy and Regeneration

BACKGROUND:

Affordable Housing in Ceredigion is a key priority of the Corporate Strategy, the Wellbeing Plan, the Housing Strategy and the Local Development Plan and the Council deploys significant resources in creating and managing affordable housing.

We know from the latest Local Housing Market Assessment (2019) there is a need for 32% of all housing to be affordable. Background work for the LDP and the Housing Strategy (2023-2028) demonstrates that a greater variety of 'affordable products' are needed to meet the needs of those seeking different types of affordable home. However, the greatest demand remains within the social rented unit sector which stands at 67% of all affordable housing need (LHMA 2019).

'Community Housing' seeks to support people to meet their affordable housing needs in their local communities by creating a pathway to home ownership.

The Council made a commitment to support such a scheme in March 2022:

Council Minute; Meeting of Council, Thursday 3rd March 2022 – Item 13

<https://Council.ceredigion.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=2258&LLL=0>

Following a vote, it was **RESOLVED** that:

a) *The Council decision 24/03/2016 Minute 12) Report of the Deputy Chief Executive upon the Council Tax Premiums for long-term empty homes and second homes, point 4 be amended as follows:*

“4.a) The level of Council Tax Second Homes Premium charged to be set at 25% (with effect from 1 April 2017); and,

b) that all monies raised from the 25% Council Tax Second Homes Premium (net of the Council Tax refunds), be ring -fenced and used to support the Community Housing Scheme.”

- b) *That all monies raised from the 25% Council Tax Second Homes Premium between the period 01/04/2017 to 31/03/2022 (net of Council Tax refunds), to be ring-fenced and used to support the Community Housing Scheme.*
- c) *That all monies raised from the 25% Council Tax Second Homes Premium from 01/04/2022 (net of the Council Tax refunds), to be ring-fenced and used to support the Community Housing Scheme.*
- d) *That from 01/04/2022, all monies raised from the 25% Council Tax Empty Homes Premium (net of the Council Tax refunds), be ring-fenced, and used to support the Community Housing Scheme.*
- e) *That Council decision 16/03/2017 minute 8.b) Council Tax Premiums on Second Homes, be revoked*
- f) *That details of a shared equity element of the scheme are prepared and agreed within 12 months of the Council decision and that work continues on the other options.*
- g) *The possibility of establishing a Community Benefit Scheme be deferred for one year.*

The attached papers outline a proposed Community Housing Scheme for Ceredigion. Enclosure A provides an overview of the scheme including the key points, whilst the full detail can be found in Enclosure C.

Also attached at Enclosure D is the feedback from the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 13 March 2023. In relation to the three suggestions made, the Task and Finish Group reconvened to consider them and provide further comments as follows.

1. *That the Council undertake their own formal structural survey on the subject property, to assess its condition, prior to a formal offer.*

Following consideration, Officers have concluded that this is cost prohibitive and would lead to protracted timescales to undertake the valuations as these would need to be procured from an external organization, there being no capacity inhouse. Therefore, it is suggested that should the mortgage lender be satisfied (where the greatest financial risk lies) then the Council can also be satisfied. This would then reduce the need to undertake further checks to ensure works were completed satisfactorily and the need to commission surveyors to also do this work. Where there is no mortgage required, then the applicant would be required to submit a suitable survey report as part of their application. However, the guidance for the scheme will include that it might be in the interest of the applicant for them to have a structural survey undertaken. And that if the property has been constructed within the last 10 years then they should check to see if the property is covered by the National House Building Council (NHBC) warranty or similar scheme and, if so, that applicants should have sight of that.

2. *That any formal offer to lend by the Council is conditional on any works identified in the Council' survey. Works should then be undertaken within a given amount of time – suggest possibly six months*

Given the comments at 1. above, this would not be applicable.

3. *The report (attachment A of the agenda papers) states that ‘the Council loan can be for a period no longer than the period of the associated mortgage’ - consideration of the repayment of the loan needs to be given to those with no mortgage so that repayment is made either upon first sale or transfer of the property.*

This was duly considered and accepted and will form part of the application process. Any loan would be for a maximum period of 25 years then pay back is required. Equity release would be an option for repayment should the owner have insufficient funds and a mortgage or loan be unaffordable. To ensure the incentive to staircase early is clear, repayment will be at the actual amount borrowed, unless at the end of the loan period / 25 years – then the higher of loan amount versus % value of the property is to be paid.

Scrutiny also suggested that the payment timings of commuted sums for market housing be reconsidered and that members form part of the task and finish group. These fall outside the scope of the current work but will be considered in other workstreams.

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why Yes

Summary:

Long term: The scheme is designed to ensure the long-term support of Ceredigion residents to secure a home. Thus, supporting those in housing need to remain in their communities.

Collaboration: The scheme is a collaborative piece of work across multiple service areas reflecting and building on the evidence base we have regarding affordability difficulties in the county much of which has been the subject of public engagement such as the Housing Strategy, the LDP, The Corporate Strategy and the Well Being Plan.

Wellbeing of Future Generations:

Involvement: The community have been involved in communicating their needs through other consultations, this scheme aims to address them through internal collaboration.

Prevention: The scheme is designed to prevent those qualifying households from being priced out of the market, prevent rural decline and further depopulation.

Integration: The scheme is integrated into work alongside the LDP, The housing strategy the Corporate Plan and the Well-Being Plan.

Recommendation(s): To approve the Community Housing Scheme Proposal.

Reasons for decision: To support a new route to affordable home ownership for the residents of Ceredigion who qualify.

Overview and Scrutiny:	Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Policy Framework:	The Local Development Plan, The Well Being Plan, The Corporate Strategy, The Housing Strategy.
Corporate Well-being Objectives:	The Community Housing Scheme aligns with the Wellbeing Plan 2018-2023 Community Resilience Aim 1 'Enable Communities to become more prosperous, sustainable, and connected by supporting the transformation of economic prospects. Improve physical and digital infrastructure to support economic development, including suitable and affordable homes.' It is not in conflict with any of the wellbeing aims and indirectly supports all of them.
Finance and Procurement implications:	There will be finance implications in that the finance necessary to fund the scheme is to be taken from the Second Homes pot as per council decision referenced in the main report. It is hoped that over time the scheme can be partly self-financing as loans are re-paid. Though this is a longer-term ambition. The finance team will be involved in the management of the scheme.
Legal Implications:	The scheme is similar to an existing legacy scheme from the 1990s for which the legal team are familiar. They have influenced the scheme design and will be involved in managing the loan process.
Staffing implications:	Some staff costs will occur in managing the scheme and this has been factored in the scheme costings for which a top slice has been made from the total scheme costs. The staff managing the scheme are all existing members of staff with work re-profiled to ensure capacity.
Property / asset implications:	The council will not be landowners in this context but will have an interest in the properties which can be realised throughout the 25-year period to Mortgage end. The council's interest will crystallise at payments made by the homeowner throughout the 25-year period based on the initial investment made, or the percentage share value of the property at the end of the 25-year period.
Risk(s):	The main risks from the scheme stem from the fact some homeowners could potentially face repossession and then the council's interest would be secondary to the main mortgagee. However, in the Council's history of offering similar products this has not happened to date.
Statutory Powers:	The finance and legal team are content this falls within the authority's statutory powers to exercise.

Background Papers: None

Appendices: Enclosure A – Overview of Community Housing Scheme Proposal
Enclosure B – Potential Scheme Reach
Enclosure C – Full community Housing Scheme Proposal Report
Enclosure D – Feedback from the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Corporate Lead Officer: James Starbuck, Corporate Director

Reporting Officer: Sarah Groves-Phillips and Llyr Hughes

Date: 13 March 2023

OVERVIEW OF COMMUNITY HOUSING SCHEME PROPOSAL

Report of:	James Starbuck, Corporate Director
Reporting Officers:	Sarah Groves-Phillips, Planning Policy Officer Llyr Hughes, Corporate Manager – Housing Services
Date:	14 th February 2023
Subject of the Report:	Relaunch of a Community Housing Scheme
Purpose of the Report:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To propose a new scheme that supports our Affordable Housing principles and that is fit for the current financial climate. • To seek direction regarding progress through the democratic processes

Background

On average, 45 new affordable homes are delivered each year through planning gain and the social housing grant (SHG). Since the start of the LDP period (2008) 675 new affordable homes have been delivered countywide.

However, this is not enough, and by any measure, there is a greater need than we can presently supply. The ‘Community Housing’ scheme seeks to support people with affordable housing in their local communities by creating pathways to home ownership. The most common way to do this is through a shared equity product.

- Potential purchasers get a mortgage for c.50-70% share of the home
- The Council holds a share,
- The Council offers an opportunity for the owners to ‘staircase up’ to higher share ownership of the property over time as their circumstances change.

Such a proposal was taken through Council by the last administration. A Task and Finish Group has since identified that a repeat of the scheme is deliverable but, to make best use of resources, some tweaks to the parameters are required.

This paper sets out the potential eligibility criteria, sources of funding and management overheads of such a product, as well as a range of alternative options that could be pursued to further fund the scheme once the initial pot is utilised.

Demand for the Scheme

Since the Council made a commitment to create a scheme, press interest suggests there is strong demand for Council-backed support for affordable housing. With the housing market more constrained, local demand for housing support is still high (approx. 1,748 active applications on the Housing Register).

There already exists a stock of over 4,000 affordable homes across Ceredigion of varying tenures (over 12% of the total housing stock countywide). However, this is

Enclosure A

not enough to meet demand as the existing properties are generally restricted to those people in most need (social rented). There remains a group of people who we may consider in 'intermediate need' that wish to purchase or rent properties in their local communities who are 'priced out of the market' due to the increasing demand for rural properties and availability of affordable units in rural settlements.

When the original Scheme was developed, the approach was to offer a shared equity product like the previous 'HomeBuy' scheme, essentially providing occupiers with a 20-40% share of the property value held as a legal charge on the property and at subsequent sale the charge would be repaid to the Council. It was recognised that this would potentially only be able to help a small number of people with the finance available to the Council to implement the scheme.

Several national & local incidents have since impacted the housing market:

- *cost-of-living crisis*: impacting energy bills and mortgage rates.
- *mortgage market volatility*: becoming more restrictive with borrowing being reduced to many people; responding to the squeeze on household incomes
- *phosphates issue*: restricting development across >45% Ceredigion (and expected to widen), compounding the issue of house prices rising locally.

These issues are restricting the borrowing capacity of local people and means the county needs more creative solutions that neither risk negative equity nor set them up to purchase a home they cannot afford to run; especially given most Ceredigion residents rely on off-grid heating solutions. Given this changing picture, a tighter cap on the amount of shared equity the Council commits needs to be applied to:

- maximise the benefit of the scheme
- ensure people are receiving support to purchase homes they won't then struggle to maintain and heat
- ensure they are not so reliant on the Council's investment that they are unable at some future point to staircase out of an intermediate product

In addition, nationally, concerns around empty properties persist, and Welsh Government have since required all authorities in Wales to prepare an empty property action plan and introduced a range of mechanisms to bring them back into occupation and this needs to influence the design of any new scheme.

Further thinking has also emerged to support people to staircase out of affordable housing, releasing funds to recycle the benefit to future users of the scheme. The previous scheme did not specifically address this issue and effectively locked people into the scheme until re-sale. This meant that demand outstripped supply quite quickly. An unintended impact also saw potential for people to access the scheme who had alternative options but saw it as a mechanism to access a property without committing their own capital.

The New Scheme

The proposed amendments are in line with changes to national policy, namely Future Wales' The National Plan 2040 which sets a stricter housing requirement on the region. Constraints related to phosphates issues, and the empty property action plan mean repurposing our existing housing stock for modern use is a key priority of the 'in development' housing strategy.

Therefore, in considering how the Community Housing Scheme can **maximise** the support available to people, the following recommendations are made;

1. A **minimum deposit** will be required by applicants of 5% of the full purchase price to access the scheme, thereby ensuring all parties involved have committed capital. This will also help protect the value of the Council's equity share in the event of falling house prices.
2. The maximum amount of shared equity percentage the Council should contribute to **occupiable housing** should be no more than 20%, to ensure the available pot can be maximised. And at a future point in time occupiers can re-mortgage to staircase out of the scheme.
3. The maximum amount of shared equity percentage the Council should contribute to **registered empty properties** is 40%, reflecting the higher costs in bringing empty homes back into substantive use. This cap has been widened beyond that of 'ready to move in housing' recognising that the costs involved in bringing homes back into use will be higher and homeowners will need capital for renovations as well as purchase. There are also less concerns around negative equity as the works undertaken on the home should ensure a return on investment for the homeowner.
4. The **maximum house price** should reflect the average Ceredigion house price with a small buffer to ensure sustainability assuming prices continue to rise. and will, for the scheme relaunch, be set at £300,000 which is broadly the average house price in Ceredigion (£278,920) with a 5-10% buffer. The house price cap will be reviewed annually at the start of financial year and continue to reflect the methodology outlined above.
5. Priority should be given to proposals whereby bringing back an **empty home** into substantive use is a key principle.
6. The scheme will be managed on a **first come, first served** basis.
7. Formal **staircasing** options will be included in the shared equity agreement, encouraging staircasing within specified timeframes. This crystallises the Council's investment at earlier intervals than the previous scheme and ensures people are not locked into an intermediate product in perpetuity.
8. That **participation** in this scheme would not prohibit householders from accessing other support such as empty property grants etc.
9. **Ongoing resourcing** of the scheme will be required to ensure its future sustainability; thus, the funding pot will be top sliced to ensure that officer time to administer the scheme is factored into the overall cost with an allowance for future cost rises.

Enclosure A

10. The task and finish group would also recommend conditions relating to the repayment of the loan, which may themselves drive demand to staircase:

- a requirement to repay the cash amount loaned OR the equivalent percentage value of the property, whichever is higher

and

- that the Council loan can be for a period no longer than the period of the associated mortgage

11.

The proposed eligibility for the scheme mirrors the existing scheme. In brief,

- it must be the applicant's only home,
- they must have 5 years occupancy in Ceredigion at any point in their lifetime (or specific Key Worker / Carer exemptions) and,
- they must not be able to afford a mortgage for 10% more than the agreed AH valuation of the property.

Risks

Overall, the risk to the Council arising from this scheme is deemed to be low and, where there are areas of risk, there are several mitigation options that will reduce that risk to an acceptable level.

The main risk stems from the unknown direction of the property market in the short-term, particularly in view of the comparatively high house prices being seen in the county. The risk crystallises if the Council provides equity to support a purchase and the buyer then decides/needs to sell the property within a short period of time where the market may be going through a 'correction'. This will lead to the Council receiving less equity back than it paid out. As the scheme would operate legally as a 2nd charge on the property, if the mortgagee were to default then the mortgage company as the 1st charge would be the priority for repayment. Whilst this has to date (as far as we are aware) never occurred to CCC, it is a risk.

Over the longer term we would expect the market to increase, as has historically proven the case.

Turnover & Funding

A further item to consider is the level of demand of occupiers to staircase to full ownership. Some owners will be keen to own the entirety of the property (and will actively re-mortgage within the timescales set by the scheme), providing the authority with the deposit back in good time. Others, for a variety of reasons, will not. The legal agreements for the scheme, will provide guidance as to when this is required and what may constitute exceptional circumstances.

There will be a resource implication to administer the programme and it is recommended that a budget provision is provided to the relevant services; top sliced from the funding raised from the Second Home Premium.

Enclosure A

Allowing for the time spent by officers per application, the expected number of applications (likely higher in the first year) and some initial setup of databases and processes, the suggested budget per service is shown below. In subsequent years, the amounts may need revising to cover pay awards.

Table 4: Budget Provision for Services from Community Housing Fund

Service	Year 1	Annually Year 2 onwards
Economy & Regeneration / Housing	£13,500	£6,500
Finance & Procurement	£4,000	£2,500
Legal & Governance Services	£1,000	£500
TOTAL	£18,500	£9,500

The scheme will be funded by the money raised from the 25% Council Tax Second Homes Premium. As at 31st March 2022 there was £1.12m available in the reserve with an estimated £400k to be added for the financial year 2022/23. This means there will be an estimated £1.5m available at 31st March 2023. Going forward it is estimated that the Council Tax Second Homes Premium will continue to raise £400k per annum to fund this scheme.

In addition to the Council Tax Second Home Premium, funding will be released as equity loans are repaid to the Council as properties are sold or when owners staircases to full ownership.

Enclosure B – Potential Scheme Reach

With the estimated funding available at 1st April 2023 (£1.5m), there is potential to assist the purchase of a minimum of 25 occupiable properties **or** 13 empty properties at a maximum purchase price of £300k, more if assuming a lower valuation. The likely outcome will be a mix but with more occupiable properties supported rather than empty properties.

Annually thereafter it is anticipated the Council Tax Second Home Premium at the current 25% premium will continue to raise circa £400k for this scheme. Assuming a £300k maximum purchase price, this will support an estimated minimum of 7 occupiable **or** 3 empty property purchases.

It should be noted that if the second home premium charge increases, then the available pot could be increased to reflect higher returns.

As purchasers staircase to full ownership of their property (and effectively purchase the Council's equity share of their property) these funds will be recycled into the scheme funding pot to allow further households to be supported. It is difficult at this stage to estimate when this staircasing will occur.

Table 1: Equity Share Illustration

	<u>Occupiable Property</u>		<u>Empty Property</u>	
Assumed Maximum Purchase Price @ £300,000		£300,000		£300,000
<u>Funded by Equity Share:</u>				
Purchaser	5%	£15,000	5%	£15,000
Ceredigion County Council	20%	£60,000	40%	£120,000
Mortgage	75%	£225,000	55%	£165,000
		£300,000		£300,000
Assumed Maximum Purchase Price @ £200,000		£200,000		£200,000
<u>Funded by Equity Share:</u>				
Purchaser	5%	£10,000	5%	£10,000
Ceredigion County Council	20%	£40,000	40%	£80,000
Mortgage	75%	£150,000	55%	£110,000
		£200,000		£200,000

The previously highlighted changes will ensure that corporate priorities are prioritised, guard against abuse of the scheme, and encourage crystallisation of the committed capital at earlier intervals than previous schemes. It is anticipated that the following number of households could be supported based on the relative percentage shares of invested capital:

Enclosure B – Potential Scheme Reach

Table 2: Households Supported

	<u>All as Occupiable Properties</u>	<u>All as Empty Properties</u>
Estimated Funding available 1st April 2023	£1,500,000	£1,500,000
Equity Required Per Property (£300k Purchase Price)	£60,000	£120,000
No. Purchases Available	25	13
Equity Required Per Property (£200k Purchase Price)	£40,000	£80,000
No. Purchases Available	37	18

Opsiynau Tai Cymunedol

Community Housing Scheme



Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council

Enclosure C

Executive Summary

Affordable Housing in Ceredigion is a key priority of the Corporate Strategy, the Wellbeing Plan, the Housing Strategy and the Local Development Plan and the Council deploys a significant number of resources in creating and managing affordable housing.

- On average, 45 new affordable homes are delivered each year through planning gain and social housing grant (SHG).
- Since the start of the LPD period (2008) 675 new affordable homes have been delivered countywide.
- Affordable homes now stand at approximately 12% of total county wide housing stock.

However, this is not enough and by any measure there is a greater need than we can presently supply.

There are 3 main types of affordable home in Ceredigion

- social rent,
- discounted for sale and,
- a variety of types delivered through national Welsh Government led schemes.

We know from the latest Local Housing Market Assessment (2019) there is a need for 32% of all housing to be affordable. Background work for the LDP and the Housing Strategy (2023-2028) demonstrates that a greater variety of 'affordable products' are needed to meet the needs of those seeking different types of affordable home. However, the greatest demand remains within the social rented unit sector which stands at 67% of all affordable housing need (LHMA 2019).

Fortunately, Welsh Governments priority is also in affordable housing and this year, and the coming years, sees the highest levels of SHG funding available to Ceredigion to build on its extensive housing program. This, alongside the planning gain-delivered affordable homes has often been at the higher end of delivery per capita of population of all local authorities in Wales.

'Community Housing' is seeking to support people to meet their affordable housing needs in their local communities by creating a pathway to home ownership. The most easily understood way to do this is through a shared equity product.

- Potential purchasers get a mortgage for the 50-70% share of the home they need
- the Council holding the remaining share,
- The Council offers an opportunity for the owners to 'staircase up' to higher share ownership of the property over time as their circumstances change.

This was a proposal taken through Cabinet and Council by the last administration. A Task and Finish Group, set up to consider all available forms of affordable home

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ownership, has identified that this scheme is deliverable but to make best use of resources, some tweaks to the original proposal are required. Alongside this are proposals of other options that should be explored to maximise the number of people who can be supported.

Deposit Support & Shared Equity has been recommended as the most appropriate vehicle for supporting community housing as, typically, Rent to Own (R2O) schemes have suffered with a range of problems including

- mortgage ability,
- rent arrears,
- lack of staircasing to higher share ownership,
- difficulty managing the scheme and,
- viability issues.

Many other R2O type products have been withdrawn nationally due to these such problems.

Utilising existing eligibility criteria and the experience of the policy and housing teams in managing affordable homes countywide, alongside the housing team's knowledge of the homebuy scheme and desire to extend it, has Ceredigion well placed to introduce and manage such a product.

This paper outlines the existing situation in relation to affordable homes and sets out the eligibility criteria, potential sources of funding and management of such a product in greater detail. As well as range of alternative options that could be pursued to further fund the scheme once the initial pot is utilised.

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1. Community Housing - the ambition...

To support local people to access affordable housing in rural communities that meets their needs.

2. Lessons Learned

Since the Council made a commitment to support such a scheme and with the subsequent press interest, it is clear there is a strong demand for Council backed support for affordable housing. However, the scheme as originally envisaged could only support a small number of applicants due to the limited funding pot available. The housing market has also become more constrained with interest rates rising, house prices rising, lending drying up and demand locally still high.

Council Minute; Meeting of Council, Thursday 3rd March 2022 – Item 13

<https://Council.ceredigion.gov.uk/mgAi.aspx?ID=2258&LLL=0>

Following a vote, it was **RESOLVED** that:

- a) The Council decision 24/03/2016 Minute 12) Report of the Deputy Chief Executive upon the Council Tax Premiums for long-term empty homes and second homes, point 4 be amended as follows:
 - “4.a) The level of Council Tax Second Homes Premium charged to be set at 25% (with effect from 1 April 2017); and,
 - b) that all monies raised from the 25% Council Tax Second Homes Premium (net of the Council Tax refunds), be ring-fenced and used to support the Community Housing Scheme.”
- b) That all monies raised from the 25% Council Tax Second Homes Premium between the period 01/04/2017 to 31/03/2022 (net of Council Tax refunds), to be ring-fenced and used to support the Community Housing Scheme.
- c) That all monies raised from the 25% Council Tax Second Homes Premium from 01/04/2022 (net of the Council Tax refunds), to be ring-fenced and used to support the Community Housing Scheme.
- d) That from 01/04/2022, all monies raised from the 25% Council Tax Empty Homes Premium (net of the Council Tax refunds), be ring-fenced, and used to support the Community Housing Scheme
- e) That Council decision 16/03/2017 minute 8.b) Council Tax Premiums on Second Homes, be revoked
- f) That details of a shared equity element of the scheme are prepared and agreed within 12 months of the Council decision and that work continues on the other options.
- g) The possibility of establishing a Community Benefit Scheme be deferred for one year.

To assess how best to move this ambition forward a Task and Finish Group of technical officers was established to look at whether the original scheme could still be delivered, given heightened negative equity risks, or whether an alternative scheme could be supported. This paper examines the present situation as well the options that could be taken forward.

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3. What Affordable Homes do we have?

There are 3 main types of affordable homes in Ceredigion, and these are:

- 1. Social Rented properties** – these properties are owned and managed by Registered Social Landlords (RSLs). These homes are allocated from the Housing Register, there are 3437 social rented homes in Ceredigion and approximately 1746 people on the waiting list (July 2021). The homes are allocated on a priority basis to those in greatest housing need.
- 2. Discounted for Sale properties** - these homes are often known as Affordable homes and are available to purchase at a discounted value (usually 70% of open market value). There are 278 affordable homes across Ceredigion with a further 195 consents available to be developed.
- 3. National Affordable Housing schemes** – there are a range of schemes from Welsh Government (WG) that support people to purchase or rent an affordable home and developers usually advertise and manage these schemes through estate agency routes. Some new homes developed in recent years in Llanon, Penrhyncoch and Rhydyfelin have been offered on the 'help to buy' scheme. There are very few affordable rental properties available in Ceredigion. In total we estimate that national schemes account for approximately 50 homes in total in Ceredigion.

On average 45 new affordable (discount for sale or social rent) homes are delivered each year.

3.1 Social housing grant delivered affordable homes

Across Ceredigion there are currently 3,437 Social rented homes, managed by a group of RSLs that are zoned by Welsh Government to operate within Ceredigion. There are also a small number of Intermediate Rented properties again owned by the RSLs which have been delivered either via the SHG Programme or alternatively directly acquired by the RSLs.

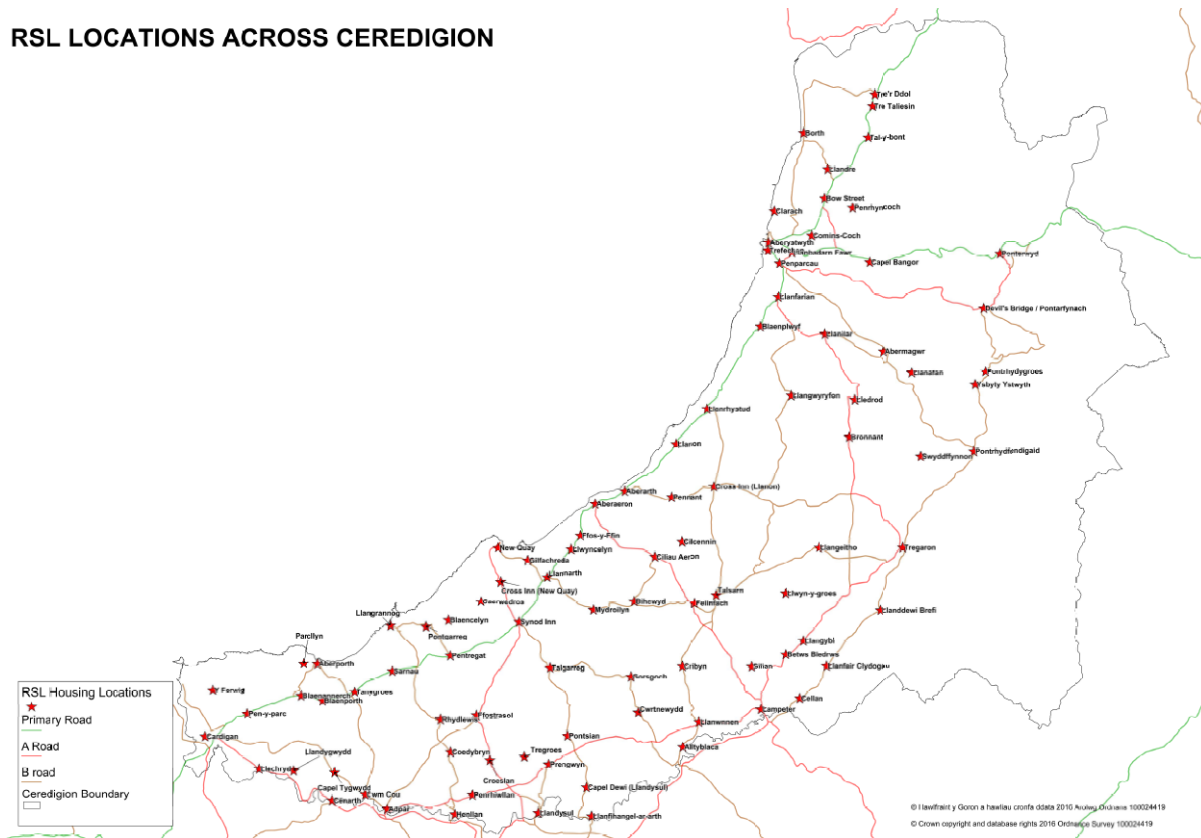
Both types of Affordable Housing are restricted to those who have applied via the online Housing Register system (ABRITAS). There are a number of separate Housing Registers available which include the General Needs Accommodation Register, Intermediate Housing Register, the Older Persons Register, The Wheelchair Accessible Register, the Sheltered and Extra Care Registers in addition to a number of further Low-Cost Home Ownership (LCHO) Registers such as Shared Ownership, Shared Equity and also the S106 (DFS) Discounted For Sale. These have been included to assist in gauging demand (but not necessarily eligibility) for additional LCHO tenures as well as provide up to date needs data for the Planning Section of the Council in determining planning applications and planning policy.

Whilst many newer developed social rented properties are built in larger settlements, there remains a range of legacy stock available countywide Appendix 2 (see below for map figure 1) sets out the locations of social rent units across Ceredigion. The

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type of unit's available range from general needs housing, retirement units, adapted properties and intermediate units. And in terms of dwelling types a mix of houses, bungalows, flats and maisonettes are available from 1 – 4 bedrooms.

Figure 1 RSL affordable homes in CCC (data as of 2016)



All Social Rent (SR) applications are assessed by the Housing Register (HR) Team and, after a formal validation process, the applications are allocated into different Bandings dependent on which and how many eligibility criteria they are deemed to satisfy. The Banding ranges from Band A (High priority) through to F (Not eligible) and at present it is highly unlikely those in bands D, E and F will be allocated a social rent property. This is because they are either ineligible or despite being eligible are having their needs met (as they are adequately housed), thus do not qualify for the most 'need' categories. This is also because aspirations for home ownership, or higher quality, lower cost housing understandably do not form part of the banding process.

There are currently approx. 1,748 active applications on the Housing Registers and the HR Team manages the housing lists and assist the RSLs in the determination and allocation of properties as they become available. Note that the Corporate Manager for Housing has the right under the Stock Transfer agreement to make direct allocations under the Management allocation process which the RSLs are bound to honour.

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The Housing Service are also responsible for several related services such as determining whether Mortgage Rescue might be appropriate in certain circumstances. Also, in determining eligibility and considering whether an exception may apply under S157 of The Housing Act 1985 relating to properties bought under the Right to Buy scheme. This applies to properties that are in a national park, an area of outstanding natural beauty or an area designated as a rural area.

The Housing Team are also responsible for the oversight of several Open Market properties (approx. 30 remaining) under the WG Homebuy scheme whereby the Local Authority retains a 30% to 50% equity share of the home with the owner required to pay that share back at time of sale. This is a legacy Welsh Government scheme operated by Local Authorities under the Social Housing Grant system. The Housing Team have considered whether it would be appropriate to re-launch the Homebuy scheme in Ceredigion by both utilising the realised 30% equity receipts from sales as and when available plus allocating or Top-slicing SHG as part of the SHG programme. It could also be considered that this is another potential use for Section 106 Commuted Sums to help deliver a wider range of affordable Homes in Ceredigion. However, discussions with RSLs raise concerns on who and how the scheme would be financed and managed given capacity constraints.

These schemes are part of the new Affordable Housing Delivery Strategy which has been drafted over the past year and was developed as part of the formal requirement for the Council to provide an Affordable Housing Prospectus to support the latest Affordable Housing delivery ambitions of Welsh Government. The intention is to increase both the number and importantly the range of affordable Housing options available across Ceredigion and to provide opportunities for local people to be able to afford to purchase or build their own homes close to their local communities wherever possible.

3.2 Planning delivered affordable homes

In terms of the Low-Cost Home Ownership (LCHO) in Ceredigion we also have 278 Affordable homes that have been delivered through the planning system, with a further 195 consents available for new affordable homes to be built. These are open to anyone who can qualify under the AH criteria, which centres on not being able to borrow 10% more than the asking price of the dwelling and having lived in Ceredigion for 5 (or 10 under older property schemes) years at any point in their life and / or being a key worker or in need of or providing care for someone. The owners of these properties own 100% of the property, however the maximum selling price of the property is 70% of the open market value at the time of sale. We also offer a S106 Intermediate Rent type of AH but these have not widely been taken up by developers with very few properties available locally.

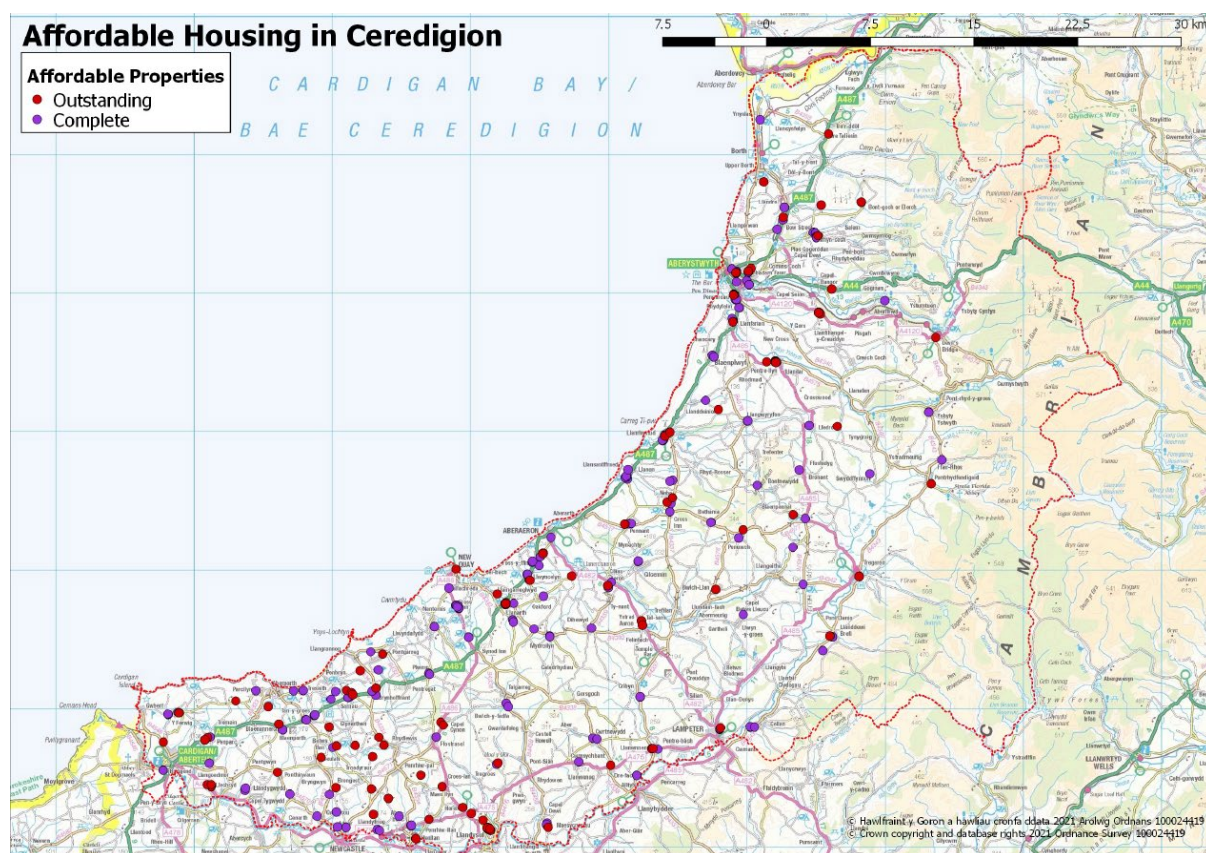
The spread of planning gain affordable homes countywide is broadly equal across settlement types with limited urban vs rural divide - Appendix 1 (see below for map

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Figure 2) sets out the locations of completed affordable units and existing outstanding consents countywide.

The Economy and Policy teams are operating a trial of identifying plots for self-build under the existing AH scheme criteria, 2 plots have been successfully allocated in Ciliau Aeron and the Economy team are identifying further Council land holdings that could be utilised for such a scheme. A strategy is also currently being prepared by the policy team addressing affordable self-build and Live / Work units for Council land holdings that could be sold or rented to eligible occupiers. At present due to uncertainty around delivery in regard to nutrient neutrality issues some of this work has stalled but could be picked up again at such time as resources allow.

Figure 2 Planning Gain affordables in CCC (data as of 2021)



The Housing Team have contacted the Development Bank of Wales specifically in relation to the Welsh Government Self-Build Wales Scheme. The Team have considered whether the recent changes to the way the scheme operates are likely to make the scheme more attractive to Ceredigion residents. In doing so, underdeveloped or underused land could be transformed into suitable plots for new self-build and custom-build homes.

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There are several potential benefits to the scheme to support self/custom builds, e.g.

- Identifying plots with planning permission already in place
- Potential savings in not paying third party developer profits on a new build (Circa 20% minimum)
- The Development Bank provides Interest free loans only repayable upon completion

However, in considering the scheme in further detail it is not likely to be taken up in great numbers in Ceredigion as most of the land available is in rural areas and thus not policy compliant for open market housing (which in effect this model is) as after 5 years the property can be disposed of on the open market. The Housing and Economy and Regeneration teams continue to look for suitable plots on which the scheme could be trialled.

Further to the development of affordable homes on sites of 5 or more houses, as part of the LDP on sites of under 5 units a commuted sum is payable at 10% of the gross development value (GDV) or on individual units 10% of the off-plan valuation at planning stage the commuted sum becomes payable at first sale or transfer. At present there is an 'owing' amount of £2 million in deferred capital receipts (commuted sums crystallised upon first sale or transfer) and in real terms a pot of circa £148k to be spent on affordable housing countywide. Ceredigion is an anomaly, regionally, in requiring the commuted sum be paid upon first sale or transfer with similar schemes nationwide operating on an upfront payment mechanism.

On average through the planning system, 45 additional affordable and social rent homes are developed per annum. This is liable to fluctuate annually in accordance with levels of funding available and numbers of general market housing being developed. The target in the LDP for AH is set at 20% of all homes to be affordable. This has been exceeded in most years and currently stands at 28%. Since the start of the LDP period 675 planning gain and social rent affordable homes have been delivered in CCC.

3.3 National Schemes

A range of housing options also exist at a national level operating in the county, and these include:

- **Help to buy**
- **Rent to own**
- **Shared ownership**
- **Shared Equity**
- **Homebuy**

The additional paper (Appendix 3) discusses these schemes in broader detail but in brief:

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- These are usually run or managed by Welsh Government, private developers and RSLs depending on the product being offered.
- Ceredigion has not traditionally had many Help to Buy properties available. However, in recent years this number has increased and many of the new homes in Stad Crag Ddu (Llanon), Maes y crugiau (Aberystwyth), and Ger y Cwm (Penrhynoch) operated under this scheme and have sold quickly.
- Unfortunately Help to Buy Wales will cease at the end of March 2023, largely in part to the £250,000 property value cap now no longer reflecting current house prices but also with concerns around negative equity.
- Rent to Own (R2O) type schemes have been trialled by RSLs and financial viability has been difficult to achieve generally. That said, to date, 2 x 3 Bed R2O family homes have been delivered in Cennarth and a further 14 have or are scheduled for delivery in Lampeter within the next 12 – 18 months, enabled via the SHG Programme.

4. How many AH do we need?

The 2019 Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA), a collaborative 5-yearly assessment undertaken with the housing team (utilising the 2014 population projections) identifies a need for 660 new affordable homes which is 28% of all future housing stock to be affordable with the greatest need (64%) in the social rented sector. Utilising the model to re-run the analysis on the 2018 population projections (which reflect the declining population projections for Ceredigion) suggests that we only need affordable units in the county and no further open market housing. This corresponds with the WG focus in Future Wales The National Plan 2040 on 67% of housing need in the Mid Wales region being affordable, with a regional 20 year housing target of 1,600 units in total. This is significantly below what Ceredigion, Powys and Brecon Beacons National Park currently deliver. We are currently working collaboratively across the Planning, Housing and Performance services to re-run the analysis utilising the All-Wales LHMA model and investigating the impact of the census data on the results. It is likely to recognise limited demand for open market housing with a greater focus on affordable products particularly those to meet Intermediate Needs.

5. What are the Criteria used to determine eligibility of CCC Affordable Housing?

To ensure that the planning delivered affordable homes in Ceredigion are genuinely occupied by people in affordable need, we expect occupiers to obtain a certificate issued by the planning policy team whereby they demonstrate that they meet the 3 eligibility criteria set out below:

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5.1. Financial Qualification:

In Respect of Discounted For Sale Affordable Housing:

A (combined) ability to borrow not more than the amount required to purchase the property at its discounted price plus 10% of that price. In respect of plots for self-build the 'discounted price' will be based on an off-plan estimate of the value of the unit.*

In Respect of Intermediate Rent Affordable Housing:

It is important that the Intermediate Rent affordable housing scheme should reach its target audience, that is:

- those who are realistically unlikely to be able to access housing through the Common Housing Register who may have little option but to choose to spend a higher proportion of their income as rent than is deemed 'affordable' (i.e., >35%).

Intermediate Rental properties will be 'banded' by size and applicable intermediate rent level.

The specifics will change over time as a function of rent and wage levels in the county and the property size / rental value bandings from time to time will be set out in SPG.

Eligibility to occupy Intermediate Rent Affordable Housing needs to satisfy the following requirements:

- Applicant is a household with at least one member working full time (defined for the purpose of this scheme as 35 hours per week)
- Intermediate Rental property applied for will not be 'under-occupied' by the household (that is, it meets the needs of the household as confirmed by the Senior Housing Officer for Affordable and Specialist Housing).
- The applicant cannot access market rented properties to meet their needs at 35% or less of their gross earned household income

5.2. Residency Qualification

In the current LDP (under the past UDP it was 10 out of 20 years but this was considered un-mortgage-able by the Council for Mortgage Lenders CML)

In Respect of Discounted For Sale and Intermediate Rent Affordable Housing:

i. A local connection in that the applicant must at some time in their life have lived in Ceredigion or an adjoining town/community Council area (or a combination of the two) for a continuous period of 5 years.

Or

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ii. A need to live in Ceredigion to substantially care for or be cared for by a close relative where the relative meets the requirements of paragraph “2(i)” above and the relative’s property is incapable (whether as it stands or subject to extension) of meeting the needs of the combined household.

Or

iii. A need to be in Ceredigion for employment purposes as a key worker on a full time (35 hours) permanent basis. For the purposes of the LDP, a key worker is defined as being a:

- a) teacher in a school or in a further education establishment or sixth form college,
- b) nurse or other skilled health worker in the National Health Service,
- c) police officer
- d) probation service worker,
- e) social worker
- f) an educational psychologist
- g) an occupational therapist employed by the local authority,
- h) fire officer, or
- i) any other person whose employment fulfils an important role in the provision of key services in Ceredigion where recruitment from within the County has proven difficult.

5. 3. Occupancy As Sole Residence:

In respect of Discounted For Sale and Intermediate Rent Affordable Housing:

The applicant will be expected to occupy the property as their sole residence and will be required to confirm that they do not own other residential property. Where the applicant is returning to Ceredigion and has unsold property which they previously occupied then a period of grace of not more than 12 months will be extended to allow the sale of the property to take place.

6. Community Housing – a scheme

As the above sections have demonstrated there already exists a stock of over 4,000 affordable homes (over 12% of the total housing stock countywide) across Ceredigion of varying tenures. However, this is simply not enough to meet demand as the existing properties are generally restricted to those people in most need (Social rented) and those people eligible to purchase under the AH scheme.

There remains a group of people who we may consider in ‘intermediate need’ who wish to purchase or rent properties in their local communities who are ‘priced out of the market’ due to the increasing demand for rural properties and availability of affordable units in rural settlements. This has been compounded by shrinking mortgage offers, rising mortgage deposit requirements and increasing interest rates.

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Therefore, supporting these people to remain in their communities is where 'community housing' could assist.

6.1 The previously approved approach – Shared Equity

When this scheme was developed previously the approach was to offer a shared equity product similar to the previous 'HomeBuy' scheme which essentially provided occupiers with a 20-40% share of the property value held as a legal charge on the property and at subsequent sale the charge would be repaid to the Council. This it was felt would support those people being priced out of the market locally but, given the cost of housing, it was recognised that this would potentially only be able to help a small number of people with the finance available to the Council to implement the scheme.

6.2 What's changed?

Since this scheme was developed a variety of national changes have made the mortgage market more volatile. These include the cost-of-living crisis, which has seen energy bills and mortgage rates rise. The mortgage market in responding to the squeeze on household incomes has become more restrictive with borrowing being reduced to many people, which is slowly seeing a fall in house prices nationally.

From a local perspective, the phosphates issue, which is restricting development across over 45% of Ceredigion (and is expected to be widened in the coming months), is also compounding the issue with house prices continuing to rise locally. This, alongside the national issues outlined above, is restricting borrowing capacity of local people and means the county needs to seek more creative solutions that do not potentially put people in a negative equity situation or set them up to purchase a home they may not be able to afford to heat, given most Ceredigion residents rely on off-grid heating solutions.

Given the changing picture above, a tight cap as to what amount of shared equity the Council would commit needs to be applied to:

- maximise the benefit of the scheme
- ensure people are receiving support to purchase homes they will struggle to maintain and heat
- ensure they are not so reliant on the Council's investment that they are unable at some future point to staircase out of an intermediate product

The concerns nationally around empty properties persist, and Welsh Government have required all authorities in Wales to prepare an empty property action plan and introduced a range of mechanisms to bring them back into occupation. A Welsh Government ministerial statement on empty homes has pledged support of £50 million pounds [£50m to bring empty homes back to life | GOV.WALES](#). Therefore, supports to encourage the substantive use of empty homes in the scheme would be welcomed nationally and help to address the concerns around Nutrient Neutrality

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which are stifling development county wide. There are currently over 800 empty properties in Ceredigion, spread countywide (see map in Appendix 4), therefore sufficient opportunity for redevelopment of such properties exists within the scheme.

Since the development of the last scheme, further thinking has emerged regarding supporting people to staircase out of affordable housing, releasing funds to recycle the benefit to future users of the scheme. The previous scheme did not specifically address this issue and effectively locked people into the scheme until re-sale. Amendments need to be considered to support people to access open market housing ensuring the funds are recycled for other future scheme users or other affordable housing options.

It was also clear from some of the communication following the press release of the previous scheme that demand would outstrip supply quite quickly. There was also potential for people to access the scheme who had alternative options but saw it as a mechanism to access a property without committing their own capital.

Thus, the Task and Finish Group set up to consider relaunching the scheme have added this learning into their thinking and have built on the previously undertaken risk assessment. The T&FG has sought to develop the scheme to accommodate these concerns and, where possible, benefit-stack several corporate priorities, plans and strategies.

6.3 The suggested amendments

The amendments are in line with changes to national policy, namely Future Wales' The National Plan 2040 which sets a stricter housing requirement on the region. Constraints related to phosphates issues, and the empty property action plan mean repurposing our existing housing stock for modern use is a key priority of the 'in development' housing strategy.

Therefore, in considering how the Community Housing Scheme can be best managed to maximise the support available to people, the following recommendations are made;

1. A minimum deposit will be required by applicants of 5% of the full purchase price to access the scheme, thereby ensuring all parties involved have committed capital. This will also help protect the value of the Council's equity share in the event of falling house prices.
2. The maximum amount of shared equity percentage the Council should contribute to **occupiable housing** should be no more than 20%, to ensure the available pot can be maximised. And at a future point in time occupiers can re-mortgage to staircase out of the scheme.
3. The maximum amount of shared equity percentage the Council should contribute to **registered empty properties** is 40%, reflecting the higher costs in bringing empty homes back into substantive use. This cap has been widened beyond that of 'ready to move in housing' recognising that the costs

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involved in bringing homes back into use will be higher and homeowners will need capital for renovations as well as purchase. There are also less concerns around negative equity as the works undertaken on the home should ensure a return on investment for the homeowner.

4. The maximum house price should reflect the average Ceredigion house price with a small buffer to ensure sustainability assuming prices continue to rise. This will be based on the Wales House Price Index administered by the Principality [Welsh House Price Index | Wales House Price Index \(principality.co.uk\)](http://www.principality.co.uk) and will for the scheme relaunch be set at £300,000 which is broadly the average house price in Ceredigion (£278,920) with a 5-10% buffer. The house price cap will be reviewed annually at the start of financial year and continue to reflect the methodology outlined above.
5. Priority should be given to proposals whereby bringing back an empty home into substantive use is a key principle.
6. The scheme will be managed on a first come, first served basis.
7. Formal staircasing options will be included in the shared equity agreement, encouraging staircasing within specified timeframes. This crystallises the Council's investment at earlier intervals than the previous 'HomeBuy' scheme and ensures people are not locked into an intermediate product in perpetuity.
8. That participation in this scheme would not prohibit householders from accessing other support such as empty property grants etc.
9. Ongoing resourcing of the scheme will be required to ensure its future sustainability; thus, the funding will be top sliced to ensure that officer time to administer the scheme is factored into the overall cost with an allowance for future cost rises.

Table 1: Equity Share Illustration

	<u>Occupiable Property</u>		<u>Empty Property</u>	
Assumed Maximum Purchase Price @ £300,000		£300,000		£300,000
<u>Funded by Equity Share:</u>				
Purchaser	5%	£15,000	5%	£15,000
Ceredigion County Council	20%	£60,000	40%	£120,000
Mortgage	75%	£225,000	55%	£165,000
		£300,000		£300,000
Assumed Maximum Purchase Price @ £200,000		£200,000		£200,000
<u>Funded by Equity Share:</u>				
Purchaser	5%	£10,000	5%	£10,000
Ceredigion County Council	20%	£40,000	40%	£80,000
Mortgage	75%	£150,000	55%	£110,000
		£200,000		£200,000

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The previously highlighted changes will ensure that corporate priorities are prioritised, guard against abuse of the scheme, and encourage crystallisation of the committed capital at earlier intervals than previous schemes. It is anticipated that the following number of households could be supported based on the relative percentage shares of invested capital:

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Table 2: Households Supported

	<u>All as Occupiable Properties</u>	<u>All as Empty Properties</u>
Estimated Funding available 1st April 2023	£1,500,000	£1,500,000
Equity Required Per Property (£300k Purchase Price)	£60,000	£120,000
No. Purchases Available	25	13
Equity Required Per Property (£200k Purchase Price)	£40,000	£80,000
No. Purchases Available	37	18

At this stage it is difficult to foresee the proportion of occupiable or empty property purchases that will be supported but with the estimated funding available at 1st April 2023 (£1.5m) there is potential to assist the purchase of a minimum of 25 occupiable properties **or** 13 empty properties at a maximum purchase price of £300k, more if assuming a lower valuation. The likely outcome will be a mix but with more occupiable properties supported rather than empty properties.

Annually thereafter it is anticipated the Council Tax Second Home Premium at the current 25% premium will continue to raise circa £400k for this scheme. Assuming a £300k maximum purchase price, this will support an estimated minimum of 7 occupiable **or** 3 empty property purchases. It should be noted that if and when decisions around increasing the second home premium charge are made then the available pot could be increased to reflect higher returns.

As purchasers staircase to full ownership of their property (and effectively purchase the Council's equity share of their property) these funds will be recycled into the scheme funding pot to allow further households to be supported. It is difficult at this stage to estimate when this staircasing will occur.

The task and finish group would also recommend conditions relating to the repayment of the loan, which may themselves drive demand to staircase:

1. a requirement to repay the cash amount loaned **OR** the equivalent percentage value of the property, whichever is higher,

and

2. that the Council loan can be for a period no longer than the period of the associated mortgage

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6.3 Eligibility

The potential eligibility for the scheme is to mirror the existing DFS scheme as outlined on pages 10 and 11. In brief,

- it must be the applicants only home,
- they must have 5 years occupancy in Ceredigion at any point in their lifetime (or specific Key Worker / Carer exemptions) and
- they must not be able to afford a mortgage for 10% more than the agreed valuation of the property.

7. Risks of the scheme

Overall, the risk to the Council arising from this scheme is deemed to be low and where there are areas of risk, there are several mitigation options that will reduce that risk to an acceptable level.

The main area of risk stems from the unknown direction of the property market in the short-term, particularly in view of the comparatively high house prices being seen in the county. The risk will crystallise if the Council provides equity to support a purchase and the buyer then decides or needs to sell the property within a short period of time where the market could be going through a 'correction' or a period of lower prices. This will lead to the Council receiving less equity back than it paid out originally.

Over the longer term we would expect the market to increase as has historically proven the case. A similar scheme operated by the Council in the 1990s led to purchased properties, in the main, being held for a longer period and the Council received equity returns of 3 to 4 times due to the increase in the market over that period.

The Risk Assessment of the previous scheme is included as Appendix 5, and as noted from the proposed changes (listed in section 6.3), a range of mitigations have been employed to better manage these risks in the amended scheme.

It is understood the scheme would operate legally as a 2nd charge on the property and therefore no S106 agreement would be required. This ensures future eligibility as it is not the property that is affordable, rather it is the share, should the Council wish to ensure it is a sanctioned Affordable Product. In such a scheme it is prudent to be mindful of potential issues and, in a shared equity approach, if the mortgagee were to default then the mortgage company as the first charge would be the priority for repayment. It is possible the Council would not get back their share as the second charge in a repossession scenario. Whilst this has to date (as far as we are aware) never occurred to CCC, it is a risk that needs to be noted.

A further item to be considered is the level of demand of occupiers to staircase to full ownership. Whilst there will be some owners who are keen to own the entirety of the

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property (and will actively re-mortgage within the timescales), providing the authority with the deposit back in good time, there will be others who, for a variety of reasons, do not. Therefore, in the legal agreements for the scheme, clear guidance as to when this is required and what may constitute 'exceptional circumstances' will be necessary.

7.1 Who will manage the scheme?

The planning policy team will manage the eligibility of the scheme and are currently managing a stock of over 400 affordable units. When undertaking eligibility certification, no value judgements are made; it is a simple process of determining whether an applicant qualifies or not, and where competition exists a first come first served eligibility process is observed.

Once an applicant has demonstrated they are eligible through the certification process and valuation of the property has been confirmed through the Estates team, the Finance and Legal teams will progress the transaction with regard exchange of finances and securing of the second charge on the property. The housing team will then monitor the properties and review in accordance with the specified time frames the opportunity for the householder to staircase up in full or in part and organise the process with the legal team as required.

There will be a resource implication for administering the programme and thus it is recommended that a budget provision is provided to the relevant services that is top sliced from the funding raised from the Second Home Premium. Allowing for the expected time spent by officers per application, the number of expected applications (which will be significantly higher in the first year) and some initial setup of databases and processes the suggested budget to be allocated per service is shown in the table below. After a number of years these recommended amounts may need to be revised to provide for increased costs as a result of pay awards.

Table 4: Budget Provision for Services to be provided from Community Housing Fund

<u>Service</u>	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Annually Year 2 onwards</u>
Economy & Regeneration	£13,500	£6,500
Finance & Procurement	£4,000	£2,500
Legal & Governance Services	£1,000	£500
TOTAL	£18,500	£9,500

7.2 How will the scheme be financed?

The scheme will be funded by the money raised from the 25% Council Tax Second Homes Premium. As at 31st March 2022 there is £1.12m available in the reserve

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with an estimated £400k to be added for the financial year 2022/23. This means there will be an estimated £1.5m available at the 31st March 2023.

Going forward it is estimated that the Council Tax Second Homes Premium will continue to raise £400k per annum to fund this scheme.

In addition to the Council Tax Second Home Premium, funding will also be released as equity loans are repaid to the Council as properties are sold or when the property owner staircases to full ownership. This funding will be recycled back into the scheme. It is difficult to predict the timing and quantify when this funding will be received.

Section 6.3 above provides details around the estimated number of house purchases these funds will assist.

7.3 Further work to be organised

1. Policy to amend current housing forms to include new scheme
2. Legal to create funding contract with staircasing options
3. Housing to create monitoring framework for managing staircasing
4. Policy to liaise with Estates most manageable form of valuation protocol
5. Finance to organise how best to manage transactions

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Appendices

Appendix 1 – Map of Planning Gain Delivered Affordable Homes countywide



Appendix 1 -
Affordable Housing in

Appendix 2 – Map of social rent units countywide



Appendix 2 - RSL
Property Locations 20

Appendix 3 – Planning Policy discussion paper on shared equity products and merits of different schemes



Appendix 3 -
planning policy discus

Appendix 4 – Map of empty properties countywide



Appendix 5 - Empty
Properties Map.pdf

Appendix 5 – Risk assessment of original scheme



Appenedix 6 -
Community Housing I

Appendix 6 – Loans Procedure (powers)



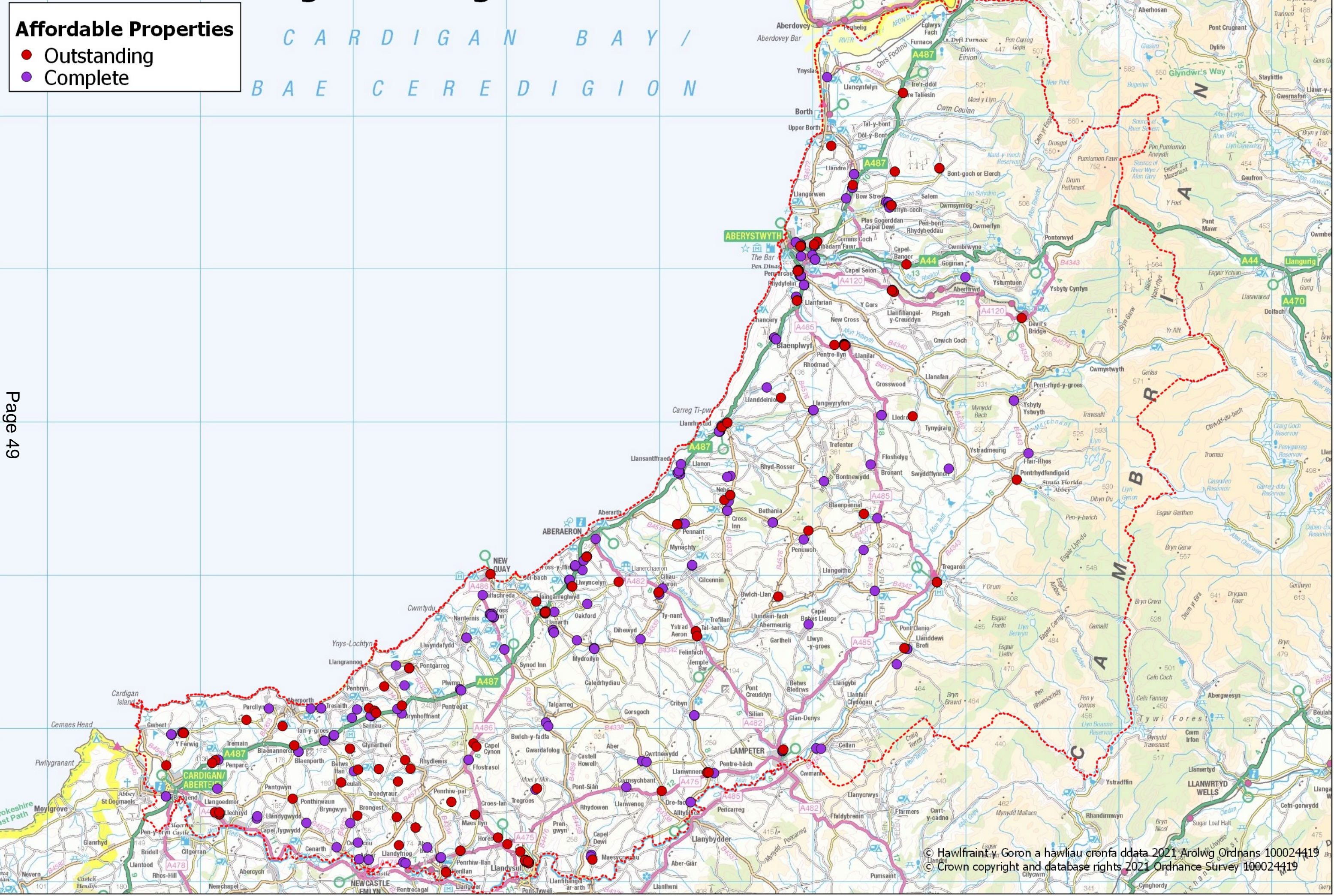
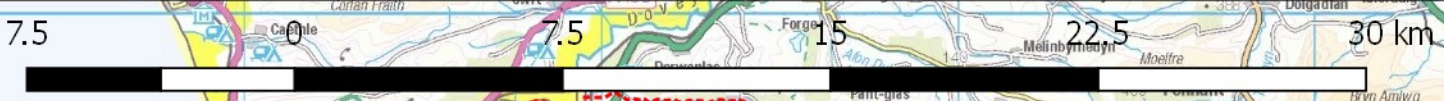
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Community Housing S

Affordable Housing in Ceredigion

Affordable Properties

- Outstanding
- Complete

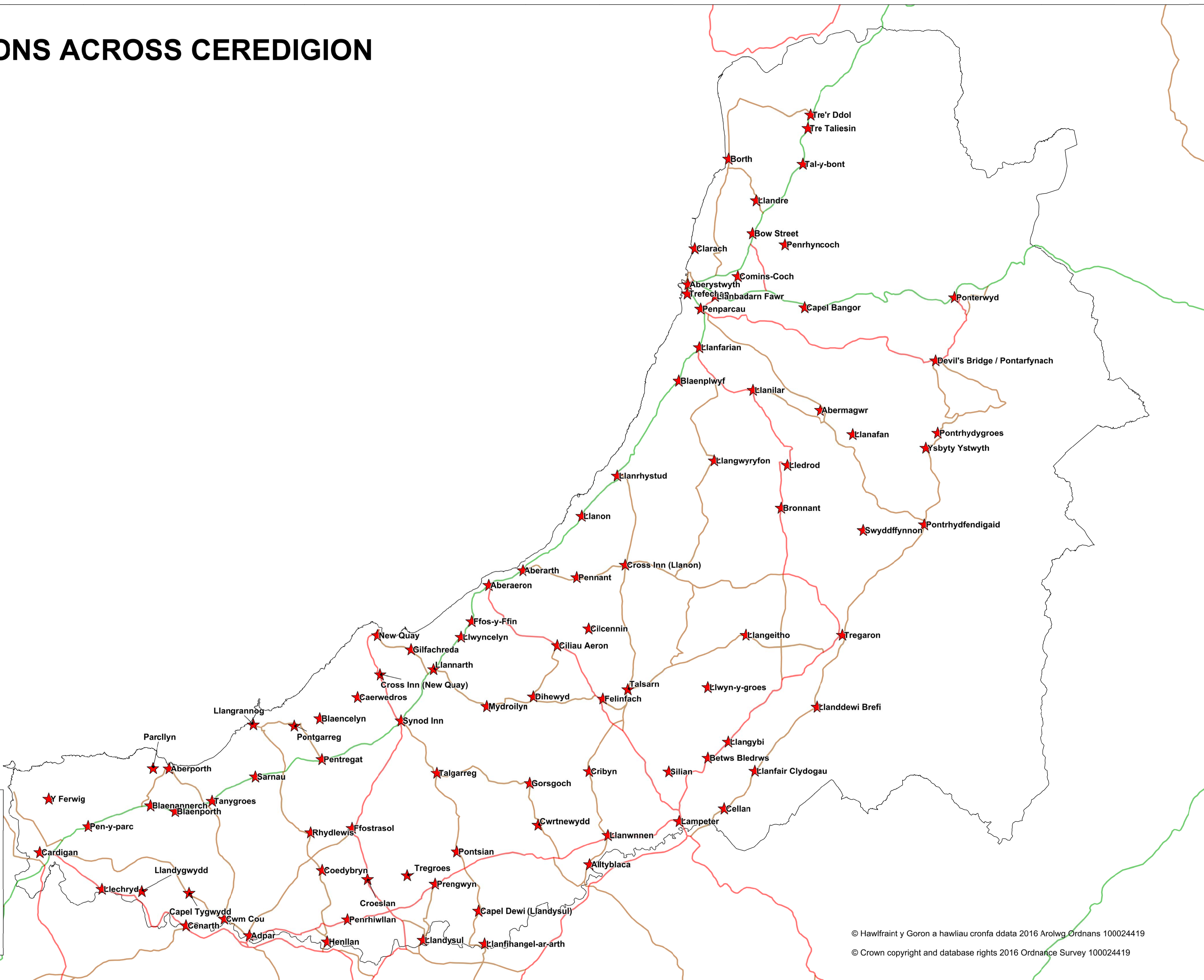
C A R D I G A N B A Y /
B A E C E R E D I G I O N



RSL LOCATIONS ACROSS CEREDIGION

RSL Housing Locations

- ★ Primary Road
- A Road
- B road
- Ceredigion Boundary



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Affordable Housing and Shared Equity Discussion Paper

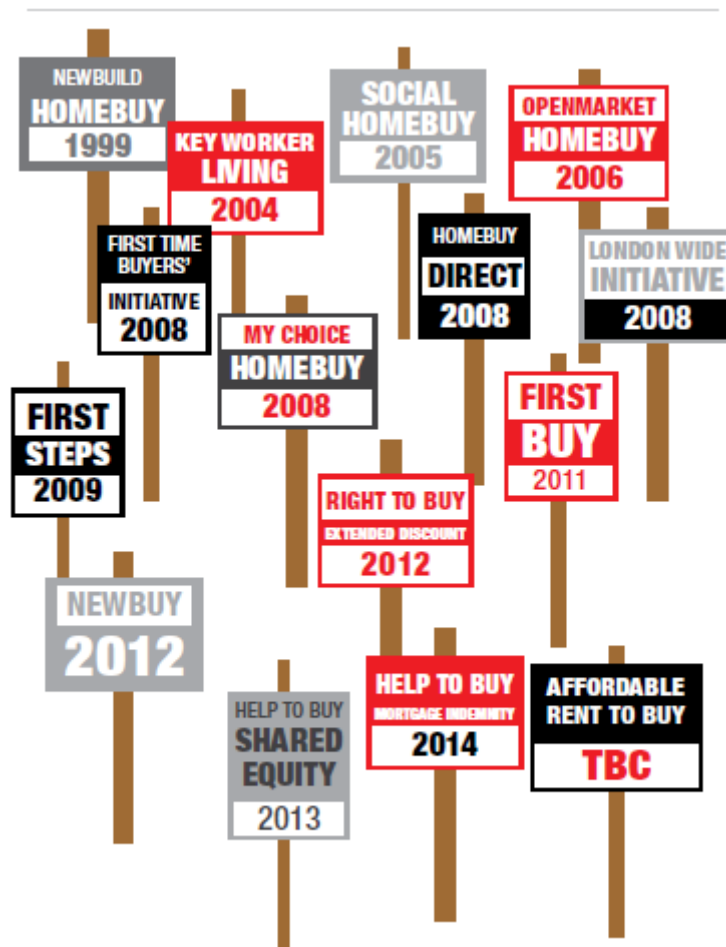


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Ceredigion LDP Affordable Housing policy:	10
Ceredigion Affordable Housing Types.....	12
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Glossary

Not all terms used in this paper are referenced here, just ones where confusion occurs in the literature:

Shared ownership refers to an affordable housing product where purchasers buy a share of a property (usually) 25% to 75% and pay a nominal rent on the remaining share over time it is expected they will 'stair case' up to full ownership, they can also stair case down by selling back shares to an RSL/ LA.

Staircasing, stair case et al is a mechanism by which owner occupiers of shared ownership / shared equity houses can purchase additional shares of the home they partly own.

Shared equity is a confusing term commonly used to represent different types of low cost home ownership (LCHO) however in the context of this discussion it is being used to represent a situation whereby a purchaser buys 70% of a property (this can vary) and the LA/ RSL keeps a second charge on the property for the remaining value (30%). – When a resale occurs this can again be to an AH qualifying purchaser and the LA/RSL just takes the equity rise value of their share (recycles it to RCG) and the same second charge continues or the owner may be permitted to sell on the open market and the LA / RSL recoups their 30% charge for recycling into AH.

Low Cost Home Ownership (LCHO) refers to all types of affordable housing but is now commonly used to describe traditional affordable housing schemes where properties are discounted using a S106 to a certain percentage i.e. 30% such as the scheme operating by the LA in Ceredigion.

List of Affordable Housing schemes currently operating (not exhaustive)

Scheme name	Scheme description	Pay back mechanism	Pit fall's	Who operates scheme
Home Buy (National)	Equity loan of 30% or 50% to people who would otherwise qualify for social housing to buy their own home	No interest charged on loan to householders when house sold 30% or 50% of current value is paid back to RSL	No stair casing mechanism – can only be used on non-discounted properties	RSL's operate scheme through finance secured through LA which sources finance from WG – funding for this is being phased out
Homes within reach (South Wales only)	Equity loan of between 50% and 10% of OMV held as charge on the property	Can purchase 10% blocks of equity, or can purchase whole amount of equity (after 3 years) – can also sell back equity if circumstances change and / or whole property and remain as tenant	Managed by well-respected RSL, but only available in small area – seems as though large demand for scheme but actual no's of available dwellings are limited – many people on waiting list	RSL's working with LA and local house builders scheme managed by a group of South Wales RSLs
Help to Buy - Shared Equity (national – different caps apply)	Shared Equity loan of 20% of purchase price	Interest free for first 5 years then annual interest charged at 1.75% and linked to retail Prices Index – loan must be paid back in 25years or when house sold – amount repaid will vary based on house price rises as the initial loan is fixed as a percentage of the equity – so if house prices rise then so does the amount repaid when house sold alongside interest and management fees	Fees can be high, if house prices drop the amount owed under the scheme doesn't fall below what was invested so some people may find themselves in negative equity.	Welsh Government managed through lenders

<p>Help to Buy – Mortgage Guarantee (national different caps apply)</p>	<p>Mortgage guarantee is provided to lender by Government – allowing purchasers to access 95% mortgages – if they default the government guarantees a certain amount so this allows lenders to take bigger risks</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Lenders are very choosy about who to offer mortgages to as despite the guarantee its costly and difficult for them to recover the property so restrictions on who qualifies are tight.</p>	<p>National Government through individual lenders</p>
<p>Newbuy (only available in England)</p>	<p>Government backed mortgage indemnity scheme for new houses – allows purchasers to buy new house with 5% deposit. The scheme is managed though developers and lenders working together with an indemnity pot so if buyers default it is guaranteed by government. 3.5% of sale of each house from developers put into indemnity pot.</p>	<p>None</p>	<p>Tied to certain builders / lenders most not operating in this area. A similar scheme to Help to Buy Mortgage Guarantee so likely to be phased out – interest rates can be high on these schemes as they are linked to certain banks therefore little competition</p>	<p>HBF and CML</p>
<p>Persimmon Helping Hand et al (only available on volume builder schemes)</p>	<p>Purchasers borrow 85% (can vary) of house price and pay back persimmon or other developer remainder when house sold</p>	<p>3% (can vary) interest charged annually on the equity share and share can be paid back at any time but must be paid back at sale of property.</p>	<p>Only available through volume house builders none of which operate in Ceredigion. Fees can be high, interest rates high as have to go through ‘preferred’ bank of the builder.</p>	<p>Individual volume builder i.e. Persimmon homes / Barrett’s/ Taylor Wimpey etc</p>

<p>Shared Ownership</p>	<p>Purchasers buy between 25% and 75% share of a house, RSL owns other share and charges rent (set at 3%) on remaining share – can over time buy more of a share or sell some shares back to RSL</p>	<p>None – but purchasers can staircase up to own a greater share of the property over time – schemes vary by RSL / Developer</p>	<p>The value of the share is fixed at time of sale so in a decreasing house price market many part owners can be negative equity and unable to sell their share</p>	<p>Managed through RSL’s some private developers also offer private shared ownership schemes – national scheme exists but is reliant on a partner delivering the system and there has been some reluctance among RSLs private developers</p>
<p>Social HomeBuy (not available in Wales)</p>	<p>Allows people to buy a 25% share of the social house they live in</p>	<p>Applicants must live in a social house that is managed by Council or RSL signed up to the scheme and have occupied house for a minimum of 5 years they will have to buy a 25% share and pay rent on rest of house (subsidised) then over time stair case up</p>	<p>The shares are valued at time of purchase so they will vary over time and may be significantly higher for the 2nd and 3rd share than the first.</p>	<p>RSL</p>
<p>Rent First (Wales only – was abandoned for a new product)</p>	<p>RSL’s/ housing authorities (through SHG) develop IR properties which are let to suitable candidates where they can also enter into a purchase option agreement – if and when tenant decides to buy house 50% of the increase in value</p>	<p>None (sales value recycles to RCG)</p>	<p>Assumes an increasing house price market, new scheme – not sure how many lenders are ‘on board’?</p>	<p>(anticipated) RSL with SHG funding form WG</p>

	from date of purchase option agreement becomes their 'deposit' to be used to obtain mortgage with whichever lender they can			
Rent to Own (Wales only – WG have announced no longer accepting applicants)	Tenant buy portion or property rent remainder	Purchasers can buy a share of the home dependant on what they can borrow and then pay rent on the remainder over time the rent will build up and a share of it will be returned to the tenant for them to purchase another block of the property.	Scheme has not been successful and WG have abandoned it, I believe viability has been poor and many occupants simply do not stair case up.	RSIs and some private developers (no longer operating as not financially viable)
Low Cost Home Ownership (LCHO) (national but organised on an ad-hoc basis, schemes vary across LA)	DFS properties secured through S106	None	Difficult to mortgage particularly when conditions re occupancy attached – no stair casing options	LA
Homestep - RCT	The LA alongside local RSL manage the scheme including administering who can buy the properties they have 2 types DFS (70%) and Shared equity (75%) – after 12 month owners can buy out remaining share of shared equity property	None sales value of shared equity product recycles to RCG	Will suffer from problems of lenders not understanding scheme – in a tight market may find it difficult to get mortgage – the LA managing the sales does mean they have a waiting list of buyers ready for property's	LA with partner RSL
'other' Local Authority	Shared equity schemes run	None sales value of shared equity	Will suffer from problems of	LA with partner RSL

<p>schemes – planning gain</p>	<p>through LA and RSL’s whereby planning gain properties are sold at (approx.) 70% of OMV (this can vary) to eligible occupants and the LA / RSL keeps a 30% charge on the property increase of value of 30% to be paid at sale</p>	<p>product recycles to RCG</p>	<p>lenders not understanding scheme – in a tight market may find it difficult to get mortgage – some do some don’t allow stair casing – then issues over perpetuity come into play – often the LA / RSL has first chance to sell on the shared equity product to someone on their waiting list if no sale found owner can sell at full value on open market and simply repay LA / RSL the 30% value</p>	
<p>Mortgage rescue</p>	<p>Eligible owners (those in severe financial hardship) are able to apply under the scheme to have their property purchased and become tenants of or become shared equity owners with an RSL</p>	<p>None – the RSL (or LA) buys out the owner and rents the property or share of a property back to them</p>	<p>Funding is scarce for this and demand high</p>	<p>The responsibility is devolved to LA’s but usually managed by RSL’s</p>

Reflections on schemes and literature:

1. There is a push from central government, Council for Mortgage Lenders (CML) and lenders to streamline the affordable housing products on offer. Welsh Government have pursued this and attempted to categorise schemes into 4 main types.
2. The flag ship schemes are Help to Buy Wales, Shared Ownership, Rent to Own and HomeBuy. Lenders have worked with government to agree acceptable terms and are familiar and satisfied with the product so lending is reasonably straight forward on these products.
3. There is no Welsh national scheme for shared equity run by LA's what schemes there are, are operated on a regional basis most through or with RSL's– therefore mortgage lending can be just as constrained on these properties as they are on our current products – although with the caveat that lenders 'understand' where the 30% is with shared equity products.
4. Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) and Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) have issued joint guidance setting out why lenders won't lend on DFS and why it's best to go for a shared equity product.
5. All the most successful schemes seem to work in partnership with the RSL where SHG may or may not have played a part. I have found no schemes except (big volume builders) where LA's are allowing developers to 'do the shared equity'. The shared equity products to be successful and mortgage able need to be done to match existing products and that means adopting the same criteria and cascades etc. The benefit of the schemes will be lost if we try to 'mix and match' – we will still suffer the same mortgage issues.
6. HCA and CIH recommend amending all previous S106's in one go to the 'new easier' S106 to improve mortgage ability on DFS properties – lenders do not like lending in markets where multiple S106's exist – also this is confusing for applicants as they may or may not qualify under different properties. A problem we have in Ceredigion with 2 versions of the S106.
7. The most popular and easily mortgaged schemes are ones where applicants can stair case up to full ownership over set periods – the receipts of which can then be recycled to RCG
8. There is no reason why RSL's couldn't do shared equity now (with Some SHG support) many others are – it is only the planning gain units that the LDP policy may constrain
9. HCA /CIH recommend cascade of 3 months as CML previously recommended 6 months (which was their maximum) but as market has tightened 3 months is now what lenders will lend on. LDP S106 is currently 6 months.

Ceredigion LDP Affordable Housing policy:

Policy S05: Affordable Housing

The LDP policies and allocations aim to secure in the region of 1100 affordable homes by:

1. Seeking to negotiate a proportion of 20% affordable housing on all housing development in accordance with the Local Housing Needs Assessment distribution of need for;
 - i. 9% Discount For Sale @ 70% Market Value: and
 - ii. 32% @ 50% Market Value (both for direct Sale to occupants and to be made available to landlords for letting at Intermediate Rent): and
 - iii. 59% Social Rented @ 35% Market Value; **or**
 - iv. **A scheme of equivalent value to Criterion 1(i)-1(iii) to meet a mix of current needs in the locality (as determined at pre-application stage to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the Local Housing Authority and Registered Social Landlords on local need and deliverability)**

2. Requiring that where, as a result of Criterion 1, proposals yield an affordable housing requirement which is not a whole unit or where the mix cannot be provided as whole units then:
 - i. a scheme of equivalent value shall be determined to the satisfaction of the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the Local Housing Authority and Registered Social Landlords on local need and deliverability; or
 - ii. at the discretion of the Local Planning Authority, a commuted sum at the 'equivalent value' of 10% of Open Market Value (OMV) of the development as valued at the time of application.

3. Permitting 100% affordable housing sites where justified by evidence of unmet affordable local need provided the location of the development is in line with Policies S02, S03 and S04. Rural housing exception sites will only be permitted in relation to RSCs, 'Linked Settlements' and 'Other Locations'.

The occupancy of all affordable housing will be controlled in perpetuity in accordance with Appendix 4 of the Plan.

Developments which include affordable housing or propose 100% affordable housing must provide adequate information to indicate the plot location, plot size, build standard and property type of the affordable units. If there is insufficient information to determine the value of the unit at completion, the application will be refused.

Developers seeking to negotiate a reduction in affordable housing provision will need to submit details to show lack of viability for the specific site.

The highlighted text (yellow) in policy S05 (above) outlines that it is acceptable to provide an Affordable Housing scheme that does not accord with the mix proposed in criterion 1 i-iii provided it is of equivalent value i.e. 10% of GDV. This criterion does not specify what type of affordable homes is to be provided simply that they are to meet current needs. I believe that this allows the authority some 'leeway' to permit shared equity or another product type if it was minded to do so, without revision of policy S05. However we have not clarified in the Reasoned Justification text (RJ), in Appendix 4 or in the AH SPG what our shared equity product is and therefore we would need to issue some supplementary planning guidance to this effect. We would also need some evidence of the 'need' for shared equity in order to justify it as a scheme in a given locality in accordance with S05 criterion 1.iv. The 2019 LHMA provides such evidence alongside the shared equity housing list managed by Housing Services.

If the authority were minded to create a shared equity product then stair casing would naturally be a consideration – which is understandably popular with potential applicants. However policy S05 text highlighted (green) sets out that the occupancy of all affordable homes will be controlled in perpetuity. This is in order to meet the definitions of Affordable Housing as set out in National Guidance under TAN 2. This would need careful consideration; a possible way forward would be to consider amendment so that the receipts of 'stair casing' could be recycled into AH in perpetuity. It is important to consider how to allow stair casing as this would make the shared equity product more attractive and mortgage able.

Ceredigion Affordable Housing Types

AH type	Scheme managed by	No in county	Comment	Simple solution	Complex solution
DFS 70% UDP	LA	199	Limited number of mortgage lenders available locally to lend on the product so some applicants can struggle	Amend S106 to LDP cascade and criteria	Develop stair casing mechanism – which could lift S106 (at 100%)
DFS 70% LDP	LA	79	Limited number of mortgage lenders available locally to lend on the product so some applicants can struggle however -in estate developments very popular product with some properties on several re-sales	Consider reducing cascade terms of S106	Develop stair casing mechanism – which could lift S106 (at 100%)
DFS 50% LDP	LA	0	Difficult to mortgage – not popular with developers – not expected to be continued in LDP2	Consider reducing terms of S106	Develop stair casing mechanism – which could lift S106 (at 100%)
IR	LA	Under 5	Not financially viable in certain parts of county – not popular with developers, difficult to manage, not being utilised correctly – potential for exploitation of system	Flip to DFS 50%	Develop Rent first model with RSL to allow stair casing and still provide discounted rentals
SR	RSL's	3618	Many people under occupy, only have approx. 9% stock in county, large no of people on waiting list	(?)	Investigate options re RSL stock i.e. Restrict right to buy, put local occupancy criteria on all resale of ex-RSL stock
Shared ownership	RSL's	110	Leftovers from previous schemes	N/A	N/A
HomeBuy	RSL's	Up to 60	Well understood by lenders, scheme being phased out by WG – replaced by Help to Buy	N/A	LA considering options in new AH strategy about reintroducing a local scheme of this nature.

Conclusions

Policy S05 does not stop shared equity being a suitable AH type if we have an identified need for it. However a shared equity product is not a panacea for our AH scheme problems. – It is easier to mortgage a shared equity product provided that these are the product recognised and understood by the market. In order to ‘qualify’ as this it is usually tied in with a recognised respected RSL, have simple cascades and occupancy criteria and has a mechanism for stair casing. All of these requirements make shared equity a ‘possibly’ less desirable product than our existing DFS. - Given the rationale and support for our DFS scheme which has more than one ambition.

However CIH and HCA have set out clearly what lenders will and won’t accept for mortgage purposes and unfortunately our DFS scheme appears to suffer from some of the common pitfalls – which in downward markets can render it virtually un-mortgage able however given local demand at the current time this appears to be a limited problem.

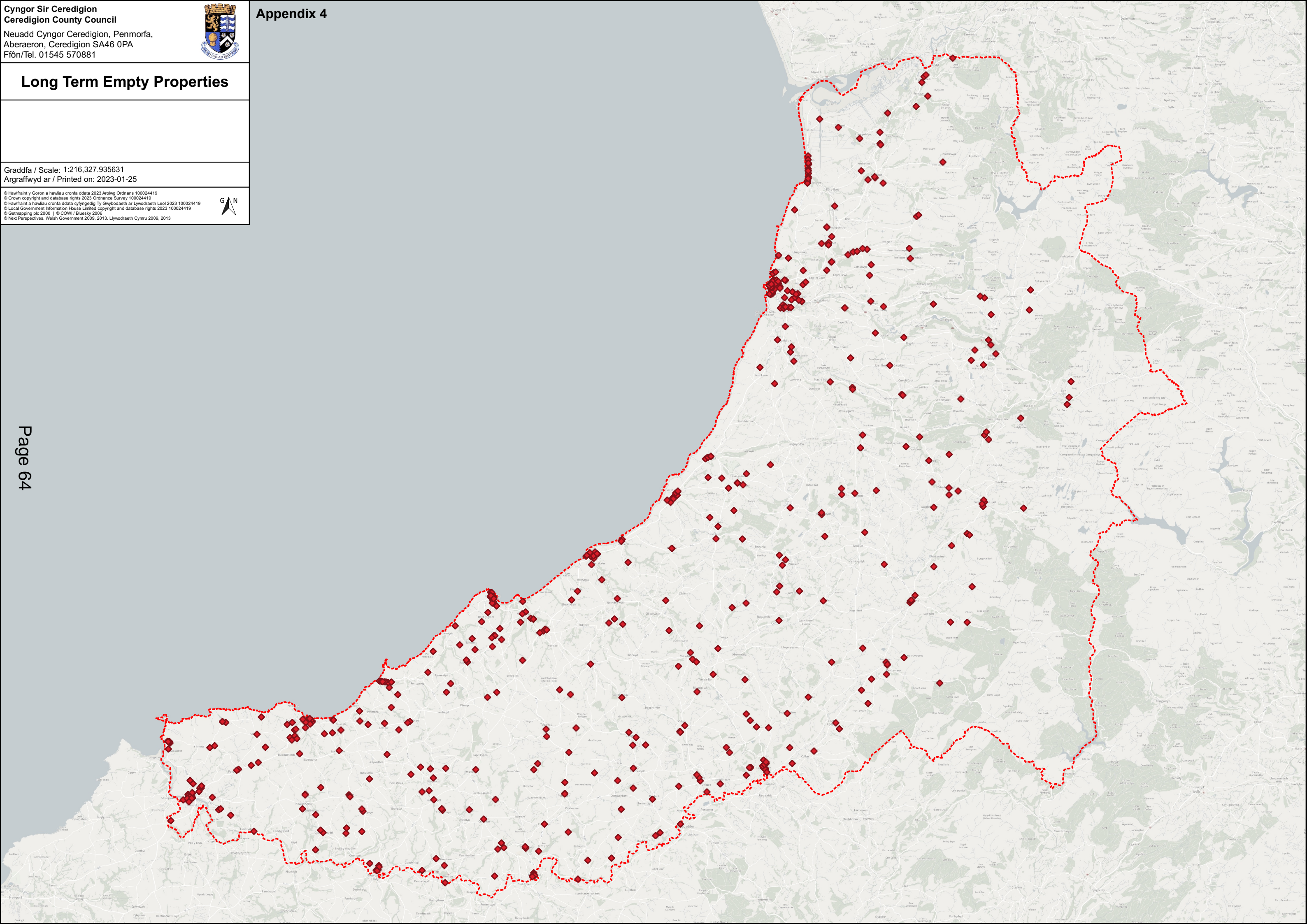
If we as an LPA/ LHA were to develop a shared equity product we would need to be mindful of the pitfalls that are possible. We would also need to consider whether it may be more prudent to use planning gain as a form of SHG to assist existing RSL’s to administer a shared equity scheme which is seemingly the government’s favoured approach. However any income from the 30% charge on the shared equity homes would then be in control of the RSL’s and this may have been a significant benefit of the scheme.



Long Term Empty Properties

Graddfa / Scale: 1:216,327.935631
Argraffwyd ar / Printed on: 2023-01-25

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Risk Assessment: Community Housing Proposal

Risk Assessment Summary

Overall the risk to the Council arising from this scheme is deemed to be low and where there are areas of risk there are a number of mitigation options that will reduce the risk to an acceptably low level. The main area of risk stems from the unknown direction of the property market in the short-term particularly in view of the currently high house prices being seen in the county. The risk will crystallise if the Council provides equity to support a purchase and the buyer then decides or needs to sell the property within a short period of time where the market could be going through a 'correction' or a period of lower prices. This will lead to the Council receiving less equity back than it paid out originally.

Over the longer term we would expect the market to increase as has historically proven the case. A similar scheme operated by the Council in the 1990's had purchased properties, in the main, held for a longer period and the Council received equity returns of 3/4 times due to the increase in the market over that period.

No	Risk Description	Potential Mitigation
1	<p>Currently high market prices in Ceredigion (potentially a bubble), and continuing to rise.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Increasing prices potentially reduces number of individuals Council able to help. - £250k houses become less available - If the market suffers correction after Council provided funding. Potential losses may be suffered by Council particularly if owners sell in short term. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clause that specifies the minimum repayment to Council being the amount of the loan. - Need to quantify exposure. Council becomes more exposed to risk if scheme expands beyond initial trial proposal. - Potentially put in place a contingency/ bad debt provision particularly in short term as short term direction of market plays out. - Potential to include clause in contract where we have first refusal to take on property - Explore whether property can be transferred to social housing.
2	<p>Council resources to setup/manage scheme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Finance/ Legal / Housing - Long tail as charges crystallise upon sale of property. Could be 30 + years in some instances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An assessment of required expertise/ resource to setup and manage scheme required. Appropriate resource then provided. - Consideration of an admin/ application fee.
3	<p>Potential to clash with existing schemes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Help to Buy Wales (20% shared equity on new builds) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure scheme compliments rather than doubles up of provision through careful consideration of offering being proposed and who/ how benefits are realised.
4	<p>Implications/ process when individual defaults on mortgage payments?!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of employment - Buyers under budget expenses / continued rise in Cost of Living. - Change in personal circumstances 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potentially put in place a contingency/ bad debt provision particularly in short term as short term direction of market plays out. - Potential to include clause in contract where we have first refusal to take on property - Explore whether property can be transferred to social housing. - Ensure sufficient expertise/ resource available within Council to manage process. - Consideration need to be given to and a process laid out at commencement of scheme how this will be managed.
5	<p>Demand for scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If too high - how manage/ prioritise applicants - Prevent too low - What is comms strategy in what is already a confusing market place - In turn support available for applicants (Council Resources same as point 2) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure sufficient expertise/ resource available within Council to manage process. - Communications Team can assist - Consideration of an admin/ application fee.
6	<p>Buy in/ participation from Mortgage Providers?!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are they 'in' by default or do we need to lay some groundwork? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potentially have some discussions with mortgage providers/ Council of Mortgage Lenders as the scheme is developed

7	Inflating an already 'hot market'. - Is there a danger by providing up to 40% equity we further contribute to the inflation of the market in the County - How do we stop buyers overpaying for a property if they're potentially having a 'free' 40% contribution from the Council.	- Agree and lay out transparent assessment criteria around mortgage gap and affordability. + assessment of what we're willing to support in terms of limits. - View of independent valuation report for properties before agreement.
8	<u>Source of funding</u> Trial is suggesting using the Second Homes/ Empty Homes Premium. Potential for Prudential borrowing (if trial using second homes premium is successful) - affect on Prudential Indicator limits - rising interest rates	- The proposal is consistent with the terms in place for raising funds through the Second Home/ Empty Home Premium. - In terms of Prudential borrowing if that is avenue being proposed a more detailed analysis and a full Business Case will be required at the time. - Potential to increase the Second Home/ Empty Home Premium to lever more funding rather than increases risk inherent in Prudential Borrowing.
9	Buyers taking on unaffordable mortgages.	- risks managed by Mortgage Providers own due diligence processes.
10	Is there potential for buyers to become 'stuck' with their property? Eg. they buy a house and five years later want to sell and move. However, our charge would crystallise potentially leaving them unable to afford to move because they'd 'lose' the equity we provided. - This may encourage the applicant to not stick to the terms of the scheme.	
11	Can the buyer afford the on-going maintenance costs on property which could jeopardise the value of the Council's equity contribution	- Consider periodic checking of compliance with loan clauses around maintaining property and also buildings insurance cover
12	Risk that money is not replenished back to the Council to re-cycle into scheme due to no time limit on crystallisation.	- Potential to add 25/30 year limit where equity will be repayable if property not sold/ transferred in the mean-time. - Or introduce interest after certain time period. - If either implemented into scheme The Council needs to ensure there is a mechanism in place to makes sure this kicks in potentially far in future.
13	Loss of interest on capital earning for the council.	- Potentially introduce interest rate after specified period. Although must be noted the Council is likely to benefit from rises in property market over the longer term. Experience of similar schemes in 90s council received 3 to 4 times increase in value of equity.
14	How do we ensure that the property is the buyers are using the property as their sole residence and not using scheme to buy a second property to rent out. Or more likely more out in the future and rent property out.	- Periodically check council tax payer records.
15	Fraud	Consideration needs to be given to due diligence required for applicants.

Prepared and Reviewed by;

Stephen Johnson -	23/02/2022
Justin Davies -	23/02/2022
Duncan Hall -	23/02/2022
Mark Bridges -	23/02/2022

Community Housing Scheme



Powers to award loans

The Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance) (England & Wales) Order 2002 allows Local Authorities to formulate funding policies to address specific local needs and strategic priorities. A policy must be in place/ adopted before any assistance can be issued.

Assistance may be provided in any form and may be unconditional or subject to conditions, including conditions as to the repayment of the assistance or of its value (in whole or in part), or the making of a contribution towards the assisted work. (As set out in local policy).

Financial Conduct Authority

The FCA regulates the provision of mortgages and conduct of parties engaged in regulated mortgage activity. Local Authorities are excluded from needing FCA permission for most consumer credit activities, but may still need permission for some types of lending.

Securing a 'land mortgage' over the property, either by legal charge registered with the District Land Registry or a local land charge (ie. a regulated mortgage) puts the regulation of the service under the Financial Services and Market Act 2000.

However, under the Financial Services and Market Act 2000 (exemption) (Amendment) (No.2) Order 2003 Local Housing Authorities offering mortgages have been exempt from the FCA regulatory regime, on the basis that a comparable quality service is provided to the client.

To ensure that Local Housing Authorities are able to meet the requirement of providing a comparative service, the LA should seek to follow the National Assembly of Wales issued Circular 20/02 (Renewal Guidance) and the Mortgage Sales Guidance for Local Authorities and Housing Associations 2005.

Distance selling

Where an LA provides a loan/ mortgage without any face-to-face contact with the customer at any stage this is classed as 'distance selling' and further information and regulations apply. *As set out in Distance Marketing Directive and incorporated within UK legislation via the Financial Services (Distance Marketing) Regulations 2004.*

In order to ensure this is not applicable, the LA must have a face-to-face meeting with the customer to discuss the loan/ mortgage.

Mortgage Administration Standards

1. Lending business must be conducted in an honest and responsible way, with due care and skill.
 - a. LA's should have in place a policy identifying eligibility criteria and produce a document clearly showing this for customers.
 - b. Interview methods must not leave customers feeling pressurised into taking out a mortgage to fund home improvement works.
 - c. Lending procedures must not result in any unfair treatment of customers.
 - d. Lending procedures must not give rise to any conflict of duty with customers.
 - e. Before giving any assistance the LA must be satisfied that the person has received appropriate advice or information about the extent and nature of any obligation (financial or otherwise) that they will be taking on.

2. Lending procedures must recognise the interests of the customer and treat them fairly.
 - a. Clear information on the terms of the loan should be given in advance.
 - b. Customers should be given time to consider whether this product is right for them, before signing documents.
 - c. LA must be satisfied that customers are fully aware of any financial commitment they are entering into

3. All contact and communication with customers must be clear, fair and not misleading.
 - a. Contact includes oral and written, telephone calls, face to face and correspondence (letters, emails).
 - b. Customer should receive written information about the product being offered. (Guidance document) This should include; who is providing the loan/ mortgage; fees; refund policy; complaint procedure. (Prescribed information).
 - c. Guidance document should be given at an early stage/ first contact.
 - d. Includes the availability of the loan or other products available through the lender which may be suitable.
 - e. On offer of loan/ mortgage, the customer should be given Mortgage Offer Document. This should include; customer name; date it was produced and how long the offer is valid for; how to accept; what assistance has been given; fees applicable; amount of mortgage; repayments; value of property for security; interest rate; disposal terms/ risks; length of mortgage; total cost of mortgage; contact details. (Prescribed information)

4. Reasonable care must be taken to ensure that any mortgage offered to the customer is suitable for them, based on their needs and circumstances.
 - a. The LA must take reasonable steps to obtain from a customer all information necessary to assess whether the loan is suitable. Eg. Ownership, financial etc.
 - i. Customer can afford to take out the loan/ mortgage, consider income/ expenditure and likely changes in the future
 - ii. Loan/ mortgage meets customers needs and circumstances
 - iii. Customer meets eligibility requirements
 - iv. For Lifetime Loan, customers future needs and plans eg. Moving, or his wishes for the estate.

Please refer to the National Assembly of Wales issued Circular 20/02 (Renewal Guidance) and the Mortgage Sales Guidance for Local Authorities and Housing Associations 2005 for more information.

	Community Housing Scheme	Emergency Repair Assistance	Lifetime Loan	Home Improvement Loan	Houses into Homes Loan
Enquiry received. Initial letter or email sent including conditions/ info. (Guidance document)	X	X		X	X
Visit to property to determine works and chat through loan face to face. Discussion should take place with applicant to confirm when the finance is repayable. Explain the process of application and securing the charge.	X	X	X	X	X
HHSRS carried out at the dwelling to identify Cat 1 hazards		X	X		
Schedule of works to remedy Cat 1 hazards at dwelling. Source quotations using Councils Minor Works Framework.		X	X		
Complete application form with applicant	X	X	X		
Verify application ¹ (second officer)	X	X	X	X	X
Ownership status should be confirmed with Land Registry Title and consideration given to any other charges (mortgages) secured on the dwelling.	X	X	X	X	X

¹ Check ownership, costs, affordability check, ID forms, viability/ due diligence, security options

		Emergency Repair Assistance	Lifetime Loan	Home Improvement Loan	Houses into Homes Loan
Approval of Loan to take place. Approval document to contain conditions, and reference to the approval being subject to charges being secured.	X	X	X		
Legal Charge document to be drawn up.	X		X	X	X
Loan agreement document to be drawn up.	X			X	X
Documents ² to be sent to applicant, with cover letter of further explanation. Applicant to be encouraged to source independent advice. Signing of Documents will need to be witnessed by third party.	X		X	X	X
Returned documents ³ to be sent up to Legal for signing/ sealing on behalf of Council and registration of charge. Once this is in place, return one copy to applicant for safe keeping.	X		X	X	X
Instruct contractor and check works on completion before payment.		X	X	X ⁴	
Register costs with Local Land Charges	X	X	X ⁵		
Payment to be sent to Finance. Copies of documents to be saved in shared folder. Finance will monitor repayments etc.	X		X	X	X

Subsidy Control

Subsidy Control should only need to be considered for Landlord loans. The current de minimis thresholds is £315,000 over a three year period. The subsidy component is not the loan itself (which must be repaid) but the advantage conferred on the borrower through not having to pay interest on the loan. Consequently, the amount of subsidy for each transaction would be counted as the present value of the interest that would be charged by a commercial lender. Provided that figure, plus the amount of any other state subsidy received by the borrower in the three years before the subsidy is given, does not exceed £315,000 from all sources of public sector subsidies, then the de minimis rules can apply. The benefit of such a loan under these schemes is significantly below the current threshold.

² Mortgage Offer Document, Loan Agreement, Legal Charge, Direct Debit

³ Legal Charge, Loan Agreement, Land Registry Title, ID1 form, Mortgage company agreement/ Deed of priority

⁴ Only instruct contractor for Home Improvement Loan if Supervisory Service is used.

⁵ Where costs are under £5000

Cyngor Sir Ceredigion County Council - Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

An integrated tool to inform effective decision making



This **Integrated Impact Assessment tool** incorporates the principles of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Sustainable Development Principles, the Equality Act 2010 and the Welsh Language Measure 2011 (Welsh Language Standards requirements) and Risk Management in order to inform effective decision making and ensuring compliance with respective legislation.

1. PROPOSAL DETAILS: (Policy/Change Objective/Budget saving)

Proposal Title	Community Housing Scheme
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Service Area	Planning Policy and Housing	Corporate Lead Officer	Russell Hughes-Pickering	Strategic Director	James Starbuck
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Name of Officer completing the IIA	Sarah Groves-Phillips	E-mail	Sarah.groves-phillips@ceredigion.gov.uk	Phone no	
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Please give a brief description of the purpose of the proposal

To support residents in Ceredigion to access intermediate housing options in the form of a shared equity scheme known as community housing.

Who will be directly affected by this proposal? (e.g. The general public, specific sections of the public such as youth groups, carers, road users, people using country parks, people on benefits, staff members or those who fall under the protected characteristics groups as defined by the Equality Act and for whom the authority must have due regard).

Members of the public who are unable to access open market housing i.e. those on lower incomes and those with minimal deposits.

VERSION CONTROL: The IIA should be used at the earliest stages of decision making, and then honed and refined throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process so that we can demonstrate how we have considered and built in sustainable development, Welsh language and equality considerations wherever possible.

Author	Decision making stage	Version number	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
Sarah Groves-Phillips	<i>LG and Cabinet</i>	1	23/02/2023	<i>The sustainable development principle, wellbeing goals and Future Wales have been a focus for the decision making throughout.</i>

COUNCIL STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES: Which of the Council's Strategic Objectives does the proposal address and how?

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Boosting the Economy, supporting Business and enabling employment.	
Creating caring and healthy communities	By enabling residents to be able to afford to stay in their communities, we are ensuring families can stay connected, ensuring mixed and balanced communities by assisting a range of people to access housing often outside their price range and in the process supporting Welsh Language and Culture.
Providing the best start in life and enabling Learning at all ages	
Creating sustainable, greener and well-connected communities	By supporting all generations to access housing in their community we are promoting the sustainability of those communities in perpetuity. The Community Housing Scheme also places an emphasis on the re-use of empty properties. This focus ensures that existing resources countywide are repurposed and their sustainability ensured.

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NOTE: As you complete this tool you will be asked for **evidence to support your views**. These need to include your baseline position, measures and studies that have informed your thinking and the judgement you are making. It should allow you to identify whether any changes resulting from the implementation of the recommendation will have a positive or negative effect. Data sources include for example:

- *Quantitative data - data that provides numerical information, e.g. population figures, number of users/non-users*
- *Qualitative data – data that furnishes evidence of people’s perception/views of the service/policy, e.g. analysis of complaints, outcomes of focus groups, surveys*
- *Local population data from the census figures (such as Ceredigion Welsh language Profile and Ceredigion Demographic Equality data)*
- *National Household survey data*
- *Service User data*
- *Feedback from consultation and engagement campaigns*
- *Recommendations from Scrutiny*
- *Comparisons with similar policies in other authorities*
- *Academic publications, research reports, consultants’ reports, and reports on any consultation with e.g. trade unions or the voluntary and community sectors, ‘Is Wales Fairer’ document.*
- *Welsh Language skills data for Council staff*

2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES: How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the five sustainable development principles, as outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, in its development?

Cyngor Sir Ceredigion County Council - Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

An integrated tool to inform effective decision making



Sustainable Development Principle	Does the proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not, explain why.	What evidence do you have to support this view?	What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to the principle?
<p>Long Term Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>This proposal seeks to support residents to access intermediate housing – there has been a historic trend of house prices to income ratios being disproportionately high in Ceredigion and this proposal seeks to bridge that gap for some people</i> <i>In considering long-term planning the council have sought to offer a stair casing feature of the support in order to allow users of the scheme to step out of an intermediate housing option and own outright their home</i> <i>By supporting users to stair case out of the scheme an inherent sustainability is built into the scheme as funds are recycled to facilitate further support for the housing type.</i> 	<p>Planning Policy and Research services evidence on housing trends. Housing evidence through the Local Housing Market Assessment and Housing Lists as to the types of housing needs required countywide.</p>	<p>In order to ensure the scheme can continue and meet the expected demand further sources of funding are required to bridge the gap between scheme start and when staircasing recycled funds are realised which it is not expected will be within the first 5 years of operation.</p>
<p>Collaboration Working together with other partners to deliver.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The scheme has been designed to complement the activity of partner organisations such as Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) and the private sector already operating differing Housing Needs tenures. It is purposely been managed by the council in order to offer a model</i> 	<p>The Housing team have a close working relationship with RSLs and work with them to deliver a number of schemes highlighted in the Affordable Housing prospectus and Housing Strategy. This scheme has been developed in full</p>	<p>In future iterations of the scheme RSLs will be consulted with to better understand what types of housing support the residents in Ceredigion need.</p>



	<p><i>that works in collaboration with other housing tenures. This is to ensure that those in most housing need can have their needs met by an appropriate organisation and those with differing housing requirements (such as insufficient deposit or being priced out of the local market) can find a route to home ownership, which is not the predominant concern of others operating in this field.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>However internally a number of service areas have collaborated to progress this model and in reviewing the outcomes of the work consideration of partnering activities with relevant agencies will be reviewed.</i> 	<p>knowledge of the schemes that RSLs are currently delivering or intending to deliver and compliments rather than competes with the schemes in development. It supports a patchwork of supports that exist already but at present do not meet the demand that exists for intermediate tenures.</p>	
<p>Involvement Involving those with an interest and seeking their views.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formal consultation on the scheme has not been undertaken but in establishing housing needs across the authority a range of evidence bases are used which incorporate formal consultation procedures. These include the Local Development Plan, The Housing Strategy, The Affordable Housing Prospectus and The Local Housing Market Assessment. Thus, it is from the results of these studies and 	<p>At a national level and a local level, we have sufficient evidence to demonstrate a need for intermediate tenures and the level of demand that exists. This process is about determining what schemes can be realistically be delivered and limiting risks of these schemes. Engagement has therefore identified the issue; research confirmed</p>	<p>To review the potential scope of the scheme and any further refinements that are required the scheme should be discussed at the Strategic Housing Partnership. And in any future scheme redesign consultation with users of the scheme should be undertaken to understand how to administer the scheme more efficiently and any lessons learnt.</p>



	<p>engagement exercises that this scheme has been developed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the previous resolution at full council to support a similar scheme a range of feedback was received and this feedback has been utilised in re-designing the scheme to take account of potential pitfalls and risks. 	<p>the need and this work stream provided a potential solution.</p>	
<p>Prevention Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse.</p>	<p>There are longstanding structural inequalities in the regions economy that contribute to a lower than Wales average household income and a higher than average house price. This means the ratio of house price to income is disproportionately high in Ceredigion and compounds the national issue of house price affordability. There are a number of causes of such structural inequality, which the Corporate Strategy, Wellbeing Plan, Local Development Plan and Growing Mid Wales partnership aim to address. This scheme is offering a mechanism to support some people who are trying to operate within these markets some support to access housing that would otherwise be out of their reach. And whilst this does not address the heart of why there is a fundamental issue – often such market forces are outside the scope of what a Local Authority can change. Therefore, by preventing</p>	<p>Resources are being put into place to support the economy through the Growing Mid Wales partnership and other corporate plans and procedures. This scheme offers a solution to bridge the affordability gap for scheme users but can't in and of itself overcome the structural inequalities of the county's economic base.</p>	<p>By focusing the scheme somewhat on bringing back into substantive use empty properties the scheme is attempting to repurpose existing resources that are currently under appreciated in value and support the scheme users to stair case out of an intermediate tenure. This is set against the back drop of potential concerns around housing bubbles, negative equity and the cost-of-living crisis. It has been designed as such so that this scheme will not further contribute to an inflation of the bubble. However it remains to be seen if this works therefore dependant on how the scheme operates in future reviews of the scheme consideration will be made as to the success of such an objective given the limited reach of the scheme.</p>



	further households from being 'priced out of the market' we are attempting a small correction of the market for some households that can access the scheme.		
Integration Positively impacting on people, economy, environment and culture and trying to benefit all three.	The scheme has a focus on re-use of empty properties thereby adding an environmental and economic benefit to the scheme therefore integrating these as well as supporting culture and people.	The collaborative working across service areas as evidenced through the background papers.	Review the success of the repurposing of empty properties element once the scheme is up and running and if appropriate strengthen this focus.



3. WELL-BEING GOALS: Does your proposal deliver any of the seven National Well-being Goals for Wales as outlined on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. We need to ensure that the steps we take to meet one of the goals aren't detrimental to meeting another.			
Well-being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive or negative impacts-	What evidence do you have to support this view?	What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to the goal?
3.1. A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs.	Effect is positive as the repurposing of empty properties will generate local employment in the foundational economy and ensure the best use of existing resources as well as generating potential capital gains for the scheme users who have made equity through redevelopment of empty properties.	The scheme is designed to support the bringing back into substantive use of empty properties a key priority of Welsh Government Policy who articulated these ideas in the recent ministerial statement outlining future funding support.	
3.2. A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change).	Effect is neutral		
3.3. A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximised and health impacts are understood.	Effect is positive – supporting people into adequate housing will help to alleviate users mental health concerns over inadequate housing.	The housing team are well versed in managing the stress caused by people in inadequate housing the users who are supported into an intermediate tenure product should relieve some housing related anxiety.	



<p>3.4. A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected.</p>	<p>Effect is positive - Supporting of local people to access affordable housing in their community will have a positive effect on local communities as services are supported and local language and culture maintained.</p>	<p>National Planning policy advocates for resilient communities of mixed tenures and ages – with Ceredigion having a declining population and an aging population supporting a range of people to stay in communities they would otherwise be unable to afford accords with the ambitions of the Well-Being of Future Generations Act sustainability principle as well as that of Planning Policy Wales and Future Wales The National Plan 2040.</p>	
<p>3.5. A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental well-being.</p>	<p>Effect is Neutral</p>		



<p>3.6. A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances.</p> <p><i>In this section you need to consider the impact on equality groups, the evidence and any action you are taking for improvement.</i></p> <p><i>You need to consider how might the proposal impact on equality protected groups in accordance with the Equality Act 2010?</i></p> <p><i>These include the protected characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or beliefs, gender, sexual orientation.</i></p> <p>Please also consider the following guide:: Equality Human Rights - Assessing Impact & Equality Duty</p>	<p>Describe why it will have a positive/negative or negligible impact.</p> <p><i>Using your evidence consider the impact for each of the protected groups. You will need to consider do these groups have equal access to the service, or do they need to receive the service in a different way from other people because of their protected characteristics. It is not acceptable to state simply that a proposal will universally benefit/disadvantage everyone. You should demonstrate that you have considered all the available evidence and address any gaps or disparities revealed.</i></p>	<p>What evidence do you have to support this view?</p> <p><i>Gathering Equality data and evidence is vital for an IIA. You should consider who uses or is likely to use the service. Failure to use <u>data</u> or <u>engage</u> where change is planned can leave decisions open to legal challenge. Please link to involvement box within this template. Please also consider the general guidance.</i></p>	<p>What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</p> <p><i>These actions can include a range of positive actions which allows the organisation to treat individuals according to their needs, even when that might mean treating some more favourably than others, in order for them to have a good outcome. You may also have actions to identify any gaps in data or an action to engage with those who will/likely to be effected by the proposal. These actions need to link to Section 4 of this template.</i></p>																
<p>Age Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people because of their age? (Please tick ✓)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Positive</th> <th>Negative</th> <th>None/ Negligible</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children and Young People up to 18</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>People 18-50</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Older People 50+</td> <td style="text-align: center;">x</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	Children and Young People up to 18	x			People 18-50	x			Older People 50+	x			<p>All service users will be treated with respect irrelevant of their race, colour, religion, ethnicity, sex, age, disability, nationality, marital status, pregnancy and maternity, sexual orientation or gender reassignment.</p> <p>The scheme does not prescribe an age threshold with the scheme being open to any eligible participant – ensuring households are adequately housed regardless of their age will have a positive effect on their lives.</p>	<p>Equality Act 2010 The existing Affordable Housing schemes are accessed by people of all ages form families with young children, to young adults to older people.</p>	
	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible																
Children and Young People up to 18	x																		
People 18-50	x																		
Older People 50+	x																		

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Disability Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people because of their disability? (Please tick ✓)				All service users will be treated with respect irrelevant of their race, colour, religion, ethnicity, sex, age, disability, nationality, marital status, pregnancy and maternity, sexual orientation or gender reassignment. The scheme is open to any eligible participant – ensuring households are adequately housed regardless of their disability will have a positive effect on their lives. If for any reason people are unable to complete the eligibility forms, appropriate support will be provided.	Equality Act 2010	Better advertise the available support that is available for completion of the eligibility forms in a range of formats (large print, Braille etc).
Hearing Impairment	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Physical Impairment	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Visual Impairment	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Learning Disability	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Long Standing Illness	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Mental Health	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Other	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					

Transgender Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on transgender people? (Please tick ✓)				All service users will be treated with respect irrelevant of their race, colour, religion, ethnicity, sex, age, disability, nationality, marital status, pregnancy and maternity, sexual orientation or gender reassignment.	Equality Act 2010	
Transgender	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					

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				The scheme is open to any eligible participant – ensuring households are adequately housed regardless of their gender will have a positive effect on their lives.		
--	--	--	--	---	--	--

Marriage or Civil Partnership Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on marriage or Civil partnership? (Please tick ✓)				All service users will be treated with respect irrelevant of their race, colour, religion, ethnicity, sex, age, disability, nationality, marital status, pregnancy and maternity, sexual orientation or gender reassignment. The scheme is open to any eligible households – ensuring households are adequately housed regardless of their marriage or civil partnership status will have a positive effect on their lives.	Equality Act 2010 The existing Affordable Housing schemes are accessed by people of many partnership types.	
Marriage	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Civil partnership	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					

Pregnancy or Maternity Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on pregnancy or maternity? (Please tick ✓)				All service users will be treated with respect irrelevant of their race, colour, religion, ethnicity, sex, age, disability, nationality, marital status, pregnancy and maternity, sexual orientation or gender reassignment. The scheme is open to any eligible households – ensuring households are adequately housed regardless of their	Equality Act 2010	
Pregnancy	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Maternity	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					

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				pregnancy or maternity status will have a positive effect on their lives.		
--	--	--	--	---	--	--

Race Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on race? (Please tick ✓)				All service users will be treated with respect irrelevant of their race, colour, religion, ethnicity, sex, age, disability, nationality, marital status, pregnancy and maternity, sexual orientation or gender reassignment. The scheme is open to any eligible participant – ensuring households are adequately housed regardless of their race will have a positive effect on their lives. If for any reason people are unable to complete the eligibility forms, appropriate support will be provided in the form of assistance or translation where required.	Equality Act 2010	Better advertise the support that is available for completion of the eligibility forms in a range of languages.
White	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Asian / Asian British	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Other Ethnic Groups	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					

Religion or non-beliefs Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people with different religions, beliefs or non-beliefs? (Please tick ✓)				All service users will be treated with respect irrelevant of their race, colour, religion, ethnicity, sex, age, disability, nationality, marital status, pregnancy and maternity, sexual orientation or gender reassignment. The scheme is open to any eligible households – ensuring	Equality Act 2010	
Christian	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Buddhist	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			

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	x			households are adequately housed regardless of their religion or non-beliefs will have a positive effect on their lives.		
Hindu	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Humanist	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Jewish	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Muslim	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Sikh	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Non-belief	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Other	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					

Sex Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on men and/or women? (Please tick ✓)				All service users will be treated with respect irrelevant of their race, colour, religion, ethnicity, sex, age, disability, nationality, marital status, pregnancy and maternity, sexual orientation or gender reassignment. The scheme is open to any eligible people – ensuring people are adequately housed regardless of their sex will	The existing Affordable Housing schemes are accessed by people with different sexes.	
Men	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Women	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					



				have a positive effect on their lives.		
--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Sexual Orientation				All service users will be treated with respect irrelevant of their race, colour, religion, ethnicity, sex, age, disability, nationality, marital status, pregnancy and maternity, sexual orientation or gender reassignment. The scheme is open to any eligible people – ensuring people are adequately housed regardless of their sexual orientation will have a positive effect on their lives.	Equality Act 2010	
Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people with different sexual orientation? (Please tick ✓)						
Bisexual	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Gay Men	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Gay Women / Lesbian	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Heterosexual / Straight	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					

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Having due regards in relation to the three aims of the Equality Duty - determine whether the proposal will assist or inhibit your ability to eliminate discrimination; advance equality and foster good relations.

3.6.2. How could/does the proposal help advance/promote equality of opportunity?
 You should consider whether the proposal will help you to: ● Remove or minimise disadvantage ● To meet the needs of people with certain characteristics ● Encourage increased participation of people with particular characteristics

All of the Corporate Well-being Objectives seek to establish a more Equal Ceredigion and Wales by ensuring equal opportunities for employment, housing, education, healthier lifestyles and sustainable communities, regardless of protected characteristic. The Council's Strategic Equality Plan sets out how it will ensure that residents and stakeholders in Ceredigion have a voice to influence the development of policies and strategies that will affect their lives. This scheme embraces the requirements of all corporate strategies.

