

ANGLESEY

WELL-BEING ASSESSMENT



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ASSESSMENT

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 has established a Public Services Board for every local authority area in Wales in order to ensure that public bodies work together to create a better future for the people of Wales.

For Gwynedd and Anglesey, the two Boards have come together to collaborate, and it's a partnership that includes the region's main agencies.

The Act sets out seven well-being goals (see below) - and seeks to ensure that every Board and public service providers collaborate to improve economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being across Wales.



The act also establishes a sustainable development principle for public bodies and Public Services Boards. This means that when decisions are made that consideration is given to the impact it will have on people living in Wales in the future.

The five factors that public service providers must consider in order to show that they have implemented the sustainable development principle are:

- The long-term
- Prevention
- Integration
- Collaboration
- Contents

Every five years, the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board prepare and produce a well-being assessment in consultation with the public and its partners. This is the second Assessment produced by the Board. The first was published in 2017.

How is the Assessment created?

The Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board has divided both counties into 14 smaller areas and has undertaken research to understand and learn more about their well-being. There were six of these areas in Anglesey - Aethwy and Seiriol, Bro Aberffraw and Bro Rhosyr, Caergybi and Ynys Cybi, Canolbarth Môn and Llifon, Lligwy and Twrcelyn and Talybolion.

Once the data had been gathered and the research had been completed about the six areas, individual booklets were produced for each of the areas. The booklets looked at well-being in the context of the four main headings within the Act - namely, Social, Economic, Environmental and Cultural. An additional heading has been added, namely 'Population and Language' as the Board recognises the importance of this specific theme for the area.

Between January and March 2022, a public consultation was held on the individual booklets. It was specifically asked whether the booklets were a fair reflection of the areas and whether there was any missing information. The Board is very grateful to everyone who responded and offered comments. The comments were used to create and strengthen the Anglesey Well-being Assessment, namely this document.

KEY POINTS FROM THE WELL-BEING ASSESSMENT

POPULATION AND LANGUAGE

It's predicted that there will be more people aged over 75 in the future which means supporting an aging population and ensuring individuals stay healthy for longer in the interests of the economy and health and care services.

Anglesey is considered a stronghold of the Welsh language but the percentage of speakers has declined over the last decade. Anglesey's communities are concerned about the impact of migration, tourism, the availability of suitable and affordable housing for young people and families has on the Welsh language.

ENVIRONMENTAL

Anglesey's diverse natural environment is an important resource. The coast, lakes and rivers, fens and forests have a positive impact on social, cultural and economic well-being.

Climate change is a global challenge that is having an impact on well-being in Anglesey. It means that some communities are at high risk of flooding, extreme weather conditions and landslides and also putting the area's nature and habitats under increasing pressure.

Protecting nature and biodiversity is important for decarbonisation. In Anglesey there are various habitats and species that store the carbon that contributes to the level of greenhouse gases.

Anglesey is under relatively high agricultural pressure and unsustainable farming is damaging the environment. Opportunities to support sustainable land management need to be explored to support decarbonisation.

SOCIAL

There is concern about the level of obesity among 4-5 year olds in the North Wales region. Evidence from England and Scotland suggests that the percentage is likely to rise as a result of the effect of Covid-19 and the lockdown period.

Covid-19 is likely to have a long-term impact on population health. This includes impact on mental and physical health (for example, Long-Covid) and is exacerbating many existing health inequalities.

The lack of public transport was highlighted as a huge challenge for rural communities. The frequency of bus services made it difficult for residents to access amenities and services, and likely to have a worse impact on some groups, for example, disabled people, young people and older people.

Community spirit is one of the county's main assets and this was reflected in the willingness of residents to help each other during the Covid-19 period.

Lack of digital connectivity is a barrier to people and businesses in the county. Remote working and education during the Covid-19 period has highlighted the importance of broadband availability.

ECONOMIC

There are anticipated changes in working sectors and future working patterns. There is a need to ensure accessible opportunities for all in occupations such as science and technology.

A high percentage of the people of Anglesey work in the skilled trades occupations (which include farmers and agricultural workers). Brexit and the reduction in grants and financial support have had an impact on this sector.

Poverty is a key issue in Anglesey. Responses to the draft booklets highlighted a concern for poverty, at a time when living costs of all kinds are rising.

Housing prices and affordability are major concerns amongst local communities and is likely to have a negative impact on the social, cultural, linguistic and economic well-being of areas.

There are concerns about the state of the local economy - the 'high street' and 'town center'. This was mainly highlighted in the Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area.

Compared to the all-Wales figure, a high percentage of year 11 school leavers in Anglesey are NEET (not in education, employment or training)

A lack of high value jobs is having an impact on area well-being. As well as its effect on the economy, it also has an impact on retaining young people and therefore the Welsh language.

Childcare provision is an important provision for the Anglesey economy. The lack of sustainable provision affects communities in some areas of the county and there is also concern about the availability of Welsh medium provision.

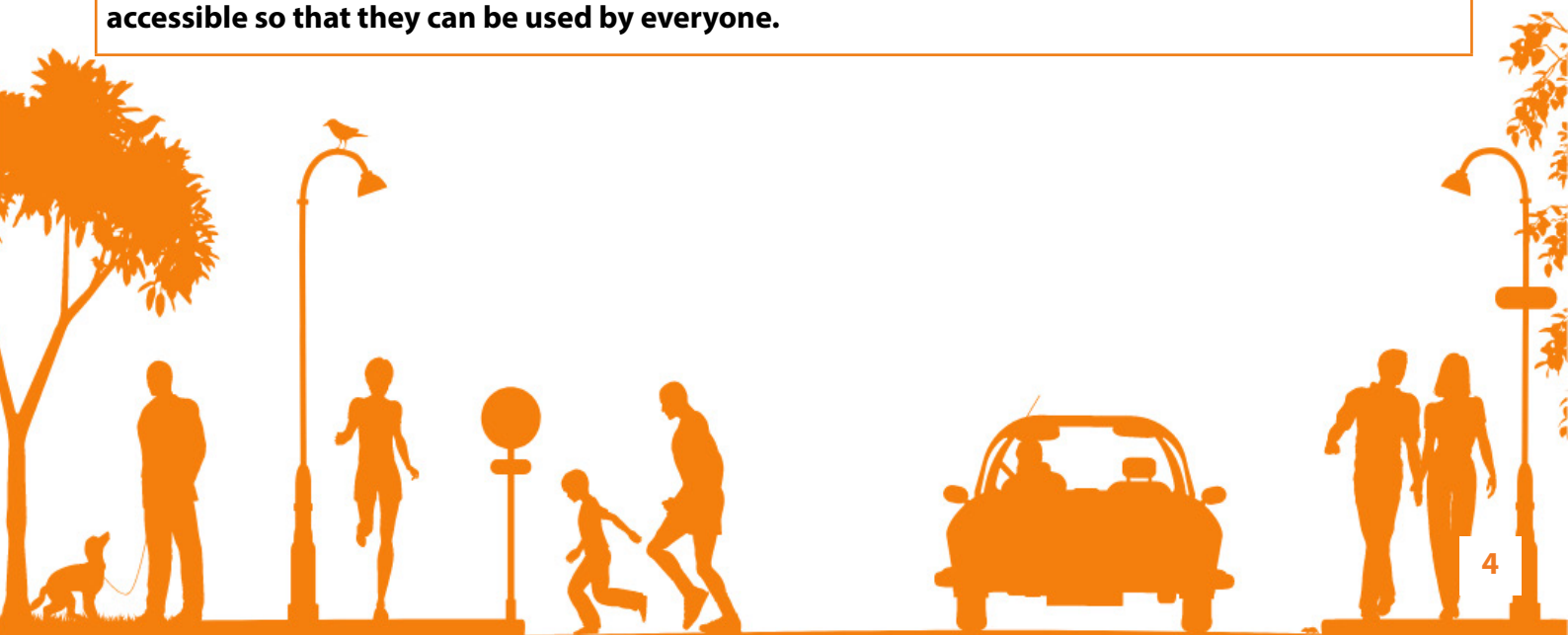
CULTURAL

The natural environment is a vital resource that contributes to well-being and health as they enable residents to stay active.

Lack of activities for children and young people is a concern for Anglesey communities. There's a perception that this leads to anti-social behavior and makes the area's young people less keen to stay in the county.

The impact of Covid-19 on cultural and arts events is difficult to assess. It's a data gap that needs attention.

Green spaces are vital to the well-being of Anglesey residents, but they need to be made accessible so that they can be used by everyone.



FUTURE TRENDS



In this Assessment we have described both the recent trends and suggest how possible future trends may look based on the intelligence available to us currently. The following lists some of the more certain and quantifiable trends particularly relevant to Anglesey, all of which align with the national drivers of change or 'megatrends' identified in the [Future Trends Wales Report 2021](#). The chapters of the Well-being Assessment will look in more detail at some of these trends.

Population Change

The overall population of Anglesey is projected to decrease slightly over the next 25 years, which is a continuation of trends that have seen the decline of the working age population and the outward migration of young people to other parts of Wales and the UK.

The impacts of these changes will be far reaching, affecting the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the county. For example, the capacity of the workforce to meet the skills requirements of the local economy, and the need to protect the strong cultural traditions of the county. As in all local authorities in Wales, it's projected that there will be an increase in the number of people aged 65 and over, so ensuring that people remain healthy for longer can help tackle some of the challenges that an economy faces when supporting an ageing population.

Climate Change

Climate change remains the most critical challenge of our time and for future generations. This Assessment shows the value that local people place on their local environment and the crucial role it plays in their well-being. Coordinated action needs to be taken now to protect the environment and mitigate the impacts on the biodiversity around us.

Language and Culture

Anglesey is considered a stronghold of the Welsh language. Nevertheless local and national policies will need to reflect the pressure that migration and tourism and the availability of suitable and affordable housing for young people and families will have on the language. Ensuring that everyone has opportunities to live, work, learn and play in

Welsh will be essential to expanding its use for future generations.

Inequalities

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic and the current cost of living crisis, income poverty was decreasing overall in Wales. While increasing employment provides more opportunities for people, it does not necessarily translate into better economic outcomes. Those in employment may still experience poor outcomes if the quality of employment is poor. Children growing up in poverty are more likely to be in poverty in later life, perpetuating the same cycle for future generations.

Future of Work

Working patterns are changing and have been brought to the fore during Covid-19. Flexible working is needed to support the existing workforce and to help others into the workforce in the future. This may include flexible hours, locations of work and greater flexibility around childcare. We know the value and impact of being in employment has on well-being, and these trends may point to ways of creating employment opportunities and fill skills gaps identified in the local economy.

Digital Connectivity

Our reliance on digital communications continues to grow particularly following the Covid-19 period and these trends are set to continue. This Assessment demonstrates the importance of fast and reliable broadband and mobile services for businesses, communities and individuals alike. Improving digital connectivity in Anglesey will be essential to provide the infrastructure required for the future.

METHODOLOGY

In order to produce a Well-being Assessment that reflected Anglesey, there was a need to:

- Gather reliable data that measures the economic, environmental, social and cultural well-being of the area.
- Hold conversations with residents and communities to identify well-being priorities locally.

Collecting the Data

Gwynedd Council's Research and Information Team lead the work of collecting a broad range of data on a local, regional and national level. In collaboration with members of the Public Services Board, useful data gathered by each organisation was examined in order to ensure that we understand the context, the challenges and priorities to consider as part of analysing the current state of the area.

The [National Well-being Indicators](#) were also used, which help to tell the story about the progress against more than one of the well-being goals on a national level and, when appropriate to do so, we have drawn attention to these in the Well-being Assessment.

It's important to note that the research has highlighted some data gaps and that some figures are based on the 2011 Census, which is now over 10 years old. There are some measures only available on a county or regional level, where local data is lacking. As a Board, we acknowledge that it's important to reflect the difference between areas such as Caergybi and Ynys Cybi and Chanolbarth Môn a Llifon, and, therefore, we have relied on qualitative information to reinforce the quantitative analysis.

Gathering reliable data in rapidly developing fields is also a challenge. One of the key messages highlighted during the the consultation on the draft booklets was that we had not included sufficient data about poverty and fuel poverty. We acknowledge that this is a national data gap and a significant challenge and we have had to rely on alternative data, such as the percentage of those receiving free school meals, in order to assess the impact on our communities.

