

Cyngor Tref Llangollen Town Council.

Agenda.

21.01.2025.

- | | | |
|-----------|---|--|
| 1. | Croesawiad a chyhoeddiadau Faer y Dref. | Town Mayors welcome and announcements. |
| 2. | Datganiadau gan y cyhoedd.
I dderbyn datganiadau oddiwrth y cyhoedd ar faterion ar yr agenda. | Statements from the public.
To receive statements from the public on matters on the agenda. |
| 3. | Datganiadau gan Cynghorwyr y Sir.
I dderbyn datganiadau gan Cynghorwyr y Sir ar faterion sy'n ymwneud â Llangollen. | Statements from County Councillors.
To receive statements from County Councillors on matters relating to Llangollen |
| 4. | Ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb.
I dderbyn, ystyried a derbyn ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb. | Apologies for absence.
To receive, consider and accept apologies for absence. |
| 5. | Datganiadau o Fuddiant.
I dderbyn unrhyw ddatganiadau o fuddiant ar eitemau ar yr agenda. | Declaration of Interest.
To receive any known declarations of interest in items on the agenda. |
| 6. | Cofnodion. | Minutes. |
| a) | Awdurdodi'r Cadeirydd i lofnodi cofnodion y chyfarfodydd blaenorol a gynhaliwyd ar 21.01.2025 fel cofnod cywir. | To authorise the Chair to sign the minutes of the previous meetings held on 21.01.2025 as a correct record. |
| 7. | Adroddiadau ariannol.
I dderbyn adroddiadau a gyflwynwyd gan yr Clerc y Dref ac ystyried yr argymhellion ynddo. Mae adroddiadau yn ddogfennau gwaith ac felly nid ydynt yn cael eu cyfieithu | Financial reports.
To receive reports submitted to the Town Clerk and considered the recommendations therein. Reports are working documents and are therefore not translated. |
| a) | Datganiadau Ariannol. | Authorised Payments. |
| b) | Taliadau Awdurdodedig. | Financial Statements. |
| c) | Cymodi banc. | Bank reconciliation. |
| 8. | Adroddiadau Clerc y Dref.
I dderbyn adroddiadau a gyflwynwyd gan yr Clerc y Dref ac ystyried yr argymhellion ynddo. Mae adroddiadau yn ddogfennau gwaith ac felly nid ydynt wedi'u cyfieithu. | Town Clerk's Reports.
To receive reports submitted to the Town Clerk and considered the recommendations therein. Reports are working documents and are therefore not translated. |
| a) | Rhannu Bwyd Llangollen Food Share | Rhannu Bwyd Llangollen Food Share |
| b) | Electrical Safety First ymgyrch ar ddiogelwch batris lithiwm-ion. | Electrical Safety First campaign on the Safety of Lithium-ion Batteries. |
| c) | Denbighshire County Council's 2024-25 Stakeholder Survey | Denbighshire County Council's 2024-25 Stakeholder Survey |
| d) | Cynllun Trafnidiaeth Rhanbarthol arfaethedig ar gyfer Gogledd Cymru | Proposed Regional Transport Plan for North Wales. |

Authorised Payments February

Taleb/Voucher	Description/Disgrifiad	Cyflenwr/Supplier	Net	TAW/VAT	Gros/Gross
233	Photocopier rental	Grenke	£110.00	£0.00	£110.00
234	Photocopier rental	Grenke leasing	£204.00	£40.80	£244.80
235	Corporate card	Barclaycard	£142.53	£0.00	£142.53
236	HMRC	CSD/DCC	£1,191.98	£0.00	£1,191.98
237- 238	Salary M 10	Staff	£3,654.03	£0.00	£3,654.03
239	Pension	Nest	£48.33	£0.00	£48.33
240	Fees and charges	Unity Trust Bank	£11.25	£0.00	£11.25
241	Expenses	Staff	£28.80	£0.00	£28.80
242	Business Rates	CSD/DCC	£1,238.00	£0.00	£1,238.00
243	Broadband	British Telecom	£54.56	£10.91	£65.47
244	Cloud Services	ACS Technology	£190.30	£0.00	£190.30
245	Contract Cleaning	Ultraclean	£243.75	£48.75	£292.50
246	Contract Cleaning	J Williams	£50.00	£0.00	£50.00
247	Community Grant	Llangollen Food Share	£1,000.00	£0.00	£1,000.00
248	Community Grant	LIME	£2,000.00	£0.00	£2,000.00
249	Christmas Illuminations	Mega Electrics	£3,950.00	£790.00	£4,740.00
250	Civic costs	Mold Town Council	£70.00	£0.00	£70.00
251	Fees and charges	Unity Trust Bank	£11.25	£0.00	£11.25
252	Energy Costs	Good Energy	£663.90	£134.47	£798.37
253	Energy Costs	Good Energy	£345.78	£17.29	£363.07
254	HR fees and charges	BrightHR	£200.00	£40.00	£240.00
255	Repairs and renewal	Capability Found	£1,450.00	£0.00	£1,450.00
256	Repairs and renewal	Dee Valley handyman	£275.00	£0.00	£275.00
257	Repairs and renewal	Flintshire Fabrications	£270.00	£54.00	£324.00
258	Repairs and renewal	Watkin & Williams	£19.39	£3.88	£23.27
259	Ground works	Lelo Skip Hire	£170.00	£34.00	£204.00
260	Translation	B Jones	£78.12	£0.00	£78.12
261	Translation	B Jones	£26.70	£0.00	£26.70
Total			£17,697.67	£1,174.10	£18,871.77