3.6.3. How could/does the proposal/decision help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, or victimisation?



You should consider whether there is evidence to indicate that: ● *The proposal may result in less favourable treatment for people with certain characteristics* ● *The proposal may give rise to indirect discrimination* ● *The proposal is more likely to assist or impeded you in making reasonable adjustments*

The proposal does not specifically eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation. But by abiding by the equalities act will not contribute to the above either.

3.6.4. How could/does the proposal impact on advancing/promoting good relations and wider community cohesion?

You should consider whether the proposal will help you to: ● *Tackle prejudice* ● *Promote understanding*

The proposal seeks to support people to access intermediate tenure housing in their communities and therefore by extension promote good relationships and wider community cohesion.

Having due regard of the Socio-Economic Duty of the Equality Act 2010.

Socio-Economic Disadvantage is living in less favourable social and economic circumstances than others in the same society.

As a listed public body, Ceredigion County Council is required to have due regard to the Socio-Economic Duty of the Equality Act 2010. Effectively this means carrying out a poverty impact assessment. The duty covers all people who suffer socio-economic disadvantage, including people with protected characteristics.

3.6.5 What evidence do you have about socio-economic disadvantage and inequalities of outcome in relation to the proposal?

Describe why it will have a positive/negative or negligible impact.

The proposal should have a positive effect in regard to the Socio Economic Duty of the Equality Act 2010 in that it supports people who are unable to access market housing to access an intermediate tenure product and support them to staircase out of the intermediate tenure over time.

What evidence do you have to support this view?

The needs for such a product to support those people on lower incomes are evidenced through the Local Housing Market Assessment.

What action(s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?



As the Community Housing Scheme is intended to reduce socio-economic disadvantage and inequality, there are no negative impacts of the Strategy identified at this stage. However, there are some key actions that will be taken to better contribute to positive impacts. These actions are to monitor the delivery of the scheme to assess the impact and adjust or amend as necessary. These actions will provide crucial feedback on the effectiveness of the scheme in reducing socio-economic disadvantage and inequality, and directing future actions put in place. Specifically, these are:

- 1) The delivery of the Corporate Well-being Objectives is assessed annually as part of the Self-Assessment Report in November as required by the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.
- 2) Part of the process of conducting the annual Self-Assessment includes a desktop analysis of a variety of evidence, including internal performance reports, external inspection reports and the results of consultation. This helps to provide essential feedback and independent views on the Council's performance and on progress with the delivery of its Corporate Well-being Objectives.
- 3) The delivery of business plans is assessed quarterly through the internal Corporate Performance Board Meetings. The business plans align with the Corporate Strategy and the Corporate Well-being Objectives and contribute the National Well-being Goals.
- 4) The annual business planning process seeks to strengthen the Golden Thread and ensure that business plans support the delivery of the Corporate Well-being Objectives and national well-being goals.
- 5) Ongoing public consultation/engagement with protected groups will provide important feedback on Council services and where inequalities may exist.



<p>3.7. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh Language are promoted and protected. <i>In this section you need to consider the impact, the evidence and any action you are taking for improvement. This in order to ensure that the opportunities for people who choose to live their lives and access services through the medium of Welsh are not inferior to what is afforded to those choosing to do so in English, in accordance with the requirement of the Welsh Language Measure 2011.</i></p>				Describe why it will have a positive/negative or negligible impact.	What evidence do you have to support this view?	What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
<p>Will the proposal be delivered bilingually (Welsh & English)?</p>	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	The scheme will be administered bilingually	The current affordable housing scheme is delivered bilingually and supports local people to secure housing in their communities	
	x					
<p>Will the proposal have an effect on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language?</p>	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	The scheme will be administered bilingually and support local people to access housing in their community which could lead to an increase in daily use of Welsh.	The current affordable housing scheme is delivered bilingually and supports local people to secure housing in their communities	
	x					
<p>Will the proposal increase or reduce the opportunity for persons to access services through the medium of Welsh?</p>	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	The scheme will be administered bilingually and support local people to access housing in their community which could lead to an increase in daily use of Welsh.	The current affordable housing scheme is delivered bilingually and supports local people to secure housing in their communities	
	x					
	Positive	Negative	None/			

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How will the proposal treat the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language?	x		Negligible	The scheme will be administered bilingually	The current affordable housing scheme is delivered bilingually and supports local people to secure housing in their communities	
Will it preserve promote and enhance local culture and heritage?	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	The scheme will be administered bilingually and support local people to access housing in their community which could lead to an increase in daily use of Welsh.	The current affordable housing scheme is delivered bilingually and supports local people to secure housing in their communities	



4. STRENGTHENING THE PROPOSAL: If the proposal is likely to have a negative impact on any of the above (including any of the protected characteristics), what practical changes/actions could help reduce or remove any negative impacts as identified in sections 2 and 3?

4.1 Actions.

What are you going to do?	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible?	Progress

4.2. If no action is to be taken to remove or mitigate negative impacts please justify why.
(Please remember that if you have identified unlawful discrimination, immediate and potential, as a result of this proposal, the proposal must be changed or revised).

No negative impacts in relation to unlawful discrimination have been identified

4.3. Monitoring, evaluating and reviewing.

How will you monitor the impact and effectiveness of the proposal?

Annual review of the scheme will be conducted with amendments and changes made as required.

5. RISK: What is the risk associated with this proposal?

Impact Criteria	1 - Very low	2 - Low	3 - Medium	4 - High	5 - Very High
Likelihood Criteria	1 - Unlikely to occur	2 - Lower than average chance of occurrence	3 - Even chance of occurrence	4 - Higher than average chance of occurrence	5 - Expected to occur
Risk Description	Impact (severity)		Probability (deliverability)		Risk Score
					<i>Probability x Impact e.g. 3 x 5 = 15</i>



Does your proposal have a potential impact on another Service area?

Yes – The scheme will require administering, monitoring and reviewing in doing so the Legal, Planning Policy, Finance and Housing sections will play a part. In managing this additional work load a top slice of the fund has been recommended to administer the scheme.

6. SIGN OFF

Position	Name	Signature	Date
Service Manager	Sarah Groves-Phillips		23/02/2023
Corporate Lead Officer	Russell Hughes-Pickering		24/02/2023
Strategic Director	James Starbuck		24/02/2023
Portfolio Holder	Clive Davies		

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO:	Cabinet
DATE:	06 June 2023
LOCATION:	Hybrid
TITLE:	Feedback from the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the Community Housing Scheme Proposal
PURPOSE OF REPORT:	To provide feedback from the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 13 March 2023

Affordable Housing in Ceredigion is a key priority of the Corporate Strategy, the Wellbeing Plan, the Housing Strategy and the Local Development Plan and the Council deploys significant resources in creating and managing affordable housing.

Members at its Corporate Resources 13th March 2023 meeting were asked to consider the Community Housing Scheme Proposal. 'Community Housing' seeks to support people to meet their affordable housing needs in their local communities by creating a pathway to home ownership. The Council made a commitment to support such a scheme in March 2022.

During discussions, it was suggested that Officers consider the following points:

1. That the Council undertake their own formal structural survey on the subject property, to assess its condition, prior to a formal offer,
2. That any formal offer to lend by the Council is conditional on any works identified in the Council' survey. Works should then be undertaken within a given amount of time – suggest possibly six months,
3. The report (attachment A of the agenda papers) states that 'the Council loan can be for a period no longer than the period of the associated mortgage' - consideration of the repayment of the loan needs to be given to those with no mortgage so that repayment is made either upon first sale or transfer of the property.

RECOMMENDATION (S):

Following discussion, Members were asked to consider the following recommendation:

1. To consider the Community Housing Scheme Proposal as set out in the enclosures.
2. To provide appropriate feedback on the scheme to Cabinet.

Members agreed to recommend that Cabinet:

1. Approve the Community Housing Scheme, subject to consideration of the following:
 - Consider alternative options in relation to the Commuted sums secured under section 106 agreements, this could include upfront commuted sum payment to help support delivery of affordable housing in the County,

- Consider including Councillor involvement in the Task and Finish Group membership.

Councillor Rhodri Evans
Chairman of the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 6 June 2023

Title: Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (ETROs)

Purpose of the report: To present outcomes following the 6-month period of public consultation and recommend the making of a permanent Traffic Regulation Orders to make the effects of the existing ETROs permanent

For: Decision

Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member: Councillor Keith Henson, Cabinet Member for Highways and Environmental Services and Carbon Management

On 1st February 2022 (Minute 176) Cabinet authorised the making of two Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (ETROs) that retain and amend a number of traffic management measures (restrictions of movement and parking) that were previously introduced during the Covid-19 pandemic in Aberystwyth, Aberaeron, New Quay, and Cardigan via Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders.

A subsequent Amendment Order for the ETROs became necessary when physical works for the ETROs overran, so as to allow the full 6-month period for public consultation set out in current regulations during which the measures were all in operation.

The public consultation period ended on 4th January 2023, and 44 items of correspondence were received from 34 correspondents (though two items were received after the end of the 6-month consultation period). Appendix 1 contains this correspondence, along with Officers' recommended responses.

Authorisation is now sought to make the two necessary permanent TROs to make the effects of the ETROs permanent, one for parking restrictions and one for moving restrictions.

	Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why	Yes
Wellbeing of Future Generations:	Summary:	
	Long term:	
	Collaboration:	
	Involvement:	
	Prevention:	
	Integration:	

Recommendation(s):	IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT Cabinet approve the making of the necessary two Traffic Regulation Orders and the publication of a subsequent Notice of Making in the press to this effect.
Reasons for decision:	To make the effects of the two ETROs permanent.
Overview and Scrutiny:	Thriving Communities
Policy Framework:	Producing better and safer roads
Corporate Priorities:	Boosting the Economy Investing in People's Future Promoting Environmental and Community Resilience
Finance and Procurement implications:	
Legal Implications:	Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996, plus amendments.
Staffing implications:	Enforcement of the parking restrictions will be the responsibility of Parking Services.
Property / asset implications:	Road markings and signage are Highways Assets for future inspection and maintenance.
Risk(s):	
Statutory Powers:	Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984
Background Papers:	Ceredigion County Council (One Way and Prohibition of Turn) (Aberaeron, Aberystwyth, Cardigan, and New Quay) (Experimental) Order 2022 and Ceredigion County Council (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Unloading) (Aberaeron, Aberystwyth, Cardigan, and New Quay) (Experimental) Order 2022
Appendices:	Appendix 1 – Correspondence received during the 6 month consultation phase Appendix 2 – Copies of the existing ETROs and the Amendment Order
Corporate Lead Officer:	Rhodri Llwyd, Corporate Lead Officer: Highways and Environmental Services
Reporting Officer:	Tom Delph-Janiurek
Date:	16 May 2023

Appendix 1: Correspondence received, with Officers' recommended responses underneath in bold

General

1. As a motorist I feel under attack from Government proposals regarding safe zones in several towns within Ceredigion. We have lost scores of parking places with permanent restructuring of previous parking availability, resulting in a loss of trade to small local family businesses who rely on rural residents being able to get to these outlets in order to buy essential goods, and in the summer season, they are dependent on the tourist trade to see them through the winter months. The so called safe zones also restrict waiting, loading and unloading, again making it difficult for small retailers to survive. Your spokesman says this is to assess the effectiveness of the zones while social distancing is not in force. Effective against what? We now have a vaccine booster campaign well under way, and in the fresh air, exactly why are we expected to social distance? Wales is to introduce a national 20mph speed limit in built up areas, and I expect a 60mph limit on dual carriageways and motorways to be implemented in the future. Is this a coincidence? I strongly believe the safe zone policy should be abandoned with immediate effect.

There is ample parking available in Cardigan in pay and display car parks

Road space has been reallocated to take into consideration all users, and not just motorists. It is unrealistic to expect parking to be available directly outside retail and other businesses in town centres.

Safe zones were removed on 30/09/2022.

Positive comments have been received regarding the extended pavements in Cardigan.

Cardigan

1. Extended pavements Cardigan - I would like to see the above removed from Cardigan and our town back to normal, also this would have been better as a survey for everyone in Cardigan to be able to voice their opinion, not everyone can send emails.

From the same correspondent - I would like to see the extended pavements in Cardigan removed, and our town back to normal, I also would like to see that this as a survey for everyone who lives in Cardigan.

Space has been reallocated to take into consideration all users, and not just motorists. It is unrealistic to expect parking to be available directly outside retail and other businesses in town centres.

Positive comments have been received regarding the extended pavements in Cardigan.

2. I would like to add my support to retaining the current pavement arrangement. It is safer than the previous layout and I believe adds to the ambience of the town. In addition as a pedestrian I feel much safer with the current layout as the vehicles have had to slow down making it easier to cross the roads with children and my dog.

Correspondent to be thanked for their comments. Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

3. ...As a wheelchair user, I find the pavement extensions make our town more accessible for wheelchair and scooter users, giving us more space and safety when using our town.Disabled people should have equal access and the right to use the town safely. I have tried many times to ensure the council adopt the social model of disability to make it accessible for everyone, but it seems to be ignored. During my time serving the town council I gave a presentation on the social model of disability.... I also carried out a survey asking people their opinions on the pavement extensions, particularly the disabled town users who were affected by it most. I feel discriminated against, ignored I am asking again for county council to look at the survey I sent in and adopt the social model of disability into their practice. Many people within our community have disabilities. I do not do this for me, I do this for the people in our community who are most ignored. I am a disability rights campaigner working towards making our town more accessible and welcoming to disabled people. For access to shops and public buildings, which would only increase foot/wheel fall in our town and allow us to participate in growing our local economy, which is struggling now. Can I ask for your assurance that my request to keep the pavement extensions in order to make our visit to town more accessible and welcoming? ...I do hope I can leave this with you and action taken to prevent further discrimination towards disabled people.

Comments regarding specific named individuals who are County Councillors have been removed and will be considered separately.

Request for the survey mentioned in the correspondence to be resent, since it may be useful, but it was not received as a response to this consultation.

Space has been reallocated to take into consideration the needs of all users, including pedestrians and those with mobility issues. Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

From the same correspondent - I have been to town this morning and noticed the pavement dips added in Pendre, this is something i had been calling for, so thank you to the council for installing them. Sadly, outside The Black Lion, the pavement extension has gone, and the pub have a large A board outside that blocks the pavement for wheelchair and scooter users. A lady using crutches

helped me move it to allow each other to pass on the pavement safely. I feel this is unacceptable that what is now a very narrow pavement again, is now taken up by an A board. This is why I was so disappointed at the county councillors' comments stating that traffic has priority over pedestrians finishing with 'end of'. I am sorry, but its not the end of this debate. Every member of this community has the right to be listened to and compromise added somewhere. Disabled people want to use our town, support the local business, and socialise in their own town, but if access is denied on our pavements to wheelchair and scooter users, then many will be put of coming here. Can i also add that not all disabled people drive and only use pavements. Would it be possible to make a rule about A boards on our pavements? Visually impaired people should be considered when placing boards in town. It seems car owners and advertisements have priority over disabled people living and visiting our town. I do hope we can find a way to make our town more accessible to everyone equally. And I do hope the council will adopt the social model of disability into their practice in the future.

There is an aspiration to work closely with the Town Council regarding Place Plans to provide permanent enhancement of measures that assist personal mobility and encourage Active and Sustainable travel.

The Authority is actively seeking to encourage compliance regarding licences for A boards and other objects placed in public footway.

A report of an on-line petition was also received from the same correspondent, with 127 names, 61 seem to be from outside Ceredigion, and many with only partial personal information (e.g. merely name and postcode/name of town), with the following statement:

Please consider the following ongoing petition in response to the above-mentioned Consultation:

We object to the pavement extensions currently installed on Cardigan High Street for the following reasons:

- They reduce the overall parking facility in our town and adversely affect Disabled Drivers (not all of whom are Blue Badge holders): When other parking spaces are full (a frequent occurrence as there are fewer of them) many motorists will simply park in a Disabled space.
- They cause traffic tailbacks (which in turn increase pollution): Because the pavement extensions reduce the width of the High Street, there is nowhere for delivery vehicles to pull in, which means they regularly have to stop in the middle of the road, holding up traffic, causing pollution.
- They cause a nightmare for the Visually Impaired who have spent years learning how to navigate a safe route down the High Street and now have unfamiliar obstacles to contend with.

- Apart from being unattractive, they are only of use to cafés during the Summer months (and some café owners oppose them).
- There is a possibility that the retention of these installations will facilitate pedestrianisation of Cardigan High Street (when there is already a substantial petition against such a measure).
- We ask that these pavement extensions are removed as soon as possible as they cause far more problems than they solve.

The parking ETRO has introduced more disabled parking provision in the centre of Cardigan, and the possibility of increasing provision is currently being investigated.

There is no formal evidence that traffic flows have been adversely affected by the extended footways. Obstruction of public highway is a matter for the police to consider.

Space has been reallocated to take into consideration the needs of all users, including pedestrians and those with mobility issues. Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

Extended footways are used by pedestrians at all times of the year. There are currently no plans to pedestrianise Cardigan High Street.

4. I am very pleased to see the removal of one of the extended pavements in Cardigan. I would be delighted to see the removal of all others as well please. Our lovely town has been blighted by the messy untidy clutter of random tables and chairs, whilst valuable and essential disabled parking and delivery access has been lost. Please give us back our town as it was.

Space has been reallocated to take into consideration the needs of all users, including pedestrians and those with mobility issues.

Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

There has been an increase in loading bay provision.

5. Cardigan Town ETROs - Feedback on initial period prior to summer footfall and traffic. Some confusion on one-way systems introduced on Pwllhai and Chancery and continued confusion on College Row. There is signage but drivers are blind to reading highways signage so careful driving required for a lengthy period to come. If some kind of enforcement could be advised to the Police from local authority, all the better.

The ETROs are experimental measures and responses to consultation will provide some useful input to the development of more permanent measures.

All movement restrictions on public highway are currently the sole responsibility of the police to enforce.

Returning St Mary to previous setting is fine, easier for turning into Chancery Lane and avoids problems with the corner.

Chancery lane being one way is fine also. Sometimes have problems at the exit of chancery will 1 or 2 cars, lorries or taxis parking outside the Factory Shop superstore.

These comments will be useful in developing future designs for the area outside the Factory Shop.

Pwllhai one way no problem, like already mentioned time needed to adjust.

Loading Bays and disabled Bay all fine and sufficient just need enforcing.

Pavement extension outside Red Cross, not sure if required.

Space has been reallocated to take into consideration the needs of all users, including pedestrians and those with mobility issues. Existing footway provision here was well below Active Travel standards. Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

Pavement extension outside Bellotis cafe - fine and popular in good weather, owner has also created a space at the rear of the property which is popular also. Pavement extension outside Stiwdio 3, again popular and owner is keen to make permanent.

Pavement extensions outside Guildhall - happy with these causes traffic to slow down on the approach, easier to cross and a number of road junction come together at this point so maybe in future further thought on that, Pwllhai, College Row, Chancery Lane, Priory St, High Street and Pendre all come together here. Opportunity also to make use of the space in front of Guildhall.

Pavement Extensions outside Food for thought and Pendre Café - again use made of them, feedback from owners - too expensive to justify. Pendre Cafe have changed their business model to be take away only as a result and there a tax benefit as they now no longer use indoor seating, they are purely a takeaway and use the pavement extension seating for customers. Food for thought don't have that its either or situation, sunny days outside is busy inside it isn't, dull and wet days, inside is busy and outside isn't. Can prove difficult then with staffing to know numbers. Owner thinks the cost model for the extension doesn't suit, would accept like the model used in Pembrokeshire, based on number of tables.

Licensing costs are separate to the ETROS and therefore outside the scope of this consultation.

Pavement extension outside Crwst, again the pricing model used isn't working for them, they would happily see it go. The use being made by Crwst is for overspill for those not booked into the cafe inside or waiting for a takeaway or those who bought a takeaway and want to sit outside - no booking required. The tables on the pavement extension are not part of their booking system at present.

Licensing costs are separate to the ETROS and therefore outside the scope of this consultation.

Other comments - Pavement extensions need bollards - some of them have no protection and therefore could cause an accident for those sitting outside. Because there are no bollards, vehicles, mostly vans park on the extensions, so cafes have to put A boards out on them to stop this happening e.g. Belottis do this to stop the Butcher across the road occupying the street and extension with their staff cars and business vans.

Once a decision has been made regarding making permanent/amending/revoking then more permanent measures can be considered and designed.

The return of the bus stop is welcomed at the top of Grosvenor Hill, however the butcher business has and no doubt will request their loading bay is returned which was actually used for all day parking exclusively for them.

Increased loading bay provision has been provided by these measures.

Thoughts have been expressed in the place plan work for bio-diversity on the high street. Try to consider what could be done to adjust the town centre for trees to provide shade and pollinators.

The above matter is outside the scope of this consultation.

Cycle racks also required outside all the cafes

The above matter is outside the scope of this consultation.

Top of Pendre. - chemist and opticians - have become parking spots for people visiting these services, is there space for 2 formal spaces one being disabled maybe?

Once a decision has been made regarding making permanent/amending/revoking then more permanent measures can be considered and designed.

The Pendre Ceredigion traders' car park. Decision on future required, free for all at the moment.

Although outside the scope of this consultation, this matter is currently under consideration.

Greggs is moving to a more central location in Cardigan next to Boots and the bus stop, can see problems with parking and drop off to get their breakfast role before heading to building site.

This matter is outside the scope of this consultation.

Pendre is wide street often cars are parked on both sides of the road e.g., Butcher and takeaway next door on corner of William Street. Often pavement has chairs and tables, fruit and veg, A-boards therefore should pavement be made wider in places along that side with a few formal parking spaces on Pendre? E.g., William Street to Priory St junction widened, there is a pedestrian crossing to consider.

Once a decision has been made regarding making permanent/amending/revoking then more permanent measures can be considered and designed.

From the same correspondent - Pwllhai is one way, however from the Morgan Street end its 2 way, so a bit of confusing on whether it's one or two way.

Only a short section of Pwllhai is one way, to assist access to businesses at the Morgan Street end.

Bathroom Road, enforcement isn't working, parking on double yellow and loading bays. Emergency services use that road and congestion is a problem.

The above matter is outside the scope of this consultation.

6. I object to the way Ceredigion Council are trying to change the fundamental way Cardigan works. We need to allow everyone the ability to use our town. Not just the tourist for two months of the year. Cafe society it is not, it's a small friendly town, people need to be able to come in and use the town twelve months of the year. You are trying to stop that. I have no buses to get into town and I can't ride a bicycle and it's too far for me to walk and be able to do my shopping. I am one of many many people. Cardigan is not a city, treat it as a small county town. Pedestrianisation kills small towns, haven't you learnt that by now. Our town must be accessible for the whole community.

Space has been reallocated to take into consideration the needs of all users, including pedestrians and those with mobility issues. Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

7. I vehemently disagree with the widened pavements which have tables and chairs on them. When it rains as it does often, the tables and chairs are mostly unused. It also takes up space for cars and caravans. There is no reason on earth why our once thriving town should be marred in this way, please remove these widened pavements.

Space has been reallocated to take into consideration the needs of all users, including pedestrians and those with mobility issues. Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

8. I personally object most strongly to these supposed safe pavement extensions. They are a dangerous and most unsightly travesty in our once beautiful and admired high street. Tables covering tactile pavements that are not properly managed. We may have parking/ traffic wardens to penalise car drivers but who is going to "police" the dogs and children and thoughtless families that push tables together? Not the proprietors or staff as they are too busy in and out of their premises. I had to step out into the road several times because people sitting and eating would not acknowledge my request to allow me to pass. It is a shameful waste of tax payers money. Stupid unnecessary bollards and totally boded uneven pavements. What about the security vehicle using the guildhall one as a parking space? Not much help to wheelchairs etc. The whole thing was rushed and shoddily done with no thought as to what we as a town wish and it certainly isn't this mess that has been made. Please do reconsider before inflicting any more damage to the town. If people want outdoor dining then facilitate the use of gardens as a few have indeed done.

Space has been reallocated to take into consideration the needs of all users, including pedestrians and those with mobility issues. Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

Once a decision has been made regarding making permanent/amending/revoking the ETROs then more permanent measures can be considered and designed.

9. What a breath of fresh air the extended pavements in Cardigan are. With my current health problem I appreciate them even more now, making it easier to negotiate the increased footfall we have with the tourists around at this time of year, no more having to walk in the road. Also making it easier to cross the road in many places, didn't realise how difficult it was when you can't move fast. So many people appreciate this, it's safer for children, the elderly, wheelchair users, pushchairs, people with mobility problems and people in general even making things more social and making shops and cafes more accessible. Sardine can pavements are no fun or good for anyone. And no I wasn't raised in a wide paved city, but up in the Preseli hills!

Correspondent to be thanked for their comments. Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

10. I wanted to comment on the widening of the pavements in Cardigan. It was nice to see the amount of people using the tables and chairs set up on the widened section. In the last couple of weeks, the town has had a real buzz. People sitting down for a meal seem after to be encouraged to have a look around town and visit the shops. I hope the improvements are permanent. A couple of niggles - more contrast on the pavements for those with vision improvement. Better control of parking restrictions, nobody is only there for 2 minutes. More public display of the history of Cardigan as that is a popular theme for many tourists. Otherwise great stuff!

Correspondent to be thanked for their comments. Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

Once a decision has been made regarding making permanent/amending/revoking then more permanent measures can be considered and designed.

11. I wish to object in the strongest possible terms to the proposal to retain elements of the TTRO pertaining to Cardigan town, namely the pavement extensions and traffic diversions. I do so for the following reasons:

1. This scheme has had an adverse impact on a proportion of businesses vital to the town due to a decrease in the number of parking places on the main street.
2. For the elderly and/or those with limited mobility, it means that the shops in the main street are virtually inaccessible due to a lack of sufficient parking places at street level. Parking in most of the existing car parks necessitates a climb and is therefore out of the question for most blue badge holders and others with limited mobility, of whom I am one.

There is ample parking available in Cardigan in pay and display car parks

Road space has been reallocated to take into consideration all users, and not just motorists. It is unrealistic to expect parking to be available directly outside retail and other businesses in town centres.

3. This parking situation means that many of us who formerly patronised small Cardigan shops now give all our grocery custom to the supermarkets, where we can park or which deliver to us, and we shop online for whatever else we need.

Shopping habits and trends are outside the scope of the ETROs.

4. The result of the above has been to increase the social isolation experienced by many elderly people in the area, especially during the Covid pandemic.

The above matter is outside the scope of the ETROs.

5. No account was taken of the effect of the traffic diversions on those living in Quay Street or Lower Mwldan, or indeed the danger of heavy traffic moving along such narrow, pavement-less streets used by people coming up from the riverside car park on foot, especially during the holiday season.

The above is not relevant to this consultation, traffic flows on Quay Street and Lower Mwldan have reverted back to pre-Covid arrangements

6. The decision to impose these traffic measures was made without any consultation by Ceredigion County Council of Cardigan traders or of the local population who live in the town or come to it to shop. This was, and continues to be, a gross violation of the principles of local democracy

Measures were introduced experimentally to allow assessment in operation. The correspondent has responded to formal consultation.

12. For my reaction on the ETRO-measures see the attachment [contents included below]:

Before going into more details of the ETRO measures I would like to remark that I could not find any argumentation for the measures as mentioned in the Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders or the Safe parking and traffic flow arrangements trialled in Ceredigion towns. Besides a general remark in the first document: *“However, it is recognised that some of the elements have demonstrated a wider benefit to society and there is a justification for starting the legal process required to consider retaining some of these elements.”* And in the second document an almost homonymous remark: *“However, the extended pavements, parking arrangements and some traffic flow measures have proved beneficial and there is a justification to trial these elements further for the future.”*

These are just statements without any underlying facts or relevant investigation; no argumentation. On what grounds have the measures demonstrated a “wider benefit to society”, and what kind of benefits is referred. Also, on what grounds is it justified to go on with a trial?

I would expect a thorough traffic-flow analysis or something like that. In that context I would suggest making parking in Cardigan free, because that has already proven to be a benefit for the society, especially for the trader-shops and cafeshops in the town.

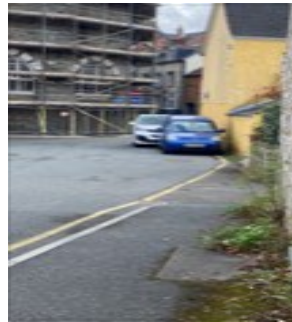
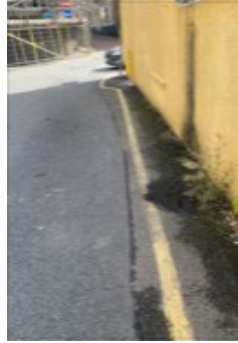
I am aware that the measures are experimental and will be reviewed later, taken into account the received comments of the public. But it lacks for a thorough basis of which aspects (and to what extend) will be used in judging the comments of the public.

My reaction will be limited to some of the measures taken in Cardigan, more specific the area of Greenfield Square car park.

1. The one-way direction on College Row (from High Street to Greenfield Square) looks justified and logic from traffic-flow point of view. However: the last weeks it has shown that this measure does not work: quite a lot of car drivers coming from Queens Terrace or the car park go UP to the High Street (or plan to go UP), ignoring (or not seeing) the one-way traffic sign. It's also remarkable that the text on the pavement of Queens Terrace (no entry) is recently refreshed, while this kind of warning is missing on College Row.; why is that? Not only because of this, the lay-out of this crossing also "invites" car drivers to go UP on College Row to the Hight Street.



2. The corner spot on Greenfield Square road near the crossing with Queens Terrace is too narrow for pedestrians; see pictures below. Besides that: it is often used as car park, so it is unable for pedestrians to pass. Unacceptable!!



3. Upper Mwldan. The way this road is designed and built is very bad: it is a two way road (!!!) and it narrows several times; the smallest part is on the busiest spot, next to the car park entrance. The road lacks a decent pavement for pedestrians. Besides: a two-way system does not make any sense anymore since the recent (ETRO-) change to one-way on College Row.





4. The road situation for the entrance to the car park is very confusing for a lot of drivers and takes a lot of space: the two way-road Upper Mwldan next to the entrance AND exit (2 way also!!) for the car park. It also lacks a safe and proper pedestrian crossing. A lot of drivers coming from Queens Terrace use the car park as through-road (and with high speed) instead of Upper Mwldan



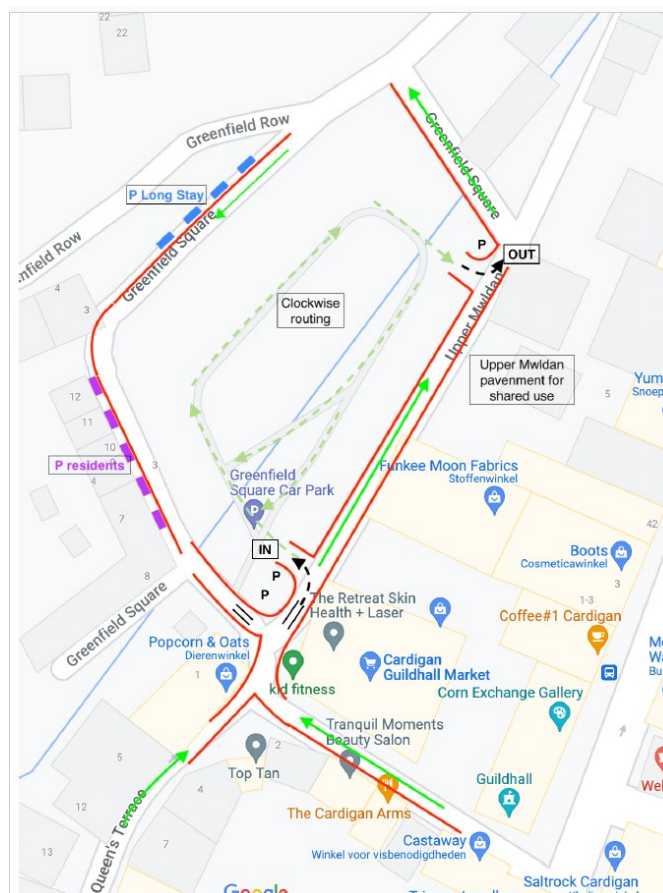
The current situation on Greenfield Square (road), Upper Mwldan and the car park are for me the reason to do a proposal for a redesign of this area. In the following sketch and text I have tried to explain my proposal.

Main issues of my proposal:

1. Keep the one-way direction on College Row as is introduced in the ETRO and: see 5.
2. New one-way directions on Upper Mwldan and Greenfield Square (road), in addition to the ETRO one-way system on College Row provides for a logical traffic flow to and from the car park.
3. Re-design of entrance and exit for car park. Better use of available space; probably also extra P-spaces. Option: exit to Greenfield Square northside (as is now); not to Upper Mwldan.
4. Upper Mwldan: new pavement, preferably pavement for shared use (plus: speed limit max. 5 mph), partly with zebra-stripes for pedestrian crossing.
5. Re-design of crossing Greenfield Square-Upper Mwldan-Queens Terrace-College Row. More intuitive to follow the One-Way traffic signs and better use of available space.

6. Clockwise routing on car park, clearly indicated with signs and with arrows on the pavement.
7. Option: New parking bays (in purple) reserved for residents Greenfield Square 7 -12 only; narrowing of the road on this side is possible because of the one way proposal mentioned in 2.
8. Option: New long stay car park bays (in blue) on the north-west side of this area, near Greenfield Row

I hope you take my remarks in consideration for the final decision making. For me it is important that whatever decision will be made the reasons for that decision will be properly communicated, also about the ways how to make objections, in case I feel that would be necessary.



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Once a decision has been made regarding making permanent/amending/revoking then more permanent measures can be considered and designed. Correspondent to be thanked, the comments and suggestions are useful to inform design decisions.

13. My proposal to support local business, pedestrians and car and bike users would be to create a level 'shared space' for pedestrians, business and vehicles from one end of the street from the Cellar Bar to the far end by Pendre Cafe. This is based on the European model, that is seen also in Scottish town centres such as Kirkwall. The road would be raised up to be level with the pavement, so drivers know they are entering a shared space. Parking areas remain but again raised up, as do areas for cafe's to sit customers outside and the speed limit reduced to 10 mph (the speed most cars drive down this stretch), 20mph on the roads around this area.

The surfaces on pedestrian areas and drivers would be a different texture to ensure that partially sighted or impaired visitors can delineate between them, plus the one level rise at the start and end mean that the zone is more mobility friendly for disabled visitors.

Shared space is a design approach that changes the way streets operate by reducing the dominance of motor vehicles and encouraging drivers to behave more accommodatingly towards pedestrians. With minimal markings for both vehicles and pedestrians and no overt right of way, the space requires both motorists and pedestrians to take due care when passing through the area. Right of way is, to all intents and purposes, negotiated. This feature has been shown to reduce vehicle speed and increase safety and has been tried and tested in many towns and cities throughout the UK including Cardiff and Swansea,

For shared spaces, the Highway Code requires drivers to “watch out for pedestrians crossing a road ... if they have started to cross they have priority, so give way.” Similarly, pedestrians are required to cross a road at a safe location with the Highway Code advising pedestrians not to cross a road “until there is a safe gap in traffic and you are certain that there is plenty of time.”

I believe implementing these exciting and innovative improvements would improve Cardigan town centre, making it a more vibrant and allowing shared access for all. My personal experience of town centres where this has been implemented have been so positive that I think Cardigan should lead the way as a Welsh town with this infrastructure.

Once a decision has been made regarding making permanent/amending/revoking then more permanent measures can be considered and designed. Correspondent to be thanked, the comments and suggestions are useful to inform design decisions.

14. Dear sir, my partner and I have a warehouse off Chancery Lane, we have a large Luton van and with restrictions now in place can no longer legally access our premises. We cannot drive our van down St. Mary's Street and turn into Chancery Lane, our van will not negotiate the corner. We can only access from the High Street past the factory shop down into Chancery Lane. Do you have any suggestions as to how we can access our premises legally.

Dear Sir, we have been running a house clearance business from the 4CG site at Pwllhai in Cardigan for the last 8 years, we have access at the back of our premises from the Black Lion carpark off Chancery Lane. With the new restrictions in place i.e. you have to access from St. Marys Street into Chancery lane, for our business we use a large Luton van which cannot make the turn from St. Marys into Chancery Lane, we can only access from the High Street past the Factory shop into Chancery Lane, if we do this now we are in breach of the law. It is imperative that we can access our business at all times, full van loads are bought into the premises and sorted. Without this access we cannot function as a viable business, this is our livelihood. It would be appreciated to have some helpful comment from yourselves as to how this can be resolved. My suggestion obviously would be to allow traffic to flow from the High Street into Chancery Lane past the factory shop. Maybe someone from your Highways department could come out for a site meeting.

We have access to the rear of our business from the "Black Lion" carpark. Since the introduction of a one way system into Chancery Lane We cannot access our premises with our Luton van legally. We cannot turn left into Chancery Lane as our van is too large, we are forced to turn right by the factory shop into Chancery Lane, now an illegal turn as it is one way. We have to have access to the rear of our premises with the van to unload after doing a house clearance, the load is then sorted before being moved downstairs to the shop floor.

I have been in touch with the highways dept on many occasions, everyone has fobbed me off saying they will be in touch, no-one has. I am getting very frustrated with the situation, we don't want to incur fines for doing an illegal turn but it is the only way to reach the back of the shop.

Please please can you help.

The one-way on Chancery Lane was introduced to assist with a transformation for pedestrian safety for the area outside the Original Factory Shop. Footway widths at this location are mostly below standard, and many pedestrians seem to walk in the road across this space at present. However, the one-way may be inconvenient for some road users and may make access more challenging for some businesses.

It is not reasonable to expect the Authority to engineer roads to suit any one specific business or household. The Authority's own design software suggests the arrangement is adequate for the size of vehicle in question, and the Authority should avoid being seen to encourage the use of larger vehicles on such a narrow lane with no footways. The current measure makes possible a variety of options for the redevelopment of the space outside the Original Factory Shop.

On balance, the safety improvements that can be introduced at the front of the Original Factory Shop will be of significant benefit for all pedestrians.

15. The Factory Shop have informed one of the Town Councillors that if you do a .no entry. at the top of Pwllhai off the main street in Cardigan, their delivery lorries wont be able to get to the back of the Factory Shop with their deliveries, as the bottom entrance via Morgan Street doesn.t have enough turning space for a large vehicle such as the ones they have. Can you urgently pass this on to the relevant department.

Additional correspondence received on this matter as follows:

I am the store manager at The Original Factory Shop on Cardigan High Street and have some concerns with the new one way system outside of our shop. The changes to making Chancery Lane one way was needed however making the hill to the side of our shop one way seems unnecessary as there were rarely any traffic issues here.

This is going to cause us a lot of problems as this is how our lorries get to our loading bay at the back of our shop. The only other way for them to get in is to reverse through the narrow lane next to Crwst. This is not easy at the best of times for our drivers but with the water works going on by this location or if there are any cars parked too near the turning our drivers can't get through and we are unable to receive our deliveries.

Please see attached pictures of the new road in question and the waterworks preventing our lorries from getting in.

There seems to be some misunderstanding of the one way on Pwllhai, this only affects the short section of Pwllhai towards its junction with High Street. Access to the loading bay for the Factory Shop is therefore not affected and remains two way.

Aberystwyth

16. We visited Aberystwyth Monday 13th June 2022, A was absolutely disgusted with the parking situation for Disabled people, I had to drop my Wife of by a shop she wanted to go to holding traffic up while I got her walked trolley out, then I went found a parking space in another street went to help her walk to some other shops, Then when we wanted to leave she wanted by the knife Angel until I walked to the car and go to pick her up and put the walker into the boot while holding traffic up again, Yet lots of loading bays empty that could also be used for Disabled, We used to come to Aberystwyth lots stop at Marine Hotel but unless roads and parking is put back to previous years we won't be back.

Disabled parking provision has increased in Aberystwyth town centre as part of these experimental measures. Blue Badge Holders can of course park without limit in other limited waiting bays.

Some loading bays in Aberystwyth operate until 1pm only and are then available for general parking. Others have had timings adjusted to increase availability for general parking.

17. In April 2021, Baker Street and Corporation Street had their one way systems reversed and Upper Portland Street was designated a one way street up the street. You have now reverted back to the original directions of up Baker Street and up Corporation Street. I have looked in the Cambrian News and on your website and can see no warning of the change. It appears that many people are in the same boat, as I have witnessed several near collisions caused by cars not realising the change. As one elderly lady succinctly put it, this is Ceredigion, what do you expect. As there are no "No Entry" signs at the top of Upper Portland Street, it has to be assumed that this has also reverted to its original state of being a two way street. However, there is still a blue directional sign outside my office showing that it is a one way street upwards. This has resulted in road rage incidents with motorists insisting it is still a one way street with other motorists showing that there are no signs prohibiting going down Upper Portland Street. I would ask that you clarify; is Upper Portland Street one way up or two way?

The signage issue has now been resolved.

Unfortunately, the ETROs replaced measures introduced via Temporary Orders, which is an unusual circumstance and there is no provision within current regulations for notifying the public beforehand. In future the Authority will amend processes to manage improved notification to the public.

18. Re: Access to Corporation Street

I am writing to ask whether consideration can be given to allowing the return of two-way traffic in Bath Street in order to facilitate sensible access from the north of the town to the south of the town.

In order to access Corporation Street from the north previously, one could:

1. travel up Portland Street and turn right into Terrace Road before turning left into Corporation Street; or
2. travel up Bath Street, cross Terrace Road and then travel up Corporation Street.

Neither of these options is now available. Although one can still travel north up Portland Street, it is no longer possible to turn right into Terrace Road in order to access Corporation Street. Bath Street is now one-way towards the north and so it is no longer possible to travel up Bath Street and thence up Corporation Street.

This means that in order to gain access to Corporation Street from the north, one has to travel the whole of the length of North Road down to Albert Place (by the old Swyddfa'r Sir), then from that point, along the Prom to the entrance with Terrace Road, and then turn right into Terrace Road and then right again up Corporation Street.

This is a very convoluted means of access and far more complicated than the previous means of access. I am sure that it was an unintended consequence that by changing both Terrace Road and Bath Street into one-way streets, this particular problem would be caused. As I say, it could easily be resolved by Bath Street becoming a two-way street once more. Can you let me know if this would be possible?

The current arrangement on Bath Street improves traffic flow and safety, particularly at the junction with Terrace Road. Unfortunately, even though there is inconvenience, longer journeys and delay for some motorists, this request can therefore not be granted.

19. Ever since their introduction the ETRO's have had nothing but a detrimental effect on my business. As a telecommunications / IT engineer I visit business and residential premises during the hours of 9am to 5.30pm within Aberystwyth town centre daily. Since the introduction of the ETRO I'm finding it harder and more time consuming to find parking places near to the customers I'm visiting and harder to navigate the streets to get from one customer to another.

Before the introduction of the ETRO's it was hard enough to find parking near to a customer's premises and invariably this would only be for a half hour period which meant having to regularly move my vehicle. Due to the nature of my work, I need my vehicle to be close by as I'm constantly back and forth to it for materials and tools including ladders and cable drums. Since the ETRO introduction however, it has become much harder to find a parking place due

to the reduced number of parking bays caused by the introduction of extended pavements and the increased number of disabled bays. I regularly find myself driving round the town looking for an empty space but pass numerous empty disabled bays which are not being used, particularly in Cambrian Place and Laura Place, surely this indicates the percentage of disabled bays compared to standard parking bays is now too high. The fact that I now regularly have to park some distance from where I'm working can often cause health and safety considerations when I have to carry large or heavy items such ladders or cable drums through the streets of the town.

Navigating the streets of Aberystwyth is now also extremely time consuming, as to get from one street to the next can often mean a tour of the whole town, usually with a trip along the promenade! It's obvious that whoever planned the current one-way streets does not have to drive around the town on a daily basis. For instance, if you want to try to get to Bath Street you have no option but to access it via the promenade.

Space has been reallocated to take into consideration all users, and not just motorists. It is unrealistic to expect parking to be available directly outside retail and other businesses in town centres.

The disabled bays in Laura Place were introduced via TTRO and have been removed prior to the ETROs being introduced.

20. As a frustrated local tradesperson can I ask that the council consider scrapping the ETRO's and returning the streets and parking options in Aberystwyth to the way they were prior their introduction? I would like to see the removal of the extended payments from Pier Street, Terrace Road and Chalybeate Street to allow two-way traffic flow and more parking and loading bays. I also believe that traffic flow would better with the removal of one-way traffic flow in those same streets along with Bath Street and the reintroduction of the standard parking spaces that have been removed over the last couple of years.

The one change made during this period that I did find had a positive effect was making Princes Street one way. This street is so narrow that it often resulted in vehicles trying to reverse back out onto Bridge Street against the flow of traffic. This change has however now been reversed.

Outside of work, since the introduction of the ETRO's I try to avoid driving into town due to the driving / parking issues mentioned above and where possible now shop out of town or on-line as I'm sure do many other local residents, unfortunately this is to the detriment of trade for local town centre shops, businesses etc.

I hope the above comments will be taken into consideration when making a final decision regarding the ETRO's.

Space has been reallocated to take into consideration all users, and not just motorists. It is unrealistic to expect parking to be available directly outside retail and other businesses in town centres.

The disabled bays in Laura Place were introduced via TTRO and have been removed prior to the ETROs being introduced.

The temporary reversal of the one-way system on Princess Street was introduced via TTRO and was removed prior to the ETROs being introduced. It is not practical to reintroduce this because of a lack of available locations for signage and a lack of scope for enforcement by the police.

21. To all councillors involved in the experimental TRO. I understand that whenever you mess with parking and the roads in Aberystwyth you come up with a lot of opposition. I would suggest that this is a small number of people who shout loudly. As an Aberystwyth resident and business owner I feel that we should be moving towards the pedestrianisation of as much of the town centre as is feasible. This coupled with greening up our streets and celebrating the independent businesses that make Aberystwyth unique provide a great path to rejuvenating our wonderful town in time for the completion of the old collage development.

Having heard about this proposal this week it took me almost 20 mins to find any details. Scrolling back 6 weeks on FB having failed on the council website as I didn't know the name of the project. There must be a better way of communicating what's going on? As part of Aberystwyth business club we would love to feature consultations on our mail out which goes to over 160 business people in Aberystwyth, but how do we find out about them?

The current mentality that you can drive up to a shop and pop in has to change. Parking and walking in has to become the norm. Park and ride in busy periods to cope with the overflow. Even a hop on hop off electric vehicle moving people around the key parts of a pedestrianised town could help.

I feel an outside consultancy company needs to do a full traffic study to work out what's possible but we need to move to a walking or biking culture to meet our green commitments. The servicing of the infrastructure needs to be fully considered but this is a massive shift in culture and you won't bring everyone with you but the silent majority I am sure would love a bold change!

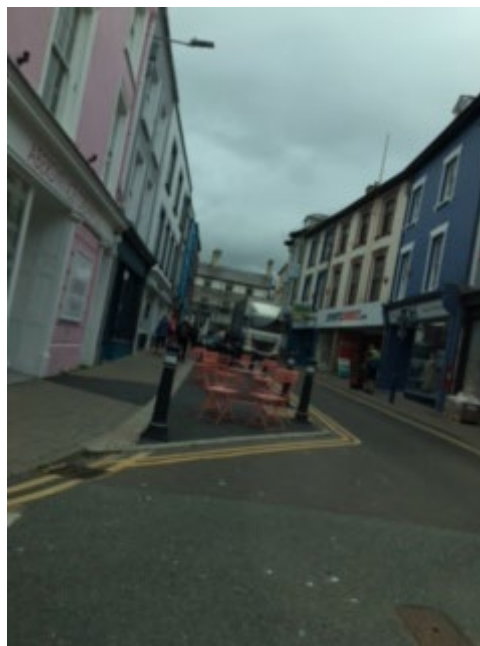
Independent business need things to change now. We can't wait 5 or 10 years as many of us simply won't be here. Businesses are struggling now. We need bold and strong action and we need it now.

Space has been reallocated to take into consideration the needs of all users, including pedestrians and those with mobility issues. Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

Once a decision has been made regarding making permanent/amending/revoking then more permanent measures can be considered and designed. The comments and suggestions are useful to inform design decisions.

There is an aspiration to work closely with the Town Council regarding Place Plans to provide permanent enhancement of measures that assist personal mobility and encourage Active and Sustainable travel.

22. Please see the attached photographs of obstructions caused by the ETRO's and the new pavement furniture initiative. Pier Street Aberystwyth blocked by a van loading. New Street Aberystwyth blocked by a van loading. Witnessed this morning a heated argument between a camper van driver and the carpet van delivery driver who would not move to give access for the camper van to get into New Street. If this road remained one way but removed the widened pavement there would not have been a problem and possibly a happy holiday maker, not much of a welcome to the town for them. The photo of tables and chairs in Eastgate Aberystwyth doesn't leave much room for pedestrians to pass. A person in a wheelchair could not pass easily and would not have a chance to be able to navigate the road crossing there and be able to turn. I hope these issues will be taken into consideration as part of the consultation.





From the same correspondent:

Please find attached photos for inclusion in the ETRO consultation. Evidence of the problems created by the widened pavements in Pier St (that lorry has stopped and is unloading with traffic build up behind) and Terrace Rd and removal of the 24hr operational disabled bays in Market St and positioning of the new 8-5pm operational disabled bays in Eastgate. The Council Van was parked in the Eastgate disabled bay at 9am.







From the same correspondent - I am sending my objections to elements of the Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders as part of the consultation Process. Please could you confirm that my objections will be included in the consultation and circulated to all Cllrs involved in the vote beforehand.

I would like to highlight that yesterday 26/11/22 the Xmas market and Xmas tree lights switch on event being held in Baker Street with the road closed which meant that all the disabled spaces in this street were unavailable. I assume that these spaces were added to this street to compensate for the loss of parking on double yellows around the town (though not helpful here if one wants to access the upper town area) The disabled spaces in Eastgate, Chalybeate St and Baker St are only operational between 8-5pm the lantern parade and lights switch on was starting at 5pm therefore as with the Rali event and their road closures there were fewer parking opportunities for those with an impairment to try and attend the event. This is not progress for equal opportunities in our town centre and is a backward step for the County Council and another obstacle for those with an impairment.

Objections

Removal of Disabled Parking Bays that were operational for 24 hours in Market Street. These have been replaced with Disabled Parking Bays in Eastgate that are only operational between the hours of 8am and 5pm. This means that there are now no operational Disabled Parking Bays after 6pm for the upper part of the town centre which is accessed via a steep incline. After 6pm a person with an impairment is competing with the town residents and able-bodied persons to find a parking space.

The widened pavements in Pier Street mean there is no opportunity to be dropped off or park with a blue badge here taking away more parking opportunities for those with an impairment again at the top of the town centre accessed via a steep incline.

The widened pavements in Terrace Road and Chalybeate Street also prevent opportunities to park with a blue badge and all these areas can have blocked roads and traffic build up when deliveries to the shops take place.

The Disabled Bays in Baker Street are very useful for the lower part of the town but when events take place like The Bae Rali and The Christmas Market/street markets this Street is closed. This means fewer places to park and particularly with the Rali event with many road closures, disabled parking and access to the event was lacking and excluded all from being able to attend.

What seems to have been overlooked in the process of transforming the town is that people with an impairment (some without a blue badge) rely on being able to park not only in Disabled Parking Bays but on the streets too where it is safe to do so. For dropping off and picking up, for using a Blue Badge on double yellows. These opportunities have been taken away in areas of the town where they are most needed.

The change in traffic directions mean having to drive further to find a space. Not being able to turn left from Eastgate into Pier Street, if all disabled parking in Eastgate is taken means having to go around the prom, Terrace Rd, North Parade, Thespian St, Western Parade, Mill St, Bridge St and finally Great Darkgate St. to see if the upper disabled bay is available here and if not on to Baker Street. If nothing is available it means a trip around the prom and up Corporation Street to see if that disabled bay happens to be free at the time. Then round and round we go. There is the left turn from Eastgate into Market Street but this misses the upper disabled bay in Great Darkgate Street. You have to pass the turning into Market Street to see if there are available Disabled bays in Eastgate. This cannot be helping with net zero carbon or our wellbeing.

The widened pavements have made problems for deliveries and quite often disabled bays are used in Eastgate, Terrace Road and Baker Street by business vehicles included the County Council van.

These narrowed roads have a knock-on effect by having fewer parking spaces causing problems for residents in other areas of the town too.

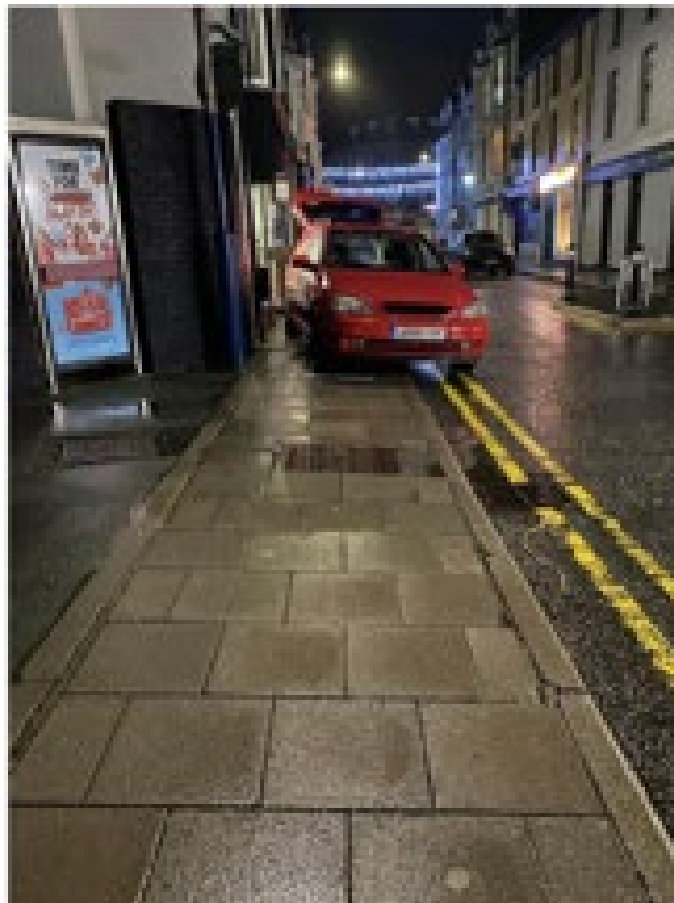
There has been an increase in pavement parking all over town due to these widened pavements which prevents access for pedestrians and wheelchair users.

There have also been issues with access because of the street furniture /clutter that have been inappropriately placed and businesses that assume that they can all put out tables and chairs regardless. One such business in Eastgate causing problems but taking weeks to resolve.

It must be said that these changes have been instituted by the County Council and that they are responsible for creating situations where vehicles have had to park illegally to go about their daily business. Those people who just take advantage of a situation whether it be illegal or inconsiderate parking or thoughtless placement of street clutter need to be managed but does the County Council have sufficient and timely resources to do this?

Also from the same correspondent:

Please will you include this photo into the Experimental Traffic Regulation Order Consultation. It shows a car needing to unload in Chalybeate St Aberystwyth. Is the shop in the wrong place or the widened pavement?



Space has been reallocated to take into consideration the needs of all users, including pedestrians and those with mobility issues. Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

Obstruction of public highway is a matter for the police to consider, as is leaving a vehicle in such a way as to endanger other road users.

The parking Traffic Regulation Order includes exemption from restrictions for Local Authority vehicles engaged in pursuance of statutory duties or powers.

23. I go daily to collect medication from boots, which prevents me ending my life. I must sit by the door as the man who assaults me goes there and, I physically cannot access the pharmacy. Even if it was safe I cannot stand in the queue and, I'm physically (and emotionally) unable to join the one for addicts. I do not have the option to go elsewhere. The chair was placed there so I, and others, who cannot access pharmacy due to disability, could continue to access medication after discussion between my solicitor and Boots so I could have my essential medication on days I can get there, and, as a safeguarding measure.

Today I was told the chair is a tripping hazard as someone has fallen over it. Removal of the chair means I, and, others, can no longer get medication. There are no other chairs I can sit on. I see it's ok for the massive one by the make up to stay and the rolling stool neither are accessible to me. The nearest chair I could access is on North Parade, a very long distance for me to walk back and forth. Further with no electric at home (at all) due to cost, sitting longer outside in the cold means worsening of my condition.

This afternoon I'm in agony from being forced to stand in the shop, I got my medication but fell trying to get to another chair when I left from the pain and injury from being forced to stand so long.

To be clear a member of staff got me a chair and helped and I spoke to the manager who said he'd be in contact. This is NOT a Boots issue. They were very kind and tried to help. This requires URGENT rectification by the council. I'm diabetic, going without medication is life threatening and a safeguarding issue in itself.

Further as I might lose access to my essential medication altogether, due to someone tripping over a chair, *you* need to immediately remove the extended pavement outside Boots. I've seen several people fall and be injured on it and, falling off it. One required an ambulance due to injury. That pavement has caused many injuries and prevents disabled people being dropped off to collect medication as they cannot manage the very steep kerb that's been placed there and the ramp in store is also steep. The road now is frequently closed for deliveries also blocking access. It is unsafe when wet and icy. The businesses along there have been flooded. More have been injured on that extended pavement (including me). There will more than I've seen. Though they appear unrelated these two issues are not, you've removed my access to medication due to someone tipping whereas more have tripped and been injured on this dangerous pavement.

Even if the chair is put back that pavement MUST be removed as unsafe and a hazard.

Sorry, can you please add to what I sent you? There's many tables and chairs on the street that are trip hazards to disabled as well as the pavement issues so you need to stop those and the a-frames that are trip hazards for disabled as well. I'd not thought of these until I rang a crisis line and during the discussion they mentioned it.

The Authority is actively seeking to encourage compliance regarding licences for A boards and other objects placed in public footway.

Other issues raised are outside the scope of this consultation, but some comments may be useful when designing permanent arrangements.

24. During the pandemic when we had pedestrianisation in place, the streets were full of tourists and locals both enjoying the town for what it is and the diversity it offers. It was amazing to see and it was an insight in to what the town could be if we just get a few things right. There were a number of occasions where I stepped outside of our shop on Pier Street and I would actually struggle to make my way through the crowds. Couldn't have been better for business.

The issues I see arising from the potential move include courier access, visitor parking and residential parking. If these three points can be addressed then the town would benefit from being pedestrianised during certain hours of the day. There is a counter argument for the need during the off season but with the right infrastructure in place, I believe the town would be busier in the off season to justify the move.

We receive a good number of deliveries on a daily basis from Royal Mail and other courier services. They had a really negative viewpoint on the whole experiment but that was because of the issues they experienced. They were continuously refused entry to the zone by the manned checkpoints which was frustrating since it was communicated that they were allowed access. I understand that having large vans moving around a pedestrian zone is dangerous but there must be a solution to it.

Visitor parking has been an issue in the town for a long time. During the recent meeting, we were encouraged to suggest solutions. One of my contributions was a multi-story car park near the police station but rather than a concrete eyesore, do it as a living building. I once saw one in Sydney that I thought was very cool called 'the living mall' – see link here - <https://www.theurbanlist.com/sydney/directory/central-living-mall>

The old college development will most certainly throw a spanner in the works of pedestrianizing the town because there will need to be a direct route to it. The additional parking that it will need is going to decimate the amount of parking available for locals and individuals that work in the town. If we could provide plenty of parking out of the centre of town with a frequent green transport into the centre, this would help combat the issues of parking. There will always be negative press about parking but the truth is people are lazy and

because they have always been able to squeeze their car in to a space on a side street and do what they need to do in town. That will not help the residents of the town who often struggle to park. Some kind of resident parking pass which is issued based on proof of residency would certainly help. Make it a very reasonable fee that residents would be happy to pay with the benefits being more spaces available in the centre near their houses. Issue the passes based on the council tax info you have on hand as proof of residency. This would generate a small income from the passes and even more so from the enforcement of cars parking in areas without a pass.

If ever I visit a city or even, another town in Wales, I fully expect to have to pay to park in the centre. There is a mindset that people are stuck in when it comes to expecting free parking in the middle of town and I can guarantee that those same people will always pay for parking when they go away. If anyone ever wants the town to progress then these issues need addressing. How we use the town will need to change if we are serious about net carbon zero and all the other ambitions there are.

The county council representatives that I met at the meeting were great. So full of positivity with a can-do attitude but I sensed that there is frustration there with the ones from the public who shout the loudest. The negative representatives will always shout the loudest but they don't always represent the majority.

Hopefully you found this feedback useful.

Correspondent to be thanked for their comments which will be useful in the development of any further permanent measures.

25. I am writing to comment on the Ceredigion County Council (Aberystwyth, Aberaeron, New Quay, and Cardigan Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders 2022) Amendment Order 2022, effective from 26/11/2022 as it relates to Aberystwyth. I would propose that the council revert to the traffic and road layout in the town as it was before the changes made in response to the Covid pandemic.

Those changes and road closures made life very difficult for many blue-badge holders like myself. It restricted availability of convenient parking and restricted access places in the centre of the town I wished to visit. After those restrictions were lifted the new road traffic system appears to be an improvised system of no particular benefit except that it saves the council from going to the expense of removing all the physical changes and pavement extensions made to enact the Covid restrictions.

The continuing existence of the pavement extensions means that certain roads that could take 2-way traffic can no longer do so. As a result the traffic management system involves drivers taking longer and more complicated journeys around the town (increasing pollution and fossil fuel consumption).

The system has little logic to it and must be utterly confusing to drivers unfamiliar with the town.

Space has been reallocated to take into consideration the needs of all users, including pedestrians and those with mobility issues. Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

Disabled parking provision has increased in Aberystwyth town centre as part of these experimental measures. Blue Badge Holders can of course park without limit in other limited waiting bays.

It is unrealistic to expect parking to be available directly outside retail and other businesses in town centres.

26. I am writing to object to the Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders that have been inflicted on the town of Aberystwyth. These, in my opinion (and many others), have been introduced without proper consultation with residents, and are being pushed through in the most undemocratic of ways to fulfil both the Town, and County Councils underlying agenda regarding the pedestrianization of Ceredigion's major towns, and the Active Travel Plans. There has been no consideration of the effects of these changes on residents and visitors to Aberystwyth, and the number of businesses, both local and national, that have closed or are closing, is testament to the decimated footfall suffered by the business community because of this. It is no surprise to see that Aberystwyth as a town is sadly dying, as these Etro's have caused so much confusion and are restricting the most vulnerable in society's accessibility to the town centre's shops. When I was growing up the town was full of diverse shops and had a good balance of both local and national businesses that catered for everyone across the age and financial/income spectrum. Now, sadly, Aberystwyth is mainly full of coffee shops, charity shops, hairdressers, and local businesses, that while lovely to browse through, in these days of soaring prices are not affordable for the majority on low incomes. It appears that both the Town and the County Council have forgotten who actually pays their wages via the council tax, and are prioritising the summer visitors, rather than residents and those who live in Ceredigion that visit the major towns for their daily requirements. They also seem to have forgotten that the population of Ceredigion has a high rate of elderly residents, whose requirements have been ignored in favour of an attempt to grow a 'café culture,' ironically in an area of the country that has more than its fair share of bad weather.

I find it heinous that the blue badge bays in Market Street, that were in place for disabled children to be able to attend the Pantyfedwen building, and are arguably the most vulnerable in society, have been removed. Why? This question has been asked of officers many times, but as yet a definitive answer has not been made known. Clearly there can be only one reason, and that is to facilitate the pedestrianisation of Great Darkgate Street. I cannot see there being any other reason for this otherwise, if there is, then officers should be open about it and clarify the rumours. Equally the other disabled bays within the town are neither sufficient, nor in accessible areas. My father, who has a blue badge, has great difficulty parking close to the shops he and my mother need

to go to, and has now given up on going to the town unless it is an emergency, relying on getting what they need online or in the out-of-town stores where they can park virtually right outside. The Councils do not seem to be aware that disabled people also want to be part of society and visit coffee shops and restaurants, as the blue badge bays are only designated so until 5pm under these ETROs. Are the elderly and disabled not welcome in Aberystwyth after 5pm?

The changes to the one-way systems on some of the roads is also confusing and is another reason my father has been put off going into town, as he has been caught out on a couple of occasions. I myself am considerably younger and also no longer enjoy driving in Aberystwyth and will only do so if absolutely necessary. Indeed, I know of people the same age as my own children who feel the same way. Is it any wonder why young people and families are leaving the area and even the county itself? The last census is proof of the dropping population and these ETROs are only going to exacerbate the situation. By killing Ceredigion's major towns there will be nothing to keep aspiring families here, as it is, there is little enough. The sort of employment 'café culture' and the tourist industry supplies is not for everyone and is not family friendly, with unsociable working hours, as well as poor remuneration. Yet the promotion of these industries, above others, seem to be both the Town and County Councils rather narrow priorities.

The only part of the ETROs that is positive is the one-way system along Pier Street, which has been a bottleneck for years. I do applaud that decision, however it has been marred by the narrowing of the road by the extended pavements, as has Terrace Road. While some wheelchair users find these useful, others have not, and neither have those with mobility and sight impairments. This is due to their abuse by businesses who put out tables and chairs to extend their premises. Parents with pushchairs have also had difficulties and even just walking past can be awkward when trying to avoid waiters/waitresses rushing backwards and forwards. To be honest it is downright dangerous and should be stopped. I have heard terrible stories of near misses and people not being able to access Boots the Chemist for their essential medication. Yet again a recent article in The Cambrian News has mentioned the pedestrianisation of Terrace Road for the Active Travel Plans. When is this dictatorship going to stop and the people of Ceredigion consulted properly and not in this underhand way that limits the likely number of responses? Not everyone can access computers and emails.

If these ETROs and the pedestrianisation as mentioned above, go ahead without proper public consultation then I cannot but feel that it flies totally in the face of the Equality Act 2010 and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. When the requirements of the most vulnerable in our population are ignored to the extent that they are excluded from society, and unable to obtain their medication necessary for life (for example) due to access issues, these laws are being breached. The underhanded way these ETROs are being bulldozed through shows that both the Town and County Council are fearful they would not get the result that they want. There is a good reason for this that most people seem to appreciate, and that is Ceredigion's towns are built on hilly topography and therefore not ideal for pedestrianisation. There are a

number of towns who have regretted going down this route and are indeed looking at reversing their decisions, for example Bridgend and Colwyn Bay. While I appreciate that Aberystwyth needs rejuvenation, a fair balance needs to be achieved between green issues, business, and access requirements. These ETROs have not achieved this and are indeed, far from it. Mahatma Gandhi once said, “the true measure of any society can be found in how it treats its most vulnerable members.” I fear that both Ceredigion County Council and Aberystwyth Town Council, with their current plans are not measuring up very well at all.

Unfortunately the ETROs replaced measures introduced via Temporary Orders, which is unusual circumstance and there is provision within current regulations for notifying the public. In future the Authority will amend processes to manage improved notification to the public.

Space has been reallocated to take into consideration the needs of all users, including pedestrians and those with mobility issues. Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

Existing footways on Market Street are below standards for width, the removal of the disabled parking here will allow for footway widening. Pantyfedwen has its own off street car park, which is not affected by the measure here.

Great Darkgate Street is currently trunk road and not under the jurisdiction of the Authority. The Authority is unaware of any consideration being given to pedestrianisation by the Welsh Government.

Disabled parking provision on street in Aberystwyth has actually increased in comparison to previously. Blue Badge Holders are of course permitted to park within any limited waiting bay without restriction.

The timings of disabled bays in the centre are a compromise in order to seek to address the needs of a variety of groups, including Blue Badge Holders, shoppers, businesses, residents etc.

The Authority is actively seeking to encourage compliance regarding licences for A boards and other objects placed in public footway. There are currently no plans to pedestrianise Terrace Road.

The Authority has followed procedures set out in The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996. The previous safe zone arrangements were subjected to an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA), and the same is true for any proposed Traffic Regulation Order.

Aberaeron

27. Reinstatement of parking/two-way traffic flow in Market Street Aberaeron - As a resident of Aberaeron, I would like to express my view on the above. I find the current lay-out of Market Street a much safer environment, particularly for those with children or the disabled. Crossing the road outside Costcutters was always hazardous, the low pavement designated 'crossing point' was so close to the junction that, I have witnessed pedestrians running across the road to avoid cars turning in from the main road. Many people chose to cross between the parked cars in the parking bay outside Costcutters or the shops opposite and visibility was often compromised for both pedestrian and driver. When road and street were busy, particularly during high season, Market Street became quite chaotic and often dangerous. On a lighter note, as a seasoned traveller, the current lay-out of Market Street with its 'cafe culture' vibe, is much more welcoming and inviting and provides an incentive for tourists to spend their money in our town. Many visitors and, indeed locals, are reluctant to spend a sunny afternoon sitting in a cafe/public house, whereas pavement tables, in the sunshine are a real draw. I feel that the current lay-out in Market Street should definitely be left as it stands and would be grateful if you could bear this in mind during the decision-making processes.

Correspondent to be thanked for their comments, which may be useful in future design decisions.

28. Please do not make the Safe Zone changes permanent on Market Street. These changes were supposed to help keep us safe during Covid. We are now post Covid. They did not make us feel safer because of all the tables and chairs meant we had to walk in the street to keep a one metre distance in some areas. Sometimes you still have to walk in the street or wait for people to pass in front of the New Celtic because there is no room. The step down from the curb near there is very dangerous (it is unusually high), especially for older or disabled people and children. One of us almost twisted her ankle and we did see someone fall last year. We would think the Council had a duty of care to make sure this doesn't happen. We understand that this helped the hospitality sector during Covid. However, tourists are not the only people who shop and spend money in Aberaeron. Aberaeron is our local centre for the chemist and shopping etc. We used to go around once a week. Now we go only when we have to. We have been shopping there for 40 years. We could park for an hour and do most of our shopping on Market Street and the main street. We no longer shop much at Costcutters because we can't carry our shopping to the car. Parking everywhere near is always full. We tried getting the car and picking the shopping up. But there is a double yellow line on the road. It is impossible for older people to walk very far to shop, especially in the winter. There are a lot of older people who shop in Aberaeron. So Aberaeron must be losing business. It has certainly lost ours. There is not enough 1 hour parking. This week all the new spaces on the main road were full and if you try Market St you have to drive round incircles (those were full too). The old system seemed to work ok. The Council may have a different perspective or priority, but the new

one-way system seems unnecessary and confusing and Market Street is too narrow. Please give the people who live and shop in the area their parking and road back. We want Aberaeron to thrive all year round. We want to be able to visit and shop there.

Space has been reallocated to take into consideration the needs of all users, including pedestrians and those with mobility issues. Current policy nationally is to encourage Active and Sustainable travel, which these measures afford.

Correspondent to be thanked for their comments, which may be useful in future design decisions.

It is unrealistic to expect parking to be available directly outside retail and other businesses in town centres, and there is ample parking in the car parks provided by the town centre. Additional disabled parking has also been introduced.

29. I am writing to make an objection against the traffic regulation orders/current experimental traffic orders imposed by Ceredigion County Council, specifically in Aberaeron, where I am a resident, for the reasons below:

The one way system from Regent Street all the way round the seafront and back to Market Street just does not work. It is creating absolute traffic chaos. It is not enforced in any way, only using temporary road signs that seem to be placed in all the wrong places. Many, many cars/vans/lorries are turning off the main road and going the wrong way down Market Street leaving pedestrians lives in the own hands as the step into the road looking only one way and nearly get run over by a car coming the wrong way! The amount of cars mounting the corners of the "chicanes" outside Celtic is just plain scary too. Cars are still turning right out of the junctions from Victoria Street and Queen Street into oncoming traffic. Parking is so scarce in Aberaeron, people see a space and don't think twice about travelling the wrong way to secure it. The council cannot use the excuse that people should park in Regent Street car park, as no one can use the machines.

I saw another major flaw in the one way system myself, not too long ago, when the fire engine, obviously going to an emergency with lights and sirens going, was trying to push past the queue of traffic backed up along Market Street and when it did finally reach the main road, a gentleman who was sitting outside The Castle, had to get up and stand in the middle of the main A487 to stop the traffic!

The giant tarmacked pavement on Market Street is just plain useless and ugly. It comes within the conservation zone whose objective is to conserve all aspects of character or appearance, including landscape and public spaces. The special character of these areas does not come only from the quality of their buildings. Elements such as the historic layout of roads, paths and boundaries and characteristic building and paving materials all contribute to the familiar and cherished local scene. Conservation areas are rich in the physical

evidence of the past, which contributes to our sense of well-being and can offer a route to economic regeneration, including through tourism. They are living environments worth cherishing for their special qualities, so it is essential to manage change carefully to make sure that their character and appearance are safeguarded and enhanced. Conservation areas are valued as special places by those who live and work in them, and community involvement is key to successful designation and management. It is good practice to consult with local property owners and residents, businesses and other interests, such as amenity bodies. Involving the community at an early stage in either a new designation or the review of an existing area will capture local knowledge, communal value and how the area is used and perceived by people. Conservation area designation is not intended to prevent change, but it does mean that the significance of the area is taken into account when making decisions about change and development.

I believe that Ceredigion Council have not thought about any of the above, especially not consulting with either local people/residents nor the town council. The excessive amount of horrible plastic bollards look awful and half of them have been knocked over or removed for lorries/vans to park outside businesses for unloading. The dray lorries delivering to the pubs are parked on the whole of the pavement, leaving pedestrians to walk out into oncoming traffic, all because Ceredigion Council have blanked off half the street with a useless pavement. A case in point is the newly restored parking along the main A487 opposite the bus stops which is now being used as it should be, with people popping in and out the shops along there and the elderly/disabled being able to park close to the chemist. Whereas Market Street is becoming a dead zone with very few people "popping" in those shops as they can't be bothered to drive all the round the one way system in the hope of finding available parking. I understand Aberaeron is a tourist hotspot but only for 6 weeks of the year. What about the other 323 days of the year, when Aberaeron relies on the local residents for its business? With the current cost of living crisis, the council should be doing all it can to improve town centres and not make these areas more difficult for people to access.

I urge Ceredigion Council to listen to their residents and cancel these ridiculous, unwanted ETRO's and right the wrongs they have imposed on Aberaeron.

The Authority is unaware of any formal evidence of any traffic management issues since the one-way was introduced, enforcement is the responsibility of the police.

Early on after the safe zone was temporarily introduced, the one-way on Regent Street was amended to allow access for the fire service.

Correspondent to be thanked for their comments, which may be useful in future design decisions. The physical measures referred to are temporary only, and the Authority will be working with the Town Council to develop more permanent measures in the future.

Arrangements on the A487 Trunk Road are the responsibility of the Welsh Government.

It is unrealistic to expect parking to be available directly outside retail and other businesses in town centres, and there is ample parking in the car parks provided by the town centre. Additional disabled parking has also been introduced.

30. It is my understanding that the new road arrangements in Aberaeron were to reduce the risks from Covid by introducing a one way system in Market Street to enable widening of the pavements. To my mind this was never beneficial as the widened pavements were immediately occupied by street tables meaning there was no additional space for pedestrians. In a lovely Georgian town this looks hideous and the chicane seems to bring out the worst in some drivers. I believe the pavements should be returned to their original form. I also feel this means of consultation is ineffective in judging public opinion in the town.

Correspondent to be thanked for their comments, which may be useful in future design decisions. The physical measures referred to are temporary only, and the Authority will be working with the Town Council to develop more permanent measures in the future.

It is unrealistic to expect parking to be available directly outside retail and other businesses in town centres, and there is ample parking in the car parks provided by the town centre. Additional disabled parking has also been introduced.

The following two items of correspondence were received after the end of the consultation period:

31. I support the one way system but the tarmac should be removed in front of Costcutters and replace parking spaces whilst widening the pavement at the same time since this is a very busy place and people need to use it without stepping into the road.

Correspondent to be thanked for their comments, which may be useful in future design decisions. The physical measures referred to are temporary only, and the Authority will be working with the Town Council to develop more permanent measures in the future.

It is unrealistic to expect parking to be available directly outside retail and other businesses in town centres, and there is ample parking in the car parks provided by the town centre. Additional disabled parking has also been introduced.

32. The Town Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the proposals contained in the ETRO for Aberaeron during the initial six month consultation period. Generally the Council is happy that the current one-way system and the majority of on-street parking measures remain on a permanent basis.

However, the Council wishes to refer specifically to three matters.

Firstly, the widened section of footway at the Market St. It supports the retention of the widened pavement outside the Cadwgan Tavern, and the Castle Hotel.

However, with regard to the length of pavement outside Costcutters, it understands that there will be a need to remove the existing tarmac surface and replace it with a pavement which meets statutory requirements. To this effect, the Council requests that the new pavement be narrower (but not back to the original width) that will allow the return of short-term on-street parking spaces to be reintroduced here. The Council believes that a balance between a widened footway and providing on-street parking spaces can be achieved here. This also needs to include the requirement to include trees (not planters) to make the area greener and more sustainable. With regards to the widened pavement outside the New Celtic (the chicane) this needs to be removed to make Market Street a straight boulevard.

Secondly, the Council would welcome consideration of introducing a one-way system along Quay Parade.

Finally, consideration should be given to making Victoria Street one way (from Regent Street). This would alleviate any confusion and the junction with Market Street could be improved to stop vehicles turning right (going down Market Street the wrong way) which is happening very frequently.

Town Council to be thanked for their comments, which may be useful in future design decisions. The physical measures referred to are temporary only, and the Authority will be working with the Town Council to develop more permanent measures in the future.

The requests for one-way systems on Quay Parade and Victoria Street are outside the scope of this scheme.

New Quay

33. May I also comment on the New Quay changes. My wife, who comes originally from there, is a pensioner, though not a blue-badge holder. She has wanted to visit friends and family graves over the last 2 - 3 years, but has been inhibited from doing so because of the restrictions in the town.

Measures have not been introduced by any cemetery in New Quay, the correspondent seems to be referring to measures temporarily introduced for the safe zone.

The only new parking measures introduced via the ETROs are on the seafront at South John Street, and the only one-way system is on Water Street. It is difficult to see how either may have significantly affected access.

GORCHYMYN RHEOLEIDDIO TRAFFIG ARBROFOL

**GORCHYMYN CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR
AROS A LLWYTHO A DADLWYTHO) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH,
ABERTEIFI A CHEINEWYDD) (ARBROFOL) 2022**

Mae Cyngor Sir Ceredigion, wrth arfer ei bwerau o dan Adrannau 1, 19, 32, a 45 a rhan IV o Atodlen 9 i Ddeddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 fel y'i diwygiwyd, a Deddf Rheoli Traffig 2004 fel y'i diwygiwyd a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, ac ar ôl ymgynghori â Phrif Swyddog yr Heddlu, yn unol â Rhan III o Atodlen 9 i Ddeddf 1984, drwy hyn yn gwneud y Gorchymyn a ganlyn:

1. Enw'r Gorchymyn hwn yw "Gorchymyn Cyngor Sir Ceredigion (Gwahardd a Chyfyngu ar Aros a Llwytho a Dadlwytho) (Aberaeron, Aberystwyth, Aberteifi a Cheinewydd) (Arbrofol) 2022" ac fe ddaw i rym ar 10/06/2022
2. Effaith y Gorchymyn hwn fydd diwygio Gorchymyn Cyngor Sir Ceredigion (Gwahardd a Chyfyngu ar Aros a Llwytho a Dadlwytho) 2019 drwy ddirymu'r Mapiâu a restrir yng Ngholofn A o'r Atodlen i'r Gorchymyn hwn a mewnosod y Mapiâu a restrir yng Ngholofn B o'r Atodlen i'r Gorchymyn hwn a hynny dros gyfnod y Gorchymyn Arbrofol hwn.
3. Bydd y Gorchymyn yn parhau ar waith am hyd at 18 mis oddi ar y dyddiad y daw i rym.
4. Os bydd llys neu Lywodraeth Cymru yn datgan bod unrhyw ran o'r Gorchymyn hwn yn annilys neu'n amhosibl ei gorfodi, ni fydd datganiad o'r fath yn annilysu gweddill y Gorchymyn.

RHODDIR o dan Sêl Gyffredin Cyngor Sir Ceredigion ar y diwrnod hwn, sef 25 o fis Mai Dwy Fil a Dau Ddeg Dau

Gosodwyd **SÊL GYFFREDIN**)
CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION)
 yma ym mhresenoldeb :-)





Swyddog Arweiniol Corfforaethol:

Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol a Llywodraethu

ATODLEN

Colofn A			Colofn B		
Mapiau i'w dirymu			Mapiau i'w mewnosod		
Cyfeirnod		Dyddiad	Cyfeirnod		Dyddiad
CE36 J15		05/02/2019	CE36 J15		22/02/2022
CE36 K14		05/02/2019	CE36 K14		22/02/2022
CE36 K15		05/02/2019	CE36 K15		22/02/2022
CE36 K16		05/02/2019	CE36 K16		22/02/2022
CE63 Z22		15/11/2019	CE63 Z22		22/02/2022
CE63 Z23		05/02/2019	CE63 Z23		22/02/2022
CE64 V10		05/02/2019	CE64 V10		22/02/2022
CE81 H25		05/02/2019	CE81 H25		22/02/2022
CE81 H26		05/02/2019	CE81 H26		22/02/2022
CE81 J25		05/02/2019	CE81 J25		22/02/2022

EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND UNLOADING) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGAN, & NEW QUAY) (EXPERIMENTAL) ORDER 2022

Ceredigion County Council in exercise of its powers under sections 1, 19, 32, and 45 and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended and the Traffic Management Act 2004 as amended, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police, in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the 1984 Act, hereby makes the following Order.

1. This Order may be cited as “Ceredigion County Council (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Unloading) (Aberaeron, Aberystwyth, Cardigan, and New Quay) (Experimental) Order 2022” and shall come into operation on 10/06/2022.
2. The effect of the Order shall be to amend the Ceredigion County Council (Prohibition and Restriction of Waiting and Loading and Unloading) Order 2019 by the suspension of the Maps listed in Column A of this Order and the insertion of the Maps listed in Column B of the schedule to this Order for the duration of this Experimental Order.
3. The Order shall remain in place for a period not exceeding 18 months from the date on which it came into operation.
4. If a court or the Welsh Government declares any part of this Order to be invalid or unenforceable, such declaration shall not invalidate the remainder of the Order.

GIVEN under the Common Seal of the Ceredigion County Council this 25th day of May Two Thousand and Twenty Two

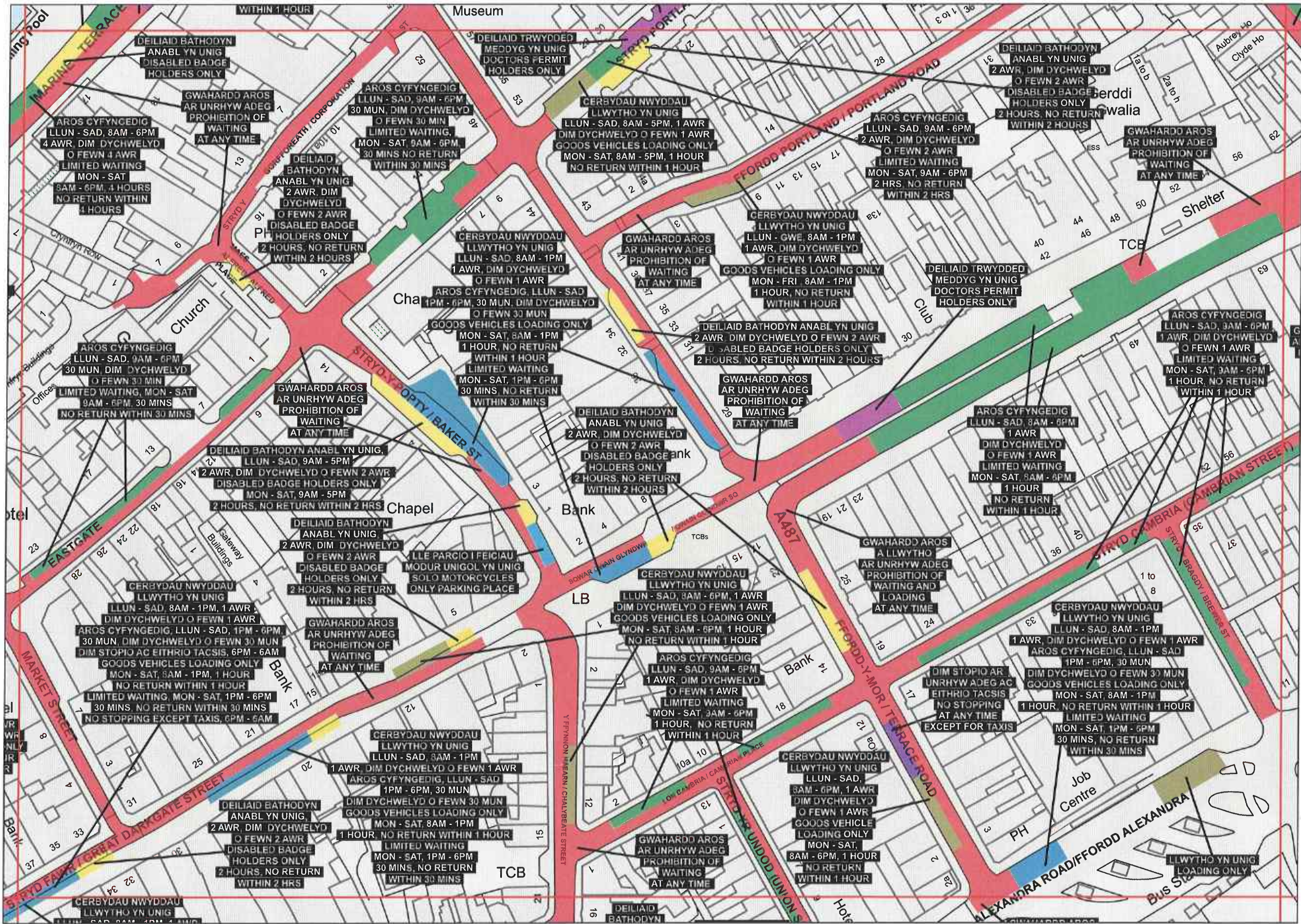
THE COMMON SEAL OF THE)
CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL was)
hereunto affixed in the presence of:-)





Corporate Lead Officer:
Legal & Governance Services

Column A			Column B		
Maps to be suspended			Maps to be inserted		
Ref		Date	Ref		Date
CE36 J15		05/02/2019	CE36 J15		22/02/2022
CE36 K14		05/02/2019	CE36 K14		22/02/2022
CE36 K15		05/02/2019	CE36 K15		22/02/2022
CE36 K16		05/02/2019	CE36 K16		22/02/2022
CE63 Z22		15/11/2019	CE63 Z22		22/02/2022
CE63 Z23		05/02/2019	CE63 Z23		22/02/2022
CE64 V10		05/02/2019	CE64 V10		22/02/2022
CE81 H25		05/02/2019	CE81 H25		22/02/2022
CE81 H26		05/02/2019	CE81 H26		22/02/2022
CE81 J25		05/02/2019	CE81 J25		22/02/2022



8902

11 MAY 2022

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR AROS A LLWYTHO A DADLWYTHO) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, ABERTEIFI A CHEINEWYDD) (ARBROFOL) 2022

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND UNLOADING) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGAN AND NEW QUAY) (EXPERIMENTAL) ORDER 2022

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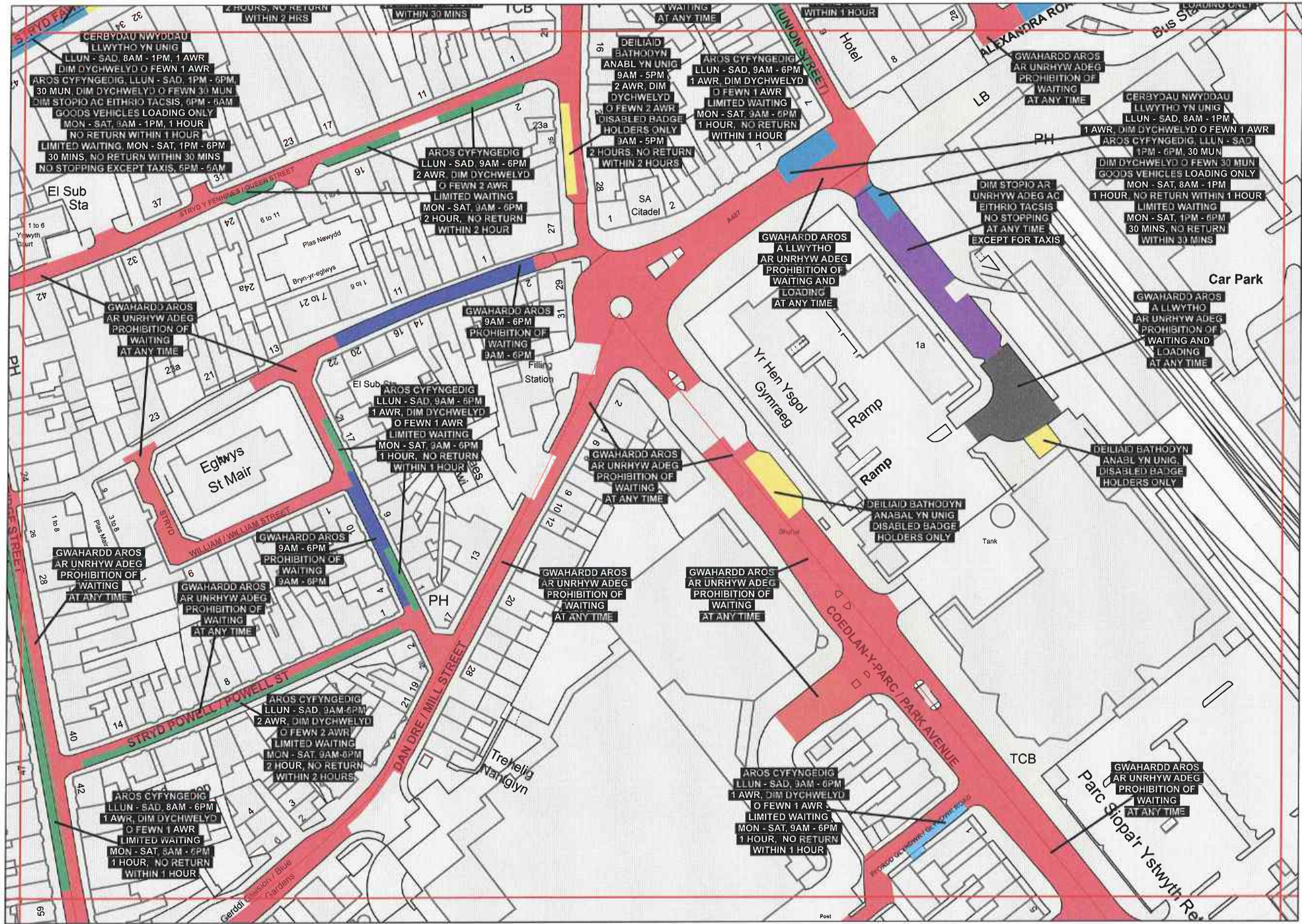


Dyddiad / Date: 22/02/2022

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11 MAY 2022

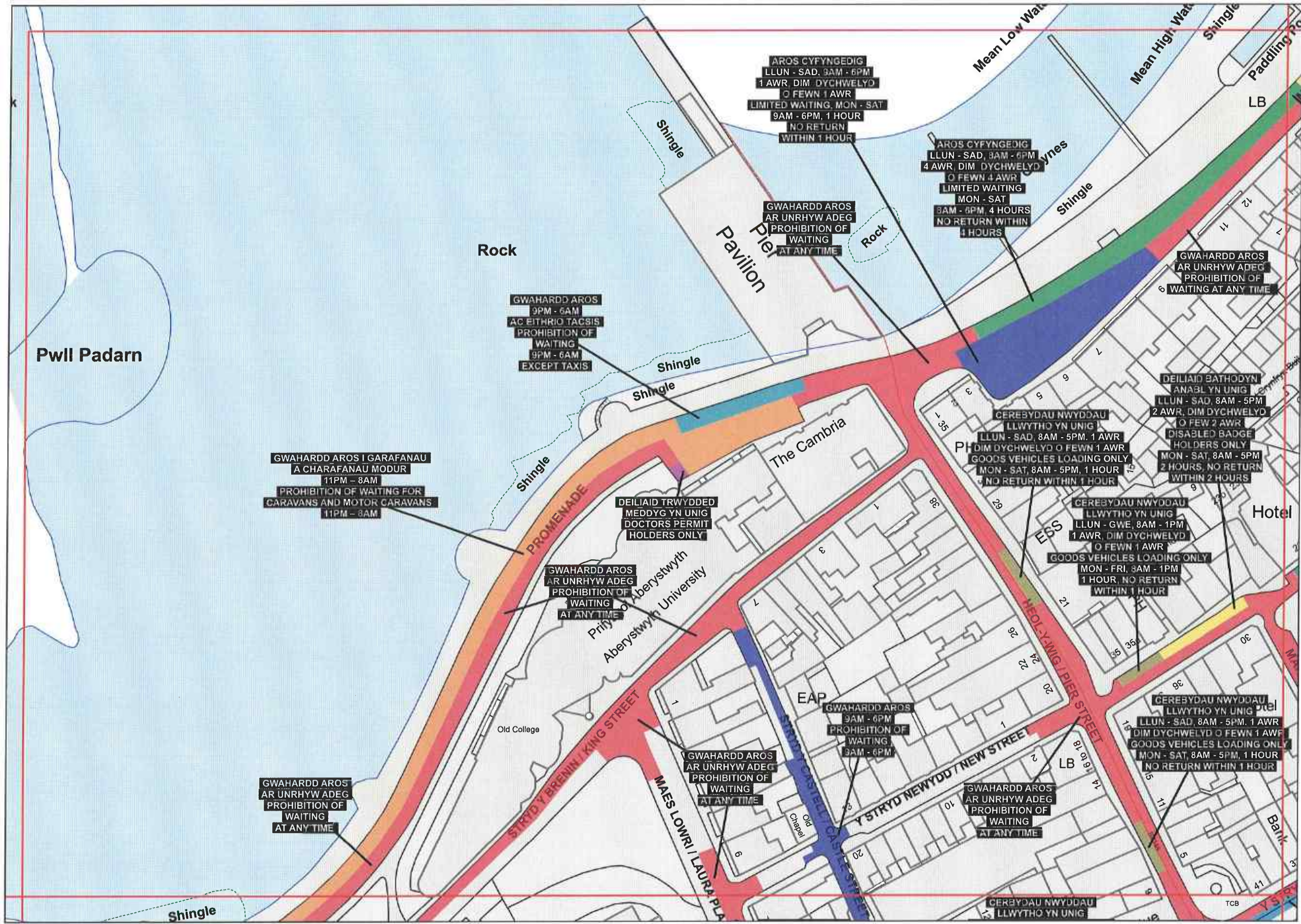
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CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND UNLOADING) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGAN AND NEW QUAY) (EXPERIMENTAL) ORDER 2022

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 Sub-map:



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11 MAY 2022

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR AROS A LLWYTHO A DADLWYTHO) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, ABERTEIFI A CHEINEWYDD) (ARBROFOL) 2022

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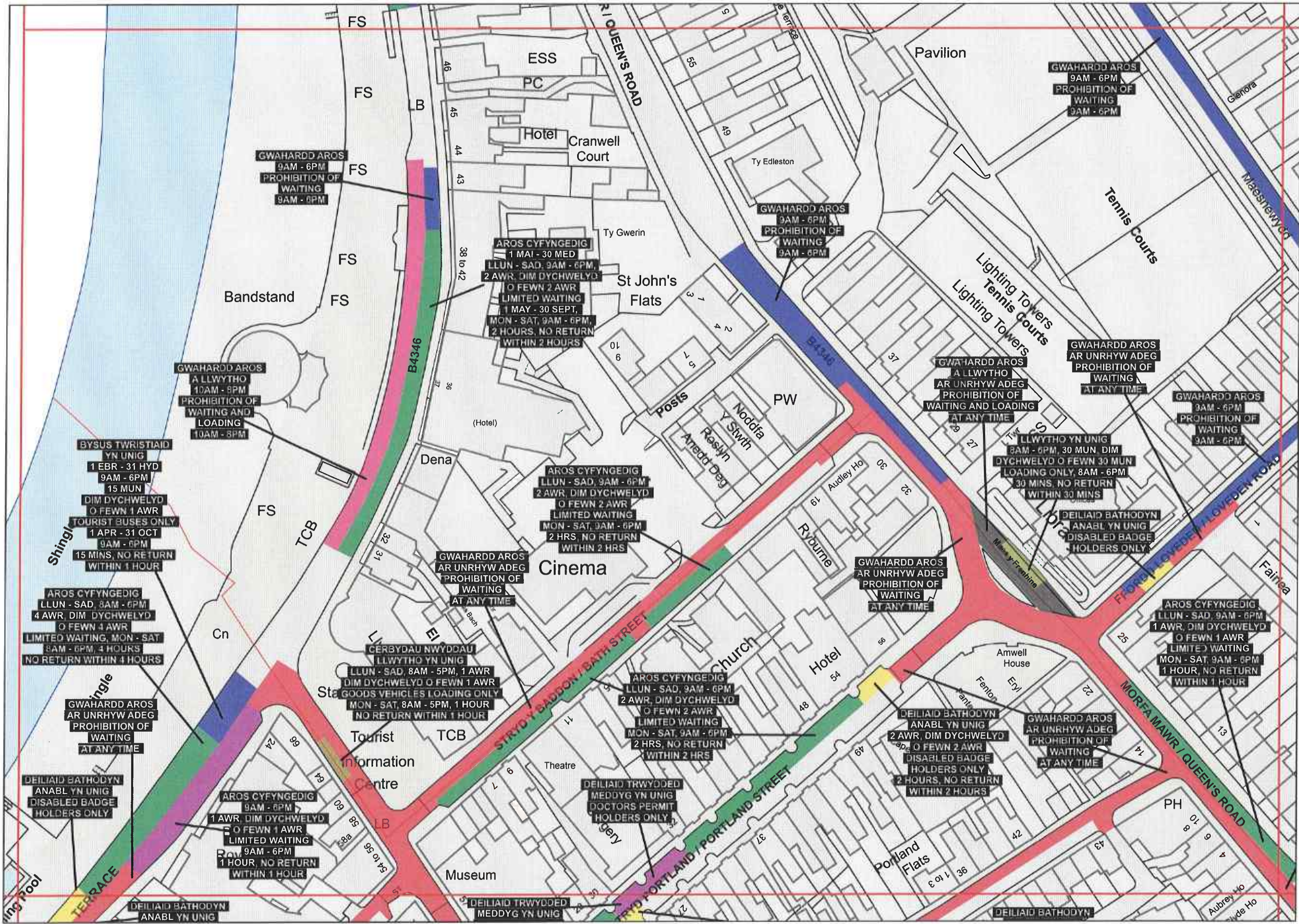


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11 MAY 2022

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR AROS A LLWYTHO A DADLWYTHO) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, ABERTEIFI A CHEINEWYDD) (ARBROFOL) 2022

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND UNLOADING) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGAN AND NEW QUAY) (EXPERIMENTAL) ORDER 2022

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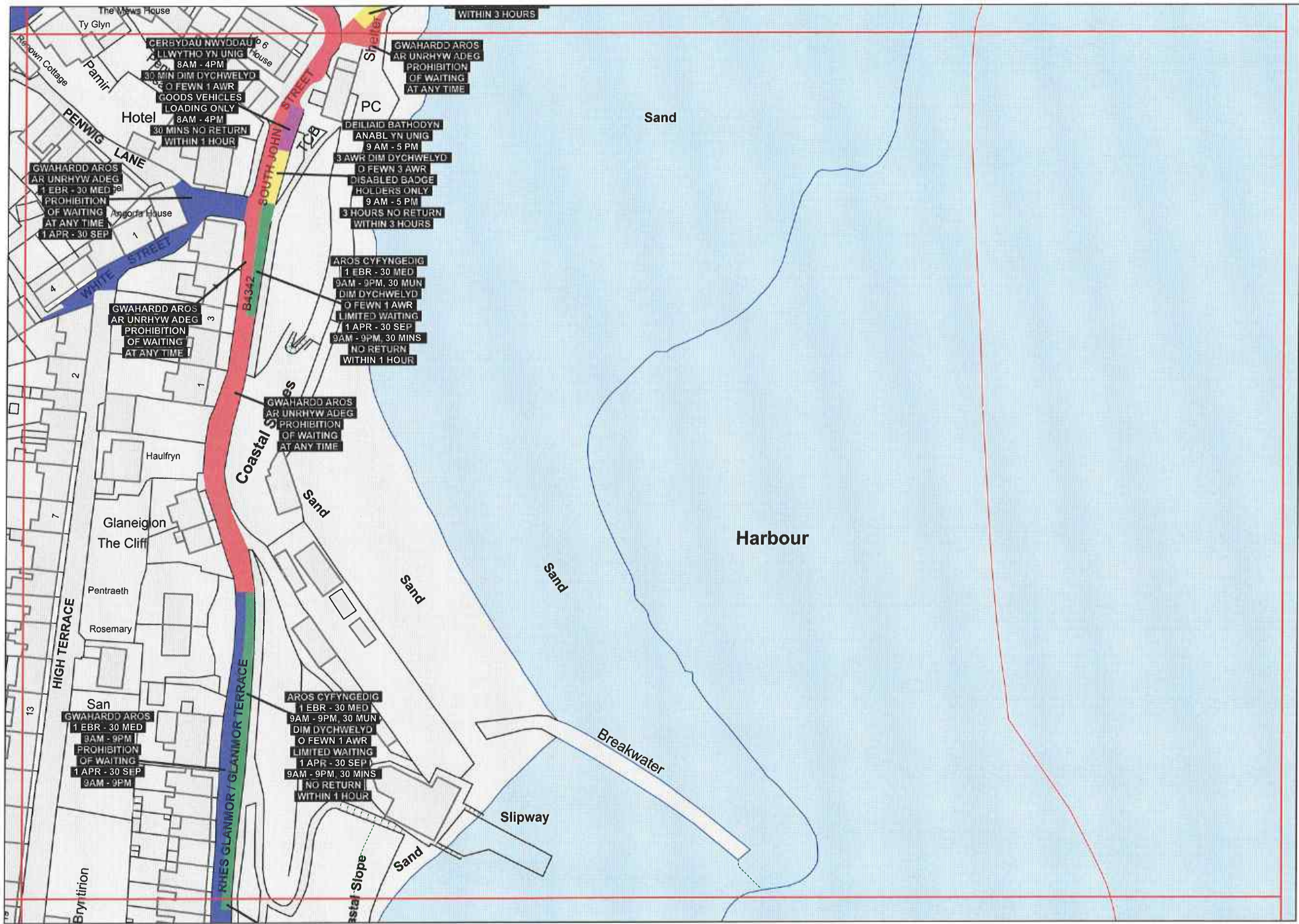
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11 MAY 2022

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR AROS A LLWYTHO A DADLWYTHO) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, ABERTEIFI A CHEINEWYDD) (ARBROFOL) 2022

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND UNLOADING) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGAN AND NEW QUAY) (EXPERIMENTAL) ORDER 2022

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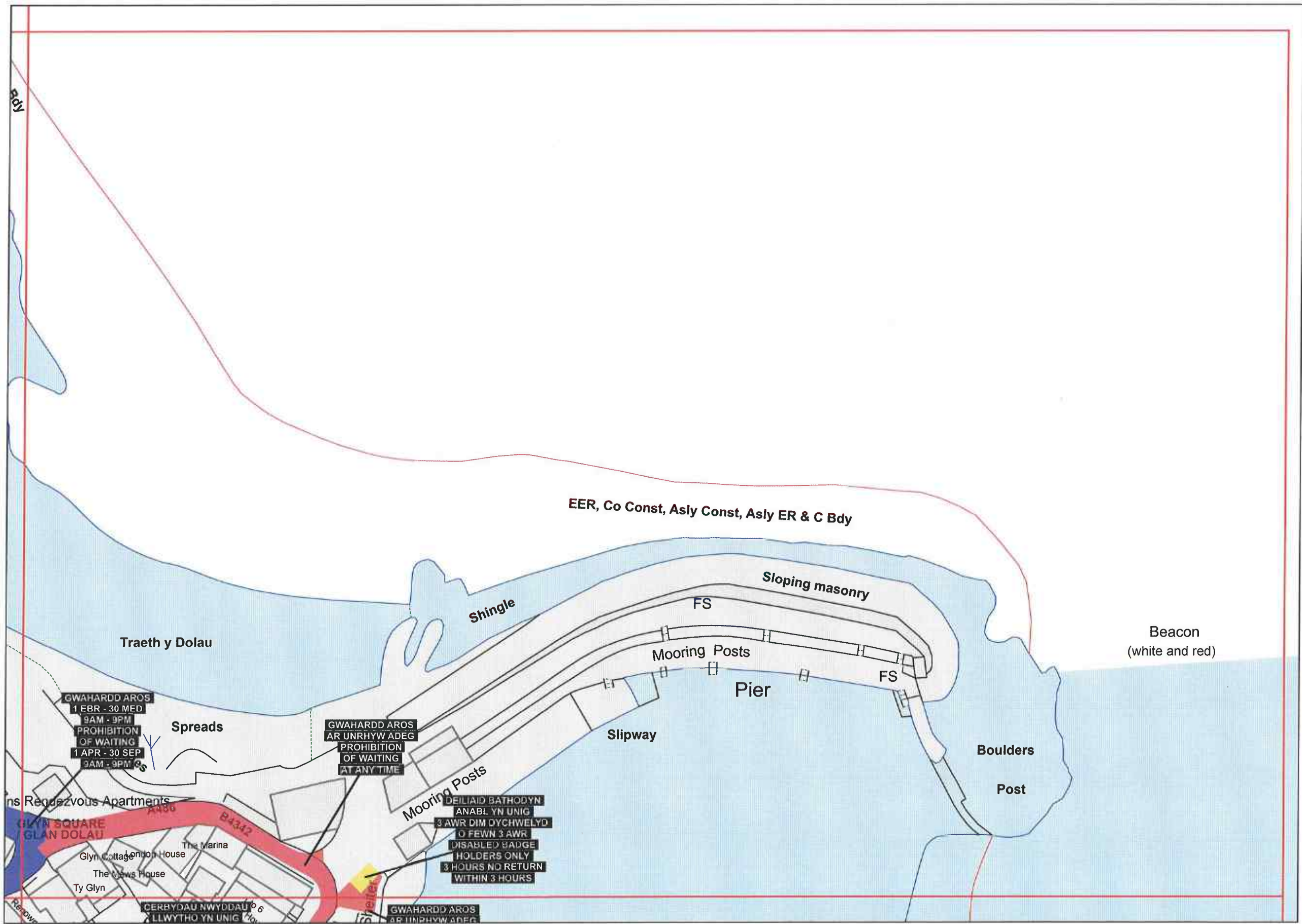


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11 MAY 2022

**GORCHYMYN CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR AROS
A LLWYTHO A DADLWYTHO) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, ABERTEIFI A
CHEINEWYDD) (ARBROFOL) 2022**

**CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING
AND LOADING AND UNLOADING) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGAN AND
NEW QUAY) (EXPERIMENTAL) ORDER 2022**

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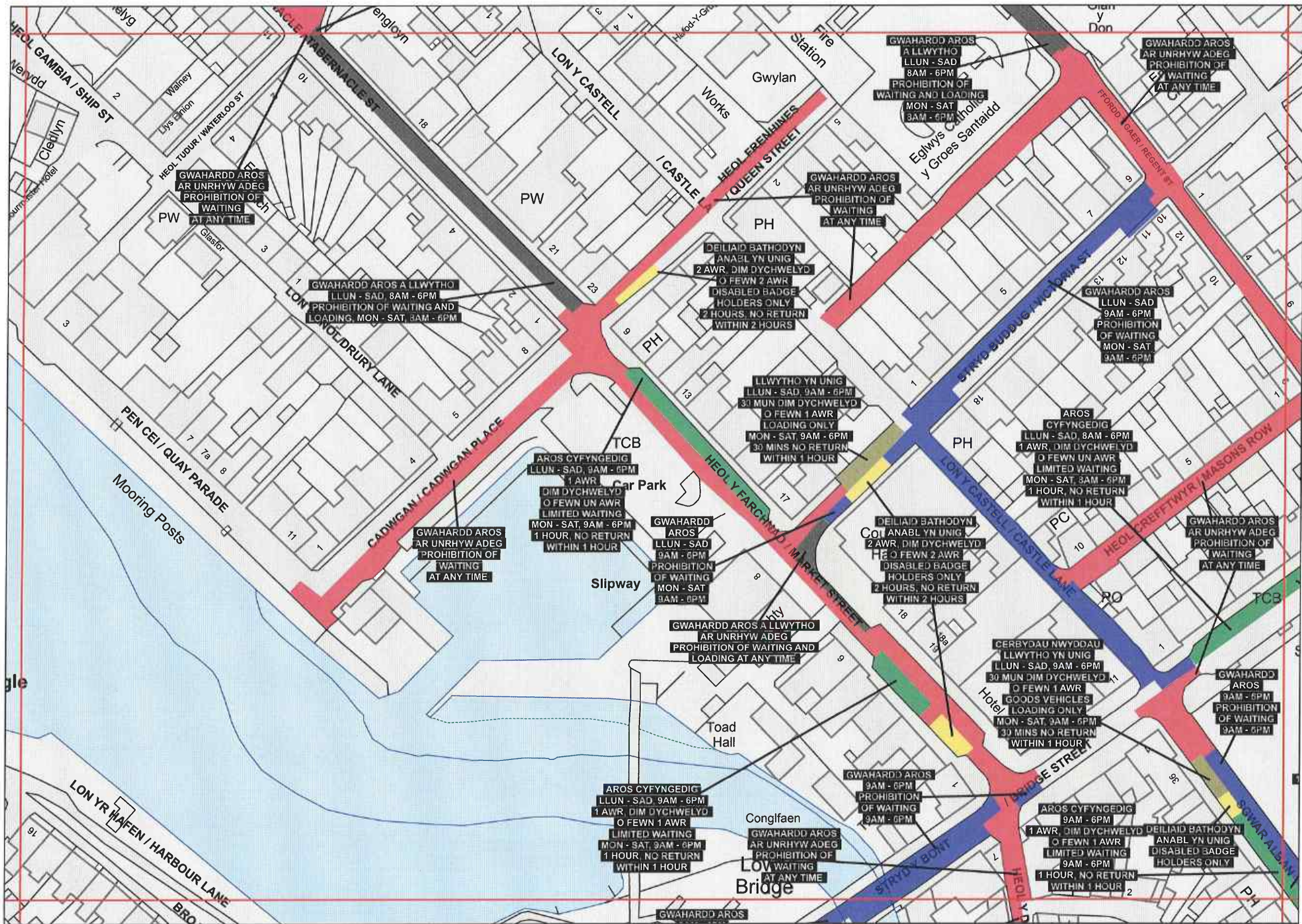


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11 MAY 2022

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR AROS A LLWYTHO A DADLWYTHO) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, ABERTEIFI A CHEINEWYDD) (ARBROFOL) 2022

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND UNLOADING) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGAN AND NEW QUAY) (EXPERIMENTAL) ORDER 2022

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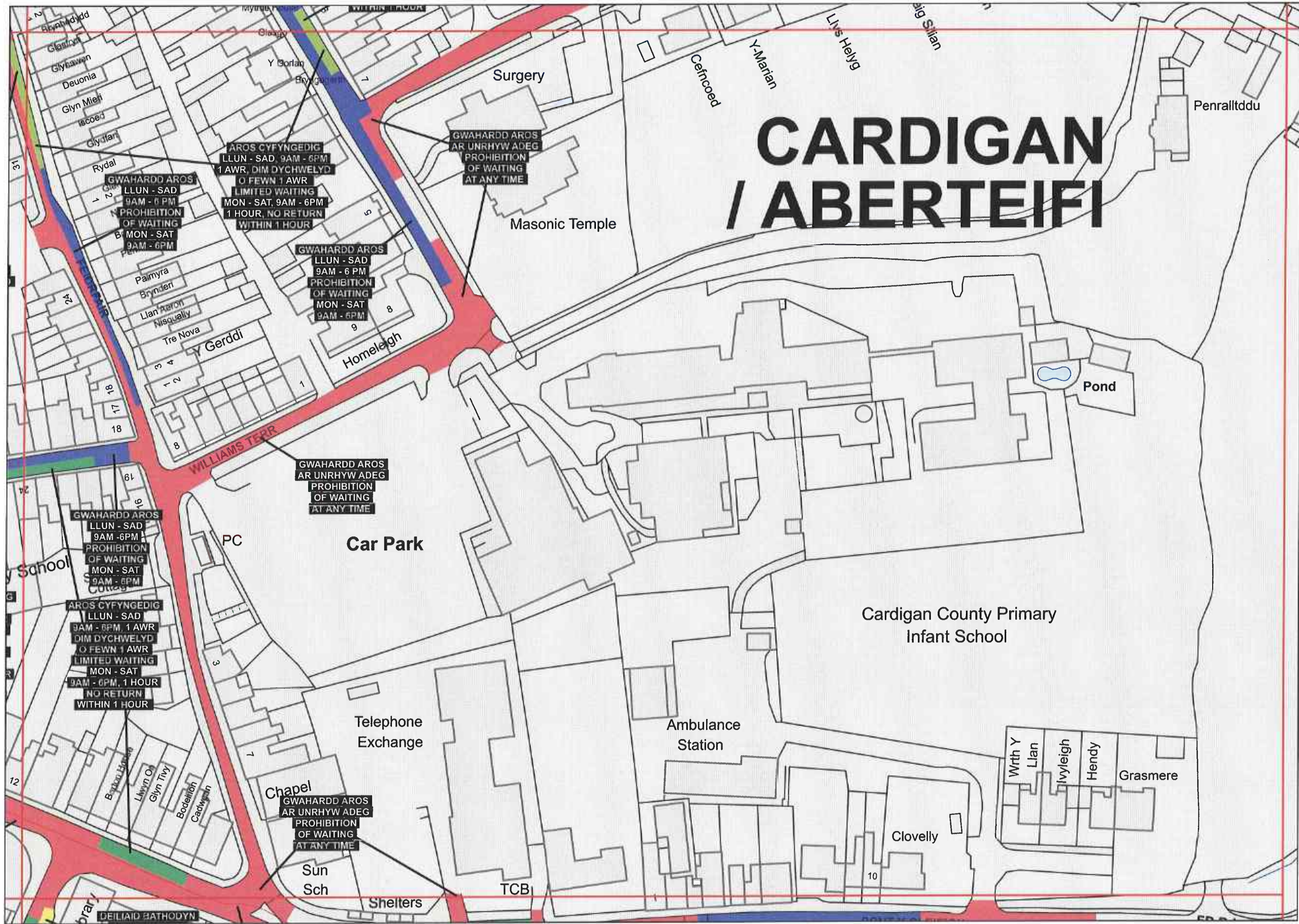


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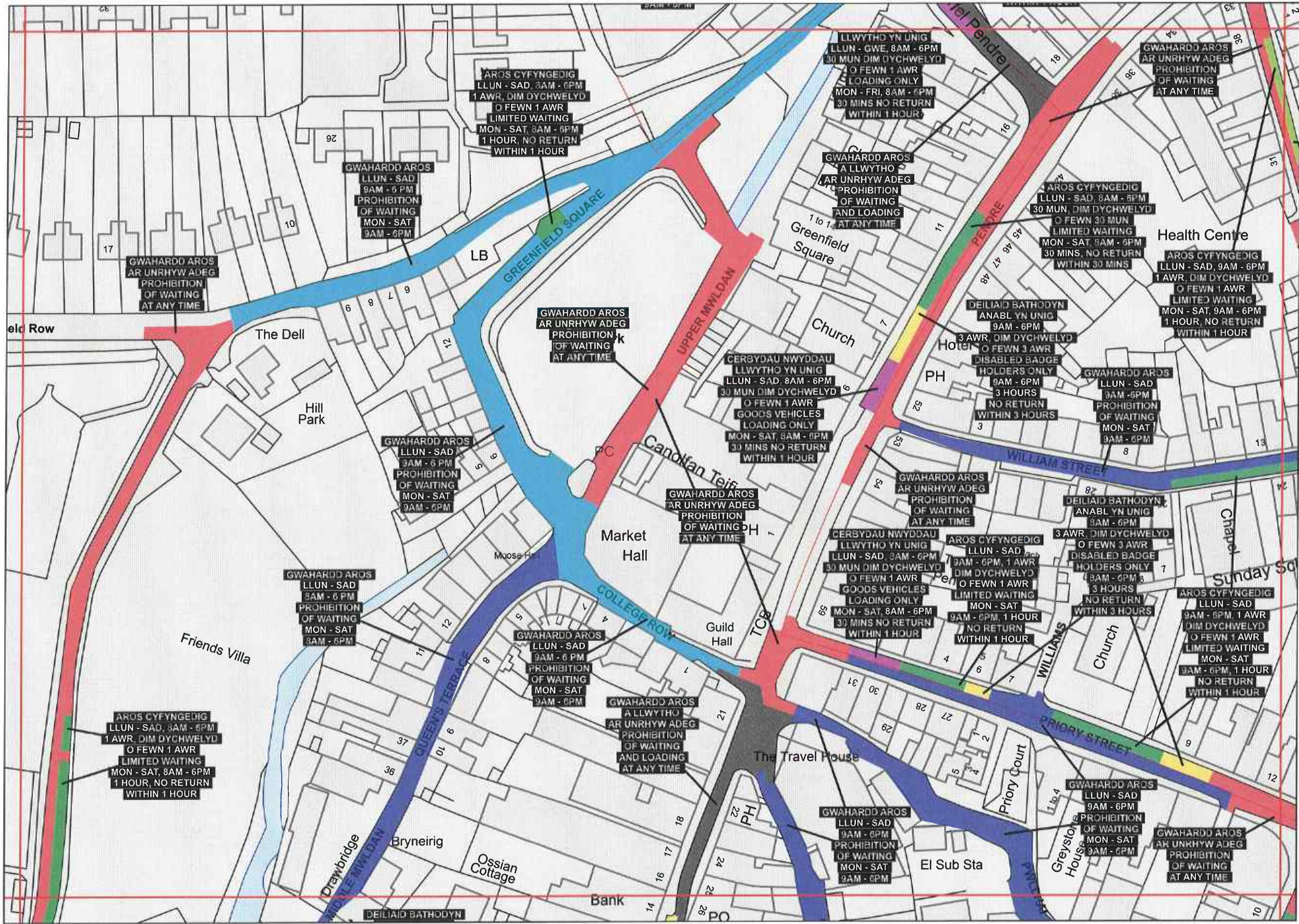

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11 MAY 2022

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR AROS A LLWYTHO A DADLWYTHO) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, ABERTEIFI A CHEINEWYDD) (ARBROFOL) 2022
CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND UNLOADING) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGAN AND NEW QUAY) (EXPERIMENTAL) ORDER 2022

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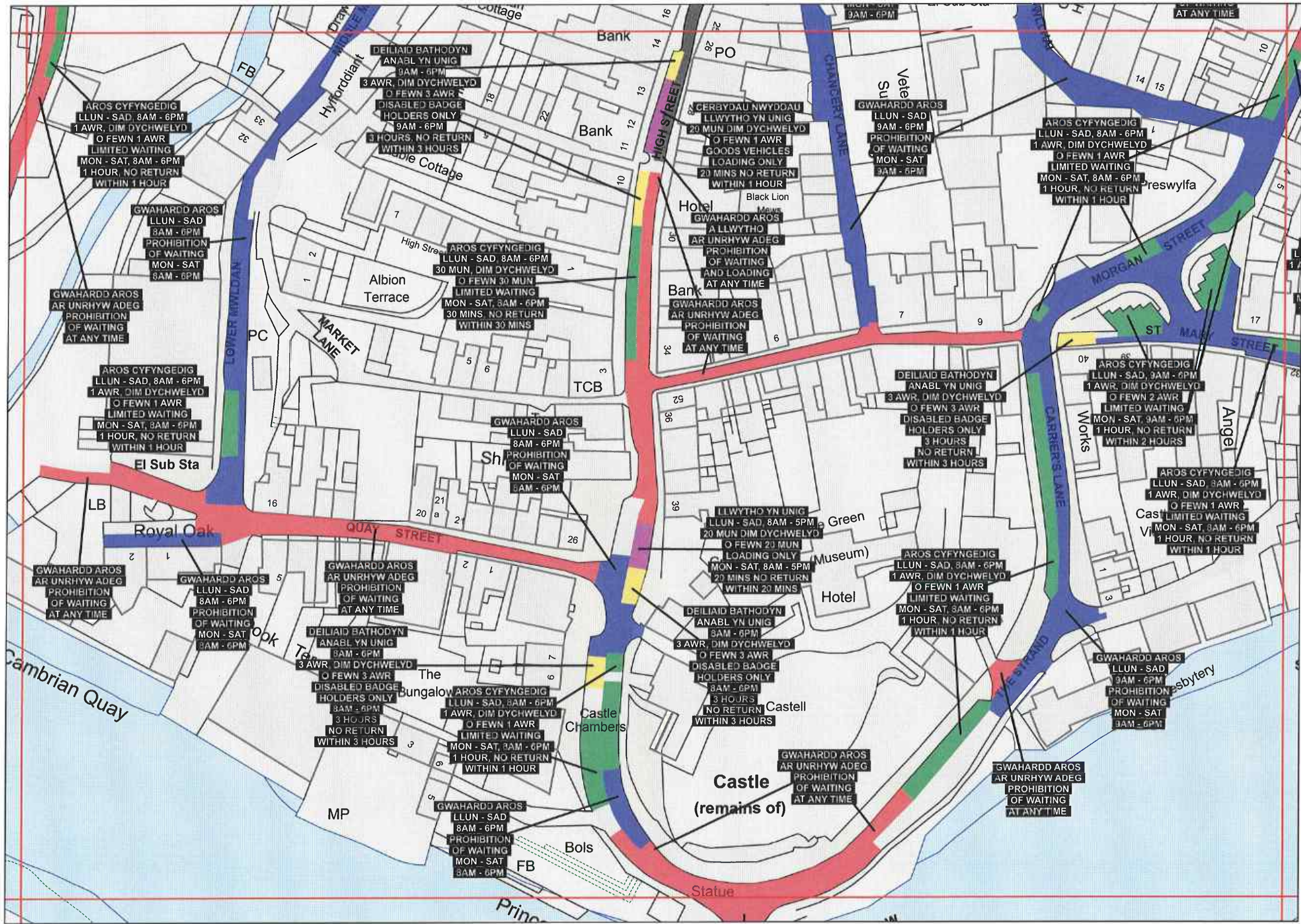

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11 MAY 2022

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR AROS A LLWYTHO A DADLWYTHO) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, ABERTEIFI A CHEINEWYDD) (ARBROFOL) 2022
CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND UNLOADING) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGAN AND NEW QUAY) (EXPERIMENTAL) ORDER 2022

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11 MAY 2022

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR AROS A LLWYTHO A DADLWYTHO) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, ABERTEIFI A CHEINEWYDD) (ARBROFOL) 2022

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND UNLOADING) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGAN AND NEW QUAY) (EXPERIMENTAL) ORDER 2022

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CE ref:

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Sub-map:

CE81 H26

GORCHYMYN RHEOLEIDDIO TRAFFIG ARBROFOL

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION (TRAFFIG UNFFORDD A GWAHARDD TROI) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, ABERTEIFI A CHEINEWYDD) (ARBROFOL) 2022

Mae Cyngor Sir Ceredigion, wrth arfer ei bwerau o dan Adrannau 1, 2, 3, a 4 a rhannau III a IV o Atodlen 9 i Ddeddf Rheoleiddio Traffig Ffyrdd 1984 fel y'i diwygiwyd, a'r holl bwerau galluogi eraill, ac ar ôl ymgynghori â Phrif Swyddog yr Heddlu, yn unol â Rhan III o Atodlen 9 i Ddeddf 1984, drwy hyn yn gwneud y Gorchymyn a ganlyn:

1. ENWI

- a) Enw'r Gorchymyn hwn yw "Gorchymyn Cyngor Sir Ceredigion (Traffig Unffordd a Gwahardd Troi) (Aberaeron, Aberystwyth, Aberteifi a Cheinewydd) (Arbrofol) 2022" ac fe ddaw i rym ar 10/06/2022.

