29 October, 2026

LLANELLI RURAL COUNCIL

Minute Nos: 222 – 230

At a Meeting of the **LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE** of the Llanelli Rural Council held at the Council Chamber, Vauxhall Buildings, Vauxhall, Llanelli and via remote attendance on Thursday, 29 October 2026, at 4.45 p.m.

Present: **Cllrs.**

N. Evans	J. S. Phillips
R. E. Evans	W. E. Skinner
S. N. Lewis	A. G. Stephens

Absent: D. M. Cundy, O. Williams.

222. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED that Cllr. R. E. Evans be appointed Chairman pro-tempore.

223. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. S. R. Bowen and T. M. Donoghue (Cllr. W. E. Skinner deputising).

224. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

225. MEGA DRIVE EVENT

Members received a presentation from the Apprenticeship Manager on the Mega Drive 2026 road safety initiative, a multi-agency educational programme aimed at pre- and newly-qualified drivers.

The initiative had been designed to improve awareness of the responsibilities associated with driving and promote safer driving practices. A range of agencies had delivered interactive sessions covering driver distractions, drink and drug driving, basic first aid, vehicle safety, breakdown procedures, speed awareness and practical driving experience. LRC Training had supported the programme by providing its Tenstar Truck Simulator, which demonstrated the dangers associated with HGV blind spots, unsafe overtaking and the shared responsibility of all road users.

The initiative sought to reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries on Carmarthenshire's roads through education and engagement with young drivers.

Following discussion, the Apprenticeship Manager was thanked for the presentation, and it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

226. EMPLOYABILITY SUPPORT PROGRAMME (ESP) AND JOBS GROWTH WALES + PROGRAMME (JGW+)

Members received a verbal update from the Deputy Clerk regarding the Employability Support Programme (ESP) procurement and the extension of the Jobs Growth Wales Plus (JGW+) programme.

It was reported that a statement published by the Welsh Government advising that the proposed ESP procurement would not proceed. Members were informed that the Welsh Government had instead agreed to extend the JGW+ contract until 31 March 2028, providing stability for programme delivery. Decisions regarding the future of grant-funded employability programmes would be considered as part of the Welsh Government's draft budget process, with further information expected in the spring.

The Deputy Clerk advised that this represented positive news for the council and its partners, providing approximately 18 months of certainty. Members were informed that the council remained in a strong position in its working relationships with Itec Training Solutions Limited and Coleg Sir Gar.

Following discussion, members thanked the Deputy Clerk for the update, and it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

227. JOBS GROWTH WALES + PROGRAMME

Members received an information report on the delivery of the Jobs Growth Wales+ Programme from the Youth Programme Manager.

A new Lead Worker had been appointed to the Llanelli centre, strengthening support and mentoring for young people participating in the programme. This expertise was expected to further strengthen and enhance the high-quality provision already offered to learners.

Learner progression remained strong, with an a current destination rate of 88.5% the highest achieved to date. Currently 62 young people were actively engaged across the Llanelli and Carmarthen centres with a further 5 waiting start dates. Increased referrals and enquiries had been received following the closure of a training provider in the local area.

Following the completion of another King's Trust Achieve Qualification cohort, members were informed that the qualifications would now undergo Internal Quality Assurance prior to submission in February 2027.

The Youth Employment Manager was thanked for the update, and it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

228. PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1960

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted, the following matters be considered in private and that the power of exclusion of the public under Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act, 1960 be exercised.

229. SKILLS ACADEMY WALES
(1) SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT 2026/27
(2) APPRENTICESHIP FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT – CONTRACT NO. 5

Members received an update from the Finance Manager on the Service Level Agreement for 2026/27 and also the Apprenticeship Framework Agreement – Contract No.5 entered into with NPTC Group of Colleges (NPTC) and Llanelli Rural Council (LRC Training - Delivery Partner Organisation) for the academic year 1 August, 2026 to 31 July, 2027.

RESOLVED that the information be noted and that the Service Level Agreement and the Apprenticeship Framework Agreement – Contract No.5 be endorsed.

230. APPRENTICESHIP PROCUREMENT

Members received a verbal update from the Apprenticeship Manager about the new apprenticeship programme commissioning process due to commence in August 2027.

The Apprenticeship Manager was thanked for the update, and it was

RESOLVED that the information be noted.

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The Meeting concluded at 5.05 p.m.

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The afore-mentioned Minutes were declared to be a true record of the proceedings and signed by the Chairman presiding thereat and were, on 10 November, 2026 adopted by the Council.