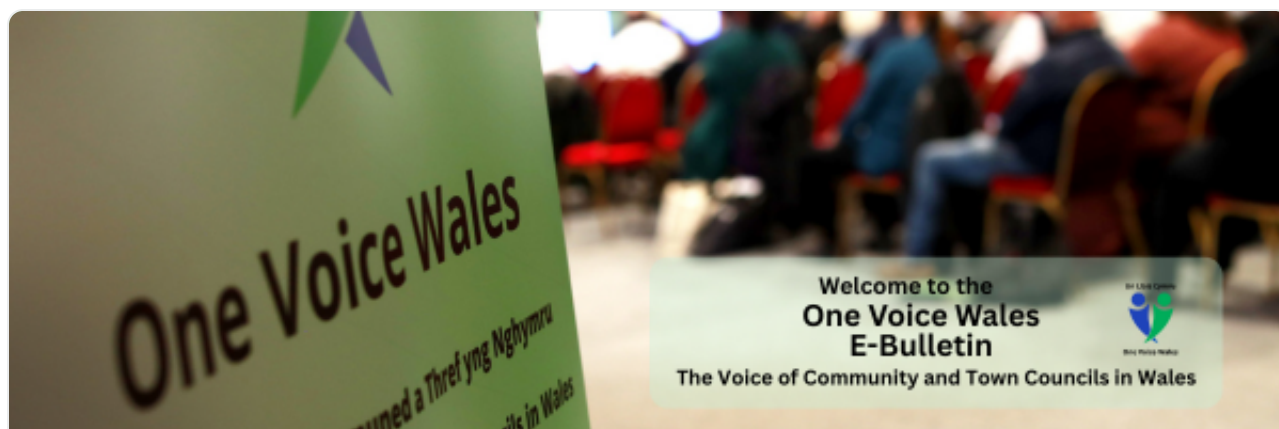




News from One Voice Wales:

Welcome to Issue 10 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

NEW GRANTS AVAILABLE !

 **Two New Equality and Inclusion Grant Streams – Now Open!**

1 Innovation and Partnership Working to Tackle Inequality and Promote Inclusion

 **Total fund: £450,000**

- Awards start at **£40,000**
- Ideal for **collaborative bids**, resource pooling, and intersectional support models.

2 Awareness and Engagement Grant

 **Total fund: £750,000**

Designed to fund awareness and engagement to promote equality and inclusion. Two tiers available:

- **£2,000–£9,999**: For smaller scale initiatives
- **£10,000–£100,000**: For larger-scale initiatives.

 *Grassroots organisations can apply as collaborators with a lead third sector organisation (registered charity or company).*

 **Key Dates**

- **Application deadline:** 16 November 2025

- **Successful applicants notified:** End December 2025
- **Project delivery period:** Until 30 September 2026

Get Involved

To support applicants:

- All guidance and resources are on a **dedicated webpage**: [Apply for funding under the equality and inclusion grant programme | GOV.WALES](#).
- **WCVA** and **CVCs** can offer support with funding applications :[Third Sector Support Wales](#).
- **Workshops** will be held to offer further information - details to follow.

This is a unique opportunity to help shape the future of equality in Wales. We invite you to apply for funding to support your work in advancing equality, inclusion, and human rights.

 Visit [Apply for funding under the equality and inclusion grant programme | GOV.WALES](#) for full details and application guidance.



Keep Wales Tidy Webinars

Calling all Welsh Community and Town Councils!

Environmental charity, **Keep Wales Tidy**, is delighted to invite you to two webinars designed to help you improve your local environment and community.

These are fantastic opportunities to hear from fellow community councils, get inspired by their successful projects, gain valuable insights, share experiences, and get your questions answered.

Green Space and Biodiversity Webinar

Date: Thursday 23 October 2025

Time: 10:30am - 12:00pm

This webinar is for councils wanting to boost local biodiversity and improve their green spaces. We'll cover:

- **Local Places for Nature** scheme, which offers free garden packages and support to create and improve nature spaces.
- The **Green Flag Award**, a benchmark for parks and green spaces.
- **Keep Wales Tidy contract services** for managing and improving your outdoor areas for nature and wellbeing.