Whilst the Assessment offers a snapshot of the area's well-being, the data is not static and our intention is to update information in this booklet on a regular basis in order to capture the key messages that have been conveyed about the state of well-being in our communities. This will allow us to also review the new Well-being Plan from year to year.

To support this, we will continue to collaborate on a regional basis with the Public Services Boards of Conwy and Denbighshire, and Wrexham and Flintshire in order to identify themes and research fields that are relevant across the North Wales region.

Engagement

The Board was eager for the Well-being Plan to reflect the voice and aspirations of Anglesey residents, therefore community engagement was essential. However, we also knew that Anglesey and Gwynedd communities were 'fed up' with receiving requests to contribute towards surveys and engagement sessions. "Consultation fatigue" was identified as a concern and, therefore, the Board decided to use the engagement exercises that had already been undertaken or planned during 2021/22. The Board would then look at ways of filling in the gaps if required.

In Anglesey, it was decided (following a meeting of the Anglesey Advisory and Engagement Board and discussion with Public Service Board partners) that a specific engagement exercise was needed to gather the views of residents on well-being in their area.

The method used was a short questionnaire (online and paper format) and was circulated through our partners in Anglesey. The Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire consisted of three main questions:

- **What is good about your area?**
- **What is not so good about your area?**
- **What changes would you like to see over the next 15 years to improve the area?**

The questionnaire was open from 6 September to 11 October 2021 and a total of 119 responses were received. The response rate was better in some areas, and whilst 30 responded from the

Canolbarth Môn and Llifon Well-being Area, only 6 responses were received in the Talybolion Well-being Area. The response rate to the exercise was generally disappointing, but the context of Covid-19 restrictions hindered face-to-face meetings and other alternative methods of obtaining residents' views. As noted above, "consultation fatigue" has also made it difficult to capture imagination and encourage participation.

Key messages from the Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire

The following summarises the main themes to emerge across the county, but the narrative will provide further analysis of any patterns by area and the qualitative data will also be used as quotations throughout the Well-being Assessment.

What is good about your area?

- Friendship and the sense of being part of a community
- Plenty of places to go for a walk
- Close to the seafront and coast
- The green, natural and wildlife environment of the area
- Facilities like food shops, restaurants and cafes

What is not so good about your area?

- Lack of affordable housing for local people
- Lack of job and training opportunities
- Parking problems
- Inadequate public transport
- Traffic, busy lanes and speeding
- Not enough facilities and opportunities for young people

What changes would you like to see over the next 15 years to improve the area?

- More affordable housing available to local people
- Investment to regenerate town / village centers and boost the local economy
- Development of community hubs / activities e.g. allotments, a club in the village hall to bring people of all ages together
- Maintain more activities and provision for young people
- High value training, employment and jobs for young people and local people
- Hold more activities and events for children and family e.g. play park

In order to enhance the qualitative information gathered through the 'Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire' it's also possible to use other engagement exercises by partners such as Medrwn Môn and Natural Resources Wales.

Medrwn Môn is working with **Anglesey Council** to develop a county-wide Place Planning program (Cynllunio Lle). Place Planning looks at building stronger, robust communities for the future by understanding and mapping its key assets - buildings, green spaces, skills and knowledge, community groups and public services. These findings can be used to look at how priorities can be planned and worked on so that communities are ready to deal with future changes. The initial findings of the exercise were available for this Well-being Assessment, but engagement and analysis will continue over the coming months.

Natural Resources Wales engaged with communities in order to draw up "Area Statements". This included 10 workshops facilitated across north-west Wales and engagement with more than 250 stakeholders in different locations, using different techniques. This is in addition to attending established groups such as Local Access Forums, Farmers' Unions Meetings, Snowdonia National Park Board.

Inclusivity

It's important that the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board engages and collaborates with those groups of people that are seldom heard, groups with protected characteristics and people who experience socio-economic disadvantage.

Of course, the Covid-19 period has presented additional challenges when engaging with these groups as it was not possible to 'go out' and set up stalls or hold face-to-face events.

To respond to this challenge, the Board has contributed to regional discussions with representatives and employees who support groups with equality characteristics. An initial workshop was held with assistance from the Co-production Network for Wales during autumn 2021, with the focus on discussing how we can create an equal and inclusive dialogue with the various communities of north Wales.

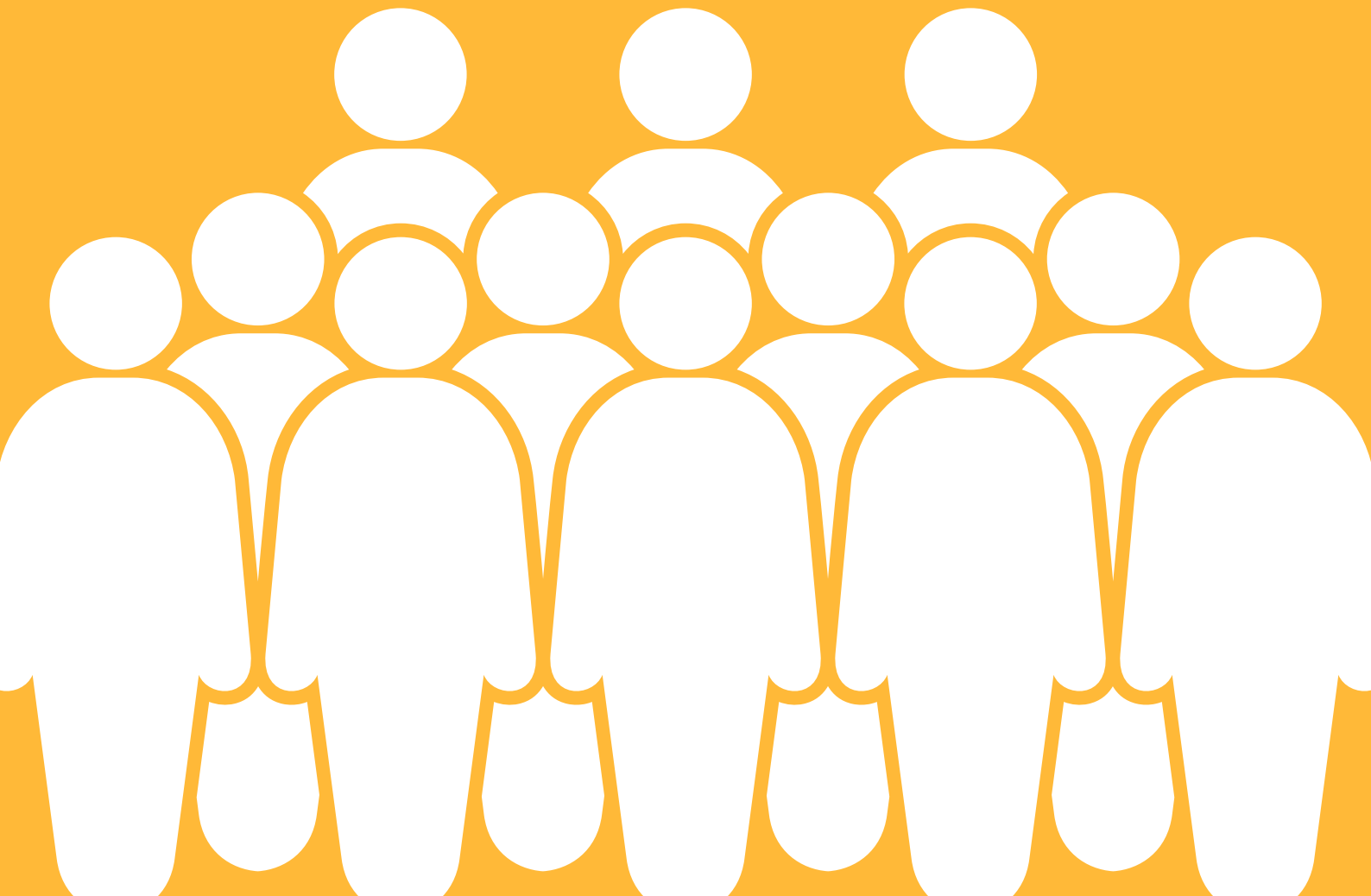
Here are some of the main messages of the workshop, and lessons to learn as we examine future engagement with groups:

- Engagement opportunities need to be more inclusive for people who work, live in rural communities, or who may feel intimidated by attending online session due social or language barriers. In essence, we need to go to the communities rather than asking them to come to us to ensure that we hear their stories.
- There has been diminished community interaction since Covid-19, where by some communities may feel even more isolated than before the pandemic.
- A positive message from many participants was that this is just the start of the journey of Co-production and they are very much looking forward to the next steps.
- The need to celebrate and raise awareness of the things we have in common as a range of diverse communities.
- The importance of building trust and continuity.
- The lack of community inclusion for some communities, in the fact they have no social contact outside of their communities.
- The need to collectively work together to address the fact that "hatred is based on misconceptions and ignorance".
- We need to look at ways to take advantage of the sports, arts, culture and the environment to celebrate the diversity in Wales.
- The value of volunteers in supporting with building confidence and language skills.

When looking to the future, the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board will continue to work on a regional and local level to engage and include groups and communities that are seldom heard.



POPULATION AND LANGUAGE



Who are the people of Anglesey?

The mid-year population estimate of the Office for National Statistics for 2020 notes that **70,440** people live in Anglesey. The population of Anglesey is expected to remain fairly constant over the next few years. The Welsh Government's population projection figures suggest that around **69,575** people will live in Anglesey by 2043, which is a reduction of 0.7%. It's estimated that the population of Wales will increase by 3% for the same period.

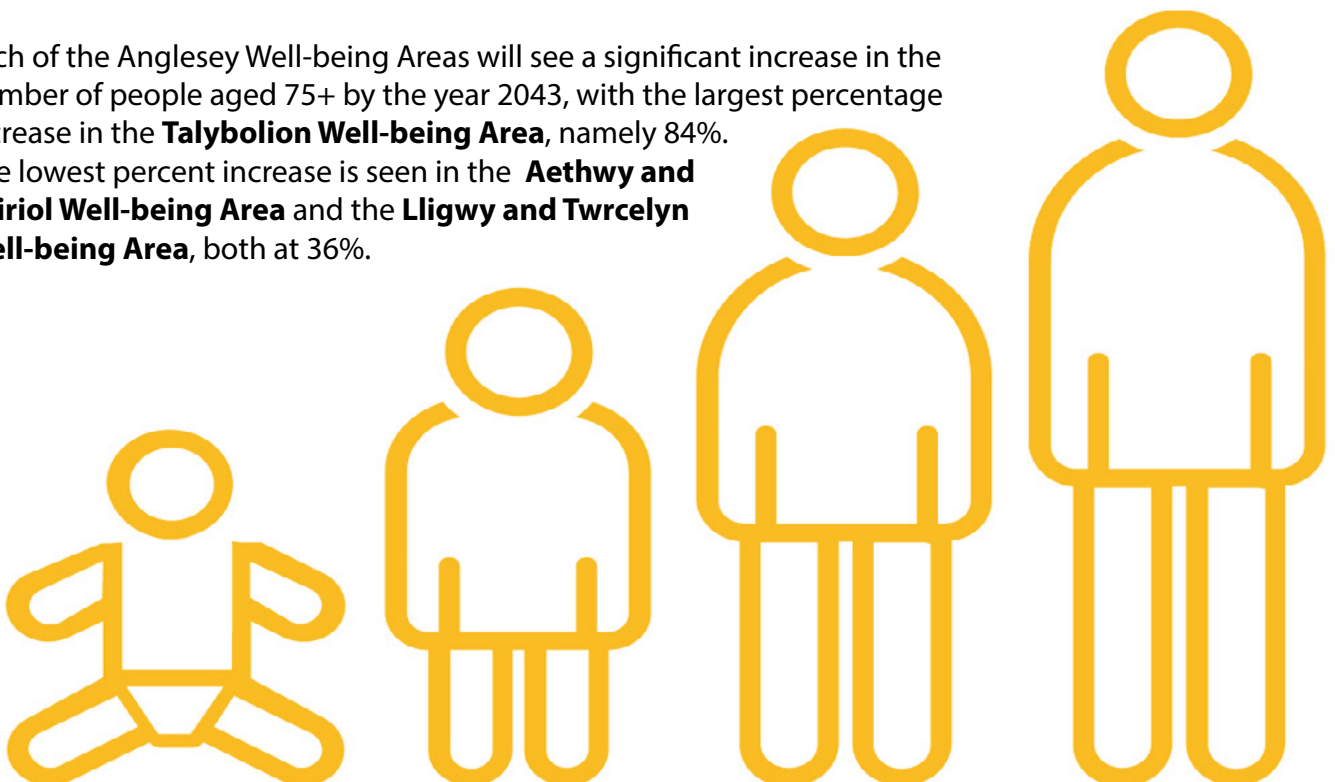


In order to allow for better planning, Gwynedd Council's Research and Information Team has created lower level projections using the Well-being Areas. The projections indicate a variety in the population from area to area, and it's expected that the population will decrease between 2019 and 2043 in the **Aethwy and Seiriol Well-being Area** (a reduction of 12%), **Bro Aberffraw and Bro Rhosyr Well-being Area** (reduction of 1%) and **Lligwy and Twrcelyn Well-being Area** (a reduction of 12%). On the other hand, an increase is expected in the population of the **Canolbarth Môn and Llifon Well-being Area** (an increase of 2%), **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area** (an increase of 15%) and the **Talybolion Well-being Area** (an increase of 6%)

There are different projected across the age groups. In Anglesey it's expected to see the biggest percentage increase, namely 48%, in the population aged 75 and over. This is also true for Wales with a 60% increase in this age category

In Anglesey, it's estimated that every age group under 64 will reduce, while it's expected for the population aged 65-74 to remain quite consistent with an increase of 0.1%. This is similar to the all Wales projections, where it's expected that every age group under 64 will be reduced, while it's expected that the population aged 65-74 will increase by 2%.

