

**Meeting Minutes
Ceredigion Youth Council
Council Chamber, Penmorfa
Wednesday 20 March 2024**

(10:00 – 14.00)

Present:

- Ysgol Bro Teifi (Ceredigion UK MYP 2023-24)
- Ysgol Penglais & Goats Youth Hub
- Ysgol Penglais & Goats Youth Hub
- Coleg Ceredigion & Aberystwyth Community Ambassadors
- Coleg Ceredigion & Aberystwyth Community Ambassadors
- Ysgol Gyfun Penweddig
- Ysgol Gyfun Penweddig & Urdd Ceredigion
- EHE & Talybont Youth Club
- Ysgol Gyfun Aberaeron
- Ysgol Bro Pedr
- Ysgol Bro Pedr
- Ysgol Henry Richard
- Ysgol Henry Richard

Also Present: Gwion Bowen (Children and Young People’s Participation Officer, Youth Work and Engagement Service), Lowri Evans (Team Manager, Youth Work and Engagement Service – Ceredigion County Council), Greg Jones (Interim Corporate Lead Officer, Porth Cymorth Cynnar) and Councillor Wyn Thomas (Cabinet Member for Schools, Lifelong Learning and Skills)

Speakers: Louise Grove-White (Project Officer, Regional Skills Partnership)

Apologies:

(Ysgol Gyfun Penweddig (YC Chairperson 2023-24), (Ysgol Penglais),
 (Ysgol Penglais), Elen James (Chief Education Officer, Ceredigion County Council),
 (Ysgol Gyfun Penweddig), (Ysgol Gyfun Penweddig), (Ysgol Uwchradd Aberteifi),
 (Ysgol Gyfun Aberaeron), (Ysgol Gyfun Aberaeron), (Ysgol Gyfun
 Aberaeron), (Ysgol Bro Pedr), (Ysgol Bro Teifi), (Ysgol Bro Teifi)
 and (Ysgol Bro Pedr & Urdd)

Meeting Agenda:



MINUTES	
1	Welcome, Apologies and Introductions
	<p>Gwion Bowen opened the meeting by welcoming the Youth Council to the Chamber.</p> <p>Apologies noted.</p> <p>GB informed the Youth Council of ‘housekeeping’ arrangements.</p>

- Speakers
- Translation devices
- Fire Exits
- Toilet facilities
- Lunch and refreshments

GB shared apologies from Rosa Waby, Youth Council Chairperson. GB will be chairing the meeting in Rosa's absence.

Youth Council members introduced themselves and which schools / organisations they are representing.

GB explained that a register will be going around during the meeting.

This is the last formal meeting of Ceredigion Youth Council 2023-24; however, meetings will continue to be held remotely for both sub-groups, and as needed to finalise any final arrangements for the Youth Council's 'Pawb a'i Farn' end of year event in July 2024.

2 Regional Skills Partnership Presentation and Discussion – Louis Grove-White



Youth Council Meeting 20.03.24.pptb

LG-W shared a powerpoint presentation and started by offering some background into her own career pathway. LG-W works as a Project Officer for the Mid Wales Regional Skills Partnership, which is funded by Welsh Government along with another 3 partnerships across Wales. They work under the umbrella of Growing Mid Wales and explained how the Growth Deal plays a key role in catalysing economic recovery and growth in the Mid Wales economy, with a £110m invested across the region of Ceredigion and Powys. LG-W explained that there are 9 key projects under review that receive a proportion of the funding.

The RSP's objectives are to work with employers to identify key skills needed in the local labour market and ensuring that training provision matches that demand. LG-W also mentioned the Young Person's Guarantee, which is Welsh Government's key commitment to provide everyone aged 16 to 24, living in Wales, who are at risk of becoming NEET (not in employment, education or training) with support to gain a place in employment, education or training.

Young people were given the opportunity to take part in an interactive survey utilising the Mentimeter platform. The results of the survey are included below.



Ceredigion Youth Council Survey.pdf

The RSP is keen to understand young people's experience of careers advice, and are currently looking at a definitive model for Mid Wales.

Young people had the opportunity to view first hand a 'demo' prepared for the RSP by a company called One Step North. It is an interactive, online careers portal called Careers in 360. Young people had the opportunity to share their initial thoughts and feedback on this development. This online portal concept has not yet been shared publicly. The potential is for every young person in Ceredigion and Powys to have access to this careers information source during their high school education encouraging them to make informed choices around career choices.

3 Environment and Period Dignity Sub-groups Workshops

Youth Council members split into two groups: Period Dignity and Environment. Members who have not attended a Youth Council meeting before had the choice of which group to join.

Environment Sub-Group

Having identified 3 potential £500 projects to pursue in the forthcoming months, namely:

- 1) A Plastic Bottle Recycle Scheme
- 2) Specific bins for recycling cardboard and in particular, Pizza Boxes
- 3) Supporting the work of the 'litter pick' hubs in Ceredigion

Further research concluded that the most appropriate and realistic project for the sub-group to pursue was to support the work of the 'litter pick' hubs in Ceredigion. It was agreed that introducing a plastic bottle recycle scheme and looking to introduce new recycling bins for cardboard may be overreaching as a starter project for the sub-group and in order to keep within budget.

