



## Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group

*Date:* 6th of June 2008  
*Time:* 13:00 (Lunch available from 12:30)  
*Location:* Galeri, Caernarfon

*Attendees:*

Members of the Steering Group or nominated alternates

Observers

Partnership Secretariat

*Guests:*

John Adshead

Department for Economy and Transport

Catrin Roberts

DE&T  
Welsh Assembly



Ariennir a hwylusir Gweithredu  
dros Gymunedau Gwledig gan  
Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru  
Rural Community Action is  
funded and facilitated by the  
Welsh Assembly Government



## **Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group – 6 June 2008**

### LUNCH

#### PART ONE: BUSINESS MATTERS

01. Apologies
02. Expressions of personal interest
03. Minutes of 04 April 2008 Steering Group (enclosed – *yellow paper*):
  - Correct and confirm
  - Any matter not appearing on the programme
04. Partnership Sub-Groups - report (enclosed – *orange paper*):
  - Llwyddo'n Lleol
  - Business Support
  - Skills
  - Rural Development
  - Community Regeneration
05. Wales European Programmes:
  - activity update (enclosed – *blue paper*)
06. Aftercare Report (enclosed – *pink paper*)
07. Reviewing the Image and Brand (enclosed – *lilac paper*)
08. Annual Review of Membership (enclosed – *green paper*)

#### PART TWO: STRATEGIC MATTERS – INFRASTRUCTURE FOR BUSINESSES

09. Presentation by John Adshead, Welsh Assembly Government – National and North Wales Context
10. Presentation by Catrin Roberts, Welsh Assembly Government – Mid Wales Context
11. Presentation by Sian Jones, Cyngor Gwynedd – Council Estates
12. Discussion
13. Any other matter
14. Date and location of next meeting

**Minutes of 04 April 2008 Steering Group**

**Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group**

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*Date:* 04 April 2008

*Time:* 10:00 - 13:00

*Location:* Management Development Centre Bangor University, Bangor

*Present:*

Private Sector Representatives

Dewi Lewis	<i>Chair</i>	Siop Dewi
Gwynedd Watkin		Farmers Union of Wales
Rhys Davies		Camre Cymru
Peter Clarke		TUC Wales
Tim Knight		National Skills Academy
Geraint Wyn Parry		Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru
Evie Wyn Jones	<i>(Eilydd)</i>	Eryri Business Cyf
Dylan Llewelyn Roberts	<i>(Eilydd)</i>	Llewelyn Historical Tours
John Morris	<i>(Eilydd)</i>	J. Morris

Voluntary Sector Representatives

Menna Jones	<i>Sub-Chair</i>	Antur Waunfawr
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Public Sector Representatives

Y Tad Deiniol		Yn Ein Blaenau
Llŷr Huws Gruffydd		Menter a Busnes
Godfrey Northam		Community Councils
Isgoed Williams	<i>(Substitute)</i>	Traws-Newid

Public Sector Representatives

Emyr Williams		Eryri National Park
Lowri Hughes	<i>(Substitute)</i>	Bangor University

Observers

Ann Rybij		Welsh Assembly Government:
Janet Jones		Visit Wales
Ieuan Ellis		Sustainable Futures Division
		Department of Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills
Ann Owen		Gwynedd Council:
Natalie Jones		Development Directorate
Phil Smith		Chief Executive's Directorate
Bill Bracewell		Hoshin
		Aberdyfi Partnership

Secretariat Officers (Gwynedd Council)

Sioned Williams	Head of Economy and Regeneration Service
Dylan Griffiths	Strategic Planning and Funding Manager
Siân Lloyd Roberts	Skills and Entrepreneurship Manager

Invitees

Robin Beckmann	Department of Children, Education, Lifelong Learning and Skills
	Welsh Assembly Government
Iwan Trefor Jones	Strategic Director Development
	Gwynedd Council

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## PART ONE: BUSINESS MATTERS

### 01. Apologies

The following apologies were noted: Ffiona Williams (Careers Wales); Catrin Lloyd Perry (Workers Education Association); Ruth Bacigalupo, Dr. Trefor Wyn Jones and Catrin W Roberts (Welsh Assembly Government); Wendy Crisp (The Fun Centre); Alex Badley (Sustainable Gwynedd); Robert O'Regan (Parker, O'Regan, Tann & Co.); Anne Lloyd Jones (Mid Wales Tourism); Dorothy Hughes (Unllais Cymru); Yr Athro Sian Hope (Bangor University); Eiddwen Borland (Job Centre Plus); Allison Williams (Dragon Theatre); Dyfed Edwards (Antur Nantlle); Bethan Russell Owen (Mantell Gwynedd); Keneue Morgan (Deudraeth Cyf); Cyng. Dafydd Iwan (Gwynedd Council); Rhys Evans, Vivienne Pritchard, Catrin Thomas, Nia Swann Bowden and Colin Morris (Secretariat)

### 02. Expressions of Personal Interest

None

### 03. Minutes of Steering Group 25 January 2008

- Correct and confirm
- Any matter not appearing on the programme

#### *Discussion:*

- i. It was noted that a unanimous vote to support the principle of developing a scheme to return the Blaenau Ffestiniog – Trawsfynydd railway to use was taken at the 25 January meeting.
- ii. It was noted that a response to the request for an update on the Snowdonia Green Key scheme was yet to come to hand.

