

# PSB Project Group Report

Prepared by: Linda James & Sara Dafydd

<b>Well-being Plan Aim</b>	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.
<b>Our Values</b>	Welsh Language, Tackling Inequalities, Involvement, Sustainability, Leading by Example
<b>Project Group Name</b>	Carbon Neutral Aberystwyth and Decarbonisation Strategy
<b>Chair</b>	<b>Rachel Jarvis</b> , Natural Resources Wales

<b>Project Group Membership</b> (Names in <b>bold</b> signify attendance at the meeting)			
Ceredigion County Council	Naomi McDonagh, <b>Sara Dafydd</b> , Lynne Walters, Lyndon Griffiths, <b>Bethan Lloyd Davies</b> , <b>Cllr Alun Williams</b> , Rhodri Llwyd, <b>Dr Sarah Groves-Phillips</b> , <b>Cllr Keith Henson</b> , Beti Gordon, Emily Edwards, <b>Teleri Elias</b> , <b>Bethan Howell</b> .	Aberystwyth University	Rhodri Llwyd Morgan
		Natural Resources Wales	Yvette Eley, Thomas Vetter, Peter Frost
Hywel Dda University Health Board	Paul Williams, Terri Shaw, Owen Harris	National Library of Wales	Mark Stevens
Welsh Government Energy Services	Rhys Horan, Huw Lewis, Brian Drysdale	Mid Wales Energy Plan	Thomas Yeo
		Coleg Sir Gar / Ceredigion	<b>Vanessa Cashmore</b> , 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)	<b>Juliet Morris</b>	University of Wales Trinity Saint David	<b>Kelly Williams, Daniel Priddy</b>

## SYNOPSIS OF PROJECT GROUP MEETING

### Key Points discussed at Project Group meeting: 27.04.23

#### **10.1 Welcome, Introductions, and apologies**

The Chair (RJ) welcomed members to the meeting and introductions were made. Apologies were noted for the following: *Caitlin Theodorou, Chesca Ross, Dewi Day, Emily Edwards, Gareth Lewis, Huw Lewis, Kate Williams, Paul Williams, Roxanne Treacy, Rhodri Llwyd, Rhys Horan, Sharon Hughes, Terri Shaw, Thomas Yeo and Yvette Eley.*

**Action: Sara Dafydd (SD) to arrange for simultaneous translation to be provided for upcoming meetings of this sub-group as per Cllr. Keith Henson's request.**

#### **10.2 Minutes and matters arising from the previous meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 January 2023 were accepted as a true and accurate record.

#### **10.3 Standing Item: Local Well-being Plan 2023-2028**

The Ceredigion Local Well-being Plan for 2023-28 was approved by the Ceredigion Public Services Board (PSB) on 24 April 2023. SD reported that there is a statutory duty for the Plan to be published within one year of the previous election, and it was confirmed that the Plan will be published on the PSB's website on Tuesday 02 May.

#### **10.4 Well-being Plan Delivery**

SD reported that a Governance and Delivery Framework outlining how the Plan will be delivered is in the process of being drafted, and will soon be shared with the PSB. The focus of this sub-group's work will be actions outlined under *Objective 3 Environmental Well-being: Work together to deliver decarbonisation initiatives within Ceredigion to protect and enhance our natural resources.* There are 7 actions linked to this Objective, which can be viewed on page 21 of the [Plan](#). These include carrying out a Climate Change Risk and Opportunity Assessment and help to develop adaptive and resilient communities in response to climate change, encouraging innovation and development of nature-based solutions. The Chair reported that the need for all PSBs to undertake a Climate Change Risk and Opportunity Assessment was fed back across Wales as part of Natural Resources Wales' (NRW) consultation response. The

Chair briefly shared the [Evidence for the third UK Climate Change Risk Assessment \(CCRA3\): Summary for Wales](#) document, which summarises risks and opportunities from climate change to Wales, including to business, infrastructure, housing, the natural environment, our health and risks from the impacts of climate change internationally. It was confirmed that specialist support from NRW would be required to undertake an Assessment for Ceredigion.