2. DEHONGLI A DIFFINIO

- (a) Yn y gorchymyn hwn, oni fydd y cyd-destun yn gofyn yn wahanol, mae i'r termau canlynol yr ystyron penodol a roddir iddynt drwy hyn.
 - (i) Ystyr "Deddf 1984" yw Deddf Rheoli Traffig y Ffyrdd 1984.
 - (ii) Ystyr "priffordd" yw ffordd y mae gan y cyhoedd yr hawl i fynd yn ôl ac ymlaen arni yn ddirwysr heb orfod cael caniatâd neu drwydded, ac mae'n cynnwys y lôn gerbyd ac unrhyw droedffordd, llain, tir gwastraff ar ochr y ffordd neu gyfuniad ohonynt.
 - (iii) Ystyr "y Gorchymyn" yw Gorchymyn Cyngor Sir Ceredigion (Traffig Unffordd a Gwahardd Troi) (Aberaeron, Aberystwyth, Aberteifi a Cheinewydd) (Arbrofol) 2022.
 - (iv) Mae gan "ffordd" yr un ystyr â'r hyn a nodir yn adran 192 o Ddeddf Traffig y Ffyrdd 1988.
 - (v) Bydd Deddf Ddehongli 1978 yn berthnasol i ddehongli'r Gorchymyn hwn fel y bo'n berthnasol i ddehongli Deddf Seneddol.
- (b) At ddibenion y Gorchymyn hwn, mae'r cyfyngiadau a geir yn erthyglau'r Gorchymyn hwn yn berthnasol i led llawn y briffordd.
- (c) Bydd y cyfyngiadau a bennir drwy'r Gorchymyn hwn yn ychwanegu at, ac nid yn dirymu, unrhyw gyfyngiad a bennir drwy unrhyw Reoliadau neu Orchmynion a wnaethpwyd o dan Ddeddf 1984, neu sydd â'r un effaith â phetaent wedi'u gwneud dan y Ddeddf honno, neu drwy neu o dan unrhyw ddeddfiad arall.

3. EFFEITHIAU'R GORCHYMYN

Ac eithrio darpariaethau Erthyglau 4 o'r Gorchymyn hwn, ni chaiff neb, oni bai ei fod yn gweithredu'n unol â chyfarwyddyd neu ganiatâd gan Gwnstabl yr Heddlu yn ei lifrai, beri neu ganiatáu i gerbyd:

- i. deithio ar hyd y darnau o ffyrdd a nodir yn Atodlen 1 i'r Gorchymyn hwn, i gyfeiriad sy'n wahanol i'r hyn a nodir yn Atodlen 1;
- ii. neu yn groes i'r Gwaharddiadau Troi a nodir yn Atodlen 2 i'r Gorchymyn hwn.

4. EITHRIADAU

Ni fydd dim yn Erthygl 3 y Gorchymyn hwn yn ei gwneud hi'n anghyfreithlon i beri neu ganiatáu i unrhyw gerbyd deithio mewn cyfeiriad sy'n wahanol i'r hyn a geir yn Atodlen 1 i'r Gorchymyn hwn, neu i droi fel y nodir yn Atodlen 2, am ba bynnag hyd o amser sydd ei angen er mwyn i gerbyd gael ei ddefnyddio mewn cysylltiad ag argyfwng at ddibenion yr Heddlu, y Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub a'r Gwasanaeth Ambiwylans, neu mewn cysylltiad ag unrhyw un o'r eithriadau a ddisgrifir yn Rheoliadau Eithriadau Traffig Ffyrdd (Lluoedd Arbennig) (Amrywio a Diwygio) 2011.

5. CYFNOD Y GORCHYMYN

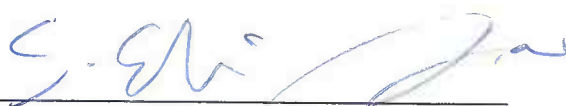
Bydd y Gorchymyn yn para ar waith am hyd at 18 mis oddi ar y dyddiad y daw i rym.

6. DILYSRWYDD

Os bydd llys neu Lywodraeth Cymru yn datgan bod unrhyw ran o'r Gorchymyn hwn yn annilys neu'n amhosibl ei gorfodi, ni fydd datganiad o'r fath yn annilysu gweddill y Gorchymyn.

RHODDIR o dan Sêl Gyffredin Cyngor Sir Ceredigion ar y diwrnod hwn, sef 25 o fis Mai Dwy Fil a Dau Ddeg Dau

Gosodwyd SÊL GYFFREDIN)
CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION)
yma ym mhresenoldeb :-)



Swyddog Arweiniol Corfforaethol:
Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol a Llywodraethu



ATODLENNI

Atodlen 1: Llif Traffig Unffordd

Y Ffordd (ei hyd yn gyfan oni nodir hynny isod)

Rhes y Coleg, Aberteifi

Pwllhai, Aberteifi, ar ei adain orllewinol, o'r ffin gefn rhwng rhifau 30 a 31 Heol y Priordy tuag at y Stryd Fawr, sef pellter o oddeutu 20 metr.

Lôn Siawnsri, Aberteifi

Heol y Dŵr, Ceinewydd, o'i chyffordd â Stryd yr Hen Goleg/Heol Pengraig hyd at ei chyffordd â'r Beili/Rhes y Morwyr.

Gwaelod Ffordd y Gaer, Aberaeron, o ffin ogleddol y maes parcio talu ac arddangos hyd at ffordd gyswllt glan y môr rhwng Stryd y Tabernacl a Gwaelod Ffordd y Gaer.

Y ffordd gyswllt glan y môr rhwng Stryd y Tabernacl a Gwaelod Ffordd y Gaer, Aberaeron

Stryd y Tabernacl, Aberaeron

Heol y Farchnad, Aberaeron

Heol y Wig, Aberystwyth

Ffordd y Môr, Aberystwyth, y darn o'i chyffordd â Glan y Môr i'w chyffyrdd â Stryd Portland (sy'n ymestyn rhwng Morfa Mawr a Ffordd y Môr) a rhan uchaf Stryd Portland (sy'n ymestyn rhwng Ffordd y Môr a'r Porth Bach).

Y cyfeiriad a ganiateir ar gyfer traffig

O'i chyffordd â'r Stryd Fawr i'w chyffordd â Rhes y Frenhines/Mwldan Ganol ger maes parcio Caeglas, sef o'r dwyrain i'r gorllewin

O'r dwyrain i'r gorllewin.

O Stryd y Santes Fair tuag at y Stryd Fawr, sef o'r de i'r gogledd.

O'r de i'r gogledd.

Tuag at lan y môr, sef o'r de-ddwyrain i'r gogledd-orllewin.

O'i chyffordd â Gwaelod Ffordd y Gaer tuag at ei chyffordd â Stryd y Tabernacl, sef o'r gogledd-ddwyrain i'r de-orllewin.

O lan y môr tuag at chyffordd â Heol y Farchnad, sef o'r gogledd-orllewin i'r de-ddwyrain.

O'i chyffordd â Stryd y Tabernacl tuag at y gyffordd â Chefnffordd yr A487, sef o'r gogledd-orllewin i'r de-ddwyrain.

O'i chyffordd â'r Stryd Fawr tuag at lan y môr, sef o'r de i'r gogledd.

O gyfeiriad Glan y Môr i'r cyffyrdd â Stryd Portland (sy'n ymestyn rhwng Morfa Mawr a Ffordd y Môr) a rhan uchaf Stryd Portland (sy'n ymestyn rhwng Ffordd y Môr a'r Porth Bach), sef o'r gogledd-orllewin i'r de-ddwyrain.

Stryd y Baddon, Aberystwyth

O'i chyffordd â Ffordd y Môr tuag at ei chyffordd
â Morfa Mawr, sef o'r de-orllewin i'r gogledd-
ddwyrain.

Atodlen 2: Gwahardd Troi

Ffyrdd

Lleoliad y Gwaharddiad ar Droï

Mwldan Uchaf, Aberteifi, o allanfa'r maes parcio talu ac arddangos	Gwahardd Troi i'r Chwith i Res y Coleg
Mwldan Ganol, Aberteifi	Gwahardd Troi i'r Dde i Res y Coleg
Rhes y Morwyr, Ceinewydd	Gwahardd Troi i'r Dde i Heol y Dŵr
Y Beili, Ceinewydd	Gwahardd Troi i'r Chwith i Heol y Dŵr
Heol Tudur, Aberaeron	Gwahardd Troi i'r Chwith i Stryd y Tabernacl
Glanymôr, Aberaeron	Gwahardd Troi i'r Dde i Stryd y Tabernacl
Y Porth Bach, Aberystwyth	Gwahardd Troi i'r Chwith i Heol y Wig
Stryd y Brenin, Aberystwyth	Gwahardd Troi i'r Dde i Heol y Wig
Stryd Portland, Aberystwyth (sy'n ymestyn rhwng Morfa Mawr a Ffordd y Môr)	Gwahardd Troi i'r Dde i Ffordd y Môr
Rhan uchaf Stryd Portland, Aberystwyth (sy'n ymestyn rhwng Ffordd y Môr a'r Porth Bach)	Gwahardd Troi i'r Chwith i Ffordd y Môr
Ffordd Portland, Aberystwyth	Gwahardd Troi i'r Dde i Ffordd y Môr
Morfa Mawr, Aberystwyth	Gwahardd Troi i'r Chwith i Stryd y Baddon
Morfa Mawr, Aberystwyth	Gwahardd Troi i'r Dde i Stryd y Baddon

EXPERIMENTAL TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL (ONE WAY AND PROHIBITION OF TURN) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGAN, & NEW QUAY) (EXPERIMENTAL) ORDER 2022

Ceredigion County Council, in exercise of its powers under sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and Parts III and IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the 1984 Act, hereby makes the following Order.

1. CITATION

- a) This Order may be cited as "Ceredigion County Council (One Way and Prohibition of Turn) (Aberaeron, Aberystwyth, Cardigan, and New Quay) (Experimental) Order 2022" and shall come into operation on the 10/06/2022.

2. INTERPRETATION AND DEFINITIONS

- (a) In this Order, except where the context otherwise requires, the following have the meanings hereby respectively assigned to them.
 - (i) "the 1984 Act" means the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.
 - (ii) "highway" means a way over which members of the public have the right to pass and repass without hindrance and not on sufferance or by licence, the extent of which shall include the carriageway and any footways, verges, roadside wastes or combinations thereof.
 - (iii) "Order" means the Ceredigion County Council (One Way and Prohibition of Turn) (Aberaeron, Aberystwyth, Cardigan, and New Quay) (Experimental) Order 2022.
 - (iv) "road" has the same meaning as that defined by section 192 of the Road Traffic Act 1988.
 - (v) The Interpretation Act 1978 shall apply to the interpretation of this Order as it applies for the interpretation of an Act of Parliament
- (b) For the purpose of this Order, the restrictions contained in the articles to this Order shall apply to the full width of the highway.
- (c) The restrictions imposed by this Order shall be in addition to and not in derogation of any restriction imposed by any regulations or orders made or having effect as if made under the 1984 Act, or by or under any other enactment.

3. EFFECTS OF THE ORDER

Save as provided in Article 4 of this Order, no person shall, except upon the direction of or with the permission of a police officer in uniform, cause or permit any vehicle to:

- i. proceed on the lengths of road specified in Schedule 1 to this Order, in a direction other than that stated in Schedule 1;
- ii. or in contravention of the Prohibitions of Turn specified in Schedule 2 to this Order.

4. EXEMPTIONS

Nothing in Article 3 of this Order shall render it unlawful to cause or permit a vehicle to proceed in a direction other than that included in Schedule 1 to this Order, or to make the turning movements included in Schedule 2 for as long as may be necessary to enable that vehicle to be used in connection with an emergency for police, ambulance, fire and rescue authority, or any of the relevant exemptions as described in the Road Traffic Exemptions (Special Forces) (Variation and Amendment) Regulations 2011.

5. DURATION OF THE ORDER

The Order shall remain in place for a period not exceeding 18 months from the date on which it came into operation.

6. VALIDITY

If a court or the Welsh Government declares any part of this Order to be invalid or unenforceable, such declaration shall not invalidate the remainder of the Order.

GIVEN under the Common Seal of the Ceredigion County Council this 25 day of May Two Thousand and Twenty Two

THE COMMON SEAL OF THE)
 CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL was)
 hereunto affixed in the presence of:)



S. G. [Signature]
 Corporate Lead Officer:
 Legal & Governance Services

SCHEDULES

Schedule 1: One Way Traffic flows

<u>Road (entire lengths unless specified below)</u>	<u>Permitted direction of movement</u>
College Row, Cardigan	From its junction with High Street towards its junction with Queen's Terrace/Middle Mwldan by Greenfield car park, being from east to west
Pwllhai, Cardigan, on its western arm, from by the rear boundary between numbers 30 and 31 Priory Street to its junction with High Street, being a distance of approx. 20 metres	From east to west.
Chancery Lane, Cardigan	From the direction of St Mary Street towards High Street, being from south to north.
Water Street, New Quay, from its junction with Albion Terrace/Lewis Terrace to its junction with High Street/ Marine Terrace	From south to north
Lower Regent Street, Aberaeron, from the northern boundary of the pay and display car park to its junction with the seafront link road between Tabernacle Street and Lower Regent Street	Towards the seafront, being from southeast to northwest
The seafront link road between Tabernacle Street and Lower Regent Street, Aberaeron	From its junction with Lower Regent Street towards its junction with Tabernacle Street, being from northeast to southwest
Tabernacle Street, Aberaeron	From the seafront towards its junction with Market Street, being from northwest to southeast
Market Street, Aberaeron	From its junction with Tabernacle Street towards its junction with the TRA487, being from northwest to southeast
Pier Street, Aberystwyth	From its junction with Great Darkgate Street towards the seafront, being south to north
Terrace Road, Aberystwyth, the section from its junction with Marine Terrace to its junctions with Portland Street (that extends between Queen's Road, Aberystwyth and Terrace Road, Aberystwyth) and Upper Portland Street (that extends between Terrace Road, Aberystwyth and Eastgate,	From the direction of the seafront at Marine Terrace towards the junctions with Portland Street (that extends between Queen's Road, Aberystwyth and Terrace Road, Aberystwyth) and Upper Portland Street (that extends between Terrace Road, Aberystwyth and

Aberystwyth)

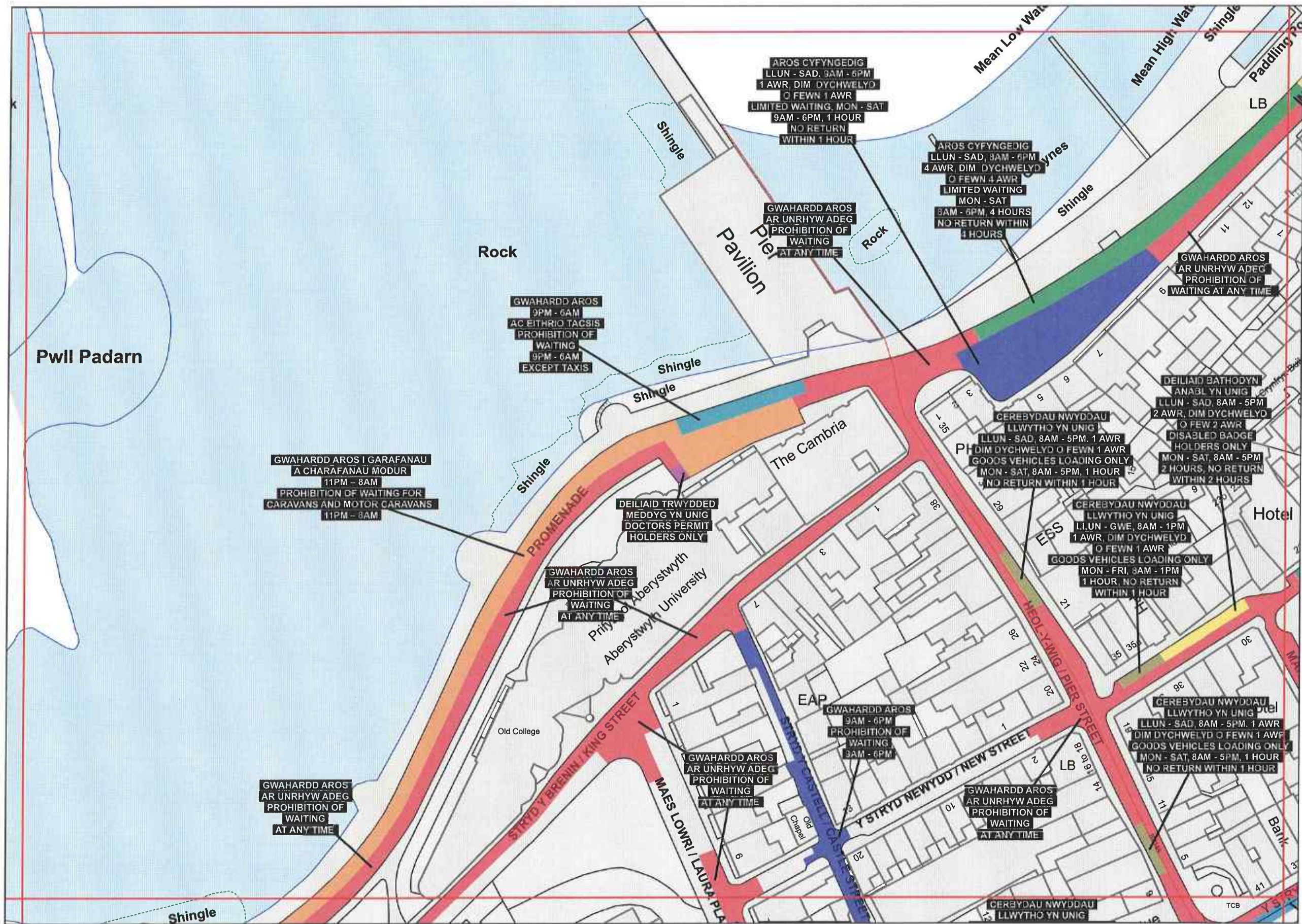
Eastgate, Aberystwyth), being northwest to southeast

Bath Street, Aberystwyth

From its junction with Terrace Road towards its junction with Queen's Road, being from southwest to northeast

Schedule 2: Prohibitions of Turn

<u>Roads</u>	<u>Prohibited turn</u>
At Upper Mwldan, Cardigan, from the exit of the pay and display car park,	Prohibition of Left Turn onto College Row, Cardigan
From Middle Mwldan, Cardigan	Prohibition of Right Turn onto College Row, Cardigan
From Marine Terrace, New Quay	Prohibition of Right Turn onto Water Street, New Quay
From High Street, New Quay	Prohibition of Left Turn onto Water Street, New Quay
From Waterloo Street, Aberaeron	Prohibition of Left Turn onto Tabernacle Street, Aberaeron
From Glan y mor (also known as Glanymor), Aberaeron	Prohibition of Right Turn onto Tabernacle Street, Aberaeron
From Eastgate, Aberystwyth	Prohibition of Left Turn onto Pier Street, Aberystwyth
From King Street, Aberystwyth	Prohibition of Right Turn onto Pier Street, Aberystwyth
From Portland Street (that extends between Queen's Road, Aberystwyth and Terrace Road, Aberystwyth)	Prohibition of Right Turn onto Terrace Road, Aberystwyth
From Upper Portland Street (that extends between Terrace Road, Aberystwyth and Eastgate, Aberystwyth)	Prohibition of Left Turn onto Terrace Road, Aberystwyth
From Portland Road, Aberystwyth	Prohibition of Right Turn onto Terrace Road, Aberystwyth
From Queens Road, Aberystwyth	Prohibition of Left Turn into Bath Street, Aberystwyth
From Queens Road, Aberystwyth	Prohibition of Right Turn into Bath Street, Aberystwyth



8902
11 MAY 2022

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR AROS A LLWYTHO A DADLWYTHO) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, ABERTEIFI A CHEINEWYDD) (ARBROFOL) 2022
CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND UNLOADING) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGAN AND NEW QUAY) (EXPERIMENTAL) ORDER 2022

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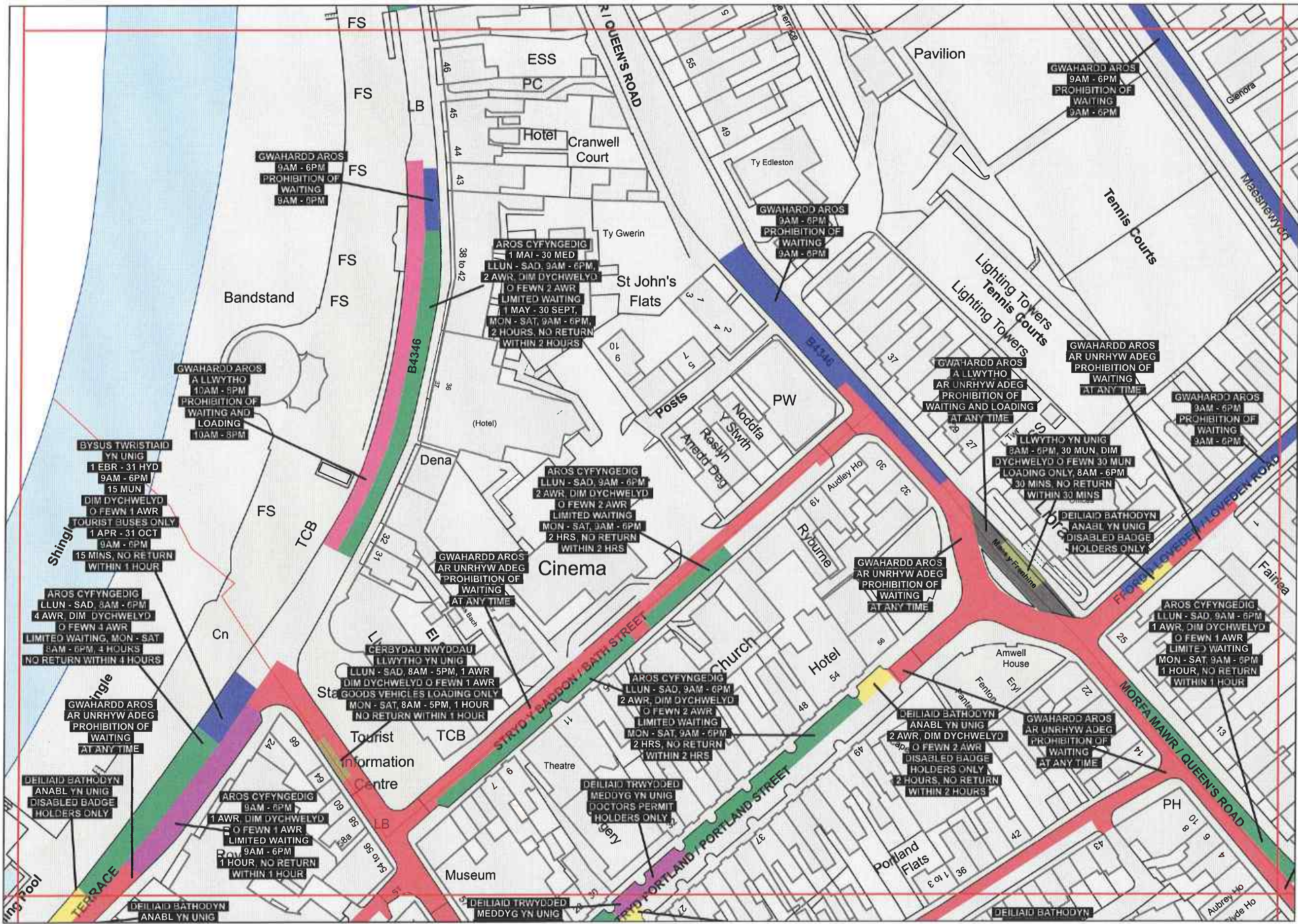


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11 MAY 2022

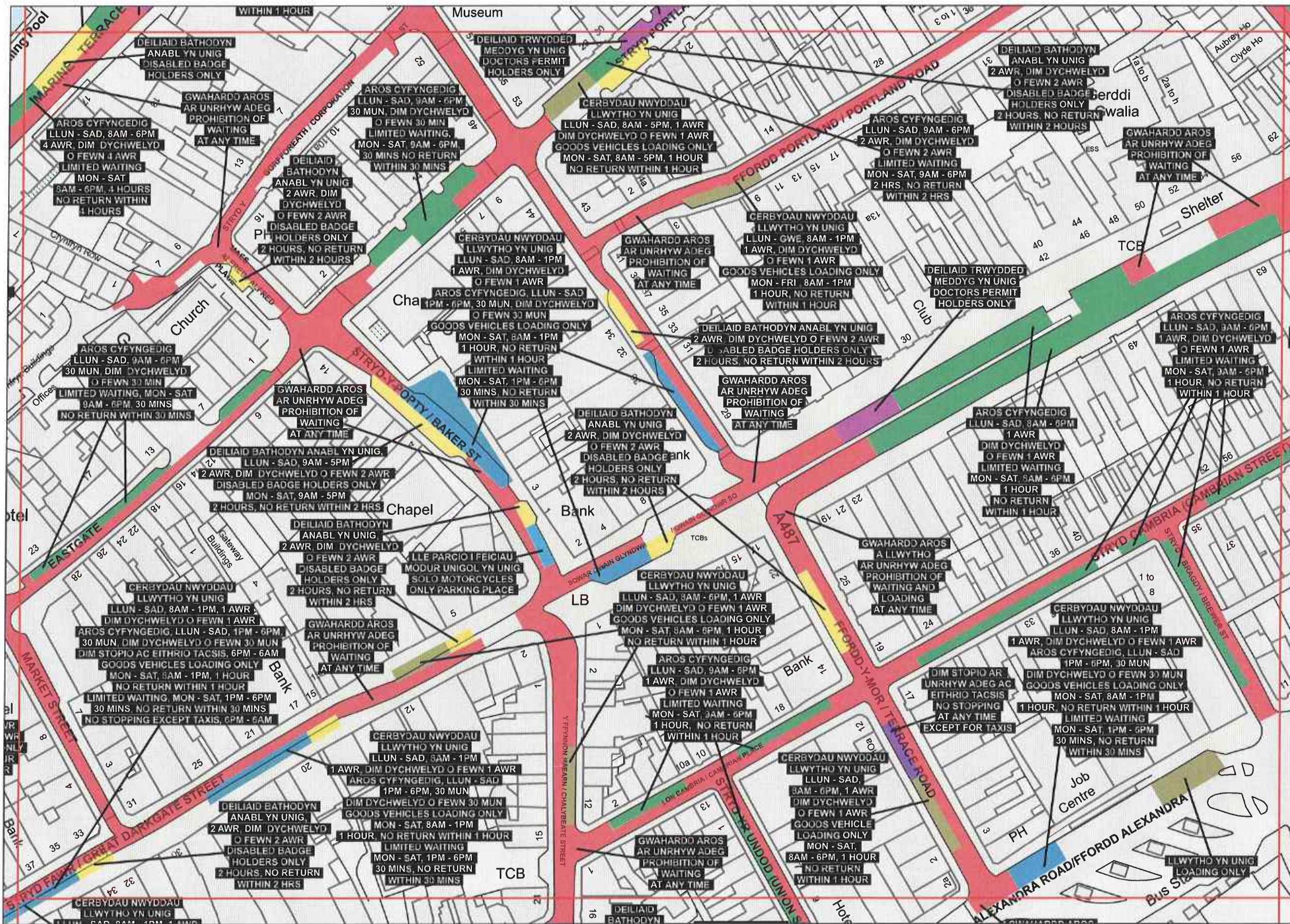
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11 MAY 2022

GORCHYMYN CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR AROS A LLWYTHO A DADLWYTHO) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, ABERTEIFI A CHEINEWYDD) (ARBROFOL) 2022
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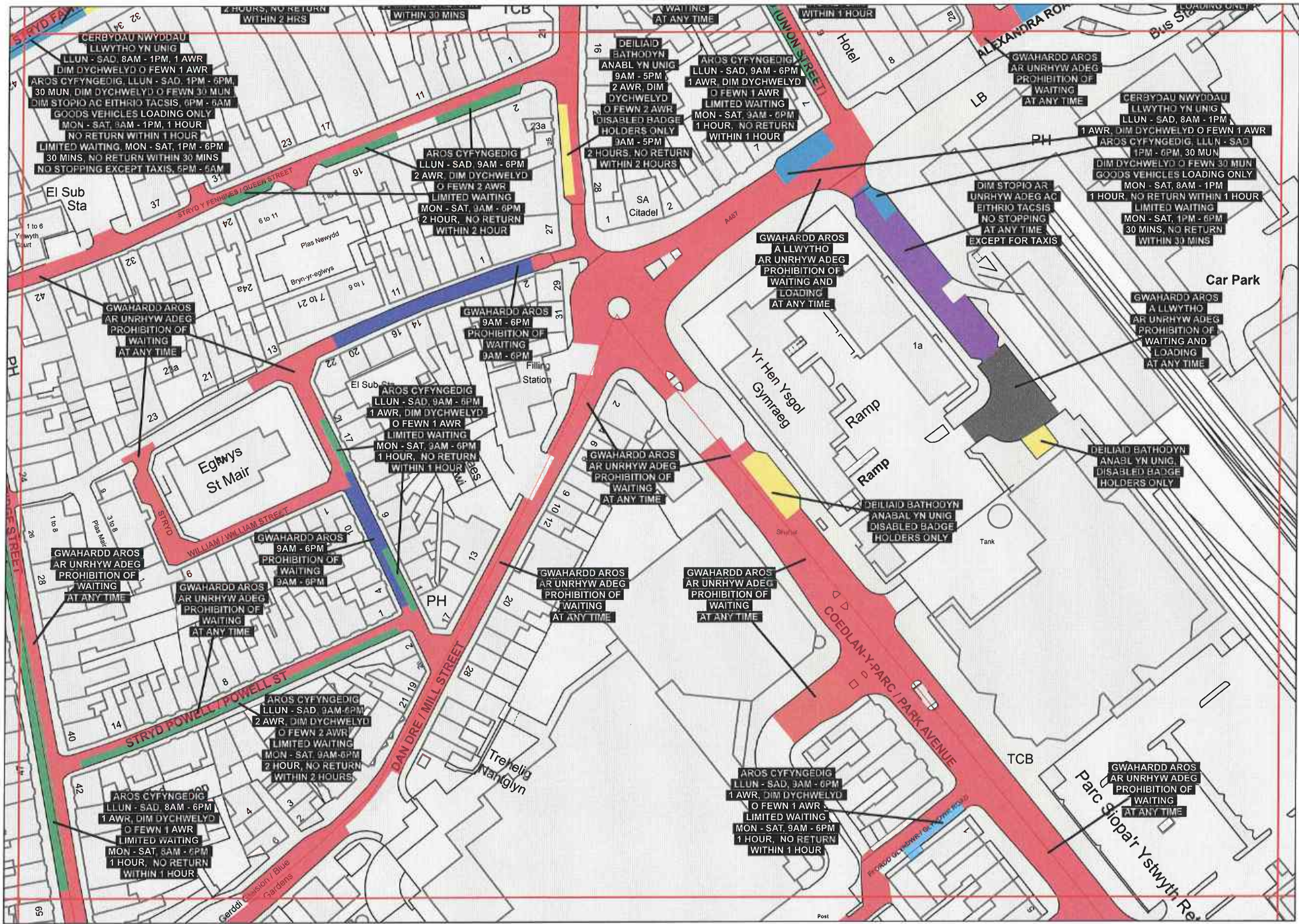
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11 MAY 2022

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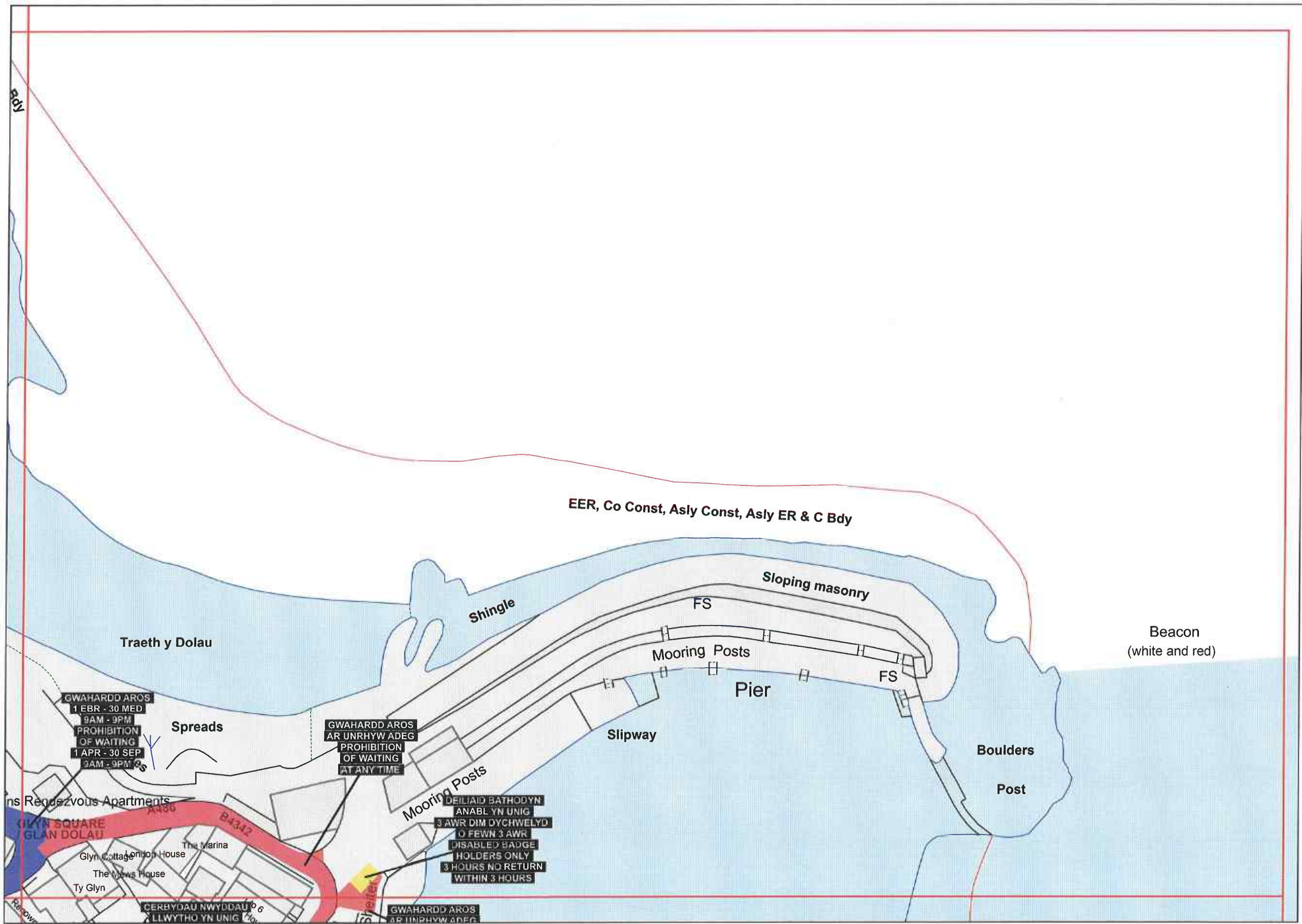


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11 MAY 2022

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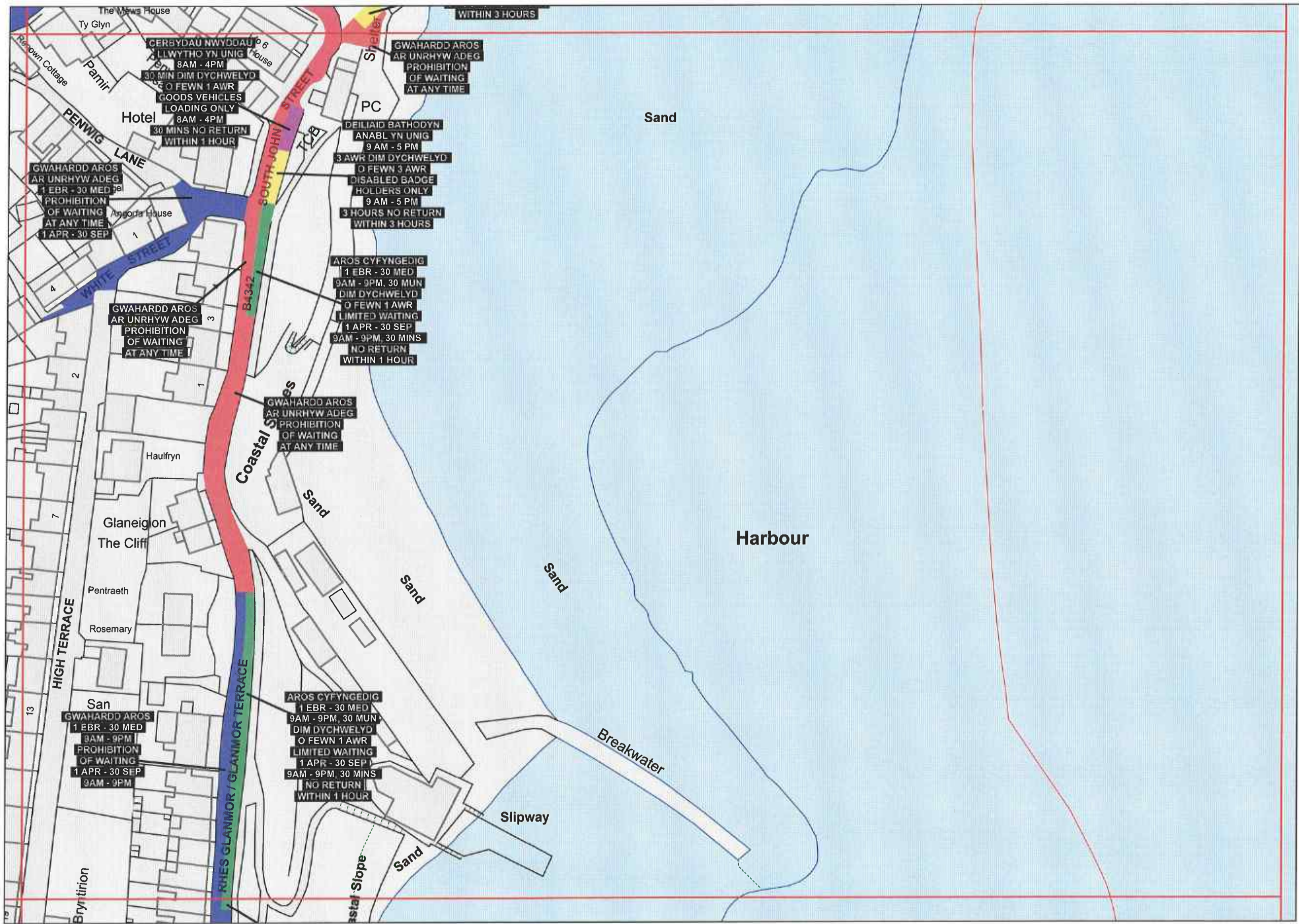


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11 MAY 2022

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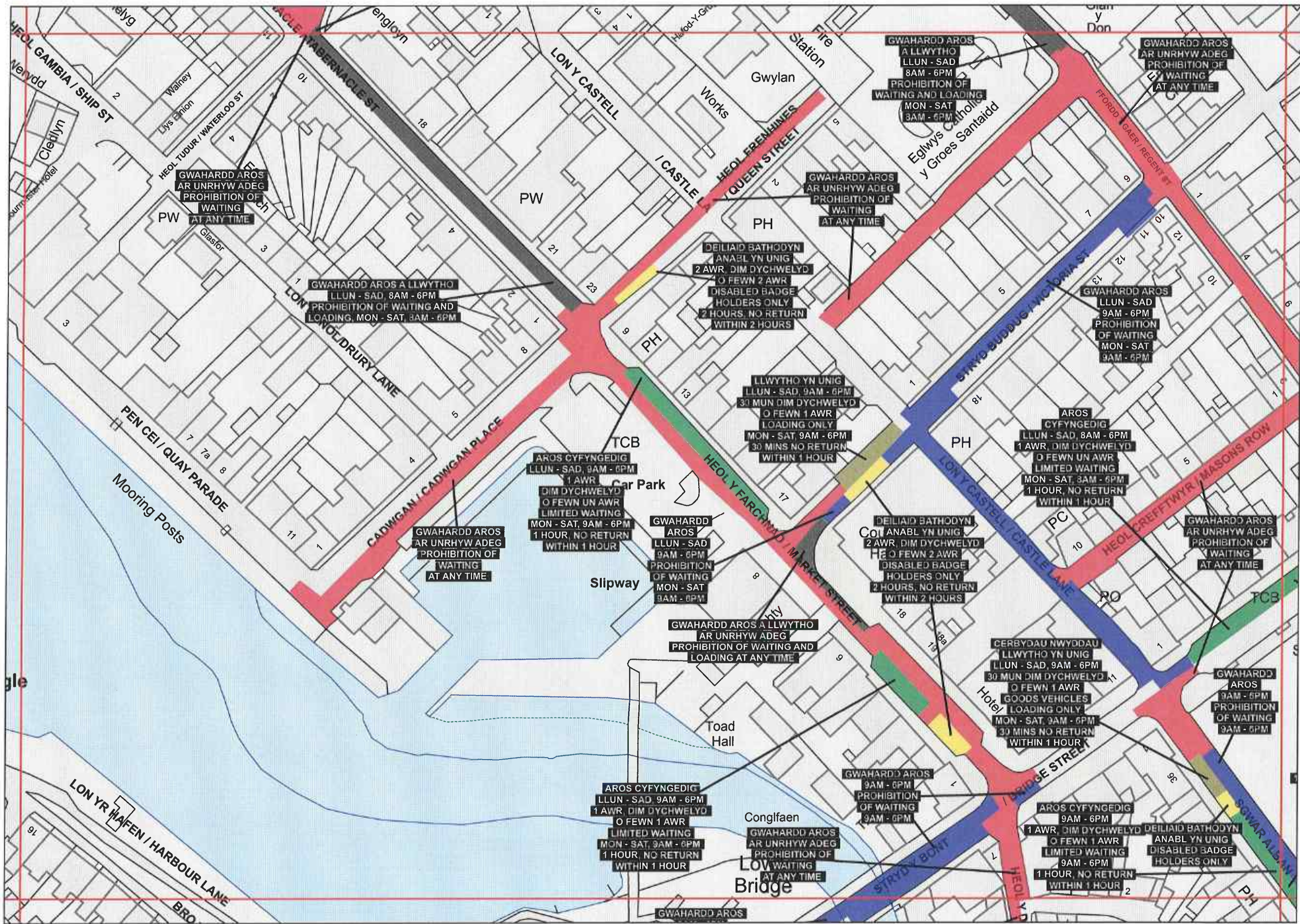


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11 MAY 2022

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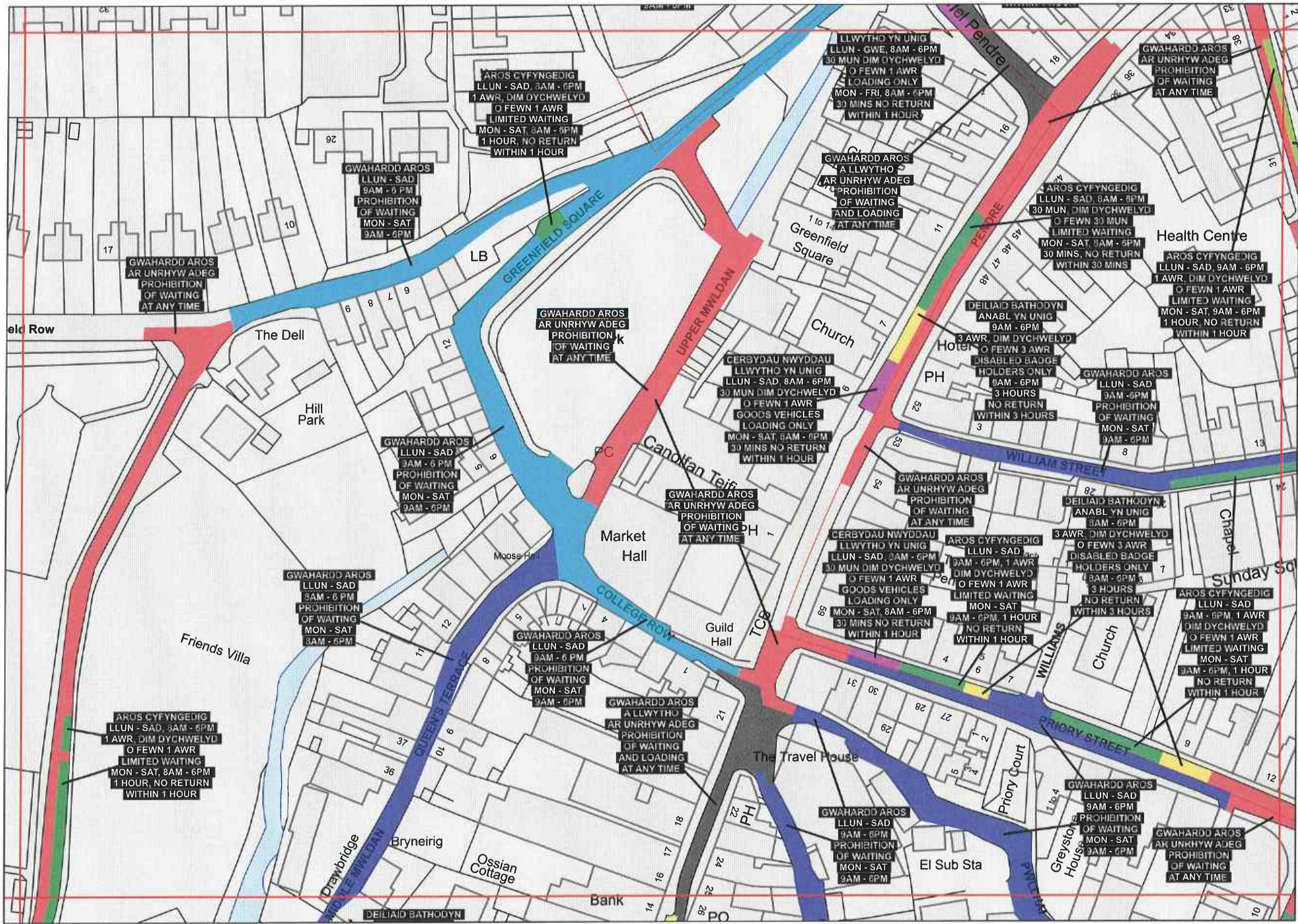


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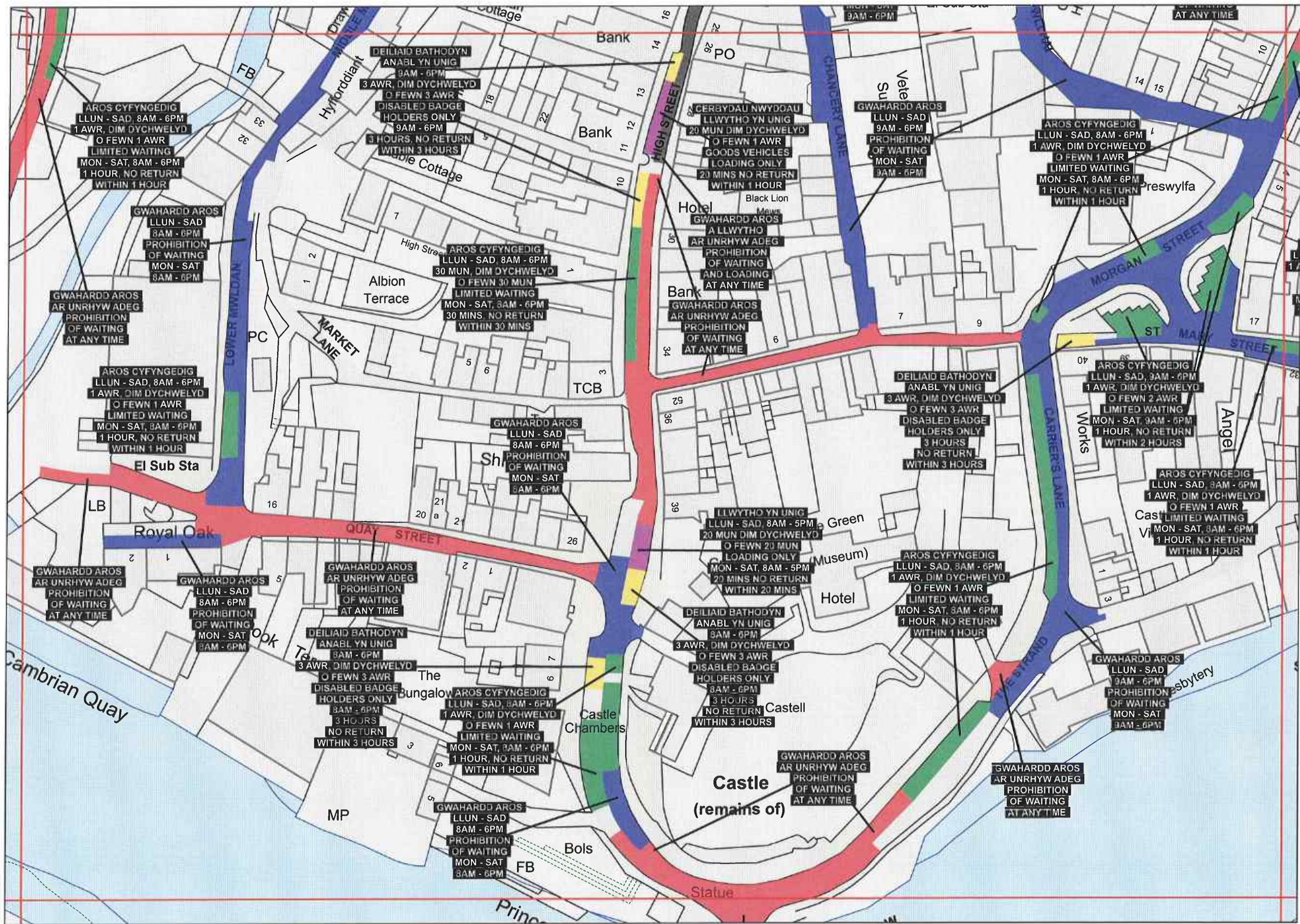


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11 MAY 2022

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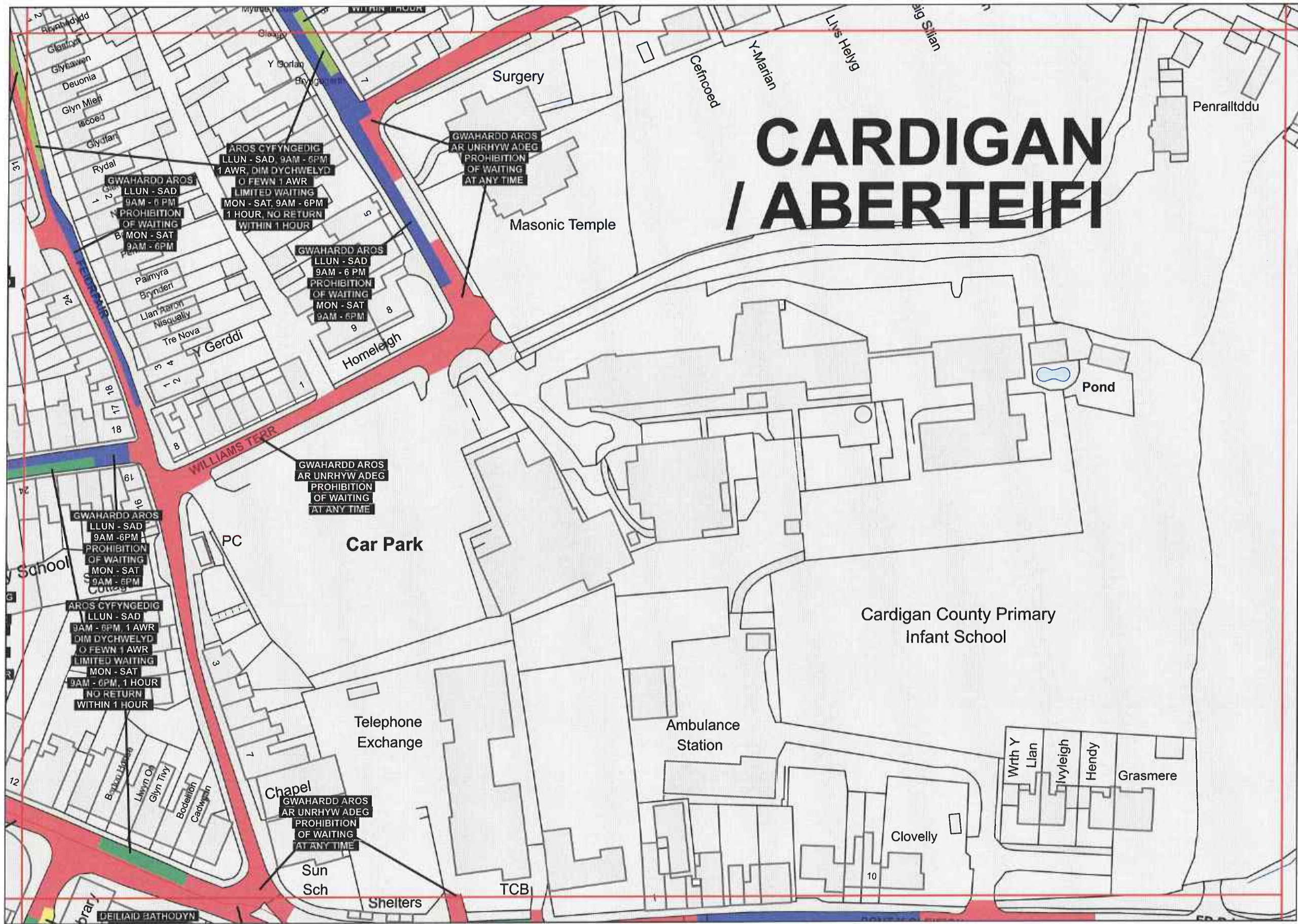


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CE81 H26



CARDIGAN / ABERTEIFI

 <p>8902 11 MAY 2022</p>	<p>GORCHYMYN CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION (GWAHARDD A CHYFYNGU AR AROS A LLWYTHO A DADLWYTHO) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, ABERTEIFI A CHEINEWYDD) (ARBROFOL) 2022</p> <p>CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL (PROHIBITION AND RESTRICTION OF WAITING AND LOADING AND UNLOADING) (ABERAERON, ABERYSTWYTH, CARDIGAN AND NEW QUAY) (EXPERIMENTAL) ORDER 2022</p>	<p>© Hawlfraint y Goron a hawliau cronfa ddata 2021 Ordnance Survey 100024419. Ni chaniateir i chi gopio, is-drwyddedu, dosbarthu neu werthu unrhyw ran o'r data hwn ar unrhyw ffurf i drydydd parti.</p> <p>© Crown copyright and database rights 2021 Ordnance Survey 100024419. You are not permitted to copy, sub-licence, distribute or sell any of this data to third parties in any form.</p>	<p>Graddfa ar A3 / Scale at A3: 1:1,000</p> <p>GOGLEDD NORTH</p> <p>Dyddiad / Date: 22/02/2022</p>	<p>Cyfeirnod CE: CE ref: CE81 J25</p>	<p>Is-fap: Sub-map:</p>
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This **Integrated Impact Assessment tool** incorporates the principles of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Sustainable Development Principles, the Equality Act 2010 and the Welsh Language Measure 2011 (Welsh Language Standards requirements) and Risk Management in order to inform effective decision making and ensuring compliance with respective legislation.

1. PROPOSAL DETAILS: (Policy/Change Objective/Budget saving)

Proposal Title	Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders (ETRO) - Retaining elements of the Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTROs) in towns in Ceredigion
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Service Area	HES	Corporate Lead Officer	Rhodri Llwyd	Corporate Director	Barry Rees
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Name of Officer completing the IIA	Steve Hallows	E-mail		Phone no	
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Please give a brief description of the purpose of the proposal

To seek authorisation to make two Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders required for the process for retaining selected parking and traffic flow elements installed temporarily in response to the Covid-19 pandemic as it has been recognised that some of the elements have demonstrated a wider benefit to society and there is a justification for starting the legal process required to consider retaining some of these elements.

Who will be directly affected by this proposal? (e.g. The general public, specific sections of the public such as youth groups, carers, road users, people using country parks, people on benefits, staff members or those who fall under the protected characteristics groups as defined by the Equality Act and for whom the authority must have due regard).

General public/all highway users

VERSION CONTROL: The IIA should be used at the earliest stages of decision making, and then honed and refined throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process so that we can demonstrate how we have considered and built in sustainable development, Welsh language and equality considerations wherever possible.

Author	Decision making stage	Version number	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
Rhodri Llwyd	ETRO Development Stage	1	Dec 2021	

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Steve Hallows	ETRO Implementation Stage	2	May 2023	

COUNCIL STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES: Which of the Council's Strategic Objectives does the proposal address and how?

Boosting the Economy, supporting Business and enabling employment.	Improved and safer access to services and opportunities for all road users. Improved efficiency of movement of goods and people
Creating caring and healthy communities	Supports independence, improved accessibility and personal mobility – particularly Blue Badge holders.
Providing the best start in life and enabling Learning at all ages	Safeguarding future access to services and opportunities for all
Creating sustainable, greener and well-connected communities	The scheme supports more effective, safer and efficient movement of goods and people. Seeks to reduce traffic congestion and associated environmental dis-benefits particularly in traffic-sensitive areas. Supports community resilience through improved access to services and opportunities within local communities.

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NOTE: As you complete this tool you will be asked for **evidence to support your views**. These need to include your baseline position, measures and studies that have informed your thinking and the judgement you are making. It should allow you to identify whether any changes resulting from the implementation of the recommendation will have a positive or negative effect. Data sources include for example:

- *Quantitative data - data that provides numerical information, e.g. population figures, number of users/non-users*
- *Qualitative data – data that furnishes evidence of people's perception/views of the service/policy, e.g. analysis of complaints, outcomes of focus groups, surveys*
- *Local population data from the census figures (such as Ceredigion Welsh language Profile and Ceredigion Demographic Equality data)*
- *National Household survey data*
- *Service User data*
- *Feedback from consultation and engagement campaigns*
- *Recommendations from Scrutiny*
- *Comparisons with similar policies in other authorities*
- *Academic publications, research reports, consultants' reports, and reports on any consultation with e.g. trade unions or the voluntary and community sectors, 'Is Wales Fairer' document.*
- *Welsh Language skills data for Council staff*



2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES: How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the five sustainable development principles, as outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, in its development?			
Sustainable Development Principle	Does the proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not, explain why.	What evidence do you have to support this view?	What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to the principle?
Long Term Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The impact of these proposals and any changes in local or national policies or legislation will be monitored and reviewed on a continuous basis. Future demand will be partly determined by levels of car ownership, levels of public transport infrastructure provision and service patronage as well as economic fortunes of the County and the 'High Street' in particular and any changes to public service provision such as health care and learning and skills provision. Facilitates greater opportunities in town centres for pedestrians and economic activity. National strategy to move to a more sustainable and healthier lifestyle for all users A mix of different on-street parking is retaining with a net increase in blue badge spaces provided in all town 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence from wider periodic on-street parking public and stakeholder engagement undertaken previously along with feedback received in relation to the original TTROs. Safety, environmental and wider community benefits Accessibility will be improved for non-motorised users The potential for increased opportunity for trading on widened footways that are afforded by the removal of parking and creation of one way systems has been realised in many areas. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continuous monitoring of street clutter through licencing of space on the highway to ensure free movement of all users Mointoring of traffic flows and parking demand for different user groups and adapt as necessary through the relevant legislation
Collaboration Working together with other partners to deliver.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration with Economy and Regeneration to help provide a flexible approach to the needs of each town through Place Plan making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence from engagement and Council service planning and delivery – including 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil Parking Enforcement Enforcement by Police Acting to minimise impact by acting on themes that were

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	<p>with the Town Councils and ensure the opportunity exists for a more prosperous future for businesses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Civil enforcement through Ceredigion County Council Parking services and Police for moving traffic offences (including obstruction and speeding etc.) 	<p>Parking Services, economic development and licensing and functions.</p>	<p>presented by the 6 month consultation and experience gained from the Safe Zone.</p>
<p>Involvement Involving those with an interest and seeking their views.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 6 month consultation has been undertaken according to statutory requirements for parking orders as set out in The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure)(England and Wales) Regulations 1996 relating to the Traffic Regulation Act 1984. • Statutory provision enables formal objection process and requirement for County Council to consider these objections as part of the ETRO process • Orders have been published and information placed within the public domain 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Members and emergency services ahead of the proposed changes. Notices placed at locations where changes are proposed, information published in the local Press, on the County Council's Social Media/Internet pages. • Consultation with local businesses, employers and service providers will form part of the ETRO process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following consultation there is the opportunity to revoke or reduce any of detailed parts of the proposals if sufficient evidence shows the proposals to be detrimental, on balance, to users of one or multiple users
<p>Prevention Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposals will seek to address any existing concerns by improving access, addressing road safety concerns and improve the efficient movement of people and goods. • Particular issues that will be addressed include safety of the most vulnerable road users (pedestrians, cyclists, children and older people and those with a range of physical or mental disabilities). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adjustments were made to the proposals due to feedback from the public since their initial implementation under the Temporary Traffic Order process in June 2020 and then incrementally through Scrutiny and Cabinet leading the proposals 	



		that are the subject of these ETRO's	
<p>Integration Positively impacting on people, economy, environment and culture and trying to benefit all three.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertisement of proposed changes and formal process for receiving and responding to any objections, comments or suggestions have been used as part of the ETRO process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutiny on 8/11/22 proposals resulted in some slight amendments, however the outcome of the engagement process resulted in no overwhelming objections. This has been interpreted as being a mainly positive benefit to most users. Feedback from consultation showed that 27%, mainly people with mobility problems or enjoying the vibrancy created were in favour of the proposals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of the negative feedback centred around being able to park within town and adjacent to shops. This is against a strategy to provide a healthier environment and reduce our town being predominantly impacted by motor vehicles. Sufficient parking exists with a 5 -15 minute walking distance of all facilities in each of the towns, so a behavioural change is needed to meet this goals. The fact that in 6 months on 34 people decided to provide feedback suggests that most people are happy with the arrangements and have adapted well. Further design and implementation of the streetscape layouts of the towns can progress with the ETRO measures in place. This will further benefit all users and create a more positive experience.



3. WELL-BEING GOALS: Does your proposal deliver any of the seven National Well-being Goals for Wales as outlined on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. We need to ensure that the steps we take to meet one of the goals aren't detrimental to meeting another.

Well-being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive or negative impacts-	What evidence do you have to support this view?	What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to the goal?
<p>3.1. A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to on-street parking integral to the scheme to ensure safe and expeditious movement of vehicles and people. • The proposal will ensure the efficient use of public resources. • The proposals will benefit all road users, local businesses and service providers by providing safer, more accessible and better regulated use of available space within the public highway. • The proposals will contribute to a more vibrant and sustainable local and national economy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive feedback received to introduction of existing temporary measures that were possible due the introduction of ETRO changes. • Low number of responses during a 6 month feedback process shows that people have adapted well to the proposals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further design and implementation of the streetscape layouts of the towns can progress with the ETRO measures in place. This will further benefit all users and create a more positive experience. • Collaboration with Economy & Regeneration to assist with delivery of the Town Council Plaer Plans will assist in furthering a prosperous Wales.
<p>3.2. A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to on-street parking to ensure safe and expeditious movement of vehicles and people. • Neutral impact upon biodiversity as changes are within the existing highway. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A reduction in the number of vehicles in the town centres which allows more space for people to walk is in line with the strategies to provide a more resilient Wales. The ETROs support this approach. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing monitoring of impact of these changes will feed into the replacement of the temporary measures with designs for the permanent measures.



<p>3.3. A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximised and health impacts are understood.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to on-street parking to ensure safe and expeditious movement of vehicles and people. • The proposals seek to promote the town centres as a place for increased pedestrian use by creating additional space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive feedback received to introduction of existing temporary measures during Safe Zone operation and 27% of respondents to the ETRO feedback support the proposals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing engagement including responses to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.
<p>3.4. A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to on-street parking to ensure safe and expeditious movement of vehicles and people. • Proposed work programme supports continued economic, social and cultural viability of towns and local communities across the County through improved access to services and opportunities and better regulation of traffic within these communities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive feedback received to introduction of existing temporary measures during Safe Zone operation and 27% of respondents to the ETRO feedback support the proposals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing engagement including responses to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.
<p>3.5. A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental well-being.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to on-street parking necessary to ensure safe and expeditious movement of vehicles and people. • The proposals seek to promote the town centres as a place for increased pedestrian use by creating additional space. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved regulation and enforcement of on-street parking. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing engagement including responses to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.



<p>3.6. A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances.</p> <p><i>In this section you need to consider the impact on equality groups, the evidence and any action you are taking for improvement.</i></p> <p><i>You need to consider how might the proposal impact on equality protected groups in accordance with the Equality Act 2010?</i></p> <p><i>These include the protected characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or beliefs, gender, sexual orientation.</i></p> <p>Please also consider the following guide:: Equality Human Rights - Assessing Impact & Equality Duty</p>	<p>Describe why it will have a positive/negative or negligible impact.</p> <p><i>Using your evidence consider the impact for each of the protected groups. You will need to consider do these groups have equal access to the service, or do they need to receive the service in a different way from other people because of their protected characteristics. It is not acceptable to state simply that a proposal will universally benefit/disadvantage everyone. You should demonstrate that you have considered all the available evidence and address any gaps or disparities revealed.</i></p>	<p>What evidence do you have to support this view?</p> <p><i>Gathering Equality data and evidence is vital for an IIA. You should consider who uses or is likely to use the service. Failure to use <u>data</u> or <u>engage</u> where change is planned can leave decisions open to legal challenge. Please link to involvement box within this template. Please also consider the general guidance.</i></p>	<p>What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</p> <p><i>These actions can include a range of positive actions which allows the organisation to treat individuals according to their needs, even when that might mean treating some more favourably than others, in order for them to have a good outcome. You may also have actions to identify any gaps in data or an action to engage with those who will/likely to be effected by the proposal. These actions need to link to Section 4 of this template.</i></p>																
<p>Age Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people because of their age? (Please tick ✓)</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Positive</th> <th>Negative</th> <th>None/ Negligible</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children and Young People up to 18</td> <td>X</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>People 18-50</td> <td>Positive x</td> <td>Negative</td> <td>None/ Negligible</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Older People 50+</td> <td>Positive x</td> <td>Negative x</td> <td>None/ Negligible</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	Children and Young People up to 18	X			People 18-50	Positive x	Negative	None/ Negligible	Older People 50+	Positive x	Negative x	None/ Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents and children have more space available and the pollution is reduced cite* • Behavioural change as layed out in the corporate strategy 2023-28. • Trying to make the places a better space to use, as layed out in corporate strategy. • There is a potential that with the loss of some parking spaces there may be a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation responses on ETROs have been considered in regards to the qualitative age information given in them. • We have considered the eight domains as laid out in age friendly communities and have not breached any recommendations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In terms of the loss of parking impacting upon older members of our communities, we have provided a net increase of blue badge parking spaces in all of our towns. Older people who have received a blue badge will be able to use these spaces. • The balance between available street parking and useability and space of pavements has to be found and we believe we
	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible																
Children and Young People up to 18	X																		
People 18-50	Positive x	Negative	None/ Negligible																
Older People 50+	Positive x	Negative x	None/ Negligible																

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				<p>negative impact on the older members of our communities.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The consultation responses for older people have been mixed. <p>Equality & Impact Assessment Older People</p>		are moving in the best way forward.
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<p>Disability Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people because of their disability? (Please tick ✓)</p>				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a period of change that can have a negative impact on members of our community with a learning disability as it may take them time to become accustomed to changes. We believe that over time the changes will have positive outcomes for those with a learning disability. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> We received positive comments from members of our communities who stated that they suffer from a long term illness that the new town layouts have been beneficial to their experience. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the Disabled community through the design phase of introducing the permanent features that will compliment these ETRO measures.
Hearing Impairment	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Physical Impairment	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	X					
Visual Impairment	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	X					
Learning Disability	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
		X				
Long Standing Illness	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	x					
Mental Health	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Other	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			



				X		
Transgender Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on transgender people? (Please tick ✓)				• The proposals affected all users and did not seek to disadvantage this protected characteristic.	• No negative comments were received during the statutory 6 month consultation period on the measures introduced under the ETRO's	• None necessary
Transgender	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Marriage or Civil Partnership Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on marriage or Civil partnership? (Please tick ✓)				• The proposals affected all users and did not seek to disadvantage this user group.	• No negative comments were received during the statutory 6 month consultation period on the measures introduced under the ETRO's	• None necessary
Marriage	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Civil partnership	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			x			
Pregnancy or Maternity Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on pregnancy or maternity? (Please tick ✓)				• Change to on-street parking to ensure safe and expeditious movement of vehicles and people. • As with people with other protected characteristics, the proposals will generally have positive impact on Pregnancy and Maternity through the increase in space available for pedestrians, safer environment and cleaner	• The consultation responses did not identify any specific issues for the pregnant and recent parents when considered alongside the wider community.	• Consideration through the design phase of introducing the permanent features that will compliment these ETRO measures. The Active Travel design guide promotes good access for all which will include this user group
Pregnancy	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	X					
Maternity	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	X					

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				air quality. improvements will benefit all road users.		
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Race Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on race? (Please tick ✓)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposals affected all users and did not seek to disadvantage this protected characteristic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No negative comments were received during the statutory 6 month consultation period on the measures introduced under the ETRO's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None necessary
White	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Asian / Asian British	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Other Ethnic Groups	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			

Religion or non-beliefs Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people with different religions, beliefs or non-beliefs? (Please tick ✓)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposals affected all users and did not seek to disadvantage this user group. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No negative comments were received during the statutory 6 month consultation period on the measures introduced under the ETRO's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None necessary
Christian	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Buddhist	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Hindu	Positive	Negative	None/			

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			Negligible			
			X			
Humanist	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Jewish	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Muslim	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Sikh	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Non-belief	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Other	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			

Sex Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on men and/or women? (Please tick ✓)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The proposals affected all users and did not seek to disadvantage this protected characteristic. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No negative comments were received during the statutory 6 month consultation period on the measures introduced under the ETRO's 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None necessary
Men	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
Women	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			



Sexual Orientation Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people with different sexual orientation? (Please tick ✓)				<p><i>This is whether a person's sexual attraction is towards their own sex, opposite sex or to both sexes. Consider the provision of inclusive services for e.g. older and younger people from the Lesbian, Gay and Bi-sexual communities. Also consider what issues there are for employment and training.</i></p>		
Bisexual	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Gay Men	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Gay Women / Lesbian	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			
Heterosexual / Straight	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			X			

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Having due regards in relation to the three aims of the Equality Duty - determine whether the proposal will assist or inhibit your ability to eliminate discrimination; advance equality and foster good relations.

3.6.2. How could/does the proposal help advance/promote equality of opportunity?
 You should consider whether the proposal will help you to: ● Remove or minimise disadvantage ● To meet the needs of people with certain characteristics ● Encourage increased participation of people with particular characteristics

Eliminated discrimination in terms of providing more crossing points, a net gain of disabled parking bays and a better ability to move around the town. We have increased the safety of our towns with implementation of the ETROs.

3.6.3. How could/does the proposal/decision help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, or victimisation?
 You should consider whether there is evidence to indicate that: ● The proposal may result in less favourable treatment for people with certain characteristics ● The proposal may give rise to indirect discrimination ● The proposal is more likely to assist or impeded you in making reasonable adjustments

The net gain of disabled parking bays has helped reduce discrimination in terms of parking. The widened pavements have helped us tackle discrimination against wheelchair users who could not use the precious narrow pavements. The same goes for those who use pushchairs. The ETROs do not impact on harassment or victimisation.

3.6.4. How could/does the proposal impact on advancing/promoting good relations and wider community cohesion?
 You should consider whether the proposal with help you to: ● Tackle prejudice ● Promote understanding



Better spaces provide better social outcomes for the community. Provides more space and encouragement to meet up in towns.

Having due regard of the Socio-Economic Duty of the Equality Act 2010.

Socio-Economic Disadvantage is living in less favourable social and economic circumstances than others in the same society.

As a listed public body, Ceredigion County Council is required to have due regard to the Socio-Economic Duty of the Equality Act 2010. Effectively this means carrying out a poverty impact assessment. The duty covers all people who suffer socio-economic disadvantage, including people with protected characteristics.

3.6.5 What evidence do you have about socio-economic disadvantage and inequalities of outcome in relation to the proposal?

Describe why it will have a positive/negative or negligible impact.

There is risk that those of a lower socio-economic status could be negatively impacted by the need to park in pay and display car parks as there will be less free on street parking available.

What evidence do you have to support this view?

Not one response was received citing a concern about the cost of pay and display car parks as an alternative. The impact on use of towns will be monitored. We currently do not have evidence to back up the above concern.

What action(s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?

There are free parking spaces available in all our towns, the demand may be higher, we will monitor to ensure those from a lower socio-economic status aren't barred access to our towns.



3.7. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh Language are promoted and protected. <i>In this section you need to consider the impact, the evidence and any action you are taking for improvement. This in order to ensure that the opportunities for people who choose to live their lives and access services through the medium of Welsh are not inferior to what is afforded to those choosing to do so in English, in accordance with the requirement of the Welsh Language Measure 2011.</i>				Describe why it will have a positive/negative or negligible impact.	What evidence do you have to support this view?	What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Will the proposal be delivered bilingually (Welsh & English)?	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The appropriate information, signs, road markings etc associated with the scheme will be provided bilingually. Engagement and public notices to be provided bilingually. Engagement and any changes implemented will be provided bilingually. Service operates a bilingual policy in respect of communication with members of the public and within the workplace. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All road markings and signs/plates with instructions and information will be bilingual and follow Ceredigion County Council and Welsh Government guidelines in this matter. County Council Welsh Language Scheme. 	
	X					
Will the proposal have an effect on opportunities for	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement and public notices will continue to be provided bilingually. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All road markings and signs/plates with instructions and 	
	X					

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persons to use the Welsh language?				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement and any changes implemented will be provided bilingually. • Service operates a bilingual policy in respect of communication with members of the public and within the workplace. 	information will be bilingual and follow Ceredigion County Council and Welsh Government guidelines in this matter.	
Will the proposal increase or reduce the opportunity for persons to access services through the medium of Welsh?	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement and public notices will be provided bilingually. • Engagement and any changes implemented will be provided bilingually. • Service operates a bilingual policy in respect of communication with members of the public and within the workplace. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All engagement will be bilingual and follow Ceredigion County Council corporate policy. • All road markings and signs/plates with instructions and information will be bilingual and follow Ceredigion County Council and Welsh Government guidelines in this matter. 	
	X					
How will the proposal treat the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language?	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement and public notices will be provided bilingually. • Engagement and any changes implemented will be provided bilingually. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All engagement will be bilingual and follow Ceredigion County Council corporate policy. • All road markings and signs/plates with instructions and information will be 	
	X					

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Cyngor Sir Ceredigion County Council - Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

An integrated tool to inform effective decision making



				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service operates a bilingual policy in respect of communication with members of the public and within the workplace. 	<p>bilingual and follow Ceredigion County Council and Welsh Government guidelines in this matter.</p>	
Will it preserve promote and enhance local culture and heritage?	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement and public notices will be provided bilingually. • Engagement and any changes implemented will be provided bilingually. • Service operates a bilingual policy in respect of communication with members of the public and within the workplace. • It should be noted that the on-street parking and traffic flow changes will not in themselves necessarily preserve, promote or enhance local culture or heritage as these will be beyond the scope of this review and work programme. The changes will however contribute towards improved, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All engagement will be bilingual and follow Ceredigion County Council corporate policy. • All road markings and signs/plates with instructions and information will be bilingual and follow Ceredigion County Council and Welsh Government guidelines in this matter. 	



				safer and better-managed access to local cultural and heritage facilities.		
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4. STRENGTHENING THE PROPOSAL: If the proposal is likely to have a negative impact on any of the above (including any of the protected characteristics), what practical changes/actions could help reduce or remove any negative impacts as identified in sections 2 and 3?

4.1 Actions.

What are you going to do?	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible?	Progress
Continued monitoring of the mixed parking provision for all users	3 years	Highways Services	
Continued monitoring of the traffic flows in the towns	3 years	Highways Services	
Modelling of traffic flows to assist in design decisions made on the permanent footway measures. This will ensure that a balanced approach is made to provide a more pedestrian friendly highway environment and efficient movement of vehicles through the towns	3 years	Highways Services	
Collaborate with disabled forums to assist in design decisions made on the permanent footway measures.	3 – 5 years	Highways Services	
Actively implementing licencing and enforcement of street furniture to ensure sufficient space is available for all pedestrians.	2 years	Highways Services	
Collaborate with Parking Services and the Police to enforce where necessary when anti social parking on footways, parking on double yellow lines occurs.	2 years	Highway Services	



4.2. If no action is to be taken to remove or mitigate negative impacts please justify why.
 (Please remember that if you have identified unlawful discrimination, immediate and potential, as a result of this proposal, the proposal must be changed or revised).

N/A

4.3. Monitoring, evaluating and reviewing.
 How will you monitor the impact and effectiveness of the proposal?

The impact of the proposed changes will be monitored and specific remedial actions may be considered if necessary. The Experimental Traffic Regulation Order and associated works include a facility for a further scheduled review including engagement to take place periodically (Parking Review). Incoming correspondence and representations will be considered alongside available traffic data and information from Civil Parking Enforcement (on-street parking) during these reviews.

5. RISK: What is the risk associated with this proposal?

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Impact Criteria	1 - Very low	2 - Low	3 - Medium	4 - High	5 - Very High
Likelihood Criteria	1 - Unlikely to occur	2 - Lower than average chance of occurrence	3 - Even chance of occurrence	4 - Higher than average chance of occurrence	5 - Expected to occur

Risk Description	Impact (severity)	Probability (deliverability)	Risk Score
Cabinet non-approval of proposed programme of works	5	1	5
Physical constraints to proposed changes at specific locations	2	2	4
Availability of budget to fund all proposed changes once full costs are known	4	2	8
Availability of contractors to deliver programme of physical works within planned timescale	4	1	4

Does your proposal have a potential impact on another Service area?

CCC Highways Maintenance – maintenance of the highway asset
 CCC Parking Services – for Civil Parking Enforcement




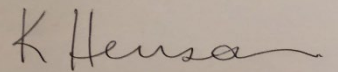
Cyngor Sir Ceredigion County Council - Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

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CCC – Economy and Performance – safer and better access for all to facilities, services and opportunities
CCC – Learning Services – safer and improved access to nearby schools and colleges

6. SIGN OFF

Position	Name	Signature	Date
Service Manager	Steve Hallows		18/05/2023
Corporate Lead Officer	Rhodri Llwyd		25/05/2023
Corporate Director	Barry Rees		25/05/2023
Portfolio Holder	Cllr. Keith Henson		25/05/2023

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CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to:	Cabinet
Date of meeting:	6th June 2023
Title:	Adoption of Unclassified Road at 100 Acre Wood, Cenarth: Widened Road for Adoption
Purpose of the report:	To recommend that the widened road and verge set out below is adopted as highway maintainable at public expense
For:	Decision
Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member:	Keith Henson, Cabinet Member for Highways and Environmental Services and Carbon Management

It is recommended that the road above, as also set out below and on Appendix A of this report, is adopted as highway maintainable at public expense.

- Legislation: Sections 278 and 38 Agreements, Highways Act 1980.
- Name of Road: Unclassified road at '100 Acre Wood', Cenarth
- Length of Road: 26 metres
- Length of Verge: 104 metres
- Length of Footway: 0 metres
- Street Lighting: Unlit A-Road

	Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why	N/A
Wellbeing of Future Generations:	Summary:	
	Long term:	N/A
	Collaboration:	N/A
	Involvement:	N/A
	Prevention:	N/A
	Integration:	N/A

Recommendation(s): To approve the proposed adoption of the widened unclassified road at the site known as '100 Acre Wood', through the S.278 and S.38 Highway Act 1980 process and maintain at public expense thereafter.

Reasons for decision: To enable the road to be maintained at public expense.

Overview and Scrutiny: N/A

Policy Framework: Producing better and safer roads.

Corporate Priorities:	Boosting the economy. Investing in people's future. Enabling individual and family resilience. Promoting environmental and community resilience.
Finance and Procurement implications:	Highways Maintenance Budget, Additional SSA.
Legal Implications:	Highways Act 1980
Staffing implications:	None
Property / asset implications:	Highways Maintenance Budget, Additional SSA.
Risk(s):	None
Statutory Powers:	Section 278 and 38 of the Highways Act 1980.
Background Papers:	ED4367
Appendices:	Appendix A – Highway Extent Plan
Corporate Lead Officer:	Rhodri Llwyd, Corporate Lead Officer: Highways and Environmental Services
Reporting Officer:	Steve Hallows, Service Manager – Highways Development
Date:	17.05.23



100 Acre Wood, Cenarth

Notes

Graddfa / Scale: 1:500
Argraffwyd ar / Printed on: 2023-04-26

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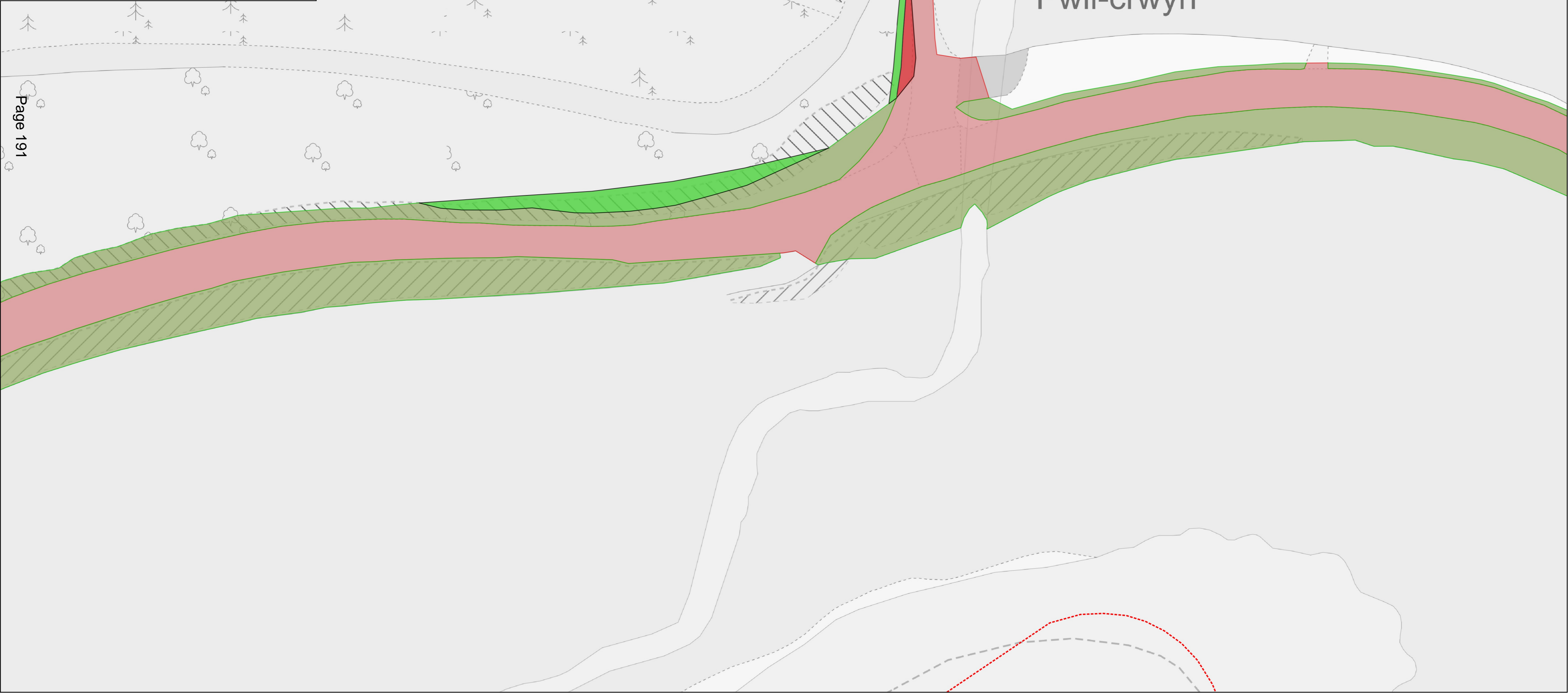
Legend

Section 38 Works

- Carriageway for Adoption
- Verge for Adoption

Adopted Highways

- Adopted Verge
- Adopted Carriageway



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CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 06/06/2023

Title: Ceredigion County Council (20 mph, 30 mph, 40 mph and 50 mph Speed Limits and Derestricted Roads) (Consolidation) Order 2014 (Various Locations Change to National Speed Limit) (Amendment Order No.23) 2023.

Purpose of the report: To seek authorisation for recommended replies to public consultation responses and to proceed with implementation of changes to speed limits on county roads associated with the change to the national speed limit being introduced by the Welsh Government.

For: Decision

Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member: Councillor Keith Henson, Cabinet Member for Highways and Environmental Services and Carbon Management

The Welsh Government (WG) is reducing the existing national speed limit on restricted roads (street lit/residential streets) from 30mph to 20mph in September 2023. Since there are no county roads with restricted status in Ceredigion, changes to speed limit arrangements in keeping with the national change must be undertaken via the Traffic Regulation Order process, which involves full statutory consultation

On 14th February (Minute 157) Cabinet authorised the advertising of proposals on county roads to the public. Public consultation was conducted between 5th-28th April and 76 items of correspondence were received, including 54 objections. (2 of these after the end of the consultation period). The rest were either expressions of support or requests that are outside the scope of this scheme (e.g., requests for lowering existing 40mph limits at settlements).

Approval is now sought for officers to provide the recommended responses to objections and requests for additional changes received as part of the public consultation process as detailed in Appendix 2, and to proceed with making the necessary Traffic Regulation Order, the publication of a Notice of Making in the Press, and implementation of the proposed changes.

Wellbeing of Future Generations:	Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why	Yes, previously submitted to Cabinet on 14 th February
	Summary:	
	Long term:	Forms part of national policy being introduced by the Welsh Government

- Collaboration:** Coordination with emergency services and other road user groups.
- Involvement:** Compliant with requirements of Local Authorities Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996 and local policies and procedures.
- Prevention:** Improves the safe movement of people and goods, encourages Active and Sustainable travel.
- Integration:** Formal process to advertise and make Traffic Regulation Order and ongoing monitoring of impacts to ensure alignment with this principle.

- Recommendation(s):**
- i. Cabinet to note officers' responses to objections received;
Cabinet approve:
 - ii. a) the making of the necessary Traffic Regulation Order; and
 - iii. b) the publication of a subsequent Notice of Making in the local press to this effect and implementation of the new speed limits.

Reasons for decision: The justification of changes to speed limit arrangements are on the broad grounds provided by the Welsh Government for this national scheme; of road safety, reduction in the severity of injuries, and the encouragement of Active and Sustainable Travel.

Overview and Scrutiny: Thriving Communities

Policy Framework: Producing better and safer roads

National policy enacted under The Restricted Roads (20 mph Speed Limit) (Wales) Order 2022 (approved by the Senedd in July 2022) and associated Llwybr Newydd: the Wales transport strategy (2021) and National Transport Delivery Plan 2022-2027.
See also
https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-03/llwybr-newydd-wales-transport-strategy-2021-full-strategy_0.pdf
and
<https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2023-02/national-transport-delivery-plan-2022to2027.pdf>

Corporate Well-being Objectives: Boosting the Economy, Supporting Businesses and Enabling Employment
Creating Caring and Healthy Communities

Providing the Best Start in Life and Enabling Learning at All Ages
Creating Sustainable, Green and Well-connected Communities

Finance and Procurement implications:	All capital set-up costs will be met by the Welsh Government through grant funding received for the 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial years. Maintenance will be funded through the annual Revenue Highways Maintenance budget
Legal Implications:	Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure) (England and Wales) Regulations 1996, plus amendments.
Staffing implications:	Enforcement of the proposed new speed limit arrangements will be the responsibility of the Police
Property / asset implications:	New signage and road markings will become Highways Assets for future inspection and maintenance.
Risk(s):	All new signage must be installed prior to the change to the national speed limit on September 17 th , 2023, and new road marking speed limit roundels must be installed within a maximum of 6 months following the change.
Statutory Powers:	Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984
Background Papers:	Ceredigion County Council (20 mph, 30 mph, 40 mph and 50 mph Speed Limits and Derestricted Roads) (Consolidation) Order 2014 (Various Locations Change to National Speed Limit) (Amendment Order No.23) 2023
Appendices:	Appendix 1 – Link: Changes to the National Speed Limit (ceredigion.gov.uk) (Electronic Map showing the extents of all existing and proposed new speed limits, plus location number spreadsheet. (Recommended to be opened in either Microsoft Edge, Chrome, or Firefox) Appendix 2 – Responses to consultation with Officers' recommended replies Appendix 3 - Integrated Impact Assessment
Corporate Lead Officer:	Rhodri Llwyd, Corporate Lead Officer - Highways and Environmental Services
Reporting Officer:	Tom Delph-Janiurek
Date:	11/05/23

Appendix 2

Summary of objections received during public consultation on proposals included in the national change to the speed limit

Some text in the objections has been redacted to protect individual identities. Each objection has been allocated a reference number. Requests for extensions/additions to proposed new speed limit arrangements have been regarded as objections to the proposals.

Recommended responses to points raised in correspondence received and recommendations for each location are in **bold** underneath objections. These responses will form the basis of formal replies to correspondence received, informing the authors of the outcome of their objections and requests.

A484

1.

I'm submitting objection to introducing new speed limits on A484.

The speed reduction will be an additional expense for a main road that is safe already.

It is recommended that this objection be over-ruled. It is not clear exactly which proposals for the A484 may be the subject of this objection, as the road extends from Cardigan to Cenarth. However, proposed new 20mph limits in Llechryd and Cenarth include sections of road on which there are records of 6 collisions involving personal injuries (PICs) in the most recent 5 years.

ADPAR

2.

I wish to object to your 20mph restriction especially in Adpar.

1. There is no reason for this as it is not an accident hotspot.

2. If you live in a property facing an A road or B road then you should behave responsibly and give way to traffic already on the road.

3. Cyclists should abide by the law. Cutting out from drives or side roads while making gestures to drivers should not be allowed.

4. Air pollution will increase as motors have been designed to work more efficiently at 30 mph.

5. Pedestrians should be reminded that speed limits painted on the carriageway do not constitute a pedestrian crossing. They do it now.

With rights come responsibility and I will continue to drive safely and expect other road users to do the same.

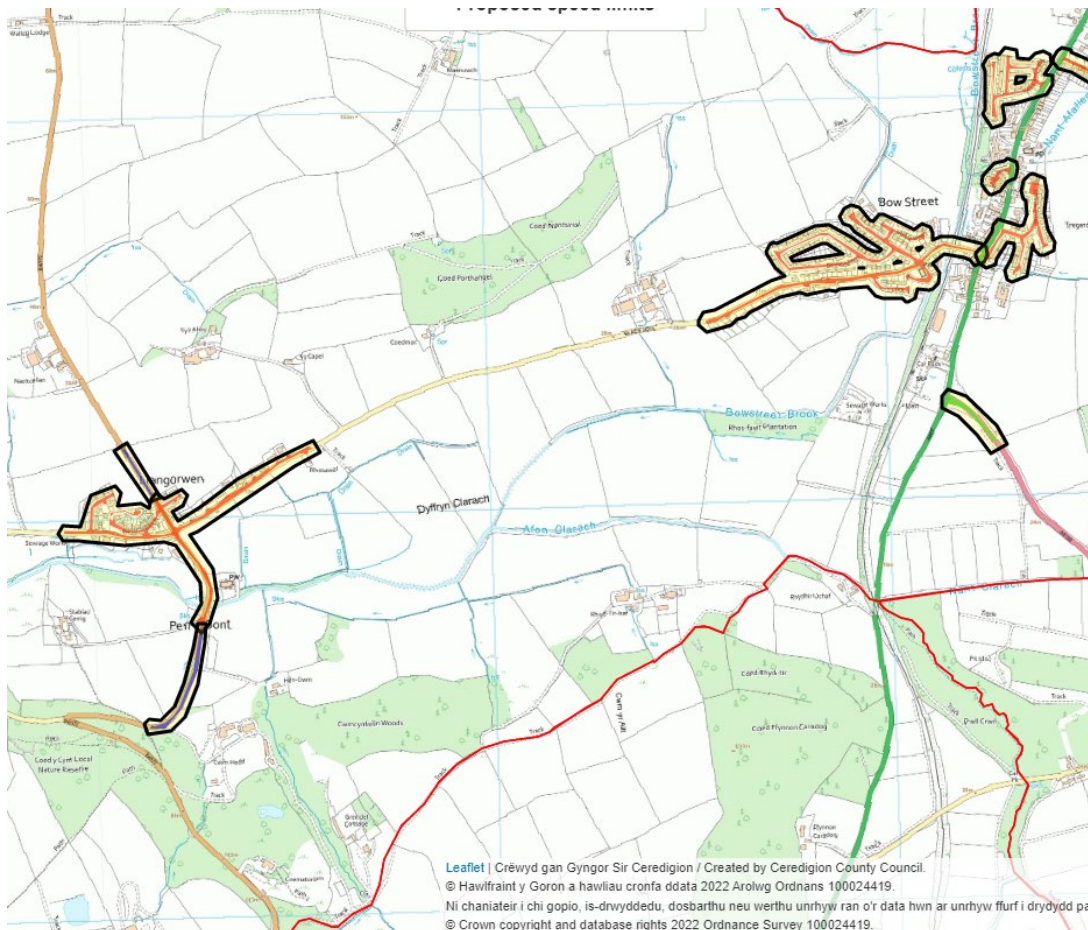
It is recommended that this objection be over-ruled. The proposed change is part of national policy in Wales and Welsh Government predict that it will increase safety and not increase air pollution. Responsibility for enforcement of all road users acting with due care and attention on public highway rests with the police.

BOW STREET

3.

In relation to the proposed speed limit changes on the road between Bow Street and Clarach I would like to suggest that the limit be reduced from national speed limit to 40mph on the stretch between the two new proposed 20mph limit zones at the Bow Street and Clarach Llangorwen ends. The road is not suitable for driving above 40mph due to bends affecting visibility and the width of the road. Reducing the speed limit would encourage cycling and walking along this important route to the coast for local residents and reduce the large disparity between a 20mph zone and 60mph zone over less than a mile of road.

In addition, given a residential property lies just outside (~50m) the currently proposed 20 mph zone at the Bow Street end of this road, it would make sense to extend the 20mph zone to include that property so as not to exclude some residents from the benefits of safety for children walking or cycling to the playground up the road by the bridge over the railway, next to Bryncastell.



It is recommended that these requests be declined for the following reasons. The Welsh Government scheme is to lower existing 30mph limits to 20mph (as shown in red above), therefore the section of road between Bow Street and Clarach currently subject to national speed limits is outside scope and cannot be included. This section of road will be included in the anticipated review of speed limits in line with new Welsh Government guidance once this is published.

Extending the proposed 20mph limit at the Bow Street end to include one private access would mean including an 'empty' section with no building development fronting the road, and so could be likely to undermine respect for the limit due to the lack of visual reinforcement for its need. It is therefore recommended that the speed limit arrangement by this access is included in the anticipated review.

BORTH

4.

I would like to register my objection to the proposed reduction of the speed limit through Borth from 30mph to 20mph. This seems to be a general thing over the whole of Wales and is being imposed in an apparently arbitrary manner. It is supposed to be on safety grounds but in Borth we have not had a fatal accident within the village limits for 40 years. The last one was a child of 5 (Keith Farnell) who jumped out of his

parent's car and ran across the road into the path of another vehicle at Christmas 1983. It is already difficult to keep businesses going in this village, especially as the tourist season is now so short. In fact the whole of Wales has this problem, and making it more difficult and time consuming to get about is only going to have a detrimental effect on our economy during an already difficult period. My own home in Caewern, Glanwern, Borth is actually a private road but appears to be covered by your blanket proposal on the maps posted around the village. It is not a public road so presumably should not be included? The road is too short for it to make any difference but I have been told by a solicitor that Ceredigion do not have jurisdiction over it.

5.

I am amazed that I need to register my objection to the proposed reduction of the speed limit through Borth from 30mph to 20mph. This proposal seems to be a general thing over the whole of Wales and is being imposed in an apparently arbitrary manner. I have already written to my Senedd representative, Elin Jones, in relation to this, stating my disapproval.

I have been informed that we have not had a fatal accident within the village limits for 40 years. The last one was a child of 5 (Keith Farnell) who jumped out of his parent's car and ran across the road into the path of another vehicle at Christmas 1983. This was little to do with speed but a child running into traffic back when cars were of a different and more sturdy design.

It is already difficult to keep businesses going in this village, especially as the tourist season is now so short. In fact the whole of Wales has this problem, and making it more difficult and time consuming to get about is only going to have a detrimental effect on our economy during an already difficult period.

I hope that you will seriously reconsider this on both a local and regional level in order to stop Wales becoming a mere retirement home for the more fortunate, whilst the working class, driving all day lose either time with their families or are penalised, financially, for the additional time then now must spend driving as though on a playground ride.

6.

I have lived in Borth all my life. I have worked here married and now my children and grandchildren live near us.

I have never questioned the policies of the Council and the Government.

But now this ridiculous new speed restriction is beyond belief....!!

You will have to drop down to a higher revving gear to hold that speed of 20mph.. creating more pollution in a built up area.. Your eyes will be distracted as you keep glancing at the speedometer..

Common sense is all that's needed when driving through a village... more often than not you don't do 30 mph anyway... But to force this lower speed regulation on us is unfair and will certainly be hard for certain transport businesses and many many others.

Please reconsider.

It is recommended that these 3 objections be over-ruled. The proposal for Borth is part of a national scheme across Wales being introduced by the Welsh Government. There are records of 3 PICs in Borth within the last 5 years.

Research conducted on 20mph limits in London and elsewhere indicates that emission rates are highest when vehicles accelerate, and vehicles spend more time accelerating in 30mph limits than in 20mph limits. The research concluded that it would be incorrect to assume a 20mph speed restriction would be detrimental to ambient local air quality, though emission rates vary depending on whether vehicles are petrol or diesel powered.

Regarding Cae Wern the Authority does have legal power to propose Traffic Regulation Orders on unadopted roads if these visually seem to be a continuation of public highway and are regularly used by the general public (including for postal/courier and other household deliveries, by visitors etc.). Cae Wern has been included in previous Traffic Regulation Orders and is currently subject to a 30mph speed limit, to co-ordinate with the speed limit on the B4353 at its junction. If it were not to be included, the alternative may be to install signage indicating that the road is subject to national limits to ensure legal enforceability of the speed limit on the B4353, which would presumably be a less acceptable option to residents.

UPPER BORTH

7.

Proposed revision of Borth village speed restrictions

We note that certain speed restrictions within the village are to be tightened and give our support to these measures and also think that at some points in the High Street might be a useful addition.

We would also urge the Council to consider extending the 30mph speed limit on the road towards Clarach to a point beyond the exit from the Brynrodyn Caravan site and Brynrodyn Lane. We regularly use this exit on to the Clarach road and experience some difficulty in using this exit safely. The view of vehicles approaching at speed from the Clarach direction is obscured by rising ground, and that from the Borth village direction by a bend to the left in the road.

We hope the Council will be able to give these suggestions some consideration.

8.

We very much welcome proposals to impose new restrictions in Borth village, as currently there are major problems with respect to traffic flow, speeding, parking etc. particularly during holiday periods when visitor numbers swell enormously and gridlocking (and bad motoring behaviour) can frequently occur.

In addition we are particularly concerned about the dangers of exiting onto the Borth – Clarach Rd (B4572) in the area of Bryn yr Odyn Caravan Park. We welcome new proposals to move the current 30mph sign higher up the road so that it would be placed 50m south of the entrance to the caravan park – but see this as insufficient for the following reasons. It should be noted that our exit road onto the B4572, known informally as Bryn yr Odyn Lane, has 9 residences, is tarmacked but unadopted by the council and runs parallel to the entrance of Bryn Rodyn Caravan Park on its north/Borth village side.

Reasons:

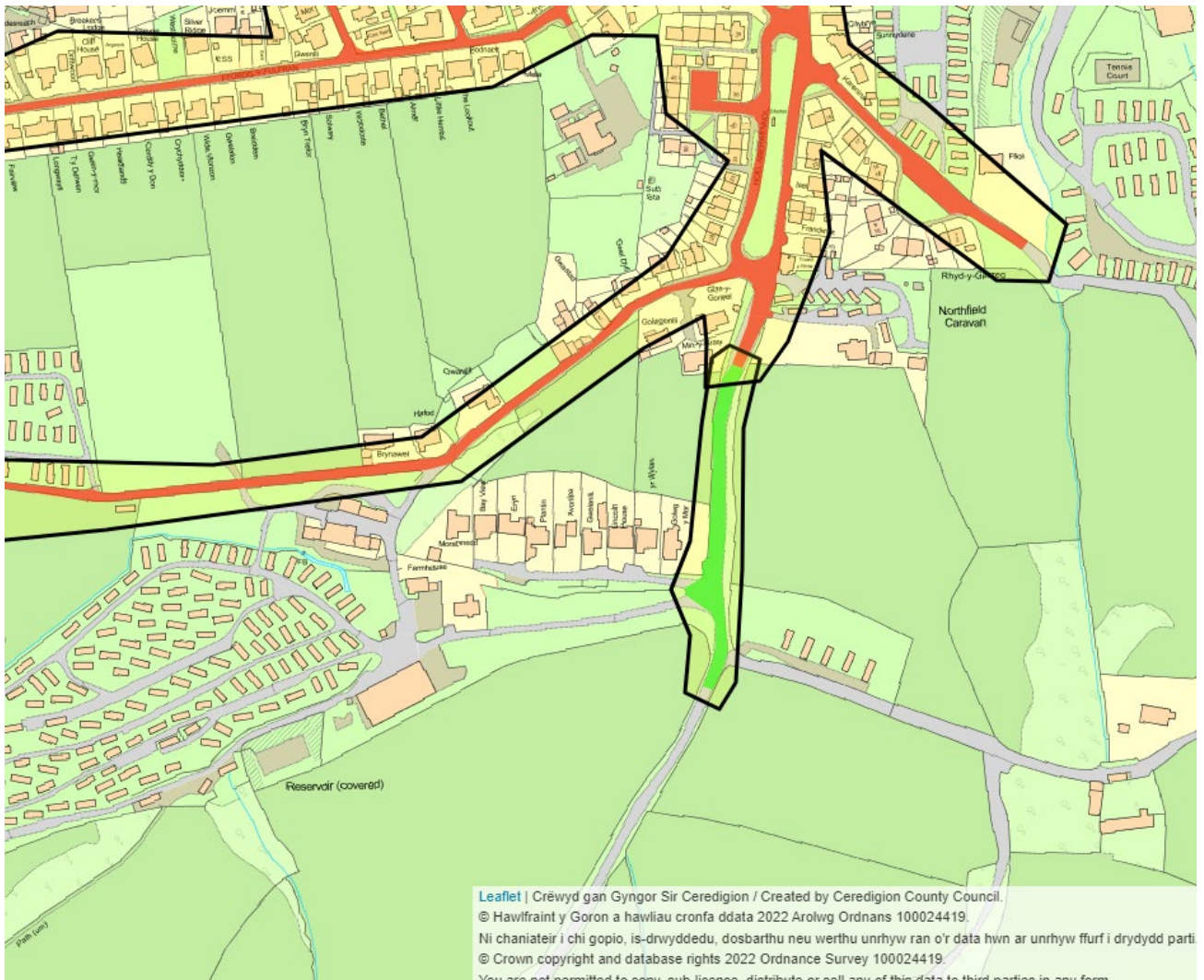
- 1. It is not possible to exit the Caravan Park or Bryn yr Odyn Lane safely because of the very steep hill on which these exits are located (probably 1 in 4 or even in places 1 in 3).*
- 2. Although these exits are located on a few metres of flat ground, to the south there is a long stretch of steep hill, with high hedgerows and, immediately before the exits, a bend in the road. It is impossible to see oncoming traffic (or her it), and of particular concern are the cyclists who joy-ride at terrific speed down the hill and who would be quite unable to stop if a car were pulling out of our lane. The same would pertain for a car unless they were sharply braking all the way down the hill.*
- 3. There are similar risks/dangers when exiting our lane form the Borth/north side as it is impossible to see anything coming up the hill from the village until it is nearly on top of us. We have lived at this address for the past 17 years. Other residents have lived here even longer. Our ability to exit our lane is a constant concern, both for our own safety and that of others. Residents who know the area tend to take the hills at speed; visitors often more cautiously. Either way though, it is hazardous pulling out because it is impossible to know what is approaching in either direction so it becomes a matter of luck or alternatively an accident waiting to happen.*

If the Council moves the 30mph beyond the entrance to Bryn Rodyn Caravan Park just 50 metres to the south, as proposed, this is welcomed, but essentially insufficient. The sign needs more than 50 metres to be implemented with confidence that road users will slow down. This distance needs to be substantially increased; also we suggest the installation of warning signs much higher up the hill towards Clarach, and speed humps down the steep hill both to the north and to the south of the Bryn Rodyn Caravan Park and our lane next to it – Bryn yr Odyn Lane.

It should also be noted that a substantial new housing development with exit onto the B4572/Clarach Rd is in its final consultation phase. This development is to be sited immediately below Bryn yr Odyn Lane and will exit onto the site of the current 30mph sign.

I would be grateful if these remarks could be noted. I have also indicated my concerns by contacting the Council by telephone on the Aberaeron number.

Thank you.



It is recommended that these 2 objections be over-ruled, and the 30mph buffer limit be implemented as proposed.

The proposal here is to provide a 30mph buffer limit on a downhill approach into the new 20mph limit that will cover Borth. The buffer limit will cover the junctions/accesses to Brynrodyn. There is no history of any Personal Injury Collisions (PICs) on the section of road in question within the most recent 10 years. Extending the proposed 30mph buffer further out on an 'empty' section of road is likely to undermine respect for the new limit due to the lack of building development and thus visual reinforcement for the need for a limit.

The Welsh Government's intention is that lowering the national limit to 20mph be achieved without any new physical traffic calming, the aim is to encourage a change in driver culture.

CARDIGAN

9.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I have no objection to safety road speed limits in general but I do not see the benefit of imposing such a wide ranging regime as the one proposed. The 30mph limit in

built up areas has served us well for decades. I challenge the figures used. I am sure that they are not based locally but on a much wider and national scale, covering a variety of driving environments. I believe that this plan could in fact increase accidents due to drivers not paying enough attention to their driving. This is the key – safe driving. This is not limited to speed but to many other factors such as attention, experience, care etc etc. Another factor is distance between vehicles. It does not matter if a driver is doing 30, 20, 15, 10 or 5mph. If he or she is too close there will be a collision. If a driver reverses into a person walking behind his car and kills them, it has nothing to do with speed. This plan could cause traffic jams etc. If policing became too onerous there would be a strong public reaction as I hear is already taking place in St Dogmaels. Better that the police checked the already in place 30mph. NOTHING will prevent DANGEROUS driving. These people get away with it while safe drivers are punished. It is very difficult to keep a modern car to 20mph. I agree that this is needed in some areas eg High St ETC. SLOWER DOES NOT MEAN SAFER.