Each of the Anglesey Well-being Areas will see a significant increase in the number of people aged 75+ by the year 2043, with the largest percentage increase in the **Talybolion Well-being Area**, namely 84%. The lowest percent increase is seen in the **Aethwy and Seiriol Well-being Area** and the **Lligwy and Twrcelyn Well-being Area**, both at 36%.



An ageing population

Whilst a longer living population is to be celebrated, it also highlights challenges as we look to the future.

The [Inequality in a Future Wales](#) (2021) report by the Future Generations Commissioner and Public Health Wales looks at what challenges and opportunities the future could bring and the importance of creating a more equal Wales. The report looks at three main areas: the future of work, climate change and changing demographics. It notes that an ageing population can lead to a rapid increase of inequalities in education, employment, health and social care provision.

The Covid-19 period has also highlighted specific challenges for older people. The risk of death from the virus was much higher for this age group and the social changes that happened 'overnight' as a result of the pandemic had the potential to have an increasingly negative impact on this generation, that his, because of the lower percentage with digital skills, higher percentage living alone and / or on the 'shielding list'. ([Leave no-one behind, Older People's Commissioner for Wales](#))

Case Study - Age Friendly Anglesey

Efforts have been made in recent years to create an 'age friendly' community. Intergenerational work program looking to promote socialisation and friendship between older people and the younger generation. The program endeavors to do this in a varied and creative way, and in Anglesey the 'Pen Pals' scheme was set up in October 2021 by Menter Iaith Môn after a pilot with children at Henblas Primary School, Llangristiolus.



Pontio'r Cenedlaethau

Diversity



When looking at the wider demographics of Anglesey, it's important to consider the 'protected characteristic' set out in the Equality Act. This includes: age, gender, language, disability, race, ethnicity, religion or belief, pregnancy or maternity, sexual orientation and gender reassignment.

Statistics on Anglesey's demographics are as follows ([Anglesey Council's Strategic Equality Plan](#)): Just over half (51%) of the county's residents are female and 17% of residents are under 16, which is slightly less than the 18% across Wales. 98% of people are white, (compared to 96% across Wales), 0.7% belong to a mixed / multi-ethnic group (1% across Wales), 0.7% are Asian / Asian British (2.3% across Wales) and 0.1% are Black / African / Caribbean / Black British (0.6% across Wales).

Further data can be found in the [Is Wales Fairer Report?](#) (2018). A report was also commissioned by the North Wales Public Services Board Officers network to gain a more in-depth understanding of equality data at a local level. Other sections of the Well-being Assessment will make specific reference to the well-being of some of the characteristic groups.

The Welsh Language

The Welsh language has an important role to play in the cultural and social well-being of Anglesey.

According to the results of the 2011 Census, 57% of the Anglesey population aged 3 years and over can speak Welsh, which is higher than the Wales percentage of 19%. The Anglesey percentage was the second highest of the Welsh counties according to the Census (after Gwynedd where 65% of residents can speak Welsh). The percentage for Anglesey has reduced somewhat over the last decades compared to 62% in 1981.

There is some variety within the Anglesey Well-being Areas, The highest percentage can be found in the **Bro Aberffraw and Bro Rhosyr Well-being Area** (67%) and the lowest in the **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area** (42%).

We expect the 2021 Census results soon but in the meantime, data is available from other sources to help create a picture of Welsh language usage in Anglesey.

The latest figures from the National Survey for Wales 2019/20 notes that 50% of the people of Anglesey aged 16 and over use the Welsh language in their day-to-day lives, compared with 10% in Wales. The same survey indicates a reduction in the percentage of people aged 16 and over who can speak Welsh over the last few years from 70% in 2017/18 to 66% in 2018/19, and 64% in 2019/20. It has to be noted that the National Survey for Wales gathers information based on a sample of responses and this may impact on accuracy, which should be kept in mind when any National Survey for Wales results are discussed in this assessment. Despite this, it does give an idea of the situation in Anglesey.

The people of Anglesey have told us that the Welsh language is a priority for them and that it's something they find positive about living in the county. There are some variation within Anglesey, and residents in the **Aethwy and Seiriol Well-being Area**, the **Talybolion Well-Being Area** and the **Canolbarth Môn and Llifon Well-being Area** where more likely to state that living in a Welsh friendly area was an important feature to them (**Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire**)

The **Place Planning** survey has also highlighted that concern for the Welsh language is a recurring theme in communities, especially in the **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area**. Some residents in the area felt that there was now a split between Welsh speakers and English speakers. One indicator was the use of English terms when referring to routes or paths as well as changing house names, to the detriment of the area's history and culture.

There are links between the long-term trends of the Welsh language in Anglesey and the challenges that are presented as a result of many factors, including migration, and changes in habits due to technological developments. Developments during Covid-19 led to increasing concerns about the Welsh language and local and national calls to act to protect the language in our communities. These concerns include the prosperity of the housing market, more investment in second and holiday homes and remote working that allows for the relocation from urban areas to rural or coastal areas (housing is discussed in greater detail in the '**Economic**' chapter of this booklet).



ENVIRONMENTAL



Anglesey's unique and natural environment

In addition to its key role in environmental well-being, the area's natural environment has an important role to play when assessing further well-being themes. For example, it can have an impact on social well-being as spending time outside in nature can have a positive impact on mental and physical health. This became even more apparent during the Covid-19 pandemic. Further information about this close connection can be seen in the **'Cultural'** and **'Social'** chapters of the Assessment, but some of the features that make Anglesey's natural environment unique and varied, can be seen below.

The coast

The Isle of Anglesey Coastal Path stretches 130 miles around the island. The route passes through a varied landscape of farmland, coastal heath, dunes, salt marsh, foreshore, cliffs and a few small pockets of woodland.

95% of the coastline is designated an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), a special landscape that, due to its exceptional character and beauty, deserves to be protected for the benefit of the nation. Parts of the Island are also designated as Nature Reserves, Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), Special Protection Areas (SPAs) and Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs). The designations are intended to ensure that the character of the area in question is not harmed, destroyed or undermined by inappropriate changes, for example in planning or tourism, and so special measures are in place to protect them.

The complex marine conditions around Ynys Cybi (Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area) give way to a variety of habitats, including bedrocks, which are home to lobster and crab populations, which are of commercial importance. The relative shelter of Rhoscolyn Bay supports a subtidal seagrass community, and is home to several species of algae, crustaceans, molluscs, fish, sponges and anemones. Porpoises and dolphins are also often found in the waters.

South Stack is home to internationally important heath and seabirds. Under the care of the RSPB, the rocky western coast of Ynys Cybi is ideally suited to support and protect the Red-billed Chough. Caergybi is home to an internationally important seabird breeding colony. These saltmarsh strips and seagrass beds have been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest and these habitats support a wide range of winter migratory birds. There are sparse heathland dune areas and the whole area supports a range of rare plants such as sea lavender, heath and succulents.

The coast also offers many recreational opportunities, for example, sailing, fishing, walking and surfing, which attracts locals and visitors to enjoy the area and as such is an important economic resource for the county.





Water and lakes

Llyn Cefni (**Bro Aberffraw and Bro Rhosyr Well-being Area**) a Llyn Alaw (**Talybolion Well-being Area**) are the island's main sources of water, with Cwellyn Reservoir on the mainland also contributing. All available water in these reservoirs is entirely dedicated to public water supply, which requires careful consideration when planning new developments, to ensure that water is available on the island. Natural Resources Wales is working with Welsh Water to identify alternative water sources for major construction projects and to better manage the existing supply.

Anglesey has a rich and diverse water environment that includes its rivers, lakes, groundwater, estuaries, coastline, and beaches. However, the water quality is under pressure due to impacts such as nutrient enrichment, intensive land management practices, discharges from sewage and waste water sources and historic metal extraction from Mynydd Parys (located in the **Lligwy a Twrcelyn Well-being Area**).

Anglesey's has been identified as an Opportunity Catchment to develop a network of resilient wetland ecosystems across the island and to connect people to their local environment, supporting the delivery of a partnership of multiple benefits to water bodies and well-being.

The Anglesey Fens

The Anglesey Fens are some of the most important wetlands in Europe - Cors Erddreiniog (the largest), Cors Bodeilio and Cors Goch. Although named 'Cors', which translates into 'bog', they are actually fens. Fens are a special and rare type of peatland. While bogs are fed only from rainwater, fens are also fed by streams and groundwater. Together they are part of a Special Area of Conservation (SAC). Deep soils are one of our essential natural assets for mitigating climate change as they capture and lock atmospheric carbon. It's a nature reserve for its unique mire (a wetland area of peat-forming living plants, without forest cover). Water from the limestone rocks surrounding the Anglesey Fens is rich in minerals, and creates the perfect conditions for a variety of rare plants and animals

Forrests

Little of the county is covered by woodlands, only 4.3% of it (compared to an average of 14% across Wales). There is a need to ensure that the right trees are planted in the right places - this is an area that needs further research.

The Newborough National Nature Reserve and Forest (**Bro Aberffraw and Bro Rhosyr Well-being Area**) is a splendid and complex site, which spans forestry management, timber production and sand dunes of international importance. One of the largest sand dune sites in Europe is in Newborough and has unique geographical and biological features. which includes its dune habitat and salt marshes. It's also an important habitation for wading birds and water-fowls in winter.

It's one of the most popular locations on the Island, attracting around 450,000 visitors a year, which does mean an increased pressure on resources and significant maintenance costs.



Climate and Nature Crises



Protecting the environment for future generations is one of the greatest challenges of our age. The mid-twentieth century has seen a dramatic rise in global temperatures and is associated with extreme weather events, rising sea levels, droughts and floods. One of the major contributors to climate change and temperature rise is the high levels of carbon and other greenhouse gases emitted into the atmosphere by human activities.

In addition to their impact on the area's environmental well-being, evidence suggests that the climate and nature crises will have a negative impact on mental well-being and because of the concern it causes. Although there is no data available at a Anglesey level, the National Survey for Wales

2020/21 shows at an all-Wales level that 76% are either very concerned or fairly concerned about climate change and 71% of the respondents feel that climate change is already having an impact in Wales.

The Climate Change Act (2008) requires the UK Government to publish a Climate Change Risk Assessment every five years. The UK Government has commissioned the Climate Change Committee (UKCCC), an independent public body, to carry out this task and the third version was published in January 2022, with a national summary available for Wales. The Assessment sets the scientific basis for taking action to reverse climate change and in response the Welsh Government has published two statutory mitigation Plans ([Prosperity for All: A Low Carbon Wales](#) and [Prosperity for All: A Climate Conscious Wales](#)). Anglesey Council and Gwynedd Council, along with Natural Resources Wales, have stated their support for tackling the climate crisis.

