



News from One Voice Wales:

Welcome to Issue 22 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



IN COLLABORATION WITH SLCC, NALC, OVW, COUNTY ASSOCIATIONS

New Welsh version - Who will be the first Council to sign up to it ?

One Voice Wales have amended the original pledge to make it more relevant to Councils in Wales - Your AGM would be a perfect agenda to adopt this new pledge and then why not send a press release to your local press about it !

Civility means politeness and courtesy in behaviour, speech and in the written word and these are fundamental to the success of councils in Wales. Examples of ways in which you can show respect are by listening and paying attention to

others, having consideration for other people's feelings, following protocols and rules, showing appreciation and thanks and being kind to each other.

It is acknowledged that a culture built around these essential values is a feature of how many councils operate but it is well known that for some councils this is not the case which is exemplified through high numbers of complaints being submitted to the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales, grievances submitted to councils by employees and lost work time caused by workplace stress illnesses.

The civility and respect pledge sets out a number of important commitments designed to create an environment conducive to effective working avoiding many of the issues that can adversely impact on the general performance of councils.

It is vital that committing the council to high standards of behaviour by completing and signing the pledge has a lasting impact and it is strongly recommended that the process is given a prominent place on council agendas possibly followed up with media coverage. It is suggested that the pledge could also be framed and displayed in meeting rooms to remind everyone of what they have committed themselves to for the current and long-term future.

We are aware that many Councils will already have signed up to the original pledge, however, as not all sections were relevant to Councils in Wales then One Voice Wales has made some slight amendments to ensure that the whole document is now relevant. We would appreciate if Councils would consider adopting this new Welsh Council version. We would strongly encourage you to complete and sign the pledge and to let us have a scanned copy of the signed version so that we can retain a central register of those councils who have made this important commitment.

Within the pledge it refers to a [dignity at work policy](#)

You should email a copy of the signed pledge to **Wendi Patience:**
wpatience@onevoicewales.wales

[Download the Pledge here](#)



issue 4 Newsletter



Nature Estate Cymru launches to protect Wales' land and climate

[Wales' major landowners](#) are uniting for the first time to tackle the climate and nature emergencies, with the new group set up to drive tree planting and meet targets to protect 30% of land for nature by 2030.

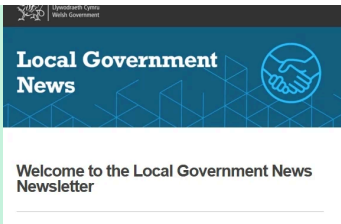
[See full Bulletin here](#)



[Local Councils guide](#)



[Spring Newsletter](#)



Local Government
Newsletter



April E Bulletin

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:

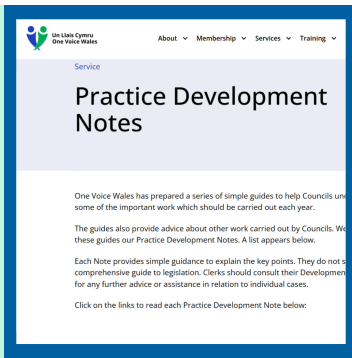
One Voice Wales has published model arrangements to help Councils run effectively and meet their statutory obligations. We also circulate statutory guidance and other guidance.

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.

As councils prepare for their AGM agenda's - we would encourage all clerks to read our PDN on Annual meetings (no 21) as many don't start with election of chair and many miss out a lot of the required items that are listed in section 5j of the Standing Orders

[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.

Training should be seen as an investment not a cost

Have your council made use of the free places available on some modules ?

[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.



Save the Date

Events you don't want to miss

ONE VOICE WALES NATIONAL CONFERENCE AND AWARDS CEREMONY

ONE VOICE WALES INNOVATIVE PRACTICE CONFERENCE

1st JULY 2026

30th September 2026

One Voice Wales Funded Projects Updates:

Cost of Living Crisis Project News:



Stop Food Waste Day - Small Actions, Big Impact

Stop Food Waste Day, on Wednesday 30 April highlights the importance of reducing food waste and making the most of what we have.

Councils can support their communities through cost of living challenges by taking simple actions such as promoting meal planning, sharing ideas using leftovers and supporting local food initiatives. These can help households stretch budgets while reducing waste.

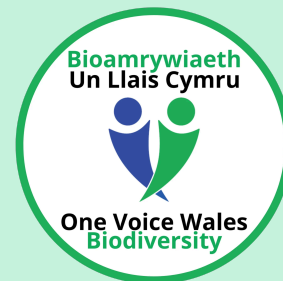


Find out more about Stop Food Waste Day

Read More



LOCAL PLACES FOR NATURE



Five Pillars of Nature Recovery webinar series starting in May

The Biodiversity Team are launching a series of online webinars on the Five Pillars of Nature Recovery.

The first webinar: Pillar One: Create and Protect Habitats will take place on Tuesday the 12th May at 11:00 – 12:00. Click [here](#) to book your place.

Non-Native Species Alert: Yellow legged Hornet/Asian Hornet (*Vespa velutina*)

A dead nest of the yellow-legged hornet has been found near Wrexham, in the first confirmed discovery of the insect in Wales.

This species is very similar to our native hornets and wasps. Please take a photo, if possible, to have the ID confirmed and record any sightings. For more information, ID guides and information on reporting any sightings please click on the link below:
[First finding of yellow-legged hornet in Wales | GOV.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

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