I rest my case. There are so many areas where safe driving means 10mph or 15mph. Are you going to enforce the 5mph at the Integrated Centre?

It is recommended that this objection be over-ruled. The proposed change is part of national policy in Wales and the Welsh Government predict that it will increase safety and not increase congestion or air pollution. Responsibility for enforcement on public highway rests with the police, which does not include for speed limit signage installed on premises off public highway.

CILIAU AERON

10. Please note that this correspondence was received after the end of the public consultation period.

I'm writing about the proposed change of speed limit at section 152.1 from 40mph to 20mph. I am very supportive of this....just outside of this zone along the A482 cars often use the straight as an opportunity to accelerate before the road narrows at Felin Tyglyn - there are often near-miss accidents here and vice versa speed up to then brake by the village. The change of speed from 60mph on this straight down to the proposed 20mph happens on a corner by the village and the speed signs are hidden. I was hoping to comment as follows:

1. Suggestion to move the 20mph zone so that it is visible along the straight of the A482

2. Even better to have either a 20mph zone or a speed limit between 60mph and 20mph, preferably as low as - there are no pavements.

3. Even better for the community would be to have a reduced speed limit between Felin Tyglyn and the village. Cars have to slow down here to single file as the road narrows. Maintaining a lower speed limit (than 60mph) from this point would help to promote safe pedestrian routes - many walk along this road, especially to walk dogs. It would mean that drivers won't be going from 60mph to 20mph on a blind corner by the village too.

I hope that makes sense but I'd be really happy to explain by phone or otherwise if needed.

Thank you for your consideration



It is recommended that this objection be over-ruled. Extending the proposed 20mph limit further out to the north on an 'empty' section of road is likely to undermine respect for the new limit due to the lack of building development and thus visual reinforcement for the need for a limit. There is adequate visibility onto the terminal signs at their current location, so no buffer limit was

considered appropriate when the proposal for here was developed. There are no records of any PICs on this section of road within the most recent 10 years.

Please note that specific agreement was obtained from the Welsh Government to include sections of existing 40mph limits within this scheme at Ciliau Aeron and Felinfach due to the presence of schools. These limits will be subject to possible amendments, following the currently planned closure of the school in Ciliau Aeron, and the planned development of the new school at Felinfach.

DIHEWYD

11.

I am writing to object to the 20mph speed limit in my village of DIHEWYD SA48 Ceredigion and across the whole of Wales, as invited to do so on Notices currently in the village. Notices have recently been posted in my village of DIHEWYD, outlining details of the location of the proposed new 20mph limit in the village.

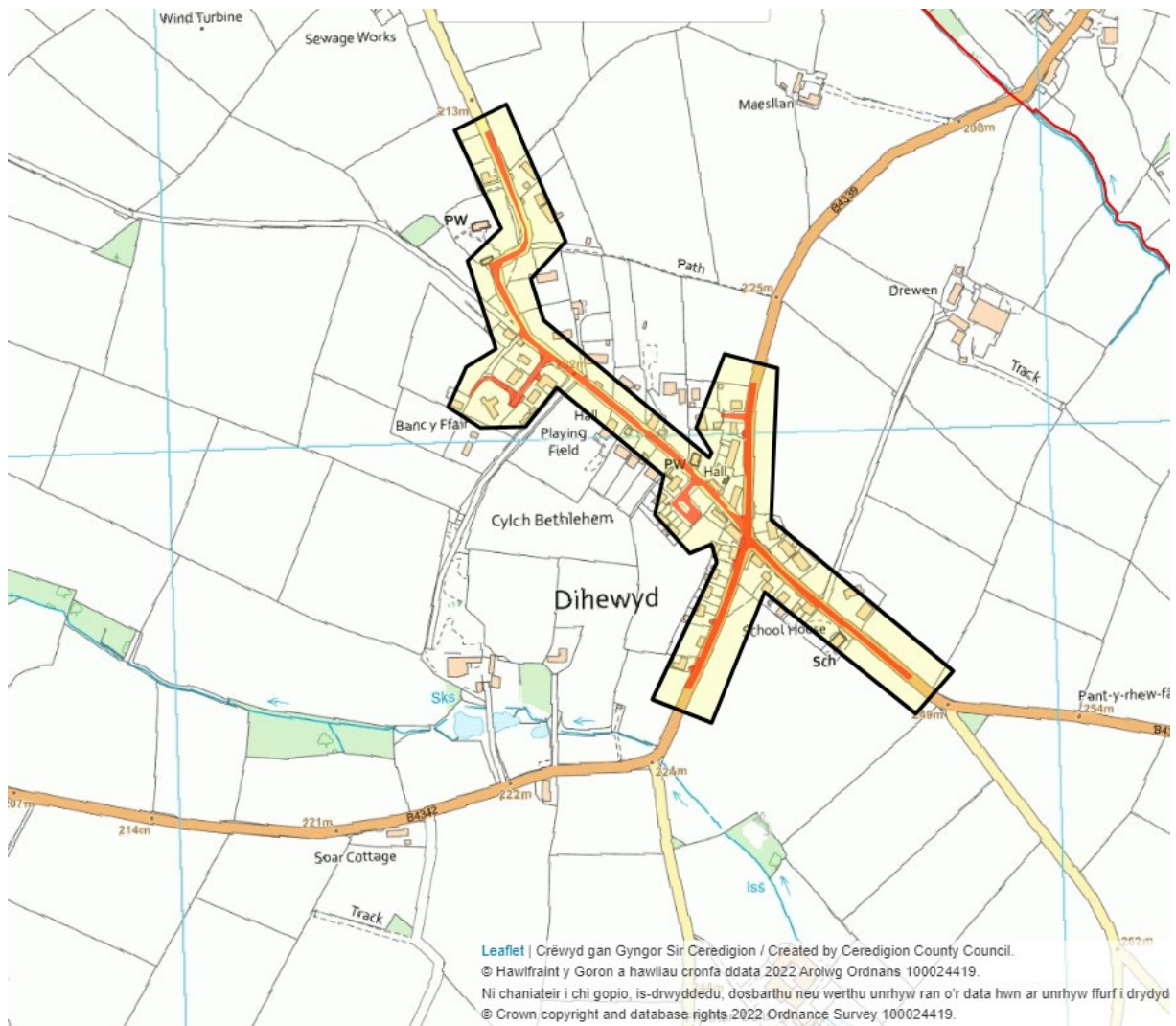
The village is small and spread out and the extremely low level of traffic and pedestrian footfall in this very rural village does not IN ANY WAY warrant a 20mph limit. It is beyond any level of reason and common sense that any reasonable person would agree that the cost of introducing this speed limit in Dihewyd and the reduced speed limit itself will have any benefit whatsoever to the residents of DIHEWYD. Clearly, the one and only exception would be the area of public highway immediately outside the small school in the village and once again, any reasonable person is unlikely to object to a 20mph limit outside schools, colleges and hospitals across Wales, or any location in Wales where large numbers of people gather.

Quite frankly, these same comments apply right across Wales itself. Thankfully, in Ceredigion, we do not have any major cities and road accident rates in built up areas are low, so it is difficult to understand the reason and rationale behind the massive cost of introducing the limit in Ceredigion and the 20 mph limit itself. In major cities in Wales, the 20mph limit will only cause more congestion, make journey times longer, meaning car engines are running for longer with a resultant deterioration in air quality in cities, resulting in more deaths from respiratory disease across Wales. It is also a fact that no modern vehicle is designed to be driven at 20mph for long stretches and that vehicles driven at such a low speed will only emit more fumes and pollution, as they are not being driven efficiently, again resulting in poorer air quality in cities and towns across Wales. Bearing in mind the Welsh Governments stated aim is to improve air quality for the people of Wales, this policy of reducing speed limits in residential areas will ironically have the exact opposite effect, which seems to be completely lost on the Welsh Government.

It is also true that the Welsh Government did not undertake a full and extensive consultation across Wales, or hold a democratic vote for the people of Wales, before making the decision to introduce this limit. There is nothing democratic about this decision, it is merely being imposed without the people of Wales being consulted. I also understand the cost of this change across Wales is in excess of £30 million and for Ceredigion alone, approx. £400,000. Again, as any reasonable person would agree, these substantial sums could be better spent on important public services,

particularly the NHS, which as in well publicised, is in a perilous state, with record waiting times for patients. Surely, it makes much more sense to spend this money on essential public services which will benefit the people of Wales, rather such an ill thought out and expensive scheme, which has absolutely no tangible benefit to the people of Wales, as any reasonable person would agree.

I trust you will carefully consider my objection to this limit in my own village of DIHEWYD. I look forward to receiving your response with Ceredigion Council's justification for the imposing the limit in DIHEWYD, bearing in mind the cost involved and the fact there is zero tangible benefit for the residents of DIHEWYD. Thank you.



It is recommended that this objection be over-ruled. The proposed change is part of national policy in Wales and the Welsh Government predict that it will increase safety and not increase congestion or air pollution, and that it will prove cost effective due to the reduction in costs to the nation afforded by lower and less severe casualty rates. There is no compelling reason to omit Dihewyd from the national scheme, particularly given the presence of the school. The cost of electronic signage for a part-time 20mph limit to cover the school only would be very difficult to justify.

DREFACH

12.

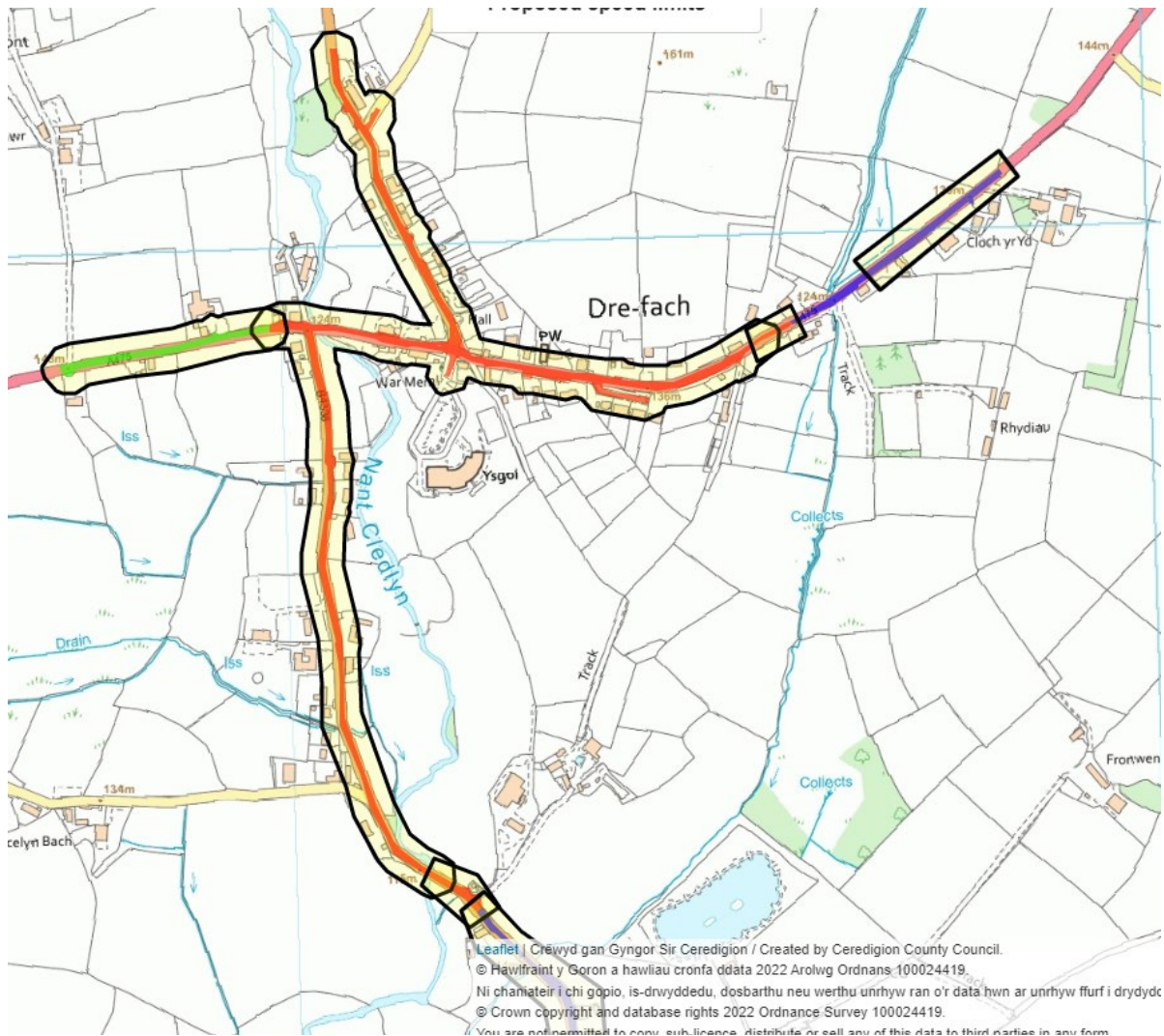
We wish to draw the following observations to your attention regarding the proposed speed limit revisions on the West side of Drefach Village.

Whilst we feel that your proposed revisions in Drefach will undoubtedly prove beneficial in calming traffic speeds and dangers, we feel that the improvements would benefit further by moving the proposed new 20mph slightly further out of Drefach than currently proposed past the bend at the bottom of the hill on the West side of Drefach. This would enable a clear view of the 20mph when entering the village from the West side, and the start of the 40mph at this point when heading West out of the Village would not be immediately seen after exiting the dangerous bend at the top of the hill. This is important as the siting of the existing 40mph sign at this location (see enclosed photographic image) currently appears to serve as a green light for many vehicles exiting the village to accelerate rapidly downhill out of the bend, sometimes in order to overtake vehicles, or, (in the case of heavier vehicles) to increase speed when climbing uphill when leaving the village on the West side.

Our observations for many years, have shown that the slight amendment to your proposals that we are suggesting would greatly improve the current road traffic problems on this side of Drefach village.

Many thanks for your help





It is recommended that this request, which actually seems to refer to the eastern side of Drefach on the A475 and not the western side, be declined. Extending the proposed 20mph limit onto a section of road with less density of building development is likely to undermine respect for the new limit from drivers entering Drefach. The proposal for here includes extending the existing 40mph buffer limit (shown in blue above) and this should be sufficient. The 2 PICs recorded here in the most recent 10 years both occurred within the proposed 20mph limit.

LLANRHYSTUD

13.

The speed limit on Llanrhystud - beach road to main beach (which also passes the entrance to Morfa farm) should be reduced to 20mph as opposed to the 30mph proposed, because the road:

- is used by all Llanrhystud residents, and the visitors to two large caravan parks, Morfa and Pencarreg, to walk and wheel to the main beach and back during the day and night at all times of the year. And, also for the two caravan park residents to access the supermarket in the Seabank garage.*
- it is one of only two routes for exercise in Llanrhystud (the other, shorter route, between Llanrhystud church and Pencarreg caravan park, is a track on which it is difficult to run or cycle on or for those with mobility issues to use.*

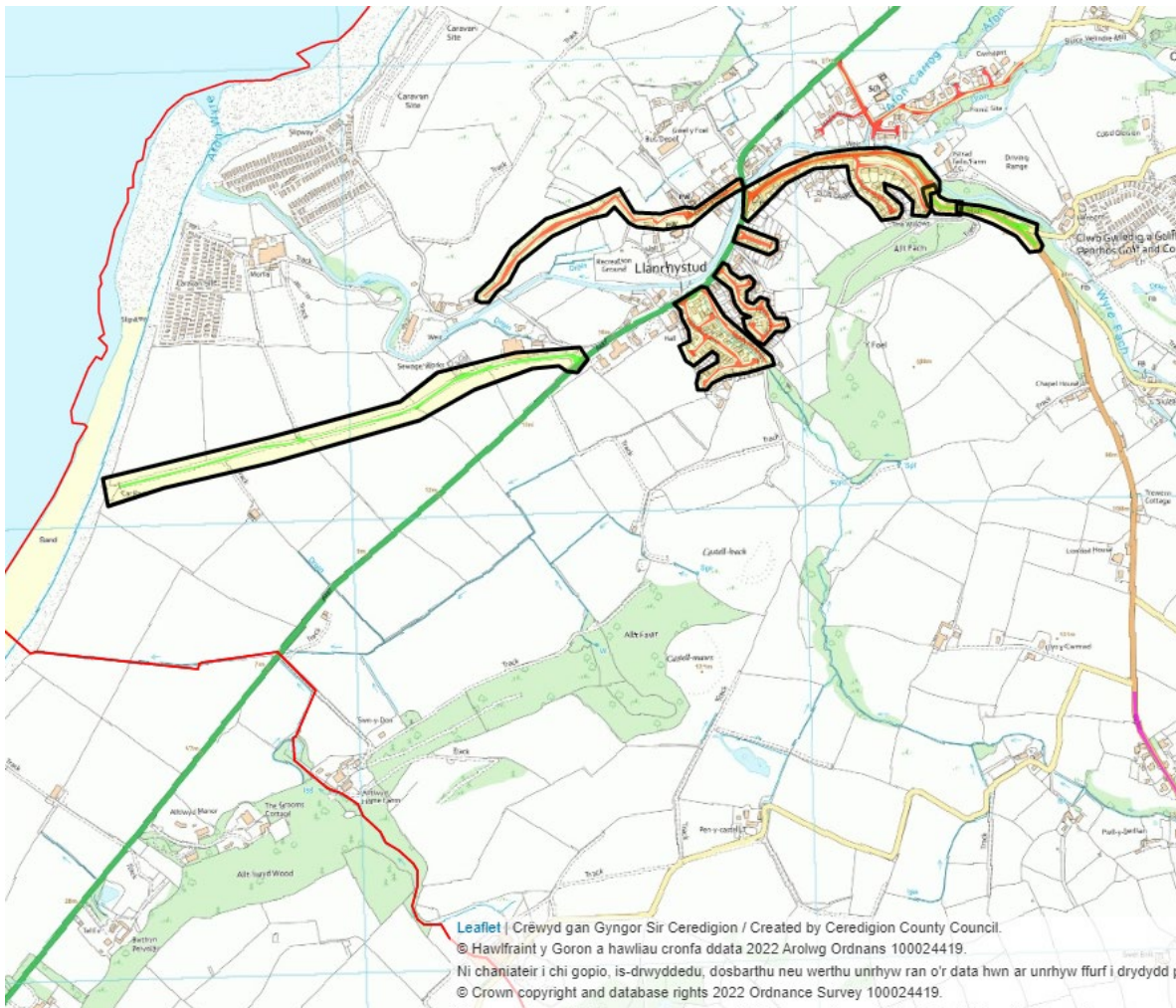
- *it is a narrow single-track road - which all road users use. Only part of the road, from the sewage works, has the coastal footpath alongside it. The coastal footpath is too narrow for a double pushchair, or for users to manoeuvre past each other on. Walkers and cyclists have to move back and to, on and off the coastal footpath, where it exists, onto the narrow single-track road. During the summer vehicles use the coastal footpath to park on. The entire stretch of the coastal footpath between the beach car park and entrance to Morfa farm can be occupied by cars and walkers and cyclists have to use the single-track road. As the route to the main beach which has a large stretch of sand when the tide is out users include all age groups including babies, small children, older people with mobility issues and groups of unaccompanied children.*

The speed limit on Llanrhystud - beach road to main beach (which passes the entrance to Morfa farm) should be reduced to 20mph and not the 30mph proposed. The road is one of only two routes Llanrhystud residents use to walk and cycle within the village and is also used by visitors to Morfa and Pencarreg caravan parks to walk and cycle to the main beach and to walk and cycle to the supermarket in the SeaBank garage.

I walk and cycle on this road a few times a week and also take my grandchildren to the beach and back in a double push chair. A 20mph speed limit would help to signal to vehicle users that care should be taken in close proximity to other road users (how drivers should drive and behave, and actual behaviour are very different). Although the coastal footpath, when and where useable is nice, it is also too close to the narrow single-track road, not wide enough for path users to pass each other, parked on, and in points lower than the road. I even observed a teenager on a bicycle cycling at my eighty-year-old mother-in-law who was using a walking frame on the coastal footpath and forcing her to move up a bank onto, to use, the single-track road.

This legislation is hopefully a start towards supporting everybody to walk and cycle to meet their immediate daily needs. Which being able to access the main beach on foot and by bicycle is part of in Llanrhystud. Visitors to Morfa and Pencarreg caravan parks also need to be able to walk and cycle to the beach and the supermarket in the Seabank garage.

Begging that the proposed speed limit for the main beach road in Llanrhystud is reconsidered for a reduction to a 20mph speed limit.



It is recommended that this request be declined. A 30mph limit has been proposed for the road to the beach (shown in green above) since this co-ordinates with the 30mph limit arrangement on the A487 (which the Welsh Government/NMWTRA plans to retain at the junction with the beach road), and so no terminal signage will be required (though repeater signage will be installed on the beach road itself). The road has footway and no building development, and so nothing to stimulate crossing movement along most of its length, visibility is good for those exercising due care and attention, flows are generally light, and it seems unlikely that many drivers may respect a 20mph limit here. Instances of road users not exercising due care and attention and cycling on footways should be reported to the police for their consideration.

The road was previously subject to national limits, and there is no record of any PICs in the most recent 10 years.

LLECHRYD

14.

I have no doubt that this protest may be against a fait accompli, but I feel I must voice my objection to the planned reduction to 20 mph through Llechryd.

I agree that a 20mph limit either side of the village school would have its merits.

It would not only encompass the school but the junctions either side that parents use to turn around for their onward journey, the entrance to the Coracle Hall, village playground, church, pub, village garage, fish & chip shop and bus stop. Warning lights and traffic quietening bollards for the school area are well established.

That makes sense.

But why continue the speed limit up the hill?

The pavements are good, the road is straight, the side entrants are clearly visible, houses & bungalows in general are well set back from the road.

"Saving lives, fewer road collisions, fewer injuries" ? So how many have been recorded for that stretch of the road from Gelliwen upwards? I would be interested to know. Whilst I have lived here I know of none but please furnish me with any details you have.

"Encourage physical activity".

Well, it may be quicker to run up the hill than drive it at 20mph, but at my age I wouldn't, and I couldn't swap my daily drive into town & back for a 6 mile walk especially through the tree lined road after Llangoedmor. Now that I do consider dangerous to walk!

Perhaps Mr Waters is suggesting that more people would be encouraged to walk, knowing the traffic would be passing them 10 mph's slower but walking on the pavements through Llechryd, 10 mph makes little difference.

"Reduce stress & anxiety".

On the contrary. Just driving at 20mph is stressful, constantly watching the speedometer to check that you are complying with the law and the frustration that that speed brings.

Dangerous by taking your eyes off the road constantly checking your speed.

Dangerous to overtake a bicycle (probably travelling at close to your speed!) as it reduces the opportunities you have to complete that manoeuvre.

Driving down the hill into Llechryd I am continuously having to break to keep the 20mph speed in check.

Ok engage a lower gear, more fuel, more revs, more noise, more pollution into the air from brake dust, more wear on the engine.... or engage cruise control!

Have any of the "powers that be" tried to drive up the hill on a cold morning, with a cold engine from a standing start?

20 mph is 2nd gear territory, 3rd gear finds it really hard when the car is so cold.

.....2nd gear all the way up the hill????!!!

More noise, more pollution from a cold car.

I can't speak for others, but 30 mph is a comfortable speed for the car to achieve when it's cold, especially going up hill and a slow enough speed to observe any possible hazards.

"....early indications show a majority of people are in favour".

I have yet to find anyone in favour, but doubtless if I try hard enough I might find one.

BUT this is a global restriction for Welsh towns & villages.

Every 30mph seems to be changed to 20mph from the posters I pass as I travel around the area regardless of whether it is justified or not!

This looks like laziness on the authorities part, who do not seem prepared to take individual circumstances into consideration.

Are they prepared to listen to local opinion, to the people who travel these roads on a daily basis?

Or will we be tarred with the same brush where ever we live?

Time does not seem to be mentioned in the argument, but the reduction in all the speed limits will inevitably increase the time we each spend on the roads.

An extra minute a day for my journey to town & back seems "nothing".

7 minutes a week, just over 6 hours a year, but multiply that with the number of journeys travelled along that stretch of road & that increase in time of cars passing through Llechryd (for little or no reason) and the speed limit change seems ridiculous, for that stretch of road.

And what about the extra time taken to travel on a longer journey, say to Carmarthen, or Swansea?

We cannot choose to travel by train, walking is not an option, bus travel is protracted and non-existent on a Sunday so the car has to take the strain in rural Wales.

And, of course, bus & lorry journeys will also be affected, with associated ramifications, too numerous to mention here.

Please do not misunderstand me.

I have been driving for 57 years, and I love it.

In that time, I have never had to claim on my insurance policy for a "my-fault" accident, never had points on my licence and consider myself a careful and experienced driver.

In that time I have watched the evolution of motorways and their speed limits, the implications of wearing a seatbelt, improved road conditions (generally,) driving style changes through the decades, navigational aids through satellites, and the horrific accidents caused by mobile phone users at the wheel.

Of course, we are all aware of the damage to the environment caused by the (petrol driven) motor vehicle and should try to reduce the impact on the world's climate, but is more time spent on our roads, albeit at a reduced speed, helpful?

If reduction to life & limb is the overriding reason for the change, of course, I have no objection, but please, please be prepared to look at its sensible, appropriate application at a local level rather than taking the lazy option of a "blanket application" because you cannot take the time to consider the finer detail or listen to local opinions.

I believe anger & frustration will set in as September progresses and as drivers realise just how much it will alter the way we have to drive.for no good reason.

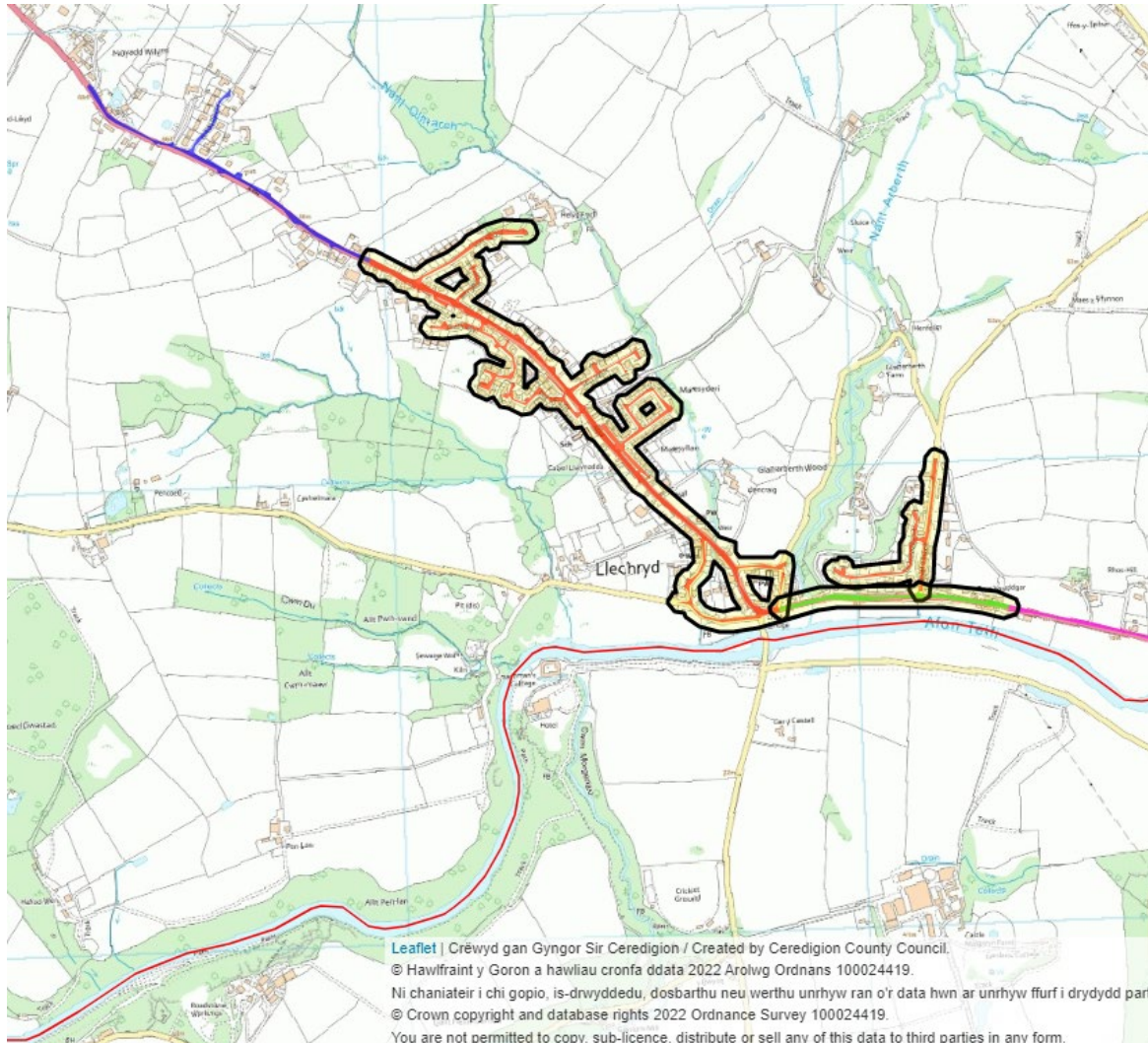
I wish to object strongly to the reduction of the 30mph speed limit from Gelliwen to the 40mph speed limit at the top of the village, to 20mph as being unnecessary and unreasonable.

15.

Proposed 20 mile speed limit through Llechryd

While I fully support have 20 mile limits on all the side roads, it would be unnecessary, and cause congestion of traffic to have it on the busy A484 through the village. Most of the houses are set well back from the road and there are pavements for much of its length. For pedestrians the only stretch is from the bridge to the

Seven Stars where the road bends and there is no pavement. It would also be reasonable to have a 20 mile limit passed the school during times of the children's arrival and departure. With a long, straight main road it would be very difficult to keep traffic to below 20 miles an hour, when the road is clear it is obvious that a number of people go more than the 30 miles an hour now!



It is recommended that both these objections be over-ruled. The proposed change is part of national policy in Wales and the Welsh Government predict that it will increase safety and not increase congestion or air pollution, and that it will prove cost effective due to the reduction in costs to the nation afforded by lower and less severe casualty rates. There is no compelling reason to omit Llechryd from the national scheme, particularly given the presence of the school, and residential and retail businesses on both sides of the A484 which stimulate crossing movements. There are records of 5 PICs on the roads covered by the proposed new 20mph limit within the most recent 5 years. The cost of electronic signage for a part-time 20mph limit to cover the school only would be very difficult to justify.

There is no evidence that lower speeds increase congestion on roads. The introduction of 20mph limits encourages more travel by alternative sustainable

modes of transport, and is seen as a cost effective method of enabling traffic reduction. 20mph limits are also key to reducing both the number and severity of collisions since lower speeds are the best way to allow everyone more time and space and where collisions do happen the severity is reduced for vulnerable road users. As speeds fall, people start to feel safer and more willing to walk, cycle and take public transport. Traffic volumes also fall. Traffic reduction of 3% was reported in Edinburgh's trial of 20mph limits and more walking and cycling has been a reported result in many 20mph schemes.

PENNANT

16.

Having looked at the proposal I feel that this is a process of using a sledgehammer to crack a nut. The Welsh Government have approached this in a dictatorial style, basically, your having it, tough.

The proposal for the village of Pennant will cause more issues than it resolves.

Of note are the buffer zones, not a bad idea to reduce the speed from the national speed limit of 60mph as vehicles approach the village. That is the issue, are these roads on the approach to this village really safe to travel at 60MPH.

Most of the collisions, injuries etc occur in these narrow roads between villages, with the underlying cause being drivers NOT SPEEDING but NOT DRIVING AT A SPEED THAT THEY CAN SEE TO BE SAFE.

For some reason the village of Pennant has 30mph buffer zones planned for THREE of its approach roads, however the approach road from Ciliau Aeron into Pennant DOES NOT. This route is well known as a rat run used by commuters from Lampeter cutting out Aberaeron on route towards Aberystwyth.

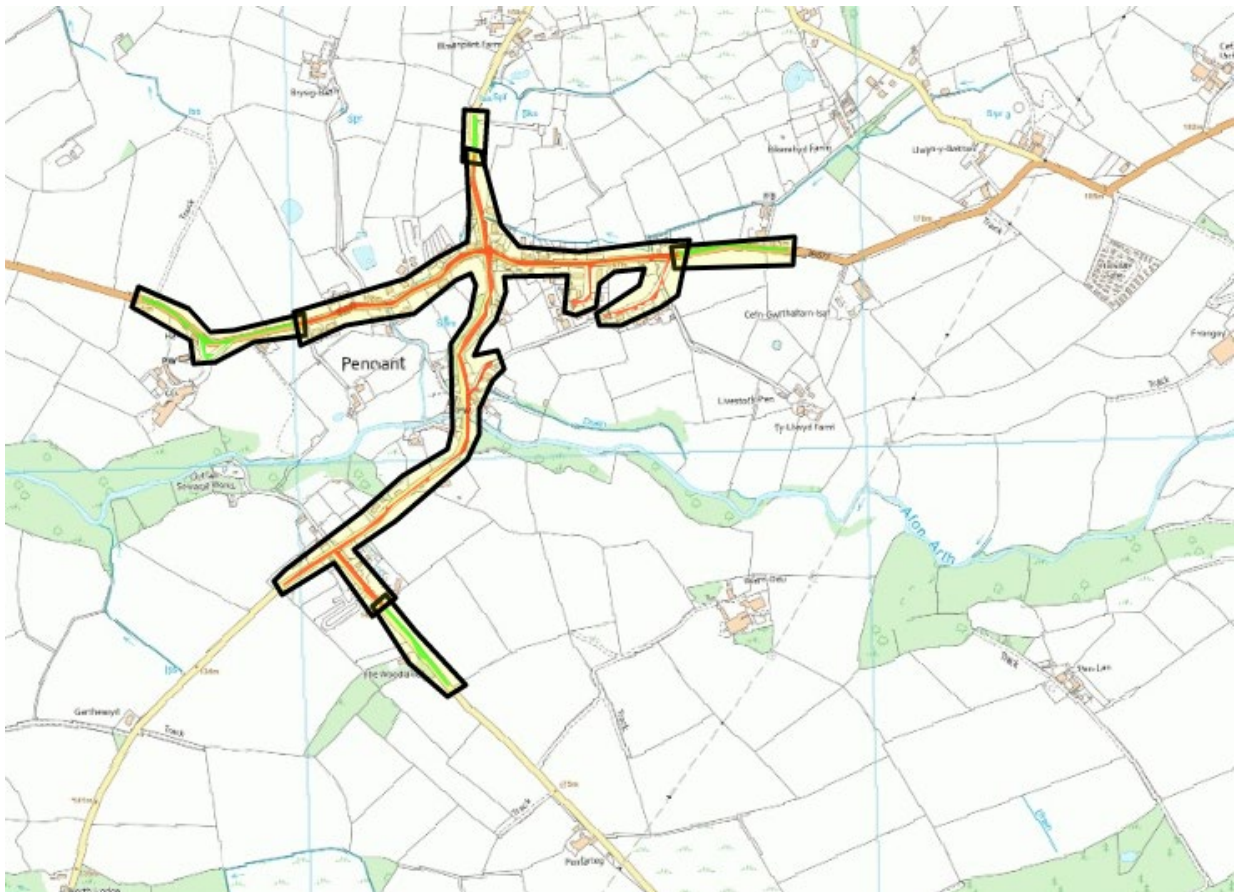
The route in from Cilcennin has a buffer zone, why on earth is that planned, the road is only wide enough for one vehicle and is very rarely used.

Now is it really safe to reduce speed from 60mph to 20mph, I would suggest not.

The consultation is out but the planning is very flawed.

I would suggest the lowering of speed limits on rural roads to 50mph or 40mph more advantageous and acceptable by the public rather than forcing drivers to basically drive around in Second gear controlling the vehicle engine and speed, and therefore causing the engines not to run at its most efficient, causing more pollution and wear and tear on the vehicles braking system, which in turn is rather polluting.

Thankyou



It is recommended that the objection be over-ruled. The proposed change is part of national policy in Wales and the Welsh Government predict that it will increase safety and not increase congestion or air pollution, and that it will prove cost effective due to the reduction in costs to the nation afforded by lower and less severe casualty rates. There is no compelling reason to omit Pennant from the national scheme.

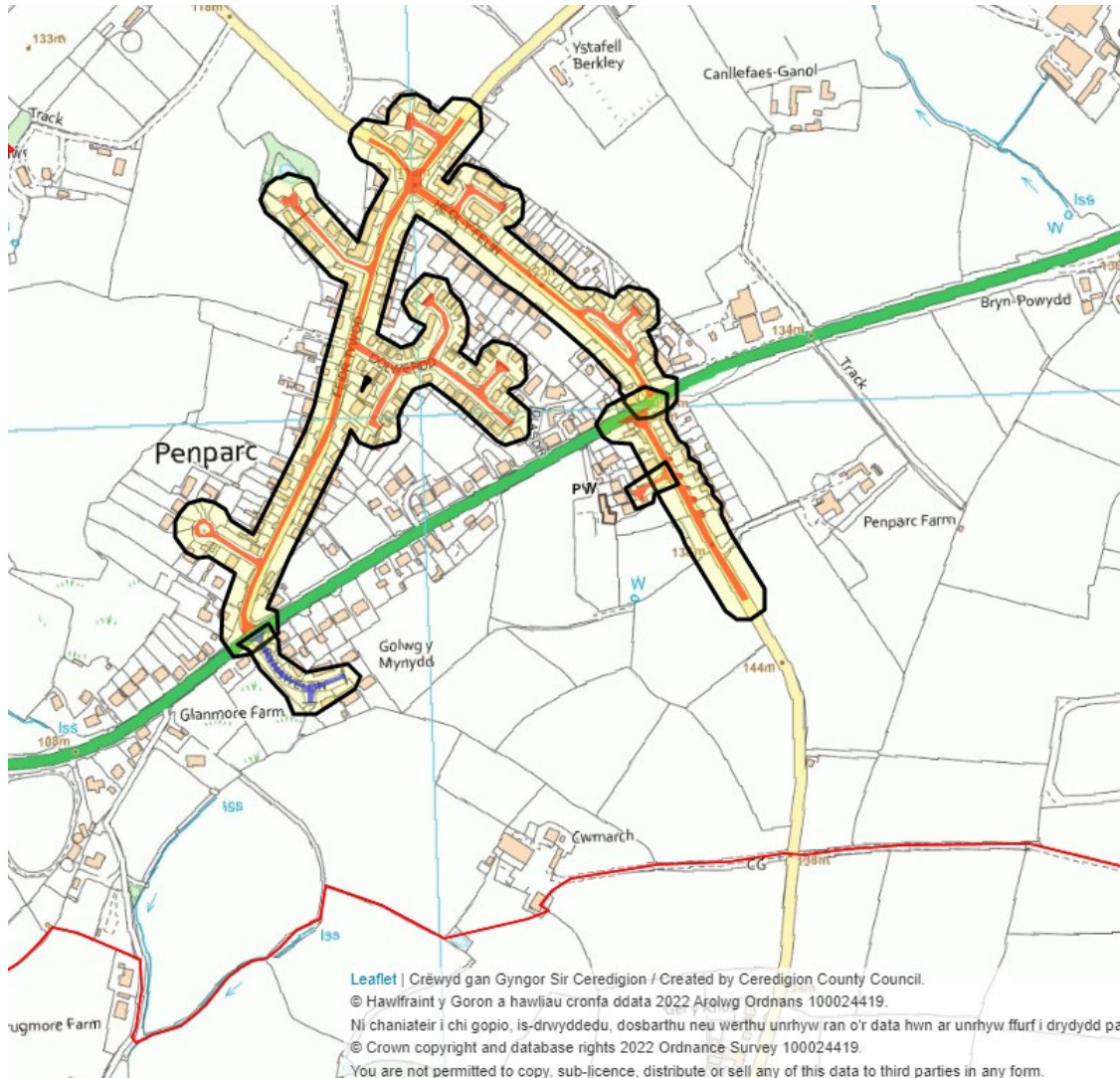
Speed limit arrangements on roads not currently subject to 30mph limits are outside the scope of this scheme. They will be included in the anticipated review of speed limits in line with new Welsh Government guidance once this is published.

The proposal involves the retention of short sections of the existing of 30mph limit as buffer limits on three approaches into Pennant, where features of road width and alignment mean that approach speeds may be relatively high. The approach from the south from the direction of Ciliau Aeron has been omitted from this treatment since it was considered unnecessary, due to road width and reasonable forward visibility onto the existing terminal point. Flows on this approach are reported to be lighter. There is a record of 1 PIC on the approach from the east in the most recent 10 years, but none on the approach from the south.

PENPARC

17.

We wish to register our objection to the lowering of all 30mph limits to 20mph. Living where we do we know there have been several unsuccessful attempts to get the 40mph restriction through Penparc lowered to 30mph and would prefer to see this done rather than a blanket reduction of all existing 30mph zones.



It is recommended that this objection be over-ruled. The proposed change is part of national policy in Wales and the Welsh Government predict that it will increase safety and not increase congestion or air pollution, and that it will prove cost effective due to the reduction in costs to the nation afforded by lower and less severe casualty rates. There is no compelling reason to omit Penparc from the national scheme.

The speed limit arrangement on the A487 through Penparc is the responsibility of the Welsh Government/NMWTRA, and so cannot be included in any proposals by the Authority. (Note – the proposed 40mph limit on one short side road at the southwestern end of the settlement shown in blue above co-

ordinates with the speed limit on the A487, it is too short to have a limit independent of that on the A487 at that point).

PENRYHNOCH

18.

As a resident of Penrhyncoch for nearly 4 decades I welcome the 20 mph speed limits.

I would like to make one objection re:

- I have witnessed some appalling driving - I wholeheartedly agree that this stretch of road should be 20 mph!*
- But I suggest that the 20 mph actually starts from the current 30mph speed limit, that is situated to the west of Dolwen (by the house named Panteg) rather than as proposed at the western boundary of Dolwen.*
- This stretch of the road has a path that is very well used by pedestrians of all ages, children on bikes and dog walkers. Because the road is straight there is a tendency for people to speed as they enter the village or exit it and overtake on this section of the road! It may be far safer to slow vehicles down along the entire stretch of the road by Dolwen, rather than halfway along the stretch. Starting the 20mph speed limit at Panteg would then also cover the entrance to the Nant Seilo estate, rather than it being 30mph at point.*

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this and please do not hesitate to contact me for any clarification on the above.

19.

I am emailing regarding the following proposal.

Background

We have lived on this strip of road for 30 years. We have seen a considerable increase in traffic in recent years with more to come with new development in the village. The last time the road was resurfaced was around 3 years ago and it was done with a cheap gravel surface. This caused us considerable distress with gravel coming into the house for some time afterwards and the noise from traffic on the road surface increased to the point that it impacted on our quality of life. This will no doubt continue unless road surfacing materials are used to reduce traffic noise for residents. I note that research has found that a 20 mph speed limit can help reduce traffic noise but no doubt will only be effective if traffic adheres to the speed limit.

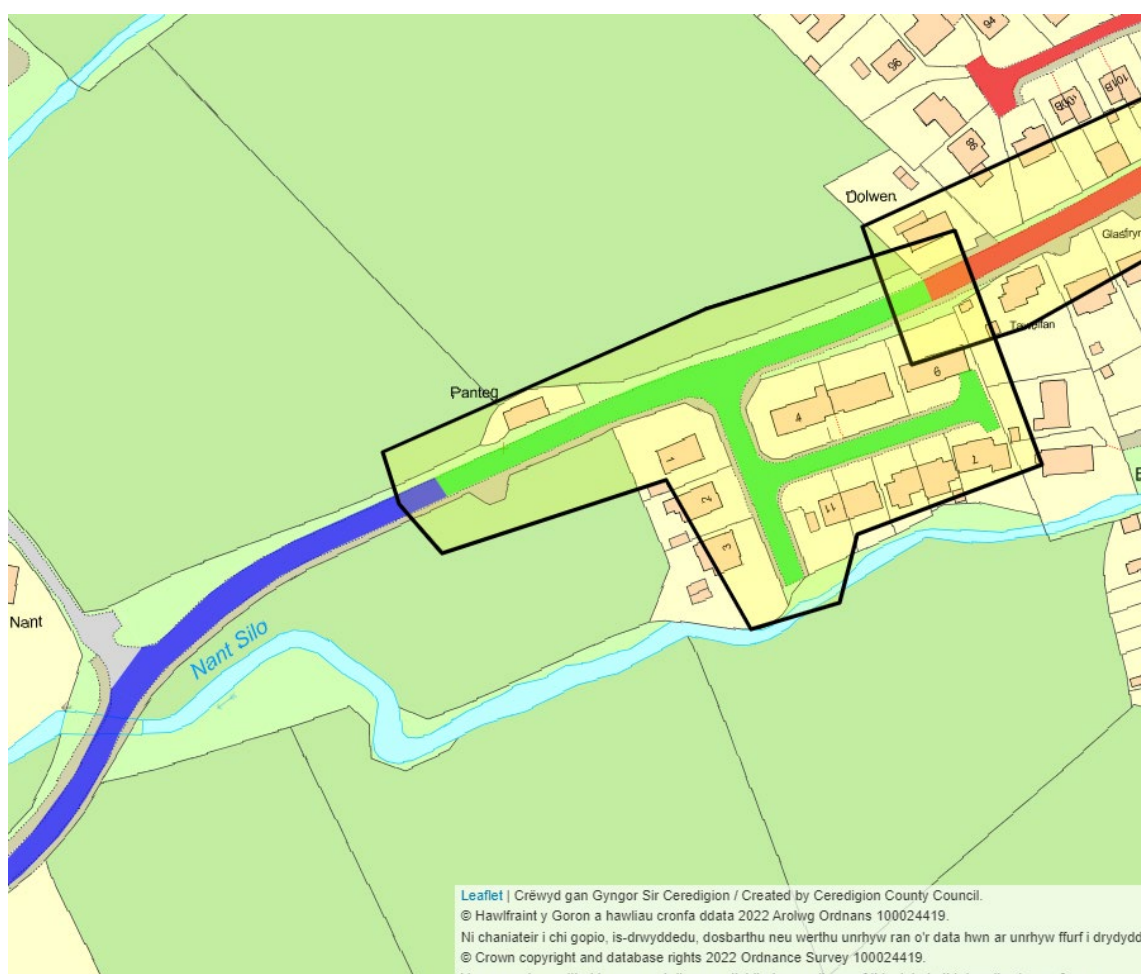
Objection

We object to the 20mph starting across the road from us to the western boundary of Dolwen. This will necessitate drivers dropping a gear right by residential properties which also includes the Nant Seilo estate. Moving the 20mph to the current 30mph speed limit which is by the house named Panteg, rather than as proposed at the western boundary of Dolwen, would help resolve this issue.

It would also ensure a lower speed limit alongside the busy, well used pavement on this straight bit of road. Some traffic currently accelerates and even overtake other vehicles, well above the existing speed limit, as the road is straight here and on the way in and out of the village. Having a speed limit which changes midway along this straight, then rapidly dropping to the current 30mph ,will confuse and more likely be ignored by those who are unfortunately in too much of a hurry.

The 20mph will end up frustrating some drivers and there are a minority who regardless of the speed limit will continue to break it whatever it is. Lowering the speed limit will only be effective if there is monitoring, enforcement and also consequences if broken. There is no indication that any of these measures will be implemented with the introduction of the 20mph.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any further information.



It is recommended that these two objections be over-ruled. The section of road referred to, at the western end of Penrhyncoch, has footway and signage has been installed warning road users of the presence of cyclists and pedestrians. Extending the proposed new 20mph limit (shown in red above) onto an 'empty' section of road that lacks buildings fronting the highway is likely to undermine respect for the 20mph limit. The proposed section of 30mph buffer (shown in green) should be sufficient, and there seems little point in extending the

20mph limit to include Nant Seilo (the residential street to the south of the main road), given its short length.

RHYDLEWIS

20.

I have been seeing more of this but I want to know how it will be enforced. I will be living in one of these new 20mph zones, B4334 Rhydlewis. At present it is supposed to be a 30mph zone but it isn't, people drive through the village at any speed apart from what they are supposed to. How is going to make it any different apart from the fact I will have a nice new sign outside my house saying 20mph. No one is going to stick to this limit if they can't stick to the current one. We NEED the police to put our of their nice vans in the layby by the Chapel and just see how many stick to the current limit.

Complete waste of taxpayers' money, but what's new there.

21.

Not convinced it's a good idea as we need better signage and lower speeds well before you get into the village.

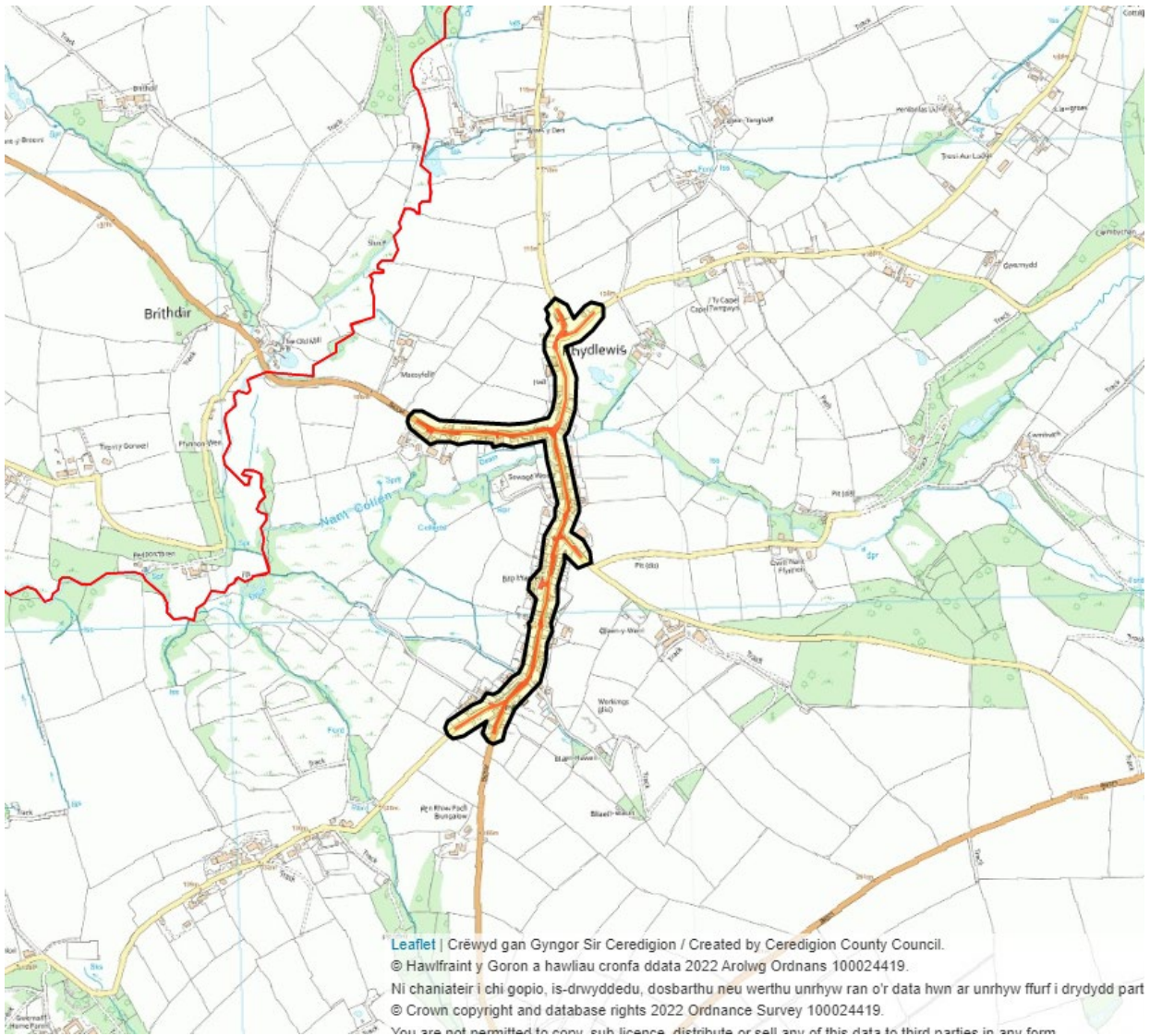
Three ways into the valley are steep downward hills. They diver like nutters coming down these mainly single width lanes and that far more dangerous than the middle of the village.

The speed needs to be only 30mph to just passed the blind T junction opposite Penffos cottage. It's ridiculously dangerous as cars, lorries tractors trailers increase their speed from Pensarngerrig as it's just like the hill slopes into the village National Speed limit signage. Very dangerous.

We need clear signs for concealed junction and 30mph maybe only 20mph very clearly marked. Penffos cottage has had roof tiles vibrated off roof some ripped off by silage trailers going far too fast. Stones been vibrated out and or physically knocked out of the wall opposite just before the blind give way junction.

Too many rally drivers. You understand and we have school buses coming down these lanes dropping off children.

Please investigate our junction and the hills speeds into Rhydlewis asap



It is recommended that these 2 objections be over-ruled. The proposed change is part of national policy in Wales and the Welsh Government predict that it will increase safety and not increase congestion or air pollution, and that it will prove cost effective due to the reduction in costs to the nation afforded by lower and less severe casualty rates. There is no compelling reason to omit Rhydlewys from the national scheme. Enforcement will be the responsibility of the police, and GoSafe may be contacted regarding a community enforcement initiative.

The junction referred to by Penffos is approx. 500m north of the termination of the existing 30mph and proposed 20mph and is therefore outside the scope of this scheme. It will be included in the anticipated review of speed limits in line with new Welsh Government guidance once this is published.

STAGS HEAD

22.

***Proposed Imposition of 20mph Speed Limit at Stags Head, No.69.1
B4578 & B4342 intersection***

We, the undersigned, object to the above proposal on the following grounds:

A. *The proposed 20mph limit is not necessary because:*

- 1) *The roads involved have a very low accident rate.*
- 2) *The roads involved have a low volume of traffic.*

B. *The proposed 20mph limit is not desirable because:*

- 1) *It will increase noise and air pollution as the vehicles will be in a low gear, especially ascending the three gradients to Stags Head crossroads.*
- 2) *Drivers will pay more attention to the finer detail of their speedometers at the expense of paying attention to the road ahead.*
- 3) *The very slow pace of vehicles could actually encourage children to play in the road.*

C. *The 20mph limit proposals across the county are a gross waste of public money which should be spent maintaining the road surfaces properly, keeping road drains clear and clearing debris from the sides of the highway. All of these are essential to primary road safety and all of these are deliberately ignored by Ceredigion County Council Highways Department in their ongoing negligence.*

19 signatures

23.

Proposed 20 mph speed limit at Stags Head, No 69.1 B4578 & B4342 intersection

We object to the above proposed alteration of the speed limit on the following grounds:

A. *The proposed 20mph limit is unnecessary because:*

- 1) *The roads involved have a very low accident rate*

2) *The roads involved have a low volume of traffic*

B. *The proposed 20mph limit is not desirable because:*

1) *It will increase noise and air pollution as the vehicles will be in low gear, especially ascending the three gradients approaching Stags Head Crossroads*

2) *Drivers will pay more attention to the finer detail of their speedometers at the expense of paying attention to the road ahead.*

3) *The very slow pace of vehicles could actually encourage children to play in the road*

C. *The 20 mph limit proposals across the county are a gross waste of public money which should be spent maintaining the road surfaces, keeping road drains clear and clearing debris from the sides of the highway. All of these are essential to primary road safety but are routinely ignored.*

D. *The cost of replacing road signage across the county is huge relative to its enforceability. There are no speed cameras at Stags Head to assist in the enforcement of the current 30mph limit, nor is there likely to be in the near future as we understand. Therefore it is likely that the proposed 20mph limit will flouted by drivers with little risk of penalty. Again we feel this is a waste of public funds which could be better spent elsewhere.*

3 names attached

24.

Proposed Imposition of 20mph Speed Limit at Stag's Head, N.69.1

B4578 & B4342 intersection

I am writing to object to the above proposal on the following grounds:

A. *The proposed 20mph limit is not necessary because:*

1) *The roads involved have a very low accident rate.*

2) *The roads involved have a low volume of traffic.*

B. *The proposed 20mph limit is not desirable because:*

1) *It will increase noise and air pollution as the vehicles will be in a low gear, especially ascending the three gradients to Stag's Head crossroads.*

2) *Drivers will pay more attention to the finer detail of their speedometers at the expense of paying attention to the road ahead.*

3) *The very slow pace of vehicles could actually encourage children to play*

in the road.

4) *How is the Council going to enforce the new 20mph, when even the 30mph restriction has absolutely no effect on 90% of the current traffic flow.*

C. *The 20mph limit proposals across the county are a gross waste of public money which should be spent maintaining the road surfaces properly, keeping road drains clear and clearing debris from the sides of the highway. All of these are essential to primary road safety but are deliberately ignored by Ceredigion County Council Highways Department in their ongoing negligence.*

1 signature

25.

***Proposed Imposition of 20mph Speed Limit at Stags Head, No.69.1
B4578 & B4342 intersection***

We, the undersigned, object to the above proposal on the following grounds:

A. *The proposed 20mph limit is not necessary because:*

- 1) *The roads involved have a very low accident rate.*
- 2) *The roads involved have a low volume of traffic.*

B. *The proposed 20mph limit is not desirable because:*

- 1) *It will increase noise and air pollution as the vehicles will be in a low gear, especially ascending the three gradients to Stags Head crossroads.*
- 2) *Drivers will pay more attention to the finer detail of their speedometers at the expense of paying attention to the road ahead.*
- 3) *The very slow pace of vehicles could actually encourage children to play in the road.*

C. *The 20mph limit proposals across the county are a gross waste of public money which should be spent maintaining the road surfaces properly, keeping road drains clear and clearing debris from the sides of the highway. All of these are essential to primary road safety and all of these are deliberately ignored by Ceredigion County Council Highways Department in their ongoing negligence.*

2 names attached



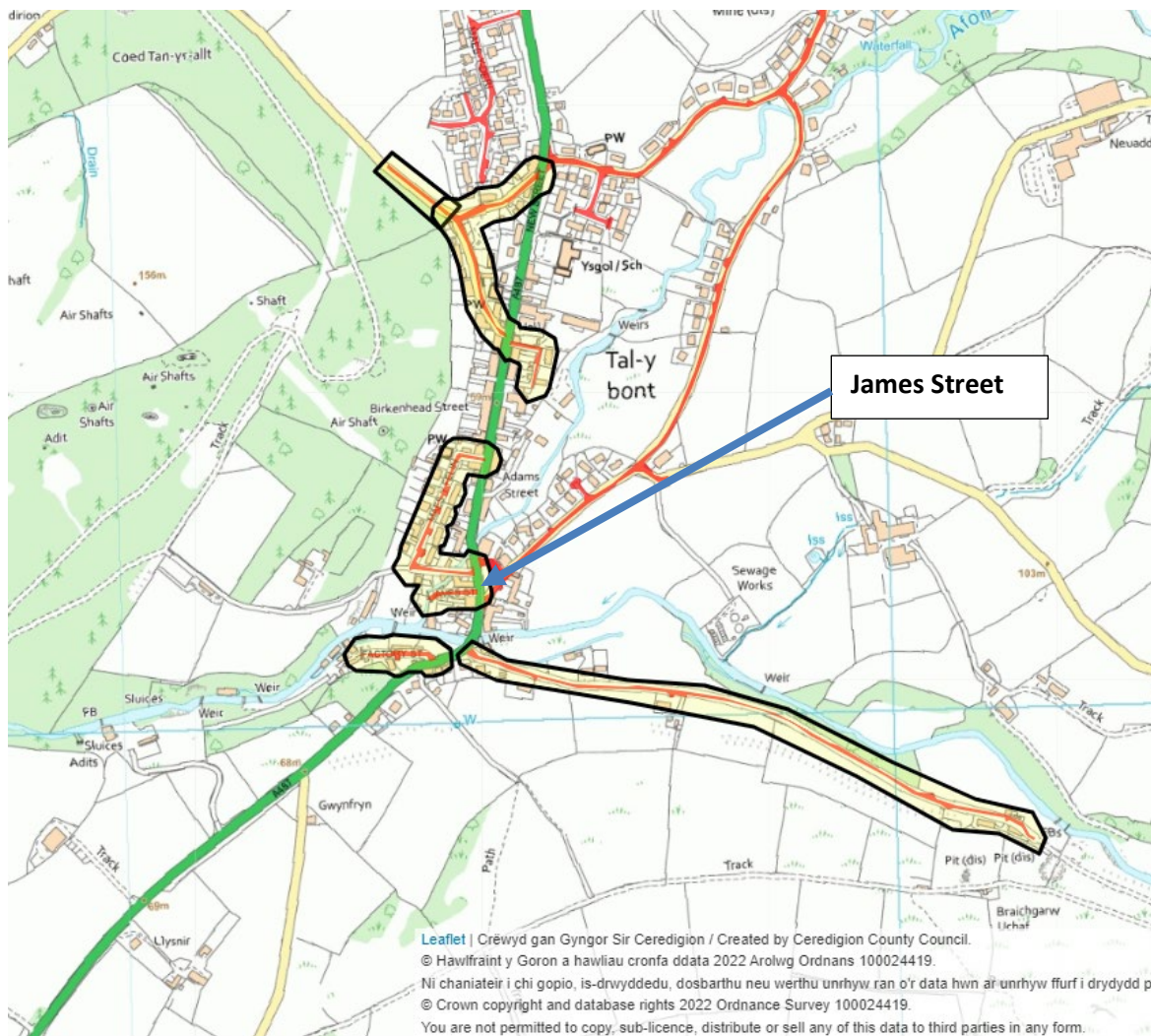
It is recommended that these objections be over-ruled. The proposed change is part of national policy in Wales and the Welsh Government predict that it will increase safety and not increase congestion or air pollution, and that it will prove cost effective due to the reduction in costs to the nation afforded by lower and less severe casualty rates. There is no compelling reason to omit Stags Head from the national scheme. There are no footways through the settlement, and records of two PICs on the crossroads, one in 2020 and one in 2016.

If the proposal for the 20mph limit here were to be dropped, to be consistent, similar proposals at a number of other settlements would also have to be dropped.

TALYBONT

26.

I wish to object to the proposed speed limit restrictions. Specifically Section No8.3 Talybont: James Street SY24 5EY. This road from the main road to the sewage pumping station is a private road. I am surprised that you can propose these restrictions on a private road. I look forwards to your reply.



It is recommended that this objection be over-ruled. The proposed change is part of national policy in Wales. Regarding James Street (the short no through road immediately north of the river) the Authority does have legal power to propose Traffic Regulation Orders on unadopted roads if these visually seem to be a continuation of public highway and are regularly used by the general public (including for postal/courier and other household deliveries, by visitors etc.). James Street has been included in previous Traffic Regulation Orders and is currently subject to a 30mph speed limit, to co-ordinate with the speed limit on the A487 at its junction. If it were not to be included, the alternative may be to install signage indicating that the road is subject to national limits to ensure legal enforceability of the speed limit on the A487, which would presumably be a less acceptable option to residents.

TRE'R DDOL

27. Please note that this correspondence was received after the end of the public consultation period.

Speeding traffic in Tre'r-ddôl consultation Ceredigion Council

This is a very busy B-road. There is practically continuous traffic, especially May to September. There are, every day, literally hundreds of cars going to the caravan parks at Borth and Ynyslas as well as massive trucks and vans. The lane narrows quickly to single file. Almost no-one coming around the bend slows down to 30mph. Nearly everyone speeds up in the narrow lane before reaching the 60mph. There are numerous groups of pedestrians trying to walk along the road. It is popular for walking to the footpaths along the river Cletwr. But there is no walking pavement. You must face traffic at high speed and be prepared to squash against the hedge for your life. People walking in this dangerous road are school children, elderly, mothers with young children, people with their dogs. We are part of Tre'r-ddôl and therefore should be subject to the 20mph zone. Reducing speed to 20mph will be of no inconvenience to the drivers but a potential life-saver for pedestrians and residents.



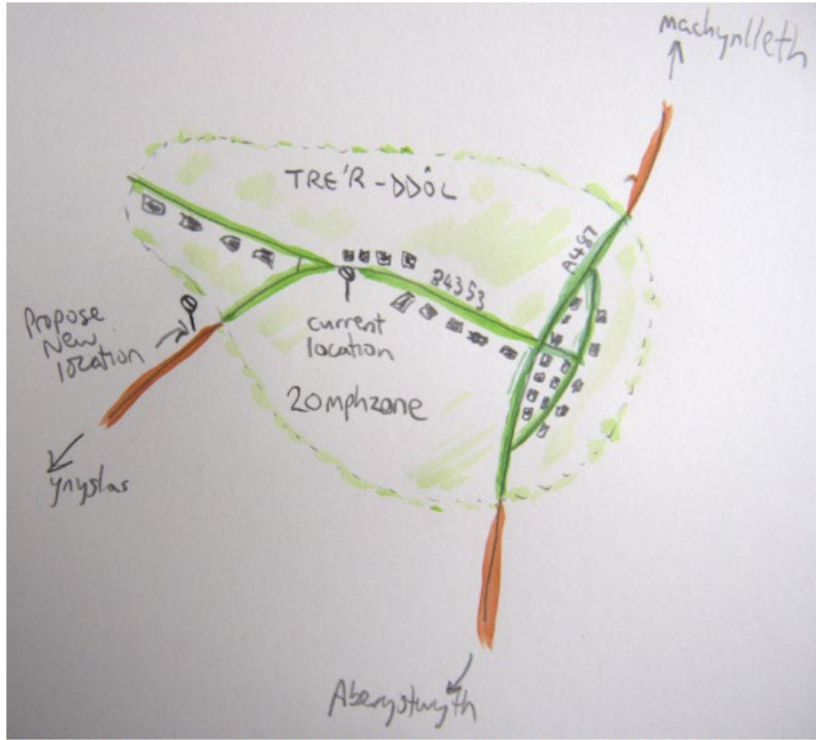
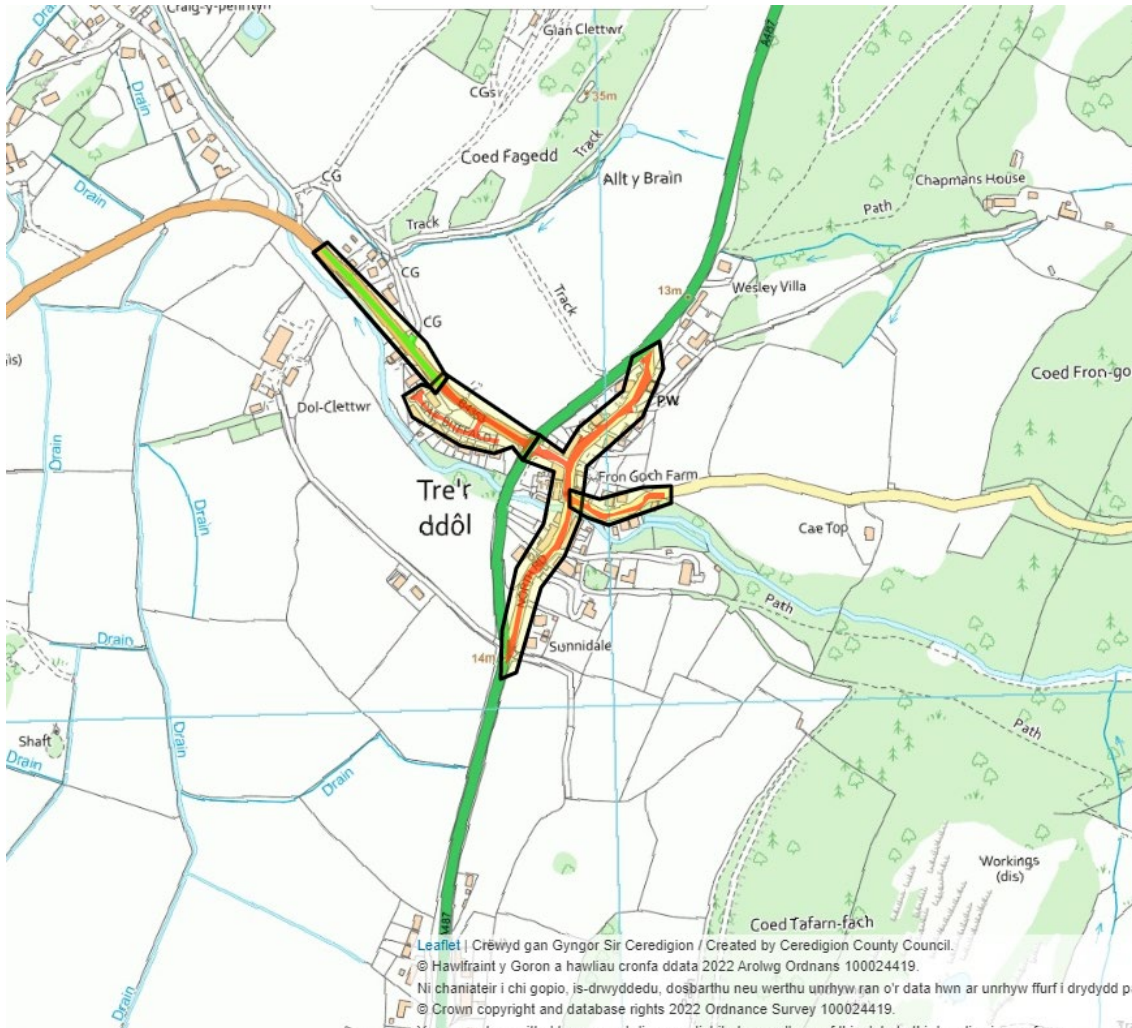


Figure 5 Bydd dialgelu a lleihau'r gyflymder i 20mya dim anghyfeus i gywyr ond bydd possib archebu bywydau am cerddwyr a trigolion.



It is recommended that this objection be over-ruled. Extending the proposed 20mph limit further out to the north on a largely 'empty' section of road is likely to undermine respect for the new limit due to the lack of building development and thus visual reinforcement for the need for a limit. This is the reason for proposing the section of 30mph buffer (shown in green above). Speed limits should visually make sense to drivers to encourage respect for them, unfortunately this can mean that sections of road at the fringes of communities that feature more isolated/fragmented development should not be included in lower speed limits merely on the basis that they are 'part' of that community. There are no records of any PICs on the section of road in question within the most recent 10 years.

The section of the B4353 to the north and west of the built up area of Tre'r Ddol will be included in the anticipated review of speed limits in line with new Welsh Government guidance once this is published.

GENERAL OBJECTIONS

These do not refer to any particular location in the county.

28.

Reducing the speed limit from 30mph to 20mph makes no sense at all.

- 1. Driving a diesel at 30mph means the car is in 4th/5th gear with revs @1500 – at 20mph 2nd/3rd gear at 1500 rpm. Therefore 50% greater fuel/pollution for the same journey.*
- 2. Journey times will increase putting unnecessary costs on business/private use.*
- 3. Delivery costs from couriers will increase at a time when we need to save as much as possible.*
- 4. Changing all the speed limit signs is an unnecessary expense for the council.*
- 5. All bus timetables will need to be changed.*

Just because the Welsh government is mistaken in its so-called "scientific" reasons, is no excuse for forcing this on people who are just trying to do their daily business without any justification.

29.

I would like my objection to every 30mph speed limit in Ceredigion being changed to 20mph noted and logged.

I live in Penuwch which is a 30mph, people already fly through at 50-60mph, changing it to 20mph will not make any difference, instead of wasting money on changing signs how about a couple of speed bumps in the village to slow down traffic.

But my biggest concern is the main A and B roads to places like Carmarthen and Aberystwyth where people have to commute to work, it is already painfully slow going to these places and this will make it a very stressful drive, the Welsh government have ignored the findings in their research which advised against the whole policy, driving at 20mph causes more pollution not less as you are driving for longer periods of time in a lower gear and at higher revs.

The Welsh government has given councils discretion to keep some 30mph speed limits, I think it would be wise for that discretion to be exercised, I do believe that some areas will benefit from 20mph speed limits, but please prove the residents of Ceredigion wrong and show us that at least one person in Ceredigion council has common sense.

30.

*I wasn't even aware that you were reducing the speed limit until I saw a sign on a lamppost!
Is there a comment/consultation form regarding the 20mph limit being brought in for Wales?*

I simply cannot fathom why every single street within every township needs to be 20, and the only reason I can think of for this marvellous bit of planning, is a potent mixture of incompetence, stupidity and laziness - but who's surprised after the covid 'safe zones' mess

Older cars (which the majority of people drive in the areas you dictate over) will not be more fuel efficient whilst driving at 20, as you'll need to be revving in 2nd to keep to 20.

Is this just a way to raise more money through speeding tickets?

Does the opinion of Ceredigion residents really not matter to you? Or are you all collectively so incompetent that you don't realise how unpopular your choices are? Is it an ego thing? Do you take political advice from Kim Jong-un? Do you guys compete over who can have the most counterproductive idea?

I genuinely do not understand this council, it's the incompetent leading the blind!

If the council was a private organisation, all of management would have been out of jobs after the whole covid mess. (did you ever release the results of the consultation, and the overall public support on the road and pavement changes - based on what I've seen, I'm guessing it wasn't in your favour? 😊)

Surely any piece of legislation this sweeping should require public support, why would anyone (with the means to leave) stay somewhere where the government outright ignores the majority, let alone all the other fabulous things Ceredigion has to offer:

- houses which the median family can easily afford*
- affordable and abundant rental properties*
- social housing availability*
- great wages*
- great jobs*
- AMAZING healthcare, with hospitals being only a few hours drive away*
- Fabulous education, with great resources*
- Super affordable childcare*
- Great public transport, that's frequent, cheap and quick!*
- Roadways that ensure your car springs are working*
- Opportunities galore!*
- And the facilities, wow, you really do spoil us!*
- Councillors who loyally never leave the council, despite a lack of public approval.*
(- It truly is a beautiful place, however, you will be unable to visit these beautiful places during the English school holidays)

With every aspect of life in Ceredigion being sooo great, spending public money focusing on slowing Ceredigion down even further is the rational next step.

If you make life annoying enough you're gonna run out of young people to pay pensions (don't worry, yours will be fine though!)

The council in general needs to pull its finger out and actually listen to people who live in these areas, go do surveys, do your due-diligence and research, earn those inflated paychecks!

It's easy to sing about ethical and environmental best practice when you're behind a desk.

31.

I completely object to the ridiculous 20mph speed changes across the entirety of Ceredigion. It is truly a stupid concept from WG that you are planning to introduce. Car technology is safer than ever. Brake technology is better than ever. And you want to simply lower the speed that people travel at. Ridiculous backward thinking rubbish!

I am a resident of Llandysul, not one person drives through this village at 20mph. Even with a 20mph restriction in place.... No one cares! So your 20mph limits already do not work. I witness daily as I live on the one way system and everyone just blasts through here. And then come 10pm the rally boys are out in full force blasting through the village relentlessly. And nothing happens.

I'm sure you plan to hire some more speed check vans though to generate some more revenue when people go a life threatening 21mph.....

Next year will the bright sparks in WG want to introduce 10mph limits? And will you blindly follow what you're told to do?

Maybe your time would be better spent fixing the pot holes that plague the county. That would make driving far safer than some ridiculous speed limit that no one will take notice of.

And don't dare bring the environmental impact into it as our imposed sacrifices make absolutely zero difference when compared to other countries increasing contribution. And as far as I can tell air kind of travels around the entire globe rather than just stays exactly still. Unless Ceredigion is special? Does Ceredigion air only stay in Ceredigion?

Wake up!

32.

this is absolutely stupid lower speed limits will increase journey times and cause traffic congestion with results in much higher exhaust emissions which eventually will cause medical conditions in the young and elderly. Monmouthshire County Council are already reverting back to the 30 mph in its trialled areas. I just hope the voting population remember when the next elections are held that they expel those councillors and the members of the senate who voted to implement this

33.

Hello I am writing in relation to the public consultation on the reduced speed limits in the county, enacting the Welsh government change in law. I have no objection to the improvement of safety and use of various measures to ensure better road safety and use, including reduced speed limits. However, I am concerned that key aspects of road use is being ignore and not putting equal responsibility on to all road users. My first concern relate to that fact that many drivers are not proficient enough to understand how to drive to the highway code, conditions of the road and speed limits. I do not mean dangerous speeds driven by some drivers over the current limits, but for example, drivers who also drive excessively slow for the types of roads they are driving, causing hazards by going too slow and holding up traffic on large and small A/B roads. While I think it is fine to drive slower if you feel more comfortable, this however, should not be done at the hinderance of other road users. In fact the Highway code does state that you should not hold up a long queue of traffic.... check your mirrors frequently, and if necessary, pull in where it is safe and let traffic pass rule 169). This is coupled with the fact that many older drivers (people who past their test more than 20yrs ago) seem to think that you must always drive 10-20 mph slower than the advertised speed limit. This is even the case in current 20 and 30mph zones. Another example of incorrect road use is parking. Many drivers do not pay attention to rules 239 or 243 of the highway code. This causes many hazards on busy and quite roads. I am concerned that due to a lack of further training and testing of a drivers proficiency that incorrect driver manners are being conducted by many drivers, which add further hazards to the roads, beyond just speed issues. In addition, to the change in law being enacted for speed limits, I would like to see an education campaign (and potential requirement to pass theory tests again) for older drivers to ensure that efficient use of

all rules and approaches to good road driving is followed. My next concern is relating to cyclists. I would like to precursor this comment with the fact I have previously been knocked off of my bike by a 20 ton lorry going to fast on a narrow road, so I am an advocate for safer cycling and driving. I am however, very concern that the new laws and rule being enacted do not put any legal responsibility on cyclists or any enforcement system to ensure they obey the road laws as well. New laws such as driving only 2 abreast on quiet roads are not being followed in my area, with many cyclists driving 2 a breast on busy and fast moving A roads. On roads that have hills many cyclists are breaking speed limits/ Indiscriminately using roads and cycle lanes at their convenience, rather than using dedicated cycle lanes where available, negating the purpose of road safety improvements, resulting in blame on motor vehicles. Again I am advocating for some change to ensure cyclists take ownership for their behaviour just as is needed with motor vehicles drivers. To this end, I request that all bicycles are registered for identification on the road and that cyclists must pass a driving theory test to be allowed to ride on the road. This to be coupled with another education campaign for all potential and current cyclists, that they are responsible for road safety equally as all road users. Furthermore, I would like increased police action and detailed public information campaigns explaining how this is being enacted an enforced. I believe that this will add to a sense of shared responsibility and improve motor vehicle drivers impressions of cyclists and cause a change in behaviour towards them. Overall, my concern is that blame is being put on to a few groups of road users, where all individuals (including pedestrians) need to take responsibility for highway use. I would like to see money invested and action taken in these areas in addition to speed limit changes.

34.

I would like to object to the blanket introduction of 20 mph speed limits, most specifically along the A487, the main arterial road from one end of the county to the other. This road is also a feeder road for the ferry at Fishguard.

Introducing 20 mph speed limits in the specified places will

- a) markedly increase journey times for all vehicles (including the council's own and those such as care workers), also resulting in increased fuel consumption*
- b) result in heavy goods vehicles moving more slowly through the villages, increasing noise*
- c) result in heavy goods vehicles moving at very slow speeds through villages, increasing emissions.*

I would suggest that the county council drive a loaded, maximum axle vehicle from one end of the county to the other twice, comparing time, fuel consumption and emissions.

I would also like the council to consider the effect on care providers. More time on the road will result in less time with those who need care.

And maybe one or two (or even all) of the county councillors could drive from, say, Cardigan to Aberystwyth, trying out the 20 mph restrictions.

35.

Living in a remote area I am extremely concerned about the effects of the introduction of 20 mph speed limits both on journey times and adverse effects on home deliveries. It is absolute nonsense to quote an increase of 1 minute to journey times when one has to pass through a large number of these restricted zones to get to hospitals, doctors, dentists and main shopping areas. Getting onto M4 from Penuwch is going to be a nightmare.

With deliveries coming from main hubs in Cardiff and across the border they are just not going to want to deliver anywhere other than local.

It is all well and good to consult community groups but has anyone contacted logistic companies inside and outside of Wales for their input?

Clearly this has not been thought through and is going to have a detrimental effect on the economy.

36.

I am an experienced car and van driver and agree with speed restrictions. I also agree with some temporary 20mph limits during school days. I do not agree with taking lengthy sections of currently 30mph roads and changing the limit to 20 mph. I think current 30 mph roads are poorly signed as 30 with the old rule of regular lampposts denotes it's 30 mph. I am concerned that if 20 mph roads are not frequently posted there will be a number of drivers who inadvertently break the law. I also think that if drivers such as delivery vehicles are slowed down too much by 20 mph limits they will drive faster on subsequent higher limit roads causing them to go around bends faster etc to make up time.

37.

We are inclined to support this initiative for the roads within the housing estate(s) here in Waunfawr, and further afield in Ceredigion, but placing this blanket approach on the main roads (bus routes) appears to be a retrograde step. There is little local evidence in terms of safety, economic benefits and carbon reduction to support the blanket introduction of this Welsh Government policy. It would be preferable for hot spots to be addressed.

We also fear that Ceredigion County Council / Welsh Government will spend a great deal of scarce public funding on signage and other measures to try and enforce this policy. Our Mid Wales road environment is already littered with excessive street furniture including expensive smart signage where variable speed limits have been introduced - Llanon being an exemplar of excessive signage.

There is already a lack of integrated public transport whereby Ceredigion residents can depend on bus services linking with rail services and imposing speed limits that will delay transport will only aggravate this.

In terms of road safety Ceredigion would be better focussing on preventing those residents who have adequate off road parking but choose to park on roads and

pavements resulting in residents, often the aged, having to walk on the road. Such parking is also a safety hazard for young children not being able to see oncoming street traffic. Please take action to address this.

And of course if Welsh Government and Ceredigion County Council wish to address the Climate Emergency then encouraging the use of sustainable public transport (investment in T1 electric bus fleet being an excellent example) as well as sustainable active travel (suitable for the fittest in society) must be a priority. The reductions in public transport in Ceredigion is a move completely in the wrong direction. Depending on private sector operators of public transport has proven to be unsustainable. This must become a Government owned and operated service as a matter of urgency.

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this subject.

38.

We are opposed to the new 20mph speed limits that you would like to introduce into towns and villages in Ceredigion for the following reasons.

To expect motorists to crawl along in a low gear in built up areas is going to add to traffic pollution which is bad enough as it is.

In the past we have had abuse from other drivers for abiding by the 30mph limit, mainly from lorry drivers and younger drivers. What is it going to be like crawling along at 20mph?

With regard to deaths and injuries, it probably will not make much difference as you will still get 'boy racers' ignoring speed limits.

39.

I am objecting to the proposed default 20 mph zones in Ceredigion and the rest of Wales. I do not think that most accidents on the roads take place in the 30 mph zones. Rather in the 60 mph zones.

I also don't think it will be safer. I think it will be more dangerous with drivers being more engaged with their speed dial than keeping their eyes on the road. There will be more congestion and pollution as people will drive in second gear and will be in the area longer. There will be a longer commuting time and people will get irritable behind the wheel. I am also thinking about the impact it will have on bus drivers, taxis and delivery drivers. It will have a negative economic impact. Pedestrians might take more risks in crossing the road when cars go slower.

I would like to see more money spend on separating fast and slow traffic. More cycle lanes and only 20 mph outside schools and on roads that have many pedestrians.

I hope Ceredigion Council will take my objection onboard and will rethink their decision.

40.

I'm writing to object to the new 20mph speed limit on built up streets that are presently 30mph. My objections are:

- 1. The cost - couldn't the taxpayers money be better spent on the NHS and Social Services.*
- 2. Increased air pollution in built up areas.*

It seems that the government are tinkering with issues which impact a smallest percentage of the Welsh population.

41.

We the undersigned wish to formally object to the 20mph. Element of the Ceredigion County Council (20 mph, 30 mph, 40 mph and 50 mph Speed Limits and Derestricted Roads) (Consolidation) Order 2014 (Various Locations Reduction of National Speed Limit) (Amendment Order No.23) 2023, for the following reasons:-

We are not convinced that reducing the speed to 20mph. Will have any road safety benefits and will actually increase the amount of accidents.

In a rural area such as Ceredigion reducing the speed to 20mph will not encourage active and sustainable travel. especially when bus services are reducing

There is already consistency in the 30mph in most residential areas.

Ceredigion needs to stand against Welsh Government policies that are designed to have an adverse effect on our rural communities and increase the cost of rural businesses.

1 signature

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There is already consistency in the 30mph in most residential areas.

Ceredigion needs to stand against Welsh Government policies that are designed to have an adverse effect on our rural communities and increase the cost of rural businesses.

8 names attached but no signatures

44.

I have some genuine concerns regarding this proposed blanket change in speed restrictions across Wales. While I welcome the changes in certain circumstances such as narrow roads with little visibility or blind bends, I am concerned that this will result in an increased impatience in drivers which leads to dangerous behaviour. My sister lives in Bristol where there are a large amount of 20mph zones and she's observed that since these changes that more people overtake her where it is not appropriate.

I noticed that following the changes in speed restrictions in Carmarthenshire on the Carmarthen to Lampeter route, drivers started overtaking at inappropriate times - I never felt as unsafe driving on that road until those changes.

Another fear is the safety of myself and others as alternative road users. I ride horses and we already feel unsafe riding on roads - how will we be affected when people start putting their foot down as soon as they leave the 20mph zones? I suggest that you consult with the BHS to see where most incidents and near misses are reported and continue to monitor this following the changes.

I don't know yet how this will affect me in my day to day work - I will have three such 20mph zones to pass through on my way to work and I also have to drive as part of my job role.

I am concerned about how it will affect me with travel out of Wales - it already takes at least three hours to get to any of the borders, while on my journey to Pembrey on the weekend I counted 12 of what will become 20mph zones just between home and Carmarthen. I feel that those of us living in rural Wales are constantly being penalised by Cardiff lawmakers. On this same journey, I felt that I had less awareness of the road as I went through five speed limit changes in the course of a mile and needed to keep glancing at my speed limit and trying to work out which zone I was in at that time as it wasn't very clear - I felt that this kept my attention off the road and surroundings.

I live in Penuwch within one of the proposed 20mph zones - I question how much of a difference this will make as I notice a lot of people speed past my house but I am

unaware of any traffic enforcement having taken place in the village since the 30mph zone was introduced 16 years ago. I've also witnessed the aftermath of at least 3 RTI's have occurred on the same bend in that time by the turning for Blaenpennal but outside the speed restriction zone, with two of those being in the past six months (one involved a car ending up on its roof in the field next to the junction, another involved a collision with the house opposite the junction and the most recent involved a telegraph pole next to the junction.)

I'd like to know how the below figures quoted were reached as there are no supporting references or quantifying factors:

The 20mph default speed limit is expected to result in

- 40% fewer road collisions
- Saving 6 to 10 lives every year
- and avoiding 1,200 to 2,000 people being injured every year

I am unhappy that these changes are being brought in without a formal consultation with all members of the public as a 'done deal' and I wish for this to be considered and lodged as a formal complaint. Being given the opportunity to have our say after the changes have been announced just seems insulting, as though our views didn't matter before the decisions were made.

45.

I would like to make the following questions/statements and objections: -

As you do not seem to enforce the current speed limits, how do you intend to enforce the new lower limits without considerable added costs?

What do you mean by "Active and sustainable travel?"

There is no consistency in the placement of the proposed limits. E.g. CE36-T09 (Paitholwyg), 40mph, CE36-J11 (Lon Llewellyn) 30mph, CE37-C02 (Ger-y-Llan) 20mph. All these are in short cul-de-sacs.

Objections

1) The new proposed limits would increase driver frustration thus discourage compliance with any new regulation. While those that do comply will further cause frustration with the possibility of increased (possibly) dangerous driving.

2) The new proposed limits would increase travel times for all types of delivery vehicles/public transport thus causing major upset in the planning of food and other retailers scheduling.

3) The new proposed limits would increase travel times for all types of delivery vehicles/public transport thus making more "tachometer" stops so they don't exceed permitted driving hours.

4) The new proposed limits would increase travel times for all types of vehicles thus increasing driver frustration of being delayed by possibly more than an hour to journey time across the extent of Ceredigion

5) The new proposed limits would increase travel times for public service vehicles thus requiring renewed (recently changed) timetables thus upsetting the general public.

6) The new proposed limits would increase **traffic fumes** in town centres thus increasing the risk of respiratory diseases in the more elderly or infirm local inhabitants.

7) The new proposed limits would not necessarily increase the possibility of improvement in road safety due to the increased frustration of drivers.

46.

I object to the 20mph implementation on two grounds. We have been offered your email address for consultation AFTER THE EVENT. What is the point of this? Second, what problem is this trying to fix? We are aware that the AA and RAC oppose it as there is NO EVIDENCE to support it. The police have indicated that they have no willingness nor resources to enforce it. All innovations should be to fix a problem. Here there appears to be no problem that is being fixed. You are aware that a slower speed will mean changing down a gear thus increasing revs and so increasing pollution. Why do you wish to increase pollution in our towns? The Senedd mandate ALLOWS for councils to reduce speed limits, it does not say that councils should impose a blanket ban.

47.

I wish to register my opposition to this due to the following points.

1/. It is unenforceable as it discriminates motor vehicle owners whilst cyclists get away with travelling at over 20mph.

2./ all cycle races that travel through a 20mph zone will have to be cancelled.

3./ all the excess pollution from vehicles especially heavy good vehicles and agricultural ones pulling loads up hills causing diesel fumes heavier than normal as having no run up to climb steep hills.

As many people die of high pollution in cities this stupid limit will kill more people...

48.

I wish to formally object to the 20mph proposed speed limit changes in the county.

I am not convinced that reducing the speed to 20mph, will have any safety benefits and could increase the number of accidents. Where is the evidence that this change will have a benefit?

In a rural area such as Ceredigion reducing the speed to 20mph will not encourage active and sustainable travel, especially with reduced bus services.

Ceredigion needs to question Welsh Gov. policies, that can have an adverse effect on communities and increase the cost to rural businesses.

49.

We the undersigned wish to formally object to the 20mph element of the Ceredigion County Council (20mph, 30mph, 40mph and 50mph Speed Limits and Derestricted Roads) (Consolidation) Order 2014 (Various Roads Reduction of National Speed Limit) (Amendment Order No. 23) 2023, for the following reasons;

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In in rural area such as Ceredigion reducing the speed to 20mph will not encourage active and sustainable travel, especially when bus services are reducing. There is already consistency in the 30mph in most residential areas.

Ceredigion needs to stand against Welsh Government policies that are designed to have an adverse effect on our rural communities and increase the cost of rural businesses.

12 signatories, plus the sender

50.

I am writing to state my objections to the proposed 20mph speed limit arrangements, for the following reasons.

One of the stated benefits of the scheme is to encourage a change of use from car to walking or cycling. That may be possible in larger towns or cities, but much of Ceredigion is rural or semi-rural and it is simply not practical to walk or cycle - particularly in the winter or at night along unlit country lanes. If anything it is likely to make users more susceptible to injury.

Another stated benefit is an improvement in air quality. Aside from Aberystwyth (maybe) I would suggest that the volume of traffic in any of your towns has a negligible effect on air quality, and that reducing the speed of that traffic from 30mph to 20mph would see, at best, an unmeasurable improvement in air quality.

There is already a mechanism in place to reduce the speed limit to 20mph where appropriate - it works well outside our schools and in built up areas, and it makes no sense to mandate a reduction everywhere to 20mph. Continuing to monitor accident hotspots and make changes based on the data would seem to be a far more sensible solution, rather than a simple "20mph must be better".

51.

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Ceredigion needs to stand against Welsh Government policies that are designed to have an adverse effect on our rural communities and increase the cost of rural businesses.

215 signatures

'IF IT AIN'T BROKE, DON'T FIX IT'

Speed limit criteria was introduced in the 1934 Road Traffic Act to standardise a minimum national speed limit. 20mph, 40mph, and 50mph have since been introduced, each with its own criteria as to usage. The 20mph limit required either roadworks or traffic calming measures as its criteria, 40mph and 50mph have stopping distances with regard to the visibility of any stationary vehicles on the carriageway from the viewpoint of oncoming traffic. 30mph required street lighting.

In Tregaron (and many other villages, towns and cities across Wales) there are neither permanent roadworks or the necessity for traffic calming which have not already been put in place, e.g. all schools sites, narrow roads with 'give way' systems and ONE-WAY streets with the required 'sleeping Policeman' aka 'speed bumps' already established. Does this now mean that all 20mph roads will have to follow the criteria of having these traffic calming measures i.e. speed bumps at regular intervals across our roads, thereby impeding the free flow of traffic along THE KING'S HIGHWAYS?

Vehicles driving at continually slow speeds produce more pollution, particularly HGVs and PSVs, as a result of having to be in lower gears, in some cases with smaller cars in 2nd gear which is deleterious to engines and increases fuel usage and consumption. It is also likely to cause an increase in accidents with pedestrians and cyclists, especially over humps across the roads, and the damage to vehicle suspension and tracking. Lack of driver concentration at slow speeds, including frustration caused by extended travel times, e.g. commercial vehicle deliveries, school drop-offs and general public travel for shopping and leisure must be added to the mix.

So called 'BUFFER ZONES' are arbitrary and nonsensical, and fall outside of the criteria for the specified imposition of altered speed limits. Crass stupidity.

I was under the impression that Wales was a democracy, but these draconian and unnecessary changes to speed limits shows this not to be the case, rather an oligarchy which is undermining the civil liberties of its residents.

These changes to the ROAD TRAFFIC ACTS require public consultation and a referendum not 'FAIT ACCOMPLI'. Far from being in the interests of the public, it would appear to be a CASH COW activity to obtain money derived from the inevitable motor speed fines these changes will bring with any such monies going directly to Cardiff and not for the benefit of Cuntty Councils.

In conclusion, I draw your attention to the opening heading 'IF IT AIN'T BROKE DON'T FIX IT'. Wales is a country for tourism, who will want to come to TOY TOWN WALES, to be treated like naughty children who have to be controlled and fleeced by PC PLOD for the megalomaniacs in control of our nation.

FOR HEAVAN'S SAKE STOP THIS NONSENSE BEFORE YOU WRECK THE COUNTRY AND THE MORALE OF ITS INHABITANTS.

53.

We the undersigned wish to formally object to the 20mph element of the Ceredigion County Council (20mph, 30mph, 40mph and 50mph Speed Limits and Derestricted Roads) (Consolidation) Order 2014 (Various Roads Reduction of National Speed Limit) (Amendment Order No. 23) 2023, for the following reasons;

We are not convinced that reducing the speed limit to 20mph will have any road safety benefits and will actually increase the amount of accidents.

In in rural area such as Ceredigion reducing the speed to 20mph will not encourage active and sustainable travel, especially when bus services are reducing. There is already consistency in the 30mph in most residential areas.

Ceredigion needs to stand against Welsh Government policies that are designed to have an adverse effect on our rural communities and increase the cost of rural businesses.

6 signatures

It is recommended that all these objections be over-ruled. The proposed changes are national policy in Wales and the Welsh Government predict that they will increase safety and not increase congestion or air pollution, and that they will prove cost effective due to the reduction in costs to the nation afforded by lower and less severe casualty rates.

Area wide 20mph speed limits are seven times more cost effective than isolated zones with physical calming e.g road humps. They are five times more cost effective than targeted interventions on 'A' roads in reducing killed and serious injury collisions. For example, Bristol reports the estimated total number of injuries avoided across the city each year as 4.53 fatal, 11.3 serious and 159.3 slight injuries. The estimated annual saving to society from fewer casualties is £15.250 million. The cost of installing new 20mph limits on up to 50 miles of streets by signage alone may be around £100,000, with resulting wide community benefits. This would be the equivalent cost of installing a single raised pelican crossing. Children travel to school from wider areas than immediately around the school gates, so a significant number are travelling on roads that are not in the immediate area of their school. Speeds around schools are typically slower at school run times and some children are permitted to leave school premises during the school day. This especially applies to secondary age students. The proposals are designed to improve the environment for all road users at all times, including older adults and other vulnerable road users.

When speed drops, even slightly, risks are hugely reduced – 1mph less in towns equates to 6% fewer injured. At 30mph half of 60+ year olds die if hit. The likelihood of severe or fatal injury for pedestrians struck by drivers traveling at 20mph is 17%, at 25mph it is 30%, and at 30mph it rises to 47%.

Research conducted on 20mph limits in London and elsewhere indicates that emission rates are highest when vehicles accelerate, and vehicles spend more

time accelerating in 30mph limits than in 20mph limits. The research concluded that it would be incorrect to assume a 20mph speed restriction would be detrimental to ambient local air quality, though emission rates vary depending on whether vehicles are petrol or diesel powered.

There is no evidence that lower speeds increase congestion on roads. The introduction of 20mph limits encourages more travel by alternative sustainable modes of transport, and is seen as a cost effective method of enabling traffic reduction. 20mph limits are also key to reducing both the number and severity of collisions since lower speeds are the best way to allow everyone more time and space and where collisions do happen the severity is reduced for vulnerable road users. As speeds fall, people start to feel safer and more willing to walk, cycle and take public transport. Traffic volumes also fall. Traffic reduction of 3% was reported in Edinburgh's trial of 20mph limits and more walking and cycling has been a reported result in many 20mph schemes.

Local bus operators were consulted as part of this proposal and no objections were received. Local bus services in urban areas do not generally usually travel at more than 20mph, and the average speed of urban buses in UK is less than 13mph. The scheme is thus unlikely to generate slower bus journeys than currently exist and therefore unlikely to lead to wholesale timetable changes. It will create a better environment for people opting to travel by sustainable transport and make accessing those services safer by reducing the risk of traffic collisions.

The Council does not benefit from any revenue from safety cameras. These are operated by GoSafe and all revenue generated is passed to HM Treasury. Further information can be found on <https://www.gosafe.org/> With regard to enforcement, a partnership arrangement is in place with the Police and GoSafe, who are responsible for enforcing speed limits.

Regarding comments in Objection 44 above:

The projected reductions in collisions and casualty rates supplied by the Welsh Government are derived from Jones, S., Brunt, H, "Twenty miles per hour speed limits: a sustainable solution to public health problems in Wales", Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health, (2017).

Regarding comments in Objection 45 above:

1. CE36-T09 (Paitholwyg), the existing 40mph on this short side road road is retained since it co-ordinates with the 40mph limit at its junction with the A487 (which is the responsibility of the Welsh Government) and is too short to have a separate speed limit. 40mph limits are also out of scope for this scheme.
2. CE36-J11 (Lon Llewellyn), a 20mph limit is proposed for this longer side road, and not 30mph.

3. CE37-C02 (Ger-y-Llan), a 20mph limit is also proposed for this longer side road.





This **Integrated Impact Assessment tool** incorporates the principles of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Sustainable Development Principles, the Equality Act 2010 and the Welsh Language Measure 2011 (Welsh Language Standards requirements) and Risk Management in order to inform effective decision making and ensuring compliance with respective legislation.

1. PROPOSAL DETAILS: (Policy/Change Objective/Budget saving)

Proposal Title	Ceredigion County Council (20 mph, 30 mph, 40 mph and 50 mph Speed Limits and Derestricted Roads) (Consolidation) Order 2014 (Various Locations Change to National Speed Limit) (Amendment Order No.23) 2023
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Service Area	Highways	Corporate Lead Officer	Rhodri Llwyd	Corporate Director	Barry Rees
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Name of Officer completing the IIA	Dafydd Evans	E-mail	Dafydd.Evans@ceredigion.gov.uk	Phone no	
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Please give a brief description of the purpose of the proposal

To seek authorisation for recommended replies to first stage consultation responses and to advertise proposed changes to speed limits on county roads in accordance with the change to the national speed limit being introduced by the Welsh Government in September 2023

Who will be directly affected by this proposal? (e.g. The general public, specific sections of the public such as youth groups, carers, road users, people using country parks, people on benefits, staff members or those who fall under the protected characteristics groups as defined by the Equality Act and for whom the authority must have due regard).

General road users

VERSION CONTROL: The IIA should be used at the earliest stages of decision making, and then honed and refined throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process so that we can demonstrate how we have considered and built in sustainable development, Welsh language and equality considerations wherever possible.

Author	Decision making stage	Version number	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
	<i>e.g. Budget Process, LG, Scrutiny, Cabinet etc.</i>			<i>This will demonstrate how we have considered and built in sustainable development throughout the evolution of a proposal. Have you considered and applied the sustainable development principle and Well-being Goals?</i>
Dafydd Evans	Implementation	1	February 2023	

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COUNCIL STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES: Which of the Council's Strategic Objectives does the proposal address and how?	
Boosting the Economy, supporting businesses and enabling employment	Safer access to services and opportunities for all road users, and safer movement of goods and people.
Creating caring and healthy communities	Safeguarding future access to services and opportunities for all, and encouraging modal shift to Active and Sustainable travel.
Providing the best start in life and enabling learning at all ages	Supports independence and learning, improved accessibility and personal mobility, and encouraging modal shift to Active and Sustainable travel for all age groups
Creating sustainable, green and well-connected communities	Supports more effective, safer and efficient movement of goods and people. Seeks to reduce associated environmental dis-benefits particularly in traffic-sensitive areas. Supports community resilience through safer access to services and opportunities within local communities, and through encouraging modal shift to Active and Sustainable travel.

NOTE: As you complete this tool you will be asked for **evidence to support your views**. These need to include your baseline position, measures and studies that have informed your thinking and the judgement you are making. It should allow you to identify whether any changes resulting from the implementation of the recommendation will have a positive or negative effect. Data sources include for example:

- *Quantitative data - data that provides numerical information, e.g. population figures, number of users/non-users*
- *Qualitative data – data that furnishes evidence of people's perception/views of the service/policy, e.g. analysis of complaints, outcomes of focus groups, surveys*
- *Local population data from the census figures (such as Ceredigion Welsh language Profile and Ceredigion Demographic Equality data)*
- *National Household survey data*
- *Service User data*
- *Feedback from consultation and engagement campaigns*
- *Recommendations from Scrutiny*
- *Comparisons with similar policies in other authorities*
- *Academic publications, research reports, consultants' reports, and reports on any consultation with e.g. trade unions or the voluntary and community sectors, 'Is Wales Fairer' document.*
- *Welsh Language skills data for Council staff*



2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES: How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the five sustainable development principles, as outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, in its development?			
Sustainable Development Principle	Does the proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not, explain why.	What evidence do you have to support this view?	What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to the principle?
Long Term Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This proposal forms part of a change to the national speed limit being introduced by the Welsh Government Future implications will be partly determined by levels of compliance, car ownership, levels of public transport infrastructure provision and service patronage 	Evidence from the Welsh Government suggests that although there may be some opposition to the change to the national speed limit, the majority of those in Wales are in support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change to the national speed limit is to increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting.
Collaboration Working together with other partners to deliver.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the emergency services and other road user groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evidence from stakeholder engagement via statutory consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforcement will be by Dyfed Powys Police
Involvement Involving those with an interest and seeking their views.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation undertaken according to statutory requirements for Traffic Regulation Orders as set out in The Local Authorities' Traffic Orders (Procedure)(England and Wales) Regulations 1996 relating to the Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as well as County Council Corporate Engagement Policy and procedures. Statutory provision enables formal objection process and requirement for County Council to consider these objections prior to implementation. Outcome of objections will be determined by Cabinet and recorded in public minutes. The Traffic 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Members, emergency services and general public ahead of the proposed changes. Notices placed on site and information published in the local Press, on the County Council's Social Media and Internet pages. National publicity campaign to be undertaken by the Welsh Government. Consultation will include local businesses, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing monitoring of impact of these changes – including correspondence and representations from public, stakeholders and partner agencies. County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting.

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	<p>Regulation Order will be made and advertised with full information placed within the public domain.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ceredigion County Council consultation and engagement policies and procedures will be followed throughout the process as they relate to all highway users 	<p>employers and service providers including local bus companies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation will include other public local authority service areas whose services to general public and people with protected characteristics may be affected – such as schools, colleges. 	
<p>Prevention Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposal will seek to address any existing concerns by improving access, addressing road safety concerns and improve the efficient movement of people and goods. • Particular issues that will be addressed include safety of the most vulnerable road users (pedestrians, cyclists, children and older people and those with a range of physical or mental disabilities). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome of formal consultation with emergency services, Local Members, Community/Town Councils, road user groups and the general public 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to the national speed limit is to increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. • County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting.
<p>Integration Positively impacting on people, economy, environment and culture and trying to benefit all three.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement and discussions with large number of organisations, groups and individuals, advertisement of proposed changes and formal process for receiving and responding to any objections, comments or suggestions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome of statutory consultation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to the national speed limit is to increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. • County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting.



3. WELL-BEING GOALS: Does your proposal deliver any of the seven National Well-being Goals for Wales as outlined on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. We need to ensure that the steps we take to meet one of the goals aren't detrimental to meeting another.

Well-being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive or negative impacts-	What evidence do you have to support this view?	What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to the goal?
<p>3.1. A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to the national speed limit is to increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. • The proposal will ensure the efficient use of public resources – both within the County Council and those of other public agencies such as Police. • The proposals will benefit all road users, local businesses and service providers by providing safer and more sustainable use of the public highway. • The proposals will contribute to a more vibrant and sustainable local and national economy. • Materials will be sourced and installed using local contractors, thus helping to safeguard jobs within the public and private sectors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed programme of works that is based upon: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outcome of engagement process; and ○ Consideration and determination of any objections, comments or further proposals received. 	<p>Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting.</p>
<p>3.2. A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to the national speed limit is to increase road safety, to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved road safety. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance



<p>resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change).</p>	<p>encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal seeks to contribute towards reducing emissions from transport and travel across the County and in the most traffic-sensitive areas. • Positive impact upon biodiversity intended by the Welsh Government as emissions will be reduced through modal shift 		<p>to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.
<p>3.3. A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximised and health impacts are understood.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to the national speed limit is to increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. • Public and stakeholder engagement has enabled the views of providers of health and wellbeing services to be considered • Links to Active Travel provision, leisure and recreational opportunities (National Cycle Network, public rights of way, Coastal Path, tourism). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome of engagement process and proposed work programme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting. • Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.
<p>3.4. A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to the national speed limit is to increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. • Proposal supports continued economic, social and cultural viability of towns and local 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcome of engagement process and proposed work programme. • Involvement of Local Members and public throughout process. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting.



	communities across the County through improved road safety.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.
<p>3.5. A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental well-being.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following statutory consultation, the proposal seeks to contribute towards reducing emissions, of nitrogen oxide, carbon monoxide, hydrocarbons etc. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change to the national speed limit is to increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting. Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.

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<p>3.6. A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances.</p> <p><i>In this section you need to consider the impact on equality groups, the evidence and any action you are taking for improvement.</i></p> <p><i>You need to consider how might the proposal impact on equality protected groups in accordance with the Equality Act 2010?</i></p> <p><i>These include the protected characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or beliefs, gender, sexual orientation.</i></p> <p>Please also consider the following guide:: Equality Human Rights - Assessing Impact & Equality Duty</p>	<p>Describe why it will have a positive/negative or negligible impact.</p> <p><i>Using your evidence consider the impact for each of the protected groups. You will need to consider do these groups have equal access to the service, or do they need to receive the service in a different way from other people because of their protected characteristics. It is not acceptable to state simply that a proposal will universally benefit/disadvantage everyone. You should demonstrate that you have considered all the available evidence and address any gaps or disparities revealed.</i></p>	<p>What evidence do you have to support this view?</p> <p><i>Gathering Equality data and evidence is vital for an IIA. You should consider who uses or is likely to use the service. Failure to use <u>data</u> or <u>engage</u> where change is planned can leave decisions open to legal challenge. Please link to involvement box within this template. Please also consider the general guidance.</i></p>	<p>What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</p> <p><i>These actions can include a range of positive actions which allows the organisation to treat individuals according to their needs, even when that might mean treating some more favourably than others, in order for them to have a good outcome. You may also have actions to identify any gaps in data or an action to engage with those who will/likely to be effected by the proposal. These actions need to link to Section 4 of this template.</i></p>
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Age Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people because of their age? (Please tick ✓)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change to the national speed limit is to generally increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Census data shows that Ceredigion has an ageing population and high levels of private car ownership and access to services and opportunities by public transport is limited in rural areas beyond main transport corridors. The proposal will assist in facilitating safer access within town and village centres, where services are located. The proposal also seeks to provide a safer environment for the most vulnerable road users including younger, older and people of all ages with a range of mental or physical disabilities or mobility problems. The proposal is the result of the outcome of the statutory consultation process which seeks and considers the views of organisations and individuals representing people with the full range of protected characteristics as well as the general public, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting. Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.
Children and Young People up to 18	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
People 18-50	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Older People 50+	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					

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				stakeholders and partner agencies.			
Disability Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people because of their disability? (Please tick ✓)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change to the national speed limit is to generally increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. Proposed changes will benefit all disability groups through increased road safety Clear and simple regulations, signage and associated road markings 			
Hearing Impairment	Positive ✓	Negative	None/ Negligible			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Census data shows that Ceredigion has an ageing population and high levels of private car ownership and access to services and opportunities by public transport is limited in rural areas beyond main transport corridors. The proposal will assist in facilitating safer access within town and village centres, where services are located. The proposal also seeks to provide a safer environment for the most vulnerable road users including younger, older and people of all ages with a range of mental or physical disabilities or mobility problems. The proposal is the result of the outcome of the statutory consultation process which seeks and considers the views of organisations and individuals representing people with the full range 	
Physical Impairment	Positive ✓	Negative	None/ Negligible				
Visual Impairment	Positive ✓	Negative	None/ Negligible				
Learning Disability	Positive ✓	Negative	None/ Negligible				
Long Standing Illness	Positive ✓	Negative	None/ Negligible				
Mental Health	Positive ✓	Negative	None/ Negligible				
Other	Positive ✓	Negative	None/ Negligible				

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					of protected characteristics as well as the general public, stakeholders and partner agencies.		
Page 253	Transgender Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on transgender people? (Please tick ✓)			Positive Negative None/ Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change to the national speed limit is to generally increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. As with people with other protected characteristics, the proposals will have positive impact on transgender people. The improvement in road safety will benefit all road users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The benefits of the proposal will benefit transgender people alongside all other road users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting. Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.
	Transgender	✓					
	Civil partnership	✓					
Marriage or Civil Partnership Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on marriage or Civil partnership? (Please tick ✓)			Positive Negative None/ Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change to the national speed limit is to generally increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. As with people with other protected characteristics, the proposals will have positive impact on transgender people. The improvement in road safety will benefit all road users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The benefits of the proposed programme will benefit those in a marriage or civil partnership alongside all other road users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting. Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners. 	
Marriage	✓						
Civil partnership	✓						

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Pregnancy or Maternity Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on pregnancy or maternity? (Please tick ✓)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change to the national speed limit is to generally increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. As with people with other protected characteristics, the proposals will generally have positive impact on Pregnancy and Maternity. The improvements will benefit all road users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The benefits of the proposal will benefit Pregnancy and Maternity groups alongside all other road users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting. Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.
Pregnancy	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Maternity	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					

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Race Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on race? (Please tick ✓)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change to the national speed limit is to generally increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. As with people with other protected characteristics, the proposals will generally have positive impact on Race. The improvements will benefit all road users regardless of Race. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The benefits of the proposal will benefit people of all Races alongside all other road users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting. Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.
White	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Asian / Asian British	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Other Ethnic Groups	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					

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Religion or non-beliefs			
Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people with different religions, beliefs or non-beliefs? (Please tick ✓)			
Christian	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible
	✓		
Buddhist	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible
	✓		
Hindu	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible
	✓		
Humanist	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible
	✓		
Jewish	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible
	✓		
Muslim	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible
	✓		
Sikh	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible
	✓		
Non-belief	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible
	✓		
Other	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible
	✓		

- Change to the national speed limit is to generally increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel.
- As with people with other protected characteristics, the proposals will generally have positive impact on people with different religions, beliefs or non-beliefs. The improvements will benefit and not discriminate between all road users regardless of religion, belief or non-belief.

- The benefits of the proposed programme will benefit people of all religions and non-beliefs alongside all other road users.

- Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting.
- Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.



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Sex Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on men and/or women? (Please tick ✓)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to the national speed limit is to generally increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. • As with people with other protected characteristics, the proposals will generally have positive impact on gender. The improvements will benefit all road users regardless of gender. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The benefits of the proposal will benefit all road users, regardless of gender. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting. • Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.
Men	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Women	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Sexual Orientation Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people with different sexual orientation? (Please tick ✓)						
Bisexual	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Gay Men	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Gay Women / Lesbian	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Heterosexual / Straight	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					



Having due regards in relation to the three aims of the Equality Duty - determine whether the proposal will assist or inhibit your ability to eliminate discrimination; advance equality and foster good relations.

3.6.2. How could/does the proposal help advance/promote equality of opportunity?

You should consider whether the proposal will help you to:

- Remove or minimise disadvantage
- To meet the needs of people with certain characteristics
- Encourage increased participation of people with particular characteristics

Change to the national speed limit is to generally increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel, and is thus intended to be generally beneficial.

3.6.3. How could/does the proposal/decision help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, or victimisation?

You should consider whether there is evidence to indicate that:

- The proposal may result in less favourable treatment for people with certain characteristics
- The proposal may give rise to indirect discrimination
- The proposal is more likely to assist or impeded you in making reasonable adjustments

It is not anticipated that the proposal will have any negative impacts resulting in unlawful discrimination, harassment or victimisation.

3.6.4. How could/does the proposal impact on advancing/promoting good relations and wider community cohesion?

You should consider whether the proposal with help you to:

- Tackle prejudice
- Promote understanding

The proposal is to ensure safe and expeditious movement of vehicles and people. It will contribute towards safer use of public highway within the public highway and improved economic, social and cultural viability and sustainability of local communities.



