

PSB Project Group Report

Prepared by: Teleri Elias

Well-being Plan Aim	All place-based pilot projects will aim to address the 6 well-being aims as outlined in the Ceredigion Local Well-being Plan 2018-23. A place-based delivery framework will prioritise integration and will incorporate a deep-dive holistic approach to both community and individual resilience.
Our Values	Welsh Language, Tackling Inequalities, Involvement, Sustainability, Leading by Example
Project Group Name	Carbon Neutral Aberystwyth and Decarbonisation Strategy
Chair	Gillian Perry , Natural Resources Wales

Project Group Membership (Names in bold signify attendance at the meeting)			
Ceredigion County Council	Cllr Alun Williams, Lyndon Griffiths, Bethan Lloyd Davies , Rhodri Llwyd, Dr Sarah Groves-Phillips, Cllr Keith Henson, Beti Gordon, Alison Heal, Bethan Howell, Nicola Davies, Llinos Williams, Rachel Auckland Partnerships Team: Timothy Bray , Sara Dafydd, Lynne Walters , Anwen Thomas , Teleri Elias	Aberystwyth University	Rhodri Llwyd Morgan Dewi Day
		Natural Resources Wales	Yvette Eley, Peter Frost
Hywel Dda University Health Board	Paul Williams, Terri Shaw, Owen Harris Sharon Hughes, Rhian Rees	National Library of Wales	Mark Stevens
Welsh Government Energy Services	Rhys Horan, Huw Lewis, Brian Drysdale, Tony Lawson	Mid Wales Energy Plan	Dr Gemma Delafield , Thomas Yeo
		Coleg Sir Gar / Ceredigion	Vanessa Cashmore, Louis Dare

Mid & West Wales Fire Service	Neil Evans	CAVO	Chesca Ross
EcoDyfi	Andy Rowland	Co-Production Wales	Roxanne Treacy, Vikki Butler
Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB)	Juliet Morris	University of Wales Trinity Saint David	Kelly Williams, Daniel Priddy
Menter a Busnes	Ann Owen		

SYNOPSIS OF PROJECT GROUP MEETING

Key Points discussed at Project Group meeting: 26/10/23

12.1 Welcome, Introductions, and apologies

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting and introductions were made. Apologies were noted for the following:

Chesca Ross – CAVO
 Cllr Keith Henson – CCC
 Rhodri Llwyd- CCC
 Cllr Alun Williams – CCC
 Alison Heal – CCC
 Caitlin Theodorou – CSC
 Rachel Auckland - CCC

Caitlin Theodorou (CT) has informed the group that the research team are currently unable to attend every meeting due to being very busy with meeting a statutory deadline however confirmation has been received that they are happy to support with any specific data or assessment request made. On this basis CT noted that she is happy to attend future meetings or to circulate any resources on request.

The new pilot group Chair Gillian Perry welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked all present in person and virtually to briefly introduce themselves.

12.2 Minutes and matters arising from the previous meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 18.07.23 were accepted as a true and accurate record and action items are covered throughout today's agenda.

ACTION - SD to circulate the most up to date version of the draft Delivery Plan following on from TB's presentation.

Action - RJ to update the mapping spreadsheet to include columns where members can report barriers to delivery, and this updated spreadsheet to be recirculated to the group. The group to fill the spreadsheet in to the best of their ability and return to the Partnerships inbox.

LW thanked all Partners who have been updating the mapping spreadsheet and noted that it is a live document which has been circulated twice already. As previously agreed by the group, LW confirmed that for all partners to continuously inform the actions the mapping spreadsheet will be circulated again following today's meeting.

Action - Circulate Rachel Auckland's presentation slides.

It had been previously understood that Rachel Auckland would be attending today's meeting, to provide further information on the local nature network. This is a key piece of work across the County and a request will now be made for a brief update to be shared and this will be circulated to members post the meeting.

Action - Ensure Rhys Horan or another rep from the Energy Service can attend the next meeting.