Local Environmental Quality Webinar

When: Wednesday 5 November 2025

Time: 10:30am - 12:00pm

This session is for councils wanting to tackle key environmental quality issues. Topics will include:

- Organising and supporting **community litter-picking activities**.
- Latest **litter policy updates** including the upcoming Deposit Return Scheme.
- Managing and improving **'binrastructure'** (the strategic placement and type of bins).
- Effective ways to tackle **dog fouling** and updates on Keep Wales Tidy's 2025/26 campaign. 🐕
- Keep Wales Tidy contract services to tackle litter and waste

Both webinars are free to attend and will provide valuable, actionable information for your council.

You can register for the webinars by clicking on the title below:

 [Green Space and Biodiversity Webinar](#)

Date: Thursday 23 October 2025

Time: 10:30am - 12:00pm

 [Local Environmental Quality Webinar](#)

When: Wednesday 5 November 2025

Time: 10:30am - 12:00pm

Clicking on the date will open a short registration form, once you have completed this form the meeting link will be immediately sent to you by email.

Please write your email address carefully or you may not receive the link.



[Click here for the report](#)

I am pleased to enclose the Draft Annual Remuneration Report for 2026–27. This report outlines the Commission's proposed determinations on the remuneration, expenses, and benefits for elected and co-opted members across Wales' principal

councils, community and town councils, fire and rescue authorities, and national park authorities.

This is the first draft report since the Commission assumed responsibility for this remit from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales. It reflects a continuation of the robust framework inherited, while also initiating a forward-looking review of key areas including:

- Resettlement payments for councillors who are unsuccessful when seeking re-election;
- The remuneration framework for senior roles in principal councils and corporate joint committees;
- The methodology for annual uprating, including considering whether the Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings remains the most appropriate measure;
- Ongoing engagement with stakeholders such as the Welsh Local Government Association and One Voice Wales.

The Commission has proposed that the basic salary for elected members increases to £21,044, in line with the rise in average earnings. The increase in the basic annual salary is 6.4%, and we propose to maintain the existing banding structure for senior roles. Further details, including specific salary levels and allowances, are set out in the enclosed report.

The draft is now open for consultation until **18 November 2025**, and the Commission welcomes feedback from all stakeholders to inform the final determinations, which we intend to publish by the end of the year.

Launch of tRESP Consultation



We are pleased to announce the launch of the transitional Regional Energy Strategic Planning (tRESP) consultation. The consultation is open for six weeks from **23 September 2025** to **3 November 2025**.

What is tRESP?

Ofgem has asked NESO to take on a new regional energy strategic planning (RESP) role. The role will bring changes to the way that electricity and gas distribution networks are planned across Great Britain.

Eleven bespoke regional energy strategic plans (RESPs) will be produced for Scotland, Wales and nine English regions. These plans will then be used as key inputs to the business plans for the electricity and gas distribution network companies. This will help to ensure that energy networks are supporting the

delivery of local and national ambitions for economic growth and net zero. The first set of full RESPs will be published by the end of 2027.

tRESP has been developed to act as a bridge between the current approach to local energy network planning, and the new RESP approach.

tRESP is focused on supporting the next round of electricity distribution network operator (DNO) business plans, for 2028-33, also known as the ED3 price control. In order to fit with the timescales for the development of the DNO plans, we need to publish tRESP by the end of January 2026.

Why a consultation now?

We've taken a collaborative approach to the development of tRESP. We've been sharing our work and inviting, and taking on board, comments from stakeholders since March 2025. We're continuing this approach for the tRESP consultation, using it as an opportunity to share and invite comments on our latest work in progress. By consulting with our customers and stakeholders now, this will help us to meet the January 2026 deadline.

Consultation scope

We are seeking your feedback on:

- **Contexts for the Nations and Regions:** overviews for each RESP nation and region, based on publicly available data and information we've gathered through our engagement to date in England, Scotland and Wales
- **Pathways:** short- and long-term routes to net zero for each nation and region, prioritising demand and generation technologies that will contribute the most to peak demand increases in the future
- **Consistent Planning Assumptions:** a set of assumptions to ensure DNOs take a consistent approach in using the tRESP pathways
- **Strategic Investment Need:** identifying key projects requiring investment in electricity distribution networks but which are not yet in the connections process.

How to respond

- The consultation is open from **23 September to 3 November** on our website: [NESO tRESP Consultation](#)
- We will be holding the next round of RESP Forums across the nations and regions from **13–23 October 2025**. Full details and links to join are available on our [website](#). The **Wales** Forum will be on **16 October at 10:00**: [Register here](#)

We encourage you to participate and share your views to help shape the future of energy planning in your nation or region. If you have any questions about the consultation, please contact: box.consultations.RESP@neso.energy



Magazine link

Please see below a link to the latest issue of *Play for Wales*. The *Play for Wales* magazine is published twice a year and provides a range of useful information and articles relating to children's play that will be of interest to Town and Community Councils. Please can you distribute this throughout your region.

