



News from One Voice Wales:

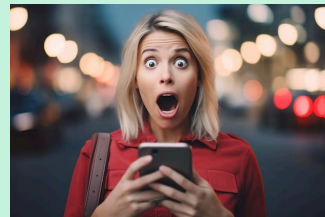
Welcome to Issue 7 of the One Voice Wales E-Bulletin. This edition is packed with our regular update from our *Cost of Living* team and *Local Places for Nature* programme, along with key news and opportunities to support your work in local communities.

NEWS

CONTROLLING ACCESS TO COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Councils who hold their meetings on a hybrid basis or on a remote basis only should be aware of a recent incident that occurred at a Town Council when three people joined the Zoom Committee meeting remotely and within a minute or so of accessing the meeting displayed pornographic material. The Clerk acted by closing the meeting straightaway and although the material was only displayed for a few seconds it was a shock to everyone present including a youth representative who was in attendance.

It is important that councils are made aware of this unfortunate occurrence and what they might consider doing to prevent it happening to them. Rather than publish an open link to join the meeting either in the agenda or on the website, councils can instead invite members of the public to request the meeting link from the Clerk or another member of staff. That approach would satisfy both the Local Government Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960. In



practical terms, providing details to access to a meeting in this way would create an extra step for members of the public to take, but it is not unreasonable where sufficient arrangements are in place to ensure that requests will be responded to and it does not create a barrier for their attendance and engagement. In relation to requesting identification, there is no statutory requirement for attendees to identify themselves and while councils may regulate proceedings, mandating identification in standing orders could conflict with public access rights. Such a requirement is likely to be considered ultra vires as it may hinder public participation.

Worth taking the time to view on the One Voice Wales Website:

Model Governance Documents and guidance for Councils



Model Governance Documents and guidance for Councils:

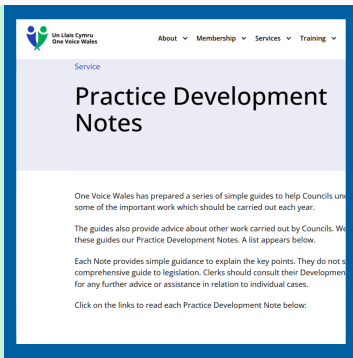
One Voice Wales has published model arrangements to help Councils run effectively and meet their statutory obligations. We also circulate statutory guidance and other guidance.

We keep these arrangements under regular review, helping Councils to maintain a sound governance framework.

Click on the the link to see the wealth of documents that are available

For further information

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.

[View Practice development Notes](#)

One Voice Wales Training Dates:



Councillors wishing to attend training modules please contact your clerk who will book you on to the relevant session.

It was a joy to hear in a recent session that an 82 year old Councillor with many years experience is looking to attend every module this year and has found everyone to date very worthwhile - never too late in life to learn !



JOBS

Vacancies within Community and Town Council Sector:

Vacancies:

As part of annual membership, One Voice Wales offers member

Community and Town Councils the opportunity to advertise sector-related vacancies, such as Clerks, Responsible Financial Officers, and other staff roles.

Further Information on vacancies

Welsh Government Jobs

If you are looking for a new career then a job in the Welsh Government is a great place to start.

A career in the Welsh Civil Service offers you:

- the opportunity to make a difference to people's lives in Wales
- learning on the job and good career development opportunities
- flexible working hours and comprehensive benefits

There are a number of different ways to join the Welsh civil service.

Vacancy: Press Officer – Welsh Essential

Salary range or pay band: HEO - £35,787 to £43,759

Work Pattern: Full time (application are welcome from people who work part time, as part of a job share or who work full time)

Directorate: Communications

Branch: Press Office

Location: Pan Wales

Closing date: 24/07/2025, 16:00

Press Officer - Welsh Essential - Welsh Government (Cais)

Contact point for further information: Matthew Pritchard -

matthew.pritchard@gov.wales - 03000 258894

Further Information

Public Appointments

The Welsh Government is committed to improving the diversity of public appointments in Wales.

The [Welsh Government Anti-racist Wales Action Plan and Diversity and Inclusion Strategy for Public Appointments](#) sets out a vision and actions aimed at supporting delivery of this key Ministerial priority for Wales.

We are keen to work with our external partners to build a pipeline of individuals who are interested in applying for a board position.

To view the latest advertisements for public appointments in Wales, please visit:

[Non-Executive Director \(University\) to Public Health Wales NHS Trust - Welsh Government](#)

Closing date for the above appointments is 25/07/2025 at 16:00.

The [Welsh Government Anti-racist Wales Action Plan and Diversity and Inclusion Strategy for Public Appointments](#) sets out a vision and actions aimed at supporting delivery of this key Ministerial priority for Wales.

We are keen to work with our external partners to build a pipeline of individuals who are interested in applying for a board position.

To view the latest advertisements for public appointments in Wales, please visit:

[Welsh Industrial Development Advisory Board \(WIDAB\) - Appointment of 5 Members - Welsh Government \(Cais\)](#)

[Appointment of Independent Member \(Finance\) to the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board - Welsh Government \(Cais\)](#)

Closing date for the above appointments is 01/08/2025 at 16:00.

[Appointment of a Chair - Athrofa Dysgu Cymraeg Genedlaethol/National Institute for Learning Welsh - Welsh Government](#)

Closing date for the above appointments is 12/09/2025 at 16:00.

Save the Date

Extraordinary General Meeting

Wednesday 3 September

One Voice Wales Annual Conference

Wednesday 1 October

All Councils in Wales are invited to attend (more details to follow). We will be discussing the new Constitution. Please can clerks inform us of who the representative for the Council will be and the reserve rep

Join us for a round up of the year's achievements at One Voice Wales. Councils and Area Committees have already submitted motions for debate.