3.7. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh Language are promoted and protected. <i>In this section you need to consider the impact, the evidence and any action you are taking for improvement. This in order to ensure that the opportunities for people who choose to live their lives and access services through the medium of Welsh are not inferior to what is afforded to those choosing to do so in English, in accordance with the requirement of the Welsh Language Measure 2011.</i>				Describe why it will have a positive/negative or negligible impact.	What evidence do you have to support this view?	What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?
Will the proposal be delivered bilingually (Welsh & English)?	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Change to the national speed limit is to generally increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. Engagement and public notices to be provided bilingually. Engagement and any changes implemented will be provided bilingually. Service operates a bilingual policy in respect of communication with members of the public and within the workplace. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All engagement as part of the Review has been conducted bilingually and followed Ceredigion County Council corporate policy. All textual signs will be bilingual and follow Ceredigion County Council and Welsh Government guidelines in this matter. County Council Welsh Language Scheme. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting. Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners. Bilingual policies and staff.
	✓					
Will the proposal have an effect on opportunities for	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			

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<p>persons to use the Welsh language?</p>	✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to the national speed limit is to generally increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. • Engagement and public notices to be provided bilingually. • Engagement and any changes implemented will be provided bilingually. • Service operates a bilingual policy in respect of communication with members of the public and within the workplace. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All engagement as part of the Review has been conducted bilingually and followed Ceredigion County Council corporate policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting. • Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners. • Bilingual policies and staff.
<p>Will the proposal increase or reduce the opportunity for persons to access services through the medium of Welsh?</p>	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to the national speed limit is to generally increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. • Engagement and public notices to be provided bilingually. • Engagement and any changes implemented 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All engagement as part of the Review has been conducted bilingually and followed Ceredigion County Council corporate policy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing monitoring and County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting. • Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.
			✓			



				<p>will be provided bilingually.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service operates a bilingual policy in respect of communication with members of the public and within the workplace. The proposal will help facilitate safer and more sustainable access to a range of services and opportunities provided by other County Council service areas, external organisations and agencies. • However, it should be noted that the change to speed limits will not in themselves necessarily increase or reduce the opportunities through the Welsh language and those opportunities will be beyond the scope of this proposal. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilingual policies and staff.
How will the proposal treat the Welsh language	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			

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no less favourably than the English language?		✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to the national speed limit is to generally increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. • Engagement and public notices to be provided bilingually. • Engagement and any changes implemented will be provided bilingually. • Service operates a bilingual policy in respect of communication with members of the public and within the workplace. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All engagement as part of the Review has been conducted bilingually and followed Ceredigion County Council corporate policy. • All textual signs will be bilingual and follow Ceredigion County Council and Welsh Government guidelines in this matter. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting. • Response to any issues raised through correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners. • Bilingual policies and staff.
Will it preserve promote and enhance local culture and heritage?	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change to the national speed limit is to generally increase road safety, to encourage modal shift, Active and Sustainable travel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All engagement as part of the Review has been conducted bilingually and followed Ceredigion County Council corporate policy. It has also included local and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County-wide review of speed limits broadly in line with new guidance to be published by the Welsh Government, resources permitting. • Response to any issues raised through 	



	✓			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engagement and public notices to be provided bilingually. • Engagement and any changes implemented will be provided bilingually. • Service operates a bilingual policy in respect of communication with members of the public and within the workplace. • It should be noted that the change to speed limits will not necessarily preserve, promote or enhance local culture or heritage as these will be beyond the scope of this proposal. It will however contribute towards safer and more sustainable access to local cultural and heritage facilities. 	<p>national organisations promoting culture and heritage.</p>	<p>correspondence from public, stakeholders and delivery partners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bilingual policies and staff.
--	---	--	--	---	---	--



4. STRENGTHENING THE PROPOSAL: If the proposal is likely to have a negative impact on any of the above (including any of the protected characteristics), what practical changes/actions could help reduce or remove any negative impacts as identified in sections 2 and 3?

4.1 Actions.

What are you going to do?	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible?	Progress

4.2. If no action is to be taken to remove or mitigate negative impacts please justify why.
(Please remember that if you have identified unlawful discrimination, immediate and potential, as a result of this proposal, the proposal must be changed or revised).

This change to on-street parking is to ensure safe and expeditious movement of vehicles and people. Engagement and public notices to be provided bilingually. There are no negative impacts identified as part of this IIA for the review process and proposed work programme to deliver this change to on-street parking. It is understood that the proposed change will benefit all existing and future road users through improvements to safety and access/ availability. The impact of the proposed change will however be monitored and specific remedial actions taken should these be deemed necessary. Following implementation, a further scheduled review including full community engagement is scheduled to take place in 2023/24 subject to available resources.

4.3. Monitoring, evaluating and reviewing.

How will you monitor the impact and effectiveness of the proposal?

The impact of the proposed change will be monitored and specific remedial actions may be considered if necessary, although it should be noted that this change to on-street parking is to ensure safe and expeditious movement of vehicles and people. Following implementation, a further scheduled review including full community engagement is to take place in 2023/24 subject to available resources. Incoming correspondence and representations will be considered alongside available traffic data and information from Civil Parking enforcement and the Police.

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5. RISK: What is the risk associated with this proposal?					
Impact Criteria	1 - Very low	2 - Low	3 - Medium	4 - High	5 - Very High
Likelihood Criteria	1 - Unlikely to occur	2 - Lower than average chance of occurrence	3 - Even chance of occurrence	4 - Higher than average chance of occurrence	5 - Expected to occur
Risk Description	Impact (severity)	Probability (deliverability)	Risk Score <i>Probability x Impact</i>		
Cabinet non-approval of proposal	5	1	5		
Physical constraints to proposed changes at specific locations	2	2	1		
Availability of grant funding to cover full costs once known	4	2	1		
Availability of contractors to deliver programme of physical works within planned timescale	5	5	3		
Does your proposal have a potential impact on another Service area?					
CCC Highways Maintenance – maintenance of the highway asset					
CCC – Economy and Performance – safer access for all to facilities, services and opportunities					

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6. SIGN OFF			
Position	Name	Signature	Date
Corporate Manager - Highways	Phil Jones		26.05.2023
Corporate Lead Officer	Rhodri Llwyd		26.05.2023
Corporate Director	Barry Rees		26.05.2023
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Keith Henson		26.05.2023

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 6 June 2023

Title: Welsh Language Standards Annual Monitoring Report April 2022 – March 2023

Purpose of the report: To present the Welsh Language Standards Report to Cabinet, which outlines progress in implementing the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards across Council services, during period April 2022 – March 2023.

For: Decision

Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member: Councillor Catrin M.S. Davies, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Customer Services, with responsibility for the Welsh Language.

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 sets a legal framework, which places a duty on Ceredigion County Council, to comply with Standards relating to the Welsh language. In providing its services the Council is required to promote and facilitate opportunities to use the Welsh language, and to ensure that the Welsh language is not treated less favourably than English in the provision of our services across the Council.

The Welsh Language Standards requires the Council to:

- Act in accordance with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards in organising its services, along with reporting on compliance on an annual basis.
- Furthermore Standards 146/145 state that the Council must publish and implement a five-year Strategy informing how the Council will promote and facilitate the use of Welsh within the wider area, setting a target for maintaining or increasing the number of Welsh speakers.

This report outlines progress the Council has made in addressing the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards across its services and focuses on the period 1 April 2022 - 31 March 2023. There are 5 Main Standards with a total of **167** sub-standards set on Ceredigion County Council. [The full list of Standards Ceredigion County Council is required to comply with is available on the Council's corporate website.]

The report sets out the actions that have been taken to comply with the requirements of the Standards, and organised under the 5 main standards namely:

- **Service Delivery Standards**
- **Policy Making Standards**

- **Internal Operations Standards**
- **Promotion Standards** (requirement to develop and publish a 5-year Strategy)
- **Record keeping standards.**

This report will be scrutinised by the Welsh Language Commissioner.

Key Achievements

Further details can be found in the Report, but here is a list of key achievements during the reporting period to strengthen compliance with the Welsh Language Standards:

- 62% of staff with the ability to chat orally in Welsh (namely ALTE Level 3, 4 and 5), this is consistent with previous profiles of workplace skills.
- 65 members of staff have had the opportunity to learn Welsh through the workplace Welsh Tutor scheme.
- 21 members of staff have become new speakers, by completing an Advanced Course through the workplace Welsh Tutor scheme.
- Working with the National Centre for Learning Welsh to pilot a Raising Confidence to Use Welsh residential course
- Undertake an internal exercise to self-assess the performance of the Council's services opposite some of the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards.
- Publish a campaign, '*how to contact the Council by phone, online, face-to-face, and in your preferred language*'.
- Provide a Welsh Language Awareness Session along with an overview of the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards for Councillors.
- *Publish a guide on Hosting Bilingual Meetings, widely shared amongst Councillors.*
- Establish the practice at the outset of each democratic Council meeting that the Chair makes a statement encouraging participants to contribute in Welsh.
- In accordance with the requirement of Standard 49, share a corporate template to ensure that an English version of any document or form clearly states that a Welsh version of that document or form is also available.
- Amend recruitment pages on the Council's website, to notify that the Council welcomes applications for posts in the Welsh language. (Standard137)
- Review the Council's corporate complaints process to ensure that the Policy, Guidelines and Templates welcomes the submission of concerns in the Welsh language.
- In accordance with the requirements of Standard 94, develop and publish *Welsh Language Policy on the Awarding of Grants*, which includes a checklist.
- A 'More than Words' Action Plan is in place, to increase the use of Welsh within the Care Sector services.
- The Welsh language integrated into Ceredigion County Council's Corporate Strategy 2022-27
- Review the Council's Customer Charter, which describes the level of service users can expect when contacting the Council, and this includes providing the service in English or Welsh, in accordance with the user's preferred language.

- Develop and publish the Ceredigion Language Strategy Achievement Report for the 5-year period 2018-23.
- Hold a stakeholder workshop in preparation to develop a Welsh Language Strategy for the next 5-year period.

Reporting on Performance Indicators

The Welsh Language Commissioner expects that the Council can provide evidence in relation to the performance indicators, a full analysis is provided as part of the report.

Conclusion

It is recognised that the implementation of the Welsh Language Standards is ongoing, with the aim of ensuring that the requirements are naturally mainstreamed into the work of the Council, and that Welsh-language services are available by default. The Council is committed to continuing to deliver improvements, and to taking action to ensure it fully meets the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards.

The Council acknowledges as part of this report that progress has been made, but that further improvements are required as part of the ongoing process to ensure the provision of our Welsh-medium services.

Following considerations from the Language Committee, the Report will be submitted to Cabinet for approval.

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why Not applicable, this is a monitoring report. not a new or revised policy decision.

Wellbeing of Future Generations:
Summary:
Long term:
Collaboration:
Involvement:
Prevention:
Integration:

- Recommendation(s):**
- To receive and approve the Ceredigion County Council Welsh Language Standards Annual Monitoring Report (2022-23)
 - To approve that the Welsh Language Standards report is published on the Council’s website in accordance with the statutory requirement
 - To present the report to the Welsh Language Commissioner

Reasons for decision:	Statutory Duty of the Welsh Language Standards Regulations, in accordance with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.
Overview and Scrutiny:	The Annual Monitoring Report was presented to the Council's Welsh Language Committee.
Policy Framework:	Welsh Language Standards Regulations, in accordance with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011.
Corporate Well-being Objectives:	Creating Caring & Healthy Communities
Finance and Procurement implications:	No direct financial implications to this report
Legal Implications:	No direct legal implications to this report
Staffing implications:	No direct staffing implications in presenting this report.
Property / asset implications:	NA
Risk(s):	NA
Statutory Powers:	Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011
Background Papers:	Welsh Language Standards Annual Monitoring Report 2022-23
Appendices:	Appendix 1: Workforce Welsh Language Skills Appendix 2: Ceredigion County Council ALTE Framework
Corporate Lead Officer:	Lowri Edwards, Corporate Lead Officer: Democratic Services
Reporting Officer:	Carys Lewis Morgan
Date:	19 May 2023



Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council

**Annual Monitoring Report
Welsh Language Standards**

1st April 2022 – 31st March 2023

Cymraeg

Author: Carys Lewis Morgan, Democratic Services

Date of publication:

Language Committee: 25/05/2023

Date approved by Cabinet: 06/06/2023

This report is available in English and Welsh.
This report can be provided in other formats on request. Contact the Welsh Language Policy Officer using the details below:

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E-mail: cymraeg@ceredigion.gov.uk

DRAFT

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 - Policy Making Standards
 - Operational Standards / Record Keeping Standards:
including workforce language skills, training and recruitment data
 - Promotion Standards
- Section 3: Report on the corporate complaint's procedure
- Section 4: Conclusions
- Annex 1: Overview of the number of staff with Welsh language skills, by service
- Annex 2: Ceredigion County Council's ALTE Framework

SECTION 1: Context

Purpose of the report

This is Ceredigion County Council's annual report on the implementation of the Welsh Language Standards in accordance with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011. It details how we set out to comply with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards during the reporting period, and reports on our duties to promote and facilitate opportunities to use the Welsh language and to ensure that the Welsh language is not treated less favourably than the English language.

The report was produced in accordance with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards (No. 1) Regulations 2015, standards 158, 164 and 170.

Background

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 established a legal framework that imposed a duty on Ceredigion County Council, alongside other public organisations, to comply with Standards relating to the Welsh language. The purpose of these Standards is:

- To provide more clarity to organisations on their duties in relation to the Welsh language
- To provide more clarity to Welsh speakers on the services they can expect to receive in Welsh
- To ensure that Welsh language services are more consistent and to improve their quality

Five principal standards, with a total of **167** sub-standards, were imposed on Ceredigion County Council by means of a Compliance Notice, with an initial implementation date of 30th March 2016. A full list of the Standards that Ceredigion County Council is required to comply with can be found on the Council's corporate website via the link below:

[safonau-iaith-gymraeg-cyngor-sir-ceredigion-hysbysiad-cydymffurfio.pdf](#)

The Welsh Language Standards requires the Council to:

- Act in accordance with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards in organising its services, along with reporting on compliance on an annual basis.
- Furthermore Standards 146/145 state that the Council must publish and implement a five-year Strategy informing how the Council will promote and facilitate the use of Welsh within the wider area, setting a target for maintaining or increasing the number of Welsh speakers.

The political administration

This has been a period of change in the administration, following the local government elections on 5th May 2022. Following these elections in Ceredigion, Plaid Cymru won a majority of 20 seats, with the Independent Group winning 10 seats, the Liberal Democrat Group winning seven seats, and one member not representing any particular group. Councillor Bryan Davies was appointed Leader of the Council, and Councillor Catrin M S Davies was appointed Cabinet Member with Lead Responsibility for the Welsh Language and Culture.

Internal monitoring arrangements

The responsibility for maintaining a strategic overview of issues relating to the Welsh language lies with the Corporate Lead Officer – Democratic Services. The Welsh Language Policy Officer is responsible for dealing with operational matters relating to the Welsh language on a daily basis within the Council. All policy decisions are scrutinised by the Leadership Group, which includes the Chief Executive, the two Strategic Directors, and the twelve Corporate Lead Officers.

Monitoring Reports on the Welsh Language Standards are scrutinised by the Members of the Language Committee who make recommendations to the Council's Cabinet. The Language Committee includes cross-party councillors and is chaired by the Cabinet Member with Lead Responsibility for the Welsh Language and Culture. The Language Committee provides a political steer for the promotion and facilitation of the Welsh language in Ceredigion and supports the efforts to improve the use of the Welsh language across the organisation.

The report is ultimately approved by the Council's Cabinet, before being published on the Council's corporate website.



The Council is required to publish a document explaining how the Council is complying with the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards. You can read more about the Council's arrangements to meet the Standards' requirements on the corporate website via the following link:

[cydydffurfio-a-safonau-iaith-ceredigion.pdf](https://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/cydydffurfio-a-safonau-iaith-ceredigion.pdf)

The County Council's methods of working

A Hybrid Working Strategy and a Provisional Hybrid Policy were agreed in July 2022 for a trial period of 12 months. The strategy outlines the vision and related actions that will be implemented to ensure that Ceredigion County Council has a workforce that has the skills and capacity to work in a way that is suitable for the organisation's future, enabling employees to work effectively, productively and safely from the office or from home. During the reporting period, most employees have continued to work from home; according to a survey, 75% of employees noted that they were more productive when working from home in comparison to the workplace, with 80% noting that continuing to work remotely was improving their work-life balance. However, 43% noted that they would like to work in the office at least once or twice a week to enable collaboration with others and to maintain social contact. Most staff have the option of whether to work from home or in the office as desired.

It must be recognised that remote working has offered staff new opportunities, but it may have had a less positive impact on the use of the Welsh language. It is much more difficult to monitor the use of the Welsh language when everyone is working from home. When employees were based in the office, the use of the Welsh language was organic, with colleagues able to encourage each other. The Welsh language could be heard through formal contact, but also through informal contact, for example in corridors, over coffee, by the photocopier, or in the canteen. Some officers may well not hear Welsh, which can affect their confidence to use Welsh with service users. In response, the Council has held discussions with the National Centre for Learning Welsh to arrange confidence building courses. The first residential course will be held in Nant Gwrtheyrn in July, and subsequently, specific activities will be organised for participants when they return to the workplace to encourage them to use the Welsh language.

Publication of the report

We are required to publish this Annual Report on our corporate website by 30th June.

The report outlines good practice and identifies how the Council has complied with the following categories of Standards:

- Service Delivery Standards
- Policy Making Standards
- Internal Operational Standards
- Promotion Standards

The report also presents data on the required performance indicators, namely the Record-keeping Standards:

Standard 151	Staff Language Skills:	Number of staff with Welsh language skills, by ALTE level, during the relevant year
154	Recruitment to vacant posts	Number of posts advertised during the year requiring Welsh language skills, and categorised using ALTE levels
152	Welsh language learning or improvement training	Number of staff who attended training courses to learn Welsh or to improve their Welsh language skills
152	Welsh-medium training provision	Number of staff who attended training courses offered by the Council in Welsh during the year
170	Complaints by members of the public	Number of complaints received in relation to the Welsh language

SECTION 2: Ensuring compliance with the Welsh Language Standards

Actions taken during the year to strengthen compliance with the Standards:

The information contained within this report was gathered as a result of the Council's continuous monitoring of its services.

The following list summarises the work undertaken over the past year to strengthen compliance:

Key Achievements

- 62% of staff with the ability to chat orally in Welsh (namely ALTE Level 3, 4 and 5), this is consistent with previous profiles of workplace skills.
- 65 members of staff have had the opportunity to learn Welsh through the workplace Welsh Tutor scheme.
- 21 members of staff have become new speakers, by completing an Advanced Course through the workplace Welsh Tutor scheme.
- Working with the National Centre for Learning Welsh to pilot a Raising Confidence to Use Welsh residential course
- Undertake an internal exercise to self-assess the performance of the Council's services opposite some of the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards.
- Publish a campaign, '*how to contact the Council by phone, online, face-to-face, and in your preferred language*'.
- Provide a Welsh Language Awareness Session along with an overview of the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards for Councillors.
- *Publish a guide on Hosting Bilingual Meetings, widely shared amongst Councillors.*
- Establish the practice at the outset of each democratic Council meeting that the Chair makes a statement encouraging participants to contribute in Welsh.
- In accordance with the requirement of Standard 49, share a corporate template to ensure that an English version of any document or form clearly states that a Welsh version of that document or form is also available.
- Amend recruitment pages on the Council's website, to notify that the Council welcomes applications for posts in the Welsh language. (Standard137)
- Review the Council's corporate complaints process to ensure that the Policy, Guidelines and Templates welcomes the submission of concerns in the Welsh language.
- In accordance with the requirements of Standard 94, develop and publish *Welsh Language Policy on the Awarding of Grants*, which includes a checklist.
- A 'More than Words' Action Plan is in place, to increase the use of Welsh within the Care Sector services.
- The Welsh language integrated into Ceredigion County Council's Corporate Strategy 2022-27
- Review the Council's Customer Charter, which describes the level of service users can expect when contacting the Council, and this includes providing the service in English or Welsh, in accordance with the user's preferred language.
- Develop and publish the Ceredigion Language Strategy Achievement Report for the 5-year period 2018-23.
- Hold a stakeholder workshop in preparation to develop a Welsh Language Strategy for the next 5-year period.

Compliance with the Service Delivery Standards (Standards 1–87)

The set of Service Delivery Standards outlines how the Council is required to use the Welsh language in a range of situations to enable Welsh speakers to have unfettered access to Welsh language services; for example, when issuing correspondence and publications, handling telephone calls, and providing services online or face-to-face.

To strengthen compliance with the Standards relating to **service delivery**, the Council has taken the following steps over the past year:

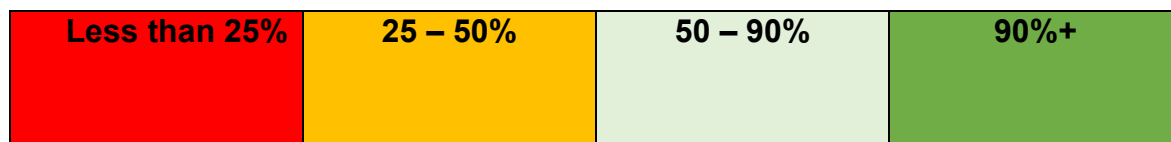
Performance management

In the Assurance Report 'Welsh as a way of working' 2021-22, the Welsh Language Commissioner has set the expectation that the Council should self-regulate its performance against the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards. Once again, with the agreement of the Leadership Group, a review was conducted of a selection of Standards relating to service delivery, as well as some of the Operational Standards relating to internal administration. The 12 Corporate Lead Officers were asked to rate their services against aspects of the Welsh Language Standards in an attempt to gauge current compliance. The 12 services are listed below.



This self-assessment seeks to raise the awareness of the 12 principal services of the Council's commitments in relation to the Welsh Language Standards. The assessments also assist services to identify gaps, to develop intervention programmes, as well as to make preparations in order to be able to respond effectively to the Welsh Language Commissioner's demand for a corporate self-assessment.

The Lead Officers were asked to rate their compliance levels as follows:



In general, high levels of assurance were recorded, with performance almost invariably assessed either at level 3, with compliance between 50-90%, or at level 4 (the highest level) with a 90%+ compliance score. The main reason for this is that the Corporate Lead Officers are confident that services are planned in a way that mean that Welsh speakers are available to provide a Welsh-medium service as required.

Only one service had concerns about the number of Welsh speakers available to deliver that service in Welsh, namely Porth Gofal. The Council has highlighted the challenges involved in Social Care recruitment, where there is a shortage of professionally qualified officers in general, even before their ability to speak Welsh is taken into consideration. The Council has taken proactive action to seek to close this gap by offering an internal social care training programme through a partnership with the Open University. The Social Work degree course in conjunction with the Open University takes three years to complete, and the following trainees are currently studying to gain the qualification:

Number of trainees	Level	Welsh speakers	Qualify by
5	1	1	October 2025
4	2	2	October 2024
3	3	2	October 2023

Furthermore, the Council also provides opportunities for officers to complete a Certificate in Social Work Practice, which encompasses the first two modules of the Social Work degree course. Once officers have completed this course, they quite regularly progress to the Social Work degree course, either as one of our trainees or as an independent student. This year, we are offering four places on the certificate course, and aiming to ensure that at least two are Welsh speakers.

As part of the Welsh Language Standards self-assessment exercise, the Corporate Lead Officers were given an opportunity to share examples of good practice, with several services proactively setting out to manage their own performance. Some of these examples are outlined below:

- Every team meeting is opened in Welsh, with a standing item on the agenda to remind employees of the Welsh Language Standards
- The Service's internal meetings exhibit a bilingual culture whereby all staff feel comfortable speaking their preferred language
- The use of the language within the service is organic and natural – the default language for those who use it
- Support and opportunities are provided within the service to develop staff's ability, confidence and use of the language as part of the everyday environment
- A Work Welsh Tutor has produced bespoke training sessions for front-line social care staff, providing relevant vocabulary used within the sector. This has also been delivered to neighbouring authorities
- Bespoke Welsh lessons have given Welsh learners within the Clic Service confidence to deal with calls and enquiries in Welsh
- Develop brands/projects with the Welsh language at their core, with bespoke, idiomatic slogans or straplines, rather than literal translations
- Ceredigion's social care services are extremely proactive in offering services in Welsh. This is particularly notable in relation to service users with dementia who return to the language of their childhood. It is important that they are able to maintain their familiar language and their cultural traditions

- Support provided via Service Level Agreements (SLAs) with six voluntary youth organisations; the SLAs include targets and support to enable those organisations to meet the standards and to provide Welsh-medium opportunities for children and young people
- We have two Welsh language ambassadors within Hyfforddiant Ceredigion Training (HCT), one in plumbing and one in carpentry. The aim is to encourage more learners to learn Welsh and to use it in their work placements
- Every press release and social media post is published in Welsh and English
- We are striving to increase the number of approved Welsh-speaking foster carers in Ceredigion to ensure that children are able to continue to be cared for within a Welsh-speaking family
- The Arfor scheme, funded via the Welsh Government, has enabled a specific focus on the development of the Welsh language in relation to economic growth, and as a result there is a greater understanding of the relationship between economic development and language

Ceredigion County Council's commitment to delivering services in Welsh to the public in accordance with the requirements of the Operational Standards

In line with its commitment to comply with the Welsh Language Standards, the Council has published a Policy Statement, available on the Council's corporate website, to inform the public that they are able to use the Welsh language in their dealings with the Council, by post, face to face, by telephone, and online.

The Policy Statement states:

Ceredigion County Council is committed to supporting the Welsh language and culture, and to ensuring that its services and activities serve to promote and facilitate the use of the Welsh Language across the county.

[The Bilingual Workplace: \(ceredigion.gov.uk\)](http://ceredigion.gov.uk)

Furthermore, over recent months, the Council has amended its **Customer Charter**, and has published the document on its corporate website. The charter explains that the Council delivers a wide range of services and seeks to do so in a way that meets the needs of the user and is both convenient and courteous. The Customer Charter describes the level of service that users can expect to receive when contacting the Council, and this includes delivering services in Welsh or English, according to the user's language preference.

[Ceredigion County Council – Customer Charter](#)

Standards relating to correspondence and answering telephone calls (Standards 1-22)



Ceredigion's Customer Care Service, Clic, operates as a single point of access to the Council's services, by telephone or digitally, and service users are able to choose to contact the Council in Welsh or English. Service users' preferred language is recorded in the central system, and when they need to be transferred to another officer, their preferred language is highlighted so that officers answer in the language of the initial enquiry. A reminder appears on every enquiry page in the CRM to remind officers to respect service users' preferred language, as follows:

“Cofiwch ateb i'r ymholiad yma yn yr iaith a gofnodwyd uchod / Remember to respond to the enquiry in the language recorded above.”

Clic Ceredigion handles all initial enquiries on behalf of all Council services. Service users are also able to make an enquiry or voice a concern via Ceredigion's Clic Service using an online form. The online form has been revised to enable service users to indicate the language in which they wish to receive Council services – see below.

A screenshot of a web form titled 'Opsiyonau iaith (dewisol)'. It contains a dropdown menu for 'Beth yw eich prif iaith?' with 'Dewiswch' selected. Below this, there are four sections: 'Gohebiaeth Electronig', 'Gohebiaeth Bapur', 'Darparu Gwasanaethau', and 'Ar Lafar'. Each section has three radio buttons for 'Cymraeg', 'Saesneg', and 'Dwyieithog'.

Opsiyonau iaith (dewisol)						
Beth yw eich prif iaith?						
Dewiswch						
Ym mha iaith y hoffwch chi dderbyn y ganlynol:						
Gohebiaeth Electronig	<input type="radio"/>	Cymraeg	<input type="radio"/>	Saesneg	<input type="radio"/>	Dwyieithog
Gohebiaeth Bapur	<input type="radio"/>	Cymraeg	<input type="radio"/>	Saesneg	<input type="radio"/>	Dwyieithog
Darparu Gwasanaethau	<input type="radio"/>	Cymraeg	<input type="radio"/>	Saesneg	<input type="radio"/>	Dwyieithog
Ar Lafar	<input type="radio"/>	Cymraeg	<input type="radio"/>	Saesneg	<input type="radio"/>	Dwyieithog

The Clic Ceredigion team comprises 19 members of staff, including 2 supervisors. One hundred percent of team members are able to speak Welsh (ALTE levels 3, 4 and 5), with one member of the team attending weekly Welsh lessons. All new members of staff receive information about the Welsh Language Standards as part of the induction process.

The Clic Service records the number of calls to the contact centre. Regular calls are received in Welsh, and they tend to make up 16% of all calls, which is 1% greater than the number of calls received during the previous year. The increase is possibly due to Clic now taking phone calls on behalf of Social Services.

See the table below for a summary of calls to the Clic Service.

	Number of calls in English	Number of calls in Welsh	Total number of calls per month	% of calls in Welsh
Apr-22	9134	1578	10712	14.7%
May-22	10050	1608	11658	14%
Jun-22	9620	1973	11593	17%
Jul-22	10340	1993	12333	16%
Aug-22	9438	1889	11327	17%
Sep-22	9997	1985	11982	17%
Oct-22	9756	2032	11788	17%
Nov-22	9122	1746	10868	16%
Dec-22	6267	1383	7650	18%
Jan-23	9466	1820	11286	16%
Feb-23	7503	1387	8890	16%
Mar-23	9245	1576	10821	15%
Total	109938	20970	130908	16%
Grand total	130908			

The service has also started to gather data on the number of enquiries received via other formats, as follows:

Number of enquiries in the CRM – April 22 – March 23

Language	E-mail	Face to face*	My Account	Social media	Telephone	Website	Post
Welsh	98	323	3	5	5591	631	15
English	15588	1564	5	61	50616	31153	648
Bilingual	0	0	433	0	0	0	0
Total	15686	1887	441	66	56207	31784	663

The Council is committed to raising awareness of the Welsh language services available to Ceredigion's citizens and is very eager to encourage our residents to use the Welsh language services available to them. See the section on 'raising awareness of Welsh language services.'

As part of the process of introducing the Clic Service, we have amended our telephone welcome message to encourage customers to select the Welsh language service.

*Diolch am alw Cyngor Sir Ceredigion / Thank you for calling Ceredigion County Council.
Mae croeso ichi ddefnyddio'r Gymraeg wrth gysylltu gyda'r Cyngor / You are welcome to use Welsh when contacting the Council.*

Am barhau yn Gymraeg gwasgwch 1 / To proceed in English press 2.



To ensure that the Standards are implemented across the Council's services, we inform officers of the requirement to implement the Standards in a number of ways: the induction process, an e-learning programme, 'Work Welsh' pages on the intranet, updates via the Team Ceredigion news bulletin, and ensuring that everyone is aware of the guide: 'A Guide to the Welsh Language Standards: What I need to do'.

Standards relating to meetings (Standards 24-38)

As a consequence of the pandemic, the Council has invested in technical equipment to ensure that all democratic meetings of the Council are able to be held on a hybrid basis, while maintaining the principle of being open and accountable to the public.

Every democratic meeting of the Council is held bilingually, with simultaneous translation provision for non-Welsh speakers. To facilitate hybrid meetings, the Council utilises the Zoom platform, and Cabinet and Full Council meetings are streamed in Welsh via Facebook, with the simultaneous translation available via the English language stream on Facebook.

During this reporting period, it was a period of administration change following from the Local Government elections on the 5th of May 2022. In this new administration, the majority of Councillors speak Welsh. However, there was quite a significant change in Councillors, therefore a Welsh Language Awareness session was held early in June, along with an overview of the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards. A '*Guide to holding bilingual meetings*' was also published to support the fundamental principle that meetings should be held in Welsh, with a translation service provided to enable non-Welsh-speakers to participate fully. To facilitate the use of the Welsh language further, the Guide contains relevant vocabulary for use in meetings.

To encourage participants to make further use of Welsh in meetings, an appropriate script was produced and, since June 2022, at the beginning of every democratic meeting of the Council, the Chair makes a statement encouraging contributions in Welsh, as follows:

Croeso i [title of meeting xxxxx]. Welcome.

Mae croeso i chi ddefnyddio Cymraeg neu Saesneg yn y cyfarfod. Bydd y gwasanaeth cyfieithu ar y pryd yn cyfieithu o'r Gymraeg i'r Saesneg. Mae modd felly, ymateb yn Gymraeg i sylwadau a chwestiynau a gaiff eu gwneud yn Saesneg, yn ogystal ag i'r rhai a wneir yn Gymraeg.

Of the 14 standard Democratic Meetings:

- 11 Meetings are Chaired in Welsh
- 2 Meetings where the Chair, will welcome in Welsh, and will continue the meeting bilingually: Participants contribute in Welsh, as the translation service (from Welsh to English) is provided.
- 1 Meeting Chaired in English, facilitated by a Lay Member: Participants can contribute in Welsh, as the translation service (from Welsh to English) is provided.

A translation service is also provided in public events and meetings, including well-being meetings, as well as some internal Council meetings (for example, disciplinary meetings, performance board meetings, interviews and training sessions). Between March 2022 and April 2023, 287 committees and/or meetings have been supported by the translation service.

The Translation Service

	2022-23
Democratic Services meetings where a translation service was provided	217
Well-being meetings where a translation service was provided	15
Other meetings where a translation service was provided	55
TOTAL number of meetings where a translation service was provided	287

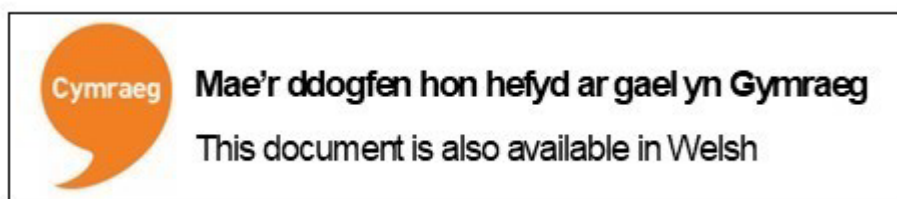
At present, the Council employs seven members of staff within the Translation Service, with five working on a full-time basis, one working three days a week, and one working one day a week. Of these, four of the full-time translators also provide a simultaneous translation service, alongside the translator who works three days a week and the translator who works one day a week.

Statements on documents and forms (Standards 49, 50A)

Following the annual compliance meeting, it was agreed that the Council should take further action to comply with Standards 49 and 50A. These Standard states that readers should be informed that documents are available in Welsh as well as English:

49	Service Delivery	If you produce a Welsh language version and a separate English language version of a document, you must ensure that the English language version clearly states that the document is also available in Welsh.
50A	Service Delivery	If you produce a Welsh language version and a separate English language version of a form, you must ensure that the English language version clearly states that the form is also available in Welsh.

Therefore, templates were produced to be included in English versions of documents and forms to inform readers of the availability of Welsh versions.



The templates have been shared via the Team Ceredigion newsletter, and they will be available for officers to access easily on the intranet. Reminders will be shared on a regular basis in order to ensure that officers comply with the requirement in full.

Standards for raising awareness of the Welsh language services provided (Standard 81)

- Information on all Council services is available bilingually on the Council's website.
- A document is available on the website outlining the Standards that the Council is required to comply with.
- The Council's Policy Statement is also available to download from the Council's website, and it outlines the Council's commitment to supporting the Welsh language and culture, ensuring that its services and activities serve to promote and facilitate the use of the Welsh language across the county. [The Bilingual Workplace: \(ceredigion.gov.uk\)](http://ceredigion.gov.uk)
- The Council makes extensive use of social media, and undertakes regular campaigns to inform the public that English and Welsh accounts are available – see below:



Number of followers of Ceredigion County Council's social media accounts:

Accounts	February 2022	February 2023	Increase
Facebook Welsh	1,639	2,491	+ 852
Facebook English	14,610	15,765	+ 1,155
Twitter Welsh	2,537	2,632	+ 95
Twitter English	8,469	8,686	+ 217
Instagram Caru Ceredigion (bilingual site)	1,204	1,420	+ 216

The Council organises campaigns to inform the public of its Welsh language services, using specific dates on the calendar to do so, e.g., the Shwmae Day, St. David's Day, and the Welsh Language Rights Day.

Shwmae Day 15th October 2022

On this year's Shwmae Day, Ceredigion County Council's Welsh Learner of the Year award ceremony was held. Naming Melisa Elek Welsh Learner of the Year proved to be a major attainment for the Work Welsh programme. Melisa is originally from Canada, and has a Croatian background, and she now works for Hyfforddiant Ceredigion Training. A ceremony was held, and a story and video were produced about Melisa, with the aim of encouraging the Council's other students on the Shwmae Day. The event generated local and national interest.

Facebook: reach: 1,959

Instagram: reach: 355

Welsh Language Rights Day – 9th December 2022

On the Welsh Language Rights Day, Ceredigion County Council joined with the Office of the Welsh Language Commissioner to raise awareness of people's rights to use the Welsh language in their dealings with the Council. By implementing the Welsh Language Standards, Ceredigion County Council has proceeded to plan services in Welsh and is eager to inform the residents of Ceredigion that a quality service is available to them in Welsh. The Standards have also established the rights of workers to use the Welsh language at work, significantly increasing the opportunities to use the language on a daily basis.

We produced a video in which a number of the Council's officers state that their services can be contacted in Welsh, and the video was shared widely via social media, alongside a press release.

Facebook: Reach: 1k

Twitter: Reach: 491

As part of the Welsh rights campaign held internally for Ceredigion staff, a 'word of the day' challenge was set. A 'word or phrase of the day' was published on CeriNet, and staff members were challenged to use that word or phrase at work with colleagues, providing an opportunity for them to use the Welsh language, and helping those learning the language to expand their vocabulary.

St David's Day – 1st March 2022



To celebrate St David's Day, a video was produced to encourage the residents of Ceredigion to make use of the Welsh language, by doing simple things in Welsh, such as:

- Starting a conversation in Welsh
- Texting in Welsh
- Using social media in Welsh
- Listening to Welsh language music
- Downloading a new app in Welsh
- Contacting the County Council in Welsh



Internally, for the purposes of celebrating the day with staff, a virtual quiz was organised via Teams, with the Mentimeter software used to generate an interactive quiz. The quiz attracted a substantial audience, including a mix of fluent Welsh speakers and Welsh learners. It provided everyone with an opportunity to use the Welsh language informally at work, and it generated excellent feedback, including the following examples:

I enjoyed it and learnt something about Welsh history. The timing was good, not too slow to lose interest.

Something a little different to celebrate St David's Day that brought a little smile to my face.

Diolch Carys, enjoyed the quiz, I ended up 11th, but my knowledge of Welsh history has been improved!! I am a Welsh learner so good to listen to the Welsh spoken before, during and after the quiz and to see the written Welsh too.

The Mentimeter website worked very well.

Standards relating to corporate identity (Standards 61-63; 81-83)

This Council has a bilingual identity – Welsh and English.



Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council



In terms of the county's name, Ceredigion, there is no translation. The Council's title is Cyngor Sir Ceredigion County Council. The motto, "Golud Gwlad Rhyddid", is not translated. The motto was officially given on 21st October 1937 to Cardiganshire County Council, before being transferred to Ceredigion District Council in 1974, and subsequently to Ceredigion County Council in 1996.

In terms of the coat of arms, the golden lion on a black background is based on the coat of arms of Gwaithfoed, a medieval prince in Ceredigion. The herring and wheat represent the fishing and agricultural industries, and the chevron and roses are attributed to St David, Patron Saint of Wales, who had very close ties with Ceredigion. The meaning of the motto in English is: "A nation's wealth is freedom".



More recently, the Council has made increasing use of the 'Caru Ceredigion' brand. The Caru Ceredigion brand involves inspiring everyone in the County to promote the positives in terms of behaviours, attitudes and profile – this is good for them, the local community and Ceredigion.

[Caru Ceredigion – Ceredigion County Council](#)

- The Council is committed to developing brands / initiatives with the Welsh language at their heart, developing bespoke straplines rather than literal translations.
- Every internal and external sign erected by the Council or on its behalf is bilingual, with the Welsh text appearing first.
- **House Naming:** In accordance with the Street Naming and Numbering Policy, if an owner requests that the name of their house is to be changed from Welsh to English; the Council's Address Officer will send a letter urging them to re-consider, explaining that the name of the house belongs to the cultural and historical heritage of the area. They have 10 days to re-consider their decision. However, if they continue with their request to change the name to English, then the Council has no further statutory rights to enforce further.
- **Naming of new Estates Streets:** In accordance with the Street Naming and Numbering Policy, the Council will consult with the Town and Community Councils to promote and encourage the use of Welsh names on new streets and new housing estates. It will also make use of the Welsh Language Commissioner's place-name advisory service for advice on the standard forms of placenames.

Good practice:

Recently, Angharad Fychan from the Welsh Place-Name Society held a workshop with pupils at Ysgol Penrhyn-coch in line with the school curriculum's 'cynefin' (habitat) theme.

As part of the workshop, a challenge was set to name a new housing estate.

The proposed name of the new estate is: **GWAR Y GARTH**

Garth is the old name of the upper part of the village (formerly Penrhyn Uchaf), and Garth Uchaf and Garth Isaf are the names of the two streets opposite the Village Hall. With that name falling from use, it is an excellent opportunity to keep the name alive. Garth means 'ridge' – i.e. it describes the ridge of land that rises from Cae Mawr and extends towards the bus garage.

The term 'Gwar' was chosen to provide some variety in the names of estates in the village, where there are a large number of estates named 'MAES Y [something]', and Gwar also provides neat alliteration with Garth. Gwar is also a familiar name because Cae Gwar Felin was the name given on the Tithe Map for the field where Glan Seilo and Ger-y-cwm are now located.

Compliance with the Policy Making Standards (Standards 88-89)

Policy Making Standards: This set of standards states that the Council is required to consider the Welsh language when making any policy decision, as well as to take positive steps to promote the use of the language.

The Policy Making Standards require Ceredigion County Council to:

- consider the effects of the Council's policy decisions on the Welsh language, taking steps to mitigate any detrimental impact, and capitalising on every opportunity to promote the Welsh language
- consider the effect on the use of the Welsh language in awarding grants
- seek views on the effects on the Welsh language during engagement or consultation exercises and seek the views of Welsh speakers and those who use the language.

To strengthen compliance with the Standards relating to policy making, the Council has taken the following steps over the past year:

Consider the effects of policy decisions on the Welsh language [Integrated Impact Assessment] Standards 88-90

The Council's Integrated Impact Assessment framework includes questions to enable the effects of policy decisions on opportunities to use the Welsh language and on the principle that Welsh should not be treated less favourably than English to be considered.

An Integrated Impact Assessment must be provided alongside every document discussing policy decisions that is considered by the Council's Cabinet. This guarantees that issues relating to the Welsh language have been considered during the drafting process, and that mitigation measures have been identified to address any detrimental impact on the Welsh language. During the reporting period, 13 Integrated Impact Assessments were presented to the Council's Cabinet.

The Integrated Impact Assessment framework is currently under review. There is still scope to improve the impact assessments presented to the Cabinet, and during the next reporting period, guidelines will be produced to advise Council officers on issues relating to the Welsh language that should be considered when making policy decisions.

**Consider the impact of the awarding of grants on the Welsh language
[Standards 71-75, 94]**

During the reporting period, a policy on the Welsh language and the awarding of grants was produced, as required by Standard 94. This policy was approved by the Cabinet at its meeting on 10th January.

The awarding of grants could have a far-reaching impact on the Welsh language, directly or indirectly; a number of grants have a social and economic impact that influences the Welsh language in turn. The Welsh Language Standards require the Council to consider what impact the awarding of a grant would have on:

- opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language in the context of the activity
- treating the Welsh language, no less favourably than the English language

In developing the policy, a number of conversations were arranged with officers involved in the awarding of grants within the Council, in order to gain their input and gather their views. The policy aims to assist officers to consider the use of the Welsh language when awarding grants. It also ensures that decision makers are aware of their duties when making decisions on the awarding of grants.

Since the policy was approved in January, a record has been kept of the process of awarding grants. In due course, we hope to be able to record the use made of the Welsh language as a result of receiving grant funding.

Name of service	Total number of grants distributed since January 2023	Number of applicants who submitted their applications in Welsh
Economy and Regeneration – Growth and Enterprise	9	2
Ceredigion Community Grant Scheme, Finance and Procurement	9	6
Youth Service Service Level Agreements	6	3
Youth Service Youth Support Grant	4	4
Childcare Service	37	10

Consider the impact on the use of the Welsh language as part of public consultations: Standards 91-93

As part of the Council's Consultation Framework, we have produced a set of questions that officers can use when undertaking any consultation in order to consider the public's views on the proposed impact of the decision on the Welsh language. However, as each consultation is different, we have been working with the Engagement Officers to seek to encourage officers to contact the Welsh Language Officer for advice when arranging a consultation.

Since records were first kept in June 2022, 14 public consultations have been held, but the review has demonstrated that only 8 included the requirement to assess the impact on the Welsh language. To improve the situation, we now work with the Engagement Team to monitor the Council's public consultations, and to ensure compliance with the statutory requirements of the Welsh Language Standards.

Compliance with the Operational Standards (99-144)

The set of **Operational Standards (98-144)** addresses the way in which the Council uses the Welsh language internally and delivers workers' rights in the context of receiving human resources services in their preferred language. The set of standards requires the Council to consider ways of increasing and facilitating the use of the Welsh language internally in order to contribute to the Welsh Government's vision of increasing the number of people who speak and use the Welsh language on a daily basis.

The set of Operational Standards requires the Council to report on the following data:

Standard 151	Staff language skills	Number of staff with Welsh language skills, by ALTE level, during the relevant year
154	Recruitment to vacant posts	Number of posts advertised during the year requiring Welsh language skills, and categorised using ALTE levels
152	Welsh language learning or improvement training	Number of staff who attended training courses to learn Welsh or to improve their Welsh language skills
152	Welsh-medium training provision	Number of staff who attended training courses offered by the Council in Welsh during the year
170	Complaints by members of the public	Number of complaints received in relation to the Welsh language

To strengthen compliance with the set of Standards relating to internal operational arrangements, the Council has taken the following steps over the past year:

Recruitment website (Standards 137-139)

Following an examination of our recruitment website, the Welsh Language Commissioner informed us that we needed to take steps to ensure that applicants understand that they are welcome to submit their job applications in Welsh. As a result, we have taken the following actions:

The following sentence have been included on the Council's recruitment page:

We operate a bilingual policy. All applicants are invited to apply in Welsh, any application submitted in Welsh will not be treated less favourably than an application made in English.

LINK: [Browse vacancies | Ceredigion County Council Careers](#)

We are also considering placing additional buttons on each page containing full job details, enabling applicants to select from the following options:

- Cais Ar-lein: to apply in Welsh
- Apply Online: to apply in English

This will enable persons on the English vacancies page to click the button to apply for the post in Welsh seamlessly (and, similarly, both buttons will also appear on the equivalent Welsh page). The IT Department is working to develop this facility at present.

Staff language skills

The council measures its workforce Welsh language skills by using the ALTE framework. (The Association of Language Testers in Europe). This framework sets a language skill level from 0-5, and sets 'can do capability statements'. Each member of staff will self-assess their Welsh language skills against the 'can do' statements and record their results on the HR Ceri system; so that data can be reported annually, in accordance with the requirements of Standard 127 and 151.

- See **Appendix 1** for the number of staff with Welsh language skills, by service area.
- See **Appendix 2** for Ceredigion County Council's ALTE Framework

The data below provide a comparison between the previous report and this reporting year in terms of the number of staff who possess Welsh listening and speaking skills:

Listening / Speaking 2021-22		
Level	Number of staff	%
Level 5	651	32%
Level 4	315	15%
Level 3	312	15%
Level 2	294	14%
Level 1	394	20%
No skills	79	4%
TOTAL	2045	100%

Listening / Speaking 2022-23		
Level	Number of staff	%
Level 5	655	32%
Level 4	325	16%
Level 3	282	14%
Level 2	297	15%
Level 1	397	20%
No skills	73	3%
TOTAL	2029	100%

Key Headlines

- Ceredigion County Council has 16 fewer staff than this period last year.
- 62% of staff with the ability to chat orally in Welsh (namely ALTE Level 3, 4 and 5), this is consistent with previous profiles of workplace skills.
- In addition, 35% of staff have basic courtesy Welsh skills (i.e., ALTE Levels 1 and 2)
- Only 3% of the workforce have reported having no Welsh language skills at all. In an effort to reduce the number of workers who identify as having no Welsh language skills, the Council will encourage Officers to complete the 10-hour 'Welcome Welsh' e-learning package developed by the National Centre for Learning Welsh.
- The numbers with Welsh Language within the care sector continue to be a concern, this also reflects the shortage of Welsh language skills across the sector nationally. To address this, the Council has sought to develop its current workforce, and established good practice by organising a training programme in conjunction with the Open University.

Recruitment to vacant posts

Number of posts advertised during the year requiring Welsh language skills, and categorised using ALTE levels

Linguistic requirements of advertised posts 2022-2023		
	Number	Percentage
Total number of posts advertised	601	
Number of posts where Welsh language skills were required at Level 5	109	18%
Number of posts where Welsh language skills were required at Level 4	26	4%
Number of posts where Welsh language skills were required at Level 3	237	40%
Number of posts where Welsh language skills were required at Level 2	144	24%
Number of posts where Welsh language skills were required at Level 1	85	14%
Total	601	100%

The Council continues to advertise a number of posts requiring fluent Welsh language skills at ALTE Level 5 (18%) The greatest number of advertised posts require language skills at ALTE Level 3 (40%). ALTE Level 3 requires individuals to be able to understand and take part in routine conversations on a day-to-day basis in the office, and Level 5 requires full fluency in Welsh.

The Council ensures that candidates are interviewed in their preferred language, as required by Standard 137.

Candidate: Preferred language at interview		
English	2473	84%
Welsh	423	15%
Unknown	32	1%

The number of candidates choosing to be interviewed in Welsh remains low compared with the number choosing to be interviewed in English. In April of this year, the HR Department took a number of steps to highlight the fact that application forms can be submitted, and interviews held in candidates' preferred language. The actions taken can be read under the heading ' **Recruitment website**' above.

The HR Service shares a weekly newsletter, and staff may choose the language to receive the newsletter. The number choosing to receive HR News in Welsh only is low, however, the number receiving HR News bilingually is 78%.

Language	Number	Percentage
English	688	19%
Welsh	92	3%
Bilingual	2868	78%

Courses to Learn Welsh

The number of staff who have attended courses to learn Welsh

The partnership between the County Council and the National Centre for Learning Welsh continues, to enable the funding of a Working Welsh Tutor. We have proved that employing a Working Welsh Tutor in the workplace makes a big difference to the opportunities available to learn Welsh within the Council.

Course	Number of attendees
Access Course	26
Foundation Course	18
Intermediate Course	15
Advanced Course	6
Total number of learners	65

WJEC exams	Number of candidates
January 2023	14 sat the Access level exam in January 2023. 14 passed. The students' next target will be to sit the Foundation level exam in 2023/24.
Summer 2023	10 registered to sit the exams. 5 Access, 4 Foundation, 1 Intermediate.
Total	24

Quote from a Welsh learner:

"I am finding the course very helpful; it is beneficial to my role within the council whilst dealing with email queries or phone calls. I also work a few days from the office and find that when people approach me and speak, I can understand a certain amount of what they are saying."

New Welsh Speakers signifies the success of the Work Welsh Language Tutor

In our annual report last year, we reported that 21 members of staff were participating on the advanced Welsh language learning course. By completing this higher-level course, the Council is pleased to report these participants have now become new Welsh speakers and have gained confidence to use Welsh in both professional and personal contexts. They are also in a position to take advantage of the refresher and proficiency courses provided by the Council.

Quotes from the Advanced Course attendees:

"I enjoy the social aspect of the course. I understand the language better and my vocabulary has also improved. It has given me confidence to speak Welsh in the workplace and with visitors to the museum."

"This year, I feel that I have much more confidence to speak Welsh and to understand the language. Now, I attend 'Dal Ati' and 'Ar Gered' to practise my Welsh!"

“The Advanced (1) Welsh course supports my continuous development in using Welsh in the workplace and in everyday life. I have more confidence and I am pleased to be able to use my Welsh language skills.”

Extracurricular provision	
Clwb Cinio (Lunchtime Club)	
The Lunchtime Club has been used in a different way this year.	
<u>Revision Club</u>	
Having promoted informal opportunities to use the Welsh language at the beginning of the autumn term, the Club was formalised as a revision resource for exams during the final weeks of December and throughout January. These sessions were attended by the 14 who were sitting exams and by a number of other students who wanted to consolidate their Welsh skills. During January, the Club met on a daily basis, with students attending joint and one-to-one sessions with the Training Officer.	
The Revision Club will meet again to prepare for the summer exams.	
Activities	
<u>Christmas parties</u>	
Christmas parties were held via Teams for all students participating in the Work Welsh programme.	
<u>St David’s Day quiz</u>	
The Training Officer and a group of Intermediate and Advanced students participating in the Work Welsh programme attended a Council staff quiz on St David’s Day. It gave the students an opportunity to use the language informally, and to respond to the experience subsequently in their classes.	
<u>Museum visits (in the pipeline)</u>	
During February and March 2023, the Training Officer has been working with Ceredigion Museum officers to arrange guided tours of the Museum at different levels in the Work Welsh programme. These tours are scheduled to take place during the summer term.	
Ffrind Iaith (Language Friend)	
Eight Welsh learners have signed-up to the Ffrind Iaith Revision Scheme, introduced this year, alongside eight mentors.	
The programme was built around the January exams.	
The 14 students sitting exams in January were offered an opportunity to partner with a Council employee who would act as mentor. This opportunity was taken up by eight students.	
The Training Officer provided daily activity sheets for the pairs throughout January, focussing on various aspects of the upcoming exams. The programme was successful, with every student passing the exam. The students gave the following feedback:	
“The opportunity to speak with a fluent Welsh speaker using the worksheets focused around possible exam questions was a great help, especially in preparation for the speaking element of the exam.”	
“My Ffrind Iaith Adolygu has been excellent! She met with me every day before the exam and gave me great encouragement.”	

Courses to improve Welsh language skills

Standard	Course name	Numbers
129	Improve your Welsh writing skills	Organised for May 2023, with 14 participants booked
129	Build your confidence to use the Welsh language: residential course in Nant Gwrtheyrn	Organised for July 2023, with 6 participants booked

Corporate Training: Welsh-medium provision

Training opportunities are promoted and shared with staff in the weekly HR News article published for all staff in Welsh and English. The Learning and Development Team also distributes a bilingual quarterly newsletter for all internal and external social care staff.

Forthcoming training events are also promoted via the Council's intranet, CeriNet. Staff can choose to access the site in Welsh or English.

Staff can search for courses on CeriNet by typing 'Cymraeg', and courses available in Welsh are shown. This includes a range of Work Welsh courses. Staff can view and book training courses or register their interest by joining a waiting list. Course titles are shown in Welsh and English, and those courses provided in Welsh are highlighted with a 'c'.

The Authority has invested in a new Learning Management System, Ceredigion Learning Pool, that supports all available e-learning programmes. Unlike the previous site, the new site enables staff to access the site in Welsh or English, and staff are also able to complete the e-learning programmes in their preferred language. Staff are also able to toggle between both languages while completing the e-learning modules.

Total number of training sessions offered by the Council to staff

Standard no:	Requirement	Number and %
152	Total number of training sessions offered by the Council to staff	719 sessions (excluding school events and e-learning) 4,842 attendees
152	Total and % of training sessions offered in Welsh to staff	25 offered (3%) 20 sessions cancelled: 17 due to lack of numbers
152	Total and % of training sessions offered in Welsh or bilingually to staff	30 offered (4%) 21 sessions cancelled: 18 due to lack of numbers
152	Total number and % of staff who attended training courses provided by the Council through the medium of Welsh during the year	99 (2%) attendees

Number of training sessions offered in Welsh in accordance with Standard 128

Standard no:	Course name	Number of attendees (Welsh)	Number of attendees (English)	% attending Welsh version
128	Recruitment and interview skills	Included in the new Ceredigion Manager programme, see below		
128	Performance management	Included in the new Ceredigion Manager programme, see below		
128	Complaints and disciplinary procedure	3 sessions cancelled due to lack of numbers	6 sessions cancelled due to lack of numbers	0

128, 133	Induction sessions – including information about the Welsh Language Standards	Not delivered	0	0
128	Dealing with the public (i.e., Customer Care – Customer First)	Not delivered	11	0
128	Health and safety	5 sessions offered, but all cancelled due to lack of numbers	208 sessions delivered: 35 sessions cancelled, 15 due to lack of numbers. 172 attendees	0
129	Welsh Language History Awareness and Welsh Language Standards Training (e-learning programme)	140	1078	11%

Ceredigion Manager Training Programme:

Standard no:	Course name:	Number of attendees (Welsh)	Number of attendees (English)	% attending Welsh version
128	Ceredigion Manager Training Programme	3	22	12%
128	Chairing virtual meetings for managers	Not delivered	11	0
128	Managing difficult conversations	3	0	100%

Compliance with the Promotional Standards (145-146)

The Promotional Standards require the Council to produce a five-year strategy outlining how the Council will create more opportunities to use the Welsh language, encourage greater use of the language, and ultimately, increase the number of Welsh speakers by the end of the five-year period. At the end of the five-year period, a report must be published, assessing the extent to which the Council followed that strategy.

To strengthen compliance with the Standards relating to promoting and facilitating the use of the Welsh language more widely within the local area, the Council has taken the following steps over the past year:

Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy 2018-23

The Council has been implementing Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy (2018-2023), and the work has been monitored via the regular meetings of Ceredigion's Bilingual Futures Forum. The Forum is chaired by Councillor Catrin M S Davies, and includes Council officers, officers from partner organisations, as well as representatives from organisations operating in Welsh across Ceredigion.

The Strategy explains how the Council, in collaboration with partner organisations (Members of Ceredigion's Bilingual Futures Forum) will set out to promote the Welsh language, and to facilitate the use of the language more broadly. As required, a target was set to increase the number of Welsh speakers in the area by the end of the five-year period, and specifically to increase the percentage of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion to 48.5% at least (which would represent an increase of around 1,500 Welsh speakers).

In the strategy, Ceredigion's Bilingual Futures Forum agreed to focus on three strategic aims, as follows:

Strategic aim 1: To maintain and increase the language skills of the people of Ceredigion

Strategic aim 2: To maintain and increase opportunities to use the Welsh language in Ceredigion.

Strategic aim 3: To create the social conditions that enable the Welsh language to thrive in Ceredigion

A copy of the Action Plan is available here:

<http://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/your-council/strategies-plans-policies/welsh-language/promoting-and-facilitating-the-language/>

One of the action points in this Welsh Language Strategy was to support the National Eisteddfod, by establishing a Ceredigion County Council Project Group, which would identify priorities to support and facilitate arrangements.

Ceredigion National Eisteddfod 2022

A very successful National Eisteddfod was held in Ceredigion in the summer of 2022, which had a far-reaching influence on raising the status and prestige of the Welsh language within the County. The Festival gave around 1,500 Ceredigion children and young people the opportunity to take part in various activities on the field.

As part of the Festival the Council established Pentref Ceredigion to promote the County as an attractive place to live, learn, belong and succeed. Countless opportunities were provided for attendees to experience and enjoy the Welsh language, by maintaining a dedicated space for each of the 4 themes. Over 210 events were held in Ceredigion Village over the 8 days; to promote Ceredigion as a county rich in culture and heritage. Ceredigion Village attracted around 25,000 visitors, with the highest numbers on the Wednesday and Thursday of the festival.

Visitor feedback:

"We have only praise for all the activities of Pentre Ceredigion. We've been here all week and the activities are diverse and of a great standard. Something for every child, of all ages. Many thanks to all the friendly and kind staff. A very happy mother."

To produce the report, the following steps were taken:

Report on achievements

As part of the evidence gathering process, a report card was produced to facilitate the task of reporting on the actions linked to performance indicators. All members of the Bilingual Futures Forum were asked to provide a progress report on their service area, utilising the report card. Once all evidence was gathered, it was possible to assess the achievements of the Strategy and, where practicable, to report on the data.

Census data

Following the release of 2021 Census data on 6th December 2022, we have been working closely with the Research and Performance Service to produce a topic paper to provide a more detailed analysis of the data and to consider the implications for the use of the Welsh language in Ceredigion. According to the Welsh Language Commissioner, the Census is the main source of data on the Welsh language in Wales, and it is used by the Welsh Government to assess progress against the target of a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

The Research and Performance Service gave a presentation on the Census data to the Council's Language Committee and Bilingual Futures Forum. A topic paper on the Census data for Ceredigion will be published on our website, once it has been approved by the Cabinet. We will consider these data as we produce a new Welsh Language Strategy for the next five-year period.

Survey of Bilingual Futures Forum partners (January 2022)

A survey was conducted in January 2022 to gather the views of stakeholders and to evaluate the Bilingual Futures Forum as a platform to steer Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy. The responses have provided an useful insight into the strengths of the Strategy, as well as possible opportunities to strengthen and develop the new strategy over the next five years.

Conclusions on the achievements of the 2018-23 Welsh Language Strategy

In producing the report, it is clear that significant work has been undertaken as a result of implementing the Strategy. During the term of the Strategy, a number of planned actions have taken place to address and to seek to influence the use of the Welsh language and, as a result, the status and position of the Welsh language may have been enhanced in Ceredigion. This despite the fact that 2021 Census report indicated that the numbers of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion have fallen; however, the data in other available research work as regards to the number of Welsh speakers are much more positive. However, in reviewing the achievements of the current Welsh Language Strategy, we believe that it is important to recognise that language planning is a long-term process, and that action to benefit the Welsh language takes time to develop; however, on the basis of its planning, the Council feels confident that this Welsh Language Strategy has laid the right foundations to move forward to the next five-year period.

The Welsh Language Strategy for the next five-year period (2024-29)

Work to produce a new Welsh Language Strategy has begun, with a workshop held on 20th March and attended by 50 participants to begin to discuss ideas for the new strategy. At the 2022 National Eisteddfod in Ceredigion, the Council's vision was to promote Ceredigion as an attractive place to:

- Live
- Learn
- Belong
- Succeed

We aim to build on the success of the Eisteddfod, ensuring that its legacy continues, by using the four themes as specific areas for action within the new Welsh Language Strategy. Over the coming period, we will organise further engagement sessions to develop the Strategy.

SECTION 3:

Report on the Council's corporate complaints procedure in accordance with Standards 156, 162, 168

The Council is pleased to report that no complaints were received in relation to the operation of the Welsh Language Standards during the reporting year.

During the year, the Council has taken the following steps to comply with Standards relating to the complaints procedure. The Standards state that the Council must inform service users of their rights when making complaints or expressing concerns, ensuring that they are also aware that they are able to submit their complaints in their preferred language.

- The corporate complaints webpages have been reviewed and updated and now include a statement explaining that the Corporate Complaints Team welcomes correspondence in Welsh, as follows:
"Customers may submit their comments, compliments or complaints in Welsh or English, in accordance with their language preference."
[Corporate Complaints – Ceredigion County Council](#)
- The Corporate Concerns and Complaints Policy has been revised and now informs the public that they may submit their complaints in their preferred language. If they are dissatisfied with the outcome or the explanation provided by the Council, they may refer their concerns to the Welsh Language Commissioner.
[Corporate Concerns and Complaints Policy \(ceredigion.gov.uk\)](#)
- The **Corporate Concerns and Complaints Procedure Booklet** has also been updated, and section 12 refers to the process used by the Council to deal with complaints received in Welsh, or in relation to complaints regarding dissatisfaction with the level of service received in Welsh.
[Corporate Concerns and Complaints Procedure \(ceredigion.gov.uk\)](#)
- An online complaints form is available on the Corporate Complaints webpage, allowing complainants to move seamlessly from the Welsh page to the English page.
[Concern/Complaint Form \(office.com\)](#)
- Complaints training: The training has been amended to inform staff of the process to follow in relation to complaints received in Welsh, or in relation to complaints regarding dissatisfaction with the level of service received in Welsh.
- The Welsh Language Standards webpage on the corporate website signposts service users to the corporate complaints' webpages.
[Welsh Language Standards – Ceredigion County Council](#)

SECTION 4: Conclusions

This report outlines the continuous progress made by the Council to meet the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards and presents specific data relating to the 2022-23 financial year. The Council has made continuous improvements, but we recognise that there is more to do to safeguard the official status of the Welsh language in the county.

It must be recognised that remote working has offered staff new opportunities, but it may have had a less positive impact on the use of the Welsh language. It is quite possible that a large number of officers are no longer hearing the Welsh language, and this could have an impact on their confidence to use the language with service users. We have also lost the ability to hold informal conversations by the photocopier or over a coffee, which established the practice of using the Welsh language naturally. Hybrid working within the Council has been established, and a number of officers are using the opportunity to socialise whilst working, with an increasing number of colleagues through the hot desk system.

A number of sectors across the Authority face challenges in recruiting professional workers; for example, there is an acute shortage of professional social care workers who are able to speak Welsh. The Council is acutely aware of the importance of ensuring that its workforce possesses appropriate skills to enable it to provide the proactive offer of Welsh language services. One service within the Council for example has proactively delivered a training programme through the Open University. In addition, the Council has established a number of apprenticeships; from 2018 18 candidates have been involved in the scheme, 95% of all apprentices to date are Welsh speakers (19 Welsh Speakers / 1 Welsh Learner).

An analysis of current data demonstrates that the number of people who choose to access the Council's Welsh language services does not correlate with the number of people able to speak Welsh in the county. Ceredigion County Council employs diligent and dedicated Welsh-speaking staff across all Council services, and we wish to encourage people to contact the Council in Welsh and to use the Welsh language services available to them.

It is recognised that the process of implementing the Standards is a continuous one, with the aim of ensuring that the requirements are mainstreamed naturally into the Council's work, and that Welsh language services are available by default. The Council is committed to continue to make improvements, and to take action to ensure that it meets the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards in full. The Council recognises, as part of this report, that progress has been made, but that there are still improvements to be made to improve the provision of Welsh-medium services.

Over the next period of implementation of our Welsh Language Policy, we aim to address the following areas:

- Develop a Welsh Language Promotion Strategy for the next five-year period, in accordance with Standards 145/146.
- Review the Integrated Impact Assessment Guide to assist officers in highlighting any impact on the Welsh language when presenting policy decisions.
- Develop a 'Croeso Ceredigion' project in an attempt to assimilate incomers, with the work emanating from the Bilingual Futures Forum.
- Develop a guide to the use of the Welsh language for Town and Community Councils.
- Update the 'Work Welsh' pages on the Council's intranet site, including guidance and developing additional resources to promote the Welsh language and to help staff to use the language.
- A project to promote awareness of Welsh culture and Welshness in residential homes.

Annex 1

Overview of the number of staff with Welsh language skills, by service

Speaking and listening skills: 2022-23

Department	Number of staff with Welsh language skills	Number of staff without Welsh language skills	Percentage of staff with Welsh language skills
Customer Contact Service	Total: 138 ALTE 5: 54 ALTE 4: 39 ALTE 3: 16 ALTE 2: 17 ALTE 1: 9	3 2%	ALTE 5: 41% ALTE 4: 28% ALTE 3: 11% ALTE 2: 12% ALTE 1: 6%
Democratic Services	Total: 118 ALTE 5: 43 ALTE 4: 25 ALTE 3: 18 ALTE 2: 12 ALTE 1: 17	2 2%	ALTE 5: 37% ALTE 4: 21% ALTE 3: 15% ALTE 2: 10% ALTE 1: 15%
Economy and Enterprise Service	Total: 215 ALTE 5: 37 ALTE 4: 22 ALTE 3: 33 ALTE 2: 28 ALTE 1: 80	15 7%	ALTE 5: 17% ALTE 4: 10% ALTE 3: 16% ALTE 2: 13% ALTE 1: 37%
Finance and Procurement Service	Total: 103 ALTE 5: 25 ALTE 4: 18 ALTE 3: 15 ALTE 2: 25 ALTE 1: 19	1 1%	ALTE 5: 25% ALTE 4: 18% ALTE 3: 13% ALTE 2: 24% ALTE 1: 19%
Highways and Environmental Services	Total: 256 ALTE 5: 53 ALTE 4: 52 ALTE 3: 35 ALTE 2: 45 ALTE 1: 64	7 2%	ALTE 5: 21% ALTE 4: 20% ALTE 3: 14% ALTE 2: 17% ALTE 1: 25%
Legal and Governance Service	Total: 21 ALTE 5: 3 ALTE 4: 4 ALTE 3: 8 ALTE 2: 3 ALTE 1: 1	2 10%	ALTE 5: 14% ALTE 4: 19% ALTE 3: 38% ALTE 2: 14% ALTE 1: 5%
People and Organisation Service	Total: 50 ALTE 5: 22 ALTE 4: 8 ALTE 3: 7 ALTE 2: 9 ALTE 1: 3	1 2%	ALTE 5: 44% ALTE 4: 16% ALTE 3: 14% ALTE 2: 18% ALTE 1: 6%
Policy, Performance and Public Protection Service	Total: 59 ALTE 5: 9 ALTE 4: 18 ALTE 3: 11	0	ALTE 5: 15% ALTE 4: 30% ALTE 3: 19% ALTE 2: 17%

	ALTE 2: 10 ALTE 1: 11		ALTE 1: 19%
Porth Cymorth Cynnar Service	Total: 263 ALTE 5: 113 ALTE 4: 67 ALTE 3: 31 ALTE 2: 30 ALTE 1: 18	4 2%	ALTE 5: 43% ALTE 4: 25% ALTE 3: 12% ALTE 2: 11% ALTE 1: 7%
Porth Cynnal Service	Total: 127 ALTE 5: 30 ALTE 4: 16 ALTE 3: 16 ALTE 2: 30 ALTE 1: 32	3 2%	ALTE 5: 23% ALTE 4: 13% ALTE 3: 13% ALTE 2: 24% ALTE 1: 25%
Care Service	Total: 331 ALTE 5: 73 ALTE 4: 36 ALTE 3: 68 ALTE 2: 58 ALTE 1: 70	26 8%	ALTE 5: 22% ALTE 4: 11% ALTE 3: 21% ALTE 2: 17% ALTE 1: 21%
Schools and Culture Service	Total: 383 ALTE 5: 189 ALTE 4: 31 ALTE 3: 28 ALTE 2: 38 ALTE 1: 89	8 2%	ALTE 5: 50% ALTE 4: 8% ALTE 3: 7% ALTE 2: 10% ALTE 1: 23%
Leadership Service	Total: 4 ALTE 5: 2 ALTE 4: 0 ALTE 3: 0 ALTE 2: 0 ALTE 1: 1	1 25%	ALTE 5: 50% ALTE 4: 0 ALTE 3: 0 ALTE 2: 0 ALTE 1: 25%

Annex 2

Ceredigion County Council's ALTE Framework

Skills statements

Level	Listening/Speaking	Reading	Writing
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can pronounce place names and personal names correctly. • Can greet customers on a reception desk or on the telephone. • Can begin and end a conversation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand short reports on familiar matters, if these are expressed in simple language, such as elementary signs, simple instructions and agenda contents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can write personal names, place names, job titles and names of Council departments. • Can write a simple request to a colleague, such as "Somebody has called, can you call back?"
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand the essence of a conversation. • Can receive and understand simple messages following normal patterns, such as time and place of meeting, request to talk to someone. • Can pass on basic information and simple instructions. • Can begin and end conversations and meetings bilingually. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand most short reports and familiar instructions within his/her own area of expertise, provided enough time is given. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can write a short simple message on paper or by e-mail to a colleague within the Council or a known external contact.
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand and participate in most day-to-day non-technical conversations in the office. • Can advise the public on general matters within own area of work, but must turn to English for technical or specialist terms. • Can contribute to meetings or presentations within own area of work, but must turn to English for technical or specialist terms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand most reports, documents and correspondence he/she is likely to encounter during his/her work. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can write informal messages and reports for internal use.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can contribute effectively to internal and external meetings in the context of the job area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand correspondence and reports expressed in standard language. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can write business correspondence, short reports, e-mail messages and information literature with editorial assistance.

4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand differences in language and dialect. • Can argue for or against a specific case. • Can chair meetings and answer questions confidently from the Chair. 		
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can contribute fluently and confidently in relation to all aspects of day-to-day work, including discussing and advising upon technical, specialist or sensitive matters. • Can contribute to meetings and deliver presentations fluently and confidently. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can understand reports, documents and articles he/she is likely to read during his/her work, including complicated concepts expressed in abstruse terms. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can write business correspondence, short reports, e-mail messages and information literature to an acceptable standard with the assistance of language tools. • Can write detailed notes in a meeting whilst contributing fully.

DRAFT

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 6 June 2023

Title: Ceredigion Language Promotion Strategy Achievement Report over a 5-year period, 2018-23

Purpose of the report: An assessment on the delivery of Ceredigion County Council's Language Promotion Strategy in accordance with statutory requirements under the Welsh Language Standards (Standard 146).

For: Approval

Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member: Councillor Catrin M.S. Davies, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Customer Services, with responsibility for the Welsh Language

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 established a legal framework to impose duties on certain organisations, including Ceredigion County Council to comply with standards in relation to the Welsh language.

- Standard 145 places a duty on the County Council to develop and publish a 5-year strategy that explains how the Council intends to promote the Welsh language and facilitate the use of Welsh within the wider area. As part of the Strategy, the Council is required to set a target for maintaining or increasing the number of Welsh speakers within the area by the end of the 5-year period covered.
- In accordance with Standard 146 the Council is required to assess the extent to which the Council has followed that strategy and met its set target. The current Strategy period ends in 2023 and this achievement report has been prepared, with the input of our partners.

The report is presented in two parts:

- Review Welsh Language Strategy Report: which reports on our method of operating as well as the methods of measuring outcomes.
- APPENDIX 1: Achievement Report Welsh Language Strategy: which reports on all activities organised to promote the use of Welsh language

The principal aims of Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy 2018-23 was to expand the use of the Welsh language in all aspects of life in the county. The strategy identified three strategic areas:

- Increase the language skills of the people of Ceredigion
- Maintain and increase opportunities to use the Welsh language in Ceredigion in a range of contexts
- Create the social conditions that enable the Welsh language to thrive in Ceredigion

Summary of main achievements

It is clear from this report that significant work has been undertaken as a result of the implementation of the strategy. During the life of the Strategy, a number of deliberate schemes have addressed and sought to influence the use of the language; and possibly as a result the status and place of the Welsh language has increased in Ceredigion.

We also believe that the increased attention being placed on the Welsh language by Welsh Government, through central legislation and policies is having a positive impact on the well-being of the Welsh language. The leading document in language policy and planning in Wales is the Welsh Government's Welsh 2050 Strategy, which has set a target of reaching one million Welsh speakers by 2050. This Welsh Language Strategy supports the vision of the Cymraeg Strategy 2050 Strategy at a local level.

The work involved in the Ceredigion Language Strategy seeks to be inclusive, so that everyone in Ceredigion feels that the language belongs to them, and that everyone has a role to play in preserving the Welsh language for future generations. The aim is to see the Welsh language as a source of pride for all Ceredigion residents, Welsh learners, those who lack confidence in their Welsh, fluent Welsh speakers and non-Welsh speakers.

A summary of the main achievements of implementing the Language Strategy in numbers:

- **210** events held in Pentref Ceredigion (Ceredigion Village) at the National Eisteddfod in Tregaron in 2022, with **1,500** children participating in a range of performances with their schools on the Maes (Eisteddfod field)
- **71.2%** of children receiving Welsh-medium education in Ceredigion
- **3** Schools achieved Gold level as part of the Ceredigion Schools Language Charter: **16** Silver and **19** Bronze.
- **3** language immersion centres for latecomers have been held: since September 2022 20 pupils have been supported.
- All public bodies who are part of the Bilingual Futures Forum offer Welsh courses to their staff. Ceredigion County Council: **65** members of staff have had the opportunity to learn Welsh through the Workplace Welsh Tutor scheme; **21** members of staff become new speakers by having completed an Advanced Course.
- **670** learners enrolled on community-based courses to learn Welsh, delivered by the Ceredigion-Powys-Carmarthenshire Learn Welsh Service. **151** enrolled on Advanced or Proficiency level courses.
- **62%** of childcare providers provide a Welsh or bilingual service
- **16%** of all calls received by the Clic customer services centre are in Welsh
- **2,967** Urdd members in Ceredigion. 27 primary schools have 'adrannau' that meet on a weekly basis: with 780 members attending.
- **713** Young Farmers' Clubs members: [across 18 clubs, with every club operating through the medium of Welsh.
- **60%** of Ceredigion Youth Service provision delivered through the medium of Welsh, with the remainder delivered bilingually: 100% satisfaction rate amongst young people attending all holiday activity programmes
- **515** children have received Welsh / bilingual swimming lessons

- **34** activities facilitated in Welsh by Menter Iaith Cered for families, children and young people
- **32** Ceredigion businesses have improved their use of the Welsh language following intensive engagement with Menter Iaith Cered (the Ceredigion Welsh Language Initiative), under the Helo Blod scheme
- **4** towns have hosted St David's Day parade in 2023
- **31** applications supported through the Arfor scheme, with the main aim of promoting the use of the Welsh language in business: 61.7 jobs created: 40.5 jobs safeguarded.

Other Highlights:

- Facilitated arrangements for a very successful National Eisteddfod in Ceredigion: the festival has highlighted that Welsh is a dynamic, natural, and relevant language for Ceredigion residents.
- Ceredigion Education Service has published its Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022-32 and has established a working group to address the action plan.
- The Education Service has created resources for encouraging parents and pupils to pursue Welsh-medium education.
 - 'Byw a Bod. One life, two languages' Guide and Video shared widely
 - Useful Welsh words and phrases for parents and guardians published. Every School in the County has received a stock of books.
- Childcare Unit has been successful in promoting the use of Welsh within childminder settings:
 - Llandysul Childminder awarded *We Care Wales* 2021 Award
 - Aberporth Nursery staff member awarded 2021 Learner of the Year award via the 'Camau' programme.
- Urdd Ceredigion reached 4th place on the scoreboard across Wales at the Urdd National Eisteddfod 2022.
- The Ceredigion Young Farmers' Movement came out on top for the whole of Wales when competing in the Royal Welsh Agricultural Show in Builth Wells 2022.
- A successful application to the Cynnal y Cardi Fund, to support the creation of the Ceredigion Welcome Pack, to assimilate immigrants
- Ceredigion Economic Strategy (2020-35) published, with the vision of developing a thriving economy that ensures Welsh speakers have the confidence, skills, and opportunities to develop businesses, to work in higher value jobs, and to see Ceredigion as a thriving and active place to live and work.
- Established a Task and Finish Group to address the issue of affordable housing within the County
- 'More than Words' Action Plan in place, to increase the use of Welsh in the provision of Care Sector in Ceredigion.
- Menter Iaith Cered successfully attracts new speakers to the Welsh language, by hosting specific projects: Ar Gered Scheme, The Community Garden Project in Llandysul, Iwcadwli Orchestra, as well as hosting a variety of coffee mornings.
- Analysed the 2021 Census data, as regards its implications on language use in Ceredigion: the report published on the Council's corporate website, and results shared widely with partners.
- CAVO was one of the first county voluntary councils in Wales to earn recognition via the Welsh Language Commissioner's Welsh Offer scheme
- Natural Resources Wales won the Work Welsh Employer of the Year Award in 2022

- Hywel Dda Health Board has signed up to the Work Welsh scheme to provide confidence building courses for 100 of their staff
- Coleg Ceredigion has put a policy in place, requiring all staff to follow an internal training programme to create bilingual classes, 'Basic, Better, Best'
- Aberystwyth University has been investing in large-scale developments that support the use of the Welsh language:
 - Reopening Neuadd Pantycelyn (September 2020) following a £16.5m investment, offering high quality accommodation for up to 200 students and a community space
 - In September 2021, Wales's first Veterinary Science School was opened at Aberystwyth University. The course provides students with an opportunity to study aspects of veterinary science through the medium of Welsh
 - In September 2022, the University welcomed its first nursing students who will receive training to become Adult and Mental Health nurses. Students will also be able to study half the course through the medium of Welsh
 - Work has also begun on an ambitious project to redevelop the Old College, creating a flagship centre for learning, heritage, culture and enterprise for the University, for the community, and for Wales by 2024

Target: To Increase the Number of Welsh Speakers:

The Ceredigion Language Strategy set a target to increase the percentage of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion from 47.5% to 48.5%, which is around 1,500 more Welsh speakers by 2023. This target was based on the expected Welsh language capabilities of the population by 2023 as well as the number of Welsh speakers leaving Welsh-medium education.

The main method of measuring the number of Welsh speakers is the Census data each decade. It must be reported the results of the 2021 Census were a matter of disappointment to Ceredigion at first glance, just under half of the population declared themselves to be able to speak Welsh, 45.3% (31,678), this was a decrease of 3,286 people since the last Census in 2011, or a decrease of 2.0%. This decline has also been a pattern over the past few decades; however, the pace of decline has slowed over the past decade.

However, although there is an overall decrease in the percentage and number of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion, the proportion of adults able to speak Welsh (cohort aged 16-44 years) has increased by 2.2% since the 2011 Census. This is a new positive trend, which potentially suggests that progress is being made in retaining Welsh speakers here in Ceredigion.

Ceredigion continues to be regarded as a stronghold of the Welsh language and is an important County in relation to planning the growth and prosperity of the language. According to 2021 Census reports, Ceredigion remained as the local authority with the third largest proportion of Welsh speakers aged 3 and over nationally (45.3% of residents), behind Gwynedd (64.4% of residents) and Anglesey (55.8%).

It must be noted that care is required in interpreting the Census data as the picture is very complex. The Census data does not measure the different levels of confidence in using the language or the frequency of using Welsh, nor do they have

any feelings about belonging to the Welsh language. The knowledge of Welsh skills in the census is based on a person's self-assessment of their abilities, and people can be lack confidence or are shy in identifying their abilities.

Furthermore, it is important to note when considering these figures that the 2021 Census was conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic (21 March 2021). This followed lockdowns, distance learning for children, and many people were working from home. It is not known how the pandemic may have affected people's response to the question about their ability in Welsh or their perception of others' Welsh language skills. More may well be able to speak some Welsh, but in self-assessing their skills in Welsh, they felt shy and insecure to point that out. In some cases, particularly for children, Welsh ability was recorded by another person, for example, a parent or custodian.

The Welsh Language Commissioner has published: *An Advice Document on Assessing the Attainment of Local Authority 5-year Strategies*, and in it is stated the Census is the main source of data about the Welsh language in Wales and will be used by the Welsh Government to assess progress against the target of one million Welsh speakers by 2021. However, the document also provides up-to-date information on methodology and other data sources that could be used to assess the extent to which the Strategy has succeeded in driving the targets set. Information on the findings of some of those surveys can be found in this report.

It needs to be pointed out that the data on the number of Welsh speakers is much more optimistic in these other available surveys; for example, the Annual Population Survey indicates that the percentage of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion has been rising. In the year 2014 the Annual Population Survey revealed that 52.7% of Ceredigion's population could speak Welsh, which saw it rise to 60.9% by 2020. In 2022 according to this Survey the number of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion was 57.45%. Therefore, according to this survey, the number of Welsh speakers is still higher in Ceredigion than the percentage seen in the 2021 Census. Although the Census data is the most scientific and reliable data, the Census is only conducted every 10 years, therefore it is also important to look at different data as well, in order to identify trends.

The Welsh Government is currently carrying out a survey on the different data that exists for measuring the number of Welsh speakers and trying to define the inconsistency in the data.

In relation to the development of this year's Democratic Service Level 1 Business Plan, we will work with the Policy and Performance Service to develop relevant measures that we will be able to monitor regularly.

Conclusion:

Although the County is rich in activities, the results of the 2021 Census have set Ceredigion a number of new challenges. Meeting these challenges, mitigating the risks facing the Welsh language and ensuring the viability of the Welsh language community involves rigorous language planning. All this to try to reverse the trends, preventing any further decline in the number who speak Welsh, and use it in Ceredigion.

The sustainability of the Welsh language is dependent on the strengthening of Welsh-speaking communities, this by providing sufficient educational, cultural, and social opportunities for the day-to-day use of the language. In accordance with this the work for the Welsh Language Strategy for the next five years will aim to address and create the appropriate circumstances, for the prosperity of the Welsh language.

In developing a new Language Strategy for the next 5-year period, the Council's services together with key partners will need to commit to working together, harder than ever before, to promote and encourage the use of Welsh in all aspects of the county's social and economic life; this to reverse any further reductions in the number of Welsh speakers. This will require a Strategic level commitment from all partner organisations to achieve a satisfactory outcome.

In reviewing the attainment of this Welsh Language Strategy, it is important to recognise that language planning is a long-term process and developing initiatives to increase the use of Welsh takes time to foster, however the Council feels confident that this Language Strategy has laid the right foundations for progressing to the next 5-year period.

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why No, the document reports on achievement. No policy decision taken.

Wellbeing of Future Generations: *Summary:*
Long term:
Collaboration:
Involvement:
Prevention:
Integration:

Recommendation(s): For Cabinet to receive and approve the Report, and to:

- Present the report to the attention of the Welsh Language Commissioner
- Present the report for information at the Ceredigion Public Services Board meeting
- Publish on the Council's corporate website, as required by the Welsh Language Standards.

Reasons for decision: Statutory Requirement under the Welsh Language Standards Regulations in accordance with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011: Standard No. 146

Overview and Scrutiny: Presented at Welsh Language Committee 25th May

Policy Framework: Welsh Language Standards Regulations in accordance with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011

Corporate Well-being Objectives: Creating Caring & Healthy Communities

Finance and Procurement implications:	None
Legal Implications:	None
Staffing implications:	None
Property / asset implications:	None
Risk(s):	None
Statutory Powers:	Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011
Background Papers:	Welsh Language Strategy Review Report 2018-23
Appendices:	Appendix 1: Welsh Language Strategy Achievement Report 2018-23
Corporate Lead Officer:	Lowri Edwards, Corporate Lead Officer: Democratic Services
Reporting Officer:	Carys Lewis Morgan
Date:	19 May 2023

Review

Ceredigion Welsh Language Strategy

2018-23



Author: Carys Lewis Morgan

Date approved by Bilingual Futures Forum:

Date approved by Cabinet:

Date of publication:

Introduction:

I hereby present my report reviewing Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy 2018-2023 and assessing the extent to which the Council has satisfied the requirements of Welsh Language Standards 145 and 146.

Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy was developed in response to one of the requirements of the Welsh Language Standards, in accordance with the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, which gives the Welsh language statutory status, and establishes the following principles:

- In Wales, Welsh should not be treated less favourably than English
- People in Wales should be able to live their lives through the medium of Welsh should they wish to do so.

Welsh Language Standards requirements for Ceredigion County Council

Welsh Language Standards 145 and 146 place a duty on local authorities to develop a Welsh Language Strategy. The requirements are as follows:

Standard 145:

You must produce, and publish on your website, a 5-year strategy that sets out how you propose to promote the Welsh language and to facilitate the use of the Welsh language more widely in your area; and the strategy must include (amongst other matters) —

- (a) a target (in terms of the percentage of speakers in your area) for increasing or maintaining the number of Welsh speakers in your area by the end of the 5 year period concerned, and
 - (b) a statement setting out how you intend to reach that target;
- and you must review the strategy and publish a revised version on your website within 5 years of publishing a strategy (or of publishing a revised strategy).

Standard 146

Five years after publishing a strategy in accordance with standard 145 you must —

- (a) assess to what extent you have followed that strategy and have reached the target set by it, and
- (b) publish that assessment on your website, ensuring that it contains the following information —
 - (i) the number of Welsh speakers in your area, and the age of those speakers.
 - (ii) a list of the activities that you have arranged or funded during the previous 5 years in order to promote the use of the Welsh language.

The aim of this review is to assess to what extent the Council has met the requirements of Welsh Language Standards 145 and 146.

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This document is also available in Welsh, and in other languages and formats on request.

Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg, ac mewn ieithoedd a fformatau eraill ar gais.



HEADLINE RESULTS Census 2021

31,678

Welsh speakers in Ceredigion
(As at March 2021)

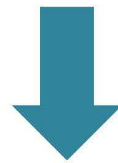


45.3%

Of Ceredigion's population
state they can speak Welsh

2.0

Percentage point decrease in
the proportion of Welsh
speakers since 2011



-3,286

Welsh speakers in Ceredigion
since Census 2011

59.0%

Can speak Welsh in Aberaeron
LSOA, the highest proportion of
Welsh speakers across the
County

(The lowest is Penglais 1 LSOA 19.7%)



Breakdown of Skills

- Speak Welsh – 45.3%
- Can speak, read and write
Welsh – 37.3%
- No skills in Welsh – 43.6%

46.7%

Of Ceredigion residents state
their nationality as Welsh only

(This has increased by 0.1 percentage points
since the 2011 Census)



Breakdown by age

- 3-15 – 71.8%
- 16-64 – 42.4%
- 65+ – 39.9%



SECTION 1

Summary

Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy was published in early 2018, following a series of focus groups and a public consultation. To implement the Strategy, the membership of Ceredigion's Welsh language partnership group was revised, expanding the membership, and strengthening Ceredigion's Bilingual Futures Forum. The Forum has met regularly since the publication of the Strategy to address its requirements.

The Forum is chaired by the Cabinet Member with responsibility for Culture, Leisure and Customer Services, who also chairs the Council's Language Committee. The Group includes Council officers, representatives from public organisations operating in the county, as well as organisations working to promote the use of the Welsh language across the county. Each organisation has committed to implement the action plan.

The principal aims of Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy 2018-23 were to expand the use of the Welsh language in all aspects of life in the county, and to seek to increase the number of Welsh speakers once again. The strategy would address three strategic areas:

- Increase the language skills of the people of Ceredigion
- Maintain and increase opportunities to use the Welsh language in Ceredigion in a range of contexts
- Create the social conditions that enable the Welsh language to thrive in Ceredigion

To achieve these strategic aims, the Council, alongside partner organisations, has been working to implement an action plan. The actions are reviewed regularly by the Bilingual Futures Forum, and summary reports are provided as part of the Annual Monitoring Report on the Welsh Language Standards submitted to the Welsh Language Commissioner.

The report is presented in two parts:

- Review Welsh Language Strategy Report: which reports on our approaches, as well as the methods of measuring outcomes.
- APPENDIX 1: Achievement Report Welsh Language Strategy: which reports on all activities organised to promote the use of Welsh language

The report provides clarity on the implementation of the Language Strategy in the context of National and Local Policies, see **Section 2**. In **Section 3**, a summary report regarding the achievement of the Language Strategy is presented, with a full report on all scheduled activities at **Appendix 1**.

Also, part of this report, we have gathered the available data to seek to analyse the position of the Welsh language in Ceredigion. Early reports on the 2021 Census results regarding the numbers of Welsh speakers across Wales were released on 5th December 2022. A report on the position of the Welsh language in Ceredigion can be found in **Section 4**.

To review the achievements of the Strategy, as well as the remit of the Bilingual Futures Forum, we have also undertaken a desktop audit amongst all our partners. This has helped us to assess the extent to which the Welsh Language Strategy has succeeded, to strengthen the procedures of the Bilingual Futures Forum as a means of leading this work, and to plan for the next Welsh Language Strategy that will cover the next five-year period. A summary of this work can be found in **Section 5**.

SECTION 2

Legislative and policy context

Ceredigion County Council's Welsh Language Strategy was produced in response to a specific statutory requirement set out in Welsh Language Standards Regulations and the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, but it also exists in a broader policy and legislative context, both nationally and locally.

The current guidance document in relation to Welsh language policy and planning is *Cymraeg 2050: Welsh Language Strategy*, published by the Welsh Government. Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy recognises the links between it and the objectives of the Welsh Government's strategy, *Cymraeg 2050*, as well as its implementation. It also operates in parallel with Ceredigion County Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan.

Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011

The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 established a legal framework that requires public organisations to comply with a set of standards (Welsh Language Standards (No. 1) Regulations 2015), which set out how to deliver, organise and facilitate the use of the Welsh language. Standards 145 and 146 state that local authorities, including Ceredigion County Council, must implement a Welsh Language Strategy to promote wider use of the Welsh language.

The Welsh Government's vision: Cymraeg 2050: a million Welsh speakers

The implementation of Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy contributes to the Welsh Government's long-term vision set out in its Welsh language strategy, *Cymraeg 2050*.

The Welsh Government has published a Welsh Language Strategy to promote and facilitate the use of the Welsh language in all aspects of everyday life. The Welsh Government's vision is to see the Welsh language thriving in Wales. The *Cymraeg 2050* strategy includes two main targets:

- to reach a million Welsh speakers by 2050
- to increase the percentage of the population who speak Welsh every day, and who are able to speak more than a few words in Welsh, from 10% (in 2013-15) to 20% by 2050

It must be acknowledged that the world has changed significantly since the publication of *Cymraeg 2050*; the UK has left the European Union, COVID-19 remains an issue, and there is no doubt that the impact of the pandemic can be seen within our communities. All these factors present a range of challenges for the Welsh language.

When announcing a new *Cymraeg 2050* work programme for the period from 2021 to 2026, Jeremy Miles MS, the Minister for the Welsh Language and Education stated:

"Our vision is outward-looking and inclusive. We want to create bilingual citizens who are confident to use Welsh in all aspects of everyday life. Put simply, we want everyone in Wales to feel like the language belongs to us all. [...] Planning is a core element of this Programme. We must plan carefully and decisively to increase the number of children and adults learning Welsh. We must increase opportunities for people to use their skills, and we must create contexts which allow people to use the language together, whether in geographical or virtual communities, workplaces, social spaces or within networks."

The actions contained within Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy seek to increase the number of Welsh speakers and the number of people using the Welsh language in Ceredigion. This, in turn, will assist in making a local contribution towards the Welsh Government's vision of reaching a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

The Welsh Government's response to the impact of COVID-19 on the Welsh language

The COVID-19 pandemic has had a far-reaching impact on our lives and has forced us to do things differently; it has also had an impact on the use of the Welsh language in the workplace and within our communities. The Bilingual Futures Forum produced a report entitled *Opportunities to use the Welsh language during lockdown* (September 2020), and it was found that lockdown, social distancing, and the lack of cultural socialising had impacted on our use of the Welsh language. During this period, a large number of people had not seen, heard or spoken Welsh for very long periods, and this had had a detrimental effect on the use of the Welsh language.

Following the pandemic, the Minister for the Welsh Language, and International Relations (at the time) established a sub-group to focus on the impact of COVID-19 on various aspects of the *Cymraeg 2050* strategy. The foreword states:

"The coronavirus pandemic has had a colossal impact on how we relate to each other in the community. It has also made us think about how the pandemic might affect Welsh-speaking community groups, which play a key role in enabling people to speak Welsh with each other."

The Welsh Government published its response to the impact of COVID-19 on the Welsh language in July 2021, and a number of the recommendations related to local authorities' promotion strategies:

"Local Authorities should give Welsh-speaking community organisations a strong voice in planning and implementing their language promotion strategies. Welsh Language Promotion Strategies, Welsh in Education Strategic Plans and Mentrau Iaith County Forums should be interwoven with the Welsh-speaking community organisations."

Welsh in Education Strategic Plan 2022–2032

Ceredigion's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) complies with the Welsh in Education Strategic Plans (Wales) Regulations 2019. The regulations state that local authorities should plan strategically for key areas in order to develop and strengthen the Welsh language, such as providing more opportunities for learners to use the Welsh language in a range of contexts at school.

During the Cabinet's virtual meeting on 22nd February 2022, Cabinet members approved the contents of the 2022–32 WESP. The Cabinet Member with responsibility for Schools, Lifelong Learning and Skills, Support and Intervention at that time stated:

"Today's approval of the plan is an important milestone in helping us set out an excellent foundation for our pupils in speaking and communicating in Welsh. It will increase the pupil's choice to follow a fully bilingual path throughout the rest of his or her educational career and in facing the future world of work and social life. At the same time, the communities that surround our pupils and schools will benefit from this increased effort to strengthen the Welsh language in Ceredigion as a community language."

The Council recognises that the education system and the WESP will play a key role in ensuring that the language grows within the county. The 2022–32 WESP outlines the key objectives to achieve this. By September 2032, Ceredigion County Council's aspiration is that every pupil in the authority's schools will receive Welsh-medium immersion education until the age of seven. In September 2020, 72.9% of Year 1 pupils in Ceredigion schools were receiving Welsh-medium education. By 2032, Ceredigion County Council's aspiration is that the target of 87% (Upper Range) suggested by the Welsh Government be further exceeded to 100%.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The implementation of the Welsh Language Strategy also contributes to the achievement in Ceredigion of one of the well-being objectives of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, namely *“a Wales of vibrant culture and flourishing Welsh language”*.

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 also sets out an important policy context for the Welsh language. Under the Act, a Public Services Board (PSB) has been established in Ceredigion and is charged with producing Public Service Plans across the county. The plans adhere to the Act and are based on six themes to promote:

- a prosperous Wales,
- a resilient Wales,
- a healthier Wales,
- a more equal Wales,
- a Wales of cohesive communities,
- a Wales of vibrant culture and flourishing Welsh language,

The latter theme involves creating *“[a] society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation.”*

The Welsh Language Strategy has made a constructive contribution to delivering this theme in Ceredigion.

Ceredigion's Local Well-being Assessment 2022

Under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, every PSB is required to produce a Local Well-being Assessment once every five years. Its purpose is to gain a comprehensive overview of the well-being of people and communities across Ceredigion, having considered all four well-being pillars – economic, environmental, social, and cultural.

What have we learnt from the Assessment with regard to the Welsh language in Ceredigion?

A new start

- There is a demand for childcare provision in Ceredigion, especially in the north, the middle and the south of the county, and particularly for Welsh-medium provision.
- Ensuring that Welsh speakers transmit the language from generation to generation, and that children have opportunities to socialise in Welsh in their area, is essential to the well-being and survival of the Welsh language.

Childhood

- Ceredigion's education system is one of the strongest in Wales and is one of the county's fundamental assets. The additional life skill offered by Welsh-medium education influences every aspect of well-being

Young people

- Although there are concerns around the decline in the numbers who speak Welsh in their everyday lives outside educational settings, our review demonstrated that our young people feel a deep affinity with the Welsh language and Welsh culture, together with a desire to safeguard these for future generations.

Adults

- The number of people attending or participating in arts, culture or heritage activities is decreasing in Ceredigion. Despite this, our well-being review demonstrates that people value the role that the arts and culture play in their lives.
- The decline in the number of Welsh speakers is one of the biggest challenges to the social and economic fabric of Ceredigion. Providing opportunities for people to learn Welsh or to improve their Welsh language skills is essential, alongside existing initiatives to promote the use of the Welsh language.
- The people of Ceredigion have a strong desire to support local businesses and to buy local produce.
- The economy needs to be strengthened to attract new businesses and grow existing businesses, to create more employment opportunities with better pay, to provide opportunities for young people to remain in the county, and to increase average earnings in the county in comparison with all Wales figures.

Older people

- Ceredigion has an aging population. It is likely that this will put a significant strain on our public services (specifically on our local health service) and our local labour market.

The Welsh Government's Strategic Framework for Welsh language services in health, social services and social care, *More than just words*, notes that "many people can only communicate their care needs effectively through the medium of Welsh. For many Welsh speakers being able to use your own language has to be seen as a core component of care, not an optional extra. Many service users are very vulnerable; therefore, it is not fair to give them the responsibility for requesting Welsh language services. It is the responsibility of the service provider to meet these care needs."

The results of the Ceredigion well-being survey demonstrate that many young people feel a strong affinity with the Welsh language and Welsh culture, and an equally strong desire to preserve these for future generations. To realise this desire and to ensure that Ceredigion has a vibrant culture where the Welsh language is thriving, we must provide opportunities for them to use the language whenever they desire. For example, precisely 50% said that the ability to speak Welsh was the most important factor in relation to having a vibrant community where the Welsh language is thriving, a percentage that is higher than the overall response to this question. More than half (54%) also identified 'loss of traditions' as their main concern with regard to the Welsh language and culture, with 32% identifying 'a lack of Welsh language education in schools and colleges', and a further 25% identifying 'inability to use their preferred language'. In all questions on language and culture, the options related to the Welsh language scored higher across the survey results in general (Ceredigion's Local Well-being Assessment 2022, page 95).

SECTION 3

Implementing Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy Action Plan

A comprehensive report on the implementation of the Welsh Language Strategy action plan can be found in **Annex 1**. For the purposes of Standard 146, it includes a table detailing a full list of activities, as well as a record of their implementation.

During the period covered by the Strategy, regular reports on the implementation of the actions were received as part of the work programme of the Bilingual Futures Forum, with each partner organisation committing to deliver the identified actions.

Where possible, reports on performance indicators are given alongside the actions; however, we found that it was a consistently challenging and unfamiliar task to gather data on the use of the Welsh language; repeatedly, we found that existing IT systems were unable to gather the required data, or that the data did not tell the full story. The COVID-19 pandemic has had an impact on the use of the Welsh language, and it has been difficult to reach the original targets in some areas of provision.

We have highlighted that some performance indicators have been difficult to measure. The Welsh Language Commissioner's advice document, *Promotion standards: assessing the achievement of the 5-year strategies* states:

"The success of the promotion strategies will depend heavily on the attitudes, linguistic practices, opinions and social situations of individuals and groups within the target audiences. These are difficult factors to measure with numbers and statistics. In this regard, as the public body wishes to influence the attitudes and linguistic behaviour of the general public and the organisations in its locality, it could be useful to supplement the findings of the quantitative evidence by undertaking qualitative research as well." (Page 15).

In response, we have produced a desktop audit amongst members of the Bilingual Futures Forum; see **Section 5**.

However, officers have emphasised that the positive lessons learned from the implementation of this Strategy provide a solid foundation for the next five-year period.

This report demonstrates clearly that significant work has taken place through the implementation of the Strategy. The Council believes that the publication of the Welsh Government's *Cymraeg 2050* strategy, alongside the implementation of the Welsh Language Strategy at a local level in Ceredigion, has instigated some change in attitudes towards the Welsh language, and as a result, the number of people wishing to learn and speak the language in Ceredigion has increased.

A summary of the main achievements of implementing the Language Strategy in numbers:

- Analysed the 2021 Census data, as regards its implications on language use in Ceredigion: the report published on the Council's corporate website, and results shared widely with partners.
- CAVO was one of the first county voluntary councils in Wales to earn recognition via the Welsh Language Commissioner's Welsh Offer scheme
- Natural Resources Wales won the Work Welsh Employer of the Year Award in 2022
- Hywel Dda Health Board has signed up to the Work Welsh scheme to provide confidence building courses for 100 of their staff

- Coleg Ceredigion has put a policy in place, requiring all staff to follow an internal training programme to create bilingual classes, 'Basic, Better, Best'
- Aberystwyth University has been investing in large-scale developments that support the use of the Welsh language:
 - Reopening Neuadd Pantycelyn (September 2020) following a £16.5m investment, offering high quality accommodation for up to 200 students and a community space
 - In September 2021, Wales's first Veterinary Science School was opened at Aberystwyth University. The course provides students with an opportunity to study aspects of veterinary science through the medium of Welsh
 - In September 2022, the University welcomed its first nursing students who will receive training to become Adult and Mental Health nurses. Students will also be able to study half the course through the medium of Welsh
 - Work has also begun on an ambitious project to redevelop the Old College, creating a flagship centre for learning, heritage, culture and enterprise for the University, for the community, and for Wales by 2024

In implementing the Welsh Language Strategy, the Council set three strategic aims:

- Strategic aim 1: To maintain and increase the language skills of the people of Ceredigion
- Strategic aim 2: To maintain and increase opportunities to use the Welsh language
- Strategic aim 3: To create the social conditions that enable the Welsh language to thrive

The following summarises the activities undertaken in relation to all three strategic aims. A full report can be found in Annex 1.

Strategic aim 1: To maintain and increase the language skills of the people of Ceredigion

In relation to this strategic aim, we recognise that language is a skill, and that everyone has the potential to increase their linguistic skills, no matter where they begin. Including everyone in the desire to increase the linguistic skills of the people of Ceredigion is a crucial factor.

Welsh language transmission and the use of the Welsh language within households are key to the survival of the language. Providing children with an opportunity to learn Welsh at a young age fosters a desire in them to use the language confidently as adults, and this, in turn, gives them an additional tool to use in their working lives. The Ceredigion Childcare Unit, alongside Mudiad Meithrin, is promoting the advantages of raising children bilingually, leading projects to promote the use of the Welsh language in childcare settings.

Good news:

- A childminder from Llandysul, who provides a Welsh language childminding service, won a We Care Wales award in 2021 for excellence in the provision of care for young children.
- A member of staff at Aberporth Nursery won the Early Years Wales **Welsh Learner of the Year** award in 2021 through the 'Camau' scheme for her exceptional attitude towards and commitment to her journey to learn Welsh (through the 'Camau' scheme).

The number of pupils in years 1 to 11 receiving their education in Welsh as a first language has increased. Every one of our primary schools has prioritised the implementation of the Welsh Language Charter framework within their development plans, with three schools achieving the gold standard, and the commitment of most of our secondary schools has also improved.

The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan for 2022-32 has been approved by the Welsh Government, and it aims to improve the process of planning the provision of Welsh-medium education in the county; as well as to improve the standards of Welsh-medium education and Welsh teaching standards in Ceredigion. To support the work the Education Service has created resources to encourage parents and pupils to pursue Welsh-medium education.

- 'Byw a Bod: One life, 2 languages' Guide and video widely shared
Guide: [llyfryn-byw-a-bod-booklet.pdf \(ceredigion.gov.uk\)](https://www.ceredigion.gov.uk/~/media/115866/115866.pdf)
Video: <https://youtu.be/-5-YpvvL2vg>
- Useful Welsh phrases booklet for parents and guardians. Every School in the County has received a stock of books:
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kxAPNcce_SPrKX4gK4vt-41RGzdc1bx/view?usp=share_link

Case study: A family moved to Ceredigion from England. Despite initial concerns, they chose Welsh-medium education for their children:
“Our advice to you is to go for it. When we started, there was so much talk of how difficult it would be for our children to fit in and whether you would send them to school at a young age... and the problem is if you don't send your child to receive a Welsh-medium education, then they will be surrounded by a whole community that they won't be a part of, therefore it wasn't as difficult as people had told us it would be. Go for it. That is the answer. My advice to anyone who is considering it is to go for it. Be brave and they will gain so much and so will you...it's not just the children, but us too. We have become part of a wider community since our children received a Welsh-medium education. They are part of the community now and it doesn't mean that their English suffers...you do not lose out. There is a perception that you will lose something by sending them to a Welsh-medium school, but you don't, you gain so much, and that is it in a nutshell.”

All public organisations that are members of the Bilingual Futures Forum now offer Welsh lessons for their workforce. The Council has formed a partnership with the National Centre for Learning Welsh to employ a Work Welsh Tutor, leading to an increase in the number of Council staff learning Welsh, with 65 members of staff enrolled on various courses to learn Welsh, including 21 members of staff enrolled on the Advanced level course.

Case study: **Ceredigion County Council's Work Welsh Learner of the Year.** Melisa Elek, originally from Canada, with Croatian heritage, has been studying Welsh as part of the Council's Work Welsh programme for three years. Her commitment culminated in success in the Advanced exam in the Summer 2022, demonstrating that she truly is one of the new speakers of Welsh in Ceredigion. She now uses Welsh regularly in a personal and professional capacity. She is happy to speak Welsh with neighbours and friends. At work, she uses Welsh regularly with colleagues, and with students in her class.

The Bilingual Futures Forum believes that attitudes towards the Welsh language have changed, and that more people wish to learn and speak the language. We have been supporting Learn Welsh Ceredigion, Powys and Carmarthenshire, and an increasing number of people are enrolled on community-based courses to develop their Welsh language skills. There are **670** learners enrolled on community-based Welsh language courses, with **151 (22%)** enrolled on Advanced or Proficiency level courses. Learn Welsh Ceredigion, Powys and Carmarthenshire was rated as excellent by Estyn in 2022.

Case study: **Ceredigion, Powys and Carmarthenshire Welsh Learner of the Year**. Having spent more than 30 years living and working in England, Lynne Blanchfield and her husband decided to retire to the Aberystwyth area. She has made a wholehearted commitment to learn the Welsh language, has succeeded in the WJEC Learn Welsh examinations up to Advanced level, and is now working towards Proficiency level. She is eager to encourage other learners to persevere with their efforts to learn Welsh. She says that it is worth scaling the mountain to be able to use the language to contribute to the life and culture of Ceredigion, our special and unique county.

Strategic aim 2: to maintain and increase opportunities to use the Welsh language

It is recognised that the sustainability of the Welsh language depends on the process of strengthening Welsh language communities by providing sufficient educational, cultural, and social opportunities to use the language on a daily basis. The purpose of this aim was to seek to facilitate the broadest possible opportunities for the people of Ceredigion to be able to use the Welsh language in all aspects of their lives in the county.

As part of this aim, Cered, the county's Welsh language initiative, has been working diligently to influence and develop the use of the Welsh language in the county. Cered has had success with projects that deliver specific activities, whilst growing the Welsh language; for example, the Ar Gered scheme is focussed on walking, with Welsh speakers, Welsh learners, and non-Welsh speakers all able to join, but the Welsh language is used throughout to give instructions and to explain place names and the surrounding environment (a mailing list of 70, with around 25 participants at each activity). The community-based project, Yr Ardd, is focussed on a community garden, as well as a gardening club that hosts talks and presentations, craft workshops, and a lantern parade (400 participants during the reporting year to date). The ukulele orchestra, Cerddorfa Iwcadwli, is similarly an inclusive activity that ultimately promotes and facilitates the use of the Welsh language (30 members rehearse once a week). A range of coffee mornings and coffee and chat events are held, both in person and online, across the county (with around 63 participants).

As part of these activities, the Cered officers have got to know a large number of non-Welsh speakers who have moved to Ceredigion, as well as dozens of new Welsh speakers in the area, and they have succeeded in having a positive influence on their lives and their confidence to use and improve their Welsh language skills.

Case study: Two years ago, a couple from Essex moved to the Aberystwyth area. Having spent years driving across Britain to visit their daughter at Aberystwyth University, they fell in love with the town and decided to move there. Having seen the Welsh language everywhere and heard so much Welsh being spoken, the couple realised that they would have to learn the language to make the most of their new home, and they enrolled on Say Something in Welsh courses. After learning for 18 months, they discovered Cered's Welsh Coffee Morning in Penparcau, where they met other Welsh speakers, including many learners in a similar situation to themselves. By attending these sessions, they became aware of the Ar Gered and Iwcadwli projects, and both have been regular attendees at both activities. Following the linguistic intervention of Cered officers, one of them has joined the local Welsh band, Bwca, as a bass guitarist, and has been performing with them on the area's biggest stages, enjoying every second.

Case study: A couple has moved from Sussex to the Aberystwyth area in the last few months. They decided to move to the area due to its beauty, the lower house prices, and the opportunity to start a hospitality business from their home. They joined the Penparcau Coffee Morning group because they wanted to learn more about the area and the Welsh language. They have now learnt some Welsh and have joined the Ar Gered project. As a consequence of this, one of the Cered officers was able to get to know the couple better and has been able to influence them in terms of using the Welsh language within their holiday cottage business in order to create a Welsh sense of place. They now have some Welsh on their website, and they are lobbying the national company responsible for their website to raise awareness of the importance of the visibility of the Welsh language. The couple are regular attendees at Ar Gered sessions in order to discover places to walk, and they intend to share some of the culture of the area with visitors staying at their holiday cottage.

Cered also supported the Welsh Government with the Cymraeg Byd Busnes scheme, and then with the Helo Blod scheme (1st August 2017 – 22nd April 2022), a scheme to provide advice locally to businesses to encourage them to use the Welsh language. Taking small steps, such as erecting bilingual signage or encouraging Welsh-speaking staff to wear a badge to show that they can speak Welsh, can make a big difference, i.e., placing small visual cues in terms of language use can give people confidence to use the Welsh language. In Ceredigion, 32 businesses have improved their use of the Welsh language following intensive engagement with Cered, under the Helo Blod scheme, and 52 businesses have made contact.

Case study: Gelert Behaviour is a company offering training for dogs and other pets. The owner moved from England to the Pontrhydfendigaid area shortly before lockdown. Following intervention by the Helo Blod officer, the company has made use of the Welsh language, creating a bilingual website, creating a Welsh e-mail auto-response, and producing bilingual marketing material. She has joined a Learn Welsh class and is volunteering at a nursery to practise her Welsh. Although she did not speak any Welsh before moving to Ceredigion, she can now hold a basic conversation in Welsh.

The Welsh Government's *Helo Blod* project ended in April 2022, a development that is disappointing to us in Ceredigion. We believe that business owners require support to use the Welsh language, especially those who are unable to speak Welsh themselves.

To meet businesses' needs in full and effectively, familiarity with the local community and the unique context in which the businesses operate is required. Delivering a central translation service only will not ensure that action is taken at grassroots level. We will work with the Welsh Government to support any successor project.

Theatr Felin-fach offers creative and artistic opportunities, by developing participation programs in the Welsh language. The theatre's vision is to provide opportunities that contribute to well-being, social cohesion, promote and facilitate cultural identity along with the sense of belonging. The *Gorwel a Gwreiddiau* project is run jointly by Theatr Felin-fach and Cered to gather memories and to work with young people to change their attitudes to local career opportunities. The project held 100 engagement sessions and provided 400 opportunities for young people and adults. Theatr Felin-fach Performance School (aged 7-18) has collaborated with Felin-fach Actors Company to stage an annual pantomime, along with the Maes G Show, with 55 Ceredigion Young Farmers members presenting an original musical in the Pavilion. Hwyl a Hamdden is a Welsh-medium cultural social group for the county's older people. The Club meets weekly, and provides entertainment or activity, along with opportunities for this age group to chat and socialise in their mother tongue.

Ensuring that there are opportunities for children and young people to use the Welsh language outside the formal setting of school is crucial to build pupils' confidence to use the Welsh language naturally. To this end, the Council has supported opportunities for children and young people to join groups such as Young Farmers' Clubs and the Urdd, and to attend activities at Theatr Felin-fach, Theatr Troedryhiw, Radio Beca and Theatr Arad Goch.

However, the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic have had a significant impact on the momentum of the work during the last two years of the strategy. Many of the social activities that created valuable opportunities for children, young people and adults to hear and to use the Welsh language together in our communities ceased. Despite the pandemic and its consequences, organisations such as the Young Farmers' Clubs and the Urdd have been working hard to restore the good work that was taking place prior to COVID, and although the ways of doing things have changed significantly, the Urdd has recovered its membership, with 2,967 children from Ceredigion becoming members (October 2022). Although the pandemic forced many clubs to close temporarily, the county now hosts nine adranau/aelwydydd, with a new adran having opened in Brynhoffnant (Adran Crannog) and another due to open in the New Year in New Quay.

Ceredigion's Young Farmers' Clubs provide a unique opportunity for some 713 members across 18 clubs in Ceredigion, with each club operating through the medium of Welsh.

At the 2022 Urdd Eisteddfod, Ceredigion came 4th across the whole of Wales, which is a significant achievement in view of the strict guidance in place at the time due to the COVID pandemic. Ceredigion's Young Farmers' Clubs also came 1st across Wales, competing at the Royal Welsh Show in Builth Wells. This demonstrates that there is a strong link between language and culture in Ceredigion, and that providing sufficient cultural opportunities and initiatives to facilitate the use of the Welsh language is essential to keep the language alive for future generations.

This is the view of a senior member of Ceredigion Young Farmers' Club about the organisation: *"As my time as a member comes to an end, this is an opportunity for me to thank the organisation from the bottom of my heart. We are very privileged in terms of what we have inherited. Although I'm not someone who has won much in competition terms, I have gained so much through the friendships I have forged, not only by being part of the family, but also of the extraordinary rural community of Ceredigion."*

A member of the Urdd in Ceredigion said: *“The Urdd has offered me unforgettable and unbelievable experiences since I joined the movement in the early years of primary school. Without doubt, the Urdd is one of the most important organisations in Wales, and even globally, as it highlights the talent, the culture and the sense of enjoyment that the young people of Wales have to offer. One of my recent memorable experiences through being a member of the Urdd was the opportunity to compete on the National Urdd Eisteddfod stage in Denbigh this year!”*

A very successful National Eisteddfod was held in Ceredigion during the Summer 2022, and it had far-reaching influence in terms of enhancing the status and standing of the Welsh language in the county. The Eisteddfod offered around 1,500 children and young people from Ceredigion an opportunity to take part in a range of activities on the Maes.

As part of the Eisteddfod, the Council created a Ceredigion Village to promote the county as an attractive place to live, to learn, to belong and to succeed. Countless opportunities were provided for attendees to experience and enjoy the Welsh language, by hosting specific spaces for each of the four themes, a demonstration kitchen with guest chefs from local restaurants, receptions, a seating area, a play area, an events stage, an outdoor area that included a gypsy caravan (with daily storytelling sessions), and huts to promote local businesses. This all served to promote Ceredigion as a county with a rich culture and heritage.

One of the success stories was the engagement and collaboration between the Council and other partners in the county to ensure that the utility infrastructure was installed and tested in good time before the event. Dyfed Powys Police described it as “[t]he best partnership work we have experienced during an Eisteddfod.” This work has enhanced partnership working within the county.