Net zero carbon and decarbonisation

Emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases released into the atmosphere is a major driver of climate change. In order to achieve 'Net Zero Carbon' by 2030 (the statutory target set by the UK Government), greenhouse gas emissions to the atmosphere need to be counterbalanced.

This means reducing emissions across sectors, ranging from housing, transport and energy, to farming and agriculture. In March 2022 Anglesey Council published its [Towards Zero Net Plan 2022-25](#) which sets out the steps it will take in conjunction with partners to achieve net zero carbon.

[Future Trends Wales Report 2021](#), highlights that the richest countries, including the UK, tend to have the highest emissions, and often the least affluent nations are most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. Similarly, while increasing climate risks will affect the whole of Wales, some communities in Anglesey will be particularly vulnerable to change, for example, through flooding (as discussed below)



Flooding

In Anglesey, there are currently 2,826 properties at risk of flooding / defended from fluvial, tidal and surface water flooding.

2,826 Anglesey properties at risk of flooding



The 10 communities identified as those most at risk in Gwynedd and Anglesey are:

- Porthmadog
- Bangor
- Tremadog
- Pwllheli
- Tywyn
- Fairbourne
- Y Bala
- Dyffryn
- Bermo
- Dolgellau

These are based on the [Register of Communities at Risk \(2019\)](#) which is a document prepared by Natural Resources Wales where communities across Wales are ranked from 1 to 1,838 based on flood risk. Tidal flooding (affecting coastal communities) and river and surface water flooding (due to extreme weather) affect Anglesey communities, leading to devastating consequences for people, homes, nature and agricultural land.



Although ranked below the ten communities above, Llangefni (**Lligwy and Twrcelyn Well-being Area**) is also considered a priority following severe flood incidents during 2017 and 2018. Following the creation of the Well-being Plan back in 2018, the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board established a Climate Change subgroup and Llangefni was selected as a priority area in an effort to facilitate partnership working to respond to the challenge of flooding in a specific area.

The Welsh Government published a [National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales \(FCERM\)](#) in 2020, and the West Wales Shoreline Management Plan by Natural Resources Wales, together with a number of partners, also sets the strategic, long-term approach for coastal management against the risks of sea flooding. In some areas difficult decisions will have to be made in terms of continuing coastal protection from flooding and land erosion or allow parts of the coast to develop naturally to adapt to changing environmental conditions over the next 20, 50 and 100 years.

The Local Authority is responsible for leading on flood management plans for ordinary watercourses, surface water and groundwater and there are national requirements to publish a Local Flood Strategy for the area. The Gwynedd and Anglesey Local Development Plan also sets out criteria for new residential development and the relocation of existing permanent dwellings for areas affected by coastal erosion and flood risk.

Tackling climate change through nature conservation

Everything we do, from the water we drink, the air we breathe and the food we eat all depend on the natural world. The processes that keep our water reservoirs clean and food growing in the fields are underpinned by the wildlife - or **biodiversity** - that surround them, and without any of these, other species could not survive.

The wildlife of Wales is in decline, with latest findings showing that one in six species in Wales is at risk of extinction. As a result, on 30 June 2021 the Welsh Government declared a nature crisis and called for statutory targets to be set to halt and reverse the decline in biodiversity. The climate change crisis and the loss of biodiversity are inextricably linked. Loss of biodiversity is exacerbated by climate change, and vice versa. However, the creation and restoration of biodiverse habitats can also provide solutions to help us adapt to climate change and while new research and technology is being developed to try and store carbon safely, currently the most effective approaches are the natural ways in which carbon is absorbed and stored in trees, plants, fens, and plankton.



Anglesey is under relatively high agricultural pressure. Agriculture is the main land use on Anglesey, accounting for approximately 92% of the land area of the island. This is higher than the national average of around 88%. Whilst farming and agriculture are an important economic resource on Anglesey (discussed in greater detail in the '**Economic**' chapter of this booklet), unsustainable farming is damaging to the environment, and reducing the natural 'carbon stores' that are vital for decarbonisation. It has resulted in damage or drainage to many rich peatland wetlands on the island and key issues include lack of proper management and nutrient enrichment due to intensive farming. [The Welsh Government's proposed Sustainable Farming Scheme](#) sets out the steps that should be taken to reduce the sector's impact on biodiversity.



Exploring 'opportunities for a resilient ecosystem' and 'supporting sustainable land management' are key areas covered by [National Resources Wales' North West Wales Area Statement](#). These are documents that set out how we can better manage our natural resources for the benefit of future generations and it details how spatial variations such as land management, protecting our water and soil could be beneficial to well-being.

During the consultation to create the Area Statements, farmers, foresters and land managers have stated that their priority is to continue working on the land, but to do so using sustainable natural resources to secure viable incomes for the future. A viable and sustainable rural economy means working in partnership to tackle local and national challenges.

Recycling and fly-tipping

Between 2015/16 and 2020/21 the figures published by the Welsh Government show an increase in the **percentage of municipal waste that was sent to be reused, recycled or composted in Anglesey from 60% to 66%**. This is similar to the increase from 60% to 65% seen for Wales as a whole for the same period.

The cases of fly-tipping published by the Welsh Government for every 1,000 of the population is higher in Anglesey than Wales, with 18.6 recorded in Anglesey and 10.6 in Wales in 2019/2020.

There is now an increasing emphasis on keeping resources in use and avoid waste as much as possible. In March 2021 the Welsh Government published its ['Beyond Recycling'](#) strategy to encourage working in partnership to develop a circular economy within communities. Mentioned are plans to reduce single-use plastic, keep materials in use for as long as possible by introducing projects such as a second-hand retail store, a Repair Café and Equipment lending Library. The aim is to reduce waste as much as possible, while promoting economic activity and community regeneration.



Air quality

NO₂ concentration is one way of measuring air quality and it's conveyed as average micrograms (µg) per m³ and this data was published by the Welsh Government. NO₂ is primarily released in the air from the burning of fuel, emissions from cars, trucks and buses and power plants. A higher level of NO₂ is a sign of air pollution.

In 2019, there was an average of 5.1 µg/m³ NO₂ in residential dwelling locations in Anglesey, this figure has varied from 4.4 µg/m³ to 5.1 µg/m³ annually since 2015. This was much lower than the Wales average measurement of 9.2 µg/m³ in 2019, that had varied between 8.9 µg/m³ to 11.4 µg/m³ annually since 2015.



Clean and tidy communities

Street cleanliness is inspected annually by Keep Wales Tidy. **In 2021/22, 65 streets in Anglesey were inspected, and a 100% had a high or acceptable cleanliness standard, that is Grade B or higher.** Prior to the pandemic, in 2019/20, 65 streets in Anglesey were inspected, and 97% were Grade B or higher. This is similar to the data from 2015/16 included in the previous Well-being Assessment.

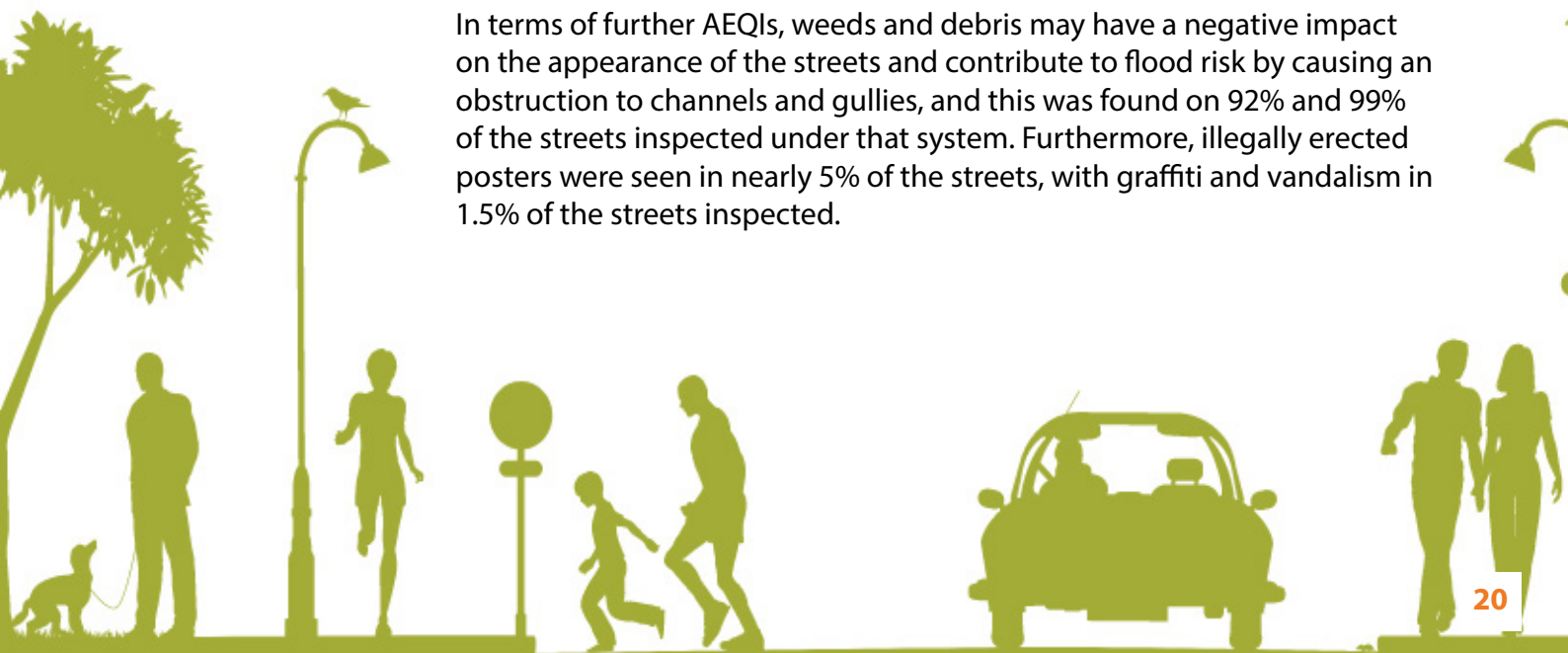
100% of Anglesey streets reach a high or acceptable standard of cleanliness



The Keep Wales Tidy street cleanliness inspections note the type of litter found on Anglesey streets, and in 2021/22 the most common type of litter was litter associated with smoking (present on 72% of the streets inspected). This type of litter was followed by drinks litter (34% of the streets), snacks litter (20% of the streets) and fast food waste (11% of streets). Alcoholic drinks litter was present on nearly 5% of the inspected streets during the survey. The organisation notes that cleaning cigarette butts is expensive and difficult as they are small, and also have a significant negative impact on the environment as they pollute, are eaten by wildlife and also have plastic elements that do not rot.

In addition, Keep Wales Tidy look at Adverse Environmental Quality Indicators (AEQIs) during their inspections. They note dog faeces is a problem that is often a cause of concern for people in terms of its appearance and possible impact on health. This is especially true for young children as their immunity is undeveloped and they are more likely to come into contact with the waste by playing in parks and in the sand on the beach. In Anglesey, dog waste was found in 9% of the streets inspected.

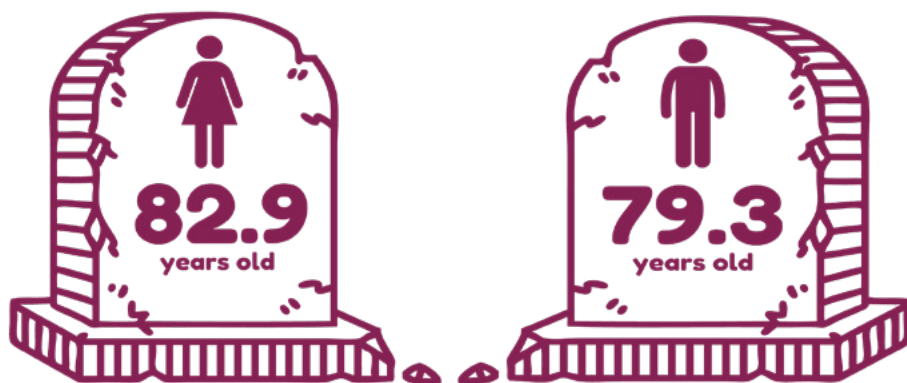
In terms of further AEQIs, weeds and debris may have a negative impact on the appearance of the streets and contribute to flood risk by causing an obstruction to channels and gullies, and this was found on 92% and 99% of the streets inspected under that system. Furthermore, illegally erected posters were seen in nearly 5% of the streets, with graffiti and vandalism in 1.5% of the streets inspected.



