



News from One Voice Wales:

Welcome to Issue 16 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

South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee - Consultation on the Strategic Development Plan Draft Delivery Agreement

The South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) is a regional government body established to improve economic well-being through enhanced collaboration and strategic planning across South West Wales. It brings together four Local Authorities and two National Park Authorities to address key regional priorities.

CJCs were established following the implementation of Regulations by Welsh Government in April 2021. One of their statutory duties, set out in the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 and the associated Strategic Development Plan Regulations, is to prepare a Strategic Development Plan (SDP).

The first stage in the Strategic Development Plan process is for the CJC to prepare a **Delivery Agreement** for the SDP. This has two main parts to it: a Statement of Community Involvement which sets out how the plan will be produced and who will be involved and how; and a detailed timetable that sets out how long it will take to prepare the plan, following all of the stages set out in Welsh Government regulations and guidance.

Welsh Government has identified types of consultees in the Strategic Development Plan Regulations who the CJC should attempt to engage with, **and you and/or your organisation is one of those consultees**. I am therefore writing to ask that you consider engaging in the forthcoming SDP process starting with the Delivery Agreement, and secondly to ask you to provide the best point of contact within

your organisation, if this email has not already reached that person. The CJC will then maintain a contacts database going forward to give you notice of key stages and next steps in the process.

You can view the draft Delivery Agreement [HERE](#) as a link to the document on the CJC website, and I would be grateful if you could indicate your interest in the SDP and also find time to review the Delivery Agreement and make any comments and suggestions on it.

The consultation period will run for 5 weeks, from 19th January 2026. The deadline for comments is 5pm, 20th February 2026.

Yours faithfully,

Charlotte Harding

Regional Principal Policy Planner

Email: SDP@npt.gov.uk

Calling Welsh Towns...

Welsh towns have a unique opportunity to showcase and celebrate their history with this exciting opportunity to bid to become a Town of Culture! Click on the link to find out more: [Galw Trefi Cymru: Could a Welsh town be crowned the first UK Town of Culture? - GOV.UK](#)

Let's really put our communities on the map!



**Ombudsmon
Ombudsman**
Cymru - Wales

Gweld ein gwefan

View our website

**Ein cylchlythyr
chwarterol**

Yn cwmpasu Hydref -
Rhagfyr 2025

**Our quarterly
newsletter**

Covering October -
December 2025

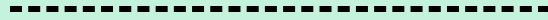
Ombudsmans Newsletter

Click below to access the Newsletter

[Click here](#)

COVID-19 Commemoration Stakeholder Event

One Voice Wales was privileged to attend a Commemoration Stakeholder Event in Cardiff. The event included an overview of the COVID-19 Commemoration Programme with a focus on the COVID-19 [Day of Reflection](#), memorials, and stories from the pandemic. Representatives from [Covid-19 Bereaved Families for Justice Cymru](#) shared details of their group and why commemorating the pandemic was so important. We were also joined by Ceri Williams (TUC Cymru), Kate Rees (National Trust Cymru) and Gwilym Roberts-Harry (Amgueddfa Cymru/Museum Wales) who described how their organisations were involved in commemorating the COVID-19 pandemic.



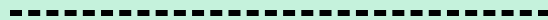
Building Safety Alert: Potential Risks from Transfer Slabs in Buildings

Our colleagues at the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS) have alerted us to an **emerging building risk** concerning reinforced concrete buildings constructed with **'transfer slabs'**.

On 19 December, the UK Government alerted principal accountable persons and buildings owners in this [statement](#). The Building Safety Regulator is working with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to better understand the extent of this risk, specifically about a potential failure mechanism called "punching shear" that could result in partial building collapse. This follows new design guidance on transfer slabs published by the [Institution of Structural Engineers \(IStructE\) in November 2024](#).

The UK Government recommends that where there are visible signs of distress or specific concerns regarding a building's condition or design, building owners should **seek immediate professional advice** from a suitably experienced and qualified Chartered Structural Engineer.

Additional information can be found here: [Transfer slabs in buildings: Advice and FAQs](#)



CLAIM WHAT'S YOURS

The Welsh Government and Advicelink Cymru can help you claim what's yours.