#### *Conclusions:*

- iii. It was **agreed** that the minutes were correct.

#### *Tasks:*

- a) To receive an update from Snowdonia Green Key**  
Secretariat as soon as possible

### 04. Partnership Sub-Groups

#### *Discussion: Llwyddo'n Lleol*

- i. An update on the content of Llwyddo'n Lleol Sub-Group's bulletin was received from Sian Lloyd Roberts. Noted:
  - that the schemes targets for 2007 / 2008 had been achieved with the exception of the number of participating communities (one short)
  - that the contents of the schemes work programme for 2008 / 2009 had been agreed
  - that the budget for the year was restricted to £200,000 by lack of match funding and, as a result, road-shows would not be held

- that the Welsh Assembly Government had announced that the *Rural Community Action Programme* which funds Llwyddo'n Lleol would come to an end in 2009 / 2010
- that the scheme had been awarded a certificate at the Welsh Local Government Association's Excellence Wales awards
- that an 'Expression of Interest' to the Convergence programme for a successor to Llwyddo'n Lleol was being prepared.

*Discussion: Business Support*

ii. It was noted that the Sub-Group had not met

*Discussion: Skills*

iii. An update on the content of the Skills Sub-Group's bulletin was received by Sian Lloyd Roberts. Noted:

- consultations on the Webb Review on the provision of further education in Wales and the National Skills Strategy had received attention
- Sub-Group leading on the preparation of a Skills Strategy for Gwynedd and Anglesey
- it was reported that a pilot scheme to link the opportunities and deprived communities had succeeded in ensuring that 34 economically inactive individuals had secured employment at the Victoria Dock development in Caernarfon

iv. Peter Clarke noted the importance of engineering and craft skills.

*Discussion: Rural Development*

v. It was reported that the Sub-Group had not met.

*Conclusions:*

vi. The report was **accepted**

*Tasks:*

NONE

05. European Programmes in Wales

*Discussion:*

i. The activity report was presented by the Secretariat drawing attention to:

*Objective 1 Programme:*

- It was noted that the Welsh European Funding Office (WEFO) had stated that further resources were available as a result of the favourable exchange rate and applications for additional resources from active projects were receiving consideration on a case by case basis.
- The Secretariat's programme of revisiting project managers was continuing. It was noted that priority had been given to visiting schemes dependent on a 'commercial' element to offer further support to ensure their continuation.

*Ireland / Wales Territorial Co-Operation Programme:*

- It was reported that Roger Seddon (a Case Officer with WEFO) had been appointed as Development Officer for the Programme in North West Wales.

*Convergence Programme:*

- It was noted that WEFO had announced the first approvals of the Programme.
- That Ken Cook (previously with the Department of Education, Children, Lifelong Learning and Skills, Welsh Assembly Government) had been appointed as European Manager with WEFO
- A further delay was reported in the establishment of the Spatial European Teams (SETs) regime to provide support to project developers and managers targeting the Convergence Programme
- It was noted that Project Information Forms (PIFs) for proposed schemes by the Welsh Assembly Government's Departments had begun to appear on the WEFO website
- The success of a seminar on the economy hosted by Gwynedd Council's Development Scrutiny Committee on 28 February was reported. Members attention was drawn to the list of proposed sub-regional and strategic projects in Gwynedd presented in an annex to the report
- It was reported that the Welsh Assembly Government had announced the establishment of a fund (£350M until 2013) to provide match funding to schemes targeting sponsorship from European Structural Funds. The Secretariat expressed concern, however, regarding the value of the fund, lack of information regarding the application process and the Welsh Assembly Government's priorities for targeting the funding.

*Rural Development Plan for Wales:*

- It was reported to the Members that the Welsh Assembly Government had announced a further delay in the operational timetable for the programme, and that approval for the Partnership's schemes, should they be successful, was not anticipated until the end of May.
- ii. In relation to the list of proposed Convergence Programme projects in Gwynedd, Godfrey Northam enquired about the inclusion of a development for the former Ferrodo site. In response, it was noted that the site was in private ownership and, as a result, the development would be led by Gwynedd Council.
  - iii. Also in relation to the proposed project list, the importance of maximising the development of the Conwy Valley Railway and the maintenance of the line between Blaenau Ffestiniog and Trawsfynydd to transport nuclear waste when the decommissioning of the power station site was completed was emphasised.
  - iv. The possibility of upgrading Pont Briwet was welcomed with an emphasis on the need to develop a road crossing as well as rail.
  - v. Rhys Davies noted the importance of ensuring the commitment and input of the private sector into any scheme relating to the outdoor activity sector and the need to develop a collaborative approach and strike a balance between land and water based activities.
  - vi. To conclude the discussion on the project list, Sioned E Williams emphasised the list was in draft form and included a range of activities, with the majority requiring further investment of time and money for development.

- vii. In relation to the Assembly's match funding fund the concerns of the Secretariat were reiterated by the members of the Steering Group.

*Conclusions:*

- viii. **Accept** the report.