As a result, a draft project proposal was completed during the meeting. The project proposal included organising a meeting with Keep Wales Tidy Project Officer, Richard Thomas to explore the project idea further, purchase additional 'litter pick' equipment to support the current 'litter pick' hubs, create preventative promotional materials that would highlight the need to bin rubbish rather than throwing on the ground (targeting young people) and arrange two litter pick days during the summer holidays to help promote the voluntary 'litter pick' scheme in Ceredigion. It is anticipated that a meeting with Keep Wales Tidy will take place prior to the end of April 2024.



Draft project
template is grwp amg

Period Dignity Sub-Group

The Period Dignity Sub-Group have met twice since the last in-person Youth Council meeting. During virtual sub-group meetings, members met with Dr Robyn Jackowich, Lecturer, School of Psychology at Cardiff University who presented their study into 'Serious Period Pains', and Laurie Hughes, Wellbeing Advisory Teacher with Ceredigion Schools Services to discuss current priorities.

The group reviewed and shared feedback on the draft 'Period Positive Guidance for Ceredigion Schools'. LE will now update accordingly and share for final thoughts.

The guidance considers the following areas:

- Introduction
- Background
- Welsh Government: A Period Proud Wales Plan
- Ceredigion's Period Dignity Scheme
- Whole School Approach
- Period Products
- Spare Clothes
- Professional Training & Learning
- Period Education & Awareness
- Dignified Toilet Spaces
- Period an PE
- Severe Period Pain & Endometriosis
- Helpful Resources
- FAQs
- Useful Contacts
- Period Positive School: Framework Template

Members shared ideas of areas that are missing from the guidance, or areas that need to be tweaked.


Sub-group members were asked their availability to attend a Secondary Head Teachers Forum meeting to present the guidance before it can be published and shared widely with Ceredigion Schools. LE will organise a slot on the June Head Teachers meeting for the guidance to be presented.


4 United Kingdom Youth Parliament (UKYP) Update

Aeron Dafydd (UK MYP) shared an update on the recent meeting held with Rosa Waby (YC Chairperson), Ben Lake MP, Bryan Davies, Leader of Ceredigion County Council, Wyn Thomas, Cabinet Member for Schools, Lifelong Learning and Skills and Elen James, Chief Education Officer.

Matters discussed included:

- Transport
- Post-16 Education
- Second Homes
- Cost of Living Crisis
- Environment / Net Zero
- Welsh Language

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Attendance • Educational Maintenance Allowance Criteria <p>GB shared an update regarding the UKYP national programme.</p>
5	Youth Council Senedd Visit and Programme Structure Feedback
	<p>GB asked members for feedback and their experiences of the recent Senedd Cymru visited held during the February Half Term 2024.</p> <p>13 Members of Ceredigion Youth Council visited the Senedd, Cardiff Bay and experienced an education tour of the setting, and a question-and-answer session with Elin Jones MS.</p> <p>Young people raised important questions on matters that are important to them, including transport, education, vaping and autism diagnosis.</p> <p>GB explained that this is a new addition to the Youth Council's core programme, and a visit to the Senedd hasn't been incorporated since 2015, and that feedback is important to ensure that it is something that young people feel is valuable.</p> <p>Members stated that they enjoyed the experience and found it to be worthwhile and felt that it should be something that should continue to form part of the annual Youth Council programme. Members suggested that considering a school day, as opposed to the school holidays, might be a good option next time.</p>
6	'Rhoi dy Farn 2024' Results Discussion
	<p>Youth Council members held a discussion around the annual 'Rhoi dy Farn' ballot results. The topics included in the ballot paper were short-listed from a wider list of important issues, and those topics with the highest votes from the ballot will form the basis for questions that will be presented to the 'Pawb a'i Farn' panel in the Summer.</p> <p>2031 young people voted in the ballot and the results were shared on screen to discuss.</p> <div data-bbox="746 1563 954 1686" style="text-align: center;">  Canlyniadau Rhoi Dy Farn - in order 2024.p </div> <p>A thanks was extended to CJ (Coleg Ceredigion) who helped gather votes from the Aberystwyth Campus with GB.</p> <p>GB explained that ballot papers were received from all Ceredigion Secondary Schools, Pupil Referral Units, Coleg Ceredigion, Hyfforddiant Ceredigion Training and several youth groups.</p>
7	Children's Commissioner for Wales Film

	<p>Brief information was shared regarding the Children Commissioner for Wales, Rocio Cifuentes who is the current Children's Commissioner. Rocio started in the role in April 2022 and will be the commissioner for a term of 7 years.</p> <p>A recent film was shared with Youth Council members highlighting the Children's Commissioner for Wales priorities during her term in office. The Children's Commissioner for Wales will be joining the panel for the Youth Council end of year event 'Pawb A'i Farn Ceredigion 2024' that will be held in the Council Chamber on 12th July 2024.</p> <div style="text-align: center;">  CCFW Film.pptx </div>
8	Pawb A'i Farn 2024 Event Preparation: Questions and Panel
	<p>Following a discussion around the 'Rhoi dy Farn' ballot results, Youth Council members had the opportunity to prepare their questions in preparation for the 'Pawb a'i Farn' event in the summer term.</p> <p>Key questions will be asked to a panel of policy makers and influencers on the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable Housing • Cost of Living • Transport • Mental Health and Wellbeing <p>Members split into groups to discuss and devise questions before presenting to the wider Youth Council.</p> <p>Questions will be asked to the panel in both Welsh and English and young people decided on the following members to present each question:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Affordable Housing (CJ & CJ) • Cost of Living (MB & DD) • Transport (TD & LIN) • Mental Health and Wellbeing (MB & CM) <p>Two panel members for Pawb a'i Farn are confirmed (Ben Lake MP and Roccio Cifuentes, Children's Commissioner for Wales), two further members to be confirmed shortly.</p>
9	Information Sharing and Date of Next Meeting
	<p>GB called for any other business from members. None reported.</p> <p>GB shared information on Welsh Government's discounted 'My Travel Pass'. The information has also been shared on the Youth Council's MS Teams platform.</p>