Some 25,000 visitors were welcomed to the Ceredigion Village, with the highest numbers visiting on the Wednesday and Thursday. One visitor’s view served to reinforce the Council’s desire to increase the number of opportunities to learn and use the Welsh language:

“Our family is learning to speak Welsh, having moved to Ceredigion from Liverpool. We weren’t sure that we would come to the Eisteddfod because we had heard that we wouldn’t feel included if we weren’t able to speak Welsh. I’m so glad that we took the opportunity to come to Tregaron. We received a warm welcome at the Ceredigion Village. The children loved the ceramics workshop, playing the giant ‘Connect Four, and the opportunity to be creative. We were also able to have a cup of tea or cold drink. I felt that the Council had thought of the best ways to be inclusive. It has made us even more eager to learn Welsh. Diolch.”

The main aim of the Eisteddfod is to encourage and promote the Welsh language, and it certainly succeeded in raising the profile of the language across Ceredigion. In reality, the Eisteddfod turned out to be a three-year community project, culminating in a festival. The excitement surrounding the fundraising efforts in preparation for the Eisteddfod’s visit to Ceredigion has also provided an important legacy. It was confirmed that the county had set a record by raising a total of £463,671 through community involvement. The festival itself and the activities that took place in communities contributed towards realising Ceredigion’s Welsh Language Strategy, by strengthening the position of the Welsh language in communities across the county. In the run-up to the Eisteddfod week, a project was launched to challenge local areas to tidy up and decorate their communities in order to welcome the Eisteddfod. The project was a golden opportunity to bring whole communities together. Across the length and breadth of Ceredigion, towns and villages were decorated with banners and other creative endeavours, from the red dragon in Lledrod to the Gorsedd in Llanddewi Brefi. Hosting the National Eisteddfod provided special opportunities to build bridges between Welsh-speaking and non-Welsh-speaking communities, providing opportunities to use the Welsh language and to attract learners to Welsh-medium activities.

During the run-up to the Eisteddfod, we gathered some of Ceredigion's most salient sayings; and these were placed as attractive attractions around the field. The sayings have been a great topic of discussion; and by this means we have ensured their survival for future generations. In addition, they were published in *Cleber y Cardi* magazine, which was widely distributed across all Ceredigion schools.

This legacy continues as Ceredigion provides further opportunities for new speakers of the Welsh language. Another important aspect of the National Eisteddfod was the countless opportunities for children and young people to take part in a range of events throughout the week. This, in turn, encouraged parents to embrace the Eisteddfod's activities and the Welsh language, and we hope that this legacy will continue.

A permanent memorial was erected by Tregaron Town Council to mark the National Eisteddfod's visit to the town. For several years, the Gorsedd has used fake stones to hold its ceremonies on the Maes, instead of erecting real stones in the host town. However, the Gorsedd approved Tregaron Town Council's request to name the memorial Cerrig yr Orsedd. As a result of the National Eisteddfod's visit, a number of projects have taken place, a number of new choirs have been established, and a number of new businesses have started. Gwenllian Spikes was commissioned to create a bench that has been placed in Cors Caron, and the Garth Newydd project has commenced in Lampeter to create a centre to hold Welsh Language Weekends to increase people's confidence to use the language. It is also intended to provide opportunities to socialise with those who speak Welsh as a first language, introducing new Welsh speakers to Welsh culture.

Following the National Eisteddfod's visit, the Council wishes to continue to hold some events, for example, an annual Talwrn y Beirdd (poetry competition) for young people, the Camu 'Mlaen awards ceremony, staging performances by ALN pupils at Theatr Felinfach or in the Music Proms, gathering and recording local idioms and promoting them widely, and establishing an education magazine, *Cleber y Cardi*. Such events and activities will make an extremely important contribution towards the viability of the Welsh language in the county.

The Eisteddfod was an investment that succeeded in introducing the Welsh language to a new audience in Ceredigion, and it is an excellent tool to change attitudes and to encourage people to learn and to use the Welsh language in all aspects of life. Essentially, it has demonstrated to the people of Ceredigion that Welsh is a dynamic, natural, and relevant language.

A successful application to the Cynnal y Cardi Fund has been approved, this to enable the creation of the Ceredigion Welcome Pack, to assimilate immigrants to Ceredigion. The project aims to maintain the viability of Welsh speaking communities, by highlighting the opportunities available to contribute and support locally, and to help persons understand how the Welsh language weaves into the cultural and social life of the County. The project will be inclusive, bringing together Welsh speakers, those who are shy speakers, Welsh learners and these who are completely new to Welsh. The project will aim to ensure community ownership, by equipping the community itself to address the challenges associated with immigrants. The Project Group is currently designing a Postcard which will direct persons to the Welcome to Ceredigion e-book.

Strategic aim 3: To create the social conditions that enable the Welsh language to thrive

A language is a social medium and, for a language to thrive, the society in which it is a medium for expression also needs to thrive. It requires vibrancy, energy, and creativity. Communities need to be attractive and pleasant places in which to live. The population must perceive the social and economic value of their language and be willing to celebrate it.

One of the main challenges faced by Ceredigion is to ensure that the younger population and future generations have a good start to their lives as adults. The Council aspires to ensure that Ceredigion is an attractive place, full of opportunities for young people to stay and build their careers.

The trend in Ceredigion is for an increasing number of young Welsh-speaking people to leave the county after receiving their formal education, in order to pursue career opportunities, social opportunities and higher salaries. More and more organisations across Wales are seeking Welsh speakers, and we are losing our local talent pool. This is having an impact in terms of the depopulation of Welsh speakers from rural communities in Ceredigion. Today's young people are essential to fill key roles in the community tomorrow.

Interventions are already being put in place to reverse this trend. Ceredigion's Economic Strategy (2020-35) outlines the actions that must take place to tackle key challenges, focussing on developing the local economy to create better employment opportunities and to attract better paid jobs, alongside investment and plans to improve connectivity, both physically and digitally. The Strategy recognises the importance of the Welsh language: "Another important underlying principle is the need to protect and enhance our cultural uniqueness and identity and help to boost the resilience and growth of the Welsh language."

Essentially, aligning the Economic Strategy with the Welsh Language Strategy is achieved by ensuring that Welsh speakers have the confidence, the skills, and the opportunities to develop businesses, to work in higher value jobs, and to view Ceredigion as a thriving and energetic place in which to live and work.

The implementation of the Arfor 1 programme contributed partially to the creation of more and better jobs to prevent outward migration and the related loss of Welsh speakers from the area. The aim of the Arfor 1 programme was to develop economic interventions that would have a positive impact on the number of Welsh speakers and the viability of the Welsh language. The Arfor 1 programme has successfully trialled small-scale business support schemes and demonstrated that they have the potential to increase the use of Welsh within the workplace, to create favourable conditions to develop capacity and services further, as well as to increase the number of Welsh speakers within the business community.

According to research company, Wavehill, who evaluated the Arfor project: *"The programme has had the most visible and direct impact through direct business grants to small and micro firms in the area. These businesses frequently noted how difficult it was to access alternative sources of finance, investment, and capital. In this sense, the grants have proved particularly valuable for these businesses and have enabled expansion and diversification... Whilst securing this economic impact, the direct grants have also embedded plans to develop language capacity within the businesses' plans for the coming years."*

The Arfor programme has supported 31 applications in Ceredigion, with the main objective of promoting the use of the Welsh language within businesses. These businesses, in turn, have created 61.7 jobs and safeguarded 40.5 FTE jobs, increasing their revenue. As these are local businesses, they are more likely to recycle revenue locally. The Council is pleased that the Welsh Government has confirmed that further funding will be made available for Arfor 2, until the end of March 2025, and the Council is currently putting arrangements in place.

The provision of affordable housing also impacts on young people's decision to remain in the county or to move elsewhere. Ensuring that a stock of suitable and affordable houses is available in Ceredigion is a priority. The growth in demand and the limited stock has kept house prices and rental prices high in the county. Although housing affordability impacts on every local authority in Wales, the problem is particularly grave in Ceredigion due to the consistently high demand, the limited stock, and the fact that earnings are lower than the national average.

To tackle some of these issues, a paper was presented to the Cabinet (22nd February 2022) and the Council (3rd March 2022) regarding community housing, with the aim of supporting local people to access housing through a shared equity model. A task and finish group has been established to consider the implementation of such a model, alongside other housing options. This work is ongoing.

The process of reviewing the Local Development Plan (LDP) has been delayed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and because the phosphates issue has not been resolved. However, a topic paper on the Welsh language was produced, outlining that the whole county should be classified as linguistically sensitive, thereby requiring all development proposals to be impact assessed regarding their potential impact on the use of the Welsh language in the relevant area.

However, the actions outlined above are longer-term ambitions, and it will not be possible to resolve the issues during the five-year period covered by the Welsh Language Strategy. They will need to be included in the next strategy and monitored over a period of decades rather than years.

As one of the county's main employers, the Council is aware of its duty in terms of workforce planning, and in terms of ensuring that the rights of Welsh speakers are met in the provision of services in Ceredigion. The Council aims to ensure that it has enough workers who are competent in terms of speaking and writing Welsh. It does this by assessing the Welsh language skills required for every new or vacant post. Over the period of the Strategy, the Council has succeeded in maintaining the number of staff who are able to speak Welsh, and fluent speakers remain the largest cohort of Welsh speakers.

Technology has transformed the way in which we live, and it is possible that changes will accelerate in future. The Welsh Government's strategy for the Welsh language, *Cymraeg 2050*, recognises that such changes create challenges for the Welsh language, but they also bring opportunities. The Welsh Government has published a Welsh language technology action plan: [WG34015 \(gov.wales\)](#) to inform the work of ensuring that technology facilitates opportunities to work and to provide services in Welsh. The Council's IT Service ensures that any software developed internally can operate simultaneously in English and in Welsh; and if digital software needs to be procured externally, it ensures that the provider also adheres to this bilingual policy.

Naturally, the progress made during 2020-22 has been limited in many areas due to the impact of COVID-19, as people focussed on adapting to new models of service provision. However, in reporting on the delivery of the Welsh Language Strategy, it is clear that Ceredigion continues to be rich and vibrant in terms of Welsh-medium community-based activities; nonetheless, it is essential that purposeful language planning takes place to maximise the status and strengthen the use of the language in order to ensure that the people of Ceredigion perceive the value in being able to speak Welsh and use the language on a daily basis in their everyday lives.

DRAFT

SECTION 4

Target and performance measurement

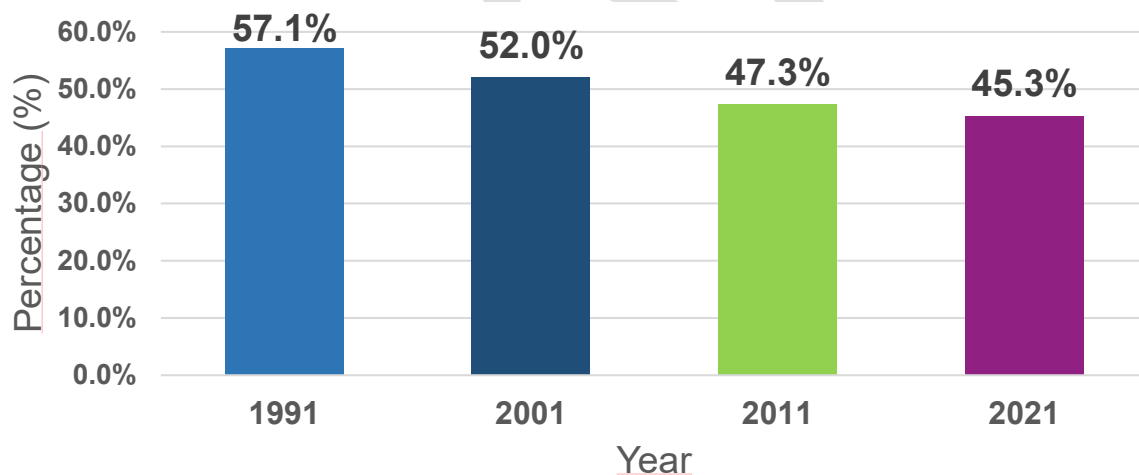
Every local authority is required to set a target in its Welsh Language Strategy (Standard 145): *Set a target (in terms of the percentage of speakers in your area) for increasing or maintaining the number of Welsh speakers in your area by the end of the 5-year period concerned.*

In its Welsh Language Strategy, Ceredigion set a target to increase the percentage of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion to 48.5%, which would represent an increase of around 1,500 Welsh speakers by 2023. This target was based on the anticipated Welsh language abilities of the population by 2023, and the number of Welsh speakers leaving Welsh-medium education.

According to the Welsh Language Commissioner, the Census is the main source of data on the Welsh language in Wales, and it is used by the Welsh Government to assess progress against the target of a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

Data from the 2021 Census were released on 6th December 2022, reporting that the number of Welsh speakers had decreased across Wales, from 19% to 18%. Ceredigion also saw a decrease of -2.0 percentage points, or 3,286 fewer speakers. According to the Census data, the number of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion has been declining over the last decades.

Figure *: The percentage of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion 1991 – 2021.



Source: Office for National Statistics, 1991, 2021, 2011 and 2021.

However, we need to exercise caution in interpreting the data, and look at the bigger picture; for example, the Census data were recorded at a time when the population of Ceredigion was decreasing. The Welsh language is also covered in other surveys, which have much more positive results for Ceredigion. These are discussed below.

It is important to note that the Welsh Government uses a number of different methods to measure the number of Welsh speakers, and these methods inevitably vary in terms of the presentation of the data. This creates quite a complex picture and reinforces how difficult it is to measure language use.

The Welsh Government has stated that it will examine the Census data carefully, stressing that it is “one of many important pieces of data used to consider what changes need to be made in future to ensure that our language thrives”. The First Minister has written to the Office for National Statistics (ONS) “to ask it to examine how and why different surveys about the Welsh language produce different results”.

The Welsh Language Commissioner has published an Advice Document on Assessing the Achievements of the Local Authorities’ Five-year Strategies. It states that measuring progress against their targets is a matter for the organisations themselves; however, the document provides current information about a methodology and data sources that could be used to assess the extent to which the Strategy has succeeded in meeting the targets set. These data sources are discussed below.

The Council’s main data sources in terms of the number of Welsh speakers are its **education** data, as well as its **workforce** data, which enable the Council to examine trends.

Census 2021 data

Caution needs to be exercised in interpreting Census data, because the picture is a complex one; language is more than a means of communication, it is part of people’s make-up and their interaction with one another. Dr Rhian Hodges, Senior Lecturer in Sociology at Bangor University, said in her interview with BBC Radio Cymru on 9 December 2022:

“The Census is valuable in giving us a snapshot of what is happening, but at the same time, it is also important to look at elements, such as confidence, fluency and feelings in terms of language use and in terms of a sense of belonging to the Welsh language.”

In interpreting the Census data on 6th December 2022, the Minister for Education and the Welsh Language, Jeremy Miles MS, said:

“I have mentioned before that the Welsh language is more than just something I speak – it is something I feel. And I feel that more and more people feel that the Welsh language belongs to them. The challenge lies in turning those feelings into language use.”

In the 2021 Census, people were asked to assess their ability to do the following:

- Understand spoken Welsh
- Speak Welsh
- Read Welsh
- Write Welsh

The Census data does not measure different levels of confidence in using the language nor the frequency of use of the Welsh language. Neither does it measure any sense that the Welsh language belongs to the respondents. The information about Welsh language skills in the Census is based on the respondent’s self-assessment of their ability. Therefore, Welsh speakers were not given an opportunity to explain their feelings towards the Welsh language. It is quite possible that more people are able to speak some Welsh, but in self-assessing their own Welsh language skills, they may have felt too shy and reticent to record that. In some cases, especially in the case of children, Welsh language skills were recorded by another person, such as a parent or guardian.

Furthermore, in considering these figures, it is important to note that the 2021 Census was conducted during the COVID-19 pandemic (21st March 2021). This followed periods of lockdown, remote schooling, and working from home for many people. It is not known how the pandemic may have affected people's response to the question about their Welsh language ability (or their perception of others' Welsh language skills).

Census 2021 data: Ceredigion results

Percentage of usual residents aged three and over in Wales and Ceredigion: 2011 Census and 2021 Census

	2011 Census		2021 Census		Percentage point difference
Wales	562,016	19.0%	538,300	17.8%	-1.2
Ceredigion	34,964	47.3%	31,678	45.3%	-2.0

- On Census Day (21st March 2021), 45.3% (31,678) of Ceredigion's usual residents, aged three and over, reported that they were able to speak Welsh. This represents a decrease of 3,286 people since 2011, or a 2.0 percentage point decrease since 2011.
- Ceredigion had the fifth largest decrease in the percentage of Welsh speakers between 2011 and 2021 (2.0 percentage points). The greatest decline was seen in:
 - Carmarthenshire (4.1 percentage points)
 - Powys (2.1 percentage points)
 - Denbighshire (2.1 percentage points)
 - Pembrokeshire (2.1 percentage points)

The main factors that contributed to the overall decline in the percentage of people who said that they were able to speak Welsh in Ceredigion between 2011 and 2021 were as follows:

- These results were recorded at a time when Ceredigion's population was in decline, having decreased from 75,900 in 2011 to 71,500 by 2021. This means that there were 4,400 fewer people living in the county
- A reduction in the number of children and young people aged between 3 and 15 who recorded that they were able to speak Welsh (a reduction of 6.6 percentage points)
- A reduction in the 65+ age group who recorded that they were able to speak Welsh (a reduction of 6.5 percentage points)

However, amidst the negative headlines generated by the Census results, there are some flickers of light, as well as a result that is to be welcomed.

- There was a percentage increase in the 16–19 age group, from 40.9% in 2011 to 46.9% in 2021.
- There was a percentage increase (albeit small) in the 20–44 age group, from 41.7% in 2011 to 43.1% in 2021.
- The highest number of Welsh speakers are to be found in the 20–44 age group, which is an important statistic for the next Welsh Language Strategy.
- As an authority, Ceredigion continued to have the third highest proportion of Welsh speakers, aged 3 and over, nationally (45.3% of residents), behind Gwynedd (64.4%) and Ynys Môn (55.8%).

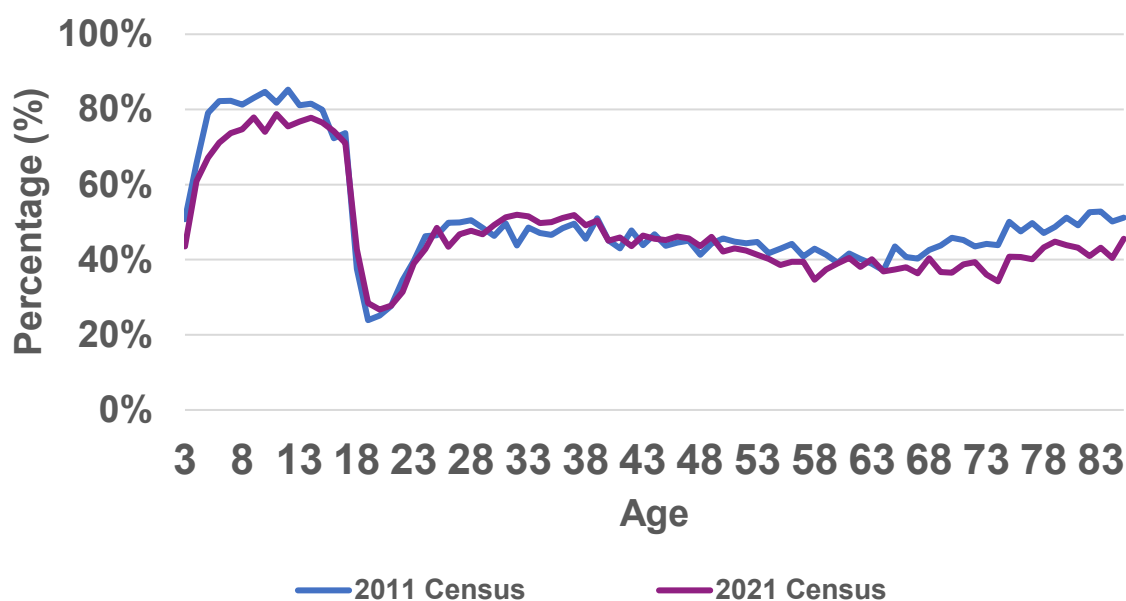
- Ceredigion is still considered one of the Welsh language heartlands, and the county is key in terms of planning for the language’s growth and prosperity. Welsh and bilingual communities form the basis of its culture and daily life. The Welsh language is used extensively in the workplace, in education, and in the home. The language is also an essential part of local communities, organisations, clubs, and associations in the county.

Figure *: The percentage of Welsh speakers by age group in Ceredigion.

	3–15 years	16–64 years	65+ years	Everyone over 3 years
2011	78.4% (7,175)	41.9% (20,503)	46.4% (7,286)	47.3% (34,964)
2021	71.8% (6,123)	42.4% (18,219)	39.9% (7,347)	45.3% (31,678)
Difference	-6.6 percentage points (-1,052)	+0.5 percentage points (-2,284)	-6.5 percentage points (+61)	-2.0 percentage points (-2,284) (-3,286)

Source: Office for National Statistics, 2011 and 2021.

Figure *: The percentage of Welsh speakers by age group in Ceredigion.



A note on including students in Ceredigion’s data:
The Census was held during college and university term time. Ceredigion has a significant student population, with around 6,500 – 8,050 students normally (HESAA, 2021 and ONS, 2021 Census).

As in previous Censuses, students were recorded as living in their usual term-time addresses, in order to help to gain an accurate measure of the normal resident population. Considering the pandemic, the lockdown restrictions, and the fact that many students may not have been resident at their term-time addresses, the Office for National Statistics (ONS) set out to review and improve the guidance to students on how to complete the Census survey. The ONS also established methods of estimating and adjusting for the lack of response from students or the possibility of students being over counted.

The Welsh language in Wales (2021 Census), Welsh Government, 6th December 2022.

It must be borne in mind that the Census is only one source of data, and that survey responses are often subjective. The Welsh Language Commissioner’s advice document on assessing the achievements of the five-year strategies refers to alternative methods of tracking patterns or trends that could give an useful insight into the achievements of the Welsh Language Strategy in Ceredigion.

<https://www.welshlanguagecommissioner.wales/media/tsmnkvfc/20210407-dg-s-cyngor-ar-asesu-cyrhaeddiad-y-strategaethau-hybu.pdf>

What other evidence is available?

Annual Population Survey

<https://statswales.gov.wales/Catalogue/Welsh-Language/Annual-Population-Survey-Welsh-Language>

According to the Welsh Language Commissioner’s advice document, the Annual Population Survey provides figures on the number of people who are able to speak Welsh every quarter. The survey provides useful data at local authority level to consider Welsh language trends between censuses, but the results of the Annual Population Survey should not be used to measure progress towards the target of a million Welsh speakers.

This survey also provides results according to broad age groups. Although the Welsh Government does not consider its results to be as reliable as the Census results in order to count the number of speakers, the advantage of using this survey lies in the fact that it generates results more frequently.

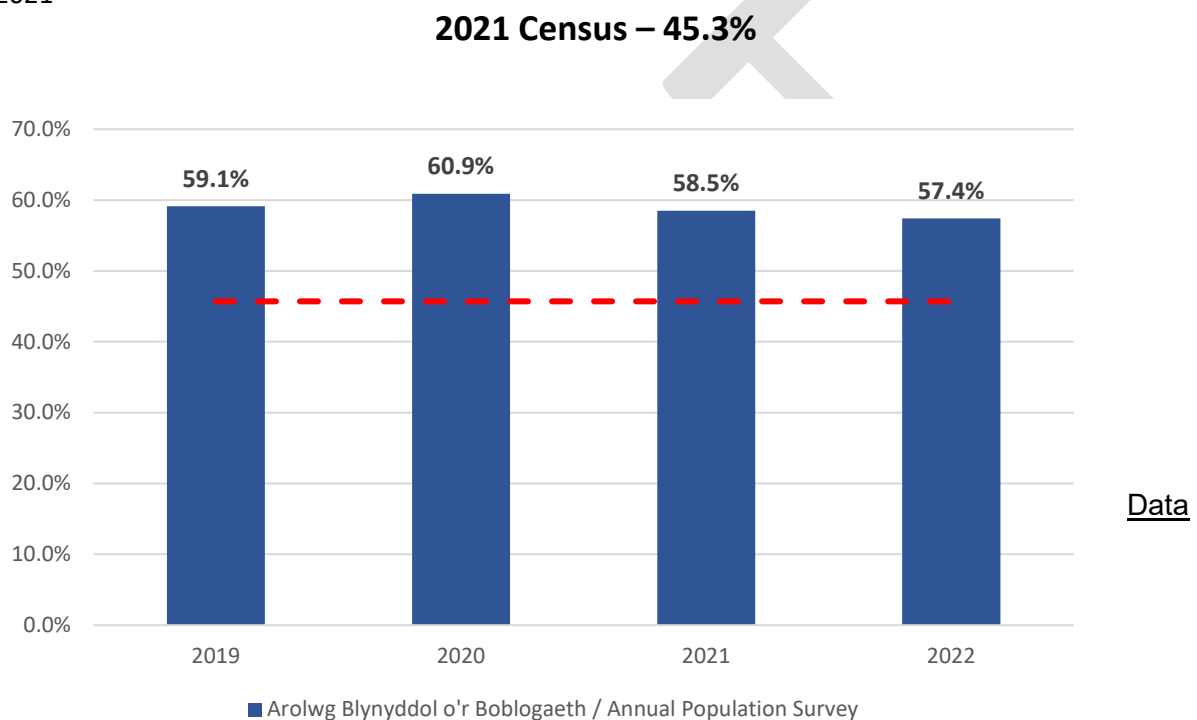
Historically, the estimates produced by the Annual Population Survey of people’s Welsh language ability have been higher than those produced by the Census. According to the Annual Population Survey in 2022, **57.45%** were able to speak Welsh in Ceredigion, compared with 45.3% according to the 2021 Census.

Number of Welsh speakers:	
2022 Annual Population Survey	2021 Census
57.45%	45.3%

Further information and studies relating to the Welsh language in the Annual Population Survey demonstrate that the percentage of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion has been rising. For example, the Annual Population Survey revealed that 52.7% of Ceredigion’s population were able to speak Welsh in 2014, rising to 60.9% by 2020. As demonstrated by the graph below, according to these data, the number of Welsh speakers decreased slightly in 2021 and 2022, and this could be attributed to the decline in Ceredigion’s population in recent years. However, it must be noted that the numbers of Welsh speakers remain higher than the percentage recorded in the 2021 Census.

Although Census data are the most scientific and reliable data, a Census is only held once every decade, therefore it is also important to consider alternative data.

Figure*: Percentage of Welsh speakers according to the Annual Population Survey and the Census, 2021



Source: Office for National Statistics, 2021.

National Survey for Wales

<https://statscymru.llyw.cymru/Catalogue/National-Survey-for-Wales/Culture-and-Welsh-Language>

The National Survey for Wales is another indicator that gathers information on the ability of adults aged 16 and over to speak Welsh, as well as their fluency and how frequently they speak the language. Similar to the Annual Population Survey, the National Survey’s estimates of the number of Welsh speakers have historically been higher than those produced by the Census.

These data are also used as a source for the Well-being of Future Generations national indicator 36, namely ‘The percentage of people who speak Welsh on a daily basis and are able to speak more than a few words of Welsh (for adults aged 16 and over)’.

Year		% of adults who speak Welsh	% of adults with some ability to speak Welsh
2016-17	Wales	20%	9%
	Ceredigion	49%	6%
2017-18	Wales	19%	12%
	Ceredigion	44%	16%
2018-19	Wales	18%	15%
	Ceredigion	42%	18%
2019-20	Wales	16%	8%
	Ceredigion	40%	16%
2021-22	Wales	19%	17%
	Ceredigion	41%	19%

In this Survey (2021-22), when people in Ceredigion were asked if they were able to speak Welsh, 41% had responded 'yes', while a further 19% responded 'no, but I am able to speak some Welsh'. These data appear to show an increase in the number of people able to speak some Welsh (9%: 2016-17; 19%: 2021-22). According to this survey, the factors that are related to speaking Welsh on a daily basis, and the ability to speak more than just a few words of Welsh, are:

- Having children in the household
- A sense that people in the local community treat each other with respect and consideration
- A high level of educational qualifications
- Being employed
- Living in a rural area
- Living in Gwynedd, Ynys Môn or Ceredigion
- A sense of belonging to the local community

Thirty-five percent of the adults who speak Welsh noted that they were likely to speak Welsh on a daily basis.

Language Use Surveys:

<https://www.gov.wales/welsh-language-use-survey>

Language use surveys do not gather information on the number of people who are able to speak Welsh. They gather more detailed information about the fluency of Welsh speakers, and their use of the language in a range of settings in everyday life.

These surveys are normally conducted every 5–10 years (1992, 2004–06, 2013–15, 2019–21), and they usually provide data at local authority level. Due to the pandemic and the impact of COVID-19, the 2019–21 Language Use Survey unfortunately had to be concluded early.

The previous Language Use Survey, conducted in 2013–15, demonstrated that the highest concentration of Welsh speakers who speak the language on a daily basis could be found in local authority areas in west Wales, with the highest concentration in Gwynedd, Ynys Môn, Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire. These are the areas with the highest percentages of Welsh speakers; therefore, it is likely that there are more opportunities for Welsh speakers to use the language frequently.

Language transmission data

Ensuring that Welsh speakers transmit the language from generation to generation, as well as providing opportunities to socialise children so that they use the language within local communities, are essential to the survival of the Welsh language. Measuring language transmission rates is problematic, without detailed research. The Welsh Government commissioned a piece of work in 2015 to consider figures from the Census tables on the ability of 3–4-year-olds to speak Welsh, according to the linguistic make-up of the family. It remains to be seen whether similar research will be conducted following the 2021 Census.

During the period of the next Welsh Language Strategy, we will continue to work with partners in the Childcare Unit and with Mudiad Meithrin to raise awareness of the importance of language transmission within households.

Ceredigion County Council’s Education Service data

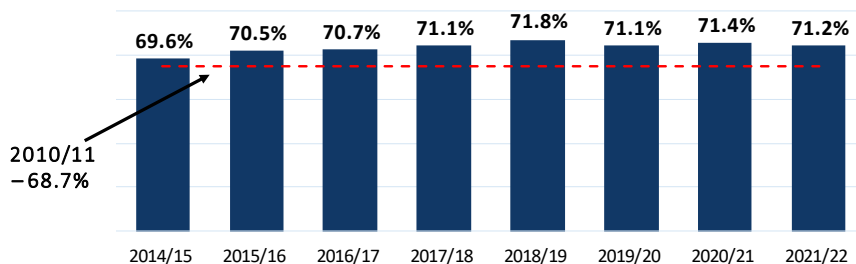
The Welsh language is a central part of education in Ceredigion – 37 of the county’s 43 schools are either Welsh-medium or bilingual schools. Recently, the linguistic categories of Ceredigion schools were changed successfully, following Welsh Government recommendations.

The number of pupils in years 1 to 11 who are educated in Welsh as a first language has increased in recent years, reaching a peak of 5,483 in 2018/19. The numbers were slightly lower in 2020/21, reflecting the fact that there were fewer pupils in that academic year.



Plentyndod / Childhood

% y disgyblion a astudiodd y Gymraeg fel iaith gyntaf mewn ysgolion cynradd, canol ac uwchradd ym mlynnyddoedd 1-11
 % of pupils that studied Welsh as a first language in primary, middle and secondary schools in years 1-11



The Welsh Government has approved Ceredigion's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) for 2022-32, which outlines the authority's vision for Welsh-medium education over the next ten years, and its main strategic aims over that period. By September 2032, Ceredigion County Council's aspiration is that every pupil in the authority's schools will receive Welsh-medium immersion education until they are seven years old. Providing an excellent foundation in speaking and communicating in Welsh will increase the choices available to pupils and their confidence in following a fully bilingual pathway throughout the remainder of their education, as well as in their employment and social lives in the future.

This work will benefit individuals, as well as the position of the Welsh language in Ceredigion as a community language. Implementing the WESP will also make a very positive contribution towards the implementation of the Welsh Language Strategy over the next five-year period, working to increase the number of Welsh speakers and those using the language across the county.

Ceredigion County Council's workforce data

In accordance with the Welsh Language Standards regime, the Council is required to increase the use of the Welsh language internally by implementing a set of Operational Standards. This set of standards (alongside a large number of other tasks) has placed a duty on the Council to measure the number of Welsh speakers in its workforce. The Council has reported annually on the linguistic skills of its workforce, using the Association of Language Testers in Europe (ALTE) Framework. The linguistic skills of the workforce have remained relatively stable over the last four years. It is encouraging that the largest number of Welsh speakers belong to the level 5 linguistic skills cohort, which is the proficiency level. In the 2021-22 reporting year, 32% of the Council's staff had linguistic skills at proficiency level, and only 4% had no Welsh language skills.

Council staff linguistic levels: Listening and speaking skills

Level	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22
No skills	4%	4%	4%	4%
1	18%	19%	20%	20%
2	15%	15%	14%	14%
3	15%	15%	15%	15%
4	14%	14%	14%	15%
5	34%	33%	33%	32%

SECTION 5

Feedback from partners on the implementation of the Welsh Language Strategy 2018-23

To assist with the process of reviewing the implementation of the current Welsh Language Strategy, and of evaluating the Bilingual Futures Forum as a platform to steer the work, a review was conducted in January 2022 to gather the views of stakeholders.

The questionnaire was shared with all members of the Bilingual Futures Forum, which includes some of the Council's external partners, as well as key officers who work in a range of services within the Council that are relevant to the implementation of the Strategy. This elicited nine responses. The responses have provided an useful insight into the strengths of the Strategy, as well as possible opportunities to strengthen and develop the new strategy over the next five years.

The questionnaire included sections under the following headings:

- Vision
- Effectiveness
- Coordination
- Outcome
- Strengths / Weaknesses / Opportunities / Threats

Vision

Stakeholders were asked to state how clear the Welsh Language Strategy's vision, as well as its three strategic aims, were. Each of the Forum partners who responded stated that the vision and aims were very clear. This reflects the commitment that these stakeholders have made from the outset in terms of planning and developing the Strategy. One respondent stated that it was clear that many aspects of the vision also dovetailed with other Council strategies, and that this served to strengthen collaboration.

However, one respondent felt that the vision was clear at operational level, but that deeper engagement may be required to ensure that this is reflected across every organisation at leadership level and within corporate strategies.

Effectiveness

This question sought views on the effectiveness of the actions identified as part of the Strategy's action plan. Every respondent felt that the actions were realistic, however, there was a sense that language planning is something that needs to be developed over time, and that some actions required more than the five years covered by the current Strategy to implement. Furthermore, there was a strong feeling that it is difficult to measure progress in terms of the number of people who use the Welsh language.

Most respondents stated that there was no doubt that the COVID-19 pandemic had had an impact on the language, and on the actions of the Strategy in terms of providing opportunities for people to use the Welsh language naturally as part of their day to day lives, at work or socially. With social activities having been curtailed, there had been fewer opportunities for people to see, to hear and to use the Welsh language. It may also be the case that the increase in the number of people able to work from home has created a new wave of inward migration to this rural area, which may also have impacted on the use of the Welsh language, and on the number of people able to speak the language in the county.

The pandemic has forced us to change our lifestyles, with the effect that it has undermined the use of the Welsh language. Only time will tell whether it will recover or adapt to circumstances after the pandemic. Due to this change, more time is needed to realise the success of actions that are already being implemented to deliver the vision of the Strategy. More creative ways of promoting language use will need to be found, for example, making greater use of technology, such as Tick Tock, Instagram, etc.

On the other hand, we must not forget some of the beneficial developments that took place during lockdown, such as holding public events online, which may have opened the door to new audiences, and which provides inclusive access. Furthermore, the number of people who started to learn Welsh increased during lockdown, which bodes well for the future. The infrastructure already put in place as part of the Strategy will assist learners to perceive the value in learning the language, enabling them to integrate naturally into the vibrant and rich life of the county.

Coordination

The majority agreed that the Bilingual Futures Forum is an effective vehicle in which to discuss the implementation of the Strategy; the Forum is an effective platform to bring partners together and plays a key role in seeking to raise the awareness and confidence of our voluntary partners.

It was noted that it can be difficult at times to try to persuade partner organisations to implement the Strategy's vision, especially those who are not covered by the Welsh Language Standards. Some also expressed concern as to whether the Council has the appropriate support structure and resources in place to assist in implementing the Strategy fully.

Some comments were also made on reinforcing the work in future:

- The forum is an effective platform to share information, but we need to consider more carefully how we can demonstrate that change is happening, i.e., language use increasing, number of Welsh speakers growing.
- It may be that a structure of sub-groups should be established to provide opportunities to discuss specific issues, before reporting back to the main group.
- We believe that the monitoring of activity at operational level is effective, but it is debatable whether there is sufficient engagement at corporate level, e.g., through the Public Services Board and/or another means of confirming strategic adherence.
- It should be considered whether partners could collaborate as a group on a specific project as part of the next strategy.

It was noted that the Council has included partners effectively at operational level, but that it should seek the commitment of the Public Services Board, or strategic adherence via another means, such as a Memorandum of Understanding or a partnership agreement between partner organisations at leadership level.

Outcome

The questionnaire asked stakeholders for their views on the outcome of the implementation of the Strategy. Most respondents from within the Council, as well as external partners, agreed that they had seen a positive change in attitude in terms of promoting the Welsh language in service provision, but that it was much more difficult to provide evidence of a positive change in behaviour in terms of the use of the Welsh language by service users.

During the period covered by the Strategy, positive developments have taken place within our organisations in terms of increasing opportunities to use the Welsh language within services, learning opportunities, and cultural activities.

However, one respondent suggested that legislation and national measures (the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure, the *Cymraeg 2050* Strategy) had had much more influence on the linguistic shift, and that although it is wholly appropriate that a county-wide Welsh Language Strategy should be in place in Ceredigion, the positive change in this regard should not be attributed to the 2017-23 Welsh Language Strategy.

On a positive note, several respondents noted that they believed that their service areas could do more to ensure the success of the Strategy, but that further leadership and encouragement are needed to enable this. This bodes well for the development of the new strategy for the next five-year period.

SWOT model analysis: Feedback from partners:

All stakeholders were asked for their views on the strengths and weaknesses of Ceredigion's 2018-23 Welsh Language Strategy, and the opportunities and threats that exist in relation to the development of a new strategy for the next five-year period. The result is as follows:

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ceredigion remains one of the Welsh language heartlands • The Welsh Government is providing more support for the Welsh language via the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011, as well as the Cymraeg 2050 Strategic Framework • A Language Strategy sets a framework that outlines how Ceredigion will support the Welsh Government's Welsh Language Strategy: Cymraeg 2050 • The Bilingual Futures Forum provides a platform to share information and to understand the work of other services and organisations in the county • It is an useful forum to bring together all aspects of the promotion and facilitation of language use in one place • The Strategy dovetails with a significant number of other Council strategies • There is a strong will to develop the use of the language within communities • Ceredigion's Economic Strategy recognises that the Welsh language is an important skill in the workplace • More people are learning Welsh • Welsh-medium education is an asset for Ceredigion pupils 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is very difficult to measure the real progress made under the Strategy, and its impact • National data sources on the situation of the Welsh language provide different reports on the state of the language – it is a complex issue • There are insufficient resources and funding to ensure that the Strategy has a real impact • The strategic adherence of some partners at leadership level, as well as collaboration at corporate level, is low • Full commitment to the vision is lacking from some external partners and services • The Bilingual Futures Forum is too large to enable discussion of specific elements of the Welsh Language Strategy • Affordable housing prices – pricing local people out of the housing market • A weak economy, with many young people leaving the county to find more prosperous jobs elsewhere • Low average wages • A lack of community leaders and succession • Welsh speakers lack confidence to use the Welsh language in public settings • A lack of Welsh language digital technologies

Opportunities	Threats
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Welsh Government's commitment to deliver the Cymraeg 2050 Strategy • The implementation of the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan over the next 10 years will have a positive influence, with the aim of producing more fluent Welsh speakers during the period covered by the plan • A clearer accountability structure is required • Opportunities should be sought to strengthen collaboration between partners when implementing the strategy • Review the Bilingual Futures Forum and the scope to establish sub-groups to focus on specific areas • The New Curriculum – new opportunities to strengthen awareness of the Welsh language. Provide Welsh language awareness courses, including awareness of the history of the language and its place in the culture of Wales and Ceredigion. An understanding of the opportunities to use the Welsh language • More jobs that require Welsh language skills as essential • Promote the rights of Welsh speakers to use the Welsh language • Develop and increase the technologies available in Welsh to make the Welsh language more accessible • Propose legislation in relation to second homes • Regional economic programmes, such as Grow Mid and West Wales • Arfor 2 Project: a new programme to be delivered by Ceredigion to assist in strengthening the economic resilience of the Welsh language • Potential to improve the local economy, Grow Mid Wales / Levelling Up funding • The implications of the Welsh Language Standards for public organisations in terms of action to benefit the Welsh language • It should be considered whether partners could collaborate as a group on a specific project as part of the next strategy. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The numbers of Welsh speakers are decreasing according to the 2021 Census reports • Young people are leaving the county at the end of their formal education to seek better employment opportunities • A lack of affordable housing • Parents are failing to transmit the Welsh language to their children • Insufficient resources and funding to implement the Strategy in full • COVID-19 and its legacy are having a detrimental impact on the use of the Welsh language • The unwillingness of partners to change in order to secure new Welsh language provision and opportunities • A lack of digital resources in Welsh (smart phones, apps) • Challenges in relation to integrating newcomers into Welsh communities • Negative attitudes towards the Welsh language and its heritage • Census data on the number of Welsh speakers, and the decline in Ceredigion's population

SECTION 6

Conclusions

To address the Council's compliance with the relevant Standards, Ceredigion County Council has satisfied the requirements of Standard 145 in full by setting a target in relation to the percentage and number of Welsh speakers in its area, as well as outlining in the Strategy how it would aim to meet that target by producing an action plan and targets.

This review addresses the requirement of Standard 146 to assess the extent to which the Council has followed the Strategy and reached the target set. The report in Annex 1 provides a comprehensive overview of the steps taken to deliver the actions, and reports on performance indicators where possible.

This report demonstrates clearly that significant work has been undertaken as a result of the implementation of the Strategy. Furthermore, the feedback from internal and external partners provides useful considerations in terms of the delivery of the revised five-year strategy for 2024-2029, which will be produced in due course.

Ceredigion is still considered one of the Welsh language heartlands, and the county is key in terms of planning for the language's growth and prosperity. At first glance, the results of the Census were disappointing for Ceredigion. The increase in the number of Welsh speakers that Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy had hoped to realise had not materialised. However, Census results are only produced once every decade and, in the meantime, further information and studies in relation to the Welsh language are available. These studies tend to provide a more optimistic assessment of the state of the Welsh language than Census results; for example, in September 2020, the percentage of Welsh speakers in Ceredigion had increased to 60.9%, according to the Annual Population Survey. The Welsh Government urges caution in considering these figures because the Annual Population Survey is based on self-assessment and, for that reason, the Welsh Government does not use these figures to measure progress towards its target of a million Welsh speakers. However, these surveys can highlight very useful trends.

In considering the Census figures, it is also important to look at positive aspects: for example, there was a percentage increase (albeit small) in the 16–19 and the 20–44 age groups. These groups are important, and it may demonstrate that more people are using their Welsh language skills after leaving formal education. Ceredigion had the third highest percentage of Welsh speakers across all Welsh local authorities, after Gwynedd and Ynys Môn. The percentage of residents who use the Welsh language on a daily basis in Ceredigion has also increased over recent years, from 43% in 2016 to 45% in 2021 (2021 Annual Population Survey). It could be argued that increasing the use of the Welsh language on a daily basis could be far more influential in terms of the growth of the language than the number of speakers.

The Council believes that the publication of the Welsh Government's Cymraeg 2050 Strategy, alongside the implementation of the Welsh Language Strategy at a local level in Ceredigion, has changed attitudes towards the Welsh language, and as a result, the number of people wishing to learn and speak the language in Ceredigion has increased.

The 2021 Census results have set a number of new challenges for Ceredigion. Responding to those challenges, mitigating the risks to the Welsh language, and ensuring its viability as a community language will involve detailed language planning.

In revising the Strategy for the next five-year period, Council services and key partners will need to commit to working together, harder than ever before, to promote and encourage the use of the Welsh language in all aspects of the social and economic life of the county, to prevent any further decline in the number of Welsh speakers. In reviewing the achievements of the current Welsh Language Strategy, it is important to recognise that language planning is a long process that takes time to develop. However, the Council is confident that this Welsh Language Strategy has laid the foundations required to move forward to the next five-year period.

Considerations for the Welsh Language Promotion Strategy for the next five-year period:

The challenges facing the Welsh language community in Ceredigion remain, and include:

- increasing language transmission rates and linguistic socialisation in the county.
- increasing the confidence and fluency of Welsh speakers, both in terms of linguistic skills and adherence to the Welsh language.
- maintaining and increasing the social and economic use of the Welsh language – especially opportunities for young people to use their Welsh language skills in employment; and
- ensuring that robust social and economic infrastructure is in place to support Welsh language networks and communities in the county into the future.

ANNEX 1: Achievement report on the implementation of Ceredigion's Welsh Language Strategy 2018-23



Action Plan:

Strategic aim 1: To maintain and increase the Welsh language skills of the people of Ceredigion.

Objectives:

- 1.1 To ensure that new generations acquire basic Welsh language skills at the first opportunity.
- 1.2 To ensure that 3-19 year old students acquire and develop their Welsh language skills during their educational career.
- 1.3 To ensure that there are sufficient opportunities for adults to acquire and develop their Welsh language skills: in the workplace and in the community.

Strategic aim 2: To maintain and increase opportunities to use the Welsh language in Ceredigion in a range of contexts.

Objectives:

- 2.1 To maintain and increase the use of the Welsh language at community level.
- 2.2 To maintain and increase the use of the Welsh language in providing and receiving public services.
- 2.3 To maintain and increase the use of the Welsh language within workplaces.

Strategic aim 3: To create the social conditions that enable the Welsh language to thrive in Ceredigion.

Objectives:

- 3.1 To maintain the status and standing of the Welsh language within society, promoting its value and the use of the language.
- 3.2 To ensure that there is a thriving economy that values the Welsh language and Welsh language skills in the workplace.
- 3.2 To ensure that there are sustainable communities where the Welsh language is used as the usual means of communication.

Strategic aim 1: To maintain and increase the Welsh language skills of the people of Ceredigion

Objective 1.1 To ensure that new generations acquire basic Welsh language skills at the first opportunity				
Number	Action	Progress	Indicators	Partners
	Provide direct information and advice to parents on the value of the Welsh language and the support available	<p>A booklet, 'One Life – Two Languages: Studying and living in Welsh and bilingually in Ceredigion', has been shared with parents across all Ceredigion schools.</p> <p>The Welsh Language Support Teams in Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire have collaborated to produce a booklet that will assist parents and guardians who are learning Welsh as their children begin their education in the counties' primary schools. It provides support and vocabulary that will be useful to parents and guardians as their children do their homework, as they become members of the school's community, and as they hopefully begin their own journeys to learn Welsh.</p> <p>Mudiad Meithrin has produced resources and podcasts by parents, discussing their reasons for choosing Welsh-medium education and childcare for their children.</p>	<p>A specific webpage has been developed on the website: The Welsh language at Ceredigion schools.</p> <p>Resources on Mudiad Meithrin's website.</p>	Education Service Mudiad Meithrin
	Promote and support the Welsh Language for Children in Ceredigion project to encourage language transmission within households.	The Chief Executive's update is shared widely on a weekly basis, and it includes the most up-to-date information about education and childcare to support playgroups to introduce language skills to the county's pre-school children.	Between April 2022 and October 2022, 79 Welsh for Children groups were held (including Story and Song, Baby Yoga and Baby Massage sessions), with 430 attendees.	Childcare Unit Mudiad Meithrin

	Support Mudiad Meithrin to maintain and increase its Ti a Fi playgroups.	See above.	The number of Ti a Fi playgroups continues to increase following lockdown. Currently, there are 10 Ti a Fi playgroups that meet regularly. This number will increase once a peripatetic Ti a Fi Officer is appointed for the county. The number of attendees ranges from 5 to 25 children.	Childcare Unit Mudiad Meithrin																				
	Assist Mudiad Meithrin and Early Years Wales to maintain and support an extensive provision of playgroups in Ceredigion.	See above.	There are 25 cylchoedd meithrin (playgroups) and five day nurseries in the county. There are 490 registered places available across the county in the cylchoedd meithrin, and 198 registered places in the day nurseries.	Childcare Unit Mudiad Meithrin																				
	Raise the awareness of independent childminders of the value of the Welsh language, supporting them to provide an appropriate linguistic service.	<p>Part-fund a Development Officer to support settings that are provided by Mudiad Meithrin and Early Years Wales.</p> <p>Deliver a course for childminders, including a module on the use of the Welsh language, with Cered, the Welsh language initiative, delivering a session on language awareness.</p> <p>Promote a Welsh learning course, 'Camau', which is provided free of charge and tailored to the sector.</p> <p>Aberystwyth and Aberaeron have been identified as two areas where more Welsh-medium childminder provision is required.</p> <p><u>Good news:</u></p> <p>➤ A childminder from Llandysul, who provides a Welsh language childminding service, has won a We Care Wales 2021 award for excellence in the provision of care for young children.</p>	<p>The number of childcare providers able to provide services in accordance with criteria set by the Welsh Government / Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welsh only • Welsh and English (bilingual) • English only <p>Welsh-medium provision has decreased slightly since 2021 due to retirement or business closure</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>June 2021</th> <th>June 2022</th> <th>September 2022</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Welsh</td> <td>47</td> <td>48</td> <td>46</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Welsh and English (bilingual)</td> <td>10</td> <td>10</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>English</td> <td>34</td> <td>34</td> <td>34</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total number</td> <td>91</td> <td>92</td> <td>90</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		June 2021	June 2022	September 2022	Welsh	47	48	46	Welsh and English (bilingual)	10	10	10	English	34	34	34	Total number	91	92	90	Childcare Unit
	June 2021	June 2022	September 2022																					
Welsh	47	48	46																					
Welsh and English (bilingual)	10	10	10																					
English	34	34	34																					
Total number	91	92	90																					

		<p>➤ A member of staff at Aberporth Nursery won the Early Years Wales Welsh Learner of the Year award in 2021 through the 'Camau' scheme in recognition of her exceptional attitude towards and commitment to her Welsh learning journey (through the 'Camau' scheme).</p>	<table border="1"> <tr> <td>of settings</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	of settings				<p>Several businesses declare that they operate bilingually because they also need to attract children from non-Welsh-speaking households. The Unit's aim, therefore, is to encourage bilingual businesses to make greater use of the Welsh language to prepare children to receive their primary education in Welsh.</p>
of settings								

Objective 1.2 To ensure that 3-19 year old students acquire and develop their Welsh language skills during their educational career

Number	Action	Progress	Indicators	Partners
	<p>Expand Welsh-medium education provision in schools by implementing Ceredigion's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP).</p>	<p>The Welsh Government has approved the 2022-32 WESP, and an action plan is being produced and will be submitted to the Welsh Government by 16th December 2022.</p> <p>The categorisation process has been successful. A statement has been produced for each school to include in its prospectus. Every governing body has agreed its category, including some in transition in terms of Welsh-medium provision.</p> <p>In collaboration with the Learn Welsh department for Ceredigion and Powys, a grant was secured to support a Welsh for Parents tutor, initially for a one-year period. The opportunity has been taken up by 56 parents to date.</p> <p>By launching a World Cup toolkit and poetry writing sessions, we have succeeded in</p>	<p><u>Primary schools:</u> 74% (3,018 of 4,066 pupils) of pupils in years 1 to 6 are receiving Welsh-medium education</p> <p><u>Secondary schools:</u> 68% (2,439 of 3,591 pupils) of pupils in years 7 to 11 are receiving Welsh-medium education</p> <p>Of the Year 11 cohort that sat the Welsh as a First Language exam in the Summer 2022, the percentage that gained other qualifications through the medium of Welsh (excluding Penglais pupils):</p> <p>2+ GCSEs = 56%</p>	<p>Education Service</p>

		<p>raising cultural awareness and pride amongst pupils and the wider community by releasing two videos.</p> <p>A language immersion fortnight has taken place in the Aberystwyth area. Teachers were released to work on suitable units for this period. It was a period of collaboration, led by the Welsh Language Support Team, to support the linguistic skills and language immersion pedagogy of teachers and support staff.</p>	<p>5+ GCSEs = 27%</p> <p>49% of Year 11 pupils left with grades A*-C in Welsh as a First Language</p>	
	Promote the adoption of Ceredigion's Language Charter – Ceri Siarad (Primary and Secondary) to encourage the use of the Welsh language outside the classroom.	Work on the Charter is ongoing. Three schools have reached the Gold standard this term. The commitment of most secondary schools has improved.	<p>39 primary schools</p> <p>4 Gold</p> <p>16 Silver</p> <p>19 Bronze</p>	Education Service
	Provide language immersion centres for latecomers	Ensure that latecomers to the county receive a good foundation in the language so that they are integrated into primary schools. 3 centres: Felin-fach, Cardigan and Tregaron.	Three language centres have been running since September 2022, with a total of 20 pupils	Education Service
	Increase the number and percentage of 16-19 year old students receiving part of their education through the medium of Welsh and/or bilingually.	<p>The Education Service has outlined its plans in the WESP. The authority will support secondary schools to take action to increase the number of qualifications that learners can study through the medium of Welsh during the period of the WESP.</p> <p><u>Coleg Ceredigion</u> Since 2021, all staff are expected to follow an internal training programme on creating bilingual classes, 'Basic, Better, Best'. Success depends to some extent on the linguistic ability of the tutors that are delivering the subjects.</p>	<p>These specific data are not available. In the Summer 2022, 12 students gained an A Level qualification in Welsh, with 2 gaining AS qualifications.</p> <p>These specific data are not available.</p>	<p>Education Service</p> <p>Hyfforddiant Ceredigion Training Coleg Ceredigion</p>

		<p>By using funding from the Coleg Cymraeg Cenedlaethol, we have been able to employ specific tutors to teach bilingually/through the medium of Welsh in the priority subject areas, namely Childcare, Public Services, and Sport. There is also strong bilingual provision in Health and Care, Business, Carpentry, and Construction.</p> <p>Every student attends an awareness session on the value of the Welsh language during induction week, and takes part in activities to celebrate events such as Shwmae – Sumai, Welsh Language Rights Day, etc. We have a specific programme for the academic year. Our Welsh Language Officer also runs ‘Cwrs Cwta’ sessions with specific groups. These brief sessions last approximately six weeks (one hour per week) and involve language awareness training in relation to their subjects/courses, with relevant activities to complete at the end of the six-week period.</p> <p><u>Hyfforddiant Ceredigion Training</u></p> <p>According to the results of the 2022 learner questionnaire, 86% of learners are having an opportunity to learn through the medium of Welsh or bilingually. 84% of learners use the Welsh language within their courses and in the workplace.</p> <p>Two apprentices who are Welsh Language Ambassadors for Welsh Colleges promote the Welsh language in the centre.</p>	<p><u>Hyfforddiant Ceredigion Training</u> A total of 65 16-19 year old learners</p> <p>13 learners are coded as B2 = 20% (A significant amount of Welsh-medium learning e.g., spoken and written Welsh are used in many aspects of the learning activities, but not all. Assessment is mainly in English, but some assessments may also take place in Welsh.)</p> <p>52 learners are coded as B3 = 80%</p>	
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		Targets for 2022: to increase the number of Welsh language resources used within our various sectors.	(A little Welsh-medium learning, e.g., limited use of Welsh for verbal communication or for a small aspect of the learning activities. Assessment in English only.)	
	Encourage schools to take advantage of the Welsh-medium opportunities offered through the Youth Service.	<p>There is a Youth Worker in every secondary school across the county (6 are able to speak Welsh to ALTE Level 5, and 1 is a Welsh learner).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lunchtime clubs in every school, and 4 after-school clubs • Holiday programmes available to young people aged between 11-25 years old • 3 youth clubs in the county open on a weekly basis: Aberystwyth, Aberaeron and Cardigan • Activities for all every Saturday • Post-16 Group: Includes 1-1 support. Weekly support and group sessions vary to develop young people's personal and social skills in order for them to transition to employment, education or training when they are ready. <p>Participation: The county's young people are given opportunities to participate in a number of projects that are led by the Children and Young People Participation Officer; Ceredigion Youth Council; Ceredigion Youth Forum (Dewis Panel); Aberystwyth Community Ambassadors Group; Children and Young People's Rights; Consultations. The team ensures that a range of opportunities are available for young people to hear the Welsh language in every session, whatever the topic. Events such as St</p>	<p>Over 60% of provision delivered through the medium of Welsh, with the remainder delivered bilingually. 100% satisfaction rate amongst young people attending all holiday activity programmes.</p> <p>To ensure the visibility of the Welsh language, all resources and promotion materials, including social media and digital youth work, are promoted bilingually.</p>	CCC Youth Service

		David's Day, football and rugby matches, etc. are used to celebrate Welsh language culture and industry. Projects have been undertaken to give young people from non-Welsh-speaking households an opportunity to understand and learn about their local areas, e.g. Cymraeg 2050 Project. These have been extremely successful in addressing the stigma associated with speaking Welsh. Working with many families who have moved into the area, often without any warning due to complex circumstances, and many of these have benefitted from similar projects in the past.		
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Objective 1.3 To ensure that there are sufficient opportunities for adults to acquire and develop their Welsh language skills: in the workplace and in the community				
Number	Action	Progress	Indicators	Partners
	CCC to provide a range of internal opportunities for staff to acquire and improve their Welsh language skills, by taking advantage of the National Centre for Learning Welsh's Work Welsh scheme, and to raise awareness of alternative methods of learning the language by promoting new technology, e.g., Say Something in Welsh	The Council has established a partnership with the National Centre for Learning Welsh to fund a Work Welsh Tutor. Seven weekly intensive classes were held by the Training Officer, all at different levels.	65 members of staff enrolled on various courses to learn Welsh, including 5 enrolled on an Advanced Level Learn Welsh course. A weekly lunch club is held to provide informal opportunities to practise Welsh.	CCC Corporate Training
	Collaborate with Aberystwyth University to promote the provision of Learn Welsh Ceredigion, Powys and Carmarthenshire, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mainstream community-based courses, Integrated Welsh for Families programme. 	Community-based courses are still being delivered online following the pandemic. It is difficult to identify any change in numbers, because a number of Ceredigion learners are now learning with alternative providers since the provision moved online. Furthermore, learners from other areas have joined due to the extensive choice.	670 learners enrolled on community-based courses to learn Welsh 151 (22%) enrolled on Advanced or Proficiency level courses 23 Welsh for Families registrations: 82.61% have completed the course	Learn Welsh Ceredigion, Powys and Carmarthenshire

		<p>Supplementary courses include the following online courses: Sadyrnau Siarad February Courses Easter Courses Summer Courses</p> <p>We do not keep a record of learners who attend informal events to support their learning. In terms of Sadyrnau Siarad and supplementary courses, although we have data on the number of attendees, we do not have data on learners specifically from Ceredigion because these courses have been delivered entirely online, with attendees from all parts of Wales and beyond.</p>	<p>Welsh in the Workplace: 2 x intensive courses to raise confidence amongst Hywel Dda staff 4/10/21 – 31/4/22 = 48 sessions</p>	
	<p>Encourage the member organisations of the Bilingual Futures Forum to take advantage of the National Centre for Learning Welsh's Work Welsh scheme.</p>	<p>A presentation by the National Centre for Learning Welsh has been included as part of the Bilingual Futures Forum's work programme: publicity materials and resources have been shared widely.</p> <p><u>Coleg Ceredigion</u> Work with 'Sgiliaith' to encourage staff to register on the one to one 'Mentoring' training pathway. Sgiliaith holds group sessions with all staff on an annual basis. Since 2021, all staff are expected to follow an internal training programme on creating bilingual classes, 'Basic, Better, Best'</p> <p><u>Natural Resources Wales (NRW)</u> NRW won the Work Welsh Employer of the Year Award in 2022; Mentoring Scheme for learners, including organising revision sessions for learners if required. Offer Say Something in Welsh courses to our staff on short-term contracts and to visitor centre staff.</p>	<p><u>Coleg Ceredigion</u> Nine members of staff enrolled on the 'Work Welsh' course</p> <p><u>Natural Resources Wales</u> 20 learners enrolled on various courses, including one member of staff enrolled on the Advanced level course. Four registered to learn Welsh via Say Something in Welsh.</p>	<p>Coleg Ceredigion Natural Resources Wales Aberystwyth University</p>

		<p>Learners included in the Champions Group in order to be able to hear the Welsh language being spoken naturally.</p> <p><u>Aberystwyth University</u> The Welsh Language Services Centre promotes the use of the Welsh language and assists the University to operate bilingually. The work of the Centre includes supporting academic departments to develop projects through the medium of Welsh, providing a translation service, providing and coordinating a comprehensive support service for staff and students through the medium of Welsh, and aiming to ensure that the University complies with the Welsh Language Standards. A conversation session is held once a fortnight in the Arts Centre, and a Welsh Language Lunch Club meets once every three weeks to enable staff at all levels to converse and to gain confidence in speaking Welsh.</p> <p><u>Hywel Dda Health Board</u> The Board has worked with the National Centre for Learning Welsh to deliver a range of courses to staff: self-study courses, intensive courses, and confidence building courses.</p> <p>New from January 2023 – the Health Board has signed up to the Work Welsh scheme to provide confidence building courses to 100 members of staff during the year – the scheme is fully funded, and a tutor will be provided for a year</p>	<p><u>Aberystwyth University</u> 82 members of staff enrolled on various courses to learn Welsh, with seven studying at Advanced level.</p> <p><u>Hywel Dda Health Board</u> Self-study courses – 95 completed Residential courses – 3 Confidence building courses – 14 Conversation Club – 7 Taster course – 5</p>	
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Strategic aim 2: to maintain and increase opportunities to use the Welsh language in Ceredigion in a range of contexts.

Objective 2.1 To maintain and increase the use of the Welsh language at community level

Number	Action	Progress	Indicators	Partners
	<p>Implement a specific work programme via Cered, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • running Local Action Groups, • providing extra-curricular opportunities for children and young people, • promoting the Welsh language amongst businesses in the county, e.g. Ceredigion Language Charter, and • providing an information, resources and signposting service. 	<p>Cered has continued to deliver a full programme of community activities, including face to face and virtual events. These activities have included: Memory box conversations with a range of organisations, radio programmes ('Cefn y Rhwyd'), Cardigan Castle Volunteer Scheme, Ar Gered Walking Programme, Iwcadwli Orchestra, coffee mornings/chat groups, podcasts ('Cwmni Rôl Cinio' and 'Pwnc Llosg'), online quizzes, Theatr Soffa (online theatre performances).</p> <p>Cered has also continued to deliver a programme of daily posts on the Cered and Browlan Facebook pages (the latter is a Facebook page run jointly with the Pembrokeshire Welsh language initiative)</p> <p>Community-based project 'Yr Ardd' – working intensively in the Llandysul area, focussing on activities around a community garden, including a lantern parade, craft workshops, a gardening club, talks and presentations.</p>	<p>Number of activities facilitated 11 – Children and young people 23 – Families</p> <p>Number of businesses recognised under the Helo Blod scheme 53: Businesses contacted 32: Businesses engaged with intensively</p> <p>During the past two years, the COVID regulations have meant that it has been impossible to deliver a full programme of face to face activities</p>	Cered
	<p>Support Natural Resources Wales' specific work programme to increase opportunities to use the Welsh language.</p>	<p>As part of the national conversation project, Nature and Us, which was taking place virtually, Welsh language discussion rooms were offered in the workshops. Small focus groups of up to 10 members were</p>	<p>15 training courses for educators were delivered virtually through the medium of Welsh.</p>	

		<p>established online on a regional basis across Wales. However, the demand to join in Welsh was very low across all regions, therefore one Welsh language event was organised on an all Wales rather than a regional basis.</p> <p>The monthly Education and Learning newsletter is produced bilingually and distributed to around 5,500 educators, with the numbers increasing every month. It includes good practice by education groups and educators from all parts of Wales.</p> <p>New bilingual educational resources have been made available this year on our webpages and via Hwb (Digital Learning Wales).</p> <p>September 2021 – seven new local accounts were launched on Twitter and Facebook. All accounts are operated bilingually, rather than separately in English and Welsh, in order to promote the language as a living language to an audience across Wales, the UK and beyond.</p> <p>The design of our website was updated to make it easier and faster to use, ensuring full design compatibility with the Welsh language. However, the number of visitors to our Welsh webpages providing flood warnings has decreased.</p> <p>The Marine Area Statement Team has collaborated with Bangor University to</p>		
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		develop a Welsh dictionary of marine species. This provides a list of species in the marine environment, giving their common names in Welsh and English, as well as their scientific names. It has been published on Termau Cymru .		
	Support Welsh-medium activities for children and young people by providing financial support from CCC and in kind support for Urdd Gobaith Cymru Ceredigion, as well as sharing information about activities locally.	<p>CCC continues to provide financial support to assist the Urdd to provide a broad range of activities to children and young people through the medium of Welsh.</p> <p>The Urdd holds a number of events to raise awareness of the language and rich culture of the county:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer taster sessions for those interested in playing the harp in every school in the Llandysul, Tregaron and Aberystwyth areas. • Offer taster sessions for those interested in traditional Welsh dancing (clog and folk dancing) in every school in the Aberaeron and Lampeter areas. • Work with the Welsh language initiative to organise a Sbridirir tour – singing sessions (with well-known Welsh songs) across the county for children under 8. • Ensure that accreditations are offered and provided through the medium of Welsh. • Hold a range of Welsh language evenings with members of the Ceredigion youth forum / groups of children in schools. <p>Good news</p> <p>Two of the founders and leaders of Adran yr Urdd Aberystwyth, Helen Medi Williams and Lona Phillips, were recognised for their significant contribution to the lives of the</p>	<p>There are 2,967 Urdd members in Ceredigion.</p> <p>100% of Ceredigion schools are associated with the Urdd.</p> <p>27 Urdd adrannau meet on a weekly basis in primary schools, with 780 attendees</p> <p>8 extra-curricular adrannau meet once a fortnight</p> <p>2 aelwydydd, with one of those having more than 95 members</p> <p>1,300+ attending residential courses with the Community Officer in the Urdd's camps</p> <p>2,500+ children and young people taking part in the Urdd Eisteddfod</p>	CCC Youth Service Urdd Ceredigion

		area's young people by winning the John and Ceridwen Hughes Uwchaled Award at the National Urdd Eisteddfod in Denbighshire in 2022.		
	Promote Welsh-medium arts and culture activities via Theatr Felinfach, Ceredigion Museum, and the Ceredigion Library Service.	<p>Gorwel a Gwreiddiau: a project that explores the relationship between young people and their community, their future, and their relationship with culture, language and community.</p> <p>National Eisteddfod projects The Theatr Felinfach Performance School (for 7-18 year olds) worked with Cwmni Actorion Felinfach to stage a pantomime, and Sioe MaesG: 55 members of Ceredigion YFC staged a musical in the Pavilion.</p> <p>Gwrach Felinfach: a Winter of Wellbeing project, working through the medium of Welsh and bilingually with young people from non-Welsh-speaking backgrounds, using local myths as a basis for the work.</p> <p>Hwyl a Hamdden – a social, cultural group for older people. In a new development for 2023, Hwyl a Hamdden joined with Say Something in Welsh learners for a coffee and chat session.</p>	<p>Gorwel a Gwreiddiau: 100 engagement sessions: 400 opportunities for young people and adults.</p> <p>National Eisteddfod projects 82 sessions and 1,189 opportunities to participate through the medium of Welsh; 3 performances were held for audiences of around 1,500.</p> <p>Gwrach Felinfach 10 sessions and 80 opportunities.</p> <p>Hwyl a Hamdden 42 sessions and 1,050 opportunities. One session has been held to date, with 20 members of Hwyl a Hamdden and 15 learners.</p>	Theatr Felinfach
	Support Welsh-medium activities for children and young people by providing financial support from CCC and in kind support for YFC Ceredigion, as well as sharing information about activities locally.	CCC continues to provide financial support to assist the Ceredigion Young Farmers' Clubs to provide a broad range of activities to children and young people through the medium of Welsh. <u>YFC</u>	There are 18 clubs in Ceredigion, with every club operating through the medium of Welsh. 713 members aged between 10 and 28.	CCC Youth Service Ceredigion Young Farmers' Clubs

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold all the usual county competitions, including delivering seven training sessions • A concert was staged in the Eisteddfod Pavilion on the Monday night, with 56 members taking part in 'Sioe Maes G'. • The County Rally was held at Fronheulog Farm, Llanwenog on 4th June, with over 2,000 people attending to enjoy socialising through the medium of Welsh. <p>Good news: After the Rally, the members who came to the fore went on to compete at the Royal Welsh in Builth Wells, with the county coming first across Wales.</p>																																													
	<p>CCC to continue to support the county's local eisteddfodau and agricultural shows via the Community Grants Scheme in order to raise awareness and promote traditional events of linguistic significance within the county.</p>	<p>The Welsh Language Policy on Awarding Grants was approved in January 2023. The policy is now in operation and is available on the Council's website.</p> <p><u>Community Grants</u> The Finance Service assesses every application to ensure that every successful application makes increasing use of the Welsh language. Of the 28 bids submitted last year, 5 were in Welsh.</p> <p><u>The Porth Cymorth Cynnar Service</u> Summer of Fun grant: 55 applications submitted, with three of those in Welsh: Clwb Haf Adar Aeron, Tekki RS and the Urdd.</p> <p>Winter of Well-being grant: 23 applications submitted, with two of those in Welsh: Theatr Felinfach and the Urdd.</p>	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Number of applications</th> <th>Total distributed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2017/18 –</td> <td>76</td> <td>£189,344</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018/19 –</td> <td>77</td> <td>£197,826</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20 –</td> <td>90</td> <td>£243,689</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21 –</td> <td>17</td> <td>£92,794</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22 –</td> <td>28</td> <td>£119,567</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total –</td> <td>288</td> <td>£843,220</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Number of applications	Total distributed	2017/18 –	76	£189,344	2018/19 –	77	£197,826	2019/20 –	90	£243,689	2020/21 –	17	£92,794	2021/22 –	28	£119,567	Total –	288	£843,220	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Eisteddfodau</th> <th>Shows</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2017/18 –</td> <td>17</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018/19 –</td> <td>18</td> <td>9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20 –</td> <td>17</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21 –</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22 –</td> <td>1</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total –</td> <td>53</td> <td>27</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Eisteddfodau	Shows	2017/18 –	17	10	2018/19 –	18	9	2019/20 –	17	8	2020/21 –	0	0	2021/22 –	1	0	Total –	53	27	<p>Finance Service Porth Cymorth Cynnar Service</p> <p>The numbers are lower due to COVID. Also, fewer shows apply for the grant</p>
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			because they do not produce their material bilingually.	
	Support CAVO to promote the use of the Welsh language amongst the county's voluntary organisations.	<p>Participating in the development of the Volunteer in Welsh Framework, Mentrau Iaith Cymru's Volunteering and the Welsh Language project for 2022, which includes research conclusions and provides guidance to voluntary organisations' staff on how to recruit volunteers.</p> <p>https://gwirfoddolicymru.net/welsh</p> <p>A marketing campaign was launched to attract Welsh speaking volunteers at the National Eisteddfod in Ceredigion.</p> <p>CAVO was one of the first county voluntary councils in Wales to earn recognition via the Welsh Language Commissioner's Welsh Offer scheme.</p>		CAVO

Objective 2.2 To maintain and increase the use of the Welsh language in providing and receiving public services

Number	Action	Progress	Indicators	Partners
	CCC to implement the Service Provision Standards, and to share good practice with other member organisations of the Bilingual Futures Forum.	<p>The Council's Policy Statement states that every member of the public has the right to choose the language in which they wish to engage with the Council and its work. The campaign to inform people that they are welcome to use the Welsh language when they contact the Council was promoted via social media.</p> <p>The Bilingual Futures Forum provides a platform to review and share good practice with regard to the operational requirements of the Welsh Language Standards.</p>	<p>The County Council and other public organisations covered by the remit of the Welsh Language Commissioner have submitted acceptable Annual Compliance Reports.</p> <p>The Ceredigion Bilingual Futures Forum has met four times during the year to share good practice.</p>	CCC Welsh Language Unit

	<p>CCC to increase the number of bilingual staff in order to increase and improve the quality of its Welsh language services. Recruitment and the Welsh Language policy.</p>	<p>The Council ensures that every new or vacant post is assessed in order to identify the Welsh language skills required to fulfil the role. As part of the Policy on Promoting and Facilitating the Use of the Welsh Language Internally (December 2017), a decision was taken that every worker should satisfy Level 1 requirements for 'speaking and listening' (basic courtesy Welsh) at least when appointed, or within six months of being appointed. The Council will encourage officers to complete the 10 hour e-learning package, 'Croeso Cymraeg', which was developed by the National Centre for Learning Welsh, in order for them to be able to acquire basic courtesy Welsh skills.</p>	<p>62% of the Council's staff are able to converse in Welsh (ALTE Levels 3, 4 and 5). Only 3% of the workforce state that they do not have any Welsh language skills.</p>	<p>CCC Welsh Language Unit Human Resources</p>																																																								
	<p>Members of the Bilingual Futures Forum who are covered by the remit of the Welsh Language Commissioner to increase the number of bilingual staff in order to increase and improve the quality of Welsh language services</p>	<p><u>Coleg Ceredigion</u> Since 2021, data are kept on the skills levels of our staff via an annual questionnaire asking them to self-assess their ability to speak, to read and to write Welsh.</p> <p><u>Natural Resources Wales</u> Every post advertised state that Welsh skills are essential, with Level 1 skills being the minimum requirement for staff; staff who are unable to meet this requirement when appointed will be required to follow a 10 hour course within a fixed period of 9 months. We ensure that teams located in Ceredigion who deal with the public as part of their work have a high percentage of Welsh speakers.</p> <p><u>Aberystwyth University</u></p>	<p><u>Coleg Ceredigion</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th colspan="2">Speaking</th> <th colspan="2">Reading</th> <th colspan="2">Writing</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Level</th> <th>Number</th> <th>%age</th> <th>Number</th> <th>%age</th> <th>Number</th> <th>%age</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>High</td> <td>34</td> <td>25%</td> <td>25</td> <td>18%</td> <td>19</td> <td>14%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Intermediate</td> <td>23</td> <td>17%</td> <td>28</td> <td>21%</td> <td>22</td> <td>16%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Basic</td> <td>32</td> <td>24%</td> <td>30</td> <td>22%</td> <td>30</td> <td>22%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Entry</td> <td>29</td> <td>21%</td> <td>25</td> <td>18%</td> <td>30</td> <td>22%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>None</td> <td>18</td> <td>13%</td> <td>28</td> <td>21%</td> <td>35</td> <td>26%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>136</td> <td>100%</td> <td>136</td> <td>100%</td> <td>136</td> <td>100%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p><u>Natural Resources Wales</u> A total of 163 members of staff work in Ceredigion, and 80 (49%) of those are able to converse in Welsh. Our offices and visitor centres are located in Aberystwyth, Lampeter, Tregaron, Bwlch Nant yr Arian and Ynys-Ias.</p> <p><u>Aberystwyth University</u></p> <p>Level Number Oral % Oral</p>		Speaking		Reading		Writing		Level	Number	%age	Number	%age	Number	%age	High	34	25%	25	18%	19	14%	Intermediate	23	17%	28	21%	22	16%	Basic	32	24%	30	22%	30	22%	Entry	29	21%	25	18%	30	22%	None	18	13%	28	21%	35	26%	Total	136	100%	136	100%	136	100%	<p>Members of the Bilingual Futures Forum</p>
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		<p>On 31st July 2022, information on the language skills of all staff with updated details was analysed. The levels are based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Language (CEFR).</p> <p><u>Hywel Dda Health Board</u> The Health Board launched its Bilingual Skills Policy on 1st March 2021. The policy covers workforce planning and improving workers' skills as part of the provision of bilingual services. The policy states that services and teams are required to make the best use of their current linguistic skills and to develop bilingual skills in order to provide a high quality bilingual service.</p>	<table border="0"> <tr><td>A0</td><td>617</td><td>30.88%</td></tr> <tr><td>A1</td><td>345</td><td>17.27%</td></tr> <tr><td>A2</td><td>146</td><td>7.31%</td></tr> <tr><td>B1</td><td>133</td><td>6.66%</td></tr> <tr><td>B2</td><td>150</td><td>7.51%</td></tr> <tr><td>C1</td><td>94</td><td>4.70%</td></tr> <tr><td>C2</td><td>247</td><td>12.36%</td></tr> <tr><td>Not recorded</td><td>266</td><td>13.31%</td></tr> <tr><td>Total</td><td>1998</td><td>100.00%</td></tr> </table> <p><u>Hywel Dda Health Board</u></p> <p>An analysis of the record of Welsh language skills on 31st March 2022 Level 3 - Intermediate 857 staff 7.8% Level 4 - Advanced 873 staff 7.94% Level 5 - Proficiency 1,273 staff 11.58%</p>	A0	617	30.88%	A1	345	17.27%	A2	146	7.31%	B1	133	6.66%	B2	150	7.51%	C1	94	4.70%	C2	247	12.36%	Not recorded	266	13.31%	Total	1998	100.00%	
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Not recorded	266	13.31%																													
Total	1998	100.00%																													
	<p>Promote the Welsh Language Commissioner's <i>Working Welsh</i> scheme in relation to Clic Ceredigion customer services, and run a campaign to inform people that they are welcome to use the Welsh language when they contact the service</p>	<p>The Clic Service staff are still working remotely, providing a full service by phone or digitally in the preferred language of the enquirer.</p> <p>An indicator at the bottom of the screen indicates that the caller has selected a Welsh language service, enabling the receptionist to provide a full Welsh language service. The notification board even indicates the number of calls in progress, including identifying the number of Welsh and English calls in progress.</p> <p>The Clic Service has 19 members of staff. Of these, 15 are fluent in Welsh and are able to provide a full Welsh language service. Four are attending courses to learn Welsh, and two of those are now confident enough to deal with</p>	<p>Calls are received regularly in Welsh, and around 16% of all calls received tend to be in Welsh.</p> <p>The number of people who choose to access the Council's Welsh language service does not correlate with the number of Welsh speakers in the county. For this reason, the Council is organising a series of campaigns on specific days to raise the public's awareness that they are able to use the Welsh language in their dealings with the Council, e.g., Shwmae Day, St. David's Day, Welsh Language Rights Day.</p>	<p>Clic Service CCC Welsh Language Unit</p>																											

		calls to the Welsh line. This is due to the fact that they have received bespoke training for the Clic Service, covering the skills required to provide the proactive offer, familiarising themselves with relevant terms and phrases when dealing with initial enquiries, and gaining confidence in using these.		
	Maintain and develop the use of the Welsh language in Ceredigion Actif services, including swimming lessons and sports training, e.g., 5x60 project.	All swimming lessons are held bilingually. All guidance and learning resources are available in Welsh via Swim Wales. A swimming coaching course was held for staff (February and March) to increase the number of swimming coaches able to speak Welsh.	Bilingual lessons – Plascrug – 324 children during Autumn 22 Lampeter – 191 children during Autumn 22	Porth Cymorth Cynnar CCC Welsh Language Unit
	Develop a plan to promote the use of the Welsh language in care homes, supporting the implementation of the 'More than just words' strategy.	This work commenced at Hafan Deg Residential Care Home in Lampeter but was delayed due to the pandemic.	The project needs to be recommenced.	Porth Gofal CCC Welsh Language Unit
	Work with Aberystwyth University to maintain the status of the Welsh language and opportunities to use it within the county's higher education institution.	The redeveloped Pantycelyn Hall was reopened in September 2020 following a £16.5m investment, offering high quality accommodation for up to 200 students, as well as community spaces. In September 2021, Wales' first Veterinary Science School was opened at Aberystwyth University. The course provides students with an opportunity to study particular aspects of veterinary science through the medium of Welsh. In September 2022, the University welcomed its first nursing students who will receive training to become Adult and Mental Health nurses. Students will also be able to study half the course through the medium of Welsh. Work has also begun on an ambitious project to develop the Old College, creating a	358 students have enrolled on one or more Welsh-medium modules (as at 11/11/22). Language Skills Certificate 2022-23 Sessions to promote the Certificate have been held for departments since the beginning of term. To date (27/10/22), 25 have enrolled to complete the qualification.	Aberystwyth University

		flagship centre for learning, heritage, culture and enterprise for the University, for the community, and for Wales by 2024.		
Objective 2.3 To maintain and increase the use of the Welsh language within workplaces				
Number	Action	Progress	Indicators	Partners
	<p>CCC to deliver the Operational Standards to increase the use of the Welsh language within internal administration, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welsh-medium HR services, • opportunities to build workers' confidence to use the Welsh language, • develop and provide Welsh-medium ICT resources. 	<p>The Policy on Promoting and Facilitating the Use of the Welsh Language Internally was published in 2017. A copy is available on the Council's intranet, CeriNet, for all staff to access.</p> <p>It is the Council's practice to provide standard letters, employment contracts, etc., bilingually at the outset. Once a preferred language is established, communication continues in that language.</p> <p>All policies to be used by staff are available in English and Welsh on the Council's intranet, CeriNet.</p> <p>A Work Welsh Group has been established to address these issues.</p> <p>A new action plan has been agreed, which will be implemented from the beginning of January 2023.</p>	<p>An acceptable Annual Compliance Report has been submitted to the Welsh Language Commissioner annually.</p>	<p>CCC Welsh Language Unit</p>
	<p>Provide advice and guidance to employers in the local private sector via the Welsh Language in Business project, highlighting the resources available to learn Welsh, e.g., the free online package, Say Something in Welsh, Duolingo.</p>	<p>The Helo Blod Officer worked with businesses across the county, virtually during the COVID restrictions, then subsequently face to face. The local Helo Blod project ended in April 2022.</p>	<p>53 local businesses made contact. 32 local businesses have engaged intensively with Cered to improve their use of the Welsh language</p>	<p>Cered</p>

Strategic aim 3: to create the social conditions that enable the Welsh language to thrive in Ceredigion

Objective 3.1 To maintain the status and standing of the Welsh language within society, promoting its value and the use of the language.

Number	Action	Progress	Indicators	Partners
	Support St David's Day parades in Aberystwyth and Lampeter and encourage similar celebrations in other areas.	Parades took place in five towns: Aberystwyth, Lampeter, Aberaeron, Tregaron and Cardigan. However, due to COVID, it was not possible to reinstate the plan to hold a St David's Day parade in every town in Ceredigion, and with restrictions still in place, only two parades were able to take place in 2022, with the support of local committees in Lampeter and Aberystwyth.	Five towns prior to COVID, reduced to two towns in 2022 because restrictions were still in place. 2023: 4 towns held parades to celebrate St David's Day.	Cered
	Support the National Eisteddfod 2020 by establishing a Project Group to identify priorities for CCC's action plan to support and facilitate arrangements	Support was provided for a very successful Eisteddfod in the Summer 2022, following a two-year delay due to the pandemic. Pentref Ceredigion (Ceredigion Village) was established on the Maes, with the vision of promoting the county as a place to live, to learn, to belong and to succeed. The Caru Ceredigion brand was used to promote a modern county.	210 events held in the Ceredigion Village over a period of 8 days. Between 25,000 and 30,000 people visited the Ceredigion Village. 1,500 children participated in a range of performances with their schools on the Maes.	CCC
	The Council and partner organisations who are members of the Bilingual Futures Forum to use specific dates on the calendar to raise awareness of the importance of the Welsh language, e.g., campaigns and celebrations around St David's Day, Diwrnod Shw Mae, Ras yr Iaith, Welsh Language Music Day	St David's Day – a video to convey excitement around the Eisteddfod, and to explain what to expect. Diwrnod Shwmae – Work Welsh Learner of the Year Award. Welsh Language Rights Day – a video to promote and encourage the people of Ceredigion to use the Welsh language when they contact the County Council.		CCC Welsh Language Unit Members of the Bilingual Futures Forum

		<p>Cered held a shop window-dressing competition for St David's Day in four towns: Aberystwyth, Tregaron, Cardigan and Llandysul. The competition was judged by Ben Lake MP.</p> <p><u>Coleg Ceredigion</u> Welsh language days are celebrated annually across our campuses, for both staff and students, with fun activities, games, competitions, guest speakers, etc. Every member of staff completes a 'Language Awareness' course – this is an online course produced especially for Coleg Ceredigion and Coleg Sir Gâr staff. The course is compulsory for all new staff as part of their induction.</p> <p><u>Natural Resources Wales</u> Publish Welsh Language Annual Report in September 2021 – Social Media Diwrnod Shwmae/Su'mae between 14 and 15 October – Social Media Celebrate Learning Welsh between 11 and 15 October Halloween and the first day of winter on 1 November Welsh Language Rights Day between 5 and 7 December – Social Media Wales' Christmas and New Year Traditions between 15 and 17 December St Dwynwen on 25 January – Social Media Welsh Language Music Day on 4 February St David's Day on 1 March</p>		
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		<p>World Book Day on 3 March World Poetry Day on 21 March Urdd Gobaith Cymru – celebrate its centenary, including a quiz – June Promote Welsh Language Training Programme – August European Languages Day – September</p> <p><u>Aberystwyth University</u></p> <p>The University’s Welsh Language Promotion Awards – this year, a ceremony was held at the Arts Centre to announce the winners as part of the University’s 150th anniversary celebrations and Diwrnod Shwmae celebrations. An exhibition and open day were held for alumni and visitors at Pantycelyn on the first Sunday of the National Eisteddfod in Tregaron. To mark the occasion, the Pop Aber exhibition was also organised to celebrate the important contribution of students and alumni to the pop scene in Wales.</p> <p>In collaboration with the Learn Welsh Ceredigion, Powys and Carmarthenshire Team, the Aberystwyth University Coleg Cymraeg Branch staff, and UMCA, stands/events were organised on the campus and online to promote/raise awareness of the Welsh language on specific dates, including Freshers’ Week, St David’s Day, Diwrnod Shwmae, Welsh Language Music Day, and Welsh Language Rights Day. The Welsh</p>		
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		<p>Language Community Coordinator also works in the Union to collaborate with UMCA and the local community to organise events and to promote the Welsh language and culture to students.</p> <p><u>Hywel Dda Health Board</u></p> <p>St David's Day – Hold a quiz for all Health Board staff, and produce a video about the importance of the Welsh language</p> <p>Welsh Language Music Day – Play Welsh language music on all radio stations in our hospitals</p> <p>Diwrnod Shwmae – Provide an information stand in every hospital across the three counties</p> <p>Welsh Language Rights Day – Share messages on social media and produce an animation for all staff.</p>		
	<p>Highlight the value of the Welsh language in the tourism industry, e.g., promote the Sense of Place scheme.</p>	<p>Discover Ceredigion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • fully bilingual website • fully bilingual Facebook page, with the Welsh text always appearing first • Post to promote the Diwrnod Shw Mae <p>Celtic Routes marketing programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social media streams are bilingual (some material is trilingual, using Gaelic too) • A television programme following Ryland Teifi and his family has been commissioned and will be broadcast on S4C shortly. <p>Welsh language events are promoted, with a particular focus on Eisteddfodau this year (a</p>	<p>The Welsh language is prominent in Discover Ceredigion activities</p>	<p>Growth and Enterprise Service</p>

		<p>specific, permanent page, as well as the National Eisteddfod).</p> <p>A Ceredigion Ambassador Programme is being developed (as part of the Welsh Ambassador scheme https://www.ambassador.wales/cy). Option to follow the course in Welsh or in English. A specific module on the Welsh language is mandatory in order to reach the 'Silver' level.</p> <p>Community Regeneration Fund: Work has been commissioned to work with representatives from the county's towns to develop a brand for the towns. An important aspect of the work will be to make use of the Welsh language as a point to sell the unique nature of the county.</p>		
	Safeguard local Welsh place names by implementing Ceredigion's street naming and numbering policy	<p>As part of the street naming and numbering policy, when house names are registered, a letter is sent to each applicant to inform them of the Welsh language and culture, in the hope that it will assist in retaining Welsh or historic names in the county.</p> <p>The street naming and numbering policy demands that every new street is given a Welsh name only, and that the relevant Town or Community Council is consulted in terms of the relevance of that name to the local area.</p>	<p>2021-2022 Reporting Period: 34 applications to change property names. 2 applications: Welsh to English 15 applications: English to Welsh 9 applications: Welsh to Welsh 2 applications: English to English</p> <p>263 applications to name new properties: over 95% of these applications were for Welsh names.</p> <p>3 applications to name new streets: 100% Welsh only.</p>	CCC Address Management Service

Objective 3.2 To create the social conditions that enable the Welsh language to thrive in Ceredigion				
Number	Action	Progress	Indicators	Partners
	CCC to value Welsh language skills in the workplace by implementing a recruitment policy that requires a linguistic assessment to be undertaken when appointing to any vacant or new post.	<p>Every worker is required to satisfy Level 1 requirements for 'speaking and listening' (basic courtesy Welsh) at least when appointed, or within six months of being appointed. For all Council jobs, the linguistic skills required to undertake that role must be identified and recorded on the 'Permission to Fill a New Post' form. In specific cases, if it is impossible to recruit at the required ALTE level, it is agreed to include a training condition in the employment contract. The successful candidate is expected to reach the required ALTE standard within two years of being appointed. Line managers are expected to monitor this.</p> <p>Every vacant post is advertised in English and Welsh. The following disclaimer was placed on our website in March 2022: <i>"We operate a bilingual policy. All applicants are invited to apply in Welsh, any application submitted in Welsh will not be treated less favourably than an application made in English."</i></p> <p>Information about the use of the Welsh language in recruitment has been included on the 'information and FAQs' pages, which appear at the end of every job advert.</p> <p>The job application form includes a space in which candidates can specify the</p>	<p>Recruitment: Welsh language skills level</p> <p>Level 5: 18%</p> <p>Level 4: 4%</p> <p>Level 3: 40%</p> <p>Level 2: 24%</p> <p>Level 1: 14%</p>	CCC Welsh Language Unit

		<p>language in which they wish to be interviewed.</p> <p>It is intended to hold discussions with the HR Service to consider an alternative method of recording the linguistic skills of the workforce over the coming period, as well as to consider setting targets to increase the linguistic skills of the workforce.</p> <p>As part of this work, we aim to develop guidance on how to assess linguistic skills for new or vacant posts.</p>																						
	<p>Member organisations of the Bilingual Futures Forum to value Welsh language skills in the workforce by implementing a recruitment policy that requires a linguistic assessment to be undertaken when appointing to any vacant or new post.</p>	<p><u>Coleg Ceredigion</u> Implement a more intensive system of assessing the Welsh language skills level to be included in job descriptions and advertisements for vacant posts. Work closely on this with the Recruitment Manager, using our 'Recruitment Matrix' before a new or vacant post is advertised.</p> <p><u>Natural Resources Wales</u> Every new or vacant post is assessed in terms of Welsh language skills requirements, following staffing and recruitment guidance. Every manager will need to fill a Microsoft Teams form in order to record the assessment. The assessment will be checked by the Welsh Language Officer to ensure that the guidance has been followed and that there are Welsh speakers in every team. No post is advertised unless these steps have been taken as part of the recruitment process.</p>	<p><u>Coleg Ceredigion</u> 20/21: 22 jobs in total 40% where Welsh was a requirement</p> <p><u>Natural Resources Wales</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Linguistic level</th> <th>Essential</th> <th>Desirable</th> <th>Requirement to learn</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Level 5</td> <td>7 (1.1%)</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Level 4</td> <td>30 (5%)</td> <td>91(16%)</td> <td>1 (0.2%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Level 3</td> <td>20 (3.4%)</td> <td>95 (16%)</td> <td>6 (1%)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Level 1</td> <td>336 (57.3%)</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Linguistic level	Essential	Desirable	Requirement to learn	Level 5	7 (1.1%)	0	0	Level 4	30 (5%)	91(16%)	1 (0.2%)	Level 3	20 (3.4%)	95 (16%)	6 (1%)	Level 1	336 (57.3%)	0	0	<p>Members of the Bilingual Futures Forum</p>
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		<p><u>Aberystwyth University</u> The University has robust arrangements in place to assess the linguistic requirements of every advertised post. All job descriptions and their linguistic requirements are checked and approved by the Welsh Language Services Centre as part of the recruitment and advertising process. When staff are appointed to posts for which Welsh language skills are essential, with a commitment to learn/improve their Welsh language skills in order to meet the required level of the post, the Centre contacts the staff to offer support and information about suitable courses.</p>	<p><u>Aberystwyth University</u></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Welsh language skills essential</td> <td>204</td> <td>31.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Welsh language skills desirable</td> <td>432</td> <td>66.2%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Posts where Welsh language skills were not required</td> <td>449</td> <td>68.8%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Posts with a requirement to acquire Welsh language skills upon appointment to post</td> <td>No data</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Welsh language skills essential	204	31.2%	Welsh language skills desirable	432	66.2%	Posts where Welsh language skills were not required	449	68.8%	Posts with a requirement to acquire Welsh language skills upon appointment to post	No data		
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	CCC to maintain its procurement policy in order to value the Welsh language, ensuring that Welsh language requirements are considered and included where appropriate in any contract, tender or legal agreement.	<p>The Procurement Service has published Contract Procedure Rules that state that every tendering process must include a reference/clause that requires the successful company to comply with the Welsh Language Standards that are relevant to the provision of the service or goods subject to the tender process. The Procurement Service is responsible for monitoring this.</p> <p>The Welsh Language Commissioner's guidance document, 'Bidding for Contracts and Grants: Welsh language considerations', is distributed to all contractors.</p>	<p>Six of 14 members of staff speak Welsh.</p> <p>In 2022, no tenders were submitted in Welsh, however the service has put a system in place whereby any tender or correspondence received in Welsh during the tendering process will be responded to in Welsh from that point onwards.</p>	Procurement Service												
	Support corporate priority 1, Boosting the economy, CCC Corporate Strategy 2017-22, to	The county's new Economic Strategy, "Boosting Ceredigion's Economy – A Strategy for Action 2020-35", was published in 2021. The strategy aims to	It is ensured that the Welsh language is visible in any plan to boost the economy.	Growth and Enterprise Service												

	<p>ensure that the Welsh language is visible in any plans</p>	<p>ensure the following when implementing a range of plans under four main themes – People, Place, Enterprise, and Connectivity.</p> <p>“Another important underlying principle is the need to protect and enhance our cultural uniqueness and identity and help to boost the resilience and growth of the Welsh language. We will build on work undertaken as part of the Arfor project to fully identify the opportunities to realise opportunities to help the Welsh language thrive through positive economic development action. Fundamentally, this will be achieved by ensuring that those who speak Welsh have the confidence, skills and opportunities to develop businesses, work in jobs of higher value, and see Ceredigion as a thriving, energising place to live and work.” (page 6).</p>		
	<p>Ensure that the value of the Welsh language, its use and sustainability are core factors in the activities of the Cynnal y Cardi (LEADER) Scheme and the Arfor Scheme.</p>	<p>Applicants must answer the following question: How will any scheme / project contribute to promoting the Welsh language?</p> <p>The Welsh language is treated as a cross-cutting theme and is scored as part of the application assessment process.</p> <p>Reports and case studies are produced bilingually.</p> <p>Marketing and other materials are provided bilingually, including the Cynnal y Cardi website.</p>	<p>11 applications were submitted in Welsh 7 Welsh presentations were given as part of the assessment process</p> <p>Specific schemes: Welsh in the Workplace, Academi Bro, Croeso Ceredigion toolkit, Gorwel a Gwreiddiau, Ceredigion Bro360, Calon Tysul.</p> <p>Case studies can be found online at https://www.cynnalycardi.org.uk/case-studies/ (Welsh in the Workplace and Academi Bro).</p>	<p>Growth and Enterprise Service</p>

		The Local Action Group's meetings are mainly held in Welsh.		
	Ensure that the Arfor Scheme, funded by the Welsh Government, promotes entrepreneurship, business growth, community resilience and the Welsh language in the Arfor region in Ceredigion.	<p>Two toolkits were produced in Ceredigion:</p> <p>'Mentro mewn Busnes' ('Venturing into Business') to promote entrepreneurship and support new businesses. Total and maximum grant – £10,000. Grant rate – 80%</p> <p>'Tyfu yw'r Nod' ('Growth is the Aim') to support existing enterprises to encourage growth and development. Total grant – £10,000 - £40,000. Grant rate – 70%</p>	<p>31 applications were supported, with the main aim of promoting the use of the Welsh language in business.</p> <p>As a result of the scheme: 61.7 jobs were created 40.5 jobs were safeguarded</p> <p>The evaluation of the Arfor 1 scheme has been completed: https://www.rhaglenarfor.cymru/index.en.html</p>	
	Provide opportunities for apprentices within the Council to use their Welsh language skills at work	<p>The apprenticeship scheme has provided a platform to develop further opportunities for our young people to use the Welsh language in the workplace and to strengthen those opportunities. The apprenticeship scheme aims to continue to have a positive impact on the use of the Welsh language and the choices of our young people. This, in turn, will lead to a better understanding amongst young people of the demand for Welsh language skills in the workplace as they grow older. Learning providers are required to offer learning activities and materials in Welsh and to actively support the use of the Welsh language when delivering and assessing qualifications.</p> <p>Example of good practice: At the beginning of their apprenticeships, learners are asked if they would like to complete their initial assessments through</p>	<p>The scheme was established in 2018, and since then, there have been 18 participants. To date, 95% of all apprentices have been Welsh speakers (19 Welsh speakers / 1 Welsh learner).</p>	

		<p>the medium of Welsh. They are also asked in which language they would prefer to prepare their assignments, and they are encouraged to submit any evidence of their use of the Welsh language, e.g., e-mails or posters.</p> <p>The presentations used in the monthly workshops are bilingual and highlight key subject-specific vocabulary in Welsh. Any other terms used by the learners are also discussed. At the end of every session, learners review the vocabulary to see what they can remember. The vocabulary is coded red/amber/green for difficulty, so that every apprentice, no matter their level of Welsh language skills, feels confident to 'give it a go'. Every learner is also required to complete at least one assignment for their apprenticeship in Welsh.</p>		
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Objective 3.2 To ensure that there are sustainable communities where the Welsh language is used as the normal means of communication

Number	Action	Progress	Indicators	Partners
	<p>Promote the sustainability of the Welsh language through land use planning procedures, e.g.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> support and review the <i>Supplementary Planning Guidance – Community and the Welsh Language</i>, as part of the Local Development Plan, and strengthen the clause to erect bilingual signage and advertisements for developments, e.g., chain stores 	<p>The LDP review process has been paused due to the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as the impact of the Natural Resources Wales planning statement on LDP2. There is a significant risk of the plan being considered 'unsound' and not fit for purpose through the public examination process, because the phosphate issue is not resolved.</p> <p>A Draft Topic Paper on the Welsh Language was drafted in 2019 for the</p>	<p>1 Integrated Impact Assessment, with the following outcome:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Review and Update of the LDP would be presented bilingually The whole county would be classified as linguistically sensitive, thereby requiring all development proposals to be impact assessed with regard to their potential impact on the use of the Welsh language A topic paper on the Welsh language would be produced during the preparation of the Deposit Plan 	<p>CCC Planning Service</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> conduct linguistic impact assessments in every stage of the development of the new Local Development Plan (LDP) 	<p>Preferred/Pre-Deposit Strategy, providing details of the implications of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TAN 20 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the well-being aim: 'a Wales of vibrant culture and flourishing Welsh language'. The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 Welsh Language Strategy: Cymraeg 2050 Planning Act (Wales) 2015 PPW 10 <p>Present a paper to the Cabinet (22 February 2022) and the Council (3 March 2022) on community housing, with the aim of supporting local people to access housing through a shared equity model. A task and finish group has been established to consider the implementation of such a model, alongside other housing options. This work is ongoing.</p>	<p>Number of applicants who qualified to purchase discount for sale affordable housing: Between 01.01.2017 and 21.11.2022: 163, 149 of those who qualified on the basis of local connection. 91%</p> <p><u>Local connection:</u> Affordable housing under the Unitary Development Plan (the previous plan): individuals must have lived for 10 of the last 20 years in the county or within neighbouring community council areas.</p> <p>Affordable housing under the Local Development Plan (the current plan): individuals must have lived in the county for 5 years of their lives.</p>	
	<p>Maintain a policy of promoting affordable housing.</p>	<p>Ceredigion's Local Housing Strategy (2018-23) aims to ensure that an integrated housing service is provided to meet local need, as well as to safeguard Welsh heritage, culture and language within the county's communities, specifically in areas with a high proportion of Welsh speakers. Supporting existing communities is a key aspect of this strategy and is crucial to the well-being of the Welsh language in Ceredigion.</p> <p>The Common Allocations Policy also ensures that local connection criteria must be satisfied in order for applicants to be</p>	<p>From 1 April 2017 until 23 November 2022, 1611, housing allocations were made in Ceredigion. All allocations were made in accordance with the Common Allocations Policy and ensured that applicants had local connections with Ceredigion. In a minority of cases where local connections are not relevant, allocations were made under the homelessness duty.</p>	<p>Housing Service</p>

		considered and be offered social housing, without many exceptions. The local connection criteria can be satisfied if the applicant has lived in the county for five years immediately preceding the date on which their application is submitted, or on the basis of employment, or due to having family living in the area.	0.8% of service users have indicated that they wish to engage with the service in Welsh, with 4% wishing to do so bilingually, and the remainder choosing to do so in English.																						
	Continue to use the Community Grant Scheme to support: community organisations and events that make use of the Welsh language or make a commitment to develop the use of the Welsh language, including agricultural shows and local eisteddfodau.	<p>Under grant conditions, all applicants must operate bilingually in order to receive grant funding. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Producing all written and electronic material relating to their application bilingually – e.g., signage, leaflets, posters, publications, advertisements, websites and any slogans. Ensuring that any public activities or events related to the application do not treat Welsh less favourably than English, e.g., loudspeaker announcements, with those responsible for chiring events ensuring that attendees feel comfortable contributing in their preferred language. Helping to provide opportunities for people to use the Welsh language. 	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Number of applications</th> <th>Total distributed</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2017/18 –</td> <td>76</td> <td>£189,344</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2018/19 –</td> <td>77</td> <td>£197,826</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2019/20 –</td> <td>90</td> <td>£243,689</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2020/21 –</td> <td>17</td> <td>£92,794</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22 –</td> <td>28</td> <td>£119,567</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total –</td> <td>288</td> <td>£843,220</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The decrease can be attributed to the impact of COVID-19.</p> <p>2021/22: 5/28 applications submitted in Welsh. 18%</p>		Number of applications	Total distributed	2017/18 –	76	£189,344	2018/19 –	77	£197,826	2019/20 –	90	£243,689	2020/21 –	17	£92,794	2021/22 –	28	£119,567	Total –	288	£843,220	CCC Finance Service
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	CCC IT Service and other organisations to seek increasing opportunities to include the Welsh language in technology, including new IT systems; Bilingual Futures Forum partner organisations to raise awareness of this in order to increase the use of Welsh interfaces, e.g., Microsoft, Facebook, apps	<p>The IT Service is updating software and installing Microsoft 365 Apps, including Office, on staff computers. Office includes a Welsh spellchecker.</p> <p>The Microsoft interface can be used in Welsh, and there are instructions on how to do this on CeriNet.</p> <p>The HR Service maintains the Council's CeriNet intranet – the intranet operates in English and Welsh. Users select their</p>	The use of the Welsh language in IT projects is increasing across the Council.	IT Service																					

		<p>preferred language on the homepage and are then able to move from page to page in that language.</p> <p>The Language Policy Officer maintains the 'Work Welsh' pages on CeriNet (the Council's intranet), providing resources to help to promote the Welsh language and to help staff to use the language. The contents of those pages will need to be reviewed and updated over the coming year.</p>		
	Provide information to newcomers via a moving to Ceredigion website	<p>Following a successful application for Cynnal y Cardi grant funding, a 'Croeso Ceredigion' project was developed.</p> <p>Its aim is to maintain viable communities by highlighting the opportunities available to contribute and support locally, and to help people understand how the Welsh language is an intrinsic part of the cultural and social life of the county. The project will be inclusive, bringing together Welsh speakers, shy Welsh speakers, Welsh learners, non-Welsh speakers, and those who are entirely new to the language. The project will aim to ensure community ownership, equipping communities to tackle the challenges related to inward migration.</p> <p>Produce a visual postcard that will include a QR code to direct newcomers to a welcome pack.</p> <p>Produce an e-book to introduce life in a bilingual county.</p> <p>As part of a pilot project, select three town and community councils where the problems related to inward migration are</p>	The resources are being designed at present, and the community work will commence in March.	Welsh Language Unit Cered

		<p>most apparent. Work with the Council to implement a local action plan.</p> <p>Community workshops (targeting social groups that already exist within a local area) – working closely with communities to equip them to tackle the challenges related to inward migration.</p>		
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CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 06/06/23

Title: Aeron Valley New Area School – Build Contract

Purpose of the report: To consider the contractual arrangements for the Aeron Valley New Area School in order to proceed expediently.

For: Decision

Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member: Cllr Wyn Thomas – Schools, Lifelong Learning and Skills
Cllr Gareth Davies - Finance & Procurement
Cllr Clive Davies - Economy and Regeneration

1. Background

Following a mini-tender process, C Wynne & Sons Ltd (trading as Wynne Construction) were appointed in July 2022 to deliver a new 3-11 area school in the Aeron valley - Ysgol Dyffryn Aeron. This was procured as a 2 stage Design & Build contract under the South West Wales Regional Contractors Framework. A tender was awarded for the initial Design stage on 12th July 2022 to the value of £322k.

The key milestones reached to date are:

- i) The Strategic Outline Programme of 21st Century Schools activity was approved by WG in November 2019, giving an in principal capital allocation of £15.3m. At this very early indicative pre COVID stage, this included a £7.1m estimate relating to Ysgol Dyffryn Aeron.
- ii) RIBA Stage 2 (Concept Design) was achieved in October 2022.
- iii) The specific Strategic Outline Case (SOC) for Ysgol Dyffryn Aeron was then considered and approved by WG and permission to proceed to Outline Business Case (OBC) was received on 20/12/22. This included an estimated cost of £10.9m at this stage.
- iv) The OBC for Ysgol Dyffryn Aeron was then considered and approved by WG and permission to proceed to Full Business Case (FBC) was received on 30/03/23. This included an estimated cost of £12.0m at this stage.
- v) RIBA Stage 3 (Developed Design) was achieved in February 2023.
- vi) Full Planning permission was granted at Development Management Committee on 10th May 2023

The FBC was submitted to WG on 5th May 2023, following receipt and analysis of the main Build construction prices and refinement of a proposed main Contract sum.

The FBC was considered and supported at the initial stage of WG's FBC consideration process on 18th May 2023 and is now proceeding for consideration at WG's Capital Investment Panel on 15th June 2023. If that stage is passed, a formal recommendation is made for Ministerial approval. Formal WG communication in the form of grant offer letter etc would then follow thereafter, if the Scheme receives Ministerial approval, but this may well run into July.

To date the Council has incurred costs of just over £0.75m on this Scheme, which includes Land Purchase, Architects Design fees and associated fees (e.g. Planning, Building regulations and Ground Investigation). Welsh Government have released funding to date on the basis that acceptance and use of the funding is at the Council's risk if the Scheme were not to be approved at final FBC stage.

2. Current Situation and Proposed Approach

In order to proceed in an expedient manner, particularly to enable a start on site at the earliest opportunity during the summer period, the delivery team have identified enabling works and key components which can be progressed in order to minimise programme timeline constraints.

This results in a proposal to commence certain key essential aspects of construction prior to receipt of formal grant offer documents from WG. This is proposed via a 'Letter of Intent' and the minimum level of works deemed essential consists of:

- Contract Preliminaries
- Facilitating Works
- Bulk Excavation
- Retaining Structures Design
- Attenuation Tanks
- SIP Timber Frame design and deposit to secure materials and commence manufacture

The total value of these items (and therefore maximum risk exposure to the Council) is £1.276m. The actual expense incurred during the period covered by the proposed 'Letter of Intent' would be deducted from the final agreed Contract sum.

3. Financial Position

Overall the latest total overall Project cost is now expected to be £16.3m, which includes a proposed main build construction contract of c£14.7m.

The scheme is expected to be funded by WG grant at 65% with Ceredigion County Council match funding of 35%, apart from the Childcare and Net Zero Carbon aspects (both of which are expected to attract 100% WG funding) and the ALN aspect (expected to attract 75% WG funding).

Due to the increase in total cost, the Council's matched funding contribution will need to increase from the current c£3.5m set aside up to c£4.6m, with an additional c£1.1m being required from a combination of Capital Receipts and the Core Capital Programme. Officers have been proactive and mitigated a potentially larger increase by presenting a business case for WG funding for various components at higher grant intervention rates.

4. Construction Contract Tender Acceptance

In order to ensure the next steps are in place after the Letter of Intent has been issued, so that works on site can continue in an expedient manner, it is proposed that Cabinet also now consider the main Build stage contract tender. This can only be considered with the clear caveat that the full construction build tender can only be accepted once formal notification of successful FBC approval and confirmation of funding is received from WG.

As the construction element has already been procured as part of a Design & Build Contract let under the South West Wales Regional Contractors Framework, there is no further awarding evaluation needed. Background to the original appointment of C Wynne & Sons Ltd (trading as Wynne Construction) is shown in Appendix 1 (EXEMPT).

A proposed contract sum has therefore been formed through a combination of the contractor's submission and then subsequent verification and validation by the external consultants employed on the project and internal officers.

A main contract sum for the construction phase of £14,656,660 is therefore now proposed. Cabinet approval is required for a tender acceptance on a framework contract that exceeds £3m.

5. Conclusion

Ysgol Dyffryn Aeron is a scheme that the Council is fully committed to, with land purchase and design costs already having been committed as sunk costs, albeit funded by WG on at risk basis, with the Council currently bearing that risk. It is a key development which supports the Corporate Wellbeing Objective of 'Providing the Best Start in Life and Enabling Learning at All Ages' and is a specific commitment in the 2022-2027 Corporate Strategy.

The post COVID construction market is an extremely challenging one, with construction inflation being both variable and unpredictable and considerable practical supply chain issues still being prevalent. Further delays risk both higher inflationary cost pressures and will bring programme timeline challenges.

The Council has protected itself as far as is reasonably possible by taking appropriate legal advice on the contents of a proposed 'Letter of Intent'. This is a standard approach used in the construction industry, with the main considerations being the level of overall risk and quantum of exposure balanced against the overall intended Scheme outcomes and associated risks of delays.

This proposal has been discussed with the CLO: Finance & Procurement (Section 151 Officer) and provided that the proposed Letter of Intent is not formally signed or issued until there is some form of confirmation from WG that the FBC has been signed off by the WG Full Capital Panel on 15th June 2023 and is being recommended for Ministerial approval (accepting that this will only be informal confirmation initially) and that WG have no objection to the Council proceeding prior to receipt and acceptance of a WG Grant Offer letter, then the risk level attached to the proposed approach becomes relatively low. If there is a negative outcome from the WG Full Capital Panel, then a Letter of Intent will not be progressed as the project would not have gained FBC approval.

The main driver for the Letter of Intent approach and subsequent tender acceptance in readiness is for expediency reasons - to enable a faster mobilisation and start on site by the Contractor, in the knowledge that the only remaining hurdles are final Ministerial sign off and the issuing of a formal WG grant offer letter. The usual operational requirements for a project of this value in relation to Project Bank Account and a Performance Bond will also need to be in place.

Leadership Group and the 21st Century Schools Project Board have both considered the current position and the associated risks in depth and are in agreement with the proposed approach.

Wellbeing of Future Generations:	<p>Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why?</p> <p>Summary:</p> <p>Long term:</p> <p>Collaboration:</p> <p>Involvement:</p> <p>Prevention:</p> <p>Integration:</p>	N/A
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Recommendation(s): Cabinet are requested:

1. To approve the issue of a Letter of Intent to C Wynne & Sons Ltd (trading as Wynne Construction) to a maximum value of £1.276m as outlined in the report.
2. To accept the tender for the Build contract for Ysgol Dyffryn Aeron in the value of £14,656,660 from C Wynne & Sons Ltd (trading as Wynne Construction), subject to this contract only proceeding once FBC approval and confirmation of funding is formally notified by WG.
3. To note that, on the assumption that WG FBC approval is subsequently achieved, there will be a requirement for an additional c£1.1m of Council matched funding to be set aside in the next update of the Multi Year Capital Programme.

Reasons for decision:	To allow the construction works for the new area school in the Aeron Valley to commence on site at the earliest opportunity.
Overview and Scrutiny:	N/A
Policy Framework:	N/A
Corporate Well-being Objectives:	Providing the best start in life and enabling learning at all ages
Finance & Procurement implications:	Outlined in the body of the report.
Legal Implications:	Content of the proposed letter of intent is being prepared by the Legal & Governance service.
Staffing implications:	N/A
Property / asset implications:	N/A
Risk(s):	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FBC approval not being granted by WG and therefore sunk costs to date would fall as a 100% cost to the Council. • Delays in opening the new school by starting in the Autumn • Whilst the size of the contract relative to the original estimate has increased, this is considered to be a low risk in terms of probability and value.
Statutory Powers:	
Background Papers:	N/A
Appendices:	Appendix 1 – EXEMPT Original Design & Build Procurement
Corporate Lead Officer(s):	Elen James – CLO: Lifelong Learning & Culture Clive Williams – CLO: Schools Duncan Hall – CLO: Finance & Procurement Russell Hughes-Pickering – CLO: Economy & Regeneration
Reporting Officer(s):	Allan Bailey Nia James Duncan Hall George Ryley
Date:	24/05/23

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By virtue of paragraph(s) 14 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

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CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 06 June 2023

Title: LA Representative on Governing Bodies

Purpose of the report: To confirm the nomination of LA Representative on Governing Bodies

For: Decision

Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member: Councillor Wyn Thomas, Cabinet Member for Schools, Lifelong Learning and Skills

Bro Sion Cwilt Community Primary School: Nominate Jemma Nelson as LA Governor at the request of the Governing Body of Bro Sion Cwilt Community Primary School.

Llechryd Community Primary School: Re-nominate Nicola Redmond as LA Governor at the request of the Governing Body of Llechryd Community Primary School.

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? No – report does not refer to a Policy or Service change.

Wellbeing of Future Generations:
Summary:
Long term:
Collaboration:
Involvement:
Prevention:
Integration:

Recommendation(s): Members are requested to confirm the nomination of the above named as LA representatives on the Governing Bodies of the relevant School.

Reasons for decision: To nominate representatives of the LA on Governing Bodies.

Overview and Scrutiny: N/A

Policy Framework:

Corporate Priorities: N/A

Finance and Procurement implications: None

Legal Implications:

Staffing implications: None

Property / asset implications: None

Risk(s): N/A

Statutory Powers: N/A

Background Papers: N/A

Appendices: N/A

Corporate Lead Officer: Barry Rees, Corporate Director

Reporting Officer: Nia James – Corporate Manager, Learning Resources, Schools Service

Date: 16/05/2023

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to:	Cabinet
Date of meeting:	6 th June 2023
Title:	Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales
Purpose of the report:	To gain approval for the adoption of the Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales, from a Ceredigion Local Authority perspective
For:	Decision
Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member:	Councillor Alun Williams, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Through Age and Wellbeing

BACKGROUND:

In 2018, Welsh Government invited bids from Local Authorities and Health Boards to become pathfinders for the Early Years Integration Transformation Programme. An application was submitted by Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion Local Authorities alongside Hywel Dda Health Board to become Pathfinder areas. Funding was secured (2019 - 2024) to pilot and test approaches to Early Years Integration Transformation and a Maternity and Early Years Steering Group was formed. In January 2021, Pembrokeshire successfully applied to join the Pathfinder Programme and therefore all Local Authorities in the Hywel Dda footprint have been involved in the Programme.