The meeting is joined today by a colleague from WG, Tony Lawson and the Chair welcomed him to his first meeting of this group.

Action- An email to be circulated to the project group regarding the Translation procedure (10% threshold).

This action has been completed for all pilot groups.

Action - Information on NRW's sustainable drainage grant to be circulated.

This information was circulated following the last meeting.

12.3 Introduction to the Healthy Travel Charter – Hywel Dda University Health Board - Rhian Rees, HDdUHB

Rhian Rees (RhR) was welcomed to the meeting by the Chair and subsequently introduced herself to the group as a Public Health Practitioner for Hywel Dda. A presentation was provided on the Healthy Travel Charter. This initially started by Dr Tom Porter in 2018 in Cardiff and Vale and was based upon work undertaken by the Welsh Government. The strategy has now evolved and WG now wishes to see the Charter rolled out regionally. With the focus of today's meeting being on Climate Change, health and inequalities and air pollution there are implications here based upon increasing obesity and the impact on the importance of green spaces.

The Presentation of the PSB Healthy Travel Charter detailed the establishment of a regional strategy group with representation from HDdUHB, Powys Health Board, Local Authorities, and Aberystwyth University. They looked at data from the National survey for Wales 2022-23 and noted that there had been a number of changes which had not been for the best. It was explained that the Healthy Travel Charter is a series of 14-16 commitments which partners will aim to achieve in the next 2-3 years. Reference was also made to another survey by Hywel Dda, the Staff Travel Survey, this has confirmed the foundations of the challenge ahead. This survey recognizes clearly that rural areas will find it harder to get to net zero in comparison to other areas.

Work has noted that to reduce carbon emissions there needs to be a focus on active travel and better use of public transport. Public bodies need to provide leadership and provide an example to private businesses.

Other features of the charter were also referenced, they will need to co-produce solutions with stakeholders and the PSB's are key partners in driving this forward.

The aims are to complete the roll out of Healthy Travel Charters across Wales.

Cardiff & the Vale and Swansea Bay are getting involved in a workshop before Christmas and further details will be shared in due course.

HDdUHB have published a map where it shows where the safer cycling routes to health board settings are. Also mapped out are the locations of lockers and showers for staff and these are detailed on the health board website.

RhR noted that the Welsh Government are adopting more bus travel routes. In discussion it was agreed that the rural context for this needs to be considered at all levels.

As a County Ceredigion is ahead of the game with electric car charging points in Wales. This is as a result of positive work and there are also bike charging points located at Aberystwyth University. There could however be improvement on having larger charging capacity for larger vehicles. This could ultimately develop the use of hydrogen powered vehicles and it was noted that there is a recently launched hydrogen bus running in Pembrokeshire. Details of experience may be useful for future development in Ceredigion. If other partners are interested in receiving additional details, they are of course welcome to contact RhR.

Locally the Healthy Travel Charter has set up a regional partnership group, with representation of Local Authorities across the area. To date 2 meetings have been held and the next one is scheduled to take place on the 20th of November. At this meeting partners will be looking at the draft travel charter commitments.

In discussion it was also noted that they have a workshop on how to become a cycle friendly employer coming up before Christmas and this will be followed by another workshop, with a focus on behavioural and culture change.

There's a need to gain more intelligence and insight into the challenges and opportunities for rural areas and this is feedback which is required for Welsh Government. This has already been undertaken in the form of the staff travel survey by the HDdaUHB but if other partners wish to contribute assessment information this will be deemed useful for the purposes of forming future actions. From the focus groups which are scheduled to take place they are hoping to consider the results of further surveys to gain better insight of the barriers relating rural areas.

Action- Rhian Rees to share dates of the Cycle workshop and Behaviour and Culture Workshop with this forum.