Llangollen Town Council

Net Position by Cost Centre and Code

Cost Centre Name

Administration

<u>Code</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Bal. B/Fwd.</u>	Receipts		Payments		Current Balance
			Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	
8	Fees and charges				2,200.00	3,224.25	-1,024.25
9	Cloud services				3,700.00	2,177.47	1,522.53
10	Health and safety				2,700.00	1,559.51	1,140.49
11	Insurance				5,550.00	5,610.12	-60.12
12	Licenses				550.00	460.40	89.60
13	NNDR				14,000.00	12,376.22	1,623.78
14	Payroll				750.00	384.00	366.00
15	Subscriptions				1,600.00	1,190.00	410.00
45	Staff Training				1,500.00	675.00	825.00
48	Expenses				500.00	75.60	424.40
					33,050.00	£27,732.57	5,317.43

Asset Management

<u>Code</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Bal. B/Fwd.</u>	Receipts		Payments		Current Balance
			Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	
16	Equipment				14,500.00		14,500.00
17	Projects				20,000.00	11,590.25	8,409.75
18	Cleaning				3,300.00	3,622.45	-322.45
19	Grounds maintenance				13,000.00	6,297.50	6,702.50
20	Christmas illuminations				11,000.00	5,729.08	5,270.92
21	Repairs and renewals				15,000.00	32,177.66	-17,177.66
22	Waste collection				1,100.00	497.01	602.99
23	Water charges				900.00	683.25	216.75
					78,800.00	£60,597.20	18,202.80

Capital Financing

<u>Code</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Bal. B/Fwd.</u>	Receipts		Payments		Current Balance
			Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
33	Loan repayments						

Community

<u>Code</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Bal. B/Fwd.</u>	Receipts		Payments		Current Balance
			Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	
34	Community grants				6,500.00		6,500.00
35	Donations						
36	Cittaslow				1,000.00		1,000.00
					7,500.00		7,500.00

Cost of Democracy

<u>Code</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Bal. B/Fwd.</u>	Receipts		Payments		Current Balance
			Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	
24	Election expenses						
25	Civic costs				2,000.00		2,000.00
26	Civic events				3,800.00	776.32	3,023.68
27	Mayor's allowance						
28	Remuneration				1,800.00		1,800.00
29	Member Training				2,000.00	40.00	1,960.00
30	Member allowances						
					9,600.00	£816.32	8,783.68

Energy Costs

<u>Code</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Bal. B/Fwd.</u>	Receipts		Payments		Current Balance
			Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	
31	Electricity				11,000.00	6,329.46	4,670.54
32	Gas				8,500.00	12,793.56	-4,293.56
					19,500.00	£19,123.02	376.98

Current Balance = Balance B/Fwd - (Receipt Budget - Actual Receipt) + (Payment Budget - Actual Payments)