*Tasks:*

- b) Correspond with the Welsh Assembly Government to express concern regarding the match funding fund**  
Secretariat 06 June 2008
- c) Circulate a revised version of the proposed project list including contact details for lead officers on individual projects**  
Secretariat 06 June 2008

## PART TWO: STRATEGIC MATTERS - SKILLS

### 06. Presentation by Robin Beckmann, Welsh Assembly Government – National Context

*Discussion:*

- i. Presentation received on the national context for the skills field, including development of the National Skills and Employment Strategy, *Skills That Work For Wales*, and the Webb Review of Further Education provision; by Robin Beckman, Department of Education, Children and Lifelong Learning and Skills, Welsh Assembly Government (enclosed Annex 1)

*Conclusions:*

N/A

*Tasks:*

N/A

### 07. Presentation by Iwan Trefor Jones, Gwynedd Council – North West Wales Context

*Discussion:*

- ii. Presentation received on the regional context for the development of a Skills Strategy for Gwynedd and Anglesey; by Iwan Trefor Jones, Strategic Director Development, Gwynedd Council (enclosed Annex 2)

*Conclusions:*

N/A

*Tasks:*

N/A

### 08. Discussion Workshops on the Skills Field

*Discussion:*

- i. It was noted there were two purposes to the workshops. In the first instance, Members of the Steering Group were asked to provide input into

the preparation of a response by PEG / Gwynedd Council to the content of the draft National Skills and Employment Strategy. Secondly the Members were asked to offer their input / guidance on the preparation of a Skills Strategy for Gwynedd and Anglesey.

- ii. To assist Members information sheets were distributed outlining the contents of the National Skills and Employment Strategy and possible vision / aims for the Gwynedd and Anglesey Skills Strategy along with questions for consideration. Those present divided into three discussion groups.

*Conclusions:*

N/A

*Tasks:*

N/A

## 09. Reporting back from the Discussion Workshop

*Discussion:*

- i. The groups' main comments were outlined by their facilitators:

*National Skills and Employment Strategy:*

- Concern noted regarding dependence on Sector Skills Councils and their relevance / understanding of the needs of areas such as Gwynedd
- Concern regarding the emphasis on the draft Strategy on achieving full employment due to the above average employment rate in Gwynedd and the low quality / value of employment
- The need to prioritise a development of soft / generic skills among children and young people (from primary school onward) to extend their horizons and raise their ambitions

*Gwynedd and Anglesey Skills Strategy:*

- The need to invest in the development of transferable skills in the workforce
- The need to identify priority sectors within the economy and define them clearly being weary of creating too many individuals with relevant skills within a single sector
- The need to ensure that Further Education institutions have a clear understanding of the needs of the economy today and for the future
- The need to ensure private sector representation within commissioning arrangements
- The need to ensure that young people are retained and are attracted back to the area alongside maintaining older people in economic activity to respond to demographic trends

- ii. In addition, the Members of the Steering Group noted the need to press the private sector to provide / take advantage of training opportunities. It was noted that the will was present in most businesses but that practical barriers such as their ability to release staff to attend training existed.
- iii. It was noted that the closing date for comments on the National Skills and Employment Strategy was 10 April 2008.

*Conclusions:*

- iv. All the comments provided by the discussion group were **transferred** for consideration in relation to the development of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Skills Strategy and to facilitate the preparation of comments for the National Skills and Employment Strategy (Annex 3 – Welsh only).

*Tasks:*

**d) Provide comments on the draft Skills and Employment Strategy**

Gwynedd Council

10 April 2008

10. Any Other Matter

*Discussion:*

NONE

*Conclusion:*

NONE

Date of next Steering Group Meeting – 04 July 2008 – strategic subject : business infrastructure

## **S U M M A R Y O F T A S K S**

- a) To receive an update from Snowdonia Green Key**  
Secretariat as soon as possible
- b) Correspond with the Welsh Assembly Government to express concern regarding the Match Funding fund**  
Secretariat 06 June 2008
- c) Circulate a revised version of the proposed project list including contact details for lead officers on individual projects**  
Secretariat 06 June 2008
- d) Provide comments on the draft Skills and Employment Strategy**  
Gwynedd Council 10 April 2008

## Partnership Sub-Groups

## **Partnership Sub-groups**

<b>MEETING:</b>	Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group
<b>DATE:</b>	6 June 2008
<b>PURPOUSE:</b>	To update Members on the activities of the Partnership's Sub-Groups.
<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>	Note the contents of the report
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Sioned E. Williams Head of Economy and Regeneration Service

### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 Five sub-groups have been designated by the members of the Steering Group to assist them in their activities. The purpose of this report is to update the members on the activities of the Sub-Groups in the period since the last meeting of the Steering Group

### **2. Llwyddo'n Lleol Operational Sub-group**

- 2.1 The latest activity report can be found in Annex 1, which refers to the Convergence application, Audit and 2008/09 outputs.

### **3. Rural Development Sub-group**

- 3.1 The Rural Development Sub-group continues to lead on developing the Partnerships' proposal for the Rural Development Plan. As a result of the delay in the timetable for the Rural Development Plan (see Item 5 for an update on implementation), the sub-group has not met in the period since the last meeting of the Partnership Steering Group. A meeting of the Sub-group is to be held in June.

### **4. Business Support Sub-group**

- 4.1 There has not been a meeting of the Business Support Sub-group, however the latest on the Business Development Pack Phase 2, Gwynedd Business Week and Awards for 2008 and 2009, Gwynedd Business Eye Service and the Business Support Management team work programme can be found in Annex 2.

### **5. Skills Sub-group**

- 5.1 The Skills Sub-group met on the 23rd of May, a report will be included for the next Partnership meeting.

