

# INFORMATION PACK AND QUESTIONNAIRE

CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE OF THE  
FRONDEG HOME, MAESINCLA, CAERNARFON

**Proposal to develop a new accommodation  
model in Caernarfon for  
adults with a learning disability**



 [www.gwynedd.gov.uk/Frondegquestionnaire](http://www.gwynedd.gov.uk/Frondegquestionnaire)



# INFORMATION PACK FOR THE CONSULTATION

**Before filling in the questionnaire, please read this information pack.**

As part of the consultation process on the future of Y Frondeg registered care home, Maesincla, Caernarfon, with the intention of developing a new accommodation model for adults with a learning disability, we are encouraging stakeholders (namely service users, their families, carers, members of staff and relevant organisations) to express their opinion by filling in the questionnaire which follows the information below.

## INTRODUCTION

On 14 July 2015, Gwynedd Council's Cabinet decided to hold a formal consultation on the future of Y Frondeg home.

Y Frondeg is a registered care home for 10 individuals with a learning disability.

The Cabinet report and appendices are available on the following link:  
**[www.gwynedd.gov.uk/Frondegreport](http://www.gwynedd.gov.uk/Frondegreport)**

The formal consultation will invite stakeholders to share their opinions and comments on the Council's preferred option regarding the future of Y Frondeg.

## WHY IS CHANGE NECESSARY?

The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 will come into force in April 2016. The Act provides a legal framework to improve the welfare of those who need care and assistance, carers who need assistance, and transform social services in Wales by promoting people's independence, and giving control and a strong voice.

The Council is continuing in the direction to improve the quality of life of individuals with a learning disability.

This will be carried out by implementing Gwynedd Council's Accommodation Transformation Programme for Adults with a Learning Disability, in accordance with the Learning Disability Commissioning Plan 2011-2016 and the Welsh Government Strategy – 'Policy and Practices for Adults with Learning Disabilities' 2007.

Y Frondeg registered home provides a high standard of care however; it is not a model that gives individuals the opportunity to have full control of their lives.

It does not comply with some of the regulations of the Care Act 2000, which is regulated in Wales by the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW)

It does not conform with the Welsh Government's Strategy or Gwynedd Council's vision. The current situation is not sustainable for the future.

It is the Council's responsibility to ensure the best possible resources for current and future service users.

It is important that the resources are of the highest possible standard, comply with the principles of the Learning Disability Strategy, are cost-effective, and are sustainable for the future. Consideration also needs to be given to the financial challenge that faces Gwynedd Council.

## **WHICH OPTIONS HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED?**

Six options were identified following a feasibility study of the Frondeg site.

Further engagement work was undertaken with the main stakeholders, namely the residents of Y Frondeg, their families and the staff, in order to provide an opportunity to identify further options. A response was received stating that the options identified were comprehensive and no additional options were proposed. A report was presented to the Council's Cabinet on the 14<sup>th</sup> of July.

Further work has been undertaken to evaluate the implications of every option in the context of the requirements of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, the Welsh Government's Learning Disability Strategy and the financial challenge that Gwynedd Council is facing, noting the strengths and weaknesses of the six options. (For the full list see link: [www.gwynedd.gov.uk/Frondegreport](http://www.gwynedd.gov.uk/Frondegreport))

The results of the evaluation are shown in the table below, summarising how the Council has come to the conclusion to favour **Option 5**:

The 6 Options	Meets requirement of CSSIW	Gwynedd Council's Vision	Welsh Government Strategy	Planning for the future	Proposed Savings
<b>Option 1</b> Continue with existing arrangements, undertake only essential maintenance work to the building (10 residents)	X	X	X	X	X
<b>Option 2</b> Adapt the Y Frondeg building to meet CSSIW requirements (10 residents)	✓	X	X	X	X
<b>Option 3</b> Make full use of the building and adapt it to meet CSSIW requirements for 14 residents	✓	X	X	✓	✓
<b>Option 4</b> Make full use of the building and adapt it to meet CSSIW requirements for 14 residents ( with unit for individuals with complex needs)	✓	X	X	✓	✓
<b>Option 5</b> Develop new purpose-built accommodation on-site for 16 residents	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Option 6</b> Re-locate existing residents in local supported accommodation and bring the use of the building as a residential home to an end	✓	✓	✓	X	✓

The first four options offer various adaptations to the existing Frondeg building; despite substantial expenditure, these options would not conform to the Wales Strategy or the Council's vision in the long-term. Options 2, 3 and 4 would cause significant disruption for the residents during the construction work.

