



News from One Voice Wales:

Welcome to Issue 20 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.

Please can we ask all clerks to share with their members and staff

NEWS

COMMUNITY AND
TOWN COUNCILS
MANIFESTO

BUILDING STRONGER
COMMUNITIES FOR WALES
2026 - 2031

One Voice Wales launches its Manifesto 2026-2031

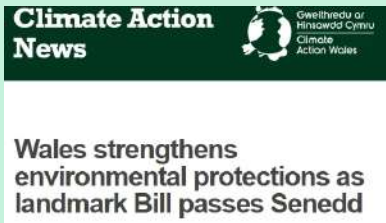
Today, 5 March 2026, One Voice Wales launches its Manifesto for the Community and Town Council sector in Wales ahead of the election to the Senedd this May.

We have set out below how working with the Community and Town Council sector can help to address these critical issues and how the new government can support the sector by supporting the following '5 Asks':

1. Commit to taking forward the recommendations of the Senedd Inquiry Report (March 2025) into the role, governance and accountability of the community and town council sector
2. Empower Communities
3. Diverse Funding
4. Strengthening Local Leadership
5. Building Capacity & Capability

The need for action in the next term of the Senedd is clear.

[Full Manifesto](#)



[Bulletin](#)



Election Countdown 2026

Over the next eight weeks, we'll be sending you a weekly newsletter filled with resources, events, and support to help you and the young people you work with navigate the upcoming local elections in England and Scotland.

We have a Wales-specific newsletter covering all you need to know in the lead up to the Senedd elections, which will be available in Welsh and English. [Click here to sign up](#) to receive these.

Action for Clerks - Really useful information worth signing up to.

Welsh Government
Consultation



Uweddwrth Cymru
Welsh Government

FEATURED CONSULTATION

Transparency to freehold homeowners who pay an administration charge on privately managed estates

[More Information](#)

Welsh Government
Consultation



Uweddwrth Cymru
Welsh Government

FEATURED CONSULTATION

UK Emissions Trading Scheme: regulating cross-boundary carbon capture and storage (CCS) pipelines

[More information](#)

Chwarae Cymru Play Wales

The UK Playwork NOS Consortium is consulting on the draft National Occupational Standards for playwork. The consortium is seeking your views on the draft standards for the roles of support playworker, playworker and playwork manager – as well as the functional map and glossary.

The draft NOS, functional map and glossary can be accessed on a range of platforms:

- [Sharepoint](#)
- [Dropbox](#)
- [WeTransfer.](#)

For more information about the consultation and the process read [information sheet #4](#).

The consultation closing date is 1 May 2026.

**Play workers forum
1 - 2 July 2026
Willow Globe, Rhayader, Powys**

**Early bird rate available to all -
book by 30 April***

The Playworkers Forum is a two-day, residential playwork training event under canvas that gives playworkers the opportunity to learn from each other and experienced playwork trainers.

[Book your place](#)



The Community Asset Commission Task & Finish Group final report has been published and is available [here](#). The report went to the Senedd's Local Government & Housing Committee yesterday afternoon.



Jo Cox Foundation

As we approach the 10th anniversary of Jo Cox's murder, we have prepared [a pack to help councils and councillors](#) consider how they can mark the occasion. It includes:

- A template motion for councils
- Information about this year's Great Get Together, which we launched on Monday
- Digital and printable resources

[You can download the pack by clicking here](#)

We will email the pack to all councillors in the UK this week. But I wondered whether One Voice Wales could also share it in communications with councillors?

We hope that a great many councils and councillors - from across the political spectrum - will join us in marking the occasion this June, in the spirit of Jo's message that 'we have more in common than that which divides us'

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

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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.

With the Senedd elections only a matter of weeks away - why not refresh your memory of the Pre election Period rules by looking at PDN No 3

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.

[Appointment of Chair - Royal](#)

[Commission on the Ancient and](#)

[Historical Monuments of Wales - Welsh](#)

[Government \(Cais\)](#)

06/04/2026, 16:00

[Appointment of Commissioners - Royal](#)

[Commission on the Ancient and](#)

[Historical Monuments of Wales - Welsh](#)

[Government \(Cais\)](#)

06/04/2026, 16:00



Save the Date

**ONE VOICE WALES
NATIONAL CONFERENCE
AND AWARDS
CEREMONY**

1st JULY 2026

[For more information](#)

**ONE VOICE WALES
INNOVATIVE PRACTICE
CONFERENCE**

30th September 2026

[For more information](#)

One Voice Wales Funded Projects Updates:

Cost of Living Crisis Project News:

Creating Age Friendly Communities



Community and Town Councils play a key role in helping people age well and stay connected. Simple actions like supporting local activities, sharing advice, and creating opportunities for people to connect, can make a real difference.

The Welsh Government's Age Friendly Wales: Our Strategy for an Ageing Society sets out the vision for inclusive communities where no one is left behind.



You can also find practical tips and guidance on the Cost of Living Crisis web pages to support this work locally.

[Welsh Government Age Friendly Wales Strategy](#)

[Read Here](#)

Upcoming Lunch & Learn Sessions: to support older people in your community



Welsh Government and One Voice Wales Lunch & Learn (Online)

Tuesday 24 March 2026 | 12:30pm - 1.30pm

RNID – Hearing Support Services (Online)

Monday 15 June 2026 | 12:30pm – 1:30pm

To attend, email your name, council and contact details to: colc@onevoicewales.wales



LOCAL PLACES FOR NATURE



Biodiversity Packages

What a year! A huge thank you to all Councils who have applied for one of our biodiversity packages. These packages are designed to provide the resources and support your Council needs to deliver biodiversity enhancements.

A snapshot of the year in numbers:

- Over 92 applications received
- 60 successful applications so far

Through the grants programme we have so far:

- Provided over 20 'It's For Them' signs
- Planted over 6000 bulbs
- Provided 600 native trees
- Awarded more than 60 habitat boxes
- Created or enhanced over 800 pollinator sites
- And provided tools, ponds and citizen science kits.

If you would like to register your interest for the next round of funding, please click here: [OVW Biodiversity Packages](#)

Section 6 Update

The NRAP objectives have recently been updated to create six new aims. We have produced a new template and resources based on these six new aims, which can be downloaded from our [website](#). If you have already written a BAP based on the old aims, this is perfectly fine, but you could consider updating the aims at the first annual review. Please see our [website](#) for updated information.

Un Llais Cymru / One Voice Wales

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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](#)

