



# ASSOCIATION PLAN

2017 to 2022



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## **1. Introduction**

1.1 The Association has decided to formulate an Aims, Objectives, Policy and Action plan for the period of 2017 to 2022.

1.2 This plan sets out the agreed way forward for the Association over the next Electoral period of office for Town and Community Councillors.

1.3 All decisions made by the Association with regard to this plan shall be made by the Full Meeting only, the executive making recommendations when required.

## **2. Mission statement**

2.1 The mission statement for the life of the Plan shall be:

'The Association is to strive to improve the quality of life of the people of Mid and North Wales by the membership working together.'

## **3. Area covered by the plan**

3.1 The North and Mid Wales Association is open to Council Membership from Holyhead and Llandudno in the North, Welshpool in the South, Holyhead in the West and **Shotton/Hawarden** in the East.

3.2 A map showing the area covered by the Association is shown on the front cover.

## **4. Consultation and adoption**

4.1 The plan was prepared by the Secretary taking into account suggestions and discussions by the Member Councils.

4.2 A consultation was held on the final plan before being taken forward for adoption.



## **5. Financial objectives and Cost Plan for delivery of plan**

5.1 The cost of delivering the plan as outlined in this document shall be funded by Either/or the Associations funds (including fees and subscriptions) or any grant aid available.

## **6. Aims and objectives of the Plan**

6.1 The aims and objectives contained in this plan shall form the policy of the Association when making decisions on matters put before it.

6.2 The plan is prepared to give direction and to take forward those items within it which are considered by the Members as those of common importance to each Member Council.

6.3 The plan does not seek, nor should it, to restrict any Council making its own representations on any subject irrespective of the views of the Association through its collective membership.

## **7. Team to deliver the Plan**

7.1 The delivery of the plan and the decisions made by the Full Meeting shall be carried out by the Secretary in consultation with the Executive.

7.2 The Association elects each year 2 or 3 assistant secretaries who maybe appointed to take forward sections of the plan by agreement with the Executive.



## **8. Membership**

8.1 Member Councils at the date of this plan are:

Abergele Town Council  
Argoed Town Council  
Baguillt Community Council  
Bangor City Council  
Bay of Colwyn Town Council  
Buckley Town Council  
Caerswys Town Council  
Caia Park Town Council  
Connah's Quay  
**Conwy** Town Council  
Denbigh Town Council  
Flint Town Council  
Hawarden Town Council  
Holywell Town Council  
Llanasa Town Council  
**Llanfairfechan** Town Council  
Llanfair Caereinion Town Council  
Llandrino & Ardleen Community Council  
Llandysilio Community Council  
Llangollen Town Council  
**Menai** Bridge Town Council  
Penmaenmawr Town Council  
Prestatyn Town Council  
Rhuddlan Town Council  
Rhyl Town Council  
Rhuddlan Town Council  
Ruthin Town Council  
**St Asaph** City Council  
Shotton Town Council  
Towyn & **Kinmel** Bay Town Council  
Welshpool Town Council

8.2 Membership shall be open to all Town and Community Councils within the Association's area.



## **9. Welsh Language**

9.1 The Association recognises and supports the need to retain the culture of the Welsh Language and will over a period of time move towards becoming bilingual.

9.2 During the life of this plan the Association will make available material published in English and in Welsh upon request.

## **10. Training**

10.1 The Secretary will provide training when required for members either via Members with experience in that field or via outside agencies.

10.2 The Secretary shall be available for advice either directly or via other sources if the need arises.

## **11. Consultation from Other bodies**

11.1 Consultations from Welsh Government, Parliament or other bodies shall be presented with a recommended response by the Secretariat for approval at the Executive before Full Membership approval.

11.2 Consultations which have a time constraint may be presented direct to the Full Meeting and only in exceptional circumstances by the executive.

11.3 To seek to co-operate on an equal basis with the Welsh Government Association, One Voice Wales and other representative agencies.

## **12. Section 1: Representation**

12.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

a) To respond to all consultations which cover the following subjects:

- i) Planning & development.
- ii) Health.
- iii) Local Government.
- iv) Transport.
- v) Energy

b) To respond to other consultations relevant to the work of Town and Community Councils and their presentation of their communities.



### **13. Section 2: Local Government**

13.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

- i) To seek the best result from Local Government Re-organisation whereby the Members views are collectively represented when the proposals are known.
- ii) To take a full part in the consultation process with regards to reorganisation and boundaries.
- iii) To support Members in gaining the best advice when considering taking over services from County Councils.
- iv) To give support to Local Councils where required in their dealings with principle authorities.
- v) To support the introduction of bespoke Charters between principle and local councils.

### **14. Section 3: Transport**

14.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

- i) To support any proposal which improves the bus network in both Town and rural areas.
- ii) To support any proposal which improves the rail network in both Town and rural areas.
- iii) To support the electrification of the North Wales Coast rail line.  
(Holyhead to Crewe)
- iv) To support the introduction of a full hourly service on the main Cambrian line.
- v) To seek improvements to the road network to provide better north to south access.
- vi) To support cross border services on both rail and bus.

### **15. Section 4: Health**

15.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

- i) To support an initiative which will improve health and hospital care in the North and Mid Wales areas.
- ii) To support cross border services in delivery of health and care.
- iii) To seek to gain an **equal top quality** NHS service provision with other areas of the UK.