GB shared information about the next 'meeting' which will be the end of term event, held in the Chamber on the 12/07/2024. Transport will be provided, and schools will have the chance to bring additional pupils to the audience of the event, as well as Youth Council members.

Dates of 2023-24 meetings:

~~Meeting 1; 20/10/23~~

~~Meeting 2; 02/02/24~~

~~Meeting 3; 20/03/24~~

End of office, Pawb a'i Farn Event; 12/07/23



Youth Council Flyer
2023.24 (Eng).pdf

GB thanked members for their attendance and engagement in the meeting.

GB asked all members to sign out on their way out of Penmorfa and wait for their transport in the reception area.

Youth Council meeting minutes are presented to both the Learning Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Full Cabinet, in order to ensure that the views of young people are fed into the democratic process in Ceredigion.



Partneriaeth Sgiliau Rhanbarthol
Canolbarth Cymru
Mid Wales
Regional Skills Partnership

Ceredigion Youth Council

20/03/2024



Tyfu
Canolbarth Cymru
Growing
Mid Wales



Partneriaeth Sgiliau Rhanbarthol
Canolbarth Cymru
Mid Wales
Regional Skills Partnership

Regional Skills Partnership What is it?



Tyfu
Canolbarth Cymru
Growing
Mid Wales



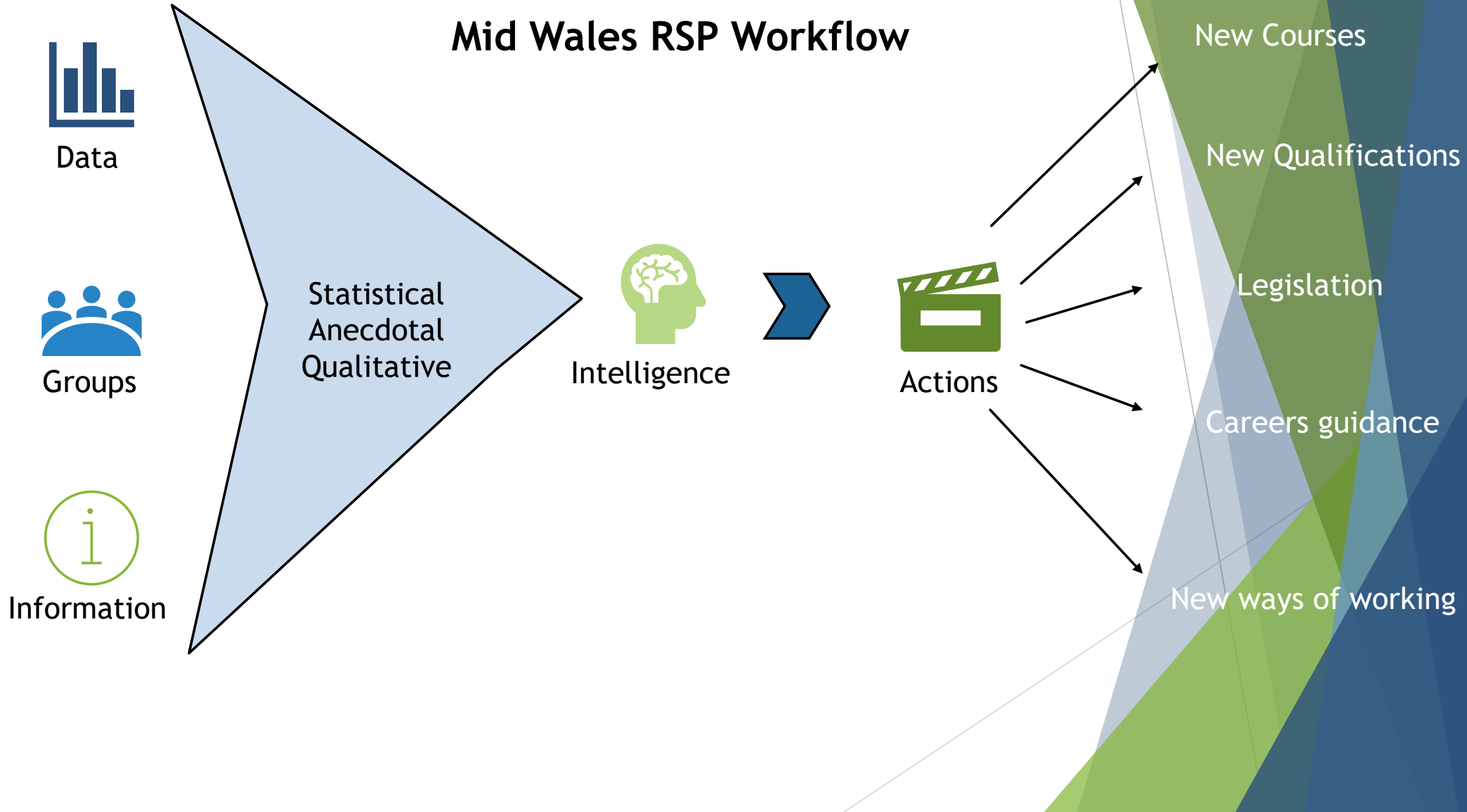
Objectives

- We work with employers to identify current and future skills needs across the region.
- We aim to bridge the gap between education and economic regeneration

What do we need to deliver?

