

News from One Voice Wales:

Welcome to Issue 5 of the One Voice Wales E-Bulletin. This edition is packed with updates from across the sector and our partners, including newly released training dates and details on bursaries and free places that may be available to support your development. We also bring you the latest from our *Cost of Living* project and *Places for Nature* programme, along with key news and opportunities to support your work in local communities.

Age Cymru and Carers Trust Wales are working in partnership on the older carers project, funded by Welsh Government.



Supporting a loved one?
You might be a carer – and we're here for you.

Many older people don't realise they're carers, but if you help someone with shopping, medication, or emotional support, you deserve support too.

Call our free and confidential advice line today.
03300 564 365
between 9:00am and 4:00pm,
Monday – Friday
www.agecymru.wales/our-work/carers/



Caring is part of our community
– but who cares for you?

If you're supporting a loved one, and need advice, we're here for you. Our free and confidential helpline for older carers is available in multiple languages through our external translation service.

Call us today
03300 564 365
between 9:00am and 4:00pm,
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www.agecymru.wales/our-work/carers/

It's been estimated that unpaid carers provide 96% of care and support at home and are worth around £10.6 billion to the Welsh economy each year. Older carers form a crucial foundation of our health and

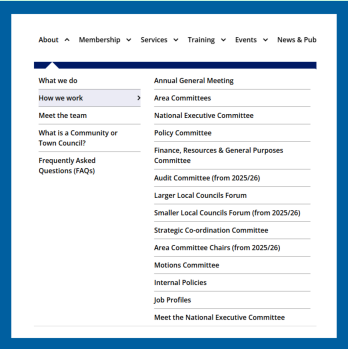
social care system – but without effective support, carers can become overwhelmed by physical, mental, emotional and financial strain.

Age Cymru is now promoting a new Information and Advice Line for older carers in Wales: 03300 564 365. This dedicated service is part of their ongoing work to support older carers, and one of the key aims this year is to raise awareness of it across the country. To help reach diverse communities, they've developed four tailored posters for: older carers generally, older LGBT+ carers, older male carers, and older Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic carers.

[Read Full Detail about the Project](#)

Available to View on the OVW Website:

Committee Documents:



OVW Committee Documents:

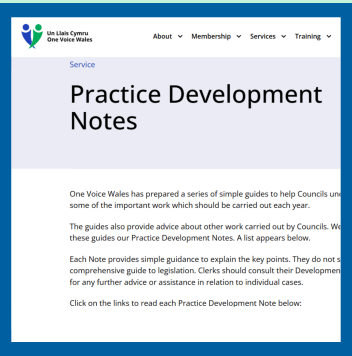
One Voice Wales is led by a National Executive Committee of Councillors from member Councils, supported by committees overseeing policy, finance, audit, and communications. Area Committees ensure local, regional, and national information is discussed and shared.

[Click the link to see all the Committee Documents](#)

[More Details](#)

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Practice Development Notes:



Practice Development Notes:

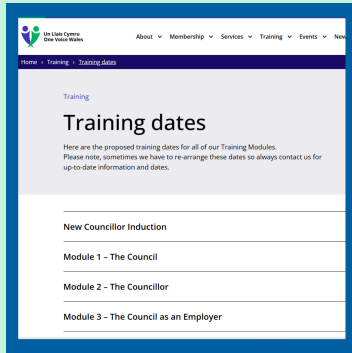
One Voice Wales has created Practice Development Notes - simple guides to help Councils understand key annual tasks and provide advice on other council activities.

[Click the link to view the Practice Development Notes](#)

[More Details](#)

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OVW Training Dates:



Click the link for more details of the bursary scheme and free places offer.

[More Details](#)

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Vacancies within the Community and Town Council Sector:



See all current vacancies here.

[More Details](#)

Save the Date:

Innovative Practice Conference: 'Planning Ahead for a Challenging Future'

Wednesday 2 July 10.15am - 3.45pm

Hafod a Hendre, Royal Welsh
Showground, Builth Wells

[Contact Us to Book](#)

Extraordinary General Meeting

Wednesday 3 September

All Councils in Wales are invited to attend (more details to follow).

One Voice Wales Annual Conference

Wednesday 1 October

Join us for a round up of the year's achievements at OVW.

Consultations:

Consultation Panel

One Voice Wales is always looking to improve the ways in which we represent our Councils. It is important that Councils have a strong voice on the national stage.