Every year, over £1 billion in benefits go unclaimed in Wales which is why we've launched our national communications campaign – 'Claim What's Yours'.

Campaign page URL: www.gov.wales/claimwhatsyours

Through this campaign we want people across Wales to claim what's theirs to help with living costs, even if they already claim benefits.

The main call to action signposts people towards the Advicelink Cymru free helpline and encourages them to check and claim what's theirs.

The campaign will be live throughout the remainder of this financial year with channels including TV, radio, out of home, press, digital and social media - and we need your support to help spread the message.

Energy Service

Energy Service (for public sector and community groups)

In this guide

1. Energy Service: who we are	5. Grants
2. Impact and progress	6. Guidance
3. Dashboards	7. Newsletter
4. Case studies	

RELATED

- Home energy an
 - Get help with ene
 - your home from
- Low carbon ener
 - Community ener

1. Energy Service: who we are

The Welsh Government Energy Service helps public sector bodies and community groups in Wales plan and deliver local energy projects. These projects support the transition to a zero carbon economy. The Energy Service is a four-year programme funded by the Welsh Government. The current programme runs until March 2027.

[Visit website](#)

Audit Wales Newsletter

[Subscribe](#)



[Main document here](#)

As you may be aware, Ystadau Cymru established a building safety group in 2024 to address the various challenges encountered by public estate managers throughout Wales.

As part of this initiative, the group has commenced an investigation into the risks associated with EV

charging and lithium battery management, forming a dedicated sub-group of experts to lead this work. While comprehensive guidance is being developed, a temporary guide has been created to ensure timely awareness (please find attached).

Estate managers are advised to review the document and address any outstanding issues. By implementing appropriate safety measures, risks associated with EV charging or lithium batteries can be effectively managed.

If you would like to know more about the work of the Building Safety Group or Ystadau Cymru more generally, please visit

<https://www.gov.wales/ystadau-cymru> or email ystadaucymru@gov.wales

Following some initial investigation, my understanding is that if you have any queries regarding amendments to fire assessments at TCC buildings to reflect recent changes or updates, the local fire and rescue service should be able to offer support if required.

The Fire & Rescue websites below contain both contact details and some good advice:

[Welsh Government also have useful resources including a Fire Risk Assessment](#)

South Wales Fire

North Wales Fire

Mid and West Fire



Newsletter



Newsletter



Senedd Cymru (Disqualification) Order 2025

Following consultation, [The Senedd Cymru \(Disqualification\) Order 2025](#) came into force on 13 November. It sets out specific roles or offices that disqualify people from being a Member of the Senedd and replaces the previous Disqualification Order. A summary of responses to the consultation is available here: [Draft Senedd Cymru \(Disqualification\) Order 2025 | GOV.WALES](#).

You will see that certain offices relating to Community and Town Councils are listed in the Order. This means that the holders of offices mentioned in the Disqualification Order can stand as a candidate, but could not take the oath to become a Member of the Senedd without first relinquishing their office.

The disqualifying offices: a paid officer having responsibility, for the purposes of section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972, for the administration of the financial affairs of the community council; and a person holding a paid post that is for the time being specified by the community council in the list maintained in accordance with subsection (2) and any directions under section 3 of the Local Government Act 1972.

These offices are additional to those disqualifications set out in section 16 of, and Schedule 1A to, the Government of Wales Act 2006 and any other specific disqualifications provided for in other legislation.

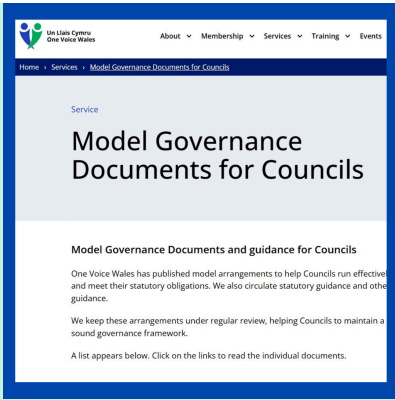
[For more information](#)

Independent Advisory Group of Future Electricity Grid for Wales

[Report](#)

**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.

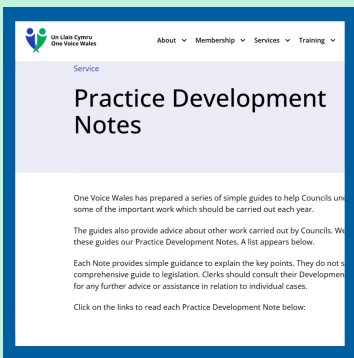
We keep these arrangements under regular review, helping Councils to maintain a sound governance framework.