Option 5 and Option 6 conform to the Council's strategy and vision; however Option 6 does not offer provision for the future, only for Frondeg's current residents.

Option 5 offers a purpose-built modern provision for current and future service users and provides an opportunity for developing expertise to meet the complex needs of individuals with a learning disability in Gwynedd. Option 5 also contributes to the financial challenge facing Gwynedd Council.

## **THE COUNCIL'S PREFERRED OPTION, AND WHY**

- **Option 5 - Develop a new modern and purpose-built accommodation model for 16 people with a learning disability on the site near the existing home .**

### **Why is Option 5 preferred?**

- It complies with both the regional and the Welsh Government strategy, along with the Council's vision for people with a learning disability.
- It plans for an increase in demand for the future, and gives individuals who live in out-of-county locations the opportunity to return to live in Gwynedd.
- Develops an expertise in Gwynedd to support individuals with complex needs.
- Develops expert provision for specific fields e.g. autism
- Gives individuals an opportunity to have a tenancy and promote their independence, choice and control.
- The current residents would continue to live in Y Frondeg whilst the new development was being built.
- Provides a bilingual service, which corresponds with the 'More than Words' Strategy.
- The current staff at Y Frondeg would continue to provide the support in the new accommodation.
- As soon as the new development opens, the use of Frondeg as a registered residential home will come to an end.
- More financial control for the tenants to enable them to live full independent lives.
- Substantial financial savings for the Council by funding a new service model which enables us to support individuals with complex needs.
- Care can be provided to ensure that we meet the individual's needs rather than those of a group.

- Makes better use of assistive technology.
- A better opportunity to support service users to reach their potential in the community.
- Boosts the local economy.
- Opportunities to develop the skills and expertise of staff locally.
- The current staff will provide stability and support for the residents through the period of change.

## **FURTHER MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED**

Need to identify a partner for investment in the building development.

There could be a financial risk with Option 5 of failing to achieve savings, if it was not possible to find 16 tenants but the Adults Service has measures in place to minimise this risk.

The Council's Cabinet is of the opinion that the benefits of Gwynedd residents being able to return to live in the county; along with offering a bilingual provision, also outweigh the risk.

## **WHAT WOULD THIS MEAN FOR Y FRONDEG RESIDENTS?**

The current residents would continue to live at Y Frondeg whilst the new development was being built.

The residents would receive support by the current workforce throughout the development period, and would continue to receive support at the new development.

During the consultation, one-to-one meetings will be arranged with the residents and their families, if they so wish, to discuss the options, and an advocacy service will be available to residents.

## **WHAT WOULD THIS MEAN FOR THE STAFF?**

Y Frondeg staff would continue to work in the present home whilst the new development was being built, and then move to provide care at the new development.

The staff will be an important part of the consultation.

## **HOW TO RESPOND TO THE CONSULTATION**

The consultation will commence on 14 September 2015 for a period of 6 weeks, until 23 October 2015.

Appropriate support, including an advocacy service will be provided as required. This information pack and questionnaire will be available to all stakeholders.

During the consultation period, relevant Council officers will be available to meet with stakeholders individually if they so wish, namely Y Frondeg residents, their families, and service users who currently live in out-of-county placements, to receive opinions and comments.

You can take part in this consultation by completing the questionnaire and returning to the Council's office, or it can be completed online by visiting:

**[www.gwynedd.gov.uk/Frondegquestionnaire](http://www.gwynedd.gov.uk/Frondegquestionnaire)**

If you would like to receive the information pack and questionnaire in a different language or format, contact **01286 679 322**.

Should the Cabinet approve the way forward, you will have an opportunity to be part of further discussions regarding the type of accommodation model to be developed by including your contact details on the questionnaire.

## **THE NEXT STEPS**

The information collected from the consultation will be analysed at the end of the consultation period.

It is intended to present the findings in a report to the Council's Cabinet in December 2015 or January 2016, to obtain their decision on the future of Y Frondeg home.

There will be no final decision on the future provision at Y Frondeg until the findings of the consultation have been received and considered by the Cabinet.