12.4 Update on the Ceredigion Food Network Project, Ann Owen, Menter a Busnes

Ann Owen (AO), Menter a Busnes has been in post for the last month. They are at the initial stages of the Food network project. The framework for action for food networks identifies 6 key issues that should be addressed together to achieve fundamental food system change. These are namely:

1. **Food Governance and Strategy:** Taking a strategic and collaborative approach to good food governance and action.
2. **Good Food Movement:** Building public awareness, active food citizenship and a local good food movement.
3. **Healthy Food for All:** Tackling food poverty, diet related ill-health and access to affordable healthy food.
4. **Sustainable Food Economy:** Creating a vibrant, prosperous, and diverse sustainable food economy.
5. **Catering and Procurement:** Transforming catering and procurement and revitalizing local supply chains.

6. Food for the Planet: Tackling the climate and nature emergency through sustainable food and farming and an end to food waste.

AO noted they have secured collaboration funding, to work collaboratively with other organisations such as schools, community gardens, health boards and food banks. In order to raise awareness of this funding, they have 3 events which will be held in-person at Aberystwyth on the 7th of November, Lampeter on the 14th of November and Cardigan on the 15th of November. They will also be holding online events too.

Action – AO to send details of the 3 events on funding to the Partnership team to circulate.

A further discussion followed around Castell Howell, as a Hub and the general cost of food. Castell Howell supported the Courgette Project and this proved very successful with partners including local schools. Education is key to success with this project and these businesses have valuable information which they can share with PSB partners. AO noted that farmers need more support to engage positively with industry development as the average age of a farmer continues to increase. Farmers need to be a part of these groups, and this is an area that needs to be worked on. Reference was made to farming groups including the YFC.

Action- Ann Owen to inform the group of how her meeting with Castell Howell goes next meeting.

12.5 Standing Item: Local Well-being Plan 2023-28 Initial feedback on the PSB Workshops. Tim Bray (Ceredigion County Council

They have been looking at the Well-being Plan through the Workshops. Each of the 4 objectives had been split into tasks. They decided to hold 4 workshops focusing on each pillar, with poverty as a cross-cutting theme.

Three workshops have been delivered with good attendance of around 20 in each. The first workshop was chaired by Dr Rhodri Llwyd Morgan on Welsh Language and Culture, the second workshop was chaired by Dr Phil Kloer on Social and Green Solutions to Health inequalities and the third Workshop was chaired by Gillian Perry on Objective 3 focusing on how partners can work together to address Decarbonisation. The final workshop in the series on Objective 1 working together to develop a Sustainable Economy will be chaired by Ceredigion County Council and will be held on Monday 6th of November. All participants that have attended were involved with the online interactive platform of Menti where feedback can be gained and the results analysed for each action. After all workshops are completed, all feedback will be considered and a report will be prepared on an updated draft delivery plan for the PS meeting which will be held on Monday 4th December 2023. From an implementation perspective for the Local Wellbeing Plan the PSB will consider where there are steering committees or other groups to deliver on actions and how the PSB can ensure that the reporting mechanisms are in place to gather all information.

Timothy Bray (TB) noted they are going through the proses of discussing each pilot and with regards to this group they are talking about the possibility of removing the reference to Aberystwyth from the name of the Decarbonisation Group as this a subject which runs across all the other groups, in a similar way to poverty.

12.6 Update on the Local Area Energy Plan(LEAP) and an overview of the Regional Energy Strategy and Action Plan.

Bethan Lloyd Davies, Carbon Reduction, Energy and Asset Management Programme Manager, CCC / Gemma Delafield, Regional Energy Officer.

Bethan Lloyd Davies (BLD) introduced Dr Gemma Delafield (GD) to the group as the regional energy officer for the Mid Wales Energy plan.

GD presented an overview and an update on work involved in their regional energy strategy and the local energy action plan(LEAP). GD gave an overview of the links between national, regional, and local energy planning. There are several links between the 3.

The Regional strategy's vision is to achieve a net zero-carbon energy system that delivers social and economic benefits, eliminates fuel poverty, better connects Mid Wales to the rest of the UK, and contributes to wider UK decarbonisation. There are 6 key priorities:

- Decarbonise transport.
- Decarbonise housing stock.
- Strategic investment in the grid.
- New renewable generation & storage.
- Harness innovative solutions.
- Harness agriculture.