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 all Practice development notes here

One Voice Wales Training Dates:



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

[Click here to view 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.

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

Vacant Position: [Leadership Programmes Training Manager \(2 posts\)](#)

Location: Pan Wales

Academi Wales is the national centre for leadership excellence for the public services in Wales. Academi Wales supports the development of individual and organisational leadership, with leadership being devolved and distributed across our public services, throughout networks and across geographical and sectoral boundaries. Academi Wales develops, delivers and evaluates a range of leadership development interventions including conferences and schools, programmes, short courses, masterclasses, customised learning support and facilitation, details of which can be found on its [website](#).

We are actively seeking training development specialists, with an ability to contribute effectively within a high performing team. You will be involved in developing and delivering training (online and in person) which will support leaders to develop in a range of leadership and development models, programmes and workshops. The successful candidates will be expected to work across Wales delivering in person training. This will include overnight stays.

The ideal candidate will be enthusiastic, self-motivated, innovative and capable of inspiring leaders from diverse backgrounds. An excellent communicator able to deliver complex information in a clear and easily understood way to different audiences. You will be required to be both proactive and reactive, assessing the skills and knowledge of leaders within the training room and determining what support is needed 'in the moment' to grow and develop these individuals during each session. You will be required to provide regular feedback and insights to the wider Academi Wales team on the trends, discussion points, challenges and opportunities posed during sessions to inform future business planning.

The following qualities are desirable and will only be considered if two or more candidates receive the same score at the application or interview stage:

- Ability to develop and deliver leadership programmes in Welsh.

· Experienced in content creation for digital platforms such as scripts for video content and e-learning content [no technical knowledge is required this is about using existing tools to create content].

· Associate, Chartered Member or Fellow of the CIPD.

Salary: £37,111

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

Type of opportunity: Permanent.

Closing date: 6/2/2026 1600 hrs

Link to apply: [Leadership Programmes Training Manager x2 - Welsh Government \(Cais\)](#)

Contact point for further information:

aw.leadershipdevelopment@gov.wales

.....
[Aneurin Bevan University Health Board - Vice Chair - Welsh Government](#)

Closing date for the above appointments is 02/02/2026 at 16:00.

.....
[Bannau Brycheiniog National Park Authority - Member - Welsh Government](#)

Closing date for the above appointments is 03/02/2026 at 16:00.



Save the Date

Improving our Local Places – Welsh Case Studies and Planning Updates

**19 March 2026,
10:30am–1:30pm
(Online: Teams)**

[Improving our Local
Places - Welsh Case
Studies & Planning
Updates Registration,](#)
[Thu 19 Mar 2026 at
10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

ONE VOICE WALES NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND AWARDS

1st JULY 2026

ONE VOICE WALES INNOVATIVE PRACTICE CONFERENCE

30th SEPTEMBER 2026

One Voice Wales Funded Projects Updates:

Cost of Living Crisis Project News:

Perthyn

Cymraeg: It Belongs to Our Communities

Want to start or grow a Welsh-speaking community group in North or West Wales?

We can help you develop Welsh-speaking community-led housing, a social enterprise, a co-operative, or a community land trust.

Perthyn can support your ideas to help strengthen our Welsh-speaking communities!



Get in touch

Visit our website or email
perthyn@cwmpas.coop

cwmpas



2050



[Application Form](#)

[Guidance notes](#)

**DONT MISS OUT - CLOSING DATE
31ST JANUARY**



Local Places for Nature update

[To view the teams page on our website](#)

Un Llais Cymru / One Voice Wales

24 College St, Ammanford SA18 3AF
United Kingdom



This E-Bulletin is distributed to all Councils in Wales . Please note that if you unsubscribe you will unsubscribe from both languages and the Newsletter . If you wish to receive only one version please send to kbrown@onevoicewales.wales

[Dad-Tanysgrifio / Unsubscribe](#)