**Action: RJ to hold initial conversations with NRW colleagues regarding the Assessment process.**

**Action: SD to include as an Agenda item for the next meeting.**

With regards to other actions outlined under Objective 3, the Chair noted that NRW were keen to ensure that other environmental aspects such as water and air quality were included the Plan, in addition to decarbonisation. Cllr. Keith Henson (KH), noted that item 3.6 relating to the Healthy Travel Charter is being discussed as part of other forums. SD reported that a presentation on public transport in the county and initial conversations around the Healthy Travel Charter have been arranged for upcoming PSB meetings.

It was agreed that the next steps would be for an Action Plan to be drawn up, with tangible actions that the sub-group can focus on for the coming year that will deliver on the areas covered under Objective 3 within the Plan. It was agreed that identification of sub-group priorities should be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

**Action: SD to circulate the new Ceredigion Local Well-being Plan for 2023-28, and members to consider which actions under Objective 3 the sub-group should hone in on during the coming year.**

#### **10.5 Mapping of current initiatives and identification of gaps**

The Chair noted that there is already a great deal of good work ongoing by different organisations. It was agreed that a mapping exercise was required to record these initiatives in order to identify any gaps and avoid duplication.

**Action: RJ to create a spreadsheet and circulate to the group to populate with projects and initiatives already being carried out.**

**Action: SD to add as an agenda item for the next meeting.**

#### **10.6 Review of sub-group membership and links with other relevant groups**

The Chair asked members to consider if there are any individuals, groups or organisations that would benefit from attending this sub-group meeting going forwards. This could be joining as a sub-group member, or attending singular meetings to provide a presentation on specific pieces of work or projects. Some ideas included extending invitations to representatives from Sustrans, and Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW). SD confirmed that the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the PSB and its sub-groups will need to be reviewed and amended following the introduction of the new Plan.

#### **10.7 Partner Updates**

Dewi Day (DD) who sent his apologies for this meeting had submitted an update on the District Heat Network. Following the outcome of the techno-economic feasibility study, it was noted that all parties involved in the scheme continue to support the development of the heat decarbonisation project. They are awaiting details from BEIS relating to 'Detailed Business Case Development' (DPD) grant funding. Due to the significant feasibility costs associated with this project, they are heavily reliant on the availability of this grant scheme and an application will be submitted during the next grant window.

Kelly Williams (KW) reported that the University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UWTSD) is currently working on attaining green flag status for the campus grounds in Lampeter; roof tiles with solar embedded in them are being used to re-roof three buildings and EV charging is in place with the majority of the fleet now electric. A successful bid for Welsh Government Low Carbon Heat funding will allow the installation of air source heat pumps to three buildings. The University and Coleg Sir Gar are working on a combined Group Sustainability Strategy.

Vanessa Cashmore (VC) provided an update for Coleg Ceredigion. EV charging points have been installed for staff and student use. The boiler on the Aberystwyth Campus has failed, and they are currently looking to replace this with a low carbon alternative.

Sarah Groves-Phillips (SG-P) provided an update for Ceredigion County Council (Planning). The Nutrient Management Board (NMB) has produced several evidence-based documents which will be useful to the group such as the Wetland Feasibility Study of the Tefii catchment and background evidence relating to nutrient trading in the region (includes Cleddau and Tywi). The Phosphates and Nitrates calculator should be available next week as well as a support pack for developers with information on the habitat regulations assessment and mitigation guidelines. A regional stakeholder day will be held on 31 May, 10am to 4pm at the Halliwell Centre, Carmarthen. A Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) bid has been submitted for each of the three catchment areas for water quality monitoring stations as well as Nutrient Manager Officers (NMO) for each area. RJ noted that phosphates is a major issue for the county and should be a future consideration for the group. RJ asked if there was any scope to work with the NMB. Concerns were raised around an upcoming marine nutrient data release, which may see an increase in the percentage of Ceredigion covered by a planning embargo. KH noted that he had chaired a recent meeting of the Ceredigion Biodiversity Network at which a presentation was given by DCWW, and it was proposed that a representative from DCWW was invited to attend the sub-group meetings moving forwards to ensure collaborative working on this issue.