- Produce and analyse labour market intelligence to inform current and future priorities
- Review regional skills provision – what courses colleges and training providers are delivering
- Influence decisions on skills, training and education – talking to WG about where the gaps are
- Act as a strategic body that represents regional interests

Mid Wales RSP Workflow



Industry Cluster Groups

Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering

Agriculture

Construction & Energy

Digital

Food & Drink

Health & Social Care

Public Sector

Tourism & Leisure

Transport & Logistics

Support Cluster Groups

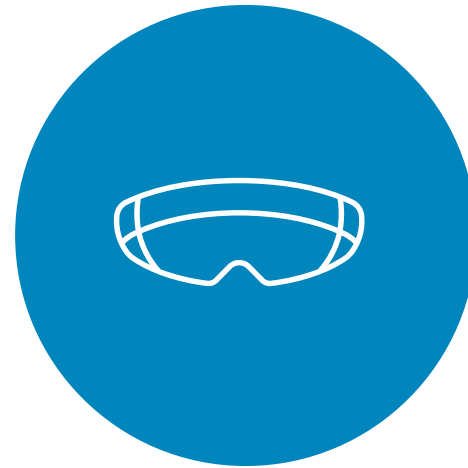
Provider - FE, HE & Employability
Programmes

Young Person's Guarantee

Current Projects

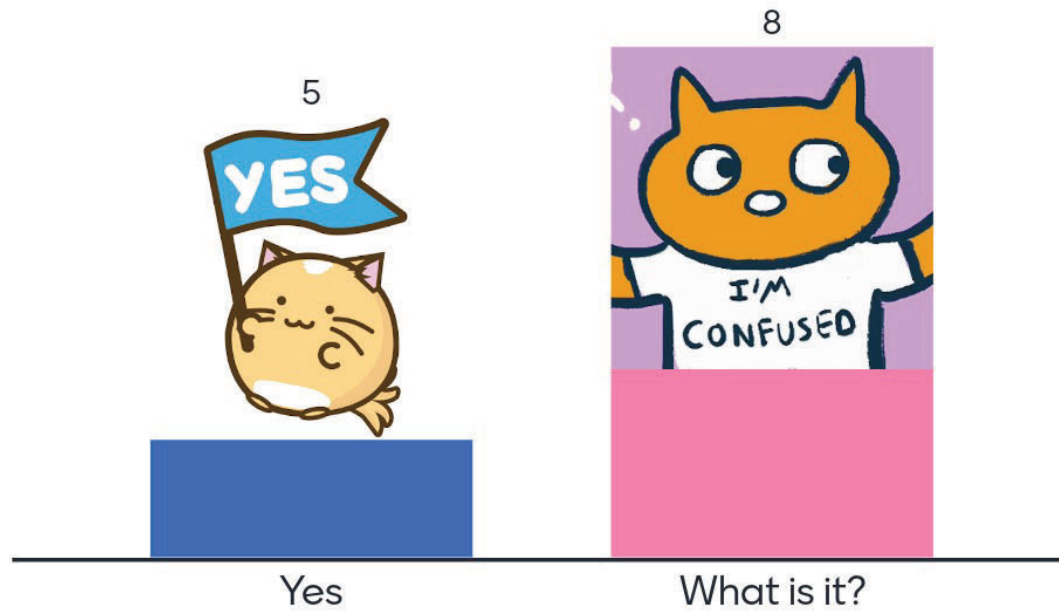


POST 14 CAREERS INFORMATION,
ADVICE & GUIDANCE

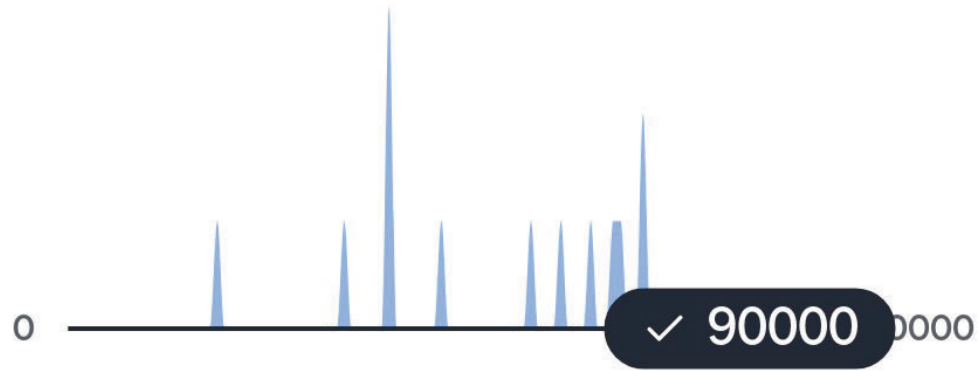


CAREERS IN 360

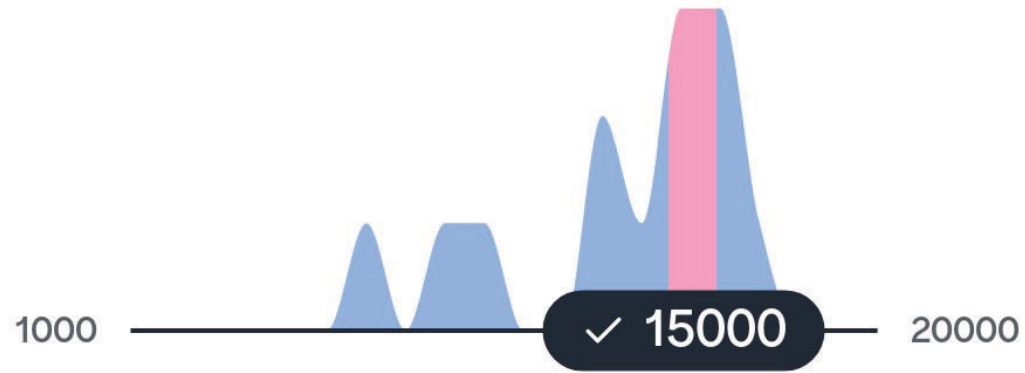
Have you used Mentimeter before?



How many people work in Mid Wales?



How many people are working in Agriculture in the region?



What do you think would effect jobs growth in the agricultural sector?