In 2021/ 2022 representatives of the three Local Authorities and Hywel Dda Health Board worked together to formulate a Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales.

CURRENT SITUATION:

The Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales is guided by the Welsh Government's agenda for providing better integrated public services as iterated in the Wellbeing and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The strategy focusses on support in the first 7 years of a child's life, recognising the importance of these formative years in shaping the child's future health and wellbeing.

The draft strategy was widely consulted upon with professionals and service users throughout the region and amendments were made on the basis of feedback received. The consultation was open between the 1st of July and 30th September 2022 and response were as follows:

- Online Consultation – 54 responses
- Parent focus groups – 55 participants
- Professionals Focus groups – 28 participants

- Responses received from: Childcare Team; School Nurses; Midwifery Team; Health Visiting Team; Designated Education Clinical Lead Officer; Speech and Language Therapy Team
- In addition, within Ceredigion, meetings were held with the Corporate Director and Cabinet Member for Through Age and Wellbeing to consider the draft strategy.

The strategy and website development has been overseen by the Maternity and Early Years Steering Group.

The Strategy aims to promote collaboration between support services both at pre-birth and Early Years stages. The strategy is located within the Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales Website, which is a collaboration between Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire local authorities, Hywel Dda University Health Board and third sector partners. (The strategy section of the website is also available in PDF format).

Based upon extensive consultation with Service Users and Early Years Professionals, the Strategy for West Wales was written with the intention of promoting excellent services at every stage of Maternity and Early Years. The strategy aims to deliver:

- Positive engagement/ early intervention with families at the ante-natal stage.
- Positive engagement with Families during Early Years
- Positive transition from Childcare to Early Years Education

Furthermore, five strategic themes are identified as vehicles for achieving the above aims:

- Integrate our services
- Take a person-centred approach to service design
- Develop technology infrastructure and systems to enable collaboration
- Develop our Workforce
- Provide accessible information.

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why

Summary:

Long term: The strategy end date is 2027 and sets out a long term vision for Maternity and Early Years Services in West Wales.

Wellbeing of Future Generations:

Collaboration: The strategy is a collaboration between Hywel Dda Health Board, Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire Local Authorities, along with 3rd sector partners. The strategy is overseen by a regional steering group populated by members of each organisation.

Involvement: Engagement with service users and professionals was undertaken to inform the

	writing of the strategy and focus groups have been held with service users and professionals as part of the consultation on the draft strategy.
Prevention:	The strategy focusses on Early Years and how services can work together to provide the best start in life to children aged 0-7.
Integration:	The strategy sets out how we intend to provide better integrated, more effective and more efficient Maternity and Early Years services for families in West Wales. Integration is one of the five strategic themes of the strategy.
Recommendation(s):	That Cabinet endorses the West Wales Maternity and Early Years Strategy.
Reasons for decision:	The Strategy has been widely consulted upon and provides a framework for delivering the most effective Maternity and Early Years Services in the Hywel Dda footprint.
Overview and Scrutiny:	Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Policy Framework:	Building a Brighter Future: Early Years and Childcare Plan (2013) Welsh Government Healthy Child Wales Programme (2021) Welsh Government. Maternity Care in Wales: A Five Year Vision for the Future (2019-2024) Welsh Government Children and Young People's Plan (2022) Welsh Government. Curriculum for Wales (2022) Welsh Government.
Corporate Well-being Objectives:	Corporate Strategy 2017-2022 Enabling Individual and Family Resilience. Ceredigion Through Age and Wellbeing Strategy 2021-2027
Finance and Procurement implications:	None
Legal Implications:	None
Staffing implications:	None
Property / asset implications:	None

Risk(s): None

Statutory Powers: None

Background Papers: [Maternity & Early Years Strategy for West Wales – Working together to give children the best start in life \(earlyyearsstrategywest.wales\)](http://earlyyearsstrategywest.wales)

Appendices: Appendix 1- Maternity & Early Years Strategy for West Wales
Appendix 2- Integrated Impact Assessment

Corporate Lead Officer: Greg Jones, Corporate Lead Officer: Porth Cymorth Cynnar

Reporting Officer: Iwan Davies, Corporate Manager for Early Intervention

Date: 15.05.23

Our Strategy



Excellent services at every stage

Based on what we know about the current service landscape and what we've learned from families and early years professionals, our strategy for 2022-26 aims to deliver:



Positive engagement/early intervention with families at the ante-natal stage

To ensure that specialist services provide support to prepare families for parenthood and offer support at the earliest possible opportunity.



Positive engagement with families during Early Years

To ensure our family needs are at the heart of joined-up services, so that families access the right support at the right time.



Positive transition from childcare to Early Years education

To ensure a seamless transition process for all children and parents from pre-school settings into early years education.





1. Integrate our services

We need this because:

- Siloed working creates barriers between services, and gaps that families can slip between
- We know that families (especially families in need) get better care when services work together
- Resources are stretched; by working together, we can avoid duplication, minimise waste and build on each other's work

We need:

- Shared decision-making supported by shared information
- Systems for collaboration between councils
- A place-based approach to service delivery, including co-located EY teams where appropriate
- Better communication between services and agencies
- More positive relationships between professional groups
- A workforce motivated and empowered to work across service boundaries
- A workforce who feel like a single team, pulling together for the same goals

We'll get there by:

- Setting up more co-located teams across the region
- Exploring options for joint or co-commissioning
- Learning from evaluations of pathfinder pilot work
- Helping professionals to gather feedback from families, so it can be used in planning and future service co-design activities



2. Take a person-centred approach to service design



We need this because:

- We want to offer accessible services that families want to use
- With current resources, it's hard to design services to be truly person-centred
- We don't know enough about the needs of all our service-users, and we don't recognise how different these needs are, or how they change over time
- Families can feel undermined and abandoned when services don't build from their strengths as well as their needs

We need:

- Regular research with service-users and simple feedback loops, so we can see our services and workforce through the eyes of the families who depend on them
- To develop the skills of the Early Years workforce, so that they're better equipped to recognise family strengths and listen to family needs
- Community-led services, commissioned from the ground up
- To identify and remove barriers to service access, eg by making services work better across council boundaries
- Less bureaucracy

We'll get there by:

- Budgeting for regular consultation with service users
- Doing more workforce co-design training and development, to help professionals capture and represent the voices of families
- Increasing regional collaboration and service integration
- Investing in community-led services



3. Develop technology infrastructure and systems to enable collaboration

We need this because:

- Service professionals don't have access to up-to-date shared information about families, which means family members have to constantly repeat their case history at every meeting and consultation
- Staff in different councils, services and professions can't easily and securely share information across organisational boundaries
- Children can be missed when referrals are incomplete or delayed, because of other system barriers
- We would like to improve our monitoring of service targets and make it easy to track outcomes for individual children and for our Early Years population

We need:

- A way for service professionals across the region to easily access, update and share family information, from the device they already use and from the place where they already do their work (which, if they're a midwife, will often be on the road)
- Agreed standards for data collection, storage and access
- Automated reporting of population level indicators

We'll get there by:

- Embedding the voice of service-users into everything we do (by putting more emphasis on gathering feedback and making use of it to improve services)
- Continuing to build an evidence base that supports investment in shared IT, and lobbying for that change to be prioritised
- Continuing to make the case for simple feedback loops that would allow staff to suggest changes and improvements




4. Develop our workforce

We need this because:

- Families aren't always getting the care and support they need, due to lack of staff.
- Staff in health, care and education are extremely busy and the work environment can be stressful.
- There's no common language to describe the same things between different organisations and professions. This caused unnecessary confusion and slow things down.
- Not all colleagues have been training on evidence-informed services.

We need:

- To attract and train new and returning recruits to the EY workforce
 - Happier, more confident and less stressed colleagues
 - A widely-used common language and common ways of working
 - Cross-service training opportunities, particularly in evidence-based care
 - Recognition of transferable skills between services and professions
 - Clearer career paths for EY workers
 - More multidisciplinary teams
- 

We'll get there by:

- Investing in growing the team, with appropriate marketing, recruitment and training
- Building closer links with schools, colleges and careers services, to promote jobs and work experience placements in the sector
- Developing a common basic training offer for all EY professionals
- Developing clear career progression plans, including personal development and training options



5. Provide accessible information

We need this because:

- Information about available services simply isn't easy to find, for families or professionals. As a result, some services are under-used
- Consequently, families don't know where to turn. Professionals don't always know where to refer them to.
- The information that does exist is fragmented; if you don't already know where to look, it's hard to find.
- It's costly and time-consuming to keep the Family Information Service up-to-date, and staff time for this is limited

We need:

- Clear, accessible, comprehensive, simple information in one place
- Online information that's so good and so easy to use, it markets itself through word of mouth
- The ability for professionals to edit or annotate information on it, quickly and easily
- Better institutional knowledge about care pathways, and options for referral; if professionals know more about the Family Information Service, they will be more likely to suggest it as a source of help for families

We'll get there by:

- Exploring ideas and options for a single shared online information service
- Exploring how we could invest in roles with responsibility for publishing and maintaining that information
- Undertaking mapping/reviewing work to understand current pathways better
- Providing training for service professionals, so they feel better equipped to refer families to information services
- Seeking out opportunities to work with other agencies on future investments in online information services





This **Integrated Impact Assessment tool** incorporates the principles of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 and the Sustainable Development Principles, the Equality Act 2010 and the Welsh Language Measure 2011 (Welsh Language Standards requirements) and Risk Management in order to inform effective decision making and ensuring compliance with respective legislation.

1. PROPOSAL DETAILS: (Policy/Change Objective/Budget saving)

Proposal Title	Maternity and Early Years Strategy
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Service Area	Through Age Wellbeing- Porth Cymorth Cynnar	Corporate Lead Officer	Elen James	Strategic Director	James Starbuck
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Name of Officer completing the IIA	Iwan Davies	E-mail	Iwan.Davies4@ceredigion.gov.uk	Phone no	07816 598639
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Please give a brief description of the purpose of the proposal

To consider the new strategy regarding the regional approach to Maternity and Early Years in West Wales.

Who will be directly affected by this proposal? (e.g. The general public, specific sections of the public such as youth groups, carers, road users, people using country parks, people on benefits, staff members or those who fall under the protected characteristics groups as defined by the Equality Act and for whom the authority must have due regard).

General Public
Maternity and Early Years Workforce.

VERSION CONTROL: The IIA should be used at the earliest stages of decision making, and then honed and refined throughout the decision making process. It is important to keep a record of this process so that we can demonstrate how we have considered and built in sustainable development, Welsh language and equality considerations wherever possible.

Author	Decision making stage	Version number	Date considered	Brief description of any amendments made following consideration
Iwan Davies	<i>Cabinet</i>	1	22/05/2023	<i>This will demonstrate how we have considered and built in sustainable development throughout the evolution of a proposal. Have you considered and</i>

Cyngor Sir Ceredigion County Council - Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

An integrated tool to inform effective decision making



				<i>applied the sustainable development principle and Well-being Goals?</i>

COUNCIL STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES: Which of the Council's Strategic Objectives does the proposal address and how?

Boosting the Economy, supporting Business and enabling employment.	The strategy aims to give young children the best start in life which will give them a strong foundation to contribute to the Ceredigion economy in the future. The strategy aims to deliver joint training and workforce development, saving money for all partners.
Creating caring and healthy communities	The strategy aims to give young children a healthy start in life.
Providing the best start in life and enabling Learning at all ages	The strategy meets the aims of: Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Building a Brighter Future: Early Years and Childcare Plan – Welsh Government Healthy Child Wales Programme – Welsh Government Maternity Care in Wales – Welsh Government Children and Young People's Plan – Welsh Government
Creating sustainable, greener and well-connected communities	

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NOTE: As you complete this tool you will be asked for **evidence to support your views**. These need to include your baseline position, measures and studies that have informed your thinking and the judgement you are making. It should allow you to identify whether any changes resulting from the implementation of the recommendation will have a positive or negative effect. Data sources include for example:

- *Quantitative data - data that provides numerical information, e.g. population figures, number of users/non-users*
- *Qualitative data – data that furnishes evidence of people's perception/views of the service/policy, e.g. analysis of complaints, outcomes of focus groups, surveys*
- *Local population data from the census figures (such as Ceredigion Welsh language Profile and Ceredigion Demographic Equality data)*
- *National Household survey data*
- *Service User data*
- *Feedback from consultation and engagement campaigns*
- *Recommendations from Scrutiny*
- *Comparisons with similar policies in other authorities*



- *Academic publications, research reports, consultants' reports, and reports on any consultation with e.g. trade unions or the voluntary and community sectors, 'Is Wales Fairer' document.*
- *Welsh Language skills data for Council staff*

2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT PRINCIPLES: How has your proposal embedded and prioritised the five sustainable development principles, as outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, in its development?

Sustainable Development Principle	Does the proposal demonstrate you have met this principle? If yes, describe how. If not, explain why.	What evidence do you have to support this view?	What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to the principle?
Long Term Balancing short term need with long term and planning for the future.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy is one for the next 3 years whilst also referencing short term issues to address. • The strategy aims to give young children the best start in life and help their future life chances. 	Research carried out to help develop the WG programmes outlined above.	none
Collaboration Working together with other partners to deliver.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Strategy has been developed in collaboration with Pembrokeshire and Carmarthenshire Local Authorities and Hywel Dda Health Board. The strategy is overseen by the Maternity and Early Years Steering Group. 	See Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales website .	
Involvement Involving those with an interest and seeking their views.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The development of the strategy involved consultation with parents in Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion and Early Years Professionals 	See ' what we've learnt ' section of Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales website	
Prevention Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The strategy focusses on Early Years provision and support i.e. the first 7 years of a child's life and is therefore preventative. It is acknowledged in the strategy that some families will require additional support to ensure positive outcomes. 	See Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales website .	

Cyngor Sir Ceredigion County Council - Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA)

An integrated tool to inform effective decision making



<p>Integration Positively impacting on people, economy, environment and culture and trying to benefit all three.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The strategy promotes integrated work of health and social care to streamline Maternity and Early Years provision. 	<p>See Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales website.</p>	
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3. WELL-BEING GOALS: Does your proposal deliver any of the seven National Well-being Goals for Wales as outlined on the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015? Please explain the impact (positive and negative) you expect, together with suggestions of how to mitigate negative impacts or better contribute to the goal. We need to ensure that the steps we take to meet one of the goals aren't detrimental to meeting another.

Well-being Goal	Does the proposal contribute to this goal? Describe the positive or negative impacts:-	What evidence do you have to support this view?	What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to the goal?
<p>3.1. A prosperous Wales Efficient use of resources, skilled, educated people, generates wealth, provides jobs.</p>	<p>Yes, the strategy aims to give young children the best start in life which will give them a strong foundation to contribute to the Ceredigion economy in the future. The strategy aims to deliver joint training and workforce development, saving money for all partners.</p>	<p>See Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales website</p>	
<p>3.2. A resilient Wales Maintain and enhance biodiversity and ecosystems that support resilience and can adapt to change (e.g. climate change).</p>			
<p>3.3. A healthier Wales People's physical and mental wellbeing is maximised and health impacts are understood.</p>	<p>The strategy will help to deliver the Healthy Child Wales Programme which sets out the strategic direction for Health Boards in Wales, for delivering early intervention services designed to ensure that children achieve optimum health.</p>	<p>See Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales website</p>	

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<p>3.4. A Wales of cohesive communities Communities are attractive, viable, safe and well connected.</p>			
<p>3.5. A globally responsible Wales Taking account of impact on global well-being when considering local social, economic and environmental well-being.</p>			

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<p>3.6. A more equal Wales People can fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances.</p> <p><i>In this section you need to consider the impact on equality groups, the evidence and any action you are taking for improvement. You need to consider how might the proposal impact on equality protected groups in accordance with the Equality Act 2010? These include the protected characteristics of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or beliefs, gender, sexual orientation.</i></p> <p>Please also consider the following guide:: Equality Human Rights - Assessing Impact & Equality Duty</p>	<p>Describe why it will have a positive/negative or negligible impact.</p> <p><i>Using your evidence consider the impact for each of the protected groups. You will need to consider do these groups have equal access to the service, or do they need to receive the service in a different way from other people because of their protected characteristics. It is not acceptable to state simply that a proposal will universally benefit/disadvantage everyone. You should demonstrate that you have considered all the available evidence and address any gaps or disparities revealed.</i></p>	<p>What evidence do you have to support this view?</p> <p><i>Gathering Equality data and evidence is vital for an IIA. You should consider who uses or is likely to use the service. Failure to use <u>data</u> or <u>engage</u> where change is planned can leave decisions open to legal challenge. Please link to involvement box within this template. Please also consider the general guidance.</i></p>	<p>What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</p> <p><i>These actions can include a range of positive actions which allows the organisation to treat individuals according to their needs, even when that might mean treating some more favourably than others, in order for them to have a good outcome. You may also have actions to identify any gaps in data or an action to engage with those who will/likely to be effected by the proposal. These actions need to link to Section 4 of this template.</i></p>
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Age Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people because of their age? (Please tick ✓)				The strategy promotes joined up working between services working with children in their early years and their parents/ carers, therefore the impact on these groups will be positive. It's likely that people aged 50+, particularly grandparents, will benefit from the strategy too.	See Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales website	
Children and Young People up to 18	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
People 18-50	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Older People 50+	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					

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Disability Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people because of their disability? (Please tick ✓)				The strategy aims to offer the right help at the right time and to An Early Years ALN Lead Officer in each Council will support early identification of child needs, including those who are not attending maintained schools. They will work in partnership with the Health Board, and raise awareness of ALN in their area. Support in early pregnancy and referrals to specialist services will be available for	See Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales on the website	
Hearing Impairment	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Physical Impairment	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Visual Impairment	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Learning Disability	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			

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Long Standing Illness			✓	mothers experiencing post and peri-natal depression.		
Mental Health	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Other	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					

Transgender Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on transgender people? (Please tick ✓)				The strategy promotes a person-centred approach to service design	See Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales on the website	
Transgender	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			✓	<p>We want to offer accessible services that families want to use</p> <p>We want to offer services that address the diverse range of needs in our communities, including those of disadvantaged or minority groups</p> <p>We need:</p> <p>To do regular research with service-users and improve our methods of gathering feedback, so we can see our services and workforce through the eyes of the families who depend on them</p>		

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				<p>To identify and remove barriers to service access.</p> <p>Pregnant people who are transgender may be treated differently so that their needs can be met but their needs will not be prejudiced.</p>		
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Marriage or Civil Partnership Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on marriage or Civil partnership? (Please tick ✓)				None identified.		
Marriage	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			✓			
Civil partnership	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			✓			

Pregnancy or Maternity Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on pregnancy or maternity? (Please tick ✓)				The strategy is aimed at strengthening support at the ante-natal stage and during the Early Years	See Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales on the website	
Pregnancy	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Maternity	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					

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Race Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on race? (Please tick ✓)				The strategy promotes a person-centred approach to service design We want to offer accessible services that families want to use We want to offer services that address the diverse range of needs in our communities, including those of disadvantaged or minority groups We need: To do regular research with service-users and improve our methods of gathering feedback, so we can see our services and workforce through the eyes of the families who depend on them To identify and remove barriers to service access. Translation services will be available to enable people who speak other languages to easily access services.	See Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales on the website
White	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible		
			✓		
Mixed/Multiple Ethnic Groups	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible		
			✓		
Asian / Asian British	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible		
			✓		
Black / African / Caribbean / Black British	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible		
			✓		
Other Ethnic Groups	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible		
			✓		

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Religion or non-beliefs Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people with different religions, beliefs or non-beliefs? (Please tick ✓)				The strategy promotes a person-centred approach to service design We want to offer accessible services that families want to use We want to offer services that address the diverse range of needs in our communities, including those of disadvantaged or minority groups We need: To do regular research with service-users and improve our methods of gathering feedback, so we can see our services and workforce through the eyes of the families who depend on them To identify and remove barriers to service access. Support provided is bespoke to the individual in line with the Social Services and Well-being Act 2014.	See Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales on the website
Christian	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible		
			✓		
Buddhist	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible		
			✓		
Hindu	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible		
			✓		
Humanist	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible		
			✓		
Jewish	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible		
			✓		
Muslim	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible		
			✓		
Sikh	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible		
			✓		
Non-belief	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible		
Other	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible		
			✓		

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Sex Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on men and/or women? (Please tick ✓)				.The strategy promotes a person-centred approach to service design We want to offer accessible services that both men and women will be comfortable in accessing.	See Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales on the website	
Men	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					
Women	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
	✓					

Sexual Orientation Do you think this proposal will have a positive or a negative impact on people with different sexual orientation? (Please tick ✓)				The strategy promotes a person-centred approach to service design We want to offer accessible services that families want to use We want to offer services that address the diverse range of needs in our communities, including those of disadvantaged or minority groups We need: To do regular research with service-users and improve our methods of gathering feedback, so we can see our services and workforce through the eyes of the families who depend on them	See Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales on the website	
Bisexual	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			✓			
Gay Men	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			✓			
Gay Women / Lesbian	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			✓			
Heterosexual / Straight	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			✓			

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				To identify and remove barriers to service access.		
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Having due regards in relation to the three aims of the Equality Duty - determine whether the proposal will assist or inhibit your ability to eliminate discrimination; advance equality and foster good relations.

3.6.2. How could/does the proposal help advance/promote equality of opportunity?

You should consider whether the proposal will help you to: ● Remove or minimise disadvantage ● To meet the needs of people with certain characteristics

● Encourage increased participation of people with particular characteristics

The strategy clearly outlines how support will be offered in the Maternity and Early Years stages in order to promote positive outcomes for families/ carers in the region. The strategy outlines the steps to be taken to provide excellent services at every stage of Maternity and Early Years. Through the provision of a person led approach to the delivery of services.

3.6.3. How could/does the proposal/decision help to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, or victimisation?

You should consider whether there is evidence to indicate that: ● The proposal may result in less favourable treatment for people with certain characteristics ● The proposal may give rise to indirect discrimination ● The proposal is more likely to assist or impeded you in making reasonable adjustments

Through the provision of a person led approach to the delivery of services.
For example, through the use of translation services when required or by providing Dads groups.

3.6.4. How could/does the proposal impact on advancing/promoting good relations and wider community cohesion?

You should consider whether the proposal with help you to: ● Tackle prejudice ● Promote understanding

The strategy promotes:
Shared decision-making supported by shared information
Systems for collaboration between local authorities, health and the third sector
A place-based approach to service delivery.
Better communication between services
The strategy also promotes user led service design and regular consultation with service users.



Having due regard of the Socio-Economic Duty of the Equality Act 2010.
Socio-Economic Disadvantage is living in less favourable social and economic circumstances than others in the same society.
As a listed public body, Ceredigion County Council is required to have due regard to the Socio-Economic Duty of the Equality Act 2010. Effectively this means carrying out a poverty impact assessment. The duty covers all people who suffer socio-economic disadvantage, including people with protected characteristics.

3.6.5 What evidence do you have about socio-economic disadvantage and inequalities of outcome in relation to the proposal?
 Describe why it will have a positive/negative or negligible impact.

Support in Early Years makes a difference to children as individuals, and through them, makes a difference to the health of Wales in the future. Early life experiences have a lasting impact, influencing health and wellbeing throughout childhood and well into adulthood.

Life with young children is demanding, and families with young children often need a little extra help. Some get help from relatives and friends, but not all families have a strong support network. This is particularly relevant to families who experience social and economic disadvantage.

We're keen to focus our attention on those families who need support but can't easily find it through social and family connections.

What evidence do you have to support this view?

See Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales on the [website](#)

What action(s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?

A range of tackling hardship initiatives are run at an Operational level.

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<p>3.7. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language Culture, heritage and Welsh Language are promoted and protected. <i>In this section you need to consider the impact, the evidence and any action you are taking for improvement. This in order to ensure that the opportunities for people who choose to live their lives and access services through</i></p>	<p>Describe why it will have a positive/negative or negligible impact.</p>	<p>What evidence do you have to support this view?</p>	<p>What action (s) can you take to mitigate any negative impacts or better contribute to positive impacts?</p>
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<i>the medium of Welsh are not inferior to what is afforded to those choosing to do so in English, in accordance with the requirement of the Welsh Language Measure 2011.</i>						
Will the proposal be delivered bilingually (Welsh & English)?	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible	<i>Strategy is in both English and Welsh and service provision is available in both languages</i>		
	✓					
Will the proposal have an effect on opportunities for persons to use the Welsh language?	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			✓			
Will the proposal increase or reduce the opportunity for persons to access services through the medium of Welsh?	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			✓			
How will the proposal treat the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language?	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			✓			
Will it preserve promote and enhance local culture and heritage?	Positive	Negative	None/ Negligible			
			✓			

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4. STRENGTHENING THE PROPOSAL: If the proposal is likely to have a negative impact on any of the above (including any of the protected characteristics), what practical changes/actions could help reduce or remove any negative impacts as identified in sections 2 and 3?

4.1 Actions.

What are you going to do?	When are you going to do it?	Who is responsible?	Progress



4.2. If no action is to be taken to remove or mitigate negative impacts please justify why.
(Please remember that if you have identified unlawful discrimination, immediate and potential, as a result of this proposal, the proposal must be changed or revised).

No negative impacts identified

4.3. Monitoring, evaluating and reviewing.
How will you monitor the impact and effectiveness of the proposal?

5. RISK: What is the risk associated with this proposal?

Impact Criteria	1 - Very low	2 - Low	3 - Medium	4 - High	5 - Very High
Likelihood Criteria	1 - Unlikely to occur	2 - Lower than average chance of occurrence	3 - Even chance of occurrence	4 - Higher than average chance of occurrence	5 - Expected to occur

Risk Description	Impact (severity)	Probability (deliverability)	Risk Score
Funding issues	4	2	8
Recruitment	3	4	12

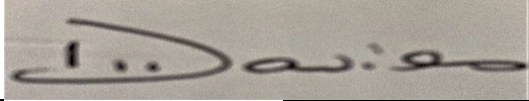


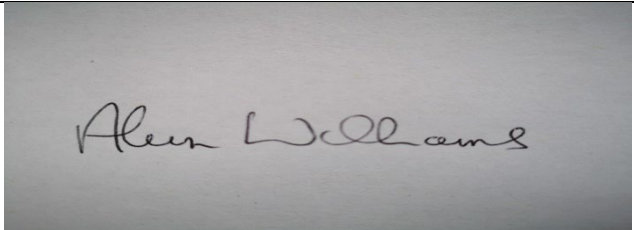
Does your proposal have a potential impact on another Service area?

Yes, education services as promotes positive transition from Childcare to Early Years education.
 Long term impact on social care, housing and local economy.

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6. SIGN OFF			
Position	Name	Signature	Date
Service Manager	Iwan Davies		22/05/23
Corporate Lead Officer	Elen James		22/05/23
Corporate Director	James Starbuck		25/05/23
Portfolio Holder	Cllr Alun Williams		25/05/23

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO:	Cabinet
DATE:	06.06.2023
LOCATION:	Council Chamber/Hybrid
TITLE:	Regional Maternity and Early Years Strategy
PURPOSE OF REPORT:	To provide feedback from the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 24 May 2023

BACKGROUND:

Members of the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the Regional Maternity and Early Years Strategy.

In 2018, Welsh Government invited bids from Local Authorities and Health Boards to become pathfinders for the Early Years Integration Transformation Programme. An application was submitted by Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion Local Authorities alongside Hywel Dda Health Board to become Pathfinder areas. Funding was secured (2019 - 2024) to pilot and test approaches to Early Years Integration Transformation and a Maternity and Early Years Steering Group was formed. In January 2021, Pembrokeshire successfully applied to join the Pathfinder Programme and therefore all Local Authorities in the Hywel Dda footprint have been involved in the Programme.

In 2021/2022 representatives of the three Local Authorities and Hywel Dda Health Board worked together to formulate a Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales. The Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales is guided by the Welsh Government's agenda for providing better integrated public services as iterated in the Wellbeing and Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The strategy focusses on support in the first 7 years of a child's life, recognising the importance of these formative years in shaping the child's future health and wellbeing.

The draft strategy was widely consulted upon with professionals and service users throughout the region and amendments were made based on feedback received. The consultation was open between the 1st of July and 30th September 2022.

Following discussion, Committee Members were asked to consider the following recommendation:

1. That Scrutiny Committee Agree endorses the Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION (S):

To promote clarity of purpose and a collaborative approach to Maternity and Early Years services.

RECOMMENDATION:

Following discussion, Committee Members agreed to recommend that Cabinet:

1. Endorse the Maternity and Early Years Strategy for West Wales.

It was suggested and agreed that a small group of Members could view the Through-Age Wellbeing Support & Care which is in the process of being developed, prior to it becoming live, to provide their views and feedback.

Councillor Caryl Roberts
Chairman of the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

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CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to:	Cabinet
Date of meeting:	6 June 2023
Title:	Official Opening of the Wellbeing Centre, Lampeter
Purpose of the report:	To nominate an appropriate person to officially open the Wellbeing Centre in Lampeter
For:	Decision
Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member:	Councillor Catrin M S Davies, Cabinet Member for Culture, Leisure and Customer Services

The Wellbeing Centre, Lampeter has been developed and funded through a £1.24million Welsh Government Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme grant.

There will be a phased approach to opening the building to the public, commencing with its physical activity and leisure offer in June 2023 with additional Council services across the Through-age and Wellbeing programme becoming available over the coming months.

The intention is to hold an official opening ceremony in September 2023 and Cabinet is requested to nominate an appropriate person to officially open the Wellbeing Centre.

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If not, please state why

Summary:

Wellbeing of Future Generations:	Long term:	Positive: Ensuring the Leisure facilities are managed and maintained in a cost-effective manner and increase their contribution to corporate priorities
	Collaboration:	Positive: working with others from both statutory and voluntary services
	Involvement:	Positive: Engaging with both internal and external services and the public to ensure the services delivered are what's required
	Prevention:	Positive: Developing an early intervention and prevention service as part of the Through Age Wellbeing Programme
	Integration:	Positive: Adoption a holistic and integrated way of working

Recommendation(s): To nominate an appropriate person to officially open the Wellbeing Centre

Reasons for decision: Agree to invite an appropriate person to officially open the Wellbeing Centre

Overview and Scrutiny:	Not applicable
Policy Framework:	None
Corporate Well-being Objectives:	Creating Caring and Healthier Communities
Finance and Procurement implications:	None
Legal Implications:	None
Staffing implications:	None
Property / asset implications:	None
Risk(s):	Failure to meet the publicity expectations of the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme grant
Statutory Powers:	Not applicable
Background Papers:	Publicity guidelines for the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme
Appendices:	Appendix A: Publicity guidelines for the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme
Corporate Lead Officer:	Greg Jones, Corporate Lead Officer: Porth Cymorth Cynnar (Interim)
Reporting Officer:	Carwyn Young, Corporate Manager: Wellbeing Centres
Date:	30 May 2023



Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme publicity guidance

Publicity for Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme

This document covers publicity guidelines that are a condition of grant for all funding managed under the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme. Branding, press notices and key acknowledgement statements guidelines are also included here.

Branding

Branding and logo rules

If your project has been match funded by the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme or any related capital funding grant schemes such as Welsh medium, Childcare, Community hubs and Infant Class Size grants **must** adhere to guidance. It is your responsibility to ensure all contractors and project sponsors associated with your projects adhere to branding guidelines for this programme **as agreed in your project funding contract**. As such all project contractors and sponsors are required to display both the Programme logo and the Welsh Government logo on all signage and press releases. **This is a condition of grant and can be subject to clawback.**

The Programme logo is:



Here is the Welsh Government logo:



If the Programme logo and the Welsh Government logo are being used on your websites, it will be useful to have links to the Sustainable Communities for Learning and Welsh Government website, i.e. <https://gov.wales/sustainable-communities-for-learning-programme> and www.gov.wales.

Any logos used must not be altered, redrawn, or cropped in any way as this affects the impact and quality of the logo.

Logos are available in the following formats:

JPG for desktop publishing (MS Word, PowerPoint, etc.)

EPS or **TIFF** for high-quality printing

GIF, JPG or **PNG** for web.

All logo requests should be made to sustainablecommunitiesforlearning@gov.wales

Logo size and wording

The Sustainable Communities for Learning logo must be reproduced to a satisfactory quality when enlarged, and fully legible when reduced in size. The minimum size permitted is 63mm x 13mm (x and y axes).



Logo billboards and plaques

Bilingual billboards and plaques acknowledging all funding sources **must be** erected during the construction phase at all infrastructure or construction sites for projects supported by the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme.

The display of the logos must meet the following criteria.

- Both the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme logo and the Welsh Government logo should be used.
- Both logos should have equal prominence to any other funding partner logo.

When deciding on the wording of plaques please remember the following:

- A plaque needs to tell the story, think about the message you want to convey (is it to acknowledge funding? Is it to commemorate an opening ceremony? Is it both? Name of the project? Who's involved? What's the date?)
- The message needs to be communicated clearly, concisely and consist only of the facts.
- The Welsh text should be positioned so that it is likely to be read first.

If a Minister is being asked to unveil a plaque, ensure the relevant Minister's Office is aware and has the opportunity to comment.

Dates on plaques should be written 01 January 2022 in English and 01 Ionawr 2022 in Welsh. Do not use 'st', 'nd', 'rd', 'th' in the English. Do not use 'af', 'ail', 'ydd', 'ed', 'eg', 'fed', 'ain' in the Welsh.

On project completion, a permanent bilingual sign or plaque **must be** erected, formally acknowledging the involvement of the Welsh Government and the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme. A draft version of this must be sent to Welsh Government officials for clearance.

Site signage example

(using new logo on existing signage)



Plaque example

(using new logo on existing signage)



Press coverage

Press releases

Press releases are an important way of engaging with the media and communicating messages to the general public.

All press releases, features and advertorials relating to a project or beneficiary (e.g. announcing a project approval, a launch event, achievement of milestones) **must** acknowledge the funding received from Welsh Government and specifically the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme. It is the responsibility of the local authority/further education institution to ensure that all press materials, including those generated by project contractors and sponsors, clearly acknowledge Welsh Government support.

It is essential for project sponsors and the Welsh Government to work together to ensure all parties are fully acknowledged. An example press release is given in the Annex. In addition, examples of statements that should be included are given below.

- This project has been match funded by the Welsh Government through its Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme.
- The project, backed with £** million from the Welsh Government's Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme, will help...
- The project is 65/75/85% (delete where appropriate) match funded by the Welsh Government, through its Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme.
- The £2.3 billion funding is part of the second wave of Sustainable Communities for Learning projects, which will be delivered over the coming years.
- The Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme aims to transform the learning experience of learners, ensuring they are taught in classrooms with the technologies and facilities needed to support the delivery of the Curriculum for Wales.

To monitor this requirement, all draft press releases must be sent, as early as possible prior to publication, to the Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme Team at **sustainablecommunitiesforlearning@gov.wales**, in accordance with your project grant award letter.

This arrangement will also allow us to consider the inclusion of a Ministerial quote and/or Ministerial attendance at a proposed event, as well as possible involvement during the event planning stage. It will also ensure we can maximise any publicity relating to events, project achievements and milestones/case studies by promoting stories on the Sustainable Communities for Learning website and potentially gaining regional, national or international coverage.

As part of your press release, you should describe the community benefits/benefits realisation aspects of the project, e.g. raising skills, job creation, education service and business support.

Where possible, project funding announcements and achievements should be accompanied by case studies to demonstrate how the project will create benefits for people; businesses; communities; and the environment of Wales. Using human interest stories is a powerful way of communicating the message of the benefits of investment and increases the prospect of media/press coverage.

Ministerial visits, launch events

The Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme Team must be informed as early as possible of any events, visits or key project milestones in relation to capital-funded schools projects, such as the turf cutting/topping out ceremony, official opening, contractor project events, launch plans and arrangements.

In many instances, a Welsh Government Minister may be interested in attending project launch events, and also may visit projects in progress to see how funding is being used. The team will work with local authorities to organise these events and Ministerial attendance.

We would also welcome any photographs or case studies of your project, which you have agreed to supply as part of your project grant award letter. These will be used by our Sustainable Communities for Learning team to share good practice nationally, and may result in them being included in corporate Welsh Government publicity with your consent.

Welsh language

In line with the Welsh Language Standards, all publicity activity relating to your project must be bilingual and it must adhere to the guidance for the use of the Welsh language in Welsh Government communication and marketing work.

Contact **communicationcontractsmailbox@gov.wales** to obtain a copy of this guidance. This guidance applies to all Welsh Government funded programmes.

Annex

Example press release

All new schools and colleges in Wales to be net zero carbon

02/11/2021

Education and Welsh Language Minister, Jeremy Miles has today announced that all new school and college buildings, major refurbishment and extension projects will be required to meet **net zero carbon targets** from **January 1 2022**.

Buildings will be required to be net zero Carbon in operation, which means producing zero or negative carbon emissions as part of their operational energy.

The first generation of schools and colleges under the new rules will also be required to demonstrate a **20%** reduction on the amount of embodied carbon, which is the carbon emitted through construction materials and the construction process, with further reductions required in future, in line with the Welsh Government's broader net zero carbon plans.

New proposed buildings will also include ambitious plans for biodiversity, active travel and electric vehicle charging facilities.

The announcement will help the Welsh Government achieve its commitment to becoming a net zero carbon nation by **2050**.

Jeremy Miles visited the site of the new Llancarfan Primary School in the Vale of Glamorgan. Due for completion in early **2022**, Llancarfan Primary will be the first net zero carbon school in Wales, with its own on-site power generation and battery storage.

Jeremy Miles said:

"We should all be asking ourselves what we can do to help reverse the damage caused by climate change. With Llancarfan, we are already delivering the first net zero carbon school. Making sure our future buildings contribute positively is a significant step we can take."

"At the heart of our new curriculum is our aim to support learners to become ethical, informed citizens, who are committed to the sustainability of the planet. It's essential we set an example to young people if we are to realise this ambition."

Cllr Lis Burnett, Deputy Leader of the Vale of Glamorgan Council and Cabinet Member for Education and Regeneration, said:

"We are incredibly proud to be opening Wales' first net zero school here in the Vale."

"Climate change is a huge challenge globally, and one that we all must take action to address. Having declared a climate emergency in 2019, we have since put in place Project Zero, our plan for the Council to become carbon neutral by 2030. This building represents a significant step towards achieving our vision."

"It has been designed not only to provide a building that reduces our carbon output but one that will provide a first class learning environment in which future generations can learn how to reduce theirs."

The new net zero carbon requirement will become part of the Welsh Government's flagship **Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme**. Working in partnership with local authorities, the Welsh Local Government Association, colleges, Colleges Wales and Diocesan directors, it has supported the delivery of **180** new or improved school and college projects so far.

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to:	Cabinet
Date of meeting:	6 June 2023
Title:	Care Inspectorate Wales Performance Evaluation Inspection Action Plan
Purpose of the report:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To update Cabinet about the steps that are being taken to address the improvements contained in the CIW Report in response to the Performance Evaluation Inspection which took place between 27 February 2023 and 10 March 2023.2. To recognise the strengths contained in the report.3. To agree the timescale for reviewing the Action Plan.
For:	Decision
Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member:	Councillor Alun Williams, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Through Age and Wellbeing

BACKGROUND:

Care Inspectorate Wales undertook an intense evaluation of performance across Adult and Children's Service from 27 February 2023 to 10 March 2023.

In line with our duties under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 the domains of the inspection evaluated were: **People - Voice and Control, Prevention, Well-being and Partnership.**

There were five Inspectors participating in the inspection which was facilitated virtually and in person.

During the evidence gathering there were 114 individuals engaged in the process including officers, Elected Members, service users, carers, and statutory and third sector partner organisations.

Service users and staff had the opportunity to submit online responses to the CIW survey to express their views on experiences of working across the Through-Age Wellbeing service.

In addition to case file audits key policies and developments were scrutinised. This included supervision files and the revised policy, compliments and complaints, the draft Quality Assurance Framework, the Occupational Therapy consultation and the revised Safeguarding and Mental Wellbeing and Porth Cymorth Cynnar structures. Observations of strategic and operational meetings took place online and face to face.

There was an emphasis on the experience of children, carers and their families and how the service listens to their views. The Inspectors were actively seeking to identify participation of service users in assessments and plans by articulating their own care requirements.

The Inspectors were very keen to understand and appreciate the benefits of the Through Age Wellbeing model.

Verbal feedback was provided by the Inspectorate on 16 March 2023 and the written draft report was received on 6 April 2023. A formal response to the draft report was made by the Local Authority on 21 April 2023.

There were no matters that required significant amendment contained in the report from the perspective of the Local Authority as the content reflected closely the verbal feedback we received.

There were no areas of none compliance identified during the inspection.

An Action Plan has now been formulated to respond to the recommended improvements outlined by CIW in the report.

The overwhelming majority of the actions are already in play as the matters identified by CIW were being addressed before the commencement of the inspection.

The areas that we have sought to improve were reflected in our evidence to the Inspectorate in advance of the commencement of the inspection and the drafting of the final report.

The Action Plan accompanying this report focuses on the areas for improvement. However, to strike a balance between the required improvements and the strengths identified in the report in each of the four domains of inspection.

The CIW report was published on 18 May 2023.

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why No- there are no changes to existing services identified in the Action Plan.

Wellbeing of Future Generations:

Summary:
Long term: N/A
Collaboration: N/A
Involvement: N/A
Prevention: N/A
Integration: N/A

Recommendation(s):

1. The draft Action Plan to address the issues identified in the CIW report is accepted as a proportionate response to recommendations contained in the report.
2. The Action Plan to be monitored after six months through the Healthier Communities Scrutiny

Committee for a period of one year to maintain progress and momentum through to completion.

Reasons for decision: The reasons for the recommendations are to ensure that the appropriate improvements in line with the CIW are made to continue to operate a robust and safe service.

Overview and Scrutiny: Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (24.05.23)

Members agreed to recommend that Cabinet:

1. Agree the draft Action Plan as a proportionate response to recommendations contained in the report, and,
2. Agree that the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee receive an update after six months for a period of one year on action against progress.

Committee Members wish to take the opportunity to thank staff members for their valued contribution, commitment, and hard work which is evident in this inspection report.

Policy Framework: Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016

Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014

Corporate Well-being Objectives:

Finance and Procurement implications: n/a

Legal Implications: None

Staffing implications: None

Property / asset implications: n/a

Risk(s): Risk of delay to improvements if the Action Plan is not implemented.

Statutory Powers: n/a

Background Papers: First paper

Appendices: Appendix 1- Care Inspectorate Wales- Performance Evaluation Inspection of Ceredigion County Council

Appendix 2- CIW Inspection Action Plan

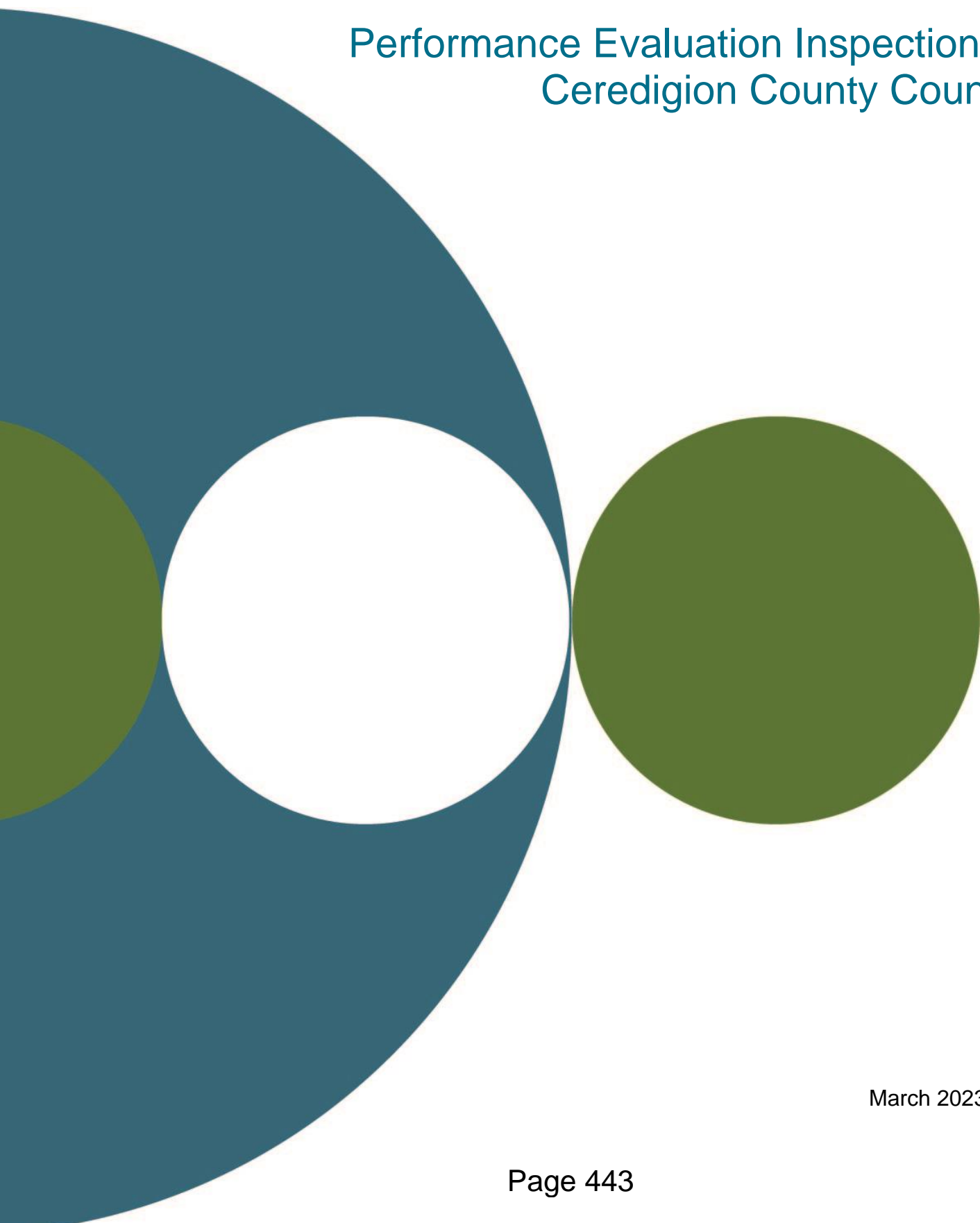
Corporate Lead Officer: Audrey Somerton-Edwards, Interim Corporate Lead Officer, Porth Cynnal and Interim Statutory Director of Social Services

Reporting Officer: Audrey Somerton-Edwards, Interim Corporate Lead Officer, Porth Cynnal and Interim Statutory Director of Social Services

Date: 25.05.23



Performance Evaluation Inspection of Ceredigion County Council



March 2023

Mae'r ddogfen yma hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg.
This document is also available in Welsh.

Introduction

Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) carried out a performance evaluation inspection of Ceredigion County Council's (the local authority) Social Services in March 2023. The purpose of this inspection was to review the local authority's performance in exercising its social services duties and functions in line with legislation, on behalf of Welsh Ministers.

We sought to answer the following questions aligned under the principles of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (The 2014 Act).

1. People - voice and control

How well is the local authority ensuring all people are equal partners who have voice, choice and control over their lives and can achieve what matters to them?

Effective leadership is evident at all levels with a highly skilled, well qualified and supported workforce working towards a shared vision?

2. Prevention

How well is the local authority ensuring the need for care and support is minimised, and the escalation of need is prevented whilst ensuring that the best possible outcomes for people are achieved?

How well is the local authority promoting resilience within communities and people are supported to fulfil their potential by actively encouraging and supporting people who need care and support, including carers, to learn, develop and participate in society?

3. Well-being

How well is the local authority ensuring that people are protected and safeguarded from abuse, neglect and any other types of harm?

How well are people supported to actively manage their well-being and make their own informed decisions so that they are able to achieve their full potential and live independently for as long as possible?

4. Partnerships

How well is the local authority able to assure itself effective partnerships are in place to commission and deliver fully integrated, high quality, sustainable outcomes for people?

Are people encouraged to be involved in the design and delivery of their care and support as equal partners?

This inspection focused on the effectiveness of local authority services and arrangements to help and protect people. The scope of the inspection included:

- Evaluation of the experience of adults and children at the point of the performance evaluation inspection.
- Evaluation of the experience and outcomes people achieve through their contact with services.
- Evidence of the local authority and partners having learnt lessons from recent experiences and plans for service developments and improvement.
- Consideration of how the local authority manages opportunity and risk in its planning and delivery of social care at individual, operational and strategic levels.

1. Summary

- 1.1. The local authority is currently in the second of a five-year transformation strategy under its Through Age and Well-being programme (TAW). The model has a focus on early intervention, prevention and well-being, seeking to minimise the requirement for statutory services. The model is arranged around three 'Porths' - Porth Cymorth Cynnar (PCC) which is the early help and prevention services, Porth Gofal (PG) responsible for triage and assessment, short term intervention and safeguarding, and Porth Cynnal (PC) which incorporates the planned care and support element of social services. The programme forms a key part of one of the local authority's wider corporate objectives of creating caring and healthy communities, as outlined in its Corporate Plan 2022 – 2027.
- 1.2. The TAW model encompasses an 'all ages' approach. The vision is that teams will be able to look at the needs of the whole family and work across adult and children services, but with the recognition that some practitioners will need to retain specialisms.
- 1.3. In common with many local authorities in Wales, Ceredigion County Council is experiencing a challenging time in relation to the provision of social care. Many of the pressures experienced by the local authority reflect national issues including high levels of demand and increased complexity of people's needs, including the impact of the 'cost of living' crisis.
- 1.4. Critical workforce deficits in relation to social work and occupational therapy recruitment and retention, and staff absence had resulted in the loss of experienced staff and an over reliance on newly qualified and agency social workers. There is strong corporate and political support for social services in Ceredigion. The inspection was undertaken at a time when senior leaders, managers and politicians

had recognised the significant action and resource needed to ensure the local authority's ability to deliver all statutory responsibilities in terms of safeguarding children. The local authority commissioned a Managed Care Team consisting of seven social workers, a team manager and administrator to provide additional capacity. Vacancies in adult teams are also covered by agency workers with occupational therapy assessments outsourced to ensure people are getting the right support at the right time.

- 1.5. Following the commissioning of a managed care team most children and young people now receive support and services from the local authority in a timely manner, in their preferred language, are supported to maintain their safety and well-being and their voices are heard.
- 1.6. There is strong senior leadership within social services. We were told by staff, stakeholders and partners that senior leaders are visible, accessible, supportive and approachable. Feedback we gathered indicates a culture which is focused on well-being, building and maintaining relationships and achieving safe outcomes for people.
- 1.7. There are plans to strengthen practice using Signs of Safety (SOS) as a model to underpin the TAW strategy. The aim of SOS training is to build a strong foundation to further develop, enhance and reflect on social work practice. Whilst the strategic vision is clear, and training had been completed before the pandemic, further work is required before full implementation is achieved. It is acknowledged that post-covid recovery, recruitment challenges, workforce fragility and increased demand have all impacted on implementing the TAW.
- 1.8. The local authority demonstrates a strong focus on working in partnership. We heard about enthusiasm and readiness to work together at a strategic level and saw examples where this has benefitted people.

Key findings and evidence

Key findings and examples of evidence are presented below in line with the four principles of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

2. People - Voice & Choice

Strengths:

- 2.1. For many people, their voices are heard, and their personal outcomes captured. There were examples of practitioners working collaboratively and consistently with people to support what matters to them. People we spoke with said they had been understood and their voice heard with effective and regular communication. 82% of

people who responded to our people survey said they were treated with dignity and respect 'at all times' or 'most of the time' by the local authority.

- 2.2. People are able to communicate in their preferred language. There was evidence of the active offer being made and managers were confident of adequate numbers of Welsh speaking practitioners to implement the active offer.
- 2.3. We found advocacy is proactively considered and offered, particularly in the context of child protection conferences and reviews for children who are looked after by the local authority. It remains a strength from our previous assurance check in 2021 that these services are readily available. Advocates routinely attend decision making forums to represent children's views. Some children who are looked after told us of difficulties they had at times in accessing support and a lack of transparency about their rights and entitlements. Some of the children felt they were making decisions unaided at key points in their lives. This may be an area in need of further strengthening. In adults there was evidence of people being supported by informal advocates to participate in decisions that affect them. Practitioners in adult's services understand the importance of advocacy. The formal advocacy provider noted that perhaps, at times, they could have been involved at an earlier stage.
- 2.4. People are being provided with the opportunity to tailor and manage their own care and support using direct payments. However, in common with other local authorities across Wales recruitment of personal assistants to provide support via direct payments is a challenge. We heard how the service is actively trying to recruit new personal assistants supported by a new website and software system.
- 2.5. Ceredigion has a committed workforce which is responding to an increasing workload both in terms of complexity and volume. 77% of the respondents to our anonymous staff survey reflected these challenges but said they were well supported by colleagues and managers. We also heard how staff valued the accessibility of senior leaders. 74% of staff said their workloads were manageable.
- 2.6. In response to the challenges faced by the local authority when recruiting qualified social workers there is a focus on 'growing our own' from internal staff. We heard how, positively, the local authority has been working closely with Aberystwyth University to try and establish a social work course to train the workforce required for the future. We further note the local authority is carefully considering employing overseas workers. They would want those workers to commit to learning the Welsh language and are mindful of supporting them to integrate into the local culture.
- 2.7. Managers we spoke with expressed confidence they are skilled and supported to lead. The Director of Social Services is currently a temporary appointment. A permanent person is being sought to give the senior leadership team improved stability.

Areas for Improvement:

- 2.8. Some people, including carers, told us their social workers took time to listen to them which supported them to build good working relationships. There was some very positive feedback from younger children we spoke with about their social workers, one child told us “*They are funny and they always talk with us*”. Some children expressed the difficulties they have in building relationships when social workers change often. Only 67% of people who responded to our survey said they felt listened to. In addition, the voice of adults was not consistently captured in the proportionate assessments we reviewed. **The local authority must ensure people’s voice is central to the work they undertake with people.**
- 2.9. The local authority must ensure carers are routinely informed of their rights to an assessment and this is understood, recorded and promoted by all staff. The physical, emotional, financial and psychological impact of caring could be better reflected in the records supported by an unequivocal offer of a carers assessment. We spoke with a group of adult carers who shared mixed experiences of accessing support. Most spoke positively of their relationship with their social worker, although we could also see the impact of delays when accessing domiciliary care and occupational therapy adaptations. It is encouraging that there has been a notable increase in the number of carers who have joined the Carers Information Service. **The local authority must ensure practitioners consistently comply with the general duty to promote the well-being of the carer, by explicitly offering carers assessments to people to discuss what support they require, with reasons for refusal of an assessment routinely recorded.**
- 2.10. We heard how the lack of short break provision is adversely impacting people’s outcomes across Ceredigion. Arranging short break provision in advance for adult carers to book a holiday is very difficult, with providers more inclined to fill vacancies permanently. We also heard repeatedly how the availability of respite is an issue in children's services, particularly for disabled children. **The local authority must increase short break provision across the county to help address the well-being needs of parents and carers.**
- 2.11. The Director of Social Services Annual Report is an important way of informing people living in Ceredigion about how well social care service are being delivered. We note the delays in the local authority publishing the Director of Social Services Annual report over the last two years. This is an area requiring improvement as Part 8 of the Codes of Practice for the 2014 Act state that the director of social services must prepare and publish an annual report about the exercise of the local authority’s social services functions. **This annual report must be published as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of a financial year.**

- 2.12. During 2022 there were critical deficits in the numbers of social workers and occupational therapists because of recruitment and retention issues, and a highly competitive market. The local authority has taken significant action to address these challenges, as already mentioned above. This has resulted in a significant improvement in the performance of statutory responsibilities to children and families being met. Despite this the workforce position remains fragile and an exit plan is needed from this commissioned arrangement. **The local authority must carefully consider their future workforce strategy to prioritise a sufficient and sustainable workforce, with the capacity and capability to consistently meet statutory responsibilities.**
- 2.13. Most practitioners reported receiving regular supervision from their managers. However, supervision files viewed varied in content and quality. The discussions largely reflected the challenges and pressures of providing support to people in the current context. The need for improved supervision was a finding from our assurance check in 2021. We understand the local authority has recently developed a supervision policy. **The local authority should ensure robust management oversight of practice and reflective conversations are taking place with sufficient information noted to evidence decision making.**
- 2.14. Feedback from practitioners about the quality and availability of training was variable. People talked positively about the impact of core training, but that more specialist training is needed to support specific roles. We understand a training programme is being developed to support the TAW model which includes management training to support key posts. **The local authority must ensure it has a competent and confident workforce.**
- 2.15. Staff told how they benefited from the support of peers and would welcome more opportunities for face-to-face contact in offices. We heard how arranging in-person meetings for adult and children's services can be a challenge due to lack of suitable facilities. This included child protection conferences when face to face meeting is the family's preference. **This is something the local authority should consider.**
- 2.16. **The local authority must implement and embed a robust quality assurance framework.** This was identified as an area which required improvement at our 2021 assurance check and, following this inspection, it remains to be the case. We are aware that a quality assurance framework has been drafted. We also heard about investment in supporting the local authority's approach to quality assurance with newly appointed posts specifically to focus on this area. WCCIS, the local authority's records management system, is also under development to provide performance management information. These improvements are essential to enable scrutiny of data to drive forward service improvements and ensure managers have better oversight of front-line practice.

2.17. Responding to complaints within statutory timescales has become increasingly challenging for the local authority, due to pressures within the central complaints team who currently manage the process. **The local authority must ensure complaints are consistently responded to in accordance with the prescribed timescales in “The Social Services Complaints Procedure (Wales) Regulations 2014”, and lessons learned from responding to complaints drive improvements.**

3. Prevention

Strengths:

- 3.1. Senior managers fully understand access to early intervention and prevention is key to maintaining well-being and mitigating the demand on managed care services. An area of strength in Ceredigion is the shared strategic commitment to the preventative agenda as evidenced by the transformation to the TAW model. This ensures a focus on prompting people’s independence and supporting families to stay together when safe to do so.
- 3.2. **We saw examples of assessments and child protection conference reports, which were child focused and written in a way the child or young person could engage with and understand.** The quality of most reviews for children remains a strength from our previous check in 2021. Minutes are written directly to the child, giving the feeling of a personalised letter. These minutes acknowledge the child’s wishes and explain in child-friendly language the outcomes and decisions of their review.
- 3.3. Social workers clearly strive to establish meaningful relationships with children and families, with an emphasis on direct work with individual children. We saw examples of social workers playing games with children, colouring with them and playing football to build relationships. We found strong evidence of practitioner reflection, professional curiosity and clear decision making in respect of children and young people.
- 3.4. Under the TAW model a range of preventative services have been combined under the umbrella of PCC. The range and capacity of these services, including those provided by the third sector, is undoubtedly a strength which our staff survey indicated is appreciated by the workforce in Ceredigion. We observed well organised meetings to determine which services are best placed to support families. Well-being centres are planned as a ‘one stop shop’ for services including leisure, housing and youth services. The local authority is currently developing a directory of resources, services and facilities to make the early help offer clearer for staff and the public.

- 3.5. We heard, as a commitment to developing community links and supporting the preventative agenda, the local authority has increased the number of Community Connectors, working in a patch-based model, throughout the county, looking to connect people with services, activities and events happening in their locality with the aim of impacting positively on their well-being. Despite the high demand and waiting list for occupational therapy assessments we saw some examples of the services ability to respond promptly. This included the provision of some equipment to promote people's independence enabling them to remain living at home for longer.
- 3.6. Assistive technology, including the provision of wrist watches to monitor people's vital health signs and falls, is a key strategy to support early intervention and prevention. We also heard about projects such as PCC giving 'Fitbits' to young people to encourage them to stay active even when they were not engaging directly with services. The local authority is also developing office space to be able to showcase the offer of assistive technology.
- 3.7. Like most local authorities across Wales there is substantial pressures on capacity within the domiciliary care market in Ceredigion. Despite this demand timely hospital discharge continues to be a priority. We saw a focus by the enablement team on effectively supporting people to regain their independence and enabling people to return home in accordance with their wishes.

Areas for Improvement:

- 3.9. People's experience of contacting the local authority is varied. Some people, including carers, told us of the difficulty they experienced in speaking to the appropriate person or receiving a timely response. **The local authority must review its current arrangement to ensure people consistently receive a timely response when they contact them.**
- 3.10. For many adults their assessments and annual review of their care and support plan, are delayed due to waiting lists across teams, including occupational therapy. This risks people's changing needs not being identified and addressed at the earliest stage. It also misses the opportunity for services to end when no longer required which would release capacity. Providers commented on how they are not regularly invited to take part in reviews. **The local authority must take the required action to ensure compliance with timescales for statutory reviews and ensure all relevant professionals are invited to contribute**, as it is missing the opportunity to assure itself resources are being used to best effect.
- 3.11. We heard from carers and practitioners about the negative impact of a lack of domiciliary care across the county. This included increased pressure on unpaid carers, people being placed on waiting lists or moving into care homes unnecessarily

due to a lack of care at home. Whilst most people in Ceredigion are receiving some form of care this is impacting on the flow of other services, for example enablement. Whilst a shortage of care is a recognised national issue, there are specific challenges in terms of Ceredigion's geography and demographics which require a robust response. A new Domiciliary Care Commissioning Framework is being developed. The local authority is also working with strategic partners to develop a 'patch based' approach to delivering local services and addressing the challenges. **The local authority should continue to work strategically and operationally with its partners to look for solutions to alleviate the situation.**

- 3.12. The provision of services to people who have visual or hearing impairments must be improved. There is a waiting list to be seen by a Rehabilitation Officer for Visual Impairment and concerns around the availability of British Sign Language, with people telling us they are not aware of any available groups for people with a visual or hearing impairment. **The local authority should engage with people experiencing sensory loss to hear their voice to influence the development of services.**
- 3.13. The local authority is experiencing an increase in contacts and referrals. From records reviewed we mainly observed prompt responses to meet the needs of children. However, in one example we saw many re-referrals where further cumulative assessment of the information would have been beneficial. The local authority is aware and intends to analyse the high re-referral rate (45%) for children who have been assessed as not requiring further statutory intervention. **The local authority must ensure it understands the high re-referral rate, so leaders can assure themselves about the appropriateness of closures/signposting and demonstrate clear evidence of management oversight.**
- 3.14. There has been a significant rise in the numbers of children looked after in Ceredigion over recent years. We were told the reason for this is a lack of focus on discharging care orders where situations are stable. Positively, additional legal support to discharge the orders has been commissioned. We also saw examples where children should have had legal protections, but these were not in place promptly due to staffing capacity. **The local authority must assure itself the discharge of care orders is prioritised.**
- 3.15. The availability of foster carers and suitable homes for children is an area of challenge given the increase in children becoming looked after by the local authority over recent years. We heard from senior managers about plans to increase the sufficiency of care homes for children and supported accommodation in Ceredigion. **Fostering recruitment should continue to be prioritised.**
- 3.16. There are mixed views from third sector providers about partnership working with some expressing the opinion that there could be more recognition of what services

there are and more done to coordinate them at a strategic level. The local authority may benefit from carrying out a mapping exercise to understand the variety of third sector services with the aim of facilitating greater collaboration.

- 3.17. We heard from practitioners, team managers and IROs that plans are central to monitoring interventions with children on the Child Protection Register (CPR). However, children who are looked after by the local authority do not receive the same approach. The number of children with an updated care and support plan and a pathway plan in place at the date of their first placement is far too low and requires improvement. This performance information reflects messages from young people we spoke to who told us they had not seen their plans. **The local authority must ensure plans are updated in line with statutory standards.**

4. Well-being

Strengths:

- 4.1. Safeguarding children and young people is prioritised across the TAW model. Social workers demonstrated a good understanding of the history and current situation of families. We found skilled and competent workers performing well in meeting children and young people's need to be safeguarded. Decision making in relation to significant harm is clear and results in appropriate action.
- 4.2. Children are seen by their social worker as often as needed in line with the levels of needs and risks. There is recognition of the impact of poverty on families and financial support regularly provided to support parents to attend contact. We saw practitioners increasing visits, including on weekends, and supporting intensively to proactively reduce safety risks. One parent powerfully described the approach as "*understanding, actually supporting me and letting me speak*". She also said the conference reports now recognise strengths as well as risks. This supports our findings that risks in child protection are appropriately considered and balanced with the families' strengths.
- 4.3. Family Group Conferences are routinely and effectively used to formalise support for parents/carers to safely care for their children. In these cases, good outcomes are often achieved for children. Significant work is being undertaken to maintain children with their parents and, although this was not always possible, we saw good outcomes where children remained with extended family. **Positively, we heard how Family Group Conferencing is now being extended to include work with adults, as a reflection of the TAW model.**
- 4.4. We saw excellent examples of practitioner analysis and rationale recorded which evidenced an understanding of what was required to help people meet outcomes. Children's views are considered as part of planning and informed social worker analysis on the risk of harm. Recordings highlight strengths as well as detailing the worries and the lived experiences of children. We saw excellent examples of multi-

agency risk assessments, using SOS methods and a range of other tools to facilitate direct work.

Areas for Improvement:

- 4.5. In relation to adult safeguarding, an area of strength previously, we saw some variation across the social care records reviewed, with most showing timely and effective safeguarding practices aligned with the Wales Safeguarding Procedures (WSP). However, records could be strengthened by consistently evidencing all reasonable steps have been taken to enable the person to participate in the safeguarding process.
- 4.6. Partner agencies reported a lack of feedback when reporting adult safeguarding concerns. We also heard that whilst strategy meetings are well attended, there is often a delay in distributing the minutes of these meetings. **The local authority should review current arrangements to ensure the outcome of referrals are shared with the reporter and that minutes are shared with attendees in a timely manner.**
- 4.7. We heard, at times, the capacity of the adult safeguarding team to undertake joint visits with the police and complete timely mental capacity assessments has been limited. We were told of plans to enhance adult safeguarding capacity. **The local authority must ensure there is robust oversight of safeguarding practice to assure itself of compliance with the WSP.**
- 4.8. As part of the new TAW model, strategy discussions are now undertaken by the central safeguarding team. At times we noted a wider group of professionals should have been invited to be involved in the strategy discussion regarding children, such as health or education. The social worker working with the family should also always be invited to contribute as they will inevitably have a wealth of information to inform decision making. The local authority initiates child protection processes in a timely way **but must assure itself multi-agency involvement is considered at the earliest opportunity.**
- 4.9. Our Assurance Check in 2021 found the quality of adult assessments and care and support plans and recording to be varied. This remains the case following this inspection. For many people their voices are heard, and the five areas of assessment are captured in the specialist social care assessment. However, this is not the case in many of the proportionate assessments. In our view many are simply a record of multi-agency triage, communication and decision making rather than an assessment of what matters to the person. **The local authority must review adult assessment documentation to ensure it follows all core statutory requirements as outlined in Part 3 Code of Practice (Assessing the Needs of Individuals).**

- 4.10. When completing social care records, it is important practitioners capture the role of people involved in multi-agency discussion. Many of the proportionate assessments only contained the first names of practitioners. **The local authority must review its recording policy to include robust managerial oversight to ensure all records are maintained appropriately.**

5. Partnership and Integration

Strengths:

- 5.1. We heard consistently positive messages about partnership working from the people we spoke with during our inspection. At a strategic level, senior leaders work together to address cross cutting departmental challenges. One senior manager described their senior management structure as a '*powerhouse*' for getting things done. Externally, we heard about excellent working relationships with the strategic lead in community health services. We saw evidence of partnerships directly benefiting people such as the development of care homes for children in Ceredigion meaning they can remain in their own communities, and the Borth project, a multiagency meeting focusing on getting people the right help and support at the right time.
- 5.2. Operationally, effective integration and collaboration between professionals is evident across teams. Structures are in place which allow for coordinated consideration of requests for care and support in relation to prevention. Integrated working with health services in Porth Gofal Triage and Assessment ensures people can be directed towards the most relevant professional in a timely manner. This promotes holistic consideration of people's circumstances and risks to ensure well informed triage decisions. For example, effective and timely triage and referral for enablement input meant one person could be discharged promptly from hospital and regain independence at home without the need for formal care and support.
- 5.3. Decision making forums, including child protection conferences, are well attended by a range of professionals. Practitioners described engagement in these meetings as 'exceptional' with examples given of paediatricians routinely in attendance. We heard how conference reports are routinely shared, however the sharing of the conference minutes in a timely manner, post conference, needs to improve. There was evidence of joint working with health in the small number of disabled children files viewed and healthy disagreements between professionals at times.
- 5.4. Schools have many positive partnership arrangements. For example, we saw a clear pathway enabling children who are looked after to access emotional health support through the Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) and more general initiatives such as surveys to target specific groups of children and contextual risks around

issues like vaping. There are clearly good partnerships benefiting children between schools and youth workers, school counsellors and inclusion officers.

- 5.5. Social work staff told us the timeliness and quality of partners contributions to assessments is good. We saw examples of effective multi agency partnership working and a commitment to supporting families and maintaining children within their families.
- 5.6. Providers gave positive feedback about their relationships with the commissioning team. They talked about how the tendering process can be challenging, but the local authority is supportive and hold workshops to simplify this and clarify expectations. Providers also said the commissioning team are willing to listen to their opinion and take action to improve issues.

Areas for Improvement:

- 5.7. There is evidence of practitioners developing professional working relationships with people built on co-operation and a shared understanding of what matters. However, working in partnership with people and carers on co-produced outcomes requires improvement in some service areas. As already mentioned earlier in the report the domains of assessments and principles of 2014 Act need further embedding in practice especially when completing proportionate assessments. At times the support is service led and functional rather than focussing on what matters and the outcomes the person wants to achieve.
- 5.8. Whilst we heard that the vision of the TAW model is understood by partners and stakeholders at the level of the Healthier Ceredigion Board and Regional Partnership Board, we also heard that wider than this communication needs to be improved. We heard how some members of the public had fed back to the local authority that they were unsure of what the Porth's meant or understand what services they represented. **The local authority should review its communication strategy to ensure that their model is understood and accessible.**
- 5.9. Overall providers feel the local authority has been clear about the vision of the TAW model. However now that the restructure has taken place some are unclear of the current situation within some teams. The local authority should consider updating their partners on the current operational arrangements.
- 5.10. Some providers noted the number of agency workers in some teams, which can affect the quality of referrals and when the workers are not based in Ceredigion this has been a barrier to meeting. The local authority should ensure that employing agency staff working outside Ceredigion does not cause any barrier or delay to people receiving support.

Next Steps

CIW expects the local authority to consider the areas identified for improvement and take appropriate action to address and improve these areas. CIW will monitor progress through its ongoing performance review activity with the local authority. Where relevant we expect the local authority to share the positive practice identified with other local authorities, to disseminate learning and help drive continuous improvement in statutory services throughout Wales.

Methodology

Fieldwork

Most inspection evidence was gathered by reviewing the experiences of people through review and tracking of their social care record. We reviewed **42** social care records and tracked **10** of these to understand the person's experience in more depth.

Tracking a person's social care record includes having conversations with the person in receipt of social care services, their family or carers, key worker, the key worker's manager, and other professionals involved.

We also;

- interviewed local authority employees.
- interviewed a range of partner organisations, representing both statutory and third sector.
- held focus groups of children, young people and adults who use the services of the local authority.
- all of the above resulting in CIW engaging with **114** individuals.

In addition we;-

- reviewed staff supervision files
- reviewed compliments and complaints
- reviewed supporting documentation sent to CIW for the purpose of the inspection.
- administered surveys to staff, partner organisations and people

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Welsh Language

CIW's commitment to provide an active offer of conducting parts of the inspection in Welsh was met. The active offer was required during this inspection.

Acknowledgements

CIW would like to thank staff, partners and people who gave their time and contributed to this inspection.

Theme	CIW Ref	Strengths Identified
People - Voice & Choice	2.1	For many people, their voices are heard, and their personal outcomes captured. There were examples of practitioners working collaboratively and consistently with people to support what matters to them. People we spoke with said they had been understood and their voice heard with effective and regular communication. 82% of people who responded to our people survey said they were treated with dignity and respect 'at all times' or 'most of the time' by the local authority.
People - Voice & Choice	2.2	People are able to communicate in their preferred language. There was evidence of the active offer being made and managers were confident of adequate numbers of Welsh speaking practitioners to implement the active offer
People - Voice & Choice	2.3	We found advocacy is proactively considered and offered, particularly in the context of child protection conferences and reviews for children who are looked after by the local authority. It remains a strength from our previous assurance check in 2021 that these services are readily available. Advocates routinely attend decision making forums to represent children's views. Some children who are looked after told us of difficulties they had at times in accessing support and a lack of transparency about their rights and entitlements. Some of the children felt they were making decisions unaided at key points in their lives. This may be an area in need of further strengthening. In adults there was evidence of people being supported by informal advocates to participate in decisions that affect them. Practitioners in adult's services understand the importance of advocacy. The formal advocacy provider noted that perhaps, at times, they could have been involved at an earlier stage
People - Voice & Choice	2.4	People are being provided with the opportunity to tailor and manage their own care and support using direct payments. However, in common with other local authorities across Wales recruitment of personal assistants to provide support via direct payments is a challenge. We heard how the service is actively trying to recruit new personal assistants supported by a new website and software system
People - Voice & Choice	2.5	Ceredigion has a committed workforce which is responding to an increasing workload both in terms of complexity and volume. 77% of the respondents to our anonymous staff survey reflected these challenges but said they were well supported by colleagues and managers. We also heard how staff valued the accessibility of senior leaders. 74% of staff said their workloads were manageable
People - Voice & Choice	2.6	In response to the challenges faced by the local authority when recruiting qualified social workers there is a focus on 'growing our own' from internal staff. We heard how, positively, the local authority has been working closely with Aberystwyth University to try and establish a social work course to train the workforce required for the future. We further note the local authority is carefully considering employing overseas workers. They would want those workers to commit to learning the Welsh language and are mindful of supporting them to integrate into the local culture
People - Voice & Choice	2.7	Managers we spoke with expressed confidence they are skilled and supported to lead. The Director of Social Services is currently a temporary appointment. A permanent person is being sought to give the senior leadership team improved stability.
Prevention	3.1	Senior managers fully understand access to early intervention and prevention is key to maintaining well-being and mitigating the demand on managed care services. An area of strength in Ceredigion is the shared strategic commitment to the preventative agenda as evidenced by the transformation to the TAW model. This ensures a focus on prompting people's independence and supporting families to stay together when safe to do so
Prevention	3.2	We saw examples of assessments and child protection conference reports, which were child focused and written in a way the child or young person could engage with and understand. The quality of most reviews for children remains a strength from our previous check in 2021. Minutes are written directly to the child, giving the feeling of a personalised letter. These minutes acknowledge the child's wishes and explain in child-friendly language the outcomes and decisions of their review
Prevention	3.3	Social workers clearly strive to establish meaningful relationships with children and families, with an emphasis on direct work with individual children. We saw examples of social workers playing games with children, colouring with them and playing football to build relationships. We found strong evidence of practitioner reflection, professional curiosity and clear decision making in respect of children and young people
Prevention	3.4	Under the TAW model a range of preventative services have been combined under the umbrella of PCC. The range and capacity of these services, including those provided by the third sector, is undoubtedly a strength which our staff survey indicated is appreciated by the workforce in Ceredigion. We observed well organised meetings to determine which services are best placed to support families. Well-being centres are planned as a 'one stop shop' for services including leisure, housing and youth services. The local authority is currently developing a directory of resources, services and facilities to make the early help offer clearer for staff and the public
Prevention	3.5	We heard, as a commitment to developing community links and supporting the preventative agenda, the local authority has increased the number of Community Connectors, working in a patch-based model, throughout the county, looking to connect people with services, activities and events happening in their locality with the aim of impacting positively on their well being
Prevention	3.6	Despite the high demand and waiting list for occupational therapy assessments we saw some examples of the services ability to respond promptly. This included the provision of some equipment to promote people's independence enabling them to remain living at home for longer.
Prevention	3.7	Assistive technology, including the provision of wrist watches to monitor people's vital health signs and falls, is a key strategy to support early intervention and prevention. We also heard about projects such as PCC giving 'Fitbits' to young people to encourage them to stay active even when they were not engaging directly with services. The local authority is also developing office space to be able to showcase the offer of assistive technology

Prevention	3.8	Like most local authorities across Wales there is substantial pressures on capacity within the domiciliary care market in Ceredigion. Despite this demand timely hospital discharge continues to be a priority. We saw a focus by the enablement team on effectively supporting people to regain their independence and enabling people to return home in accordance with their wishes.
Well-being	4.1	Safeguarding children and young people is prioritised across the TAW model. Social workers demonstrated a good understanding of the history and current situation of families. We found skilled and competent workers performing well in meeting children and young people's need to be safeguarded. Decision making in relation to significant harm is clear and results in appropriate action
Well-being	4.2	Children are seen by their social worker as often as needed in line with the levels of needs and risks. There is recognition of the impact of poverty on families and financial support regularly provided to support parents to attend contact. We saw practitioners increasing visits, including on weekends, and supporting intensively to proactively reduce safety risks. One parent powerfully described the approach as "understanding, actually supporting me and letting me speak". She also said the conference reports now recognise strengths as well as risks. This supports our findings that risks in child protection are appropriately considered and balanced with the families' strengths
Well-being	4.3	Family Group Conferences are routinely and effectively used to formalise support for parents/carers to safely care for their children. In these cases, good outcomes are often achieved for children. Significant work is being undertaken to maintain children with their parents and, although this was not always possible, we saw good outcomes where children remained with extended family. Positively, we heard how Family Group Conferencing is now being extended to include work with adults, as a reflection of the TAW model.
Well-being	4.4	We saw excellent examples of practitioner analysis and rationale recorded which evidenced an understanding of what was required to help people meet outcomes. Children's views are considered as part of planning and informed social worker analysis on the risk of harm. Recordings highlight strengths as well as detailing the worries and the lived experiences of children. We saw excellent examples of multi-agency risk assessments, using SOS methods and a range of other tools to facilitate direct work.
Well-being	4.5	In relation to adult safeguarding, an area of strength previously, we saw some variation across the social care records reviewed, with most showing timely and effective safeguarding practices aligned with the Wales Safeguarding Procedures (WSP). However, records could be strengthened by consistently evidencing all reasonable steps have been taken to enable the person to participate in the safeguarding process.
Partnership	5.1	We heard consistently positive messages about partnership working from the people we spoke with during our inspection. At a strategic level, senior leaders work together to address cross cutting departmental challenges. One senior manager described their senior management structure as a 'powerhouse' for getting things done. Externally, we heard about excellent working relationships with the strategic lead in community health services. We saw evidence of partnerships directly benefiting people such as the development of care homes for children in Ceredigion meaning they can remain in their own communities, and the Borth project, a multiagency meeting focusing on getting people the right help and support at the right time
Partnership	5.2	Operationally, effective integration and collaboration between professionals is evident across teams. Structures are in place which allow for coordinated consideration of requests for care and support in relation to prevention. Integrated working with health services in Porth Gofal Triage and Assessment ensures people can be directed towards the most relevant professional in a timely manner. This promotes holistic consideration of people's circumstances and risks to ensure well informed triage decisions. For example, effective and timely triage and referral for enablement input meant one person could be discharged promptly from hospital and regain independence at home without the need for formal care and support
Partnership	5.3	Decision making forums, including child protection conferences, are well attended by a range of professionals. Practitioners described engagement in these meetings as 'exceptional' with examples given of paediatricians routinely in attendance. We heard how conference reports are routinely shared, however the sharing of the conference minutes in a timely manner, post conference, needs to improvement. There was evidence of joint working with health in the small number of disabled children files viewed and healthy disagreements between professionals at times.
Partnership	5.4	Schools have many positive partnership arrangements. For example, we saw a clear pathway enabling children who are looked after to access emotional health support through the Emotional Literacy Support Assistant (ELSA) and more general initiatives such as surveys to target specific groups of children and contextual risks around issues like vaping. There are clearly good partnerships benefiting children between schools and youth workers, school counsellors and inclusion officers
Partnership	5.5	Social work staff told us the timeliness and quality of partners contributions to assessments is good. We saw examples of effective multi agency partnership working and a commitment to supporting families and maintaining children within their families.
Partnership	5.6	Providers gave positive feedback about their relationships with the commissioning team. They talked about how the tendering process can be challenging, but the local authority is supportive and hold workshops to simplify this and clarify expectations. Providers also said the commissioning team are willing to listen to their opinion and take action to improve issues.

Theme	CIW Ref	Area for Improvement	Owner	Actions	Due Date	RAG	Scrutiny Review 1	RAG	Final Review and Completion	RAG	
People - Voice & Choice	2.8	The local authority must ensure people's voice is central to the work they undertake with people.	DP	*This will form part of the first year cycle of thematic reviews for the QA Officer, but will be highlighted as part of briefing to managers as part of the report feedback process.	30.09.2023		Healthier Communities Scrutiny 22 November 2023		Healthier Communities Scrutiny 11 March 2023		
				*Review of recording Policy will be revised to explicitly reference the to record the recognition of the need for a carers assessment and the offer being made.							
				*Establish a Care Experience forum - to co produce the Commissioning of services, Policy development, represented on Interviews for key roles.							
				*Adult Service User Engagement Group to be established							
			ASE/EJ	*Extended Support Through Age Engagement Group -sub groups for adults and children *Collaborate with schools to identify and support young carers in education.							
People - Voice & Choice	2.9	The local authority must ensure practitioners consistently comply with the general duty to promote the well-being of the carer, by explicitly offering carers assessments to people to discuss what support they require, with reasons for refusal of an assessment routinely recorded.	DP	*This will form part of the first year cycle of thematic reviews for the QA Officer, but will be highlighted as part of briefing to managers as part of the report feedback process.	30.09.2023						
				* Regular reporting on Cares Assessment compliance through the Performance Board by inclusion in Business Plans.							
				* Review all documentation to ensure they reflect the need for a Carers Assessment to be offered Donna Pritchard will be the designated Lead Officer whilst the carers development work is undertaken. This role will be handed to Porth Cymorth Cynnar when the Action Plan has progressed sufficiently.							
People - Voice & Choice	2.10	The local authority must increase short break provision across the county to help address the well-being needs of parents and carers.	SH/NL	*This work is being address as part of the Respite/Care Breaks within the Carers, Community and Ageing Well Steering Group	31.03.2024						
			NL	* Eliminating Profits project is focused on recruiting foster carers including short breaks and respite.							
			NL/ASE	Ensure that carers are appropriately represented in the approval of respite carer fostering, Supported Lodgings and Shared Lives placements to fully appreciate the needs for the carer. Representation on Panel will also offer reassurance that the child/relative will receive good quality care.							
People - Voice & Choice	2.11	The Director of Social Services Annual Report - This annual report must be published as soon as reasonably practicable after the end of a financial year.	ASE	* 2022/23 Report planning has commenced and has been timetabled with Scutiny, Cabinet and Council for publication in October 2023	31.10.2023		31/10/23	31/10/23			
People - Voice & Choice	2.12	The local authority must carefully consider their future workforce strategy to prioritise a sufficient and sustainable workforce, with the capacity and capability to consistently meet statutory responsibilities.	ASE/GE	* This is being addressed as part of TAW Recruitment and Retention workstream and being monitored as part of the group in to TAW Programme Board	30.09.2023		Healthier Community Scrutiny Committee 22 November 2023				
				* Strategy will be reviewed as part of the revised Workforce Plan							
People - Voice & Choice	2.13	The local authority should ensure robust management oversight of practice and reflective conversations are taking place with sufficient information noted to evidence decision making.	ASE	*Comms has been put in place around updated supervision policy, and also highlighted within the QA Framework.	30.06.2023						
			QA Officer	* Thematic Audit required to allow for full picture to be understood							
				* Recording Policy Needs to be updated							
People - Voice & Choice	2.14	The local authority must ensure it has a competent and confident workforce.		* TNA's are completed every year, and appraisals are also completed. Annual Appraisal will consider all training needs be it mandatory or specialist	30.09.2023						
People - Voice & Choice	2.15	Staff told how they benefited from the support of peers and would welcome more opportunities for face-to-face contact in offices. We heard how arranging in-person meetings for adult and children's services can be a challenge due to lack of suitable facilities. This included child protection conferences when face to face meeting is the family's preference. This is something the local authority should consider.		* Office are now open for staff face to face access.							
				* Locations for CP Conferences are limited but available. Team Manager Quality Assurance to complete an audit of available and suitable locations for CP Conferences and present the available options for consideration.							
People - Voice & Choice	2.16	The local authority must implement and embed a robust quality assurance framework.	ASE	* The QA Framework consultation has now concluded and the feedback received is being considered and amendments will be made to strengthen the approach where appropriate.	30.06.2023						
				* Quality Assurance Officer post out to advert							
				* Quality Assurance Support Officer out to advert							
				* Development of a thematic audit workplan							

People - Voice & Choice	2.17	The local authority must ensure complaints are consistently responded to in accordance with the prescribed timescales in the "The Social Services Complaints Procedure (Wales) Regulations 2014", and lessons learned from responding to complaints drive improvements.	ASE	* Develop a tracker for all Social Service Complaints to be reviewed as part of regular CLO meetings with the Complaints Manager to review responses and ensure that there is adherence to timescales from all perspectives. The review meetings will take place on a fortnightly basis.	30.06.2023					
				* Ownership of the tracker will rest with the Statutory Director of Social Services in partnership with Complaints Manager.						
				* QA Officer will be in a position to gather and implement learning from complaints via lessons learned log linking with L&D, and Policy Review						
Prevention	3.9	The local authority must review its current arrangement to ensure people consistently receive a timely response when they contact them.		* Revisit protocol between Clic and Porth Gofal Triage and Social Work Teams to ensure access to case holder	30.09.2023					
				* Need to ensure feedback to referrers at point of decision						
				* Need to identify thematic QA for process.						
Prevention	3.10	The local authority must take the required action to ensure compliance with timescales for statutory reviews and ensure all relevant professionals are invited to contribute, as it is missing the opportunity to assure itself resources are being used to best effect.	ASE	* Develop a specific action plan and program of work to resolve backlog	30.06.2023					
Prevention	3.11	The local authority should continue to work strategically and operationally with its partners to look for solutions to alleviate the situation.	DP	* Working group already established and tendering process is being reviewed	30.06.2023					
Prevention	3.12	The local authority should engage with people experiencing sensory loss to hear their voice to influence the development of services.	HW	* Assistive Technology and Equipment workstream is focused on the Sensory Service with a view to redesigning service	31.03.2024					
Prevention	3.13	The local authority must ensure it understands the high re-referral rate, so leaders can assure themselves about the appropriateness of closures/signposting and demonstrate clear evidence of management oversight.	TJ	* This will form part of the first year cycle of thematic reviews for the QA Officer, but is also currently being analysed as part of the ongoing monitoring of the Children's Porth Gofal Triage and Assessment process. The re-referral statistic was identified prior to the inspection.	31.03.2024					
Prevention	3.14	The local authority must assure itself the discharge of care orders is prioritised.	ASE	* Already forms part of the CLA Strategy and incorporates a clear plan to support the reduction or prevention of children becoming accommodated by the local authority. Early Intervention services are key to prevention.	30.06.2023					
				* Currently 10 children being explored for revocation.						
Prevention	3.15	Fostering recruitment should continue to be prioritised.	NL	* Foster Care recruitment is being progressed as part of the Children's Steering Group and Eliminating Profit work. There has been further additional funding allocated to Ceredigion through Foster Wales (02.05.2023) to strengthen and develop the foster carer infrastructure. Work has already started on the Fostering integration with MyAccount which will support the recruitment process to help the wider daily report functionality to free up capacity.	30.06.2023					
				* Foster Carer Engagement Plan in place to allow for the sharing of innovative ideas between officers and foster carers.						
Prevention	3.16	There are mixed views from third sector providers about partnership working with some expressing the opinion that there could be more recognition of what services there are and more done to coordinate them at a strategic level. The local authority may benefit from carrying out a mapping exercise to understand the variety of third sector services with the aim of facilitating greater collaboration.		* Contracts Panel has been put in place to monitor the quality and effectiveness of contracts and determine whether value for money is being achieved.	30.06.2023					
				* This needs to form part of the 3rd sector grants review, with a view of rationalisation of funding. The work of the Contacts Panel will assist in gathering this information for rationalisation.						
Prevention	3.17	The local authority must ensure plans are updated in line with statutory standards.	ASE	* Clients Service Strategies should also determine the need for services	30.09.2023					
				* Need to understand the issues that are causing timescales to drift, what is contained in the IRO monitoring reports, is whether this still the case now that Innovate are in place. Will review following Q4 data reporting to analyse the performance.						
			ASE	* Protocol required for Personal Advisors to improve timescales for care leaver Pathway Plans.						
Well-being	4.5	In relation to adult safeguarding, an area of strength previously, we saw some variation across the social care records reviewed, with most showing timely and effective safeguarding practices aligned with the Wales Safeguarding Procedures (WSP). However, records could be strengthened by consistently evidencing all reasonable steps have been taken to enable the person to participate in the safeguarding process.	EU/ASE	An end to end review of current practice will take place to assess effectiveness of current practice and identify any areas that need to be strengthened to encourage participation of the person at risk.	30.06.2023					
Well-being	4.6	The local authority should review current arrangements to ensure the outcome of referrals are shared with the reporter and that minutes are shared with attendees in a timely manner.	TJ and all decision makers	Need to ensure referers are notified at point of decision within Porth Gofal Triage and feedback is recorded.	30.06.2023					

			ASE/EU	Need to ensure that minutes are approved in a timely manner and circulated as required within good practice guidelines.					
			TJ	Develop reporting suite, also need to focus on backlog of case closures					
Well-being	4.7	The local authority must ensure there is robust oversight of safeguarding practice to assure itself of compliance with the WSP.	ASE/EU	Needs to be reviewed					
Well-being	4.8	The local authority initiates child protection processes in a timely way but must assure itself multi-agency involvement is considered at the earliest opportunity.	All managers will input into the audit	Undertake a thematic audit of strategy discussions and meetings to understand attendance levels in line with statutory timescales.	30.06.2023				
Well-being	4.9	The local authority must review adult assessment documentation to ensure it follows all core statutory requirements as outlined in Part 3 Code of Practice (Assessing the Needs of Individuals).	EU/QA Officer	* This work will be addressed as part of the QA Framework and thematic audits. A document review is taking place under the Signs of Safety development programme.	30.09.2023				
Well-being	4.10	The local authority must review its recording policy to include robust managerial oversight to ensure all records are maintained appropriately.	EU/QA Officer	*Policy review is to form part of the role of the QA Officer *General comms to managers regards the outcome of the inspection and areas of learning via workshops	30.09.2023				
Partnership	5.7	There is evidence of practitioners developing professional working relationships with people built on co-operation and a shared understanding of what matters. However, working in partnership with people and carers on co-produced outcomes requires improvement in some service areas. As already mentioned earlier in the report the domains of assessments and principles of 2014 Act need further embedding in practice especially when completing proportionate assessments. At times the support is service led and functional rather than focussing on what matters and the outcomes the person wants to achieve.	All managers will input into the audit	Thematic audits will be conducted in order to measure input of families to their plans, and the proportionality of assessments.					
Partnership	5.8	The local authority should review its communication strategy to ensure that their model is understood and accessible.		Link to Comms Workstream - Website development	30.09.2023				
Partnership	5.9	Overall providers feel the local authority has been clear about the vision of the TAW model. However now that the restructure has taken place some are unclear of the current situation within some teams. The local authority should consider updating their partners on the current operational arrangements.		* Comms Plan to be updated, to ensure stakeholders are aware of new structure and the roles of teams and services within the model. The update of the website will assist in this area. We will give consideration to facilitating a workshop across the TAW for third sector providers.					
Partnership	5.10	Some providers noted the number of agency workers in some teams, which can affect the quality of referrals and when the workers are not based in Ceredigion this has been a barrier to meeting. The local authority should ensure that employing agency staff working outside Ceredigion does not cause any barrier or delay to people receiving support.	CM's	Terms of reference will be reviewed for all Through, Age, Care and Wellbeing meetings and agreeing to the ongoing approach to hybrid meetings.					

Carer assessment offer and support plans
Voice - young carers, adult victims of alleged abuse
Re-referrals

Cyngor Sir CEREDIGION County Council

REPORT TO:	Cabinet
DATE:	6 June 2023
LOCATION:	Council Chamber/Hybrid
TITLE:	Care Inspectorate Wales Performance Evaluation Inspection Report and Action Plan
PURPOSE OF REPORT:	To provide feedback from the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 24 May 2023

BACKGROUND:

Members of the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the Care Inspectorate Wales Performance Evaluation Inspection Report and Action Plan.

Care Inspectorate Wales undertook an intense evaluation of performance across Adult and Children's Service from 27 February 2023 to 10 March 2023.

In line with our duties under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 the domains of the inspection evaluated were: **People - Voice and Control, Prevention, Well-being and Partnership.**

There were five Inspectors participating in the inspection which was facilitated virtually and in person.

During the evidence gathering there were 114 individuals engaged in the process including officers, Elected Members, service users, carers, and statutory and third sector partner organisations.

Service users and staff had the opportunity to submit online responses to the CIW survey to express their views on experiences of working across the Through-Age Wellbeing service.

In addition to case file audits key policies and developments were scrutinised. This included supervision files and the revised policy, compliments and complaints, the draft Quality Assurance Framework, the Occupational Therapy consultation and the revised Safeguarding and Mental Wellbeing and Porth Cymorth Cynnar structures. Observations of strategic and operational meetings took place online and face to face.

There was an emphasis on the experience of children, carers and their families and how the service listens to their views. The Inspectors were actively seeking to identify participation of service users in assessments and plans by articulating their own care requirements.

The Inspectors were very keen to understand and appreciate the benefits of the Through Age Wellbeing model.

Verbal feedback was provided by the Inspectorate on 16 March 2023 and the written draft report was received on 6 April 2023. A formal response to the draft report was made by the Local Authority on 21 April 2023.

There were no matters that required significant amendment contained in the report from the perspective of the Local Authority as the content reflected closely the verbal feedback we received.

There were no areas of none compliance identified during the Inspection.

An Action Plan has now been formulated to respond to the recommended improvements outlined by CIW in the report.

The overwhelming majority of the actions are already in play as the matters identified by CIW were being addressed before the commencement of the inspection.

The areas that we have sought to improve were reflected in our evidence to the Inspectorate in advance of the commencement of the inspection and the drafting of the final report.

The Action Plan accompanying this report focuses on the areas for improvement. However, to strike a balance between the required improvements and the strengths identified in the report in each of the four domains of inspection.

Following discussion, Members considered the following recommendation:

RECOMMENDATION (S):

1. The draft Action Plan to address the issues identified in the CIW report is accepted as a proportionate response to recommendations contained in the report.
2. The Action Plan to be monitored after six months through the Healthier Communities Scrutiny Committee for a period of one year to maintain progress and momentum through to completion.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION:

The reasons for the recommendations are to ensure that the appropriate improvements in line with the CIW are made to continue to operate a robust and safe service.

Members agreed to recommend that Cabinet:

1. Agree the draft Action Plan as a proportionate response to recommendations contained in the report, and,
2. Agree that the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee receive an update after six months for a period of one year on action against progress.

Committee Members wish to take the opportunity to thank staff members for their valued contribution, commitment, and hard work which is evident in this inspection report.

Councillor Caryl Roberts
Chairman of the Healthier Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee

CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to:	Cabinet
Date of meeting:	6 June 2023
Title:	CYSUR/CWMPAS Combined Local Operational Group Safeguarding Report Qtr 3 2022/23
Purpose of the report:	To monitor activity on a multi-agency basis of the actions taken to safeguard children and adults within Ceredigion
For:	Information
Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member:	Councillor Alun Williams, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Through Age and Wellbeing

BACKGROUND:

Please see attached CYSUR-CWMPAS Combined Local Operational Group Safeguarding Report for Qtr 3, 2022/23.

These are multi-agency management reports in relation to safeguarding children and adults in Ceredigion during the period 1st October to 31st December 2022. They provide management information on action taken under the Wales Safeguarding Procedures.

The Reports include information provided by other agencies in relation to safeguarding the welfare of children and adults in Ceredigion.

The management information is discussed by members of the CYSUR/CWMPAS Combined (Ceredigion) Local Operations Group in order to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of the safeguarding of children and adults arrangements in Ceredigion and the outcomes achieved

These multi agency meetings provide an opportunity to identify and act upon any performance and other issues within this area of work.

Performance information is also provided to the Mid and West Wales Regional Safeguarding Board which is also an opportunity to analyse performance, trends and issues across the Region.

Summary of Key points:

- In Quarter 3, there was an increase in the overall number of contacts/reports received regarding children/young people compared to Quarter 2-with there being 1112 contacts/reports received in Q3 compared to 1030 contacts/reports received in Q2.

- There was an increase in the overall number of contacts/reports which proceeded to actions needing to be taken under Child Protection Procedures, 193 in Q3 compared with 171 in Q2
- The percentage of reports that proceeded to a Strategy Discussion in this quarter was 17.3% compared to 16.7% in Q2.
- In Q3, 7.3% of reports proceeded to a Section 47 Enquiry compared to 8.3% in Q2. 0.97% of reports received needed to proceed to an Initial Child Protection Conference in quarter 2 compared to 1.6% in this quarter, Quarter 3. So, there was an increase in the number of contacts/reports received in Q3, which then led on to an increase in the number of strategy discussions held and an increase in the number of children who were the subject of Initial Child Protection Conferences.
- The total number of children placed on the Child Protection Register in this quarter following the Initial Child Protection Conference was 31 compared to 16 in Q2.
- The total number of children removed after Review Child Protection Conferences in this quarter were 28 compared to 13 in Quarter 2.
- The total number of Section 47 enquiries undertaken in this quarter were 81 compared to 86 in Quarter 2. 59 of those enquiries were undertaken in this quarter, jointly with the Police and 22 were undertaken as a Social Services Single Agency.
- The main category of abuse that led to a Section 47 enquiry in quarter 3 was Physical Abuse (40), sexual abuse/exploitation (15), neglect (13) and emotional abuse (9). This follows the same pattern experienced in Quarter 2.
- There were 49 children on the Child Protection Register as of the end of this quarter, compared to 46 as at the end of Quarter 2. 29 children were registered under the category of emotional/psychological abuse, in this quarter, 14 under the category of neglect and 6 under the category of both neglect and physical abuse.
- The main Risk Factors for the 49 children who were on the Children Protection Register as of the 31/12/2022, were domestic abuse, parental mental health, parental substance/alcohol misuse and parental separation.
- In terms of Adult Safeguarding, there has been a significant increase in the number of adults suspected of being at risk of abuse and/or neglect, with there being 128 adults at risk reported in this quarter compared to 113 in Q2. In particular there was a significant increase in the number of adults being reported, at risk, in the month of November (67) compared to 53 in October and 37 in December. It is not clear why there was such an increase in this particular month, but the reports relate concerns about domestic abuse.
- The most reported category of abuse this quarter again was emotional/psychological abuse, with 64 reports of adults at risk where this was the main category of abuse. Neglect was the second main category of reported abuse (51), financial abuse (42), physical abuse (33) and sexual abuse (23). This follows the pattern from the previous quarter.
- From the reports received, in relation to all categories of abuse, women are the highest reported to be most at risk, by a significant margin. However, in relation to financial abuse being the number of male and females reported to be at risk are almost equal (20 male, 22 female).
- In Quarter 3, the Police were the highest source of reporting (40) compared to Quarter 2, where it was a Provider Agency (30). In Quarter 3, the reports

received by the Police were significantly higher than any other agency. The second highest being from Provider Agencies (26).

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why

Summary: This report is provided on an ongoing basis and demonstrates the continuing work that is undertaken in relation to safeguarding children and adults in Ceredigion.

Wellbeing of Future Generations:

- Long term:** Balancing short term need with long term planning for the future
- Collaboration:** Working together with other partners to delivery
- Involvement:** Involving those with an interest and seeking their views, stakeholder engagement and consultation
- Prevention:** Putting resources into preventing problems occurring or getting worse
- Integration:** Positively impacting on people, economy, environment and culture and trying to benefit all three

Recommendation(s): To note the contents of the report and the levels of activity with the Local Authority

Reasons for decision: So that governance of the Local Authority activity and its partner agencies are monitored

Overview and Scrutiny: Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee
22.05.23

Policy Framework:

Corporate Well-being Objectives:

Finance and Procurement implications: None

Legal Implications: To ensure compliance with our statutory duties under the Children Act 1989 and the Social Services and Well Being Act 2014; Part 7

Staffing implications: None

Property / asset implications: None

Risk(s): Managing the safeguarding of Children and Adults at Risk

Statutory Powers: The Children's Act 1989 and the Social Services and Well-Being Act 2014

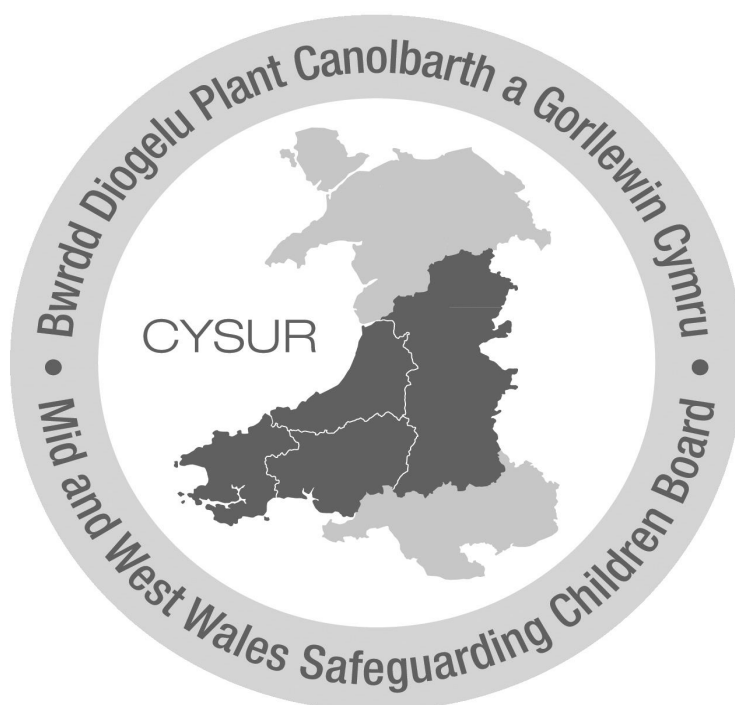
Background Papers: None

Appendices: Appendix 1- CYSUR CWMPs LOCAL OPERATIONAL GROUP Performance Management Report Quarter 3

Corporate Lead Officer: Audrey Somerton-Edwards, Corporate Lead Officer: Porth Cynnal

Reporting Officer: Audrey Somerton-Edwards, Corporate Lead Officer: Porth Cynnal

Date: 6 April 2023



CEREDIGION

CYSUR LOCAL OPERATIONAL GROUP

Performance Management Report

Quarter: 3

1.10.22 – 31.12.22

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SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION:

This is the multi-agency management report in relation to safeguarding children in Ceredigion during the period 1st October to 31st December 2022. It provides performance management information on action taken to safeguard children.

It includes reports from partner agencies relating to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of children in Ceredigion.

The indicators and measures used are defined and reported on locally, regionally and nationally.

This management information is regularly discussed by members of the CYSUR Ceredigion Local Operations Group in order to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding children arrangements in Ceredigion and the outcomes achieved.

Any comments or queries regarding the report should be addressed to:

Elizabeth Upcott
Rheolwr Corfforaethol Diogelu
Safeguarding Corporate Manager,
Elizabeth.Upcott@ceredigion.gov.uk
01545 574212

SECTION 2: Headline and Comparative Data

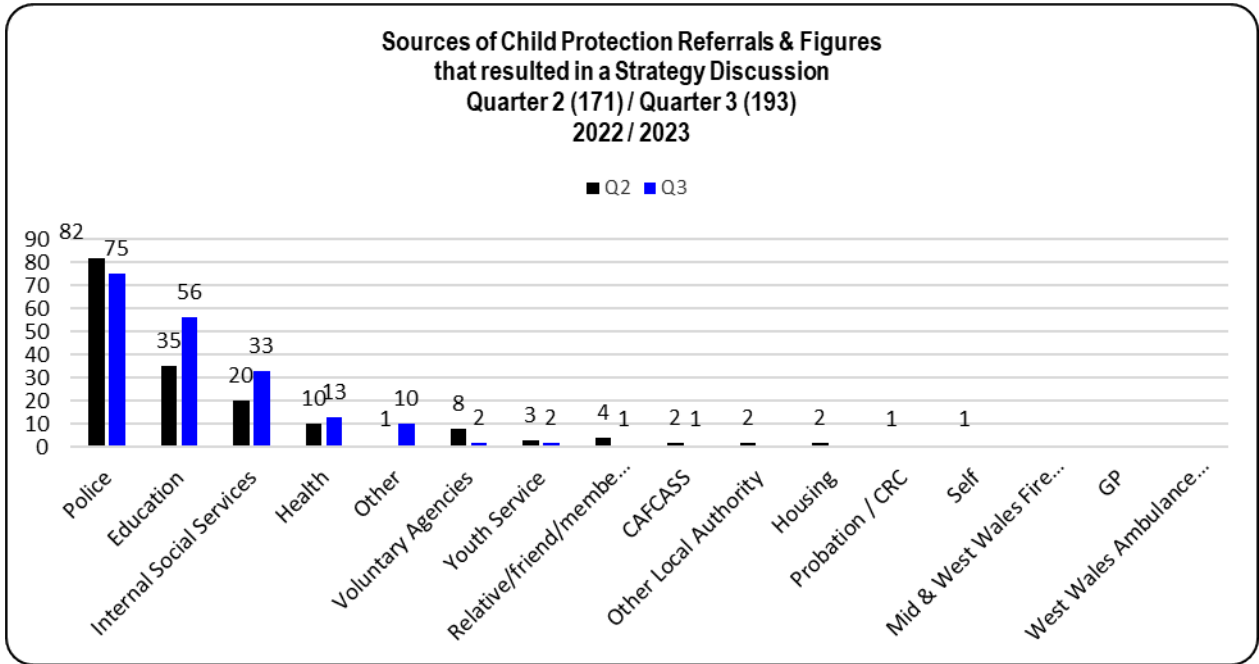
Referral Outcomes	Oct-Dec 2022	July-Sept 2022	April-June 2022	Jan-Mar 2022	Oct-Dec 2021
Reports/Referrals leading to Child Protection Strategy Discussions / Meetings	193	171	221	154	122
Initial CP Conferences					
Number of Initial CP Conferences (excluding transfer and pre-birth conferences)	16	7	5	8	4
Number of Initial Pre-Birth CP Conferences	1	2	4	2	-
Number of Transfer CP Conferences	1	1	-	-	-
Pre-Birth Transfer CP Conference	-	-	-	-	-
Total number of Initial CP Conferences (including transfer and pre-birth Conferences)	18	10	9	10	4
Total number of children subject to Initial/Pre-birth/Transfer Conferences	35	21	13	21	8
CP Register					
Number of children's names placed on the CP Register (excluding pre-birth and transfer conferences)	30	14	8	19	6
Number of children's names to be placed on the CP Register at birth	1	2	4	2	-
Number of children's names placed on the CP Register after transfer from other Local Authorities	-	-	-	-	-
No. of children's names to be placed on the CP Register at birth after transfer from other Local Authorities	-	-	-	-	-
Total number of children's names placed on the CP Register following Initial Conferences	31	16	12	21	6
Total number of children's names not placed on the CP Register	4	5	1	-	2
Review CP Conferences					
Number of Review CP Conferences	17	16	19	13	13
Number of Review Pre-Birth CP Conferences	-	-	-	-	-
Total Number of Review CP Conferences (inc Pre-Birth)	17	16	19	13	13
Number of children subject to Review CP Conferences	39	26	43	23	34
Number of children's names to be placed on the CP Register at birth	-	-	-	-	-
Total number of children subject to Review/Pre-birth Conferences	39	26	43	23	34
Total number of children remaining on CP Register	11	13	29	11	19
Total number of children removed from the CP Register	28	13	14	12	15

Analysis:

There was an increase in the number of referrals that lead to action taken under Wales Safeguarding Procedures during this quarter.

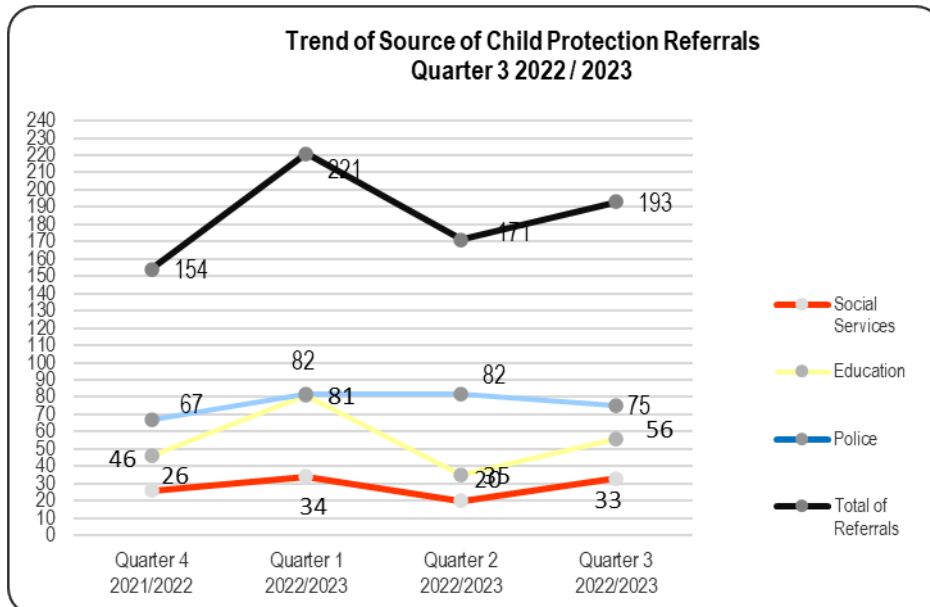
The percentage of children discussed at review conferences and who were deregistered was 74%.

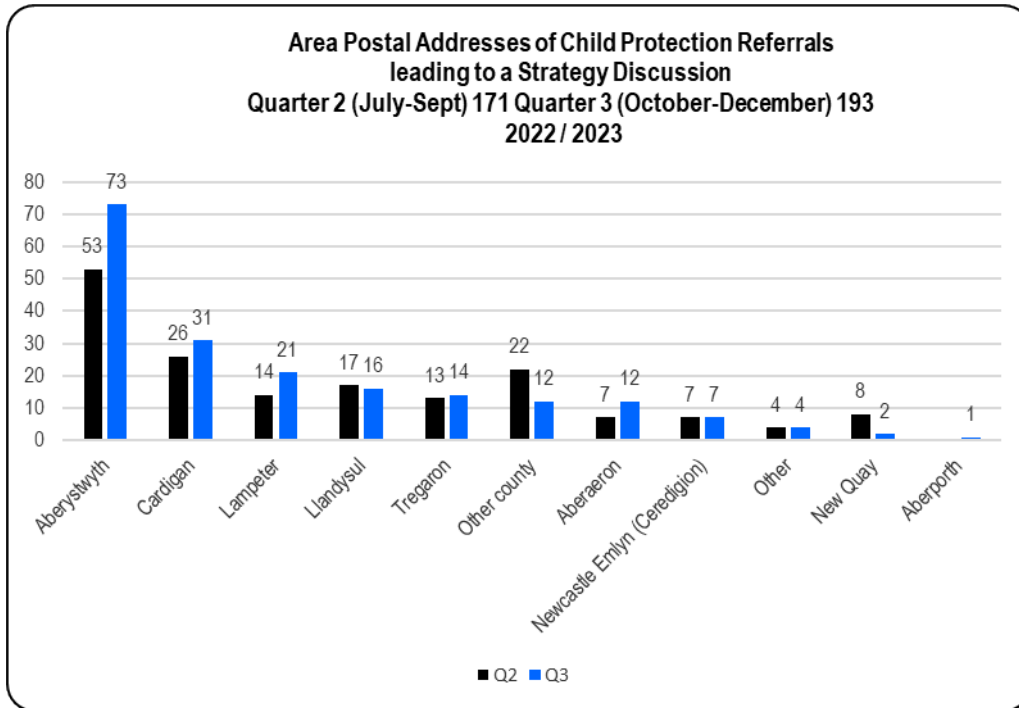
SECTION 3: Child Protection Reports and Referrals:



Analysis:

The Police remained as the largest source of referrals during the quarter; the schools' rate has continued to increase.





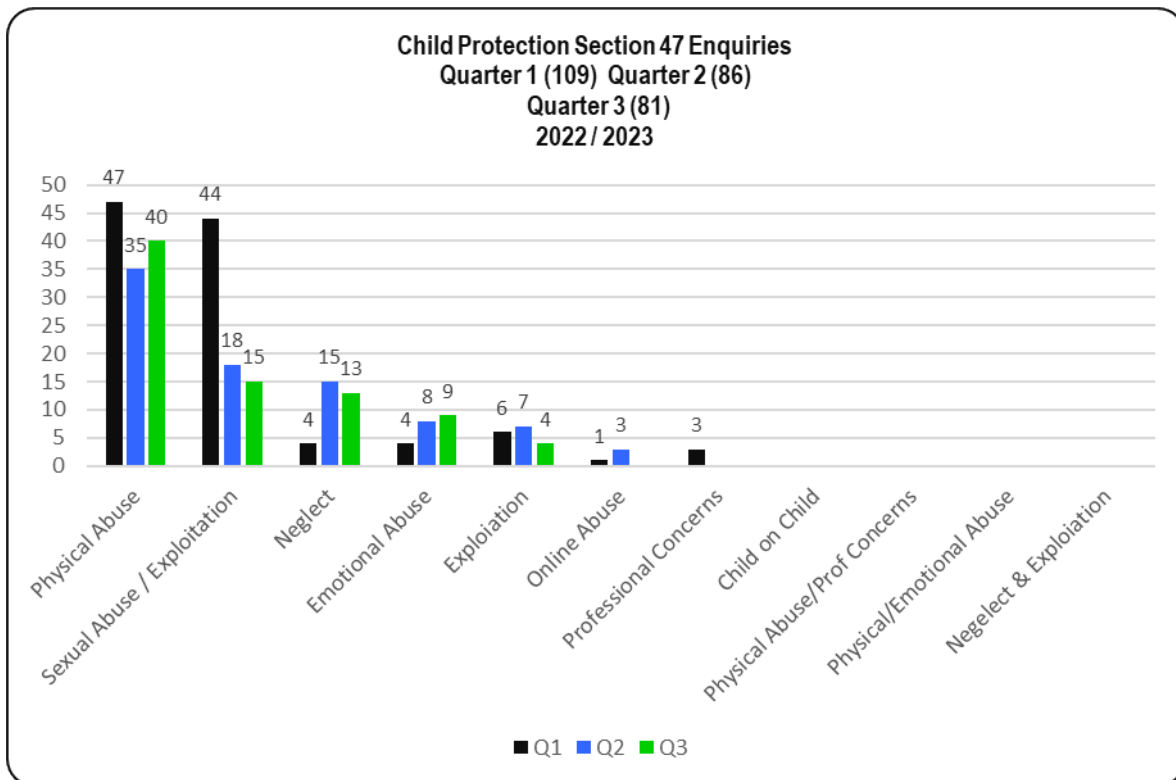
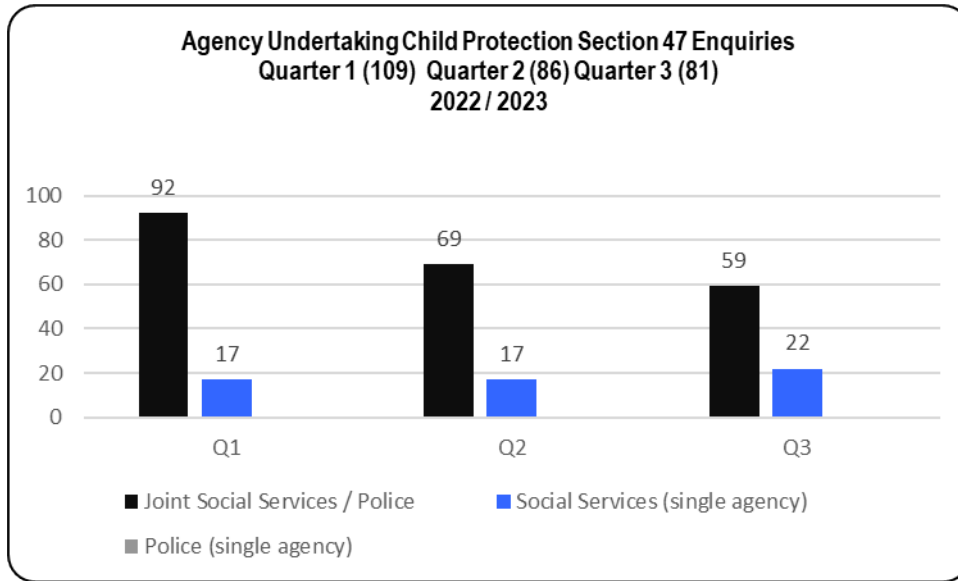
Analysis:

Aberystwyth is consistently the area of the greatest number of referrals

% Breakdown of Safeguarding Activity			
Quarter 3 2022 / 2023 (1 October – 31 December)			
Number of all Initial Contacts re Children information.			
Contact/Referrals 1112	Strategy Discussions 17.3%	Section 47 Enquiries 7.3%	Initial Child Protection Conferences 1.6%

In Quarter 2, there were 1030 contacts/referrals, of those, 16.7% went to a Strategy Discussion, 8.3% went to a Section 47 Enquiry, and 0.97% went on to an Initial Child Protection Conference.