SOCIAL



The health of Anglesey's population



According to the latest figures of the Office for National Statistics (2018-2020) **the life expectancy of males at birth in Anglesey is 79.3 years, while the life expectancy of women at birth is 82.9 years.** This is slightly higher than the Wales figures where the life expectancy of males at birth is 78.3 years and the figure for females is 82.1 years.

The Office for National Statistics also measures 'healthy' life expectancy, which is an estimate of time spent in "good" or "very good" health. The data is based on individuals' perception of their own general health. Healthy life expectancy from 2017 to 2019 in Anglesey was 63.7 years for men and 63.6 for women, higher than the whole of Wales where a healthy age expectation for a man is 61.2 years and for a woman at 62.1. ([North Wales Population Needs Assessment](#)) However, as noted in the Population Needs Assessment, it's unlikely that the data conveys the full picture of health inequalities between more deprived communities and more prosperous areas.

Chronic health conditions can also have an impact on well-being, and the WIMD data from 2019 indicate that a chronic condition diagnosis recorded by a GP (percentage per 100) in Anglesey is 13.4. This is lower than the all Wales rate, namely 14.3.

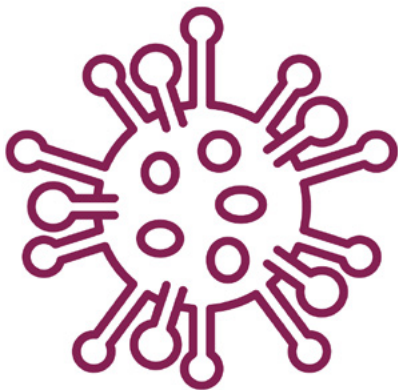
Healthy lifestyle

National Well-being Indicators that measure a healthy way of living have an important part to play when assessing the health of the county's population. According to the Wales Public Health Observatory (2017/18-2019/20) figures, are a little less than 37% of adults aged 16-64 have a healthy weight in Anglesey, this is slightly lower than the percentage for Wales, namely 38%. This figure increases to 46% in adults aged 65 and older in Anglesey, which is higher than the Wales percentage of 38% and is the highest percentage of all local authorities in Wales. There is a link between this indicator and the physical exercise indicator, which is discussed in greater detail in the **'Cultural'** chapter of this booklet.

The National Survey for Wales data (2018/19 & 2019/20 - combined two years) **show that nearly 24% of adults aged 16 years or older in Anglesey noted that they had eaten at least 5 portions of fruit and vegetables the previous day**, the same as the all Wales. The same data indicates that the percentage of adults who noted that they had not eaten any fruit or vegetables the previous day in Anglesey was a little lower than Wales, namely 7% compared with 8%.



Other factors affecting our health are smoking and alcohol consumption. The National Survey for Wales figures for 2018/19-2019/20 noted that **18% of people aged 16 and over state that they smoked in Anglesey**, a very similar percentage to the all Wales figure. According to the Wales Public Health Observatory figures from 2018/19-2019/20, 14% of Anglesey adults noted that they drink more than 14 units of alcohol a week, a figure that is lower than the 19% for all of Wales.



Covid-19 and health

Over the past two years Covid-19 has had an impact on global health, and most of the health data currently available at a Anglesey level refers to the pre-pandemic period. It's therefore important to be aware that the situation in the county has now changed, and the data to date is unlikely to measure the true health impact of the pandemic.

The [North Wales Population Needs Assessment](#) identifies that one potential long-term challenge for the health and social care sector is managing patients with 'Long Covid' symptoms. The Office for National Statistics has estimated that up to 15% of individuals who have tested positive for the virus experience 'Long Covid' symptoms and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board modeling indicates that up to 7,000 patients may experience symptoms over the coming year. The Wales Center for Public Policy's ['Well-being and Impact of Covid-19 and Brexit'](#) evidence paper states that Covid-19 has (directly and indirectly) exacerbated many of the health inequalities experienced prior to this period, as well as affecting physical health and the mental health of the population.

Mental health

Mental health is an important part of well-being, and data from the 2019 WIMD indicators indicate that a mental health condition diagnosis recorded by a GP (percentage per 100) in Anglesey is 23.0. This is very similar to the all Wales rate, namely 23.2. The mean score of the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale is another means of measuring the county's mental health, and this data has been collected by the National Survey for Wales. A score of between 14 and 70 is given, depending on the response of respondents to different statements, a higher score suggests a better mental well-being. In 2016, the Anglesey score was 52.6, but by 2018 it had fallen to 51.8. In comparison the all Wales score was 50.9 in 2016 and 51.4 in 2018.

However, not everyone with mental health problems seeks help. The [North Wales Population Needs Assessment](#) identifies some cohorts as being at higher risk than others and highlights that about three quarters of registered suicide deaths in 2020 were male. It's also noted that farmers are a high risk occupational group, which is significant to Anglesey's rural communities.

The pandemic has also affected mental health, and some groups that have been identified as of higher risk are - people on low incomes, people who changed employment, people who are self-employed, Health Service employees, care workers and other frontline staff, Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities and children and young people.

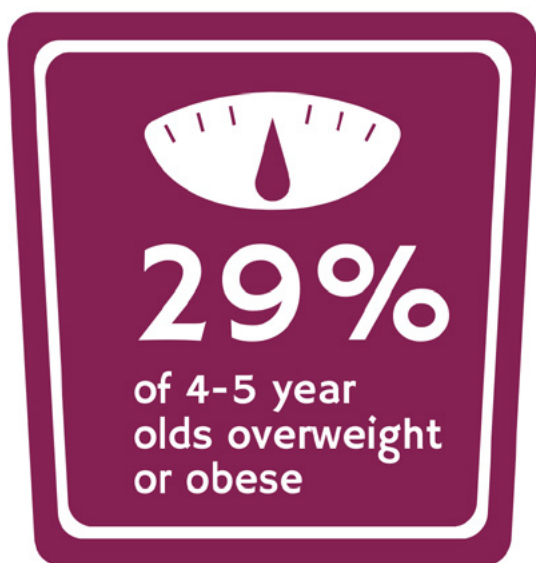
Health of children and young people

Specific health statistics for Anglesey children are also available. Prenatal, pregnancy and early years are influential and research suggests that the quality of development from 0-4 years has an impact on things such as readiness to attend school, educational attainment, and health and well-being throughout life.

Welsh Government data shows that the percentage of individual live births with a low birth weight has increased in Anglesey in 2020 to 6.9%, between 2017 and 2019 the percentage was consistent namely 4.9%. In 2020 the Anglesey percentage was higher than the Wales percentage, namely 6.1%

The overall average for breastfeeding at 10 days of age for Wales is 35%, the North Wales average is slightly lower at 34%. Breastfeeding provides health benefits of reducing infant mortality, reduced likelihood of childhood obesity and reduced hospital admissions. ([North Wales Population Needs Assessment](#))

Data from the Welsh Government indicate that the percentage of children fully immunised on schedule by the time they are four years old has increased in Anglesey from 90.4% in 2017 to 93.7% in 2019. This percentage has been consistently higher than the percentage for Wales where 88% were fully immunised in 2019. According to data from the Public Health Wales Observatory from 2017/18, approximately 8% of Anglesey children aged 11-16 consumed alcohol and 5% smoked. This compares with 8% and nearly 4% for Wales.



Childhood obesity rates in Wales are the highest in the UK. The latest available data for North Wales (2018/19) highlights that 29% of 4-5 year olds have been assessed as overweight or obese as part of the Program National Children Bill. This is a 6% increase since the start of annual measurements in 2011/12. **At Local Authority level, 29% of 4-5 year olds are overweight or obese in Anglesey - similar to the North Wales rate.**

Being overweight or obese puts an individual at increased risk of a variety of health conditions including type 2 diabetes, cancer, musculoskeletal conditions, heart disease and stroke. It is estimated that up to 25% of obese people experience mental health conditions such as depression. In children, evidence suggests that there is an increased risk of bullying

in school and the associated mental health implications of this. Being overweight or obese also reduces the likelihood of children participating in physical activity and experiencing the associated benefits (see **'Cultural'** chapter on children's sports participation levels in Anglesey).

While we await the update of the Child Measurement Program data for Wales, recent data from England and Scotland suggest that the Covid-19 pandemic has had a negative impact on children's weight due to reduced opportunities to be physically active and limited access to healthy food choices. Rates in England increased from 23% to 27%, and from 22.4% to 29.5% in Scotland, between 2019/20 and 2020/21. The data also identifies that the proportion of children who are overweight or obese increases as they get older, suggesting that once children become overweight or obese, it's difficult to reverse. The need for primary prevention and early intervention to address risk factors for overweight and obesity across the life course, at a whole system level, is therefore clear. Obesity is strongly associated with deprivation in both children and adults in Wales. Rates of overweight and obesity children are 1.7 times higher among children living in the most deprived areas, compared to those living in the least deprived areas. In adults there is a 9.2 percentage point difference between overweight and obesity rates among those living in the most and least deprived.



Access to Health Services

In the Anglesey Well-being Areas in 2020/21, the average ambulance response time for a 'red' call, that is the most serious type, was quite varied as shown by the Wales Ambulance Services NHS Trust.

The lowest average times were in the **Aethwy and Seiriol Well-being Area** (9:14 minutes) and the **Canolbarth Môn and Llifon Well-being Area** (9:21 minutes) and the longest in the **Lligwy and Twrcelyn Well-being Area** (11:06 minutes) and the **Talybolion Well-being Area** (11:22 minutes). This has increased over the last few years, and in 2018/19 the lowest average times were in the **Canolbarth Môn and Llifon Well-being Area** (06:04 minutes) with the **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area** (06:22 minutes) and the longest in the **Bro Aberffraw and Bro Rhosyr Well-being Area** (10:00 minutes) and the **Talybolion Well-being Area** (10:27 minutes).



In the Talybolion Well-being Area ambulance response time was:

11:12 minutes

Data from the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation (WIMD) from 2019 was used to assess access to services and travel time in this assessment. Return public and private travel time to a *GP surgery* is higher in Anglesey than Wales, with an average time of 47 minutes and 8 minutes compared to 40 minutes and 7 minutes. This is also true for travelling to a *pharmacy* where the average return public travel takes 48 minutes and private travel 10 minutes compared to 38 minutes and 7 minutes for Wales. Lack of access to health services has a greater impact on Anglesey's rural communities and some equality characteristics, including disabled people and older people, who are less likely to have access to a vehicle and are also more likely to need the health services.

Another area of concern is dentistry, and according to a report by the British Dental Association (BDA) in April 2019 only 18% of dentists in the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board area were accepting new adult NHS patients and only a quarter were accepting children as new NHS patients.

Access to Health Services was highlighted during the **Place Planning Survey**. This was for a number of reasons including a lack of public transport to access the service, distance to services such as a dental surgery, some services having moved out of the area, for example, chiropody, lack of staff to maintain a service, for example, GP surgeries and lack of suitable car parks near the health centers.



Keeping safe

According to the National Survey for Wales in 2020/21, 74% of the people of Anglesey feel safe at home, when walking in the local area, and when travelling a figure that is higher than 68% for Wales. This percentage in Anglesey has increased from 73% in 2016/17, but had reduced from 80% in 2018/19. It appears that there is no data available to see if there is a difference in the responses of men and women in 2020-21, but a difference could be seen in 2016/17 and 2018/19 where 59% of women and 88% of men and then 74% of women and 87% of men who responded felt safe respectively. This difference can also be seen for all Wales where 51% of women and 84% of men felt safe in 2020-21.

On average between 2017/18 and 2019/20, there were 49 cases of a deliberate fire during the year in Anglesey and 157 accidental fires a year, according to the Fire Service data. Both of these figures have reduced since the previous Well-being Assessment in 2015.