the Welsh government plans

Welsh Government funding

The government asking for more and more farmers land

Because od the 10% tree planting plan

The new tree planting law per acerage

Better pay

Government plans and funding

Funding

What do you think would effect jobs growth in the agricultural sector?

the government plans

Laws

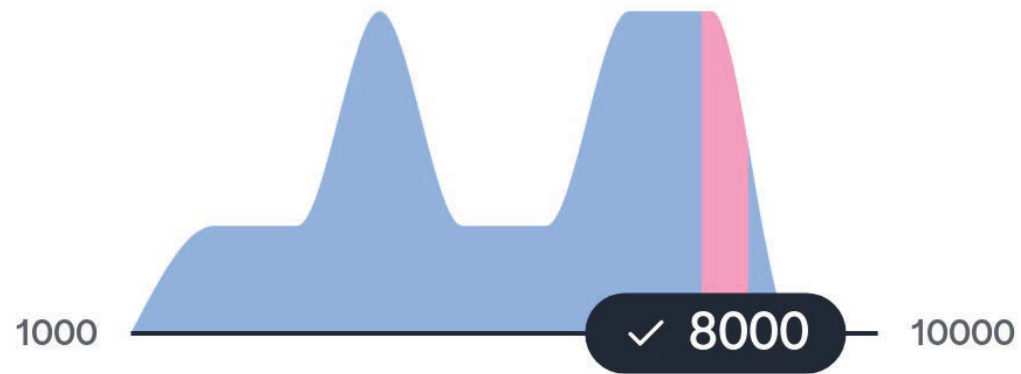
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10



Manufacturing & Engineering - how many people are working in this sector in Mid Wales?



What are the issues that our Mid Wales businesses are experiencing which are affecting growth?

the economy

Inflation, and lack of tourism

Cost of materials increasing

Importz

people not buying local

Cost of living crisis

Cost of fuel

Funding and pay, travel and accessibility

What are the issues that our Mid Wales businesses are experiencing which are affecting growth?

Funding, change in community needs, change in amount of people coming in and out of the area

More people prefer to live on the coast which causes less people to wish to visit local businesses or work there