### **6. Community Regeneration Activities**

- 6.1 There is no activity report this time.

### **7. Recommendation**

- 7.1 Partnership Members to support the contents of the report.

## ANNEX 1

Llwyddo'n Lleol



### BULLETIN (June 2008)

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Name of Partnership:

Gwynedd Economic Partnership (Llwyddo'n Lleol Sub Group)

Date of Meeting:

n/a

*Main Action Points from meeting:*

n/a

**Matters for the attention of the steering group:**

**1. Audit**

1.1 The project's officers have been very busy assisting a Welsh Assembly Auditor since the last meeting. The audit has now been completed, and we are expecting feedback in the next few days.

**2. Llwyddo'n Lleol Application – Convergence**

2.1 We have now received comments from WEFO regarding the Expression of Interest submitted in March, to extend the work of Llwyddo'n Lleol across North West Wales. We will be adding information in response to these comments, and re-submitting it as soon as possible.

**3. 2008/09 Outputs against Targets**

3.1 We will report back on quarter 1 2008/09's outputs in the next meeting.

**Any matters relevant to other partnerships (note which):**

none

**Coordinator's Name:**

Person responsible for the minutes:

Nia Swann Bowden  
01286 679774  
NiaSwannBowden@gwynedd.gov.uk



Gwynedd Business Support Management Team

BULLETIN (June 2008)

**Partnership Name:** Gwynedd Economic Partnership

*Matters for the attention of the Steering Board:*

As the Business Support Management Team has not met since 26 November 2007 I wish to update the Partnership regarding the following, which are relevant to the Business Support field:-

Business Development Pack Phase 2 – Up to 31 March 2008, 872 full applications were received from a total of 687 businesses as well as a number of initial inquiries for grants. Grants totalling £1,349,970 have been released to businesses after they completed their projects. As a result of the completion of projects, and from the information submitted by the applicants, Gwynedd has, in general, achieved the following:-

Outputs: -

	<u>Original Target</u>	<u>Amended Target</u>	<u>Real</u>
Number of new posts	200	273	319
Number of posts safeguarded	256	496	496
Number of new businesses receiving financial aid	63	192	210
Number of existing businesses receiving financial help	140	280	298
Increased turnover in businesses that had received help	£3M	£8.58M	£9.06M
Private sector investment	£1.29M	£2.2M	£2.3M

Recently, the Council has received more Objective 1 funding for the Business Development Package, and is in a position to consider new grant applications.

Business Week and the Gwynedd Business Awards 2008 and 2009 – The Gwynedd Business Week was held this year between 12 and 16 May 2008. During the week, 6 main events were organised, with a Gala Dinner on the Thursday in the Management Centre, Bangor University as the highlight of the week (see website [www.wythnosbusnes.co.uk](http://www.wythnosbusnes.co.uk)). The guest speaker for the evening was Mr Mervyn Davies CBE, Chairman of Standard Chartered plc since November 2006 and Chairman of the Council, Bangor University since November 2007.

Also during the evening the Special Contribution Award was presented to Mr Robin Llewelyn of Portmeirion by the Gwynedd Business Network, in order to acknowledge an individual who has contributed substantially to the business sector in Gwynedd over the years.

Gwynedd Business Eye Service – the Service offers free unbiased information and signposting to businesses in Gwynedd, and if appropriate, puts them in contact with support from the public, private and private sector, publicly or voluntarily.

For example, in Gwynedd, there are Business Eye Centres in Caernarfon, Pwllheli and Dolgellau and 5 members of staff are being employed in order to operate the Service. During 2007/08, the Service in Gwynedd has dealt with approximately 1,600 business enquiries, and from the information received, is one of the most industrious in Wales.

The Assembly has already decided to extend the existing contract until the end of March 2009, but we are aware of the Assembly's intention to reorganise the structure of the service for the future. I will be in a position to be able to update the Partnership during the next meeting of the Steering Group.

Work Programme of the Business Support Management Team. The team will receive a presentation and will consider matters involving the Assembly's new business support framework, namely "Flexible Support for Business", during the next meeting, which is to be held on 1 July at the Green Warehouse, Caernarfon.

Other matters that will be discussed on the future are:-

- Industrial land and property
- Development of economic sections

**Co-ordinator's name**

Colin Morris  
01286 679677  
colinm@gwynedd.gov.uk

**Phone number:**

**Email:**

Person responsible for the minutes:

Colin Morris

**Wales European Programmes**

## **Update on European Programmes**

<b>MEETING:</b>	Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group
<b>DATE:</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> June, 2008
<b>PURPOSE:</b>	To update Partnership members on the implementation of European Programmes 2000 - 2006 and on development of European Programmes 2007 - 2013
<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>	To note the contents of the report
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Sioned E. Williams Head of the Economic and Regeneration Service

### **1. Introduction**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to update Partnership Members briefly on the implementation of European Programmes 2000 - 2006 and on the development of European Programmes 2007 - 2013, specifically:

- West Wales and the Valleys Objective 1 Programme 2000 - 2006
- Wales – Ireland Territorial Co-operation Programme 2007 - 2013
- West Wales and the Valleys Convergence Programme 2007 - 2013
- Wales Rural Development Plan 2007 – 2013

### **2. Objective 1 Programme 1**

#### **2.1 Additional Funding**

Members will be aware that there is additional funding within the programme as a result of the exchange rate between the Pound and the Euro as well as changes in the spending commitments. The additional funding is available over every measure with the exception of FIG. The Secretariat contacted a number of projects to inform them of the opportunity. WEFO wanted to consider applications for finance from existing projects only, on a case by case basis. It is understood that a number of Gwynedd projects have been in contact with WEFO, discussions are continuing and the picture will be clearer soon and a report will be submitted to the next meeting of the partnership.