Data from Data.Police.uk indicates that the rate of crimes per 1,000 of the population aged 16 years and over varies between the different Well-being Areas in Anglesey. In 2020, the lowest rate was in **Talybolion Well-being Area** (55) and **Lligwy and Twrcelyn Well-being Area** (56) and the highest in **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area** (176) - which suggests a close relationship between crime and the nature of the area - rural or urban.



Caergybi and Ynys Cybi crime rate per 1,000 of the population

During the lockdown, all crimes report to the Police reduced in number. This was true nationally. The biggest decreases were to be seen in acquisitive crimes (e.g. stealing) of all sorts, and violent crimes as people stayed at home. When Covid-19 restrictions were lifted, it's understood that crimes in general increased gradually back to the pre-lockdown numbers, but this is not true of all crimes.

Unsurprisingly, re-opening the night-time economy (e.g. pubs and clubs) had a substantial effect on local crime levels. An increase in the number of hate crimes mainly related to tensions between individuals which led to verbal abuse was recorded. This could be seen through the Country as people's movements during the Covid-19 restrictions caused bad feeling between individuals and groups. In addition, the situation with second homes contributed extensively to this situation. The Police respond to every case of hate crime and investigate them in full. The national definition of hate crime, as used by the Police, includes race-related discrimination, including between UK nations, i.e. Welsh/English, therefore when these incidents happened were recorded as hate crime.

The Community Safety Partnership is a group of organisations working together to look at how crime and disorder can best be tackled across Gwynedd and Anglesey. The Partnership's priorities are consistent with the Safer North Wales Partnership Board Strategy of crime and anti-social behavior prevention, tackling violent crime, tackling serious organisational crime and protecting and building resilient communities and maintaining public safety. In addition, regional work is ongoing to raise awareness of domestic violence and victims' voices (VAWDASV).

Keeping in touch

The availability of facilities and access to services is an important part of well-being and is likely to be different throughout the county as Anglesey is a vast and varied area. Travel times to services are discussed throughout this assessment under the various well-being headings using the WIMD data indicators from 2019.

Return public travel time to a grocery store is higher in Anglesey than the whole of Wales, with an average time of 38 minutes compared to 32 minutes. Return private travel time is similar for Anglesey and Wales, with an average time of 5 minutes and 4 minutes respectively

2011 Census data indicates that 82% of homes in Anglesey have a car or van, which is lower than the figure for the whole of Wales, namely 23%. A difference can be seen from area to area, with the lowest percentage in the **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area** (32%) and the highest in the **Talybolion Well-being Area** (10%). The availability of public transport and facilities (which is a challenge for rural communities) and economic poverty (with increasing car running costs) are factors that should be considered when looking at these figures.



82% of homes have a car or van in Anglesey

Travel issues were a concern for residents responding to the Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire, and it was also a prominent theme to emerge during the Place Planning Survey.

Key issues included a high level of traffic on some of the Island's main lanes, speeding and irresponsible driving affecting road safety and parking issues, particularly when accessing services such as shops and GP surgeries.

Transport is a social issue that influences our day-to-day life in terms of our ability to work, learn and enjoy ourselves. It's also becoming more of an environmental issue, with 'green' travel contributing to an effort to decarbonise (see '**Environmental**' chapter for further discussion on climate change)

The [Future Trends Wales Report \(2021\)](#), shows that the purchase of electric and hybrid vehicles has increased from 1% of the market in 2015 to 11% in 2020, with a further increase projected by the mid-2020s. The [Inequality in a Future Wales](#) (2021) by the Future Generations Commissioner and Public Health Wales also highlights a potential in regards to tackling climate change in the field, but that there are also potential inequalities associated with green transport because poorer communities (as well as women, ethnic minorities, and disabled people) are not involved in the planning and policy decisions related to electric vehicles. With a focus on a greener future, [Llwybr Newydd: The Wales Transport Strategy 2021](#) sets out three priorities which are: Bring services to people in order to reduce the need to travel, allow people and goods to move easily from door to door by accessible, sustainable and encourage people to make the change to more sustainable transport.



Public Transport

'Green' travel is closely linked to public transport. In Wales, three quarters of all public transport journeys are by bus. The 'Mobility in Wales' research shows that some equality characteristic groups have different transport needs, especially when considering bus services. For example, it's noted that disabled people rely on a bus service more than the rest of the population, women are more likely to suffer from inappropriate bus timetables as they are more likely work part-time or irregular hours and young people, who rely on the service for education and enjoyment needs, but is a particular challenge for children living in poverty. ([Mobility in Wales](#))

The availability of bus services to residents is a concern that has been highlighted across Anglesey through the Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire and Place Planning Survey. Here are some comments from respondents to the Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire:

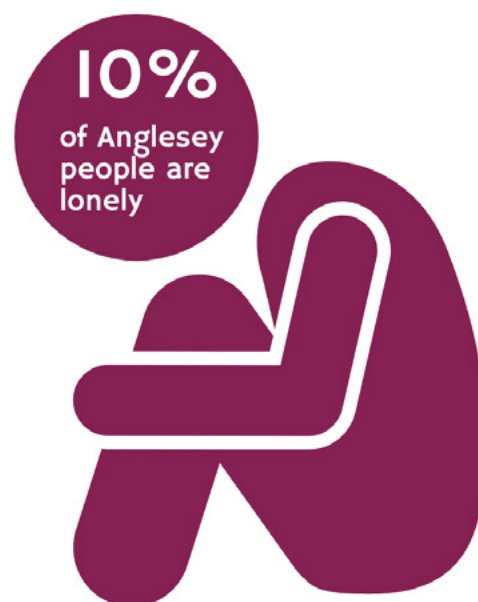
"Only one bus service in Llaingoch between Llaingoch and Holyhead - used to be a lot more pre Covid could go to shops and leisure centre." (Individual from **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area, Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire**)

"Poor bus connections ... totally dependent on private transport." (Individual from **Canolbarth Môn and Llifon Well-being Area, Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire**)

Isolation and social contact

Data from the National Survey for Wales shows an increase in the percentage of respondents aged 16 and over who agree that they belong to the area; that people of different backgrounds get along well; and that people treat each other with respect in Anglesey, 81% compared with 53% in 2016/17 and 60% in 2018/19. It is noted that the Anglesey percentage in 2020/21 is higher than the Wales percentage of 69%, and the Wales percentage has also increased from 50% in 2016/17 and 52% in 2018/19. Unfortunately, the survey does not include data on the views of children and young people. Corresponding information on the views of younger groups would be useful in providing a full picture for Anglesey.

The risk of isolation increases as individuals fail to maintain contact with their communities. According to the Data for Wales figures from 2020, **10% of people in Anglesey are lonely**, compared to the almost 13% for Wales as a whole. These figures have decreased since 2016 where nearly 16% of people in Anglesey and 17% of people in Wales were lonely, however, qualitative evidence suggests that Covid-19 has led to increased isolation, especially for those with care and support needs. ([North Wales Population Needs Assessment](#))



Helping each other

According to the 2011 Census, nearly 12% of the population in the Anglesey have provided at least one hour a week of unpaid care, a similar percentage to Wales which is a little over 12%. The percentage of people who volunteer in Anglesey has fallen slightly from the figures published by the Welsh Government from 31% in 2016 to 28% in 2019. A similar reduction was witnessed in Wales from 28% in 2016 to 26%, with fewer people volunteering across Wales than Anglesey. The Wales Center for Public Policy's ['Cultural Well-being'](#) evidence paper states that the positive effects of volunteering include benefits to the individual such as developing confidence and purpose, and social benefits such as helping to build relationships and cohesion. Unfortunately there is no reliable data to look at the number of local volunteers beyond 2020, however, the Covid-19 period has shown the heroic efforts of volunteers who have been supporting vulnerable people across the county.

Case Study - Linc Cymunedol Môn

'Social prescribing' is a way of enabling health and care professionals, for example, GPs, to refer people to a variety of local, non-clinical services. Medrwn Môn, the Health Board and Anglesey Council have jointly funded the 'Linc Cymunedol Môn' project since 2019, with the primary aim of supporting individuals to identify their own needs, and then, where appropriate, to refer on to third sector organisations that provide community activities and other activities. It's a way of encouraging individuals to think more about preventing long-term illness by becoming more aware of the offers available to them in their own neighborhoods and communities. The project was instrumental during Covid-19 and provided the following:

- 1,800 requests to deliver prescriptions
- 8,426 'keeping in touch' calls from Linc Cymunedol Môn staff and volunteers.
- 160 references to food banks or delivering groceries
- 12,125 Goot turns for 1689 people
- 36 area support teams with over 850 volunteers - including vaccination center volunteers, doorstep LFT test volunteers and volunteer drivers for vaccination appointments.

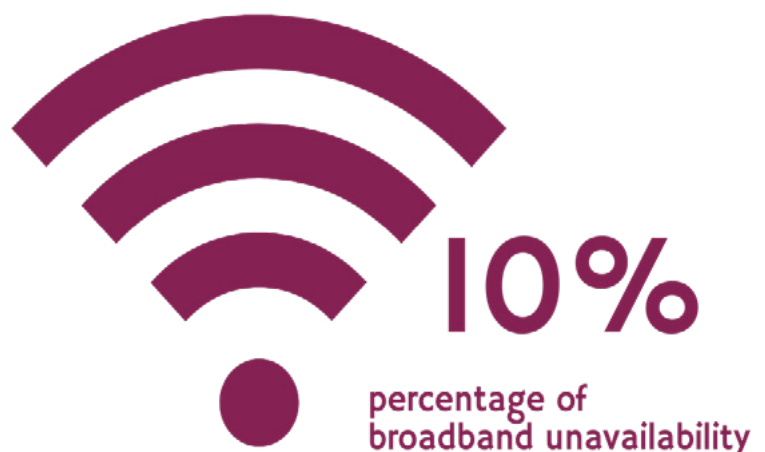
Digital connection

Keeping connected through digital means has been extremely important over the last two years with many services having to move online over the lockdown period. As a result the importance of broadband availability was highlighted for social and also economic reasons (working from home and remote education, online small businesses etc.).

The importance of the availability of broadband has been emphasised during the Covid period,

and the WIMD data indicator figures from 2019 show that Anglesey had a higher percentage of a lack of broadband availability on 30Mb/e than the whole of Wales, namely 10% compared to 7%.

The impact of digitalisation is worse for some groups. These include older people, disabled people, low income families, rural households and homeless people, with Digital Communities Wales reporting that around 7% of adults in Wales have digitally excluded. The [Inequality in a Future Wales](#) (2021) report by the Future Generations Commissioner and Public Health Wales states that new policies such as remote working need to consider the impact on these groups.



ECONOMIC



Work and salary

According to 2011 Census data looking at occupation, the highest percentage of Anglesey people aged 16-74 who are in employment, work in the skilled trades occupations (for example, farmer, agricultural worker, plumber, electrician, carpenters), at 19%, compared to 14% at an all Wales level. This percentage is in line with land use figures for Anglesey (as already mentioned in the 'Environmental' chapter of the booklet).



This percentage varies within the Well-being Areas, from 12% in the **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area**, to 33% in the **Lligwy and Twrcelyn Well-being Area**, which highlights the difference between an urban area and the countryside.

It's also the most common occupation in the **Aethwy and Seiriol Well-being Area, Bro Aberffraw and Bro Rhosyr Well-being Area, Canolbarth Môn and Llifon Well-being Area, Lligwy and Twrcelyn Well-being Area** and **Talybolion Well-being Area**. Caring, leisure and other service occupations were the most common occupations in the **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area**.

The lowest percentage of Anglesey people aged 16-74 who are in employment, work in the sales and customer service occupations, namely 7%, compared with 9% on an all-Wales level. Once again, this percentage varies within the Well-being Areas, from 4% yn **Lligwy and Twrcelyn Well-being Area** to 12% yn **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area**. It's the least common occupation in the **Canolbarth Môn and Llifon Well-being Area** and **Lligwy and Twrcelyn Well-being Area**.

Reliable data on areas of work by local area after 2011 is unavailable, and therefore a significant data gap is evident. The [Inequality in a Future Wales](#) (2021) report by the Future Generations Commissioner and Public Health Wales predicts changes in future work trends with the growth of science, technology and 'green' occupations benefiting the environment. However, a clear message in the report is that inequality needs to be reduced as these sectors grow by offering opportunities that are accessible to everyone, including women who are less likely to take up employment in these areas.