**Action: The marine nutrient data release to be updated upon at the next meeting.**

**Action: A representative from DCWW to be invited to attend sub-group meetings.**

Place Making (which includes Green Infrastructure, Regeneration, Town Place Plans, Traffic Calming and Parking Strategies) feedback sessions are being held with the county's six towns in May. These are not public events; Town Councils, Consultants and various

stakeholders have been invited to discuss in more detail the town regeneration, branding and marketing plans. A successful SPF bid will fund conservation area appraisals and management plans for each of the six towns, looking at town boundaries, trees and how to encourage and support the greening of our towns. The Local Development Plan (LDP) remains on pause, but monitoring is continuing – A replacement LDP is not being worked on at this time. Work is on-going with Powys County Council and the Brecon Beacons National Park on a Strategic Development Plan (SDP) as required under the Future Wales Policy. Additional resources have been requested for an officer to map out the SDP across the regions. The SDP will have a strong focus on biodiversity, climate change, decarbonisation and sustainable travel.

Bethan Lloyd Davies (BLD) provided an update for Ceredigion County Council (Carbon Management). The Council have a Net Zero Action Plan which is reviewed periodically and currently only reports operating emissions. Phase 2 of the EV Charging project has been completed and currently seeking funding for Phase 3. Both of the Council's main depots have had electricity supplies installed to support future decarbonisation of the fleet. There is great deal of work on-going regionally such as the Regional Energy Strategy and Action Plan, work is starting on the individual Local Energy Plans for Ceredigion and Powys. The Refit programme is being looked at again as well as the Land Asset Review which offers opportunities for larger scale renewables to utilise the energy in buildings. KH added that one of the main issues is how to use the energy that we are producing. The National Grid have undergone a recent significant Code Review, which is yet to have any impact locally.

Bethan Howell (BH) provided an update for Ceredigion County Council (Housing). During January – March 2023 the ECO Flex 4 scheme had received 136 applications and issued 130 declarations to eligible households to carry out energy efficient improvements. The Warm Homes project in partnership with the Citizen's Advice Bureau (CAB) has assisted 73 fuel poverty households in the past three months to access funding, maximising income and energy efficiency advice which equated to £64,874.00. Since the project started in April 2022, it has assisted 275 households.

The Chair reported that NRW's Forestry sector is looking at the possibility of setting up a community wood fuel initiative in Mid Wales, with the view that any surplus wood after felling would be offered to community groups for a low fee.

**Action: RJ to request an update on the potential community wood fuel initiative from NRW colleagues.**

### **10.8 Do we need to liaise with Co-Production Network for Wales on any of the matters raised?**

Co-Production Network for Wales (CPNW) are working with 3 clusters of PSBs across Wales to support the development of their practice of meaningful engagement and involvement, moving towards full co-production. CPNW have been a valuable resource in supporting the development of Ceredigion's Local Well-being Plan for 2023-28, and will be available to assist with implementing and delivering elements of the Plan for the next 3 years. Following the publication of the Plan, and once an Action Plan has been put in place for the

sub-group, it would be beneficial to consider whether CPNW can support any areas of work discussed at meetings from a co-production and involvement perspective.

**10.9 Any other business proposed by members of the Steering Group**

The group discussed potentially meeting in-person once a year – Although CCC policy outlines that meetings should be held virtually where possible, it was suggested that an in-person meeting could be beneficial for the purposes of a workshop to consider sub-group priorities or receive guest presentations. SD noted a previous action for the National Library of Wales to provide a presentation to the group on the many innovative measures at their site.

**Action: An in-person meeting to be considered for after July's meeting.**

The Chair thanked members for their time and contributions, and drew the meeting to a close.

**Next Meeting:** 18 July 2023, at 10:00-12:00.