## **16. Section 5: Police**

16.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

- i) To support the Police in any initiative to improve the life of people in the Association area.
- ii) To support any initiative which seeks to reduce anti-social behaviour in towns and rural areas.

## **17. Section 6: Education**

17.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

- i) To support any initiative which will improve education & teaching standards in Wales.
- ii) To support any initiative which improves educational facilities such as:  
Local infant and junior schools  
Secondary Schooling  
Higher education within a reasonable distance
- iii) To place this subject on a Full Meeting Agenda for full debate.

## **18. Section 7: Social Services & Housing**

18.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

- I) To support the building of more homes (full range of) in areas where the Member Councils are seeking to support such developments through local LDP's.
- II) To support an initiative of 'not selling Council or Social Housing' to tenants at reduced values.
- III) To support a programme of Council House building by the principle and responsible Authorities.
- IV) To support initiatives which provide more rented housing.
- V) To support initiatives which create more local cost, low rental, local homes for local people. This to aid and inform Welsh Government with ideas and possible solutions.
- VI) To place this item on a Full Meeting Agenda for Full Debate.
- VI) To support changes in LDP's to create sensible requirement for provision of Social and Affordable Housing.

## **19. Section 8: Planning & the Environment**

19.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

- i) To support the introduction of Place Plans as soon as possible.



- ii) To support local councils in their representations with regards to the LDP where they do not disadvantage any other Member council.
- iii) To seek the removal of consultation planning charges.
- iv) To support initiatives which lead to more employment uses in LDP's.

## **20. Section 9: Environmental Health**

20.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

- i) To support initiatives to extend re-cycling provision.
- ii) To support the return to weekly bin collection in all areas.
- iii) To objective to any reduction in re-cycling facilities.
- iv) To promote local re-cycling facilities to reduce carbon footprints.

## **21. Section 10: Retail and markets**

21.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

- i) To support the retention of high street retailing.
- ii) To support local councils in their objections to out of town shopping which would affect their local town or community shopping centre.

## **22. Section 11: Employment**

22.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

- i) To support all employers paying the living wage.
- ii) To seek to **manage** the effect of TUPE on transfer of services from principle to local councils.
- iii) To support local councils in retaining and creating employment in their areas. (ie by encouraging inward investment)
- iv) To support the inclusion in LDP's of employment land to meet any growing demand.

## **23. Section 12: Recreation and Leisure**

23.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

- i) To support initiatives which aid the objectives of the 6 acre rule for open spaces. (ie 6 acres of public open space for each 1,000 of population)



- ii) To seek support from principle authorities to maintain and create more playgrounds through support for local councils.
- iii) To support the basis of principle authorities providing some funding towards local play provision.
- iv) To support the Arts through provision of theatres and Performances.

## **24. Section 13: Tourism**

24.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

- i) To support any initiative by principle authorities which promote and support tourism.
- ii) To object to the closure of public toilets and tourist information centres and to seek their re-instatement where they have been removed.
- iii) To support both web based and paper based tourism promotion by both local and principle authorities.
- iv) To seek investment in tourism for both North and Mid Wales.

## **25. Section 14: Economics**

25.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

- i) To support economic development of both North and Mid Wales.
- ii) To seek to gain a fair funding system for County Councils with regards to Welsh Government Grants.
- iii) To seek a replacement system for Council Tax and Commercial Rating.
- iv) To support any initiative which improves WiFi, mobile telephone signals and broadband provision.
- v) To support the implementation of the Local Government Wales Measure 2011 in providing direct finance to Town and Community Councils not via County Councils to stop any 'top slicing'.

## **26. Section 15: Energy**

26.1 The Policy of the Association on this subject shall be:

- i) To object to onshore wind farm development which is out of scale and which leads to infrastructure which is inappropriate for the area in which it is proposed.
- ii) To object to any off shore wind farms which have an adverse effect on other industries such as tourism.
- iii) To support other renewable energy sources which do not impede on local industry or the local environment in a negative way.
- iv) To support Welsh Government flood defence and sea defence schemes.
- v) To support schemes to reduce coastal erosion.



## **27. Cost Plan for delivery of the Plan**

27.1 Before any activity is carried out involving expenditure it must first have an approved budget by the Full Meeting upon recommendation of the executive.

## **28. Information and Publicity**

28.1 Information on the Associations activities will be posted as follows:

- i) The Web Site which will be kept up to date.
- ii) A facebook page.
- iii) In the file and available in paper form.

28.2 The Association will from time to time issue press releases on its work.

## **29. Action Plan**

29.1 The action plan which shall form the basis of the Association programme is to be as follows:

- a) Carry out a full debate at a Full Meeting of the Association on the following subjects:**

**Education  
Poverty in Wales**

- b) To provide a copy of this plan to Welsh Government and all County Councils in Mid and North Wales.**
- c) To provide a copy of this plan to all AM's and MP's in the Mid and North Wales area.**
- d) To enact the policies of this plan to a programme to be agreed on adoption of the plan.**



**30. Adoption of the Plan**

30.1 The Plan following consultation and discussion is adopted on

30.2 Signatures:

Signed..... Chair

Signed..... Vice Chair

Signed..... President

Signed..... Secretary

Dated.....

DRAFT