Llangollen Town Council

Net Position by Cost Centre and Code

Cost Centre Name

Income		<u>Bal. B/Fwd.</u>	Receipts		Payments		Current Balance
<u>Code</u>	<u>Title</u>		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
1	Precept		165,350.00	165,954.17			604.17
2	Interest			3,339.86	2,700.00	1,090.50	4,949.36
3	Room hire		14,500.00	13,655.50			-844.50
4	Rents		23,500.00	20,604.03			-2,895.97
5	Grants						
6	Tenants recharges		3,000.00	2,085.29			-914.71
7	VAT refund		1,100.00	13,969.34			12,869.34
49	Donation			156.29			156.29
			207,450.00	£219,764.48	2,700.00	£1,090.50	13,923.98
<hr/>							
Office Costs		<u>Bal. B/Fwd.</u>	Receipts		Payments		Current Balance
<u>Code</u>	<u>Title</u>		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
37	Office supplies				1,100.00	488.66	611.34
38	Broadband				700.00	834.12	-134.12
39	Photocopier rental				1,000.00	926.00	74.00
40	Printing				1,400.00	87.26	1,312.74
41	Translation				700.00	234.06	465.94
47	Computer hardware				2,500.00	1,635.00	865.00
					7,400.00	£4,205.10	3,194.90
<hr/>							
Staff Costs		<u>Bal. B/Fwd.</u>	Receipts		Payments		Current Balance
<u>Code</u>	<u>Title</u>		Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual	Budget
42	Salaries				39,600.00	32,740.82	6,859.18
43	HR fees and charges					200.00	-200.00
44	Pension				3,500.00	5,183.99	-1,683.99
46	HMRC				9,000.00	11,275.07	-2,275.07
					52,100.00	£49,399.88	2,700.12
<hr/>							
NET TOTAL			207,450.00	£219,764.48	210,650.00	£162,964.59	59,999.89

Llangollen Town Council

	Bank Reconciliation at 31/01/2025		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2024		217,669.55
	ADD		
	Receipts 01/04/2024 - 31/01/2025		219,792.48
			437,462.03
	SUBTRACT		
	Payments 01/04/2024 - 31/01/2025		179,083.17
A	Cash in Hand 31/01/2025 (per Cash Book)		258,378.86
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash	31/12/2024	0.00
	Llangollen Town Council Current	31/12/2024	93,107.48
	Llangollen Town Council Instant	31/12/2024	165,271.38
			258,378.86
	Less unrepresented payments		
			258,378.86
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
B	Adjusted Bank Balance		258,378.86
	A = B Checks out OK		

REPORT AUTHOR: Town Clerk.
SUBJECT: Rhannu Bwyd Llangollen Food Share.
REPORT FOR: Decision.

1. Summary.

- 1.1 To consider the appointment of a Council representative to Rhannu Bwyd Llangollen Food Share Board of Trustees

2. Background.

- 2.1 Following the presentation by Rhannu Bwyd Llangollen Food Share at the last meeting of the Town Council, an approach has been made seeking the appointment of a Member of the Council to sit on the Board of Trustees.
- 2.2 Rhannu Bwyd Llangollen Food Share charitable objects are the prevention and relief of poverty concentrated within a 10-mile radius of Llangollen, in particular but not exclusively by providing fit for purpose food products and other goods including those from industry donations and partners directly to economically disadvantaged individuals and families.
- 2.3 At that last meeting, Members, acknowledge the important work that this organisation was undertaking within the community of Llangollen. This work is commensurate with an action within the Town Council business plan; to support and promote the work of groups such as Llangollen Tidy Towns, Friends of the Earth and Rhannu Bwyd Llangollen Food Share. Therefore, it would be appropriate for the Town Council to consider being represented on this organisation to be seen to provide such practical support.

3. Recommendation.

- 3.1 That the Town Council nominates a Member to sit on Rhannu Bwyd Llangollen Food Share Board of Trustees.

4. Reason for Recommendation.

- 4.1 To support community initiative in line with the Town Council Business plan and priorities.

REPORT AUTHOR: Town Clerk
SUBJECT: Safety of Lithium-ion Batteries Campaign
REPORT FOR: Decision.

1. Summary.

1.1 To consider support the charity Electrical Safety First (ESF) regarding a campaign on the Safety of Lithium-ion Batteries.

2. Background.

2.1 The Town Council has been contacted by the assistant to Lord Foster and the Parliamentary Advisor to the charity Electrical Safety First campaign, launched in June last year to ensure the safety of Lithium-ion batteries.

2.2 ESF reaffirmed, in December 2024, the issues driving the campaign, which is designed to save lives and cut down on fires and save damage to property. There are four issues: -

- That e bikes and e scooters and the Lithium-ion batteries used to propel them are subject to independent testing before being marketed. Currently this is not the case.
- That regulations are made to ensure the safe disposal of the batteries. Currently this is not the case resulting in fires in bin lorries and waste disposal sites.
- That charging kits and conversion kits used on the bikes are also safe. Currently regulations do not cover this.
- That online marketplaces through which so many goods are sold nowadays are subject to the same safety regulations as high street shops. Currently this is not the case.

