



**2pm, Tuesday, 19 November 2024**

**Meeting held via Teams**

MINUTES	
Present	
Name	Organisation
Councillor Darren Price (Chair)	Carmarthenshire County Council
Andrew Cornish	Coleg Sir Gâr
Mydrian Harries	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Huwel Manley	Natural Resources Wales
Supt. Jayne Butler	Heddlu Dyfed Powys Police
Dr Michael Thomas	Public Health Wales
Linda Jones	Regional Partnership Board
Andrew Charles	Welsh Government

Present	
Name	Organisation
Jemma Parsons	Head of the Green Skills Academy, Coleg Sir Gâr
Andrew Hood	Natural Resources Wales
Gwyneth Ayers	Carmarthenshire County Council
Amy Richmond Jones	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Llinos Evans	Carmarthenshire County Council

## 1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Apologies	
Name	Organisation
Councillor John Davies	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Christine Harley	Probation Service
Kevin James	Department of Work and Pensions
Marie Mitchell	Carmarthenshire Voluntary Services Association
Kate Harrop	Carmarthenshire County Council

Councillor Darren Price, the Chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.

It was noted that Gwilym Dyfri Jones, who has been representing University of Wales Trinity Saint David has left the organisation. The Chair thanked Gwilym for his contribution to the PSB and noted best wishes on behalf of members.

A new representative will be sought from the University.

## Well-being Objective: Responding to climate and nature crises

### 2. Draft Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy

Beau Gray and Rachel Kelway-Lewis were welcomed to the meeting. Beau and Rachel have been leading on the development of the draft Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy. The strategy integrates with

corporate strategies and fosters collaboration across departments and stakeholders and aims to proactively plan, protect, and manage GBI assets to enhance well-being and sustainability.

The strategic objectives for the Draft GBI Strategy are focused on enhancing well-being and sustainability in Carmarthenshire. The key objectives are noted below:

1. People: The strategy aims to improve the well-being of the community by planning, protecting, and managing Green and Blue Infrastructure (GBI) assets proactively.
2. Place: It seeks to integrate GBI into the infrastructure of Carmarthenshire, recognizing it as a backbone for the region.
3. Nature: The strategy emphasizes the importance of sustainability and the protection of natural resources to meet both current and future needs.

These objectives are designed to foster collaboration across departments and with external stakeholders, ensuring that the GBI strategy is effective, sustainable, and beneficial for all.

Key opportunities noted in the draft strategy include proposals for new developments, retrofitting GBI, land management initiatives, and town centre improvements.

The Partnership approach was underlined, to ensure effective, sustainable, and beneficial GBI outcomes.

Members thanks Beau and Rachel for their detailed work via the presentation and the draft Strategy.

HM noted that Natural Resources Wales will respond formally to the consultation but valued the opportunity to have early sight. Further evidence which may support the development of the Strategy may include data from the Water Framework Directive (expected in late January / early February) and also reflection on the new Regulations in terms of slurry spreading.

HM suggested that the value of timber in the county and the availability of the public estate as potential areas that could be explored further.

Andrew Charles made reference to the role of communities and how they are enabled to take part in the strategy and it will be positive to see how this evolves further via the [Community Toolkit](#).

Andrew also highlighted the opportunities to plan green and blue to be accessible and in line with the Council's Strategic Equality Plan. There is also an opportunity via the Allotments Allocations Policy and the Land Use Management work. The Draft Supplementary guidance: Open Space was also highlighted in terms of criteria in terms of accessibility.

In terms of monitoring the Strategy, this will be developed further, following consultation and the development of a specific action plan.

It was agreed to develop a joint foreword from the PSB to form part of the GBI Strategy.

Members were asked if they have organisational Land Use Forums and if this strategy provides an opportunity to bring forums together to look at the key objectives and to look at the mapping work previously done via local projects with the Welsh Government.

ACTION	
To circulate the consultation on the draft GBI Strategy when published.	PSB Support Team
It was agreed to develop a joint foreword from the PSB to form part of the GBI Strategy.	PSB Support Team
To research current Land Use based forums and look at potential connections	PSB Support Team

<b>Well-being Objective: Ensuring a sustainable economy and fair employment</b>
<b>3. Green Skills Academy</b>

Jemma Parsons was welcomed to the meeting.

Jemma outlined the development of the Green Skills Academy within Coleg Sir Gâr. The objectives of the academy include:

- Green Education and workforce development
- Responsive to regional and national skills needs
- Meeting the needs of an adapting workforce
- Based in the heart of our county

During the 2023-24 academic year, 1291 qualifications were delivered. JP outlined some of the employers engaged with as part of the Academy to ensure that learners can access the most up to date skills and knowledge. There are a wide range of organisations engaged in the Academy, including Hywel Dda University Health Board, Dyfed Powys Police and Barcud.

The Green 24 project has been developed specifically to progress knowledge in terms of Green Skills and sustainability and is a Centre of Excellence for IEMA with 6 qualifications delivered. The initial target was to deliver to 350 but 800 have been met.

JP also confirmed that one of the buildings at the Gelli Aur campus will be retrofitted.

As part of the academy, a bilingual online module on Understanding Net Zero and Our Approach has been developed for Carmarthenshire County Council and support has been provided to the Department of Place and Infrastructure to develop its workforce as part of the Recycling roll-out.

Even though the SPF funding is coming to an end, the Coleg have been able to secure funding and continue to offer the support across organisations.

Members were asked to support the strengthening of the legacy of the Green Skills Academy. The Chair noted the potential held in this region in terms of the Homes to Power Stations, current workforce and the Celtic Freeport.

ACTION	
It was agreed to circulate Jemma's presentation and contact details to all members.	PSB Support Team

#### 4. Climate Change Risk Assessment

Members were kindly reminded to forward nominations for the Climate Change Risk Assessment Task and Finish Group to the PSB Support Team.

A tentative date for the first meeting has been set for the 7 January 2025.

#### 5. Updates from the Task and Finish Groups

Members received an update from the MECC (Making Every Contact Count) / Hwb Task & Finish Group, established by the PSB to address poverty and its impacts. The group focused on researching opportunities and barriers for MECC and Hwb, understanding community challenges, and looking at ways to improve referrals between organisations.

Following discussion, members agreed the following recommendations:

1. The development of a joint web presence to ensure that advice and support services provided across the PSB organisations are promoted and coordinated.
2. That key front-line members of staff within PSB organisations are encouraged to complete the MECC Level 1 training (e-learning).
3. That the group continues to meet to focus on the insight faced by our communities and specifically protected groups.

Linda Jones noted the work that the Regional Partnership Board have undertaken in context of children and young people, under the Nyth project.

It was agreed to link LLE in with Jo Thorpwood.

ACTION	
To create a link between the MECC Task & Finish Group and the Nyth/Nest work undertaken by the RPB	Linda Jones

## 6. Minutes and actions

Minutes from the meeting held on 17 September 2024

Minutes were agreed as being a true and correct record.

Action Log

Updates on previous actions have been provided.

## 7. Any other business

No other Business received by the Chair.

## 8. Future meetings

- 21 January 2025 (2pm – 4pm)  
Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service Headquarters, Carmarthen.