We work with Councils to respond to consultation exercises undertaken by Welsh Government and others. Councils are in an ideal position to give their communities a voice in these challenging times. Consultation exercises form an important part of our new website.

To improve the way in which we manage these arrangements, we are looking at creating a small panel to help us put together our responses. This will help to ensure that consultation exercises reflect the views of Community and Town Councils. If membership of this panel is of interest to your Council, please [get in touch](#) so that we can assess the degree of interest. We will then give further thought to how the panel could be established and supported.

Draft Disabled People's Rights Plan

The Welsh Government has launched a consultation on its Draft Disabled People's Rights plan, setting out a positive ambition for advancing the rights and opportunities of all disabled people across Wales over the next decade.

The plan is based on the work of the Disability Rights Taskforce, which brought together people with lived experience and expertise. It addresses real challenges faced by disabled people in their everyday lives and outlines both immediate actions and long-term outcomes to create lasting change in how society addresses barriers to inclusion.

The 12-week consultation welcomes input from individuals, community groups, businesses and organisations, with particular emphasis on hearing directly from disabled people about their priorities.

The consultation is open until **7 August 2025**. Please take some time to read the plan and share your thoughts. You can find the consultation and details on how to respond [here](#).

Publications:

Play in Healthcare

Play in healthcare describes the various skilled and specialised roles of the health play workforce – such as health play specialists, health playworkers and hospital youth workers. It discusses how each role supports a therapeutic play process that helps sick children and teenagers adapt to a healthcare setting.

[Click to Download the Information sheet](#)

[More
Details](#)

2026 Community Governance Qualification

Starting February 2026, this flexible distance-learning programme helps councillors and officers develop advanced skills in local decision-making and community leadership. Financial support may be available through the Welsh Government and SLCC Educational Trust bursaries.

[Click for full prospectus and details to enrol](#)

[More
Details](#)

OVW Funded Projects Updates:

Cost of Living Crisis Project News:

Bridging the Gap: Tackling Rural Cost of Living Challenges Together

Tuesday 24 June 6.30pm - 8.30pm

Join us to hear from community and town councils who are successfully supporting their rural communities through the cost of living crisis. This webinar will highlight real-life examples of what's working on the ground, explore common challenges, and share practical ideas to help your council

reach and support those most in need. It's an opportunity to learn from peers and gain inspiration to take action in your own area.

[Zoom Link for Webinar](#)

[Register if you Prefer](#)

Local Places for Nature News:

Local Places for Nature funding programme aims to create 'Nature on your doorstep'. We can provide a variety of services to your Council.

[Find out More](#)

Events:

Llais y Goedwig Gathering 2025

There's still time to book onto the Llais y Goedwig Gathering 2025 - they're at two locations this year to give you even more opportunity to explore the amazing range of skills and experiences that Community Woodlands have to offer - [book here](#),

[Book Here](#)

**Loneliness and Isolation
Awareness Week**



This week, we're proud to spotlight the inspiring efforts of Community and Town Councils across Wales in our featured video, showing how local initiatives are helping to tackle loneliness and isolation head-on.

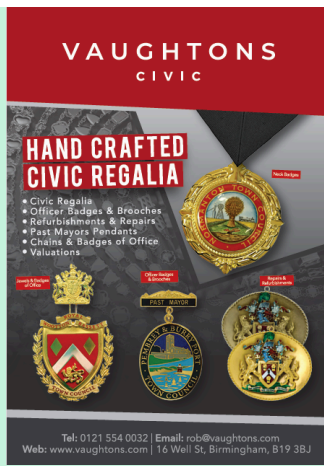
From coffee mornings and befriending programmes to warm, inclusive community spaces and local events, these councils are creating meaningful connections where they're needed most.

A heartfelt thank you to the councillors, volunteers, and partners who dedicate their time and energy to ensure that no one feels alone. Your compassion is changing lives.

Watch the video to see these powerful stories in action — and let's continue working together to build kinder, more connected communities.

[Watch the Video](#)

Advertisements:



Vaughtons Civic

Vaughtons are one of the UK's premier manufacturers of Civic regalia, Chains of Office, Medals and more for associations, clubs and Councils all over Britain and beyond.

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Un Llais Cymru / One Voice Wales

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Mae'r E - Bwletin yma yn cael ei dosbarthu i bob Cyngor yng Nghymru -
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