#### **2.2 Aftercare:**

The role and responsibilities of the Secretariat and the Partnership in providing advice and support to Objective 1 project managers in Gwynedd continues. A detailed report on the latest is included in Item 6.

#### **2.4 Publicity:**

The Partnership continues to work in practical terms to ensure positive publicity locally for the programme. An article and advertisement on behalf of

the Economic Partnership, referring to the successes of the Objective 1 programme in Gwynedd will appear in the Western Mail in June.

- 2.5 The discussion paper is included in Item 7, where reference is made to work on updating the Image and Brand of the partnership.

### **3. Wales / Ireland Territorial Co-operation Programme**

- 3.1 The Wales Ireland Programme 2007 - 2013 was officially launched in Llandudno on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2007. The first call for applications closed on 18<sup>th</sup> January. It is understood that 52 expressions of interest were submitted during the first call with 13 of these being from the North. It is foreseen that there will be a call for applications twice a year, with the next programmed for July.

- 3.2 Further information about the programme is available on the website [www.irelandwales.ie](http://www.irelandwales.ie) which provides contact information for applicants developing ideas as well as the relevant documentation. Members are reminded that the WIN 2 (Wales Ireland Network) scheme is now available to help form partnerships that could lead to submission of applications for projects. The scheme provides financial assistance to eligible organisations in order to pay travel and subsistence costs. There is an application form and guidance on the website too.

- 3.3 Members are reminded that anyone interested in the programme should contact the North Wales Development Officer at WEFO on 01492 542 594 or [roger.seddon@wales.qsi.gov.uk](mailto:roger.seddon@wales.qsi.gov.uk)

### **4. Convergence Programme**

- 4.1 It is understood that 13 projects have been approved so far across the ERDF and ESF elements of the programme which correspond to schemes worth £353m with European funding of £178m
- 4.2 The work of preparing projects at Gwynedd and North West level is proceeding. The list below refers to some of the priority schemes as agreed in the Development Scrutiny Committee Seminar on 26<sup>th</sup> February, noting at what level of development they currently are;

- Getting on in Gwynedd – Feedback received on the Expression of Interest, working to respond to what was raised.
- Skills and Entrepreneurship Centre – Project Information Form (PIF) on the WEFO website.
- Developing the Outdoor Sector – PIF on WEFO website
- North Wales Sailing Academy – PIF on WEFO website
- Interpretation Circles – PIF on WEFO website
- Employment Land and Property – A list of projects being arranged
- Business Development Package – Feedback received on the Expression of Interest, working to respond to what was raised.
- Pont Briwet Bridge, Penrhyndeudraeth – PIF on WEFO website
- Community Regeneration – Expression of Interest submitted.

#### 4.3 Spatial European Teams:

An application for Technical Support funding from the Programme to support the work of the Spatial European Teams (SETS) that will provide information, advice and support for project applicants during the lifetime of the programme, has been accepted in principle. Final confirmation is expected shortly, following developing service level agreements and a final agreement on the field of work. The officers from across North Wales, likely to be involved in the SET's meet on the 20th May.

#### 4.4 Strategic Frameworks:

All the ERDF Strategic Frameworks now have an 'agreed' status to them on the WEFO website, as well as all the ESF Strategic Frameworks, which also have the 'agreed' status.

#### 4.5 Project Information Forms:

758 Project Information Forms from a variety of agencies and organisations have been recorded on the WEFO website so far. It is understood that 244 applications for an expression of interest form have been submitted to WEFO, and of these 131 were submitted for decision. It appears that 24% of these were from the Assembly, 36% by Local Authorities, 14% from the private sector and 26% from the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector.

#### 4.6 The attention of members is drawn to the fact that information about schemes that had submitted an Expression of Support can be seen on the WEFO website through the following link:

<http://www.wefo.wales.gov.uk/resource/Projects-approved-and-EOIs-submitted-for-website2600.pdf>

#### 4.7 National Schemes:

The 5 regional projects developed through Priority 4 Theme 3 – Environment for Growth (as referred in January's report) continue to be developed. A roadshow was held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May, to hear about recent developments. It should be noted that a lot of work is yet to be done on the projects, and that information on implementing the project continues to be unclear. Project ideas have been fed to project development officers at Visit Wales, CADW and CCW so as to ensure that priority projects are identified.

#### 4.8 A copy of a recent presentation by Gretel Leeb, Programme Management Director for WEFO, is found in Annex 1. Members attention is drawn to the diagrams showing progress by framework.

## 5. **Wales Rural Development Plan**

- 5.1 Members are aware that the Gwynedd Business Plan and Proposed Projects for the Rural Development Scheme up to 2010 were submitted in November 2007.
- 5.2 Information has been received that the work of assessing project applications under Axis 3 & 4 is reaching its end, and an announcement about the successful scheme is expected on 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2008. This means that if the Gwynedd Projects are successful, they will be operational from this date.