Unemployment



The 2020 Welsh Government's Annual Population Survey notes that the Economic Activity Rate of those of working age, 16 - 64 old is 79% in Anglesey compared with a percentage of 76% for the whole of Wales.

According to the figures of the Office for National Statistics on average 5.3% of people aged 16-64 years in Anglesey were on Universal Credit between November 2020 and October 2021.

This is higher than the Wales percentage of 5.1%. The figure varies greatly from month to month with the highest percentage in November 2020, February 2021 and March 2021 (6%) and the lowest in October 2021 (4.3%). It's likely that the impact of the Covid-19 lockdown at the beginning of 2021 has contributed to this.

Within the Anglesey Well-being Areas the percentage varies somewhat, and on average the lowest percentage of people aged 16-64 claimed Jobseeker's Allowance was in the **Bro Aberffraw and Bro Rhosyr Well-being Area** (3.8%) and the highest was in the **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area** (8.3%). It must be noted that the figure also varies from month to month in the Well-being Areas, likely due to the impact of the Covid-19 lockdown period at the start of 2021, but also in some areas, including Llŷn, Ffestiniog and Porthmadog, that the working pattern of the area is very seasonal.

Salary

The Office for National Statistics' Earnings Survey and Annual Hours indicates that the 2021 median weekly wage (gross) for Anglesey was £506 a week. This sum is higher than Gwynedd (£386 a week) and higher than all-Wales (£469 a week). In Anglesey the median weekly salary for women, namely £527, is higher than the men's salary, namely £496. This is a difference of £31 a week. This is very different to the situation in Gwynedd, where women's salaries are nearly £124 less a week than the salaries of men and Wales where the median Women's salary is nearly £149 a week less than men.



The 2020 Welsh Government's Annual Population Survey notes that 3% of the population over 50 years old work in Anglesey - that is a little lower than the figures for Wales namely 40%.

Low wages inevitably lead to higher levels of rural poverty and depopulation, which in turn have an impact on our communities, the future of our young people and on the Welsh language. Creating high value jobs to help keep young people in North Wales is a priority for the [North Wales Ambition Board](#), and Welsh Governments' Regional Economic Framework looks at ways of providing better paid jobs, closer to home, to provide opportunities for social and economic improvement. Discussions are ongoing regarding the development of a new nuclear power station at Wylfa, which could create jobs locally.

Cost of living and poverty

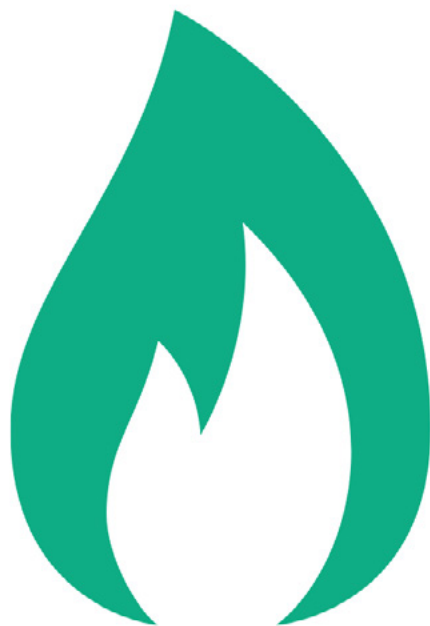


The Regional Accounts data of the Office for National Statistics from 2019 indicate **that the gross household income to be spent by people in Anglesey is £17,529, which is £266 more than the all Wales sum.** This figure is likely to have changed by now and poverty continues to affect residents in Anglesey.

One of the key messages from the consultation on the draft well-being booklets (January to March 2022) was a lack of information on poverty, especially given its prevalence on recent news. In Anglesey current drivers of poverty include the rising cost of living (rent, fuel and food), Furlough timing and people's work choices, with the Universal Credit payment changes, however we recognise that there is a reliable and current data gap within this field.

However, data is available from the North Wales Regional School Effectiveness and Improvement Service (GWE) that shows the percentage of pupils that are entitled to receive free school meals. In Anglesey in 2020, 18% of primary school pupils claimed free school meals. The percentage has varied from 15% to 18% annually between 2016 and 2020. By the time primary pupils get to secondary school, the figure has reduced to around 16% in 2020, and has varied annually from 14% to 16% between 2016 and 2020. Within the Anglesey Well-being Areas, the lowest percentage of primary school pupils claiming free school meals in 2020 was in the **Aethwy and Seiriol Well-being Area** (11%) and the highest in the **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area** (25%). When looking at secondary school pupils the lowest percentage once again was in the **Aethwy and Seiriol Well-being Area** (9%) and the highest again in the **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area** (23%).

Fuel poverty is also an important aspect when assessing the cost of living and poverty, and **according to the 2017/18 figures from the Welsh Government in Anglesey there are estimates that 17% of households are in fuel poverty.** However, with the recent increase in fuel prices this figure is likely to be much higher than the estimate in 2018, but unfortunately finding reliable data in this field is problematic.



17%
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are in fuel
poverty

Case Study - Môn Good Food

Môn Good Food is an organisation that aims to tackle food poverty, encourage healthy eating whilst also saving the environment by reducing waste. Each year millions of tonnes of food worth billions of pounds are sent to landfill, this has a huge environmental impact and also means that food that could be easily repurposed and distributed to the community, increasing people's access to low cost, good quality food is wasted.

Môn Good Food has a wide range of stock with the emphasis being on fresh nutritious produce. All items will be donated by supermarkets, wholesale distributors, the hospitality sector, care providers, and major employers

Môn Good Food has grown out of collaboration between various existing organisations including Anglesey County Council, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Citizens Advice, Clwyd Alyn HA, Coleg Llandrillo Menai, Anglesey Food Bank, private sector organisations and a range of voluntary sector organisations.



House prices and affordability

According to the Land Registry data and CACI Data (2020) the median price for property in Anglesey is £190,000, which is a higher than the all Wales figure namely £163,000. There has been an increase in house prices across the Anglesey since the last Assessment in 2015.

The lowest median price was in the **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area** where, in 2020, the median house price was approximately £140,000 (an increase of £30,000 since the previous assessment). On the other hand, the highest median house price as in the **Aethwy and Seiriol Well-being Area**, the median house price was approximately £225,000 in 2020 (an increase of £35,000 since the previous assessment).

Housing affordability is an important factor when looking at this field and in Anglesey the median household income is approximately £29,078 and at least £37,143 is required to afford the access level price. **This means that 62% of Anglesey households have been priced out of the market.** This is higher than the all Wales figure, where 56% of households have been priced out of the market.



62%
of Anglesey
households have
been priced out
of the market

The percentage varies from area to area with the highest being 69% priced out of the market in the Lligwy and Twrcelyn Well-being Area and the lowest at 54% in the Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area. The 2020 figures do not appear to fully demonstrate the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on house prices in the area, and these will be updated as the data becomes available.

In some areas of Anglesey the second housing situation has been highlighted as a concern in the Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire and Place Planning Survey. According to Anglesey Council's [Housing Strategy 2022-27](#) second homes and short-term holiday accommodation have stirred strong feelings in some communities for many years. In these communities, there is often a feeling of injustice that people are being priced out of the local housing market by those who are buying second homes or homes to let as short-term holiday accommodation. In some areas such as Rhosneigr 35% of the houses in the community council area are holiday homes. The Housing Strategy states that second homes are often located in and around the Welsh speaking communities, which can lead to patterns of home ownership that adversely affect the use and long term prosperity of the Welsh language. Second homes, along with a range of other factors, affect the affordability and availability of housing for local people and raises the local housing market prices, sometimes significantly.



Local economy and businesses



According to the Office for National Statistics Business Demography Data, in 2020, there was a total of 2,155 businesses registered in Anglesey.

The rates of start-up businesses in Anglesey is higher than Gwynedd, but is less than North Wales and Wales. The rate of businesses that fail is also lower in Anglesey compared to North Wales and Wales but a little higher than Gwynedd. According to the Office for National Statistics data from 2017, 59% of Anglesey companies remain in business for at least three years or more. This is higher than the Wales percentage of 54%.

A vibrant local economy and lively town centers can make a significant contribution to the economic and social well-being of areas, as well as offering a range of services to residents and communities. Significant challenges including changes in customer purchasing habits, the rise of online technology, Brexit and Covid-19 (as noted below) over recent years have resulted in the closure of a number of national chain stores that has had an impact on the viability of town centers and 'high Streets'.

Concern about the state of the 'high street' or 'town center' was highlighted by respondents to the Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire, and was identified as one of the main factors affecting how people felt about where they lived in the **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area**:

"The town center is full of pubs, betting shops and takeaways and there is very little choice for young people to live a healthier lifestyle." (Individual from **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area, Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire**)

"High street impoverished - shops closing and going into disrepair." (Individual from **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area, Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire**)

"The town centre is deprived, street pavements are dirty- unappealing to residents and visitors." (Individual from **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area, Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire**)



Impact of Covid-19 and Brexit

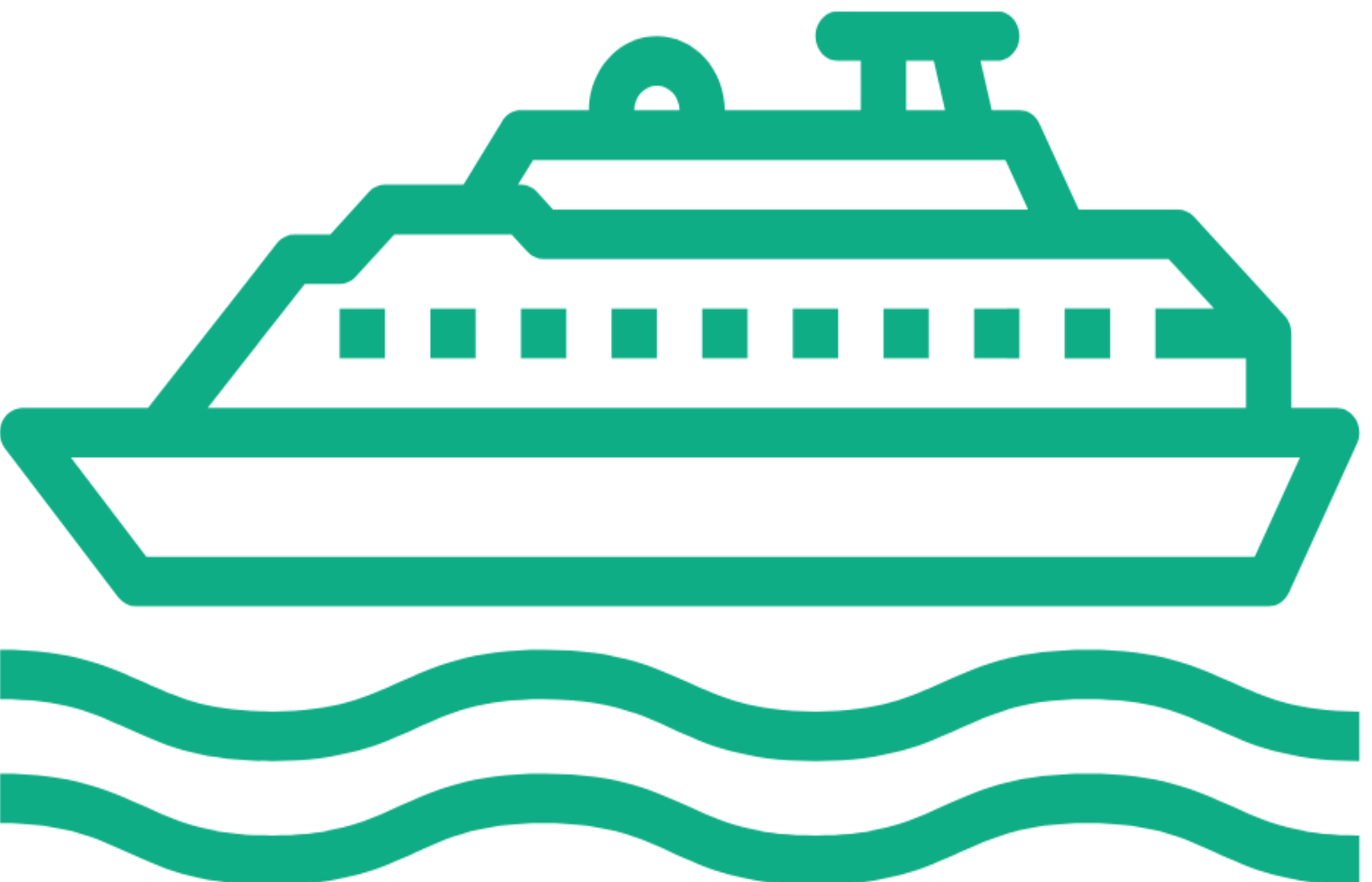
The Wales Center for Public Policy's ['Well-being and Impact of Covid-19 and Brexit'](#) evidence paper examines the impact of the 'two economic shocks' experienced in recent years on individuals and local communities across areas of Wales.