One Voice Wales Funded Projects Updates:

Cost of Living Crisis Project News:

Case Study

Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council Meals on Wheels Service

Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council started an important initiative supporting vulnerable residents to access food during COVID-19. It has continued to be a valuable resource for older people in the community with the council continuing to provide a hot meal delivery service twice a week. Watch the video case study <https://youtu.be/zGR42Wt5CRI>

See the written case study on our website [Pembrey & Burry Port Town Council Case Study](#)

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](#)

External News

Voting at 16

- Modernisation of UK democracy will see 16 and 17 year olds able to vote in next general election
- Voter ID to be extended to include bank cards to help more people exercise their democratic right

- Tougher new rules to guard against foreign political interference and abuse of campaigners

Sixteen year olds will be given the right to vote in all UK elections as part of seismic changes to modernise UK democracy, delivering a key manifesto commitment and helping to restore trust in politics through our Plan for Change.

This will mean young people, who already contribute to society by working, paying taxes and serving in the military, will be given the right to vote on the issues that affect them. This will bring UK-wide elections in line with Scotland and Wales and is a major step towards meeting a manifesto commitment, ushering in the biggest change to UK democracy in a generation.

The plans, published today [17 July] in a new strategy paper, will boost democratic engagement in a changing world, and help to restore trust in UK democracy.

As part of the plans, the government is going further to make sure eligible voters are not deterred from voting, by expanding voter ID to permit the use of UK-issued bank cards as an accepted form of ID at the polling station. This is alongside harnessing more digital options to support voters and polling station staff, including allowing accepted IDs such as the Veteran Card and UK driving licence to be used at polling stations when they become available in digital format.

A new digital Voter Authority Certificate will also be created to ensure Electoral Registration Officers can meet the digital needs of voters, reduce printing costs and ensure faster delivery.

An increasingly automated voter registration system will also make it easier for people to register to vote and reduce the need to fill out their details across different government services on multiple occasions.

Digital Health of Community and Town Councils

Please find attached links to the [report](#) on Digital health of community and town councils and [Written Statement](#) from the Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government.

Help Shape the Future of Transport in Wales!

Transport for Wales is inviting residents across our communities to join their **Insights Panel** – a chance to influence how transport services work across the country.

- Test new digital tools before they go live
- Give feedback on upcoming features and services
- Take part in 1-to-1 online sessions (with a gift voucher as a thank you!)
- Share your views via short surveys or interviews

Whether you're a daily commuter or an occasional traveller – your feedback can help make a difference.

[Join Today](#)



2025 marks the 20th anniversary of the Playwork Principles. They were developed by the Playwork Principles Scrutiny Group, established by Play Wales, in consultation with the UK playwork sector and adopted in 2005.

The Playwork Principles establish the professional and ethical framework for playwork and as such must be regarded as a whole. They describe what is unique about play and playwork, and provide the playwork perspective for working with children and young people.

Play Wales has commissioned the Childhood Development and Playwork Team at Leeds Beckett University to undertake a survey on how and where the Playwork Principles are used. This will involve surveying the playwork sector nationally and internationally, to identify:

- organisations and stakeholders who have adopted the Playwork Principles or who use the Playwork Principles to inform their work
- organisations that have modified the Playwork Principles for application in their respective setting(s)
- organisations that have adopted alternative forms of guiding principles for playwork.

This research is designed to ascertain how widely and in what settings the Playwork Principles have become adopted 20 years since they were first devised.

This research has been approved by the Playwork Principles Scrutiny Group who hold the Playwork Principles in trust on behalf of the sector.

Get involved

The survey will be available from early August until the end of December 2025. We are keen for it to be distributed as far and widely as possible, nationally and internationally. We are asking anyone who has any role or responsibility for facilitating play for children in a staffed setting, to complete this survey.

Are you a representative of an organisation with contacts across the children's workforce who may be applying the Playwork Principles in their practice? Could you help promote the survey? If so, please [email](#) the Childhood Development and Playwork Team.

Ystadegau Cymru Workshops

On behalf of Ystadau Cymru we would like to invite you to participate in one or more of our online collaborative workshops, from a three-part series, to support the development of an exciting new piece of work. The objective of this work is to:

Provide best practice and strategic advice for public sector organisations in Wales (large bodies to small town and community councils) for decarbonisation and climate resilience action in the built estate.

The workshops will be an opportunity to help Ystadau Cymru with the development of this strategic guidance.

Please note that the workshops will be delivered by the Welsh Government Energy Service and will be held in English.

[Register here](#)

Workshop 1 - Decarbonising the Built Estate

Objective: Explore best practices, challenges, and opportunities for reducing carbon emissions from the public sector estate, and increasing the resilience of buildings from climate impacts.

Date: Wednesday the 23rd of July 2025

Time: 11am - 12pm

Link: [Teams Meeting Link](#)

Workshop 2 - Land Use & Climate Adaptation

Objective: Understand how public sector organisations can utilise their land to support decarbonisation and reduce climate risks.

Date: Wednesday the 30th of July 2025

Time: 11am - 12pm

Link: [Teams meeting link](#)

Workshop 3 - Governance, Behaviour & Supply Chains

Objective: Explore how governance structures, procurement, and behaviour change can support decarbonisation and climate adaptation goals.

Date: Wednesday the 6th of August 2025

Time: 11am - 12pm

Link: [Teams meeting link](#)

Have you signed up to Audit Wales's Newsletter ?

Follow this [Link](#) to their homepage where you can then sign up to a very informative newsletter .

Un Llais Cymru / One Voice Wales

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