



Cyd-Bwyllgor Corfforedig  
Gogledd Cymru  
North Wales  
Corporate Joint Committee

# North Wales Corporate Joint Committee: FAQs

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# Governance and Structure

## What is a Corporate Joint Committee?

Corporate Joint Committees (CJC) are regional corporate local government entities. The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 created the framework for setting up the CJs in Wales and they were formally established on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021.

The four CJs in Wales are:

- [The North Wales Corporate Joint Committee](#) (Anglesey, Gwynedd, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Wrexham)
- [The Mid Wales Corporate Joint Committee](#) (Ceredigion, Powys)
- [The South East Wales Corporate Joint Committee](#) (Cardiff, Monmouthshire, Blaenau Gwent, Bridgend, Caerphilly, Merthyr Tydfil, Newport, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Torfaen, The Vale of Glamorgan)
- [The South West Wales Corporate Joint Committee](#) (Carmarthenshire, Neath Port Talbot, Pembrokeshire, Swansea)

## What functions/powers does the Corporate Joint Committee have?

Corporate Joint Committees are local government entities with similar, governance, and administrative structures as Local Authorities in Wales. They are required to comply with the same general duties as public sector organisations such as the Equalities and Human Rights, Wellbeing of Future Generations, Welsh Language Measure.

They have a statutory duty to produce a:

- Strategic Development Plan
- Regional Transport Plan

In addition, they have the power to do anything that will enhance or promote regional economic wellbeing. These functions came into force in June 2022 and the CJC has been meeting formally since January 2022 when it set its first budget. In addition to general statutory guidance further Regulations have come into force and specific statutory guidance to Corporate Joint Committees on some elements of work, for example, Regional Transport Plan guidance in July 2023.

## How operational is the Corporate Joint Committee?

The CJC is established as a corporate entity with its own constitutional and democratic arrangements, which are operational and being developed. Committee agendas and reports can be found on the Cyngor Gwynedd website [here](#) ([Browse meetings - North Wales Corporate Joint Committee](#).) In future, the CJC intends to procure its own committee management system and manage the publication of its own agendas and reports.

The CJC has established its Strategic Transport and Planning Sub-committees to undertake its statutory functions. The Strategic Transport