

# Stage 1 Results: The responses of Town/Community Councils, groups and organisations in the Pwllheli Catchment Area



**Summary (January 2022)**

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1** The purpose of the 'Our Area 2035' project is to conduct a conversation and discussion with local communities to identify what matters to residents and how they would like to see the area develop in the next 10-15 years.
- 1.2** We intend to collaborate and jointly develop solutions with organisations, groups and individuals. At the end of the project there will be 13 specific regeneration frameworks that reflect the aspirations of local communities.
- 1.3** The first stage of the project was to conduct initial talks with Councillors, Community and Town Councils and local regeneration groups in order to establish:
  - What is good about the area?
  - What is not so good about the area?
  - What changes would you like to see happen in your area in the next 15 years, that would make your area a better place to live?
- 1.4** An invitation, together with area statements (namely booklets that summarised the main economic, social, cultural and environmental data) were sent to all Councillors, Community Councils and the main local groups.
- 1.5** Between September and November 2021 a discussion took place with **14** Town / Community Councils, organisations, groups, Local Members and individuals in the Pwllheli catchment area.
- 1.6** Initial discussions have been held with young people in the area via the youth service.

## 2. What is good about your area?

These are the principal matters the Town/Community Councils, groups and organisations in the Pwllheli Catchment Area noted that were **good** about their area:

Theme	Number who noted this in their response
The Welsh language / culture	13
Environment and proximity to natural attractions e.g. mountains, the seaside and the countryside	9
Community spirit and friendliness	8
Social activities e.g. sports clubs, choirs	7
Organisations, charities, enterprises and operational groups	6
Opportunities and benefits of attracting tourism / visitors	4
Local produce and businesses	4
Amenities and facilities such as shops, cafes, restaurants	4
Volunteers	4
A safe and secure area	3
Heritage and history of the area	3
Leisure facilities e.g. Centre, Cinema, Library	2
Footpaths, cycle paths and coastal path	1
Job opportunities and self-employment	1
Good public transport	1

### 3. What is not so good about your area?

These are the principal matters the Town/Community Councils, groups and organisations in the Pwllheli Catchment Area noted that were **not so good** about their area:

Theme	Number who noted this in their response
Lack of affordable housing for local people	10
The Local Economy and lack of resources e.g. Post Office, hotels and need to regenerate town centres	9
Lack of high salary / full-time jobs	9
Public transport and insufficient bus network	7
Concerns about health provision, welfare and care	6
Litter, untidiness and general look of the area	6
Number of second homes and holiday homes in the area	5
Problems and impact of over-tourism	5
Problems concerning roads and parking	5
Lack of provision and activities for young people e.g. youth club	5
Concern about Planning for Housing / Local Development Plan	4
Young people leaving the area	3
Poverty in the area	3
Antisocial behaviour and lack of Police presence	3
Lack of quality housing to rent	3
Poor Broadband / web connection	2
Lack of quality/safe footpaths	2
Banking costs for local organisations	2
No place to convene / community hub	2
Lack of hotels in Pwllheli	2
Not enough car charging points	2
Process of transferring community assets takes time	2
The Welsh Language / culture losing ground and lack of opportunities for learners	2
More needs to be done with local produce and the area's heritage	1
Condition of public toilets	1
Lack of local and community leadership	1
Not enough consideration of environmental resources	1
Community Council having to provide salt bins	1
Dissatisfied with Higher Education provision	1
Difficult to recruit to the hospitality field	1
Severe flooding in parts of the area	1

#### 4. What changes would you like to see happen in your area in the next 15 years, that would make your area a better place to live? (identify up to 3 changes)

These are the principal changes the Town/Community Councils, groups and organisations in the Pwllheli Area wanted to see happen in the next 15 years:

Theme	Number who noted this in their response
Schemes to ensure suitable housing for the needs of local people	9
Create high value work and jobs	9
Sustainable tourism in order to maximise economic benefit for the area	8
More encouragement for the Welsh language / culture to thrive and assist learners	8
Support for Initiatives, community groups and Town/Community Councils	6
Support local businesses to establish and thrive	5
More health, well-being and care resources	5
Public transport - accessible, integrated and suitable for local needs	5
Provide more facilities for Young People	5
Make more out of historic and cultural attractions	4
A greener area - renewable energy, plastic free, charging points	4
Realise the potential of vacant buildings	3
Legislation to have better control over holiday homes / second homes	2
Maintain and develop cycling and walking paths	2
Education for purpose that maximises young people's skills	2
Increase the potential of the sailing facility / Pwllheli Marina	2
Maximise potential in hospitality e.g. a hotel in Pwllheli	3
More Police presence	2
Better collaboration on a local level e.g. Between organisations, initiatives and Community Councils	2
Do more to prevent flooding	1
Officers to keep communities clean and tidy	1
Create a broadband infrastructure	1
Emphasis on smaller communities to better distribute Council tax	1
Spending on the environment	1
Young people to take a more active part in their community e.g. through the committees	1
Enough car parks	1
Establish the Pwllheli Food Festival.	1
Need an Economic Plan for the area	1
More support for people - referring people to the right support	1

## 5. Additional questions

### 5.1 Who are the main organisations and groups that could come together to fulfil the required change?

This is a list of all the organisations and groups noted in response to this question in the Pwllheli Catchment Area:

- Gwynedd Council
- Health Board
- Women's Institute
- Clwb y Bont
- Lloyd George Museum
- Tŷ Newydd Llanystumdwy
- Menter y Plu
- People in the community
- Y Ganolfan
- Playing Field Committee
- Antur Aelhaearn
- Co-operative Centre
- Welsh Government
- Young Farmers
- School Governors
- Drama club
- Chapels and Churches
- Town/Community Councils
- The Police
- Sports Clubs
- Schools
- Sailing Club
- Merched y Wawr
- Chapel and Church Societies
- Mantell Gwynedd
- Age Cymru
- Tafarn y Fic
- Nant Gwrtheyrn
- M-Sparc/ Ffiws
- Canolfan Y Gwystl
- Bryn Meddyg
- Y Neuadd
- Businesses

### 5.2 Are you aware of any local consultation work that has been undertaken in the last year?

- The Lloyd George Museum has been undertaking engagement activities over the last two years.
- Engagement work that is specific to Menter y Plu plans.
- Some discussion, albeit ineffective, between the Town Council and Gwynedd Council regarding establishing and developing the Nature Reserve.
- Hafod Ceiri Engagement Activities
- Playing Field Committee engagement activities.
- Antur Aelhaearn community gym questionnaire.
- The Council held a motorhomes consultation.
- Pistyll Community Council looked at a car park.
- Town and community councils operating on behalf of the community, e.g. creating a petition to demonstrate the extent of the demand in the community for a footpath between Chwilog and Afonwen.
- Research by Richard Parry Hughes in the last 2-3 years on the impact of land planning over the last 50 years on Pen Llŷn.

- Seimon Brooks' report on second homes was recent work commissioned by Welsh Government.

**5.3 Other issues relating to the 'Our Area 2035' work that arose in the Pwllheli Catchment Area:**

- Do not want to see a 'talking shop', want to see something specific develop from the engagement work and it is important that it continues.
- Important to ask the town's young people and families about their vision for 2035 - holding meetings to seek opinion would be a good idea.