2.3 This campaign has the support by 100 national organisations, as shown in the infographic below, including the NALC and the SLCC as well as 500 individual local Councils, and the campaign is already discussing the issues with Ministers, who are not unfriendly.



However, the campaign organisers feel that support from more local councils will keep the momentum going and hope that the Town Council would be able to back this campaign.

3. Considerations.

3.1 Fires caused by lithium-ion batteries in e-scooters and e-bikes have multiplied fourfold since 2020, resulting in deaths, hospitalisations, homelessness, and financial losses. Since 2020, it is reported that over 190 people have been injured, and at least 13 lives have been lost due to this concerning trend. The UK is now facing a projection of nearly one e-bike or e-scooter fire per day this year, a significant leap from just over one per week in 2020. Locally incidents of fires in houses in Penycae, Wrexham and a in Flintshire has resulted in North Wales Fire and Rescue Service warning about the dangers of leaving electrical items charging overnight as the fears over the use of lithium batteries intensify.

3 The ESF 'The Safety of Electric-Powered Micromobility Vehicles and Lithium Batteries Bill', ESF bill covers:

- Clause 1: Safety Assurance - This clause mandates a third-party safety assessment, conducted by a government-approved Safety body, for all e-bikes, escooters, and their lithium-ion batteries before they enter the UK market. This process mirrors safety measures in place for other high-risk products like fireworks and heavy machinery.
- Clause 2: Responsible Disposal - This clause requires the Government to make regulations ensuring the safe disposal of lithium batteries once their lifecycle ends.
- Clause 3: Comprehensive Fire Safety - This clause assigns the Government the responsibility of comprehensively addressing fire-related concerns. This involves enhancing safe usage, charging, and storage practices for these devices. It includes

setting standards for conversion kits and charging systems considering a temporary ban on the sale of universal chargers that heighten fire risks.

- 3.2 Given that so many national organisations are already supporting the bill, including the National Fire Chiefs Council, many Fire and Rescue Services, the Association of Ambulance Chief Executives, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, and the Royal Society for Public Health, the Town Council should consider offering its support to the campaign

3. Recommendation

- 4.1 It is recommended that the Council supports ESF's campaign to improve the safety of lithium batteries (used in e-bike and e-scooters) and their disposal

5. Reasons for recommendation.

- 5.1 To ensure compliance with legislation, probity, and good governance of the Town Council's Human resources.

REPORT AUTHOR: Town Clerk
SUBJECT: Denbighshire County Council's 2024-25 Stakeholder Survey
REPORT FOR: Decision.

1. Summary.

- 1.1 To consider a response to Denbighshire County Council's 2024-25 Stakeholder Survey.

2. Background.

- 2.1 Denbighshire County Council's 2024-25 Stakeholder Survey asks a range of questions about Denbighshire as a place and also about the Council. This is a part of the monitoring process of the County Council's Corporate Plan, under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021. The County Council are inviting the following groups of people to take part in this survey: Denbighshire residents; Council staff; County Councillors, Town, City and Community Councillors; Local businesses; Trade Unions; and any other stakeholders the Council works with, such as third sector and charity organisations.
- 2.2 This survey is anonymous, and the data provided will be used by Denbighshire County Council as part of its performance monitoring and to meet the Council's obligations under the Local Government and Elections Act (Wales) 2021.

3. Commentary.

- 3.1 The Town Council has signed an agreed charter with Denbighshire County Council, last reviewed in September 2020, which stipulates that:

"We aim to work together as a partnership of equals rather than tiers. Successful partnership working at the community level can only be achieved if the partners – DCC and the City, Town and Community Councils – understand and respect each other's roles, and work to complement those roles in serving the community."

Seek the participation of, and consult with, City, Town and Community Councils on Denbighshire policies that affect C, T&CC collectively or individually at the earliest appropriate stage.

Respect and properly consider City, Town and Community Councils views before making decisions.

- 3.2 Yet, despite previous references that have been made to the County Council in responses to earlier surveys the County Council continues to seek views from individuals and the most recent email from the County Council which stipulated *"Please see below that we are promoting Denbighshire County Council's annual Stakeholder Survey for 2024 to 2025 and would like to invite you to take part. It is important that we hear from as many people as possible, and so we are grateful for your support in sharing this message."* continues to demean the role of City, Town and Community Councils in Denbighshire, to one of being a signpost to other groups or individuals.
- 3.3 That said, the recent email has alerted staff to the consultation which closes on the and have prepared a response on behalf of the Town council as detailed in the appendix based in the survey that is clearly directed to individuals to make a response.