## **6. Recommendation**

- 6.1 Partnership Members to accept the contents of the report.

## Aftercare Report

## PEG Aftercare service

MEETING:	Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group
DATE:	6th June 2008
PURPOSE:	Update members on aftercare activity
RECOMMENDATION:	Note the content of the report
AUTHOR	Sioned E. Williams Head of Economy and Regeneration Services

### 1. Background

- 1.1 Since 2000 the Partnership has played an important role in providing advice and support to 102 local Objective 1 project sponsors during the life time of the Programme.
- 1.2 With the Objective 1 Programme coming to an end in December 2008, the Partnership's Secretariat undertook a review of all of the 102 projects and subsequently contacted 47 project sponsors in January 2008 to offer follow-up support. The majority of the organisations contacted were from the voluntary, community and business sectors, operating projects with a 'commercial/income' generating element, this followed WEFO's agreement that funds from the Partnership's Technical Assistance bid could be utilised for expert assistance in forward business planning for project sponsors seeking to achieve long term sustainability for their activities.
- 1.3 To date 26 project sponsors have taken up the offer and meetings have been held over the past six months – **list Annex 1**. A further 3 meetings are planned over the coming weeks.
- 1.4 In addition, 16 projects are still active in Gwynedd and are due to end on the 30th June 2008. WEFO have confirmed that they have been granted an extension to the closure of the ERDF programme by the European Commission, therefore it is likely that these projects will be extended. In these instances the Partnership Secretariat is following developments closely and is offering continuing aftercare support for as long as is required – **list Annex 2**.

### 2. Key Findings

- 2.1 The majority of project sponsors reported that they were very satisfied with the support and advice given throughout the process by the Partnership, the aftercare officers, WEFO development officers and Article 4 and Article 10 teams.
- 2.2 In many instances project sponsors reported that projects are breaking even or making a small profit to support themselves sustainably and are looking for additional funding for activities to increase profit and to ensure longer term sustainability.

- 2.3 In some instances projects have run their natural course and project sponsors are following developments and opportunities in the new programmes to take forward ideas.
- 2.4 Of the 26 meetings that have taken place, there have been many instances where matters have been resolved quickly with no further action required e.g. advice given on document retention and continuing publicity requirements etc.
- 2.5 There are 11 instances where project sponsors have requested additional input from specialist consultants to assist them in planning to achieve long term sustainability. To provide this support the Partnership has appointed a range of specialist consultants in areas such as: review, challenge and update of business plan, cash flow analysis, identification of development opportunities, market review and market opportunities etc. The appointed consultants are now actively providing assistance to project sponsors (up to an average of 3 days service and advice).

### **3. Recommendation**

- 3.1 Members of the Steering Group to accept the content of this report.

## Annex 1

<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Project</b>
<b>Abergwyngregyn Regeneration Company</b>	<b>Regeneration of Old Mill, Abergwyngregyn</b>
<b>Caban Cyf.</b>	<b>Snowdonia Arts and Design Centre</b>
<b>Cwmni Caban Gerlan Cyf.</b>	<b>Caban Gerlan</b>
<b>Y Faenol Conservation Centre</b>	<b>Faenol Cyf.</b>
<b>Abergynolwyn Community Centre</b>	<b>Abergynolwyn Village Hall Committee</b>
<b>Trawsfynydd Community Council</b>	<b>Canolfan Datblygu Cymuned a Menter, Trawsfynydd (Llys Ednowain)</b>
<b>Corris Cavens Ltd.</b>	<b>Corris Craft Centre Development</b>
<b>Cwmni Seren Cyf.</b>	<b>Cylch yr Efail</b>
<b>Cyfle Cyf.</b>	<b>Datblygu Cynhyrchwyr</b>
<b>Cyfle Cyf.</b>	<b>Datblygu Cynhyrchwyr (2004 – 2006)</b>
<b>Llyn Fishermen's Association</b>	<b>Development Officer for Llyn Fishermen's Association (Stage 2)</b>
<b>Llyn Fishermen's Association</b>	<b>Safety Equipment Upgrade for Llyn Fishermen's Association</b>
<b>Deudraeth Cyf.</b>	<b>The Digital Vale</b>
<b>Snowdonia Active</b>	<b>Snowdonia Active</b>
<b>Corris Institute Regeneration</b>	<b>Corris Institute Committee</b>
<b>North West Wales Management Centre</b>	<b>Bangor University</b>
<b>Menter Fachwen</b>	<b>Pentre Dysg Padarn</b>
<b>Menter Fachwen</b>	<b>Prosiect Dyffryn Peris</b>
<b>Menter Fachwen</b>	<b>Popty Prysur</b>
<b>Tafan y Fic Co-operative Company</b>	<b>Tafan y Fic</b>
<b>Barmouth Community Association</b>	<b>Barmouth Community Centre and Dragon Theatr</b>
<b>Taliesin Trust Ltd.</b>	<b>Tŷ Newydd, National Writers' Centre for Wales</b>
<b>Cwmni Ty Siamas Cyf.</b>	<b>Tŷ Siamas</b>
<b>Antur Waunfawr</b>	<b>Warws Werdd</b>
<b>Meithrinfa Meirion Cyf.</b>	<b>Meithrinfa Meirion, Brithdir</b>
<b>Forest Research Authority</b>	<b>Coed y Brenin Forest Park Sustainable Tourism Project.</b>