Cost of living

Online use

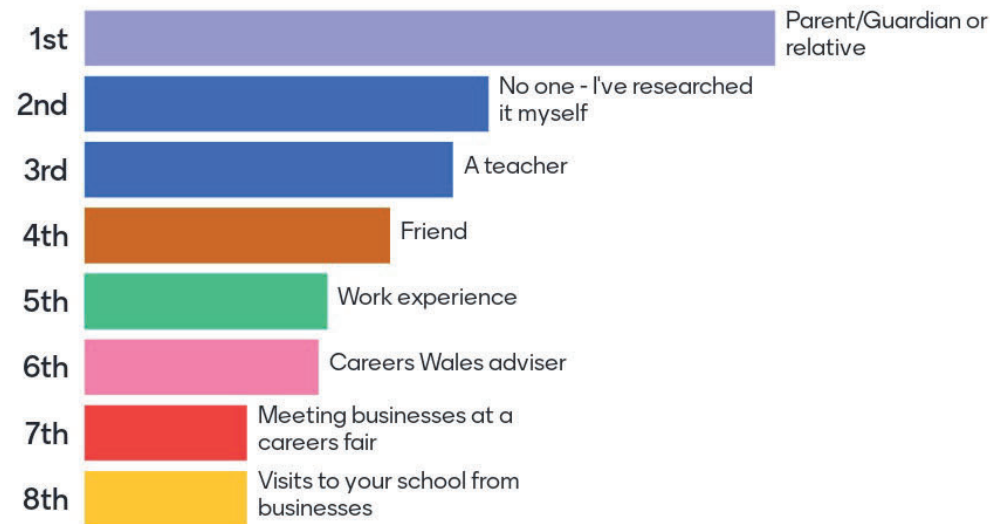
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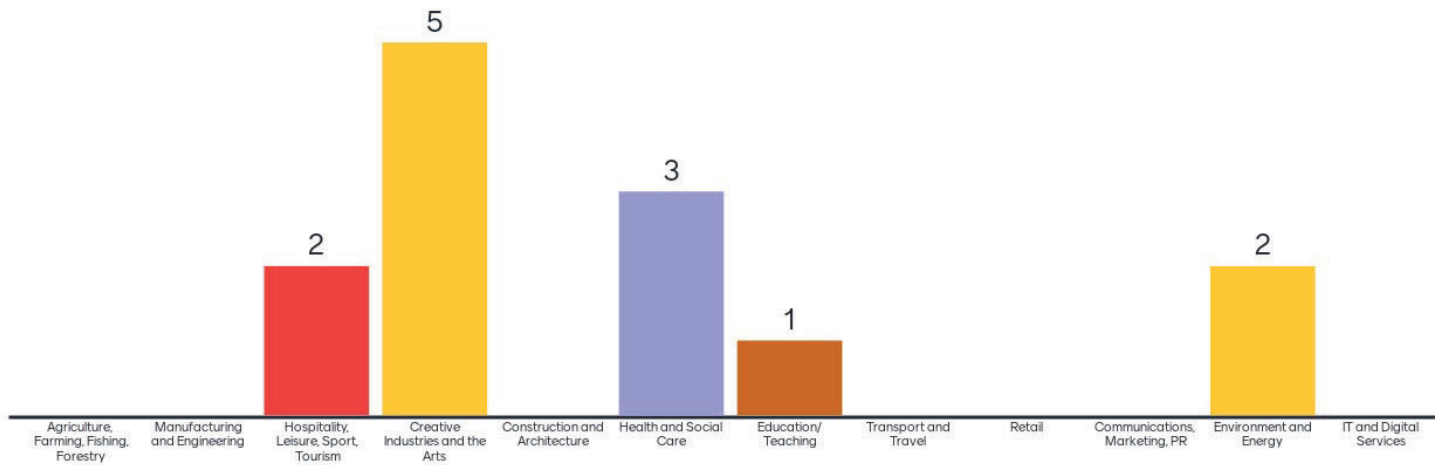
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Can you tell us who the key people are in helping you to decide about your future?



What sector or industry do you see yourself working in?

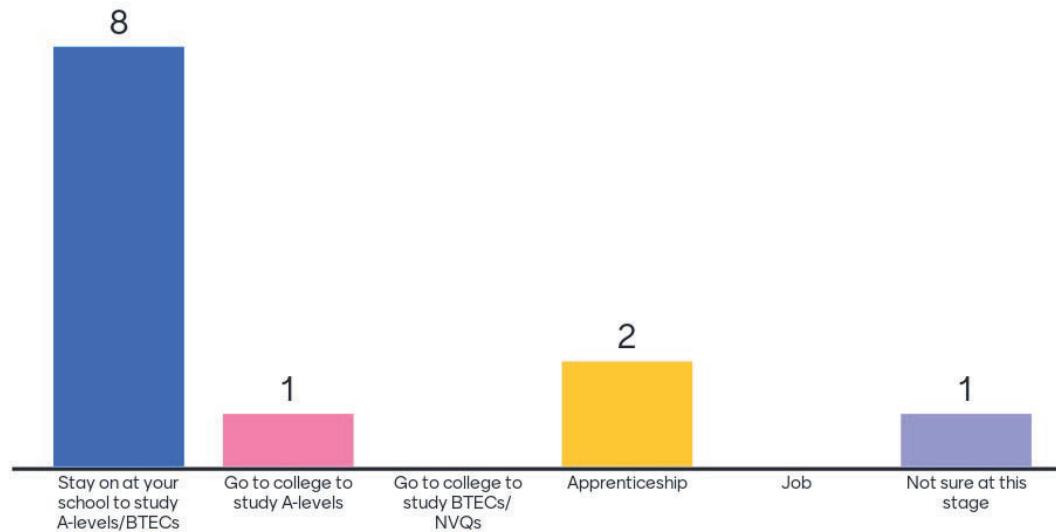


Any other sector you'd be interested in working in?