4. Recommendation.

- 4.1 It is recommended that the response to the consultation, once considered and agreed by Members, should be forwarded to Denbighshire County Councils Strategic Planning Team

5. Reasons for recommendation.

- 5.1 To respond to consultations.

Appendix.

Llangollen Town Council

To what extent do you agree or disagree that there is sufficient, good quality housing in Denbighshire, which meets people's needs? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree

Tend to agree

Tend to disagree

Strongly disagree ✓

Don't know

Comments

Given the demographic profile of the area Llangollen Town Council believe that the demand for housing to fulfil local needs should be a mix of market, affordable and social housing. These factors indicate the average house prices are well above the local median income and the affordability ratio shows the disparity between local house prices and local earnings. In the preparation of the Community Plan for Llangollen, there was public concern that the continuation of the type of residential development being provided by the market in Llangollen will result in a: -

- Loss of vital green space.
- Reduced facilities for young people.
- Increased vehicle traffic and congestion.
- Strain on local services and school provision.
- Loss of agricultural land.
- Sites too far out of town centre to allow people to walk into town.
- Lack of affordable housing within the town.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire has a prosperous economy that provides access to the right skills, jobs and income? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree

Tend to agree ✓

Tend to disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Comments

The continued focus on housing growth as a driver for employment land allocation is inappropriate as employment in the local economy is dependent on the tourism and retail sectors.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire has the transport and road infrastructure to support thriving, cohesive, and well-connected communities? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree

Tend to agree ✓

Tend to disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Comments

Whilst good transport links exist between Llangollen and Wrexham the routes to other outlying settlements and rural communities do not provide for well-connected communities

To what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire has the digital infrastructure (such as good broadband connectivity, good mobile internet or mobile phone signal) to support thriving, cohesive, and well-connected communities? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree

Tend to agree

Tend to disagree ✓

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Comments

Broadband coverage has improved in parts of Llangollen but there still remains a number of “not spots” that need to be addressed.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that the rich cultural heritage and natural assets of Denbighshire are being used to their full potential? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree

Tend to agree ✓

Tend to disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Comments

A result of the public consultation undertaken during the preparation of the Community Plan for Llangollen has indicated that the residents of Llangollen are proud of their landscape and heritage and that it is a prime location and a gateway to north Wales.

Of particular note is its riverside location within a dramatic valley setting and local assets such as the canal railway and Castell Dinas Bran. Individuals felt that in developing the ‘destination’ it is vitally important to keep the town’s integrity and character. However, to achieve this the attractiveness of the area must be protected and enhanced to make both the natural and built environments more appealing to existing and potential visitors. It is key that future developments do not adversely affect the areas aesthetic natural beauty and statutory designations which are the drivers for the economic vitality of the town. Llangollen is a premier location for exploring the surrounding area and is home to excellent tourism assets including vibrant outdoor tourism and heritage sectors.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that people in Denbighshire can live safely, happily, and independently, but receive good support when needed to promote resilience and well-being? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree

Tend to agree ✓

Tend to disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know

Comments

Llangollen has, and still, suffers from a number of anti-social behaviour incidents. These are more prevalent in the summer months with the influx of visitors to the town. This needs to be constantly monitored and action should be taken to prevent the menace of this kind of behaviour on local residents.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire has the social infrastructure (such as access to community venues, leisure opportunities, places of worship or other community gatherings, and volunteering opportunities) needed to support personal and community well-being? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree
Tend to agree
Tend to disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know

Comments

Llangollen is well blessed with to community venues, leisure opportunities, places of worship or other community gatherings, and volunteering opportunities but this may not be the case across the whole of the county.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that people in Denbighshire are treated fairly and equally, and have access to opportunities to promote their well-being and community cohesion? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree
Tend to agree
Tend to disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know

Comments

From experience within the community of Llangollen resident and visitors are treated fairly and equally and have access to opportunities to promote their well-being and community cohesion Llangollen is a diverse and welcoming community, renowned for its international events such as the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod. Local events have fostered intercultural understanding and local pride. However local challenges remain including ensuring that smaller, rural communities like Llangollen maintain integration amidst demographic changes, such as migration or generational shifts.