## Annex 2

<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Project</b>
<b>Cymdeithas Tai Eryri</b>	<b>Datblygu Tŷ Cymunedol Peblig</b>
<b>Cyngor Gwynedd Council</b>	<b>Gwynedd Key Fund</b>
<b>Cwmni Caban Gerlan Cyf.</b>	<b>Caban Gerlan</b>
<b>Canolfan Hanes Uwchgyrfai</b>	<b>Canolfan Hanes Uwchgyrfai</b>
<b>Coleg Meirion Dwyfor</b>	<b>CEGIN</b>
<b>Antur Penllyn</b>	<b>Canolfan Cywain</b>
<b>Snowdonia National Park</b>	<b>Snowdon Summit</b>
<b>Cwmni Seren Cyf.</b>	<b>Cylch yr Efail</b>
<b>Glynllifon Ltd.</b>	<b>Glynllifon Mansion</b>
<b>Snowdonia National Park</b>	<b>Uplands Footpath Erosion Control in Eryri</b>
<b>Llyn Fishermen's Association</b>	<b>Development Officer for Llyn Fishermen's Association (Stage 2)</b>
<b>Snowdonia National Park</b>	<b>Snowdonia Land Management Programme</b>
<b>North West Wales Management Centre</b>	<b>Bangor University</b>
<b>Menter Fachwen</b>	<b>Prosiect Dyffryn Peris</b>
<b>Cwmni Ty Siamas Cyf.</b>	<b>Tŷ Siamas</b>
<b>Forest Research Authority</b>	<b>Meirionnydd Oakwoods Habitat Management Project.</b>

**Review the Image and Brand**

## **Reviewing and Updating the Image and Brand**

<b>MEETING:</b>	Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group
<b>DATE:</b>	6th June, 2008
<b>PURPOSE:</b>	Confirm method of Reviewing and Updating the Image and Brand.
<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>	Hold review and appoint Focus Group.
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Sioned E. Williams Head of the Economic and Regeneration Service

### **1. Background**

- 1.1 With the Objective 1 period coming to an end, the Secretariat is keen to look in detail at the image and brand of the Gwynedd Economic Partnership, which would reflect the successes of the past and look forward to another successful period for the Partnership in Gwynedd.

### **2. Action**

- 2.1 The Secretariat wishes, with the agreement of the Members, to appoint a dynamic consultant to review and update the brand and image and offer ideas on implementing the recommendations.
- 2.2 We would wish to appoint on the basis of the consultant's ability to carry out the following:
- To review the present image and brand of the Gwynedd Economic Partnership.
  - To offer new and imaginative ideas for the image and brand.
  - To review and update the brand including reconsideration of the logo and to prepare an imaginative slogan
  - To prepare an action plan based on the new brand and image including imaginative ideas about marketing materials and methods.
- 2.3 The person appointed will be expected to attend an ideas generation session with a deputation of the Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group, and also to hold a session to present ideas before offering a final version.
- 2.4 The Partnership's bilingual policy and the desire to convey a modern image of PEG and the County will be considered in developing ideas.
- 2.4 The Secretariat has already ensured finance to implement the recommendation made in the action plan through Technical Assistance funding from the Objective 1 programme.

### **3. Recommendations**

- 3.1 The Members to agree the review and to agree appoint Consultants
- 3.2 Members to select 1 representative from every sector as a deputation / focus group to help the Secretariat to take action.

## Annual Review of Membership

## **Annual Review of Membership - Report**

<b>MEETING:</b>	Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group
<b>DATE:</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> June, 2008
<b>PURPOSE:</b>	Report on the Annual Review of Membership.
<b>RECOMMENDATION:</b>	Appoint new members to the Steering Group and encourage members to attend meetings
<b>AUTHOR:</b>	Sioned E. Williams Head of the Economic and Regeneration Service

### **1. Background**

- 1.1 Holding an annual review of the Membership of the Gwynedd Economic Partnership Steering Group is part of the Partnership's constitution; Members agreed to undertake this task in the January meeting this year. This is a report on the results.

### **2. Results**

- 2.1 61 questionnaires were sent to the Full Members and Deputies on the Partnership Steering Group and 42 were returned (68%).
- 2.2 40 noted that they wished to remain as Full Members or Deputies and 2 questionnaires were received as notice that they wished to resign. The attention of Members is drawn to the fact that Professor Sian Hope was one, representing Bangor University as a Full Member and that Anthony Jarret was the other, representing The Routes Project as an observer.
- 2.3 There is confirmation in the form of a spreadsheet in Appendices 1 and 2, where it is noted also how many meetings the full Members and Deputies have attended during the last year (between April '07 and April '08, namely 7 meetings). It is noted that in some cases, the percentage is low.
- 2.4 As Members are aware, Local Government elections were held on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2008. As a result of the elections, Gwynedd Council will select a new representative to the Partnership. Also, following the elections, one councillor from the Community Sector, namely Councillor Dyfed Edwards has tendered his resignation due to other commitments.
- 2.5 The attention of Members is drawn to the fact that David Joyner has already been representing Bangor University for some time, in the absence of Professor Siân Hope.