The Equality Act 2010 places a responsibility on the Council to consider the impact of the decision on individuals and affected groups.

A comprehensive Equality Impact Assessment has been developed for the consultation; it will be part of the report on the findings and recommendations so the Cabinet can make a decision on the way forward.

# QUESTIONNAIRE

As part of the consultation process on the future of the Y Frondeg registered care home, Maesincla, Caernarfon, and the proposal to develop a new accommodation model for adults with a learning disability, we are encouraging service users, their families, carers, members of staff and relevant organisations to express their opinions by completing this questionnaire.

**I. In what role are you responding to this questionnaire? Place a cross (x) in the most relevant box.**

**a) Service user:**

- who lives at Y Frondeg
- who currently lives in an out-of-county location
- who is under 18 years old
- who is an adult over 18 years old

  
  
  

**b) Relative, carer or friend of an individual with a learning disability**

- who lives at Y Frondeg
- who currently lives in an out-of-county location
- who is under 18 years old
- who is an adult over 18 years old

  
  
  

**c) Gwynedd/Community Councillors**

**d) Member of staff who works in the Health, Care and Wellbeing sector**

**e) Gwynedd/Community Councillors**

**f) Member of an organisation, local group, society**

**Name:**

**g) Member of the Public**

**h) Other (please note)**

**2. Have you read the information attached which explains the reasons for conducting a formal consultation on the future of the home?**

Yes

No

**3. The Council has considered 6 options. Is there another cost-effective option(s) that you can think of that would respond to the needs of adults with a learning disability for the future?**

Yes

No

Explain if you have another option.

**4. The Council favours Option 5, namely:**

Develop a new modern and purpose-built accommodation model for 16 adults with a learning disability on the site next to the existing home.

The current use of Y Frondeg as a residential home will come to an end as soon as the new development is completed.

Do you support Gwynedd Council's intention to develop a new accommodation model for adults with a learning disability?

Yes

No

No opinion

Any comments

**5. If you do not support Option 5, which option do you prefer and why?**

Put a ✓ in one box

- Option 1** Continue with the current arrangements (10 individuals)
- Option 2** Adapt to meet CSSIW requirements (10 individuals)
- Option 3** Make full use of the building and adapt it to meet CSSIW requirements (14 individuals)
- Option 4** Make full use of the building and adapt it to meet CSSIW requirements (14 individuals, with unit for individuals with complex needs )
- Option 6** Re-locate the current residents to local supported accommodation
- Other Option** If you have identified another option in response to question 3

Reason for your selection

**6. If a decision is made to develop a new accommodation model, what type of accommodation would you prefer?**

✓ or X

1. Your own individual property
2. Shared property - in a small group of 2/3
3. Shared property - in a larger group of 4/6
4. Other - describe

Other

**\* Question only for service users who are currently living outside Gwynedd.**

**7. If there were purpose-built modern accommodation facilities available in Gwynedd, would you be interested in returning to live in the county?**

Yes

No

Not sure

Explain why

**8. Do you have any further comments?**

***Any information you provide will be kept confidential. It will not be possible to identify individuals in any report.***

## 9. Contact Details

If you wish to take part in any further discussions, please complete the following section.

Name:

Address:

Tel. No.

E mail:

We would be grateful if you could complete your questionnaire and return it for the attention of the Engagement Manager by **23 October 2015**:

Wyn Meredydd Hughes  
Engagement Manager,  
Gwynedd Council Health, Care and Wellbeing Department  
Council Offices, Shirehall Street,  
Caernarfon, Gwynedd LL55 1SH

### Enquiries:

Tel: **01286 679 322**

E-mail: [wynmeredyddhughes@gwynedd.gov.uk](mailto:wynmeredyddhughes@gwynedd.gov.uk)

The questionnaire can also be completed online at:  
[www.gwynedd.gov.uk/Frondegquestionnaire](http://www.gwynedd.gov.uk/Frondegquestionnaire)

If you would like to receive the information pack and questionnaire in a different language or format, contact **01286 679 322**

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE CONSULTATION**

#### Note

Data Protection Act 1998: Gwynedd Council is the data controller for the purposes of the Act. The information on the form is for the purpose of corporate functions. It can be developed to other Council services and other relevant agencies in accordance with the Council's registration under the Act.