To what extent do you agree or disagree that good quality learning and training is available in Denbighshire, allowing people of all ages to reach their personal and professional potential? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree

Tend to agree ✓
Tend to disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know

To what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire is a county where the Welsh language is a living, thriving language? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree ✓
Tend to agree
Tend to disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know

To what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire is resilient against the impacts of climate change and nature's decline? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree
Tend to agree
Tend to disagree ✓
Strongly disagree
Don't know

Comments

Llangollen Town Council also believes that given that Denbighshire County Council has declared a climate emergency and is committed to becoming net carbon zero by 2030, at the latest, then the County Councils commitment to reducing emissions against the effect of continued development based on economic growth must be questioned. The Town Council believes that emissions will not be reduced to net zero whilst policies are based on economic growth instead of other measures such as environmental security and a relatively stable climate. More has to be done to reduce demand to a much greater extent than in the past, and if demand is not reduced then there is no prospect to reduce emissions. Emissions are a symptom of consumption and unless consumption is reduced, emissions will not reduce.

From your experience with the Council, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire County Council manages its performance well? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree
Tend to agree ✓
Tend to disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know

From your experience with the Council, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire County Council manages its risks and challenges well? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree
Tend to agree ✓
Tend to disagree
Strongly disagree
Don't know

From your experience with the Council, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire County Council manages its finances well? Please tick one option only.

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

From your experience with the Council, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire County Council has effective long-term plans in place? Please tick one option only.

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

From your experience with the Council, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire County Council treats its workforce well? Please tick one option only.

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

32. From your experience with the Council, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire County Council makes the best use of its assets and resources? Please tick one option only.

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

From your experience with the Council, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire County Council purchases its goods and services in a fair and efficient way? Please tick one option only.

- Strongly agree
- Tend to agree
- Tend to disagree
- Strongly disagree
- Don't know

From your experience with the Council, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire County Council works well with partners? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree

Tend to agree

Tend to disagree ✓

Strongly disagree

Don't know

From your experience with the Council, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire County Council acts on the concerns of residents? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree

Tend to agree ✓

Tend to disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

From your experience with the Council, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire County Council treats all people fairly? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree ✓

Tend to agree

Tend to disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

From your experience with the Council, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire County Council is a transparent, well-run and high-performing Council? Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree

Tend to agree ✓

Tend to disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

From your experience with the Council, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "I believe there is a good working relationship between political leaders and senior management within Denbighshire County Council." Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree

Tend to agree

Tend to disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know ✓

From your experience with the Council, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement: "I feel that the Council's Corporate Plan and priorities reflects the needs of the local community." Please tick one option only.

Strongly agree

Tend to agree ✓

Tend to disagree

Strongly disagree

Don't know

Would you like to make any additional comments to support the answers provided to numbers 27-39 above?

Comments

In respect of the question - from your experience with the Council, to what extent do you agree or disagree that Denbighshire County Council works well with partners please see comments below.

Is there anything you would like to add about the topics raised in this survey or any other issue you feel we should know about?

The Town Cocouncil has signed an agreed charter with Denbighshire County Council, last reviewed in September 2020, which stipulates that:

"We aim to work together as a partnership of equals rather than tiers. Successful partnership working at the community level can only be achieved if the partners – DCC and the City, Town and Community Councils – understand and respect each other's roles, and work to complement those roles in serving the community."

Seek the participation of, and consult with, City, Town and Community Councils on Denbighshire policies that affect City, Town and Community Councils collectively or individually at the earliest appropriate stage.

Respect and properly consider City, Town and Community Councils views before making decisions.

Yet, despite previous references that have been made to the County Cocouncil in responses to earlier surveys the County Council continues to seek views from individuals and the most recent email which stipulated *"Please see below that we are promoting Denbighshire County Council's annual Stakeholder Survey for 2024 to 2025 and would like to invite you to take part. It is important that we hear from as many people as possible, and so we are grateful for your support in sharing this message."* continues to demean the role of City, Town and Community Councils in Denbighshire, to one of being a signpost to other groups or individuals.

It must be recognised that if a response is required on any particular matter, then it has to be presented to City, Town and Community Councils to consider, any comments made by individual City, Town and Community Councillors are not the corporate view of that Council, they are purely personal comments.

REPORT AUTHOR: Town Clerk
SUBJECT: Proposed Regional Transport Plan for North Wales (2025-2030).
REPORT FOR: Decision.

1. Summary.

1.1 To consider a response on the proposed Regional Transport Plan for North Wales (2025-2030).

2. Background.

2.1 Ambition North Wales (ANW) are seeking views on the proposed Regional Transport Plan for North Wales (2025-2030), (the Plan) and its supporting documents, which include a monitoring and evaluation plan, delivery plan for local authority schemes, and an integrated well-being appraisal and response are required by 14th April 2025.