### **3. Considerations**

- 3.1 There will be a need to fill the gaps on the Partnership Steering Group, by promoting deputies to Full Member status, where possible. In the case of a person representing an institution, that institution will need to nominate another representative. It is therefore vitally important for Members to note if they are on the Partnership representing an Institution or as an Individual. Confirmation of this status is important to facilitate the procedure of electing a representative Steering Group.
- 3.2 By accepting the resignations and the results of the election, there are 2 empty spaces on the Partnership Steering Group, with the former members representing Institutions. The practical result of the change therefore is that although the individuals have resigned, the institutions remain members of the Steering Group.

#### **4. Recommendation**

- 4.1 That Members agree to fill the gaps so that the balance of sectors is restored, and agree to:
- Confirming David Joyner as the Bangor University representative.
  - The Secretariat contacting Antur Nantlle and Gwynedd Council to ask the institutions to nominate a new member.
- 4.2 That the Secretariat writes to Full Members of the Steering Group who have attended fewer than 25% of the meetings during the last year, to urge them to be present.

Name	Sector	Number of meetings (April '07 to April '08 = 7 meetings)	Individual (I) or Establishment (E)	Continue as a Member Note
Peter Clarke	Private	4 – 57%	E – TIC Wales	
Rhys Davies	Private	3 – 42%	E – Camre Cymru	
Anne Lloyd Jones	Private	2 – 14%	I -	
Tim Knight	Private	6 – 86%	E – National Skills Academy	
Dewi Lewis	Private	7 – 100%	E – Siop Dewi	
Gwynedd Watkin	Private	5 – 71%	E – Farmers Union Wales	
Eiddwen Borland	Public	5 – 71%		Not returned
Sian Hope	Public	-- 0%	E – Bangor University	
Dafydd Iwan	Public	2 – 14%	E – Gwynedd Council	
David Joyner	Public	2 – 14%	E – Bangor University	
Emyr Williams	Public	2 – 14%	E – Eryri National Park	
Ffiona Williams	Public	4 – 57%	E – Careers Wales	
Alex Badley	Voluntary	5 – 71%		Not returned
Eleri Evans	Voluntary	-- 0%	E – Eryri Young Farmers Organisation	
Menna Jones	Voluntary	6 – 86%	I – Antur Waunfawr	
Bethan Russell Owen	Voluntary	6 – 86%		Not returned
Catrin Lloyd Perry	Voluntary	6 – 86%	E –Harlech College – WEA	
Y Tad Deiniol	Community	7 – 100%	S – Yn Ein Blaenau	
Dyfed Edwards	Community	3 – 42%	E – Antur Nantlle	
Llyr Huws Gruffydd	Community	4 – 57%	E – Menter a Busnes	
Dorothy Hughes	Community	4 – 57%	I – Unllais Cymru	
Godfrey Northam	Community	4 – 71%	I – Community Councils	

 = Resigned

#### Sector Summary

Private = 6 (27%)

Public = 6 (27%)

Voluntary = 5 (23%)

Community = 5 (23%)

Name	Sector	Number of meetings (April '07 – April '08 = 7 meeting)	Individual (I) or Establishment (E)	Wishes to Continue Note
Abdul-Aziz Barazi	Private	-	E – Orchard Business Enterprise	
Guto Bebb	Private	-	E – Egin Partnership	
Barry Bracegirdle	Private	-	E – GMB Union	
Adrian Clarke	Private	-		Not received
Wendy Crisp	Private	-	E/I – The Fun Centre	
Aneuryn Jones	Private	-	E – Licence Victulers Wales	
Evie Wyn Jones	Private	6 – 86%	E – Eryri Business	
Robin Meredith	Private	-	I – Meredith & Son	
John Alan Morris	Private	4 – 57%	E – J Morris	
Robert O'Regan	Private	3 – 43%	E – Parker, O'Regan, Tann and Co	
Geraint Wyn Parry	Private	3 – 43%	I – Cymdeithas Cyfieithwyr Cymru	
Philip Potter	Private	-	I – Dryad Furnace	
Alun Roberts	Private	-	E – Jacal Cyf	
Dylan Llewelyn Roberts	Private	1 – 14%	I – Llywelyn Historical Tours	
Ioan Thomas	Private	-	E – Cofi Roc Cyf	
Huw Watkins	Private	-	E – Bic Innovation	
Sian M Williams	Private	1 – 14%		Not received
David Evans	Public	-		
Sarah Finnegan-Dehn	Public	-	E – Careers Wales	
Ruth Jenkins	Public	-	E – Forestry Commision	
Gwennan Jones	Public	1 – 14%		Not received
Keith O'Brien	Public	2 – 29%		Not received
Bill Bracewell	Vol & Pub	-	E – Aberdyfi Partnership	
Eluned Davies	Vol & Pub	-	E – Caban Cyf	
Ifor Daniel Moody	Vol & Pub	-	E – Towyn Town Council	
Kenoue Morgan	Vol & Pub	3 – 43%	E – Deudraeth Cyf	
John Raghoobar	Vol & Pub	-		Not received
Alison Williams	Vol & Pub	-	E – Dragon Theatre	

Iscoed Williams	Vol & Pub	2 – 29%	E – Trawsnewid	
Sean Wood	Vol & Pub	-	E – Y Faenol	
Chris Wright	Vol & Pub	-		Not received

Sector Summary    Private = 17 (55%)                  Public = 5 (16%)                  Voluntary and Public = 9 (29%)