Anglesey has a large commercial port in Holyhead, and agriculture is also the county's main employment sector - two areas that have been significantly affected by Brexit.

The Wales Center for Public Policy reports highlights the risk of Brexit, and its further negative impact on the agricultural and food/automotive/steel manufacturing and tourism sectors. Most of these effects arise from border delays, as traders adjust to new customs and regulatory requirements as well as a sharp fall in the number of overseas workers available. It also means less grants and financial support for the agriculture sector.

It has also had major implications for local economy sector and the small businesses that rely on imports and exports, which are reflected in the levels of docking traffic in ports such as Holyhead.

The report's analysis is that Covid-19 had the most negative impact in the accommodation and food sector, and because North Wales' coastal towns and rural areas had a higher proportion of employees in the tourism, retail and hospitality sectors, the risk to work and wages higher in these communities.



Skills for Life

Education, training and skills acquisition are vital when considering the development of Anglesey's economy. According to the 2011 Census data, 24% Anglesey has 24% of the population aged 16 and over do not have a qualification, compared to 26% in Wales as a whole.

This figure varies across the Anglesey where the percentage is at its lowest in the **Aethwy and Seiriol Well-being Area** (18%) and highest in the **Caergybi and Ynys Cybi Well-being Area** (30%). In Anglesey, 13% have a Level 1 qualification, 16% Level 2, 12% Level 3, 26% Level 4 or higher and 8% with an apprenticeship or other qualification. To compare with the all-Wales level, 13% have a Level 1 qualification, 16% Level 2, 12% Level 3, 25% Level 4 or higher and 8% have an apprenticeship or other qualification. These figures are now dated, and they will be updated when new data is released.

From 2018/19 the Welsh Government has submitted a new set of performance measures that include the Literacy points score, the Numeracy points score and the Science points score. This makes it difficult to compare year with year over the last few years and there is no analysis per county since 2018/19. However, figures are available for the number of year 11 school leavers that we know are not in education, employment or training (NEET). In Anglesey the percentage for 2020 is 4.7%, which is a significant increase from 2018, when the figure was 1.1%. This percentage is also significantly higher than the all Wales figure for 2020 of 1.7%. The Covid-19 period may have affected the percentage, with staff unable to offer the same face-to-face support however, NEET is also implicated in poverty. In order to address the issue Youth Service is working with schools, TRAC, Careers Wales, Grŵp Llandrillo Menai, Youth Welfare and Justice Officers.

Childcare

Accessible and affordable childcare in early childhood is essential for the well-being of parents and the child, and is also an important economic factor as it allows the parent to return to work while also providing a foundation of education and early experiences for healthy development.

The [Childcare Sufficiency Assessment](#) (2017) shows that the distribution of childcare providers is patchy across Anglesey. In 2017, gaps in provision were identified in the **Bro Aberffraw and Bro Rhosyr Well-being Area** and the **Talybolion Well-Being Area** and also gaps in the provision of Welsh speaking childminders across the county, which is important given concerns about the Welsh language in Anglesey (as already discussed in the '**Population and Language**' chapter of the booklet) The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment will be updated in 2022.



CULTURAL



Cultural well-being

Cultural well-being includes elements such as sports, arts events, as well as visiting museums and historic places.. These topics are closely linked to social and health well-being, environmental well-being and the Welsh language.

By looking at the data below we must be aware that not all demographic groups have equal access to cultural activities.



The Wales Center for Public Policy's '[Cultural Well-being](#)' evidence paper states that families with children (5-10 years) and those who live in households where one member already engages in cultural activities have a positive impact on participation, with factors such as age (being over 75), financial status (low income) and ethnicity (people from Black or Asian backgrounds) tend to have a more negative impact on participation. The report suggests that looking and mapping local arts, culture, activities, heritage and sport providers is crucial, and that particular consideration needs to be given to those who live in areas of deprivation or areas that generally have lower participation rates.

Keeping fit and active

Participation in sport has an important role to play in cultural well-being, and as set out in the Wales Center for Public Policy's '[Cultural Well-being](#)' evidence paper, it's linked to improved mental and physical health.



According to the latest School Sports Survey by Sport Wales (2018), more of Anglesey's children participate in sports three or more times a week compared to Wales as a whole. **In 2018, nearly 56% of Anglesey pupils participated in sports activities at least three times a week, compared with 48% in Wales.**

According to the National Survey for Wales for 2019/20, 34% of adults in Anglesey stated that they participated in sport activities three or more times a week compared to 32% in Wales.

In Anglesey and all Wales, a difference can be seen in the percentage of men and women who participate in sports activities at least three times a week. In

56% of children participating in sports 3+ times a week

2019/20 27% of women and 42% of men in Anglesey participated, and 28% and 36% respectively at an all Wales level. Although there are no figures at an Anglesey level, in Wales in 2019 a difference could be seen in participation per age group with the percentage reducing as people grow older. The highest percentage of participation could be seen in those aged 16-24 (49%) and the lowest in the 75 and older age group (8%).

The impact of the pandemic on physical health was discussed in the Wales Center for Public Policy's ['Cultural Well-being'](#) evidence paper, and refers to a Public Health Wales survey of February 2021 where 47% of respondents across Wales said they 'felt that their physical fitness levels had deteriorated over the last 12 months'. In addition 40% of respondents said that 'they put on weight'. It's therefore important to be aware of the impact of the pandemic and the lockdown on sports participation levels, and data will be released later in the year to determine the county's participation levels in the wake of the pandemic. This data also reflects the close link between sports participation and good health (as previously mentioned in the **'Social'** chapter of the booklet).

We should also be aware of the availability of sports facilities in the county. The WIMD data indicators from 2019 show that return public and private travel time to a sports facility is higher in Anglesey than Wales, with an average time of 70 minutes and 13 minutes compared to 55 minutes and 10 minutes respectively.



Activities for young people

The [Play Sufficiency Assessment](#) (2018) sets out the work undertaken with schools and communities to secure free / low cost play activities, play opportunities in rural areas and play opportunities to meet the specific needs of children and young people.

Another issue raised by respondents to the Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire and Place Planning Survey was the lack of activities for teenagers, leading some residents to associate this with social problems such as anti-social behavior and vandalism. There was also reference to a decline in youth clubs and Young Farmers clubs on Anglesey. Some respondents stated that they were concerned that many young people decide to leave the area due to lack of facilities.



Cultural events and places

Attending arts events, as well as visiting museums and historic places has an important role to play in the area's cultural well-being.

Leisure time figures are available for the pre-pandemic period. **According to National Survey for Wales data from 2019/20, 66% of adults in Anglesey attended an arts event during the last 12 months.** This is slightly lower than all Wales, namely 70%. In the same year, 34% of Anglesey respondents noted that they had visited museums in the last 12 months, lower than the all Wales percentage of 43%. In 2016/17, survey 68% of Anglesey adults stated that they had attended historic locations over the 12 months. This is higher than the figure for Wales where 47% and 58% respectively stated that they had visited historic locations.



69% of adults aged 16 and over in Anglesey attend or participate in arts, cultural or heritage activities three or more times a year in 2019/20, which is lower than the percentage in 2017-18 namely 75%. This is also true for all Wales, that has also seen a reduction for the same period from 75% in 2017-18 to 71% in 2019/20. When we look at the percentages in Anglesey during 2019/20 it's seen that there is a difference in the percentages in different age groups, and in 2019-20, 77% of people aged 25-44, 73% of people aged 45-64, 61% people aged 65-74 and 51% of people aged 75 and over attend or participate. This reduction in age groups can also be seen for all Wales in 2019/20.

We have to be aware of the impact of Covid-19 and the 'lockdown' periods on these sectors and that the figures look at the pre-pandemic period. When more recent data is available it will be vital to compare this with the pre-Covid-19 period.

Libraries also have an important role to play in culture and the community. The WIMD data indicator score for 2019 is shown as the average return public and private travel time to a public library is higher in Anglesey than the whole of Wales, with an average time of 53 minutes and 13 minutes compared to 45 minutes and 10 minutes.



Green spaces

There's a link between cultural well-being and spending time in green spaces and nature, and proximity to a natural green space is one form of assessing an area's physical environment. However, while access to local green spaces offers opportunities for community well-being across the county, the dual relationship between the economic opportunities that attracts tourism to the area and the environmental challenges around educating visitors to respect nature can also be seen (as previously mentioned in the **'Environmental'** chapter of the booklet).

There is a link between cultural well-being and spending time in green spaces and nature, and proximity to a natural green space is one form of assessing an area's physical environment.

The WIMD data indicator score from 2019 for

proximity to an Accessible Natural Green Space is lower for Anglesey than the whole of Wales, namely 65% compared with 77%.

There does, however, appear to be poor network links to and from green spaces in some areas of Anglesey. As a result green spaces are less accessible to those who need it most. According to Natural Resources Wales, access to green spaces around Holyhead, Llangefni and Amlwch in particular needs to be increased and could contribute positively to addressing the health of the county's population.



Sufficient outdoor space for walks, proximity to the seaside and coastline and the green, natural and wildlife environment of the area were important to Anglesey residents. They were identified as one of the best features about the area in response to the Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire. Similarly, the Place Planning exercise reflected a similar message and the environment and footpaths were noted as a key asset contributing to the well-being of Anglesey's communities.

However, some comments were also received about issues regarding safe and accessible access to and from green spaces:

"A very lonely area for a child without a safe and secure place to play with friends. No proper safe routes for a pram or to walk or cycle." (Individual from **Lligwy and Twrcelyn Well-being Area, Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire**)

"We are a young family, and enjoy a walk, but because there is no pavement and the public footpath has not yet been reopened, going for a walk means either walking on a very dangerous lane with young children and a dog - and having to stop every minute to let a car or tractor pass, or otherwise take the car to a safer route for a walk, which is absurd. We care about the environment, so we prefer to go for a walk without having to use a car." (Individual from **Canolbarth Môn and Llifon Well-being Area, Anglesey Well-being Questionnaire**)

What are the next steps?

By April 2023 the Board will publish a Local Well-being Plan for the areas of Gwynedd and Anglesey. The plan will outline the Well-being objectives of the Board as well as the steps it will take to achieve those objectives.

The Board operates across both counties and the data as well as people's responses to this assessment so far shows that the needs of people and communities across Gwynedd and Anglesey are very similar. The Board will therefore decide on common well-being objectives for both areas.

We acknowledge that there are gaps in the information that has been gathered and that we need more detailed analysis of individual topics and themes to develop the local plan, and we hope that information from the Census 2021 will also feed into the plan. We also acknowledge that there needs to be further analysis of future trends so that the Board can effectively plan for the future. In order to publish an achievable plan that meets the needs of our communities the Board will consider this assessment of local well-being, but will also consider other assessments that have been published, as well as evidence of what works elsewhere to improve well-being.

The Board will also need to consider the effects of future developments on the well-being of people in Gwynedd and Anglesey, this includes the long term impact of Covid-19 and Brexit. It will do this alongside other established Boards such as the North Wales Economic Ambitions

Board and the Regional Safer Communities Board.

When agreeing the steps that need to be taken to improve well-being of Gwynedd the Board will ensure that public service providers work together to develop an action plan that concentrates on preventative action for positive long term effects.

More importantly, the Board will include you in the process and is keen to hear your opinion on what works in your communities to improve well-being. More information will follow before the end of the year about opportunities to help the Board shape the Well-being Plan.

For more information...

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