2.2 The plan captures the unique challenges and opportunities for North Wales and outlines our strategic policies and interventions across various modes of transport, including rail, road, bus, walking, and cycling. ANW recognise that having access to accurate and up to date information at the touch of a button can modernise and transform commuter experience therefore the significance of digital connectivity is amplified in the plan. ANW objectives are clear: to improve digital connectivity and local services, enhance accessibility and transport choice, enable decarbonisation through the transition to a zero-emission fleet, and foster sustainable and inclusive economic growth

2.3 The Plan is essential for ensuring that North Wales can contribute to the delivery of national strategies and priorities. The Case for Change, which has been prepared to provide the evidence base in support of this Plan, identifies the links to Welsh Government priorities, considers relevant plans and studies, and outlines key transport challenges and opportunities.

2.4 ANW have identified that the key opportunities for transport in North Wales include:

- Enabling a shift to low carbon modes of transport and low emission vehicles by helping people reduce the need to travel and encourage more trips by walking, wheeling, and cycling, through better joined up planning for transport, land use, and economic development. This will help reduce traffic congestion and transport related pollution, including on the A55 corridor, which is the largest contributor to poor air quality in North Wales. This will in turn help bring associated health and wellbeing benefits. North Wales benefits from around 400 public electric vehicle charging points and there is a need to address the challenges of supply in rural areas to increase the roll-out. When considering the opportunities to reduce the need to travel, 28.1% of the North Wales workforce worked remotely on a regular basis in 2022-23, which provides a strong opportunity for our region to contribute to the national target of 30% by 2030.
- The increasing need to consider how we plan for climate change in the way we maintain and enhance our existing and new transport infrastructure in the future. There are a number of high flood risk areas from the sea across North Wales, especially around the North Coast, the Menai and towards the Wales-England

Border, and in areas along river corridors. There is an opportunity we cannot afford to miss in making sure our infrastructure is resilient to climate change and extreme weather events. There is also an opportunity to decarbonise our private vehicles, freight and public transport fleet, as well as reduce the amount we travel, to reduce the impact of transport emissions.

- Joining up key settlements with developments and regional growth areas such as the nationally important cluster of advanced manufacturing businesses in Flintshire and Wrexham (with a new Investment Zone). With the exception of Gwynedd, North Wales has a lower proportion of its population employed in high skilled occupations compared with the average for Wales, with higher proportions in low skilled work, and there is an opportunity to unlock local economic growth and improve access to employment opportunities for residents in North Wales. There is also an opportunity to get more people walking, wheeling and cycling as part of new developments and between existing key settlements.
- Improving integration and cross-border connectivity between strategic transport connections in the North Wales and Northwest England transport corridors, from the Anglesey Freeport at Holyhead to Liverpool John Lennon Airport. There are significant cross-border movements (approximately 13% of total trips) with the largest flows between Deeside and Chester and Flintshire and Chester but only 6% of cross-border trips are made by public transport, which presents an opportunity to enable more trips by public transport and better the regions. As we connect Welsh speaking communities with English markets, we must protect and enhance Welsh language opportunities through our policies and actions.
- Improving rural and coastal mobility by providing strategic connections between rural settlements, employment areas and services in more urban locations. Whilst car ownership is high in the region, those who do not own a car are reliant on car sharing services and a good quality public transport system, and there is an opportunity to improve public transport connectivity to help those in rural and coastal communities' access higher quality jobs, community facilities and services. In addition, with 23 of the most deprived areas across Wales situated within North Wales, and with high levels of deprivation concentrated in coastal urban areas such as Rhyl and Colwyn Bay, there is a need to improve access to services to reduce deprivation.
- Improving the bus network, facilities and implementing bus priority infrastructure which offers an opportunity to complement frequency enhancements proposed as part of the future bus transformation network and ensure good access for all bus stops and stations. This is crucial for achieving better journey times, reliability, and modal shift with effective integration with rail services through enabling interchange. The proportion of residents aged over 65 in North Wales is significantly higher than the Wales average (particularly in Conwy and Anglesey) whilst the number of people defined as disabled under the Equalities Act varies but Denbighshire and Conwy have higher than average rates. These groups typically are more reliant on effective public transport than other demographics, highlighting the

importance of an effective bus and rail network, and the need to improve accessibility for people with reduced mobility.