SECTION 4: Child Protection Section 47 Enquiries



Analysis:

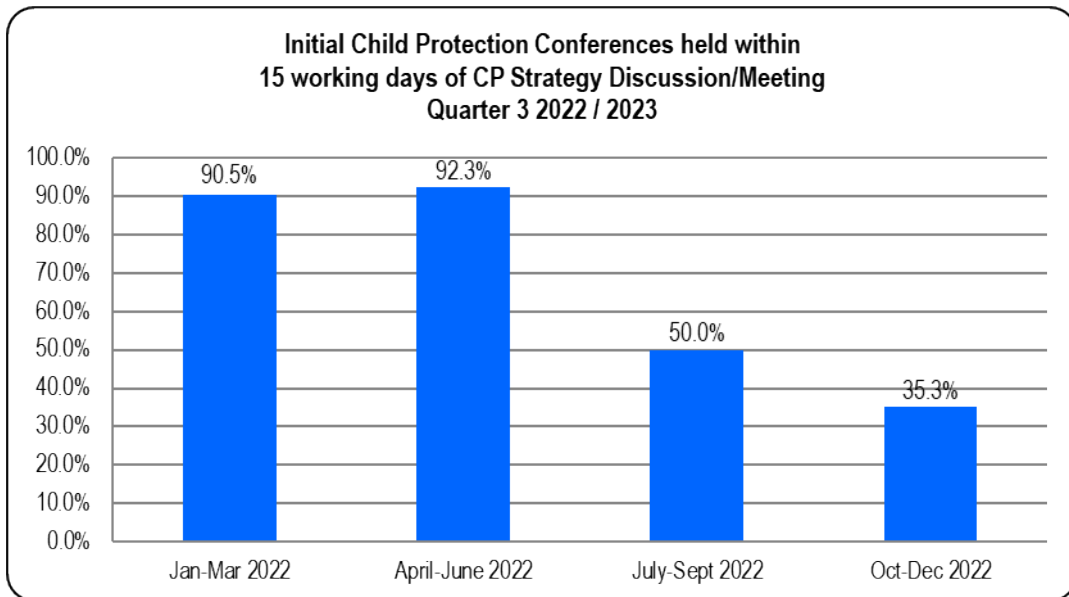
The main concerns that led to completing child protection enquiries in quarter 3 were allegations of physical abuse and sexual abuse/exploitation. The majority of enquiries were carried out jointly by Police and Children Services.

SECTION 5: Child Protection Conferences

This table contains breakdown figures in relation to Outcomes of Initial Child Protection Conferences					
Total Number of Initial CPCs	No. of children	No. of unborn	No. of families	Number of children placed on CPR incl. unborn and transferred	No. of children with Child in Need of Care and Support Plan if not registered
18	34	1	18	31	2

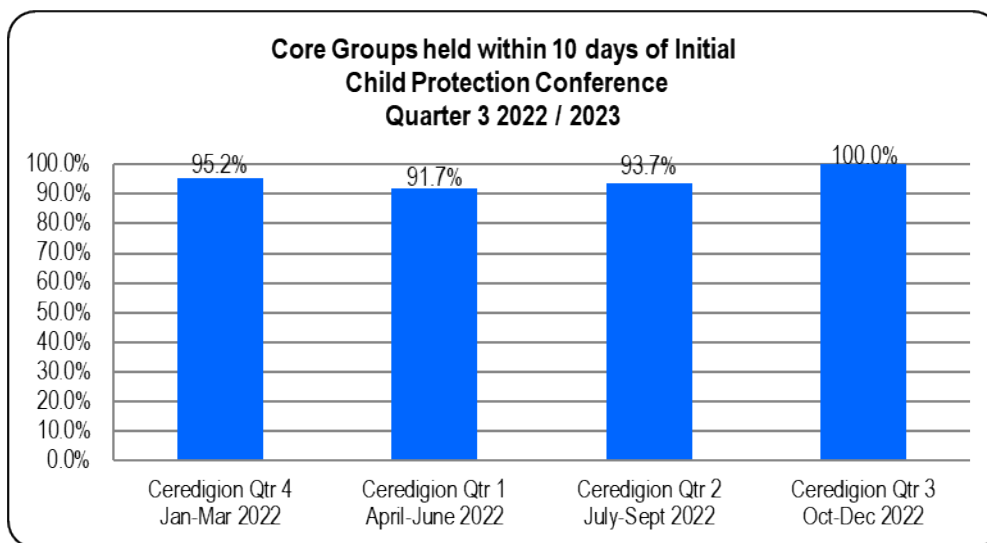
Initial Child Protection Conferences in timescale

35.3% of Initial Child Protection Conferences were recorded to have taken place within 15 working days of the Strategy Discussion/Meeting. The low percentage completed in time was due to the unavailability of staff for 7 families consisting of 19 children, for another family of 2 siblings it was due to the fact that a disclosure needed to be shared with a parent and for the other family with 1 child it was due to dad’s availability. It is important to note that in most cases, initial and Review Case Conferences are being held virtually via Microsoft Teams. Both parents and children have been able to participate in the meetings.



Child Protection Core Group Meetings in timescale:

100.0% of Child Protection Core Group Meetings were recorded to have taken place within 10 working days of the Initial CP Conference.



This table contains breakdown figures in relation to the outcomes of Review Child Protection Conferences:

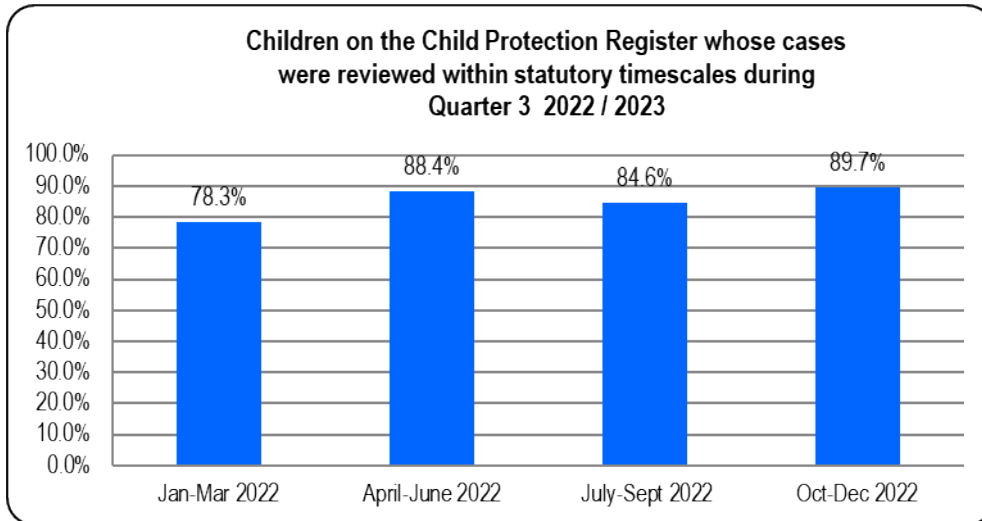
Total No. of Review CPCs	No. of children	No. of Unborn	No. of families	No. of names of children remaining on CP Register	No. of names of children removed from CP Register	No. of children with Child in Need of Care and Support Plan following de-registration
17	39	-	16	11	28	14

Outcomes of Reviews:

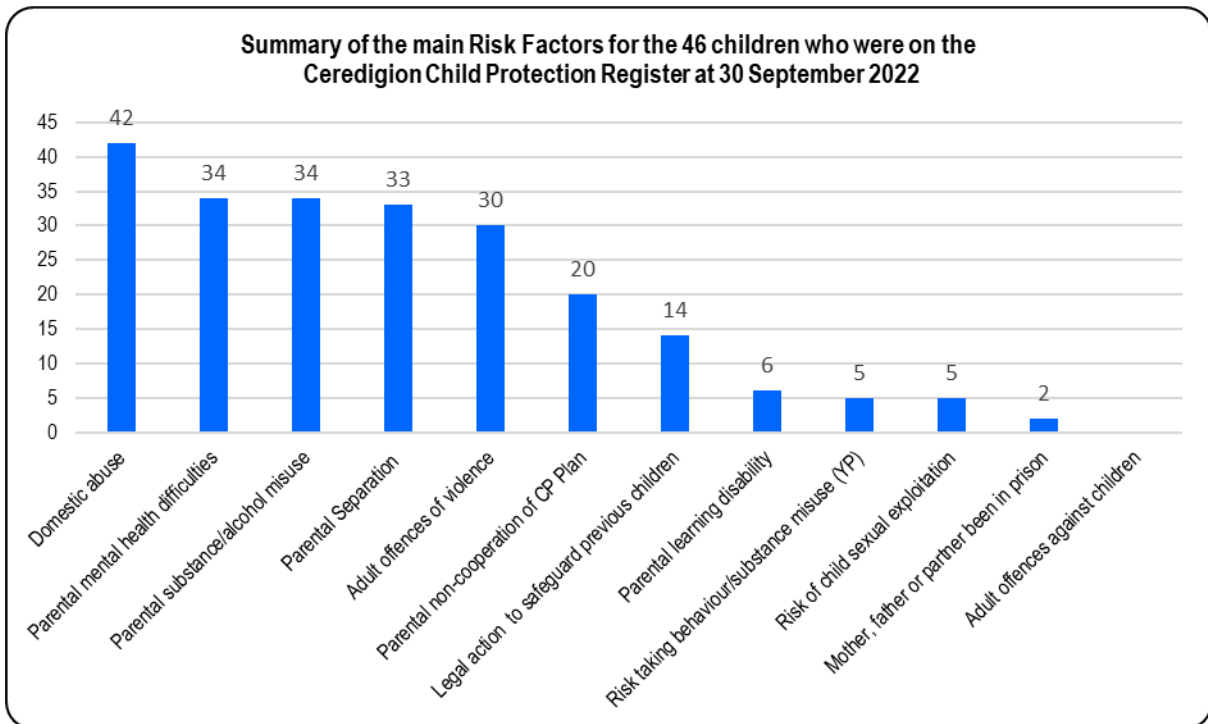
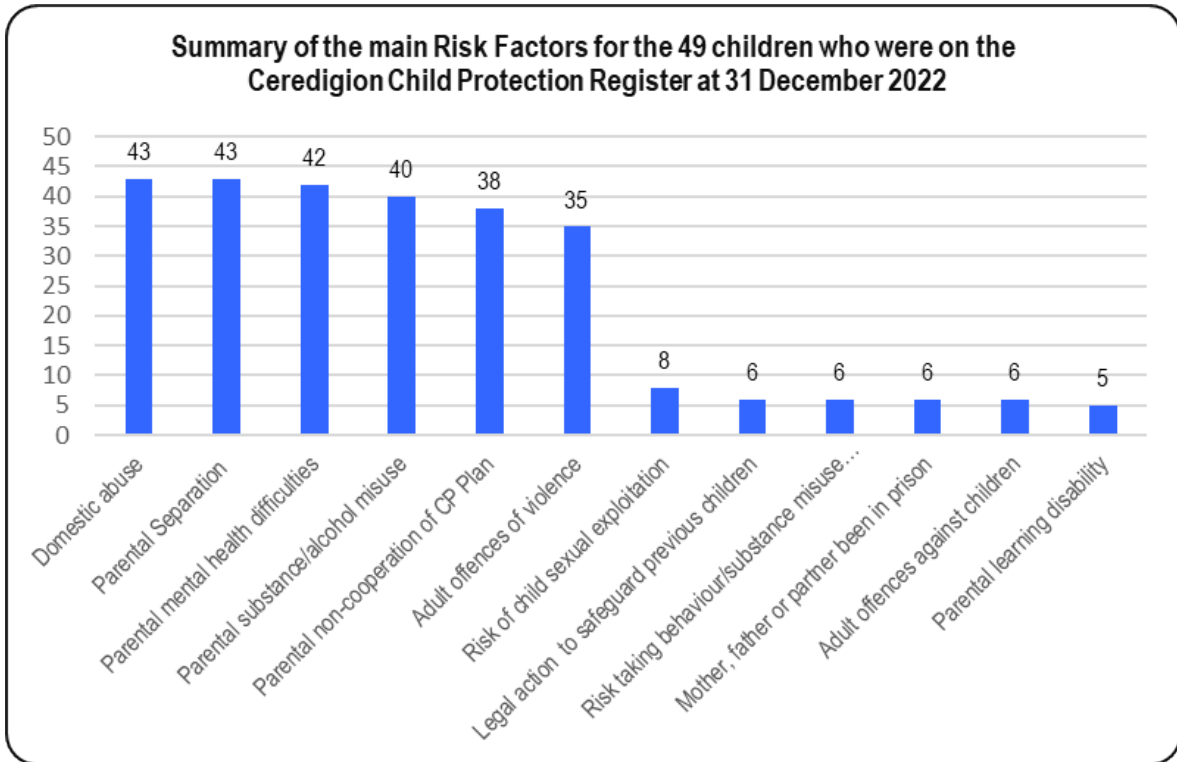
Of the 28 children who were de-registered, 14 were in receipt of further intervention on a Child in Need of Care and Support Plan with the other 14 children becoming Looked After Children.

Review Child Protection Conferences in Timescales:

89.7% of Review Child Protection Conferences were recorded to have taken place within timescales. The reason for the delays in holding conferences in time for 1 family of 2 siblings was due to staff availability and for a further family of 2 siblings the conference was delayed due to the availability of the parent.



Participation of parents and children in Child Protection Conferences						
*Comparative data for Quarter 2 in brackets						
*Social Worker report to parents 24 hours before CPC	*CP Chair met with family before CPC	*CP Chair met with child before CPC	*Family member present at CPC	*Children's views represented at CPC who did not attend (5 -18 yrs.)	*Children attendance at CPC (Over 11 yrs.)	*Children Who have allocated Advocate / Tros Gynnal.
100% (100%)	85% (79%)	100%(100%)	84% (91%)	89% (93%)	4% (14%)	22% (33%)

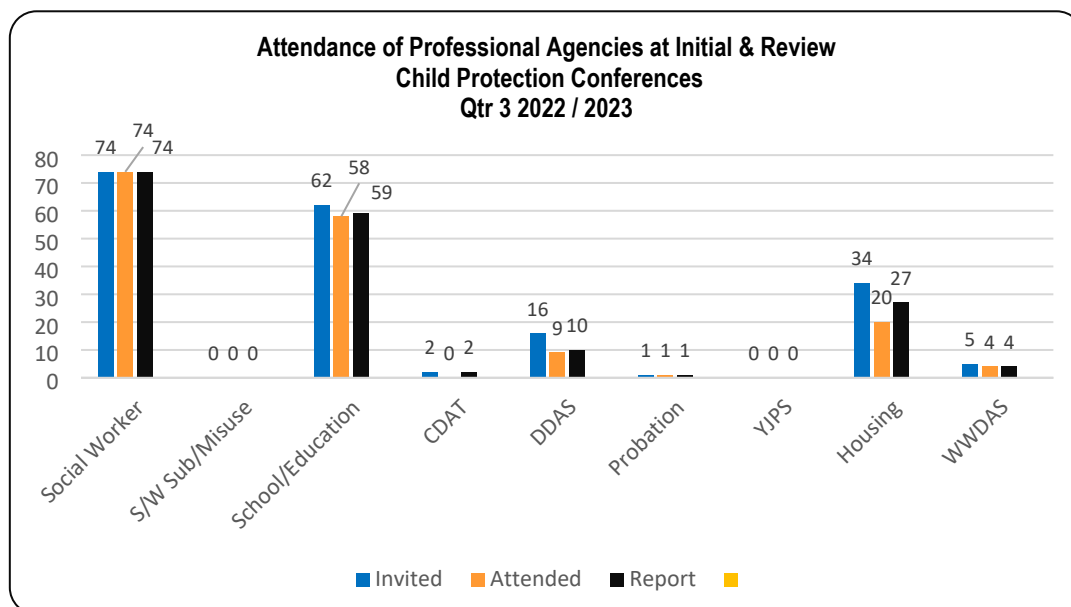


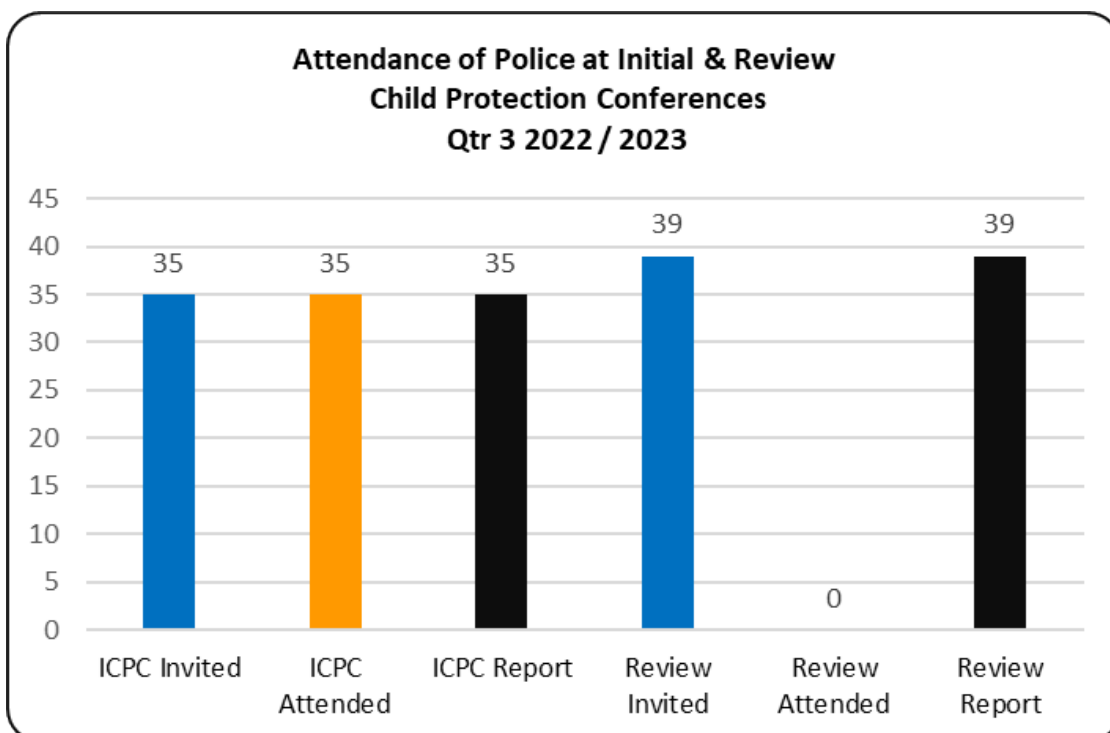
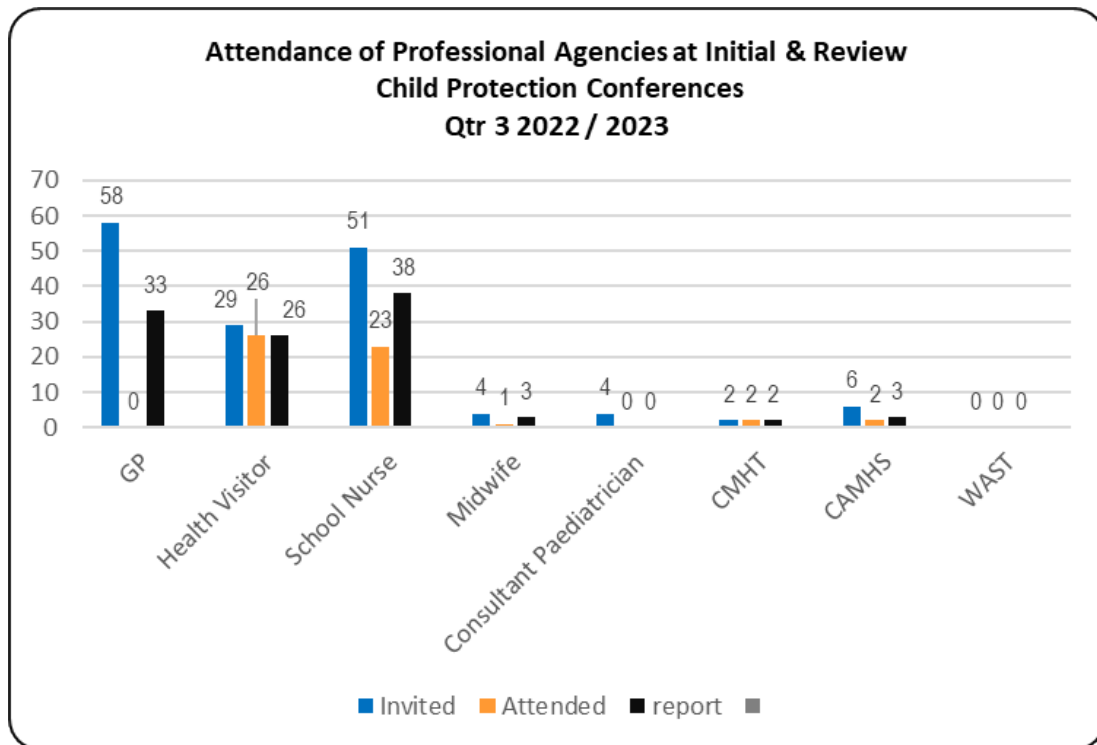
The Toxic Three Risk Factors for the 49 children who were on the Ceredigion Child Protection Register at 31 December 2022		
Number of children subject to a Care and Support Protection Plan where all of the Three Toxic Risk Factors feature (Domestic Abuse, Parental Substance Misuse and Parental Mental Health)	35	71.4%
Number of children subject to a Care and Support Protection Plan where Parental Separation <i>or / and</i> Incarceration feature (ACE)	44	89.8%
Number of children subject to a Care and Support Protection Plan where all five ACE (Domestic Abuse, Parental Substance Misuse, Parental Mental Health, Parental Separation and Incarceration)	5	10.2%

Analysis:

The main risk factors recorded were domestic abuse, parental separation, parental mental health difficulties and parental substance/alcohol misuse.

Agency Attendance at Conferences:





The attendance of agencies at CPCs is illustrated in the charts above. An average of 6 agencies' staff members were invited to each CPC and an average of 3 attended. There was an average of 5 written reports available at each CPC.

1 (1%) Child's CPC recommended that a Family Group meeting be convened.
70 (95%) Children's registration decisions were unanimous; with 4 (5%) children's registration a majority decision.
1 (1%) Children's CPCs reported that there was dissent regarding the safety of the CP Plan for safeguarding the welfare of a child on the CP Register.
9 (12%) Children were identified as a young carer.
It was identified for 12 (17%) Children that there was a shortfall in information regarding the mother's partner.
A moderate/severe learning disability was identified for 7 (9%) young persons; with 3 (4%) young persons reported as having an Individual Development Plan.
0 (0%) Children were reported to have a physical/sensory disability, with behaviour problems identified for 12 (16%) young persons.
3 (4%) Children were recognised as having speech/language difficulties; with 5 (8%) Young persons reported to have been excluded from school.

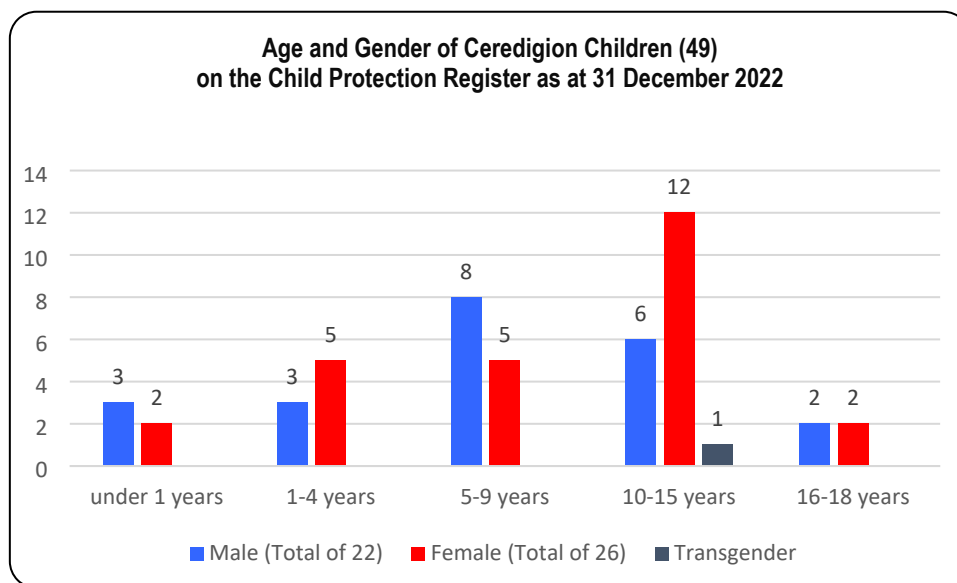
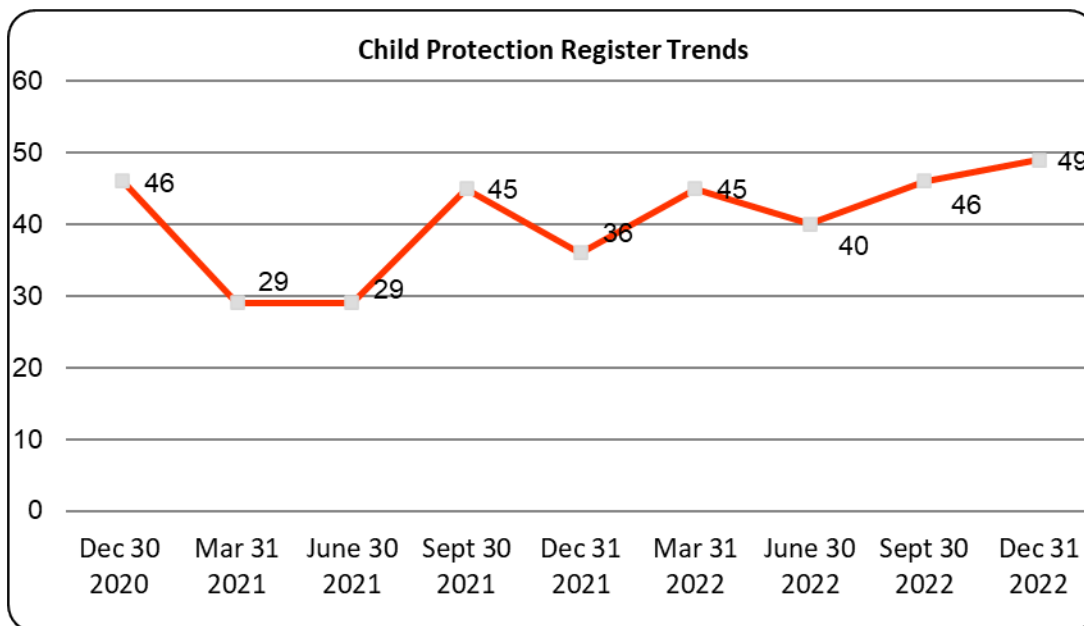
CHILD AND FAMILY FEEDBACK

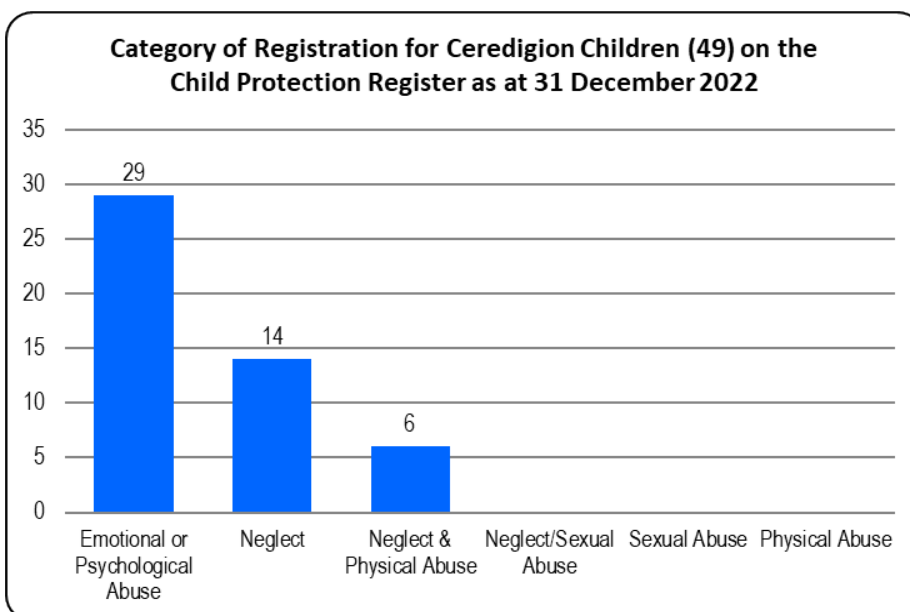
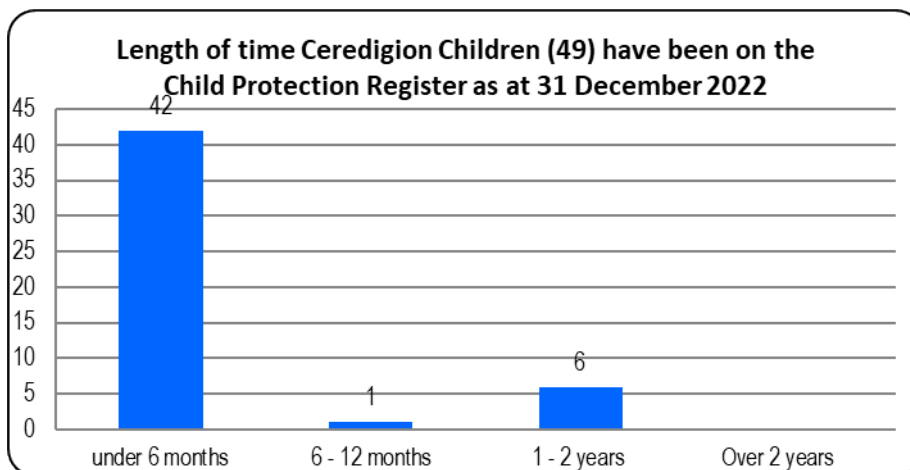
The previous system for attaining Child and Family feedback following their attendance at a Child Protection Conference has not been possible since the start of the Pandemic in March 2020 due to the fact that most Conferences are held virtually. However, since the beginning of April 2022, Evaluation Questionnaires have been sent to families following their attendance at a Child Protection Conference to gain their views and feedback.

CHILD AND FAMILY FEEDBACK						
Evaluation questionnaires were provided to children/young people (of appropriate age/level of understanding), parents and carers who attended CP Conferences during the quarter. A total of 46 questionnaires were circulated and 3 (6.5%) were completed. The following table provides a summary of the responses.						
Was the venue and time of the Conference				Did you feel prepared to attend the Conference?		
	Very suitable	OK	Not suitable	Yes	Not sure	Not at all
Children	0	0	1	1	0	0
Parents	1	0	1	2	0	0
Carers	0	0	0	0	0	0
Family Members	0	0	0	0	0	0
Were you able to say what you wanted				Did you feel your views were taken into account		
	Yes	Not enough	No	Yes	Some	Not at all
Children	0	0	1	0	0	1
Parents	1	0	1	1	0	1
Carers	0	0	0	0	0	0
/Family Members	0	0	0	0	0	0
Is there anything that you would like to say that might help us to improve the process?				Action taken by Quality Assurance & Independent Service to address any concerns		
Child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I would like to speak on my behalf 					
Parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our child wasn't allowed to attend and we were discouraged from having support. No I believe everything went smoothly & I would like to thank everyone who has been involved. 					
Carers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 					
Extended Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 					

This process will continue until such time that Child Protection Conferences take place on a face-to-face basis.

SECTION 6: Child Protection Register





WG Measure 28 - The average length of time for all children who were on the Child Protection Register:		
This Measure asks for the average length of time in calendar days on the register for all children who were de-registered during the quarter	Oct-Dec	230.7

WG Measure 27 – The number of re-registrations of children on Local Authority Child Protection Registers within the year								
Initial Conferences	Oct-Dec 2022	July-Sept 2022	April-June 2022	Jan-Mar 2022	Oct-Dec 2021	July-Sept 2021	April-June 2021	Jan-Mar 2021
Number of Children previously on the register and deregistered within last 12 months	5	0	0	0	0	9	0	0

ADRAN SECTION 7: Cyfarfodydd Strategaeth Amddiffyn Plant Ganllawiau Amddiffyn Plant Cymru Gyfan / Child Protection Strategy Meetings of the All Wales Child Protection Procedures

Category of Child Protection Strategy Meeting	Total number of cases	Total number of meetings
Risk of child exploitation	16	26
Concerns regarding neglect	7	11
Concerns regarding sexual abuse	4	5
Concerns regarding physical abuse	3	9
Concerns regarding sexually harmful behaviour	2	2
Concerns regarding a young person going missing	6	9
Concerns regarding possible fabricated illness	1	2
Concerns regarding possible non accidental injury	1	1
Concerns regarding a person in contact with children through their work	10	10
Total number of meetings		75
Total number of cases discussed in this quarter	50	

ADRAN/SECTION 8: Ecsbloetio Rhywiol Plant Cyfarfodydd Rheoli Aml Asiantaethol / Multi Agency Child Exploitation Management Meetings

New Case / Review	Exit / Remain in MACE	Male / Female	Age	At home / in care	CPR	Date of meeting	Agency Attendance
Review	Remain	F	16	H	Yes	24.10.22 15.11.22 21.12.22	Safeguarding, Police, Education, Planned Care, YJS, Health, PCC, CAFCASS, IFSS
Review	Remain	F	14	H	Yes	13.10.22 08.11.22	Safeguarding, Police, Education, Planned Care, Health, PCC, CAMHS
Review	Remain	M	10	H	Yes	05.10.22 27.10.22	Safeguarding, Police, Education, PCC, YJS
Review	Remain	M	17	H	No	05.10.22 19.10.22 01.11.22	Safeguarding, Police, Education, YJS, CAMHS, Substance Misuse
New	Remain	M	15	H	No	06.12.22	Safeguarding, Police, Education, Planned Care, YJS, Health, PCC, Barod
New	Remain	M	17	H	No	06.12.22	Safeguarding, Police, Education, Planned Care, YJS, PCC
Review	Exit	F	14	H	Yes	24.10.22 15.11.22 21.11.22	Safeguarding, Police, Education, Planned Care, YJS, Health, PCC, CAFCASS, IFSS
Review	Exit	F	13	H	No	04.10.22	Safeguarding, Police, Education, Planned Care, YJS, TAF, PCC

SECTION 9: : Police Marac Report

Monthly Data Returns October 2022

Overall number of cases met MARAC criteria	295
Number of cases reviewed and resulted at MRE (MARAC Repeat/Escalation) review stage.	173 reviewed 114 resulted
Overall number of cases dealt with at Daily Discussion.	179 discussed 173 resulted
Cases through to MARAC	7
Percentage of cases	38.64% resulted at MRE 58.64% resulted at DD 2.37% resulted at MARAC
Divisional breakdown of case numbers	Carmarthenshire – 121 Ceredigion – 38 Pembrokeshire – 85 Powys - 51
No of children in the household	Carmarthenshire – 108 Ceredigion – 25 Pembrokeshire – 125 Powys – 36 kids

	Resulted at MRE	Resulted at DD	MARAC	Time Saved going to MARAC (*average 10min a case)	
Carmarthenshire	46	71	4		
Pembrokeshire	14	23	1		
Ceredigion	35	48	2		
Powys	19	31	0		

Monthly Data Returns November

Overall number of cases met MARAC criteria	317
Number of cases reviewed and resulted at MRE (MARAC Repeat/Escalation) review stage.	163 reviewed 108 resulted
Overall number of cases dealt with at Daily Discussion.	209 discussed 198 resulted
Cases through to MARAC	11
Percentage of cases	34.06% resulted at MRE 62.46% resulted at DD 3.47% resulted at MARAC
Divisional breakdown of case numbers	Carms – 134 Cered - 35 Pembs – 83 Powys - 65
No of children in the household	Carms – 147 Cered – 28 Pembs – 83 Powys - 67

	Resulted at MRE	Resulted at DD	MARAC	Time Saved going to MARAC (*average 10min a case)	
Carmarthenshire	46	82	6		
Pembrokeshire	35	48	0		
Ceredigion	8	26	1		
Powys	18	43	4		

Monthly Data Returns DECEMBER 2022

Overall number of cases met MARAC criteria	260
Number of cases reviewed and resulted at MRE (MARAC Repeat/Escalation) review stage.	142 discussed 100 resulted
Overall number of cases dealt with at Daily Discussion.	184 discussed 167 resulted
Cases through to MARAC	16
Percentage of cases	38.46% resulted at MRE 64.23% resulted at DD 6.15% resulted at MARAC
Divisional breakdown of case numbers	Carms – 93 Cered – 45 Pembs – 60 Powys -65
No of children in the household	Carms – 115 Cered – 44 Pembs – 65 Powys - 43

	Resulted at MRE	Resulted at DD	MARAC	Time Saved going to MARAC (*average 10min a case)
Carmarthenshire	38	47	8	
Pembrokeshire	27	31	2	
Ceredigion	12	31	2	
Powys	23	37	5	

SECTION 10: Learning Services

ADRODDIAD LOG GWASANAETHAU YSGOLION

HYFFORDDIANT / TRAINING

Mae hyfforddiant Diogelu ac Amddiffyn Plant lefel 1 ar rhaglen e-ddysgu yn unig, dyma'r nifer o staff sydd wedi cwblhau yr hyfforddiant hyn drwy cyfnod chwarter 3. Yn ogystal, mae'r niferoedd o staff sydd wedi cwblhau lefel 2 Amddiffyn Plant yn rhithiol hefyd wedi ei ychwanegu yn ystod y cyfnod hwn.

Level 1 Safeguarding and Child Protection training is only available as an e-learning programme, below is the number of staff who have completed the training during the quarter 3 period. In addition, the number of staff who have completed the level 2 Child Protection training virtually during this period, is also noted below.

Lefel 1 / Level 1	219 mewnol / internal 61 allanol / external
Lefel 2 / Level 2	43 mewnol / internal 19 allanol / external

VAWDASV

Mae yna 377 o staff mewnol a 30 o staff allanol wedi cwblhau hyfforddiant VAWDASV ar-lein yng nghyfnod chwarter 3.

377 internal staff and 30 external staff have completed the online VAWDASV training during the quarter 2 period.

ADDYSG DDEWISOL GARTREF / ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION

Nifer o blant yr ydych yn ymwybodol ohonynt sydd yn cael eu haddysgu'n ddewisol gartref / <i>Number of children that you are aware of that are Electively Home Educated (EHE)</i>	Nifer o blant EHE sy'n hysbys i'r Awdurdod Lleol sydd wedi cael cynnig ymweliad blynyddol yn ystod y 12 mis diwethaf / <i>Number of EHE children known to the Local Authority that have been offered an annual visit in the last 12 months</i>	Canlyniad / <i>Outcome</i>
229	262	Declined – 27 DNA'd – 14 Child seen – 78 Child not seen – 7 School Attendance Order Letter sent - 1

The number of visits offered, is higher than the number of children Electively Home Educated, this is due to the year 11 pupils leaving at the end of June 2022.

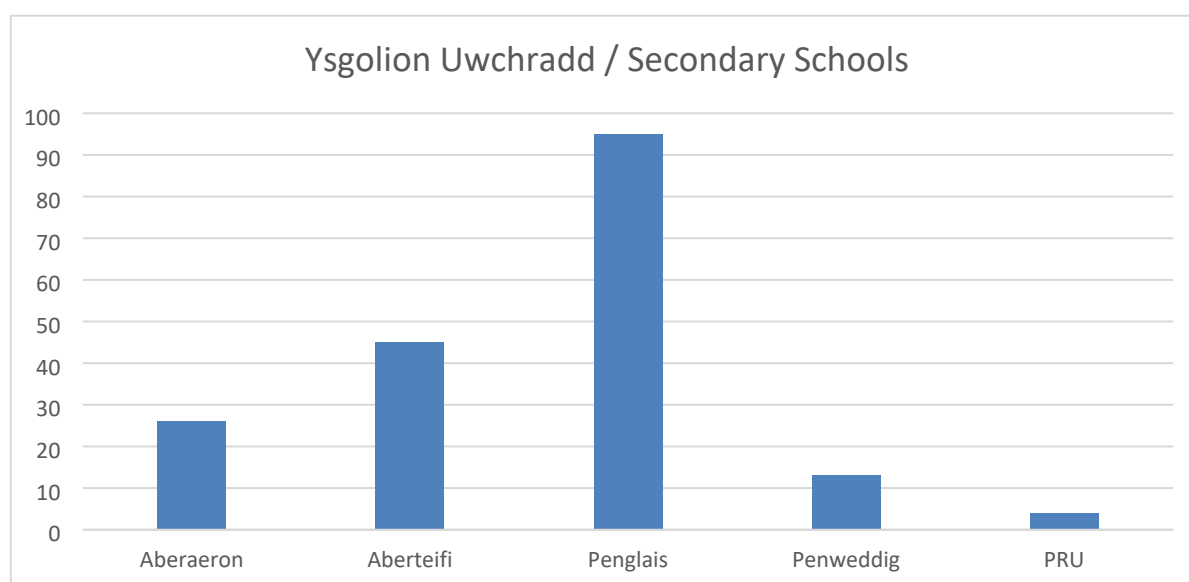
PLANT MEWN GOFAL / LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

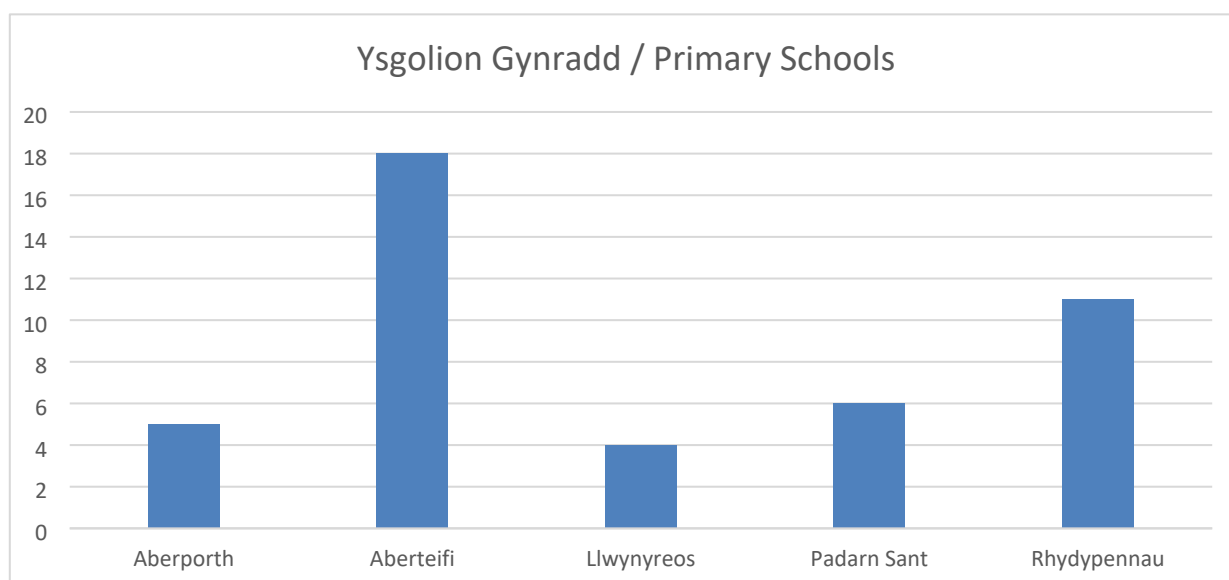
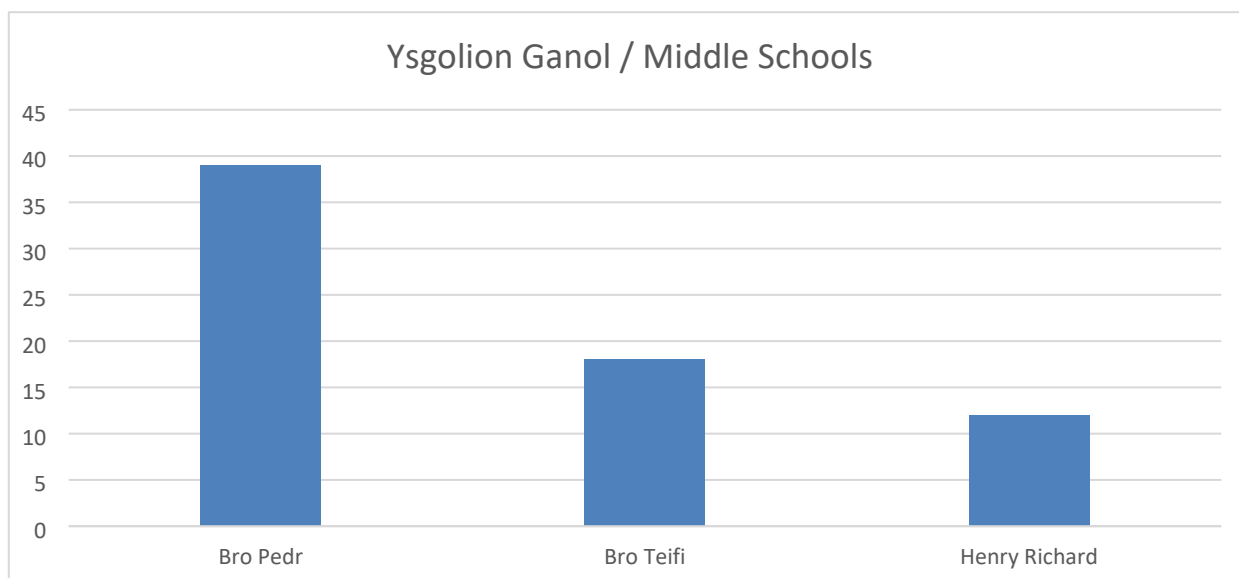
Plant mewn gofal yng Ngheredigion o oedran ysgol statudol / Looked after children in Ceredigion of statutory school age	Hydref/October: 46(2 moved out of county during the month) Tachwedd/ November: 49 (1 returned to Ceredigion) Rhagfyr/December: 49
Plant mewn gofal allan o'r Sir o oedran ysgol statudol / Looked after children placed out of County of statutory school age	Hydref/October: 35 (2 left during the month from Ceredigion) Tachwedd/ November: 35(1 returned to Ceredigion during the month) Rhagfyr/December:34
Plant mewn gofal o Siroedd eraill o oedran ysgol statudol / Looked after children from other Local Authorities of statutory school age	Hydref/October: 26 Tachwedd/November: 26 Rhagfyr/ December: 25

CYSWLLT YSGOLION / SCHOOL CONTACTS

Gweler isod, y rhifau a natur y cyswllt a dderbyniwyd o ysgolion / sefydliadau dysgu yn ystod chwarter 3.

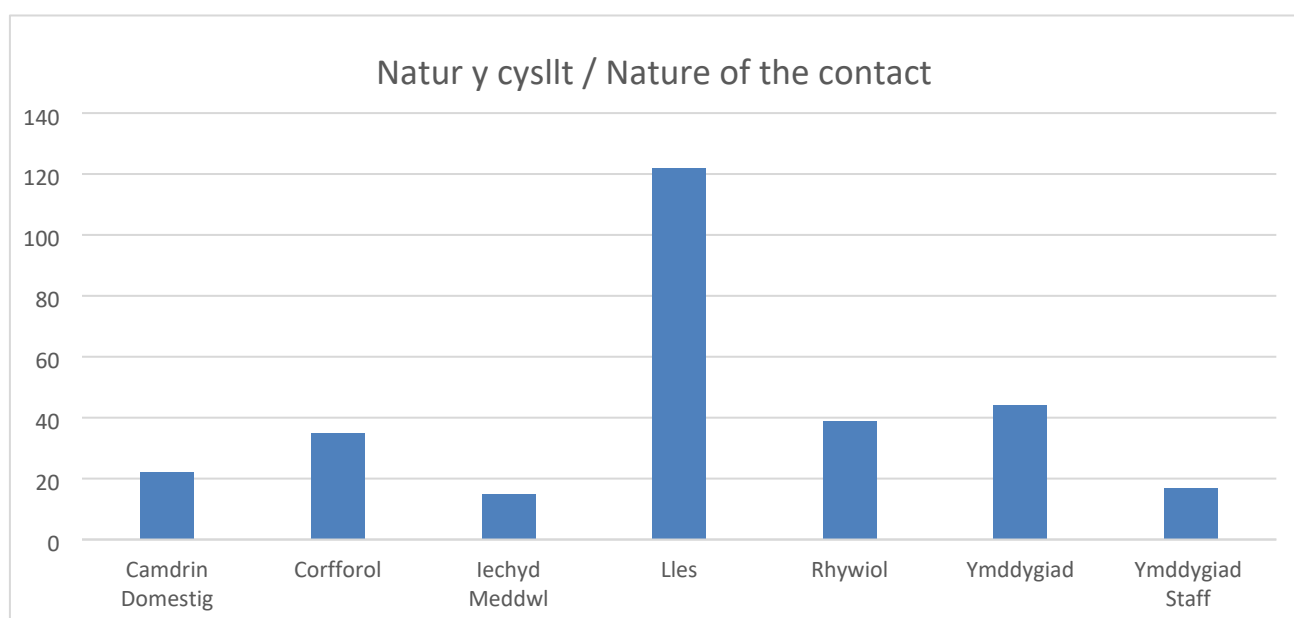
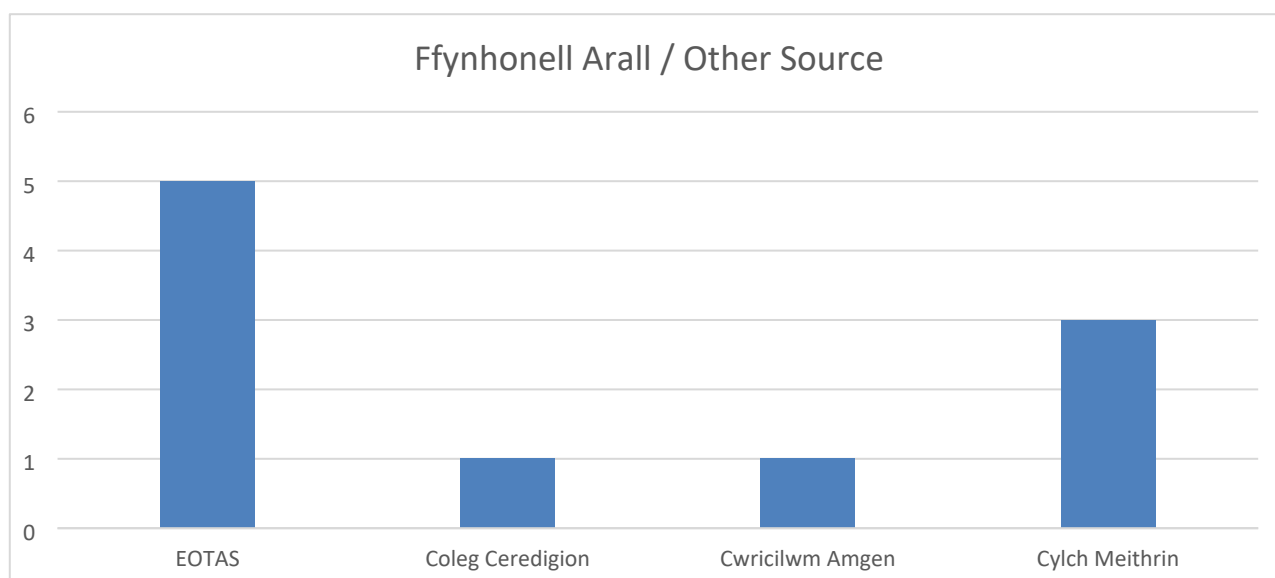
Please see below the number of contacts received from schools/learning establishments and their nature, during the period of quarter 3.





I nodi, fe wnaeth 22 o'r Ysgolion Cynradd gwneud cyswllt yn ystod chwarter 3. Oherwydd y rhif uchel hyn, nid oedd modd cynnwys pob Ysgol ar y dabl, felly wedi cynnwys yn yr uchod, y rhai wnaeth gysylltu pedwar gwaith neu mwy drwy gydol y cyfnod.

To note, 22 Primary Schools made contact during quarter 3. Due to this large figure, it wasn't possible to capture all on one table. Therefore the above only highlights the Schools who made contact on four or more occasions during the period.



Oherwydd fod niferoedd fawr o rhesymau cyswllt, maen't wedi crynhoi mewn l'r grwpiau isod, er mwyn medru darllen yn fwy glir ar y siart. Yn yr adroddiad yma, dwi wedi ffocysu ar y prif pryderon, er mwyn medru ei cymharu efo'r chwarter un blwyddyn diwethaf.

Due to the large amount of reasons given for contact, some have been grouped together as noted below, in order for the information to be presented more clearly on the chart. In this particular report, I have highlighted the main concerns raised, in order to compare with quarter 1 from last year.

Lles / Wellbeing	Gan gynnwys plant ar goll, presenoldeb, tor perthynas, galar, gofalwyr ifanc, cyswllt cyfnod clo, materion cyswllt rhwng rhieni / <i>Which also includes missings, attendance, relationship breakdown, young carers, contact difficulties during lockdown, contact issues between parents.</i>
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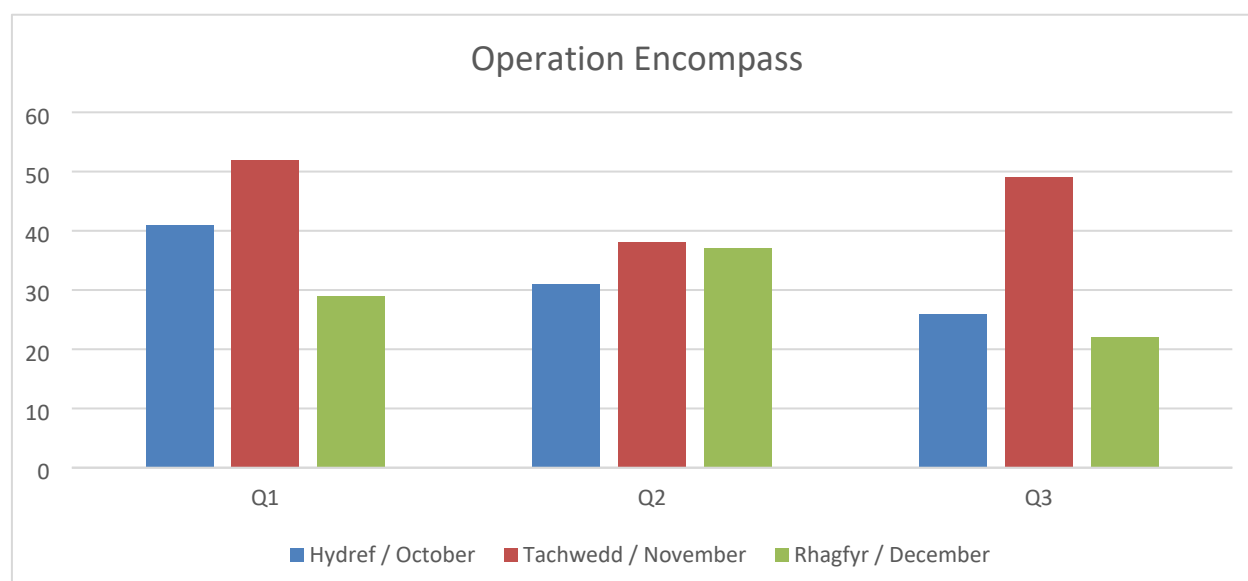
Rhywiol / <i>Sexual</i>	Gan gynnwys perthnasau amhriodol ag egsbloetio plant yn rhywiol / <i>Which also includes inappropriate relationships and Child Sexual Exploitation.</i>
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I nodi, gafodd 59 o ddisgyblion ei gwahardd o ysgolion uwchradd Ceredigion yn ystod cwarter 3, a hynny o gyfanswm 173.5 diwrnod. (Y rhif yma yn cynydd o cwarter 2, ble gafodd 39 plentyn ei gwahardd am 82 diwrnod). Y rhesymau sydd wedi cofnodi am y gwaharddiadau yma, fel y ganlyn; Ymddygiad Heriol, Bwlian, Difrod, Sylweddau a Chyffuriau, Ymosodiad Corfforol ar Disgybl ag yn erbyn Oedolyn, Ymddygiad Hilliol, Ymddygiad Bygythiol, ag arall.

Yn ogystal a hyn, fe dderbyniwyd 119 o gyfeiriadau ar gyfer cefnogaeth ataliol drwy Porth Cymorth Cynnar yn ystod y cwarter (nid yw'r ffigwr yma yn cynnwys cyfeiriadau TAF).

To note, a total of 59 pupils were excluded from Ceredigion Secondary Schools during quarter 3, for a total of 173.5 days. (These figures being significantly higher than quarter 2, whereby 39 pupils were excluded for a total of 82 days). The reasons noted for exclusions have been recorded as: Persistent Disruptive Behaviour, Bullying, Damage, Substance and Alcohol Related, Physical Assaults against Pupils and Adults, Racist Abuse, Verbal Abuse, Other.

In addition to this, Porth Cymorth Cynnar received 119 referrals for Support and Prevention during this time not including TAF referrals.



SECTION 11: HEALTH



Hywel Dda University Health Board Safeguarding Report to the Local Operational Groups

Qtr 3 2022/23

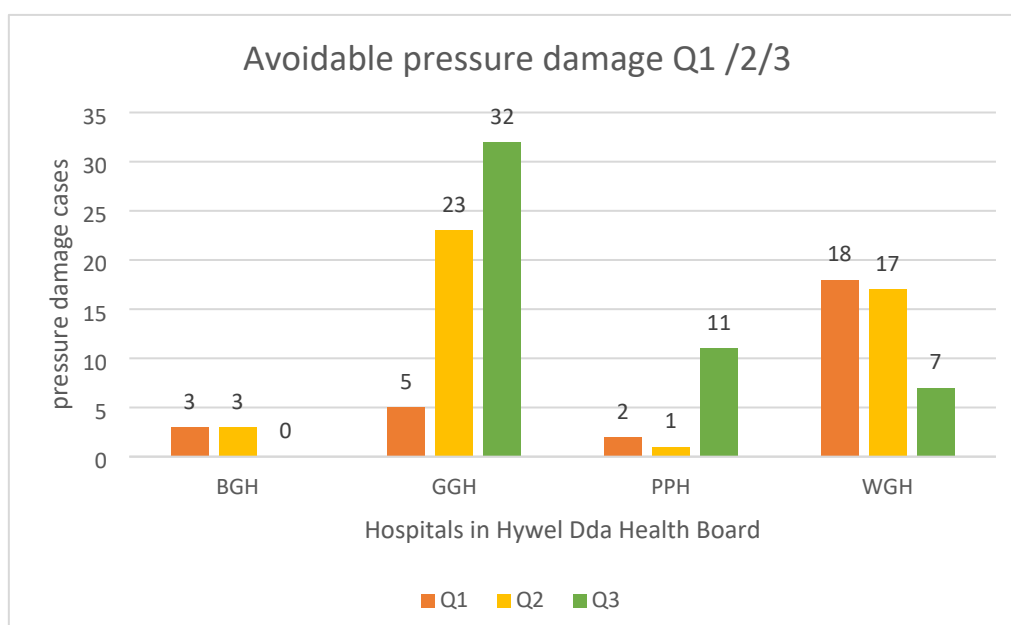
This report informs the Local Operational Groups of updates on safeguarding developments in Hywel Dda University Health Board during quarter 2 2022/23

Adult Safeguarding

As part of the Once for Wales Management System, quarter two saw the database go live in pilot format, with all Adult Safeguarding Reports raised against Health or its commissioned services uploaded, including the retrospective uploading of records from Quarter one. In Quarter three, the Adult Safeguarding Team have worked with the Health Board Datix Team to identify and assign access to safeguarding reports to the relevant services, followed by the roll out of training to all the Service Leads and Heads of Service. This enables senior managers within all patient facing services to be able to review and contribute to relevant records, to see compliance with the 7 day enquiry process and extract data and themes to inform future practice where appropriate.

An additional post has been created for a Safeguarding Adults Support Practitioner within the team, it is hoped that the successful candidate will commence in post at the beginning of April.

Quarter 3 2022/23 Acute Hospital Avoidable Pressure Damage Data



There was a total number of 50 avoidable cases of pressure damage incidents across all four acute hospital sites in Q3. Of these, 33 reported cases were grade 1 or 2 (which would not have been

reported to safeguarding prior to the SSWBWA); 11 were recorded as Suspected Deep Tissue Injury (SDTI). It is not uncommon for pressure damage to be reported as SDTI, but within a few days, it becomes apparent that it is a grade 1 or 2. Incident reporting captures the pressure damage at its most significant grading. Three were reported as grade 3; there was a single reported as grade 4, and two unstageable cases.

It is of note that the numbers reflect when the scrutiny meetings took place, rather than when the pressure damage occurred; in this report 34 (68%) cases occurred in the preceding quarters. Cases sometimes require deferring if further information or investigation is required, and in other instances cases are carried over if meetings are postponed and re-scheduled.

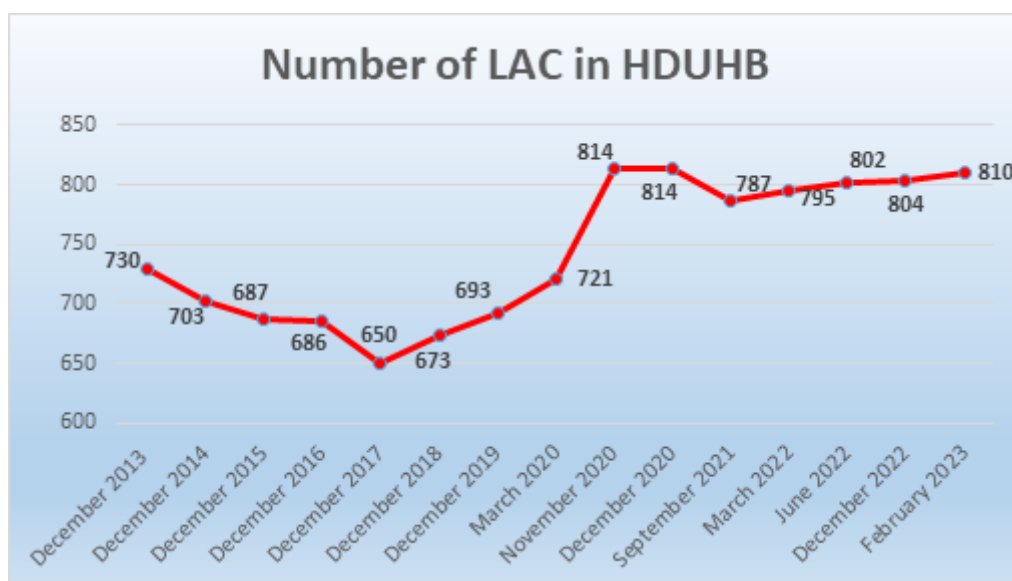
Glangwilli hospital (GGH)- once more there is a higher number of cases discussed at scrutiny in GGH compared to other sites, and an increase upon the last quarter. This is attributable to additional meetings being held to catch up with DATIX reports submitted; 10 cases (31%) of cases are from Quarter 1 2022/23 and Quarter 4 of previous year. When the data has been examined for when the pressure damage actually occurred, Q1 and Q2 were comparable (22 and 23 cases respectively).

Withybush hospital (WGH)- It is known that WGH held less meetings than in previous quarters which would account for a comparative reduction in cases.

Prince Philip Hospital (PPH) - There is a notable increase in cases for PPH; on further examination of data these were predominantly in AMAU. Feedback has been received attributing this to continuous surge within the department, high acuity, and staffing issues with deficits not covered and large proportion of agency staff who may not be familiar with processes and documentation. A booklet to guide agency staff on documentation is being devised to be presented to Senior Nurse Management Team for approval.

Assurance is given that with regard to the cases of reported pressure damage yet to be discussed at scrutiny, appropriate actions will have been implemented to safely manage the individuals' pressure damage at the time of identification.

Looked After Children



As the linear data shows below there has been a significant increase since December 2019 and this accelerating during the pandemic. The number of LAC is still significantly higher than it was approximately 5 to 6 years ago.

We have appointed a permanent LAC post 30 hours from the temporary post that covered a career break. This is to help mitigate the risk of the increased workload within the team.

The team have developed a poster to be used within Children Residential Homes 'Your Health Matters' the poster includes QR codes which link to health promotion topics and support information.

- Risks

The risk continues for the service due to cost pressure to the Looked After Children (LAC) service budget to meet the needs of unaccompanied asylum seeking children placed under the National Transfer Scheme. Currently of the 30 placed only one is living within the Hywel Dda Footprint. The service are incurring costs due to commissioning health assessments in the areas where the UASC have been placed.

Safeguarding Children

CSE / CSA

Further Stop it Now Training sessions have been commissioned for the UHB for 2023-24.

Child Safeguarding Audit Activity

- Repeat Audit 'Was Not Brought' (WNB) 2022

The team presented a repeat audit of compliance with children who are not brought to appointments to Service Safeguarding Delivery Groups. Despite a procedure being in place this Performance Management Report 1/10/22 – 31/12/22

audit has identified that WNB is still not being consistently used as the term for children who do not attend appointments.

Recommendations for improvement in Ophthalmology and Audiology services were agreed and the audit will be repeated in 2023-24.

- Compliance with the Risk Assessment for Patients under 18 yrs placed in adult inpatient wards

A risk assessment process was agreed and implemented across the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network in 2016. Anecdotally, there were gaps in assurance that risk assessments were being undertaken.

The purpose of the audit to assess the compliance with the risk assessment for young people under the age of 18 year of age nursed in adult inpatient wards.

The conclusion of the audit was that there was not good evidence of compliance with the risk assessment process and recommendations have been agreed in the Acute Service Safeguarding Delivery Group to improve compliance. The corporate safeguarding team will repeat and implement a Standard Operation Procedure to support practice and will repeat the audit in early 2023-24.

Update

The Named Nurse and Lead Safeguarding Children post is still vacant and going back out to advert. Interim arrangements are in place. We have appointed a 6 month secondment of a Support Practitioner to manage capacity in the interim.

VAWDASV

The UHB has commissioned Welsh Women's Aid to deliver Group 6 training to strategic leaders over the next 10 months.

- Audit of the Effectiveness of Group 2 Ask and Act training

A recent NHS Wales evaluation of Ask and Act identified that there was no consistent process across NHS Wales to evaluate how Ask and Act training is improving the effectiveness of responses within health settings for those that are experiencing VAWDASV. Further to this, a recent Domestic Homicide Review involving persons who have received care within HDdUHB, acknowledged within its recommendations the need to evaluate how training equips practitioners to respond effectively to VAWDASV.

An audit of those who attended Group 2 training was undertaken to evidence the following.

- Evidence of understanding of how to refer to MARAC
- Offering victims referral to other appropriate organisations such as SARC, third sector specialist domestic abuse organisations
- Consideration of wider safeguarding issues being addressed including the safeguarding of children and 'adults at risk'

Performance Management Report 1/10/22 – 31/12/22

- Listening to clients and offering support, encouraging the victim to be involved in decision making
- Consideration of identifying risk and the importance of safety planning to support those effected by VAWDASV

The quantity of responses to the survey does limit drawing conclusions of the effectiveness of training. There is a gap in assurance that patients who attend ED and MIUs across the UHB are asked about VAWDASV. The development of the planned DVA role in Bronglais Emergency department and IRIS project in Primary Care are likely to improve responses to VAWDASV and provide further assurance of effective responses in health settings

Learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews

The UHB is currently contributing to 5 Domestic Homicides Reviews (DHR).

The actions for the UHB have already been completed or in progress, these include;-

- Providing reflective sessions held with practitioners involved in the care of those identified within the DHR, exploring professional curiosity.
- Improving links with Primary Care, including presenting from case reviews to GP practices and Out of Hours Practitioners, and promoting their engagement with third sector specialist providers.
- Promotion of the Regional thematic training on DHR, and the VAWDASV Regional Pathway to Support.
- Monitoring of Ask and Act training compliance, including the development of pathways to improve any areas of poor compliance.
- Embedding of DHR learning within the Ask and Act training, including addressing the specific needs of older persons experiences of VAWDASV.

Risks

We have risk on the service risk register for to the fragility of the resource in the UHB to manage DINs and MARAC meetings This is caused by an increase in activity as a result of the pandemic and gaps in sustainable capacity in the corporate safeguarding practitioner resource and safeguarding administration team to manage domestic incident notifications via the Criminal Justice System (CJSM) and share that information and flag UHB systems in high risk cases.

Update

The Domestic Abuse Support Officer leaves her post on 17th March due to promotion. We are advertising for a replacement.

Professional Curiosity Training

The UHB has commissioned bespoke training for Health Visiting and three generic sessions to be delivered by Paula McCreary.

Once for Wales Management System

The national team are still seeking to resolve some outstanding issues which are impacting on commencement of the pilot of the NHS Wales report form. We are still waiting for an anticipated Performance Management Report 1/10/22 – 31/12/22

timescale for a solution. However, the UHB has let the pilot of the safeguarding management function which will be presented to the NHS Wales Safeguarding Network in May 2023.

Mandy Nichols-Davies
Head of Safeguarding

SECTION 12: S-CAMHS:

S-CAMHS Update Report for CYSUR

In line with the Welsh Government document “Admission Guidance”, HDUHB has in place a robust Admission Policy/Pathway outlining the process for admitting any young person into an Adult Mental Health Ward. The Guidance stipulates that the Health Board must have a designated Unit and within HDUHB this is Morlais Ward on the Glangwili Hospital campus.

A new Protocol has been approved to meet this statutory requirement which will ensure compliance against Welsh Government expectations.

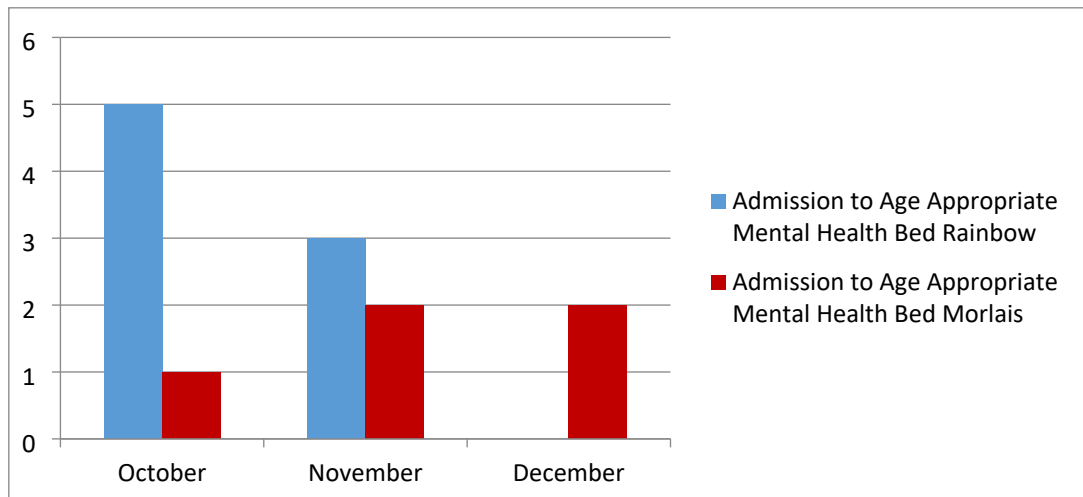
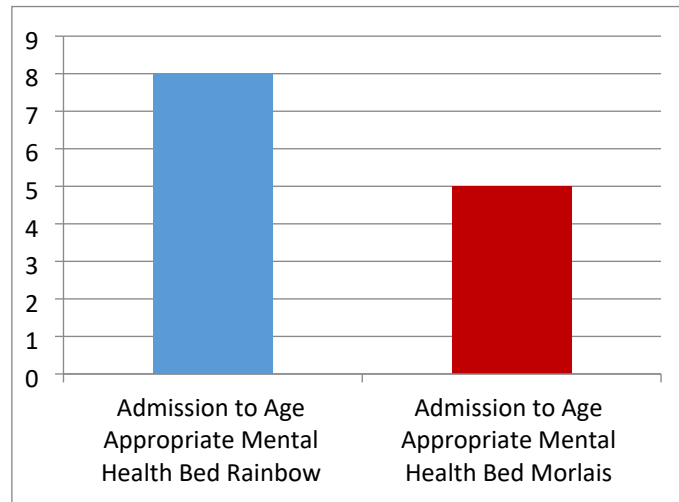
Admission to an adult mental health ward can be a frightening experience and every attempt is made to consider the least restrictive alternative for admission. In the majority of cases a young person is admitted to the designated unit on Cilgerran Ward supported by staff from the mental health unit.

In line with the guidance, the staff have received additional training in safeguarding young people and in addition the staff on Morlais ward have all undertaken the following:

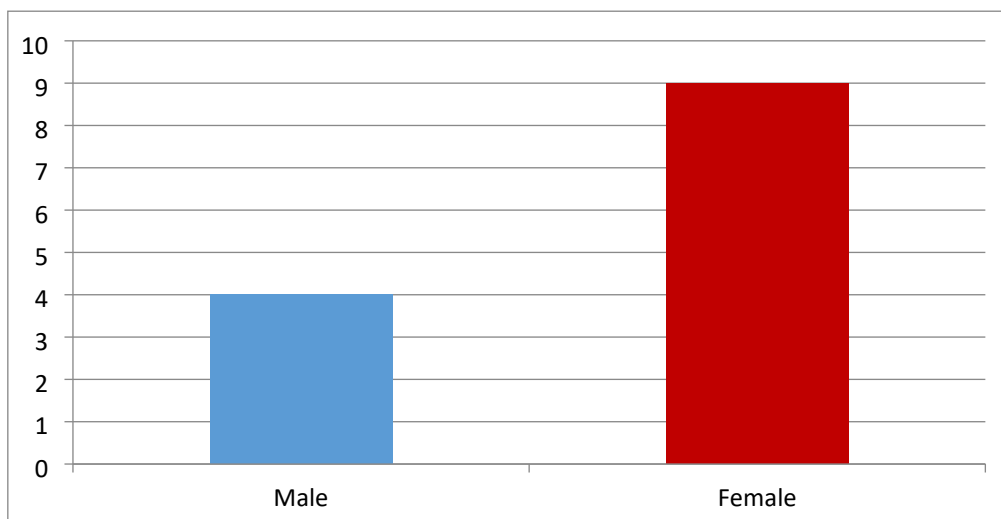
- Safeguarding Children Level 3 Training
- Have a valid Enhanced DBS in place
- Undertaken specific training on the emotional and mental health needs of children and young people
- Training on the Mental Health Act and Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014

All admissions to the mental health bed must be reported, initially internally as a DATIX, and followed by a Serious Untoward Incident report to the Delivery Unit in line with the Welsh Government’s Admission Guidance Document.

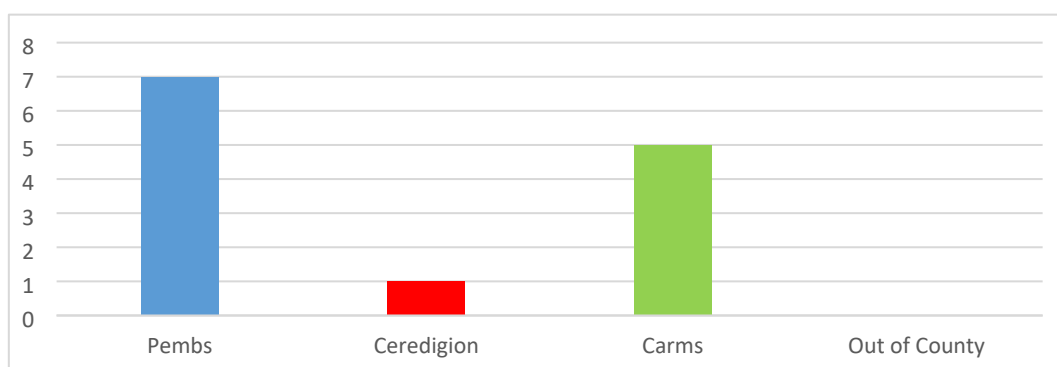
Q3 Admissions to the age appropriate bed on the Rainbow bed and Morlais Adult Mental Health Ward Glangwili Hospital site:



Q3 Admission to Age Appropriate Mental Health Bed Rainbow / Morlais Bed by gender:



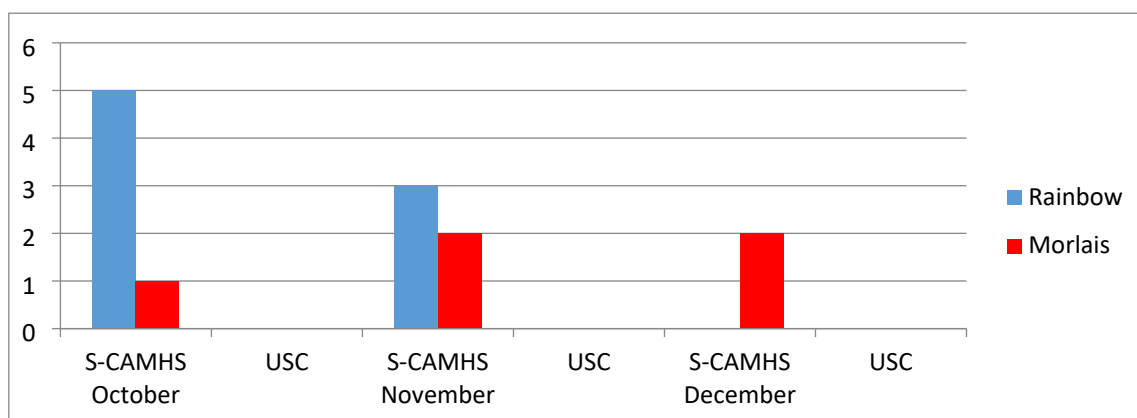
Q3 Admissions to Rainbow / Morlais Bed according to Locality:



Admissions to Paediatric Age Appropriate Bed (Rainbow Unit, Non reportable)

Specialist CAMHS records for Quarter 3 are outlined above with 13 Admissions in total, with 8 Admissions to the Paediatric bed and 5 Admissions to the Adult Mental Health Ward (Morlais). In October, one YP was admitted to the Paediatric Bed and then transferred to the Adult Mental Health Ward (Morlais). During November and December, two YP were admitted twice within the same month.

Q3 Admissions to Rainbow / Morlais split by admitting team:



Mental Health Act Status

There was an unusually high level of MHA activity during this period.

1 x S136 - One YP detained by the Police and transferred to Hywel Dda subject to a Community Treatment Order.

Admission Outcomes

	Discharged Home	Onward Admission	Remains on Ward
Rainbow	7	1 (YP transferred from Rainbow to Morlais)	0
Morlais	4	1 (YP transferred to Ty Lidiard)	0

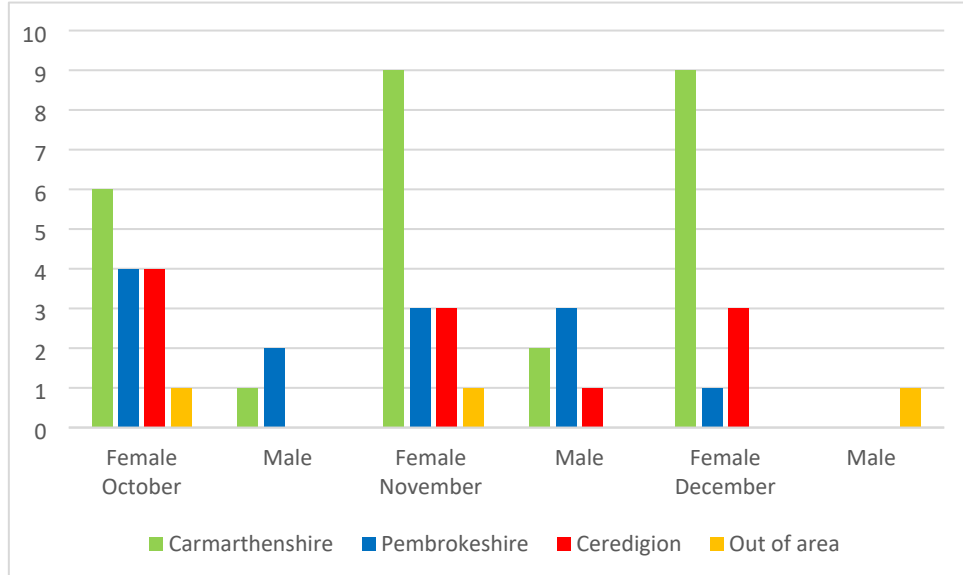
Admissions relating to Self-Harm

Within HDUHB there are robust systems in place for S-CAMHS to provide a mental health assessment, following referral from the Paediatric ward where any young person is admitted following an episode of self harm. The reason for admission is generally following an overdose but, on occasions, it can be following deliberate cutting or an attempted hanging.

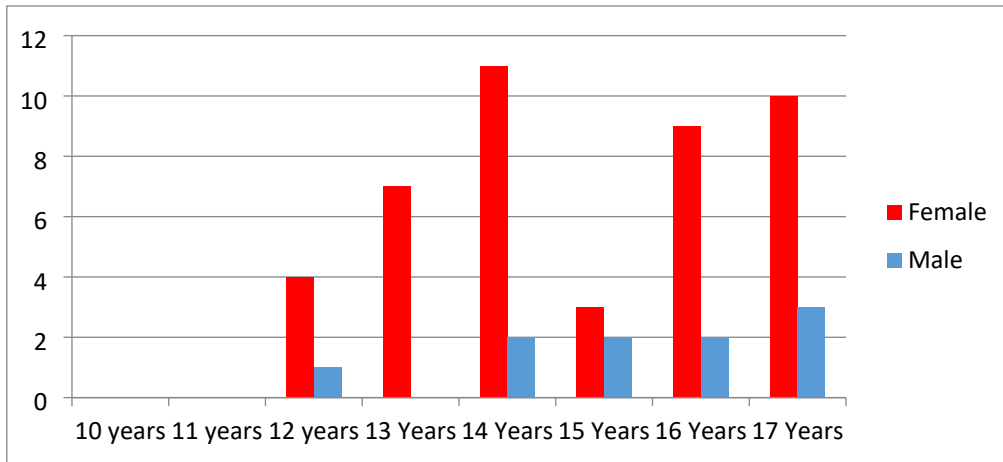
All overdose/self harm admissions receive a follow up appointment within three working days to monitor risk and provide support. There is a robust Pathway in place along with Guidance for admission of all young people who present following self harm in order that a comprehensive mental health assessment and risk management plan can be agreed. Where appropriate, referral to the Safeguarding team and/or Social Services may be considered.

The following table details the numbers of admissions following Deliberate Self Harm (DSH) Quarter 3 2022/2023 for the 3 Local Authority Areas:

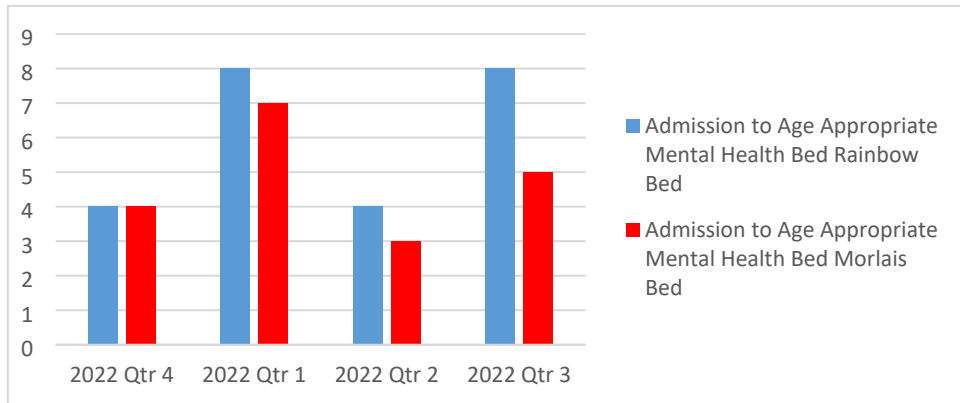
Q3 Self-harm / Overdose Admission Statistics split by gender and locality:



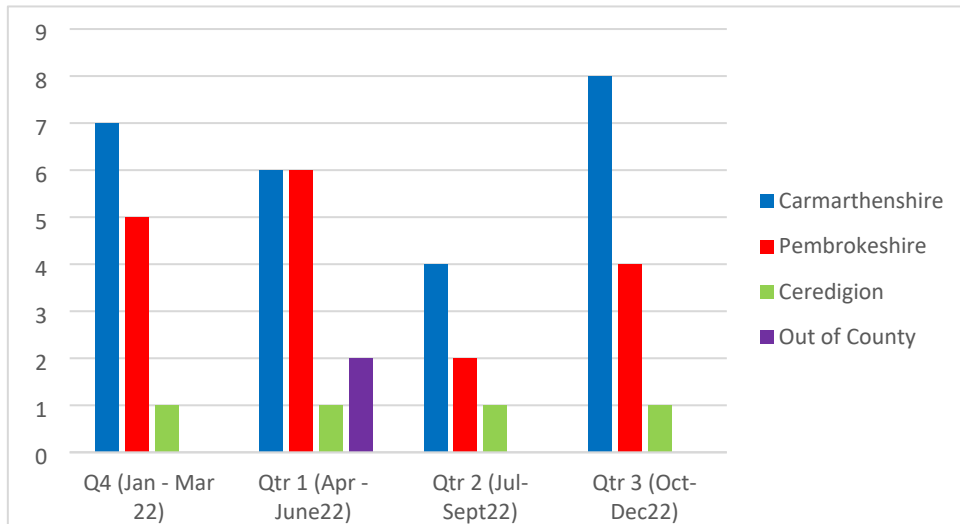
Q3 Self-harm / Overdose Admission Statistics split by gender and age profile:



Comparison Data (last 12 months) - Age Appropriate Bed

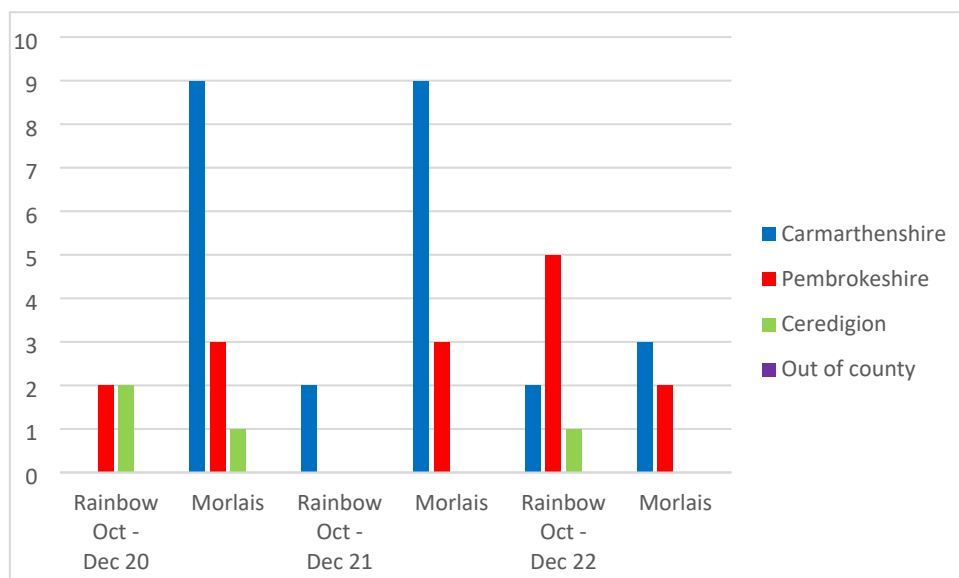


Admission Trend comparison by locality (last 12 months)



Annual Admission Comparison by locality

The following graph compares the numbers of admissions for Quarter 3 2022/2023 against the number of admissions for the same quarter of 2021/2022 and 2021/2020, further defined by locality.



Advocacy

In line with the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2012, Health Boards are expected to ensure that access to Advocacy Services is in place, as per Part 4 of the Measure, for any individual admitted into hospital. All young people admitted to Morlais Ward are asked on admission if they would like access to an Independent Mental Health Advocate. The expected performance target is that 100% of clients are offered this and this information is recorded and reported via our Information Analyst.

On Cilgerran Ward, information is provided to young people on admission on the availability of access to the Advocacy Service. However, the above performance standard is not applicable therefore data is not routinely collated.

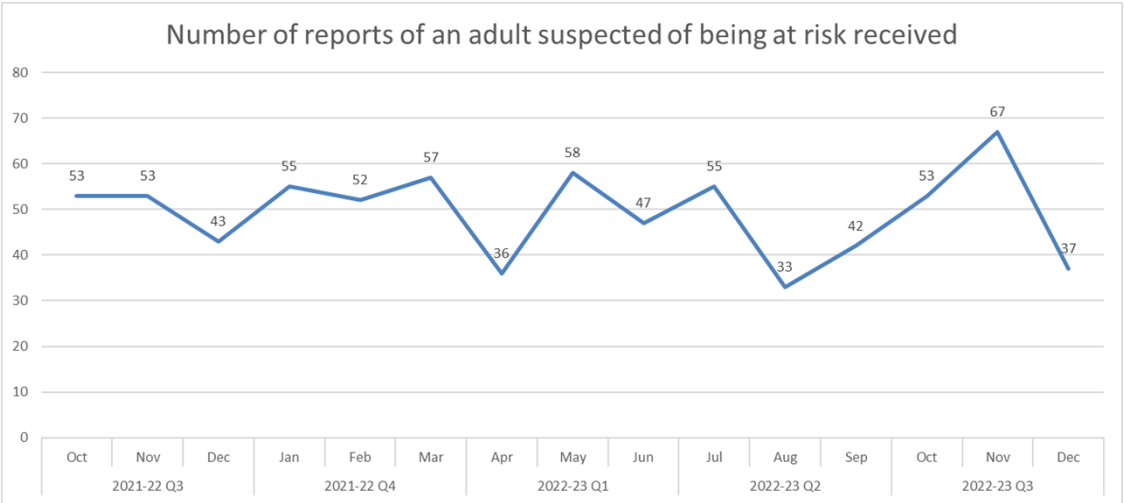
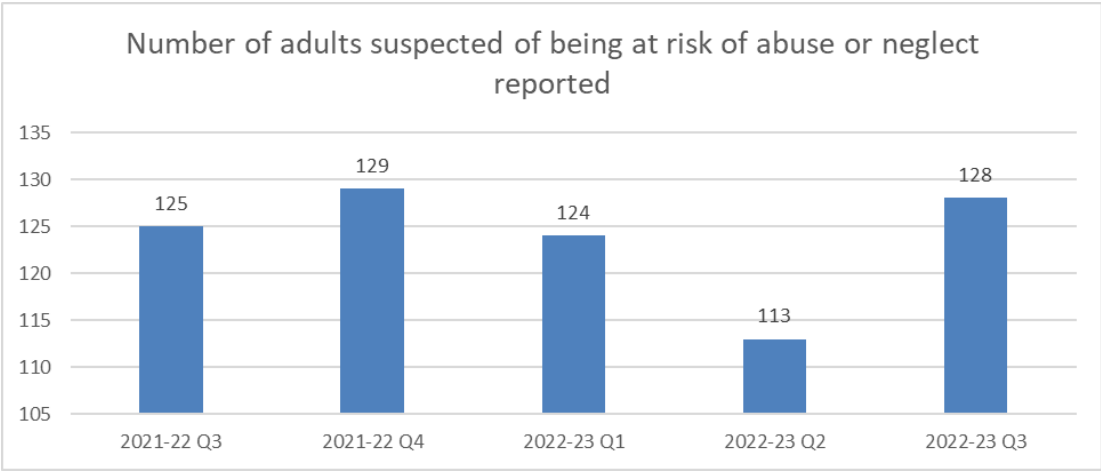
CEREDIGION
CWMPAS LOCAL OPERATIONAL GROUP

Performance Management Report – Safeguarding Adults

Quarter: 3

1/10/22 – 31/12/22

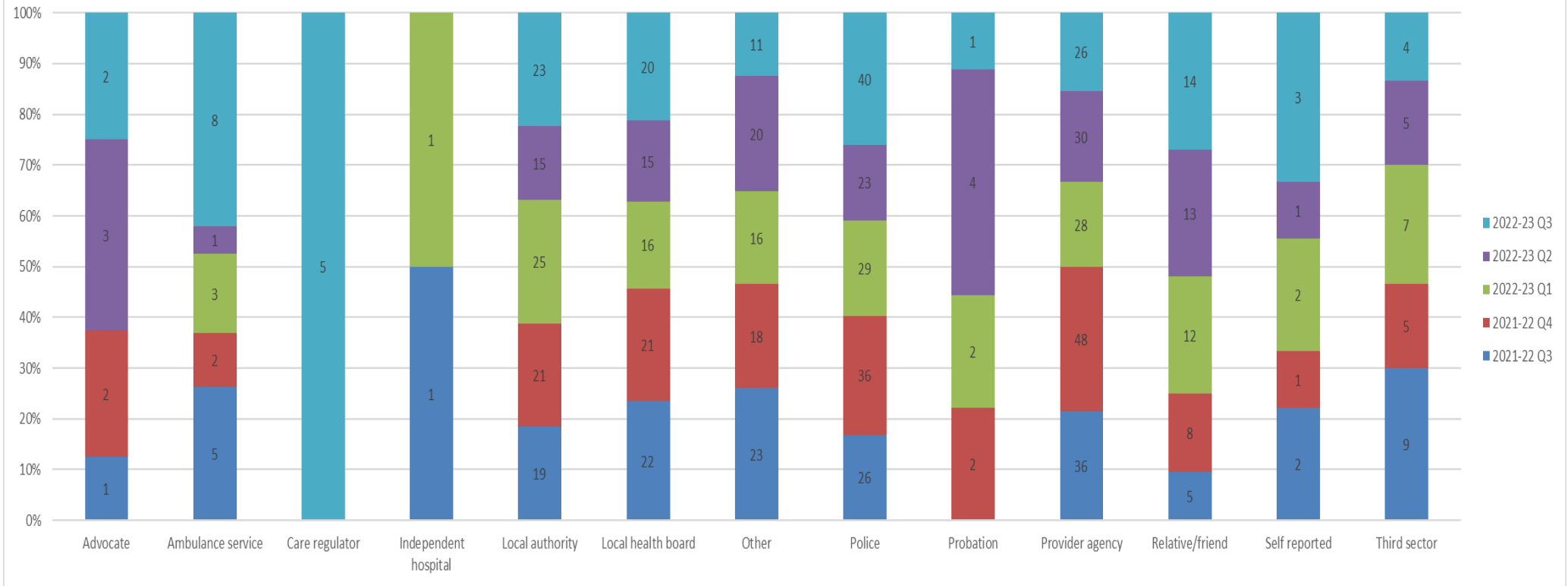
Quarter 3 Overview



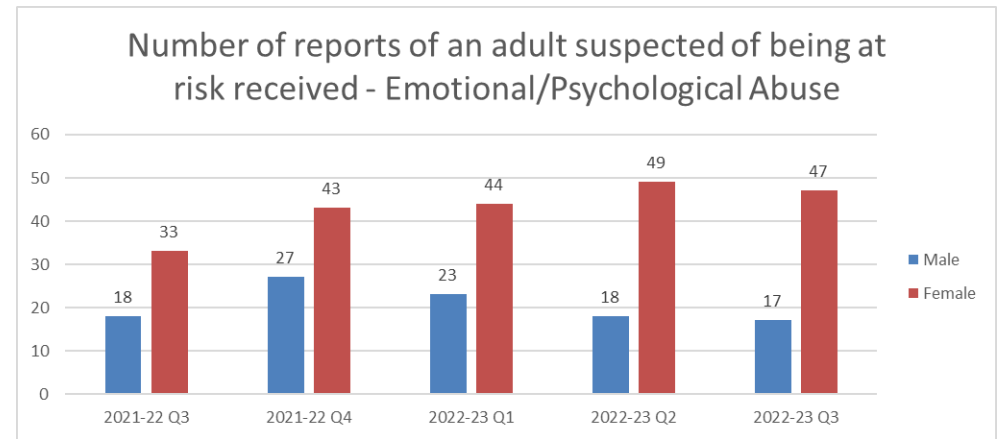
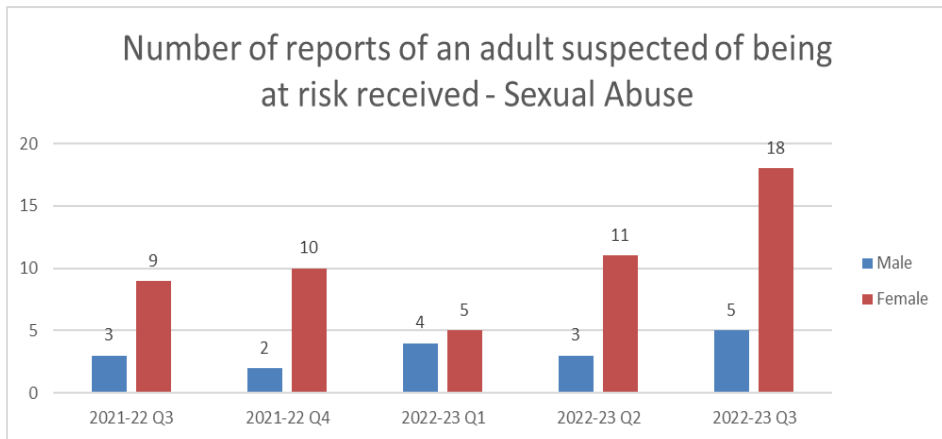
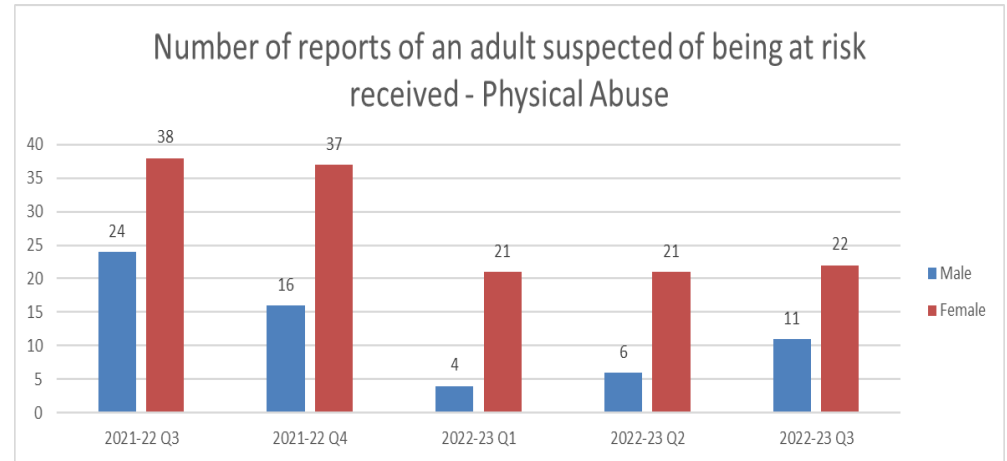
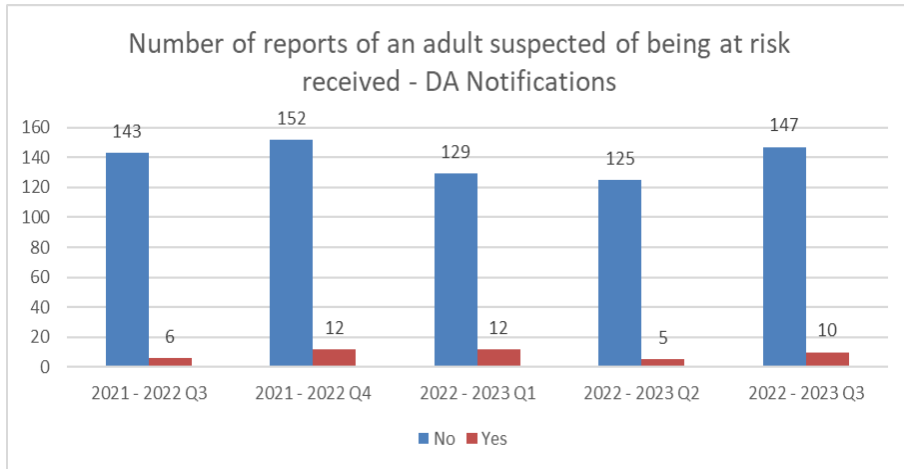
Row Labels	Count of Assessment Id
2021-22 Q3	149
Oct	53
Nov	53
Dec	43
2021-22 Q4	164
Jan	55
Feb	52
Mar	57
2022-23 Q1	141
Apr	36
May	58
Jun	47
2022-23 Q2	130
Jul	55
Aug	33
Sep	42
2022-23 Q3	157
Oct	53
Nov	67
Dec	37
Grand Total	741

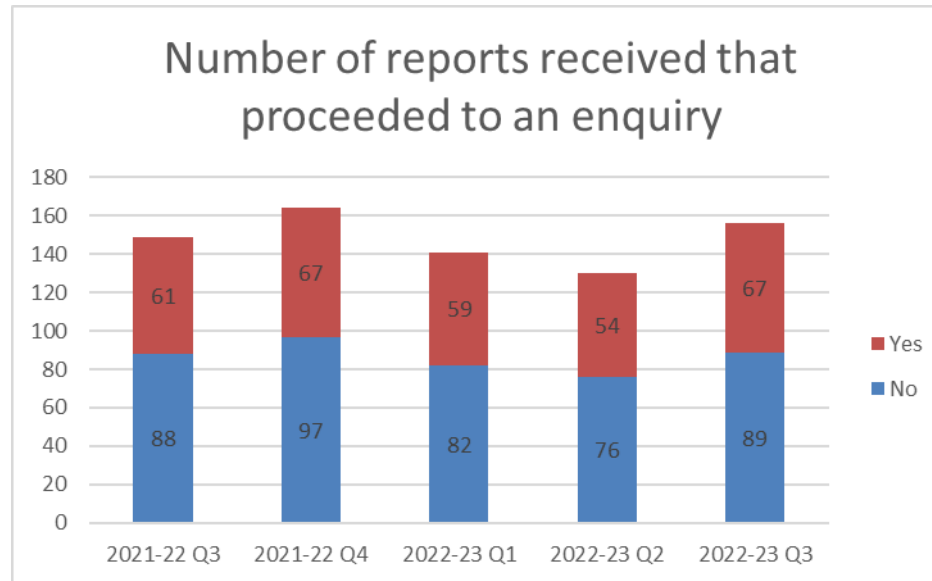
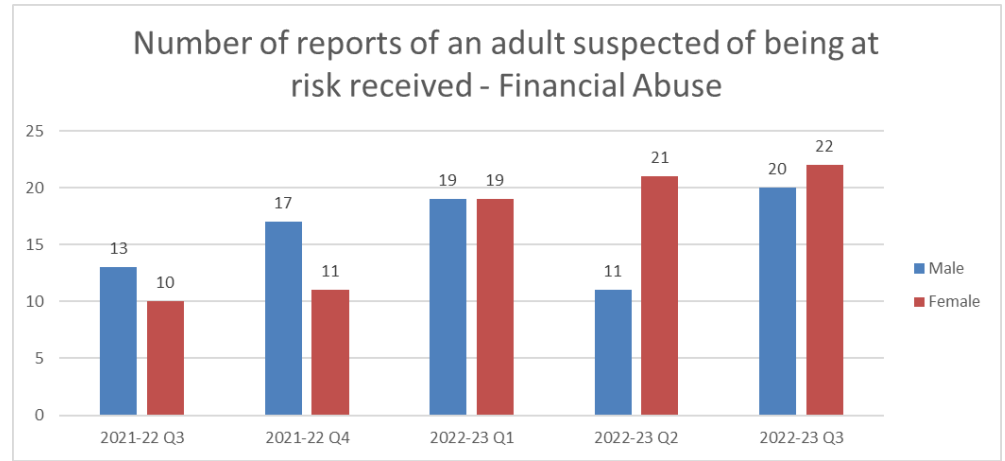
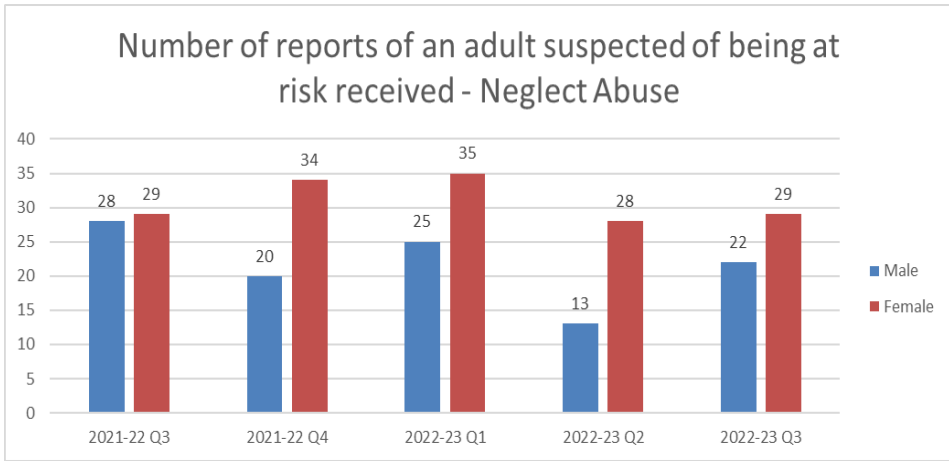
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Number of reports of an adult suspected of being at risk received -Source of Report



Count of Assessment Id	Column Labels					
	2021-22 Q3	2021-22 Q4	2022-23 Q1	2022-23 Q2	2022-23 Q3	Grand Total
Advocate	1	2		3	2	8
Ambulance service	5	2	3	1	8	19
Care regulator					5	5
Independent hospital	1		1			2
Local authority	19	21	25	15	23	103
Local health board	22	21	16	15	20	94
Other	23	18	16	20	11	88
Police	26	36	29	23	40	154
Probation		2	2	4	1	9
Provider agency	36	48	28	30	26	168
Relative/friend	5	8	12	13	14	52
Self reported	2	1	2	1	3	9
Third sector	9	5	7	5	4	30
Grand Total	149	164	141	130	157	741





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CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

Report to:	Cabinet
Date of meeting:	6th June 2023
Title:	Serious Violence Duty - Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022
Purpose of the report:	To inform Cabinet of the Serious Violence Duty and its implications for the Council, and to formalise responsibility for the work and partnership arrangements
For:	Information
Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member:	Councillor Matthew Vaux, Cabinet Member for Partnerships, Housing, Legal and Governance and Public Protection

BACKGROUND:

The Serious Violence Duty commenced on 31st January 2023 and covers the requirements set out in Chapter 1 of Part 2 of the Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022. This places a duty on **specified authorities** to work together to prevent and reduce serious violence.

The specified authorities include Local Authorities, Local Health Boards, Fire and Rescue Authorities, Policing and the Justice Sector (Probation and Youth Offending Teams) and it is these organisations that are responsible for delivering the Duty and jointly accountable for delivering the key milestones of the regional grant funding provided by the Home Office to implement the requirements of the Duty.

In addition to the specified authorities above, there are also **relevant authorities** which includes educational authorities (as well as prison and youth custody authorities). There is a requirement for these authorities to co-operate with the specified authorities as necessary, to deliver the duty and they must also be consulted by the specified authorities in the preparation of the strategy.

Specified authorities must identify the kinds of serious violence that occur in the area, the causes of that violence (so far as it is possible to do so), and to prepare and implement a strategy for preventing, and reducing serious violence in the area. The strategy should contain bespoke solutions to prevent and reduce serious violence and must be kept under review, which should be done on an annual basis and updated when necessary.

Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA)

To inform this process, specified authorities should jointly undertake an evidence-based analysis of the causes of serious violence within their area and use this analysis to develop a local Strategic Needs Assessment (SNA) which should inform the local strategy. This will include a wide range of data and as an example can include local and national crime data, census data, hospital and primary care data. From a local authority's perspective, it may also require educational data such as attendance,

suspension and exclusion data and children's social care data. The SNA will include a common understanding of the cohorts that are most vulnerable to serious violence and the local strategy will need to demonstrate how each area is focussing resources on the defined population most in need of support.

Definition of Serious Violence

The Duty does not provide a definition of Serious Violence, as it is up to each area to define what serious violence is; this will be centred on local evidence-base informed by the SNA.

When considering the SNA, it is clear that violence is not limited to physical violence against the person. It provides that, for the purposes of the Duty, violence includes domestic abuse, sexual offences, violence against property and threats of violence.

Furthermore, the Serious Violence Strategy 2018 states that Serious Violence is concerned with specific types of crime such as homicide, knife crime, and gun crime and areas of criminality where serious violence or its threat is inherent, such as in gangs and county lines drug dealing. It also includes emerging crime threats faced in some areas of the country such as the use of corrosive substances as a weapon.

Public Health Approach

This duty forms a new 'public health approach' to tackling Violent Crime, identifying what causes violence and find interventions that work to prevent it spreading. A 'public health' approach involves multiple public and social services working together to implement early interventions to prevent people from becoming involved in violent crime.

COLLABORATION AND PLANNING:

The Serious Violence Duty is intended to create the right conditions for authorities to collaborate and communicate regularly, using existing partnerships where possible, to share information and take effective coordinated action in their local areas. All organisations and agencies subject to the Duty will be accountable for their activity and co-operation.

The current timeline is as follows:

- 31st January 2023 - SV Duty commenced
- 31st March 2023 – Partnership agreement to be confirmed
- 28th April 2023 – provisional version of delivery plan and confirmation of HO funding usage
- 29th Sept 2023 – advanced version of delivery plan to be agreed
- 31st January 2024 – Strategic Needs Assessment for Serious Violence completed
- 31st January 2024 – Local Strategy completed (including final version of the delivery plan)

For further information, the Statutory Guidance document as published on 16th December 2022 can be accessed here: [Serious Violence Duty - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/114222/Serious_Violence_Duty_-_Statutory_Guidance.pdf) (please note specific Guidance for Wales from pages 20 onwards).

Funding

Funding has been allocated to Dyfed Powys region by the Home Office to implement the SV Duty and as per legislation, this will be overseen by the Police and Crime Commissioner, who will also be providing support, monitoring activity and reporting to the Secretary of State. Funding from the Home Office has been confirmed up to 2024/2025. At present, the resource is being allocated to increase analytical capacity within Dyfed Powys Police to prepare and deliver the regional SNA. Furthermore, it is intended that funding will be used to oversee the coordination of the delivery plan, strategy and associated workstreams within the region.

Implementation

Crest Advisory has been commissioned by the Home Office to work with organisations specified in the SV Duty (note above) and local partners during 2023 to determine their readiness for the Duty and provide tailored support to develop and ensure compliance.

Partners across the region, including Ceredigion County Council have attended joint meetings with the Police and Crime Commissioner and nominated SV leads from key organisations have been identified. The nominated Strategic Lead for Ceredigion County Council is Barry Rees, as CSP chair and nominated practitioners are Diana Davies (Corporate Manager for Partnerships and Performance) and Tim Bray (Partnerships and Civil Contingencies Manager).

Existing partnership arrangements can be used to deliver on this Duty as the Statutory Guidance indicates that there isn't a necessity to create new partnerships. As such, it has been agreed that the existing Serious Violence and Organised Crime (SVOC) structure, which is already established and the Regional SVOC Board, is the correct platform to lead on the planning and implementation of the SV Duty requirements.

The Corporate Manager for Partnerships and Performance and the Partnerships and Civil Contingencies Manager currently attend Regional SVOC meetings, and they will continue to do so and report back where necessary.

Furthermore, in recognition of the vital role that education has in safeguarding, it is recommended that a strategic education representative for the area be represented at meetings to discuss the SV Duty. This will assist in providing a link between the specified responsible authorities and individual institutions, the new Curriculum for Wales and the opportunities that this presents with regards supporting the well-being landscape.

The SV Duty was presented for information to Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee on the 22nd May 2023.

CONSTITUTION

It is proposed that the Ceredigion County Council Constitution is updated to include the Serious Violence Duty under the responsibility of the Policy, Performance and Public Protection service.

	Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why	Not completed as the report is not a Policy or Service change
Wellbeing of Future Generations:	<p>Summary:</p> <p>Long term:</p> <p>Collaboration:</p> <p>Involvement:</p> <p>Prevention:</p> <p>Integration:</p>	
Recommendation(s):	For Cabinet to note the new Serious Violence Duty and implications for Ceredigion County Council and the relevant partnerships which are attended by Ceredigion County Council representatives.	
Reasons for decision:	In order for Cabinet to understand the additional duties that Ceredigion County Council is required to respond to as part of this Duty and to formalise responsibility for work and partnership arrangements.	
Overview and Scrutiny:	The SV Duty was presented for information to Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee on the 22nd May 2023.	
Policy Framework:	Community Safety Partnership	
Corporate Priorities:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boosting the economy, supporting businesses and enabling employment • Creating caring and healthy communities • Providing the best start in life and enabling learning at all ages • Creating sustainable, green and well-connected communities 	
Finance and Procurement implications:	Within exiting budget	
Legal Implications:	Serious Violence Duty, Chapter 1 of Part 2 Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Act 2022	
Staffing implications:	None	
Property / asset implications:	None	
Risk(s):	N/A	

Statutory Powers:

Background Papers: None

Appendices: None

Corporate Lead Officer: Alun Williams, Corporate Lead Officer: Policy, Performance and Public Protection

Reporting Officer: Timothy Bray, Partnerships and Civil Contingencies Manager

Date: 15th March 2023

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