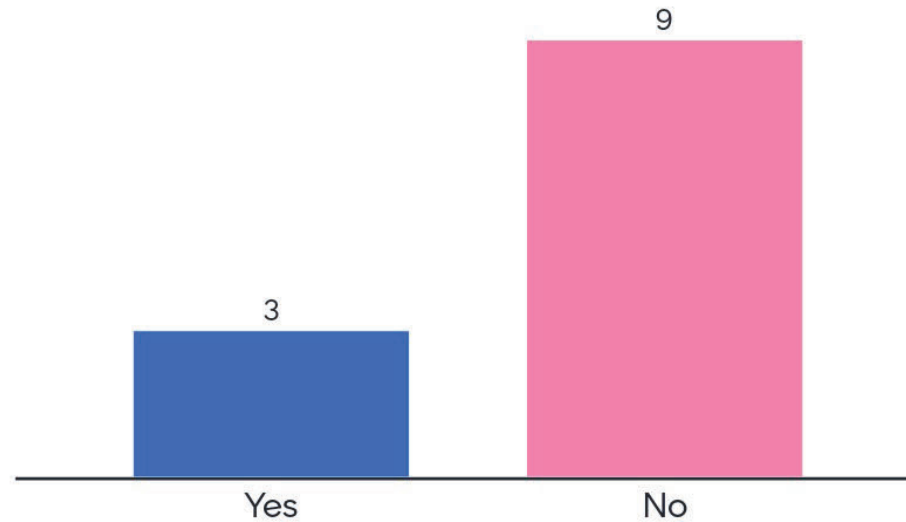
20 responses



What do you think you will do post 16?



When you were in years 10 and 11 did you do any unpaid work experience?



If you did who organised it for you?

Did not do it

I organised it myself as I had no help from anyone else

my parents are trying to organise a work experience for me

I organised it myself

It was out of school so me

Myself mostly with support from parents

We were told that the local authorities didn't allow it

Tutor

2



8



Where do you see yourself living in 5 years time?

Gwynedd

London or bristol

Different country

in uni - probably Cardiff

No clue :)

I see myself in England due to the lack of apprenticeships in Wales

cardiff or outside wales for a bit

In ceredigion

3



11



Where do you see yourself living in 5 years time?

Cardiff

In university somewhere

In a city or ideally abroad

3



11



What would you like schools careers advice and guidance to look like?

Fun activities about the job sector to encourage people to join

Supportive

To be encouraging and supportive of students chosen career paths

Work experience!

Encouragement and support of students chosen career paths

Face to face

Fun little activities and surveys. Its too formal and feels forced now

Support for students wanting to work in the arts!!

What would you like schools careers advice and guidance to look like?

Work experience

be more helpful and giving all the options i can do

I don't go to school I am home educated

Face to face but to be ready to offer it whenever and not require a long wait

More frequent discussions and experience

more specific to individuals. face to face chat. there is less advice for yr11 that are staying for a levels

Not everyone gets it. So not everyone has had the advice. But it is face to face at our school

Open and honest guidance on a wide range of career paths, not advocating certain local employers or businesses, to give people with no clue a broad idea

What would you like schools careers advice and guidance to look like?

Have the resources
about different
businesses

People from all different
sectors come in to talk
about their jobs

advice on what a levels to
pick for future career

5



10



What are your thoughts on Careers in 360

I love it, I feel as though it is more supportive than the actual careers advisor

Very interesting, I would use it in the future if given the chance

Good. Works really well. Especially for those who dont work well socially

Would've loved to have it when picking my career

Very cool! Shows in depth look into industries

would be better if we had careers advice face to face but would be useful

good for people that don't know what they want to do or have no idea how to get into a career

It makes the resources much more accessible to everyone



What are your thoughts on Careers in 360

Looks really good and gives a better view on the real work life than just talking to a careers advisor.

It will help so much for people that have social anxiety

It could be a useful aid for face to face careers advice

It seems very useful



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Youth Council environment sub group

Draft £500 Project Plan

Item / Discussion		Decision / Rationale	Actions	Officer
1.	Subgroup to meet and agree a project proposal 20.3.24	<p>Following the last youth council meeting where three ideas were proposed; on investigation and due to current changes in policy/legislation it was felt that the litter pick and litter pick hubs support would be the most realistic 1st project to achieve.</p> <p>The other two ideas were: 1) Plastic Bottle exchange scheme and 2) Specific bins for recycling cardboard e.g. pizza boxes. These ideas will be re-visited in the future.</p>	Prepare draft project template for group discussion	GB
2.	Arrange meeting with Keep Wales Tidy Officer for West Wales – Richard Thomas	<p>Discuss options to extend the scheme Llandysul and New Quay Libraries? (work with youth groups in the areas) Or Look to raise awareness with current schemes in Aberaeron, Aberystwyth, Cardigan and Lampeter?</p> <p>Priority identified to target support for existing Hubs and possibly target a new Hub in Llandysul.</p> <p>If possible to establish a new HUB, Sub group members will work with local known partners to help establish the new HUB. Partners suggested: Plethu, Tysul Youth and 'Yr Ardd'.</p>	<p>Arrange meeting with Keep Wales Tidy: West Wales Officer Richard Thomas</p> <p>Target the month of April</p> <p>Tuesday evening: 4pm – 4.30pm Or School registration time: 8.45am – 9.15am</p>	GB
3.	Purchase New Equipment	<p>Purchase Kit Equipment for the new hubs or support existing ones? How much of the budget on equipment? Each kit contains:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • litter grabbers • refuse and recycling bags for collected materials • bag hoops to help keep the bags open in the field • hi-vis vests to keep our hero volunteers safe when out and about <p>Kit Equipment to be purchased to support existing HUBS and potentially a New Hub. Decision will be made following a meeting with Keep Wales Tidy</p>	Kit Purchase TBC	GB