- Strengthening North Wales's position as an international tourism destination through enhancing transport connectivity and better joining up land use planning, transport, and economic regeneration, such as at the Wrexham Gateway. Mountain and coastal holidays are a big draw for tourists to North Wales and helping improve more sustainable access to visitor destinations will also improve connectivity for all to areas for recreation, exercise, and wellbeing. This needs to be carefully balanced with the need to protect and enhance our high-quality environment including the Eryri National Park, the Llŷn Peninsula, the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Enhancing connectivity via sustainable transport modes could offer visitors a new way to explore the region, and appeal to those who are conscious of the impact of their holiday on the environment.

2.5 Having considered our Case for Change, existing transport network and future needs and aspirations, ANW have developed the following vision statement for this Plan.

North Wales will have a safe, sustainable, affordable, resilient, and effective integrated transport network that supports economic growth, prosperity and well-being.

2.6 This vision is supported by four objectives, which will help ANW monitor and evaluate the success of the Plan:

1. Improve digital connectivity and local services. ANW will enable 30% or more of people in North Wales to work remotely by 2030 through better land use planning and improved digital connectivity, which should reduce the overall need to travel and enable shorter trips better suited to sustainable modes.
2. Improved accessibility and transport choice, ANW will develop infrastructure and services that provide people with a choice about how they travel for each journey and support sustainable economic growth through improved access to key settlements, employment, educational sites and tourist attractions. The accessibility of each key trip attractor should be improved, supporting the national mode share target of 45% of journeys to be undertaken by walking, cycling and public transport by 2040.
3. Enable Sustainable Economic Growth, ANW will develop a resilient, safe, well-maintained, and efficient transport network that delivers sustainable economic growth by improving accessibility to existing and planned employment areas. At least 50% of households in North Wales will have an increased range of travel within 1 hour by public transport, supporting access to key employment sites and regional centres by 2030.
4. Enable decarbonisation through transition to a zero-emission fleet; ANW will develop supporting infrastructure and support incentives to enable at least 50% of

motor vehicles and all public buses operating in North Wales to be zero emission by 2030.

2.7 The Plan also contains a Draft Regional Transport Delivery Plan with specific Denbighshire Projects are detailed below. Projects generic for each LA in the region are emboldened with the remainder being of relevance specifically to Llangollen: -

2.8 Higher Priority

Implement the bus transformation network Denbighshire

Public EV charging in public car parks and information coordination, Denbighshire

Regional rural bus and coach network Denbighshire

Subsidised taxi rides in rural areas to fill "gaps" in public transport in Denbighshire

Highway maintenance and improvements, Denbighshire

Safe Routes in communities/ home to school transport, Denbighshire

RTI infrastructure at various bus hubs, Denbighshire

Brook Street/ Maes Pengwern - Active Travel Route

2.9 Medium Priority

Strategic re-routing of HGVs on Trunk Road Network away from Llangollen

Llangollen Active Travel Masterplan

2.10 Lower Priority

Capacity and safety enhancements/pinch point improvements: Collision cluster sites, Denbighshire

3. Commentary

3.1 Llangollen Town Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the proposed Regional Transport Plan for North Wales (2025-2030). The Council looks forward to continued engagement in shaping a more sustainable, well-connected future for North Wales.

3.2 Having declared a climate and ecological emergency, the Town Council fully supports the need to integrate climate-conscious planning into future transport infrastructure. It particularly welcomes the emphasis on low-carbon transport modes and low-emission vehicles to reduce travel demand and promote active travel such as walking, wheeling, and cycling through better coordination of transport, land use, and economic development.

3.3 Given Llangollen's reliance on tourism, the Town Council strongly supports proposals to enhance integration and cross-border connectivity along the North Wales Northwest England transport corridor. Strengthening North Wales' position as an international tourism destination through improved transport links and coordinated land use planning is a key priority.

3.4 Improving sustainable access to visitor destinations will also enhance connectivity for recreation, exercise, and wellbeing. However, this must be carefully balanced with **the** need to preserve and enhance Llangollen's unique environment, particularly as it lies within the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

The Council agrees that investing in sustainable transport options could provide visitors with eco-friendly ways to explore the region, appealing to those mindful of their environmental impact.

3.5 The Town Council also supports the Delivery Plan, particularly the projects relevant to Llangollen and Denbighshire, including:

- Real-Time Information (RTI) infrastructure at bus hubs.
- Brook Street/Maes Pengwern Active Travel Route.
- Strategic re-routing of HGVs on the trunk road network to reduce congestion in Llangollen.
- The Llangollen Active Travel Masterplan.

4. Recommendation.

4.1 It is recommended that the response to the consultation, once considered and agreed by Members, should be forwarded to Ambition North Wales

5. Reasons for recommendation.

5.1 To respond to consultations.