The latest issue is available at: https://play.wales/publications_category/play-for-wales-issue-65/

A printed copy of the magazine is also posted to the Clerk of each Town and Community Council in Wales. If you know of someone who has not received a copy, please ask them to get in touch via mail@play.wales.

Please find attached link to the [Written Statement](#): Update on actions to support the role, governance and accountability of the community and town council sector from the Cabinet Secretary for Housing and Local Government.



Complete the survey

At Transport for Wales (TfW), we're committed to making journeys by bus and cycle more inclusive, practical, and welcoming for everyone.

We're launching a study to understand how cycles and buses could work better together across Wales. It's an early-stage study – no decisions have been made yet. Your feedback will help guide our future thinking and shape potential improvements.

We'll be asking:

- How do you currently combine cycling and bus travel?
- What would make it easier or more appealing?
- Could better integration encourage more people to cycle or use buses?

The survey is open from **29 September** to **19 October** and every response counts – so please share with your contacts. We've attached a lovely [graphic](#) that can be used on your social media channels. [Take the survey now.](#)



New Look Newsletter

We're excited to unveil the newly refreshed Audit Wales newsletter - your go-to source for the latest updates, insights, and stories from across our organisation.

With a cleaner layout, sharper visuals, and more intuitive navigation, the new design makes it easier than ever to stay informed about our work and impact. Whether you're interested in our latest reports, upcoming events, or latest job opportunities, the newsletter brings it all together in one vibrant, accessible space.

We've also made it more dynamic - so whether you're reading on your desktop or catching up on your phone, the experience is seamless.

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.

We have recently added a Complaints Policy template

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.

- Practice Development Note 7 – this has been updated to address the question of apologies for absence (paragraphs 5.1 and 5.2)

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.

Training dates

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.

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

[Appointment of Chair - Professional Learning and Leadership Education Wales - Welsh Government](#)

Closing date for the above appointments is 10/10/2025 at 16:00.

Save the Date

SLCC & OVW Joint Event 2025

Managing a Changing Environment

Join us for an engaging virtual conference on Wednesday 12 November 2025, exclusively for clerks, local council employees and councillors in Wales, proudly hosted by the Society of Local Council Clerks (SLCC) and One Voice Wales (OVW).

With the timely theme 'Managing a Changing Environment', this event will explore how you can navigate evolving challenges in local governance.

Attendees will hear insights from Rob Smith, SLCC Chief Executive, and Lyn Cadwallader, OVW Chief Executive, as well as benefiting from practical training insights and expert-led sessions on employment, biodiversity and planning, including updates from Planning Aid Wales.

Don't miss this opportunity to connect, learn, and strengthen your role in shaping resilient and sustainable communities.

Attention Event Attendees: Booking Made Easy!

Booking for this event is open to everyone, including non-members. If you're not already registered on our website, simply sign up. It's a quick and easy process!

[Book here: SLCC | SLCC & OVW Joint Event 2025](#)

Date

9:40am – 4:20pm, Wednesday 12 November 2025

Price

£65 + VAT for Members and Non Members

ONE VOICE WALES FUNDED PROJECTS UPDATES:

Cost of Living Crisis Project News:

Prestatyn Town Council - Warm Hub Case Study

Join us as we explore the Warm Hubs initiative by Prestatyn Town Council, a remarkable effort to foster community resilience and support in challenging times. This program addresses the cost of living crisis and social isolation by offering warm, welcoming spaces for residents. Our Cost of Living Crisis Team visited one of these hubs to learn about its significance to Prestatyn's locals and the profound impact it has on their lives.

See the written Case Study on our website

**Written
Case
Study**

Read our essential Winter and Christmas Action Checklist, a ready-to-use guide packed with quick, budget-friendly ideas you can start putting into practice straight away.

[Read the full Guide Here](#)

Local Places for Nature News:

Biodiversity Training and Webinars

[Find out More](#)

Un Llais Cymru / One Voice Wales

24 College St, Ammanford SA18 3AF
United Kingdom



This E-Bulletin is distributed to all Councils in Wales . If you click the link below to Unsubscribe - Please be aware you will loose access to both - English and Welsh versions

[Dad-Tanysgrifio / Unsubscribe](#)