4.	Produce Marketing materials	<p>Create promotional materials to promote the scheme locally.....what promotional materials would help? Flyers, etc.?</p> <p>Create flyers to prevent dropping rubbish in the first place – to be shared with schools and youth groups</p> <p>Posters to promote the scheme</p> <p>Link to current media outlets within the LA – social media, website and press release</p>	<p>Create flyer to prevent dropping rubbish</p> <p>Costings for reprographics posters/flyers</p>	<p>Subgroup</p> <p>GB</p>
5.	Arrange Summer Litter Picks	<p>Arrange litter pick(s) days to promote the scheme in the summer holidays in Llandysul and/or New Quay or one/two of the other area hubs? Where and what dates?</p> <p>Two litter picks during the summer holidays – one at the beginning and one at the end. Location to be confirmed as project develops</p>	<p>Select two locations for litter picks TBC</p> <p>Arrange two litter picks for summer holidays</p>	<p>Subgroup</p> <p>GB</p>
6.	Produce and share Press Release	<p>End of project press release to include photo of litter picks</p>		<p>GB</p>

Ymgyrch Cyngor Ieuenctid Ceredigion
'Rhoi Dy Farn 2024'
Ceredigion Youth Council Campaign

Canlyniadau / Results



Cyfanswm nifer
o bleidleisiau /
Total number of
votes:

2,031

Pwnc Llosg / Hot Topic	Cyfanswm / Total	Safle/Ranking
Tai Fforddiadwy - mae angen mwy o fynediad ar bobl ifanc i dai fforddiadwy boed prynu neu rentu / Affordable Housing - young people need greater access to affordable homes whether buying or renting	415	1af / 1st
Iechyd Meddwl a Lles - mae angen gwneud mwy i fynd i'r afael â fêpio a bwlio (gan gynnwys diogelu ar-lein) / Mental Health and Wellbeing - more needs to be done to tackle vaping and bullying (including safeguarding online)	405	2ail / 2nd
Argyfwng Costau Byw - mae angen adolygu a gostwng y trothwy i gael mynediad at y Lwfans Cynhaliath Addysg (LCA) / Cost of Living Crisis - the threshold to access the Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA) needs to be reviewed and lowered	404	3ydd / 3rd
Trafnidiaeth - mae angen i fysiau redeg yn rheolaidd a bod yn fwy fforddiadwy, gadewch i ni gefnogi cerdyn bws teithio disgownt / Transport - buses need to run regular and be more affordable, let's support a discount travel bus card	250	4ydd / 4th
Amgylchedd: Newid Hinsawdd - mae angen mwy o wybodaeth arnom am gamau priodol i helpu gyrraedd targed 'Cymru Sero Net' erbyn 2050 / Environment: Climate Change - we need more information on appropriate steps to help reach 'Net Zero Wales' target by 2050	215	5ed / 5th
Gofodion Ieuenctid - mae angen mwy o 'fannau diogel' i bobl ifanc gyfarfod yn eu cymuned leol / Youth Spaces - there needs to be more 'safe spaces' for young people to meet in their local community	145	6ed / 6th
Gwasanaethau Cefnogi Ieuenctid - mwy o gefnogaeth i ofalwyr ifanc, pobl ifanc sydd wedi ymddieithrio oddi wrth aelodau teulu a mwy o gyfleoedd hunangyfeirio i wasanaethau cwnsela / Youth Support Services - more support for young carers, young people who have become estranged from family members and greater opportunities for self-referral to counselling services	105	7fed / 7th
Hybu'r Iaith Gymraeg - mae angen gwneud mwy i hybu'r iaith gyda phobl ifanc / Promoting the Welsh language - more needs to be done to promote the language with young people	92	8fed / 8th
Cyfanswm Pleidleisiau / Total Votes	2,031	

Comisiynydd Plant Cymru

Children's Commissioner for Wales



**Comisiynydd
Plant Cymru**

Children's
Commissioner
for Wales



Cyngor Sir
CEREDIGION
County Council



GWASANAETH
IEUENCTID **CEREDIGION** YOUTH
SERVICE

Comisiynydd
Plant Cymru

Children's
Commissioner
for Wales

Welsh -

<https://youtu.be/PXRPu8yB1fk>

English -

<https://youtu.be/Y02Me3VzVec>



**Comisiynydd
Plant Cymru**

Children's
Commissioner
for Wales



Rocio Cifuentes yw Comisiynydd Plant Cymru.

Dechreuodd Rocio Cifuentes fel Comisiynydd ym mis Ebrill 2022. Hi fydd y Comisiynydd Plant am saith mlynedd.

Ei swydd yw diogelu a hyrwyddo hawliau plant yng Nghymru.

Rocio Cifuentes is the Children's Commissioner for Wales.

She started in post in April 2022, and will be the Children's Commissioner for seven years.

Her job is to promote and protect children's rights in Wales.

Interested in making a positive change by representing the voices of Ceredigion's young people?
Join Ceredigion Youth Council 2023 - 2024!

Cymraeg Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg
 This document is also available in Welsh



Meeting dates:	To include:
20.10.23	Elect New Chairperson
02.02.24	Ceredigion's Young People Local Ballot
20.03.24	Ceredigion's Local Ballot Results
12.07.24	'Pawb A'i Farn Ceredigion 2024' Event



CYNGOR IEUENCTID CEREDIGION YOUTH COUNCIL

At Ceredigion County Council Chamber Penmorfa, Aberaeron



For further information contact:
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