GD explained what the regional action plan of the energy strategy covers. They have discovered that they need data to monitor progress. Reference was also made to the fact that Public engagements are also very important and at this point it was noted that there may be a collaborative role here for the Co-production network which is in place to support PSB's.

The current work is focusing on making sure that they will include Sustainable public procurement, determine the skills gap, consider links to wider projects in the strategic plan and research energy supply and demand considerations. They will be looking at how can the local authority contribute to projects, looking at local and shared partnerships, the local energy systems and energy plan,

bringing different businesses together to share assets and to figure out how they work around some of the grid issues and how energy is used locally.

Following the previous discussions with regards to the farming community GD also referenced they also need to be having conversations on how they can get agriculture to net zero. They have commenced the process of engaging with businesses and last month they had the net zero survey to businesses however this work needs to be further developed over the next period.

Action: Gemma Delafield to share the net zero survey for businesses with partners.

Action: Coproduction Network to consider providing engagement support.

The Local Area Energy Plan is a whole energy system approach led by Local Government, in partnership with key stakeholders. It identifies the most cost-effective integrated plan for the local area to contribute to timebound national local net zero targets. Preparation work has been done to identify, key stakeholders, mapping out the current provision within local areas and the work will now extend to the Modelling stages of the plan. They have several workshops planned to look at the modelling outfit to get feedback. They are hoping for the plan to be signed off by March 2024 then they will take this for consideration to Cabinet. They are hoping the plan will provide the depth of data necessary to make long term future decisions on priorities.

GD is involved in national discussions around where this is all going. They are hoping these conversations will highlight the scale of the challenge and that the messages from Mid Wales's unique challenges are heard.

Action- Georgina Delafield to share information and dates regarding the local area energy plan workshops.

Action – Georgina Delafield to share the Regional Energy Strategy & Local Area Energy Plans presentation with the forum.

LW noted that as this group have been discussing these matters previously, with these ongoing conversations it is hoped that they may gain a perspective on how to make the local footprint fit regionally and nationally. It's unfortunate that Dewi Day, Aberystwyth University is not present at today's meeting as he has raised these matters previously when he was Chair of this pilot group. It would have been an excellent opportunity for this presentation to be heard and to see how pilot actions can work to slot into wider actions. LW noted the importance of these links at a regional and national level. For the purposes of sharing the presentation a copy is included below.



12.7 Partner updates – All partners

LW informed the group that the mapping spreadsheet will be re-circulated following this meeting to give everyone the opportunity to provide feedback.

Gillian Perry (GP) noted that in the future this group should look at its name to reflect County wide responsibility and reference to the priorities of this group.

GP noted the importance of engaging with agriculture and wished to invite a representative from this sector to be part of the group as a regular member. GP also referenced the importance of the timber industry and asked for representation from this sector also to be explored.

Action – To explore the extension of an invitation to an individual with an agriculture background to become a part of the group.

Action – To explore inviting someone from the Timber industry.

12.8 Standing item: Do we need to liaise with Co-Production Network for Wales on any of the matters raised?

Roxanne Treacy (RT) informed the group that they are always looking for opportunities to support the PSB and PSB Subgroups with any engagements, involvement, or collaborative work. RT noted if anyone wants any support to contact them directly following this meeting.

They are scheduling a programme of co-production related training over the next few months which will be free of charge and members of the group are welcome to attend.

Any other business : Any assistance requested from the PSB.

Further information was shared :

Dolen Teifi provides community transport which have EV car clubs operating in Ceredigion and Carmarthenshire and Community Wales through TrydanNi are developing car clubs in Ceredigion.

[Dolen Teifi Community Transport - Dolen Teifi - Transport for all](#)

<https://chargeplacewales.org/#>

The Chair thanked all members for their time this morning and for their contributions to the discussions and drew the meeting to a close.

12.9 Dates of next meetings: Any assistance requested from the PSB.

T.B.A – 22/1/24 hybrid, 15/4/24 , 8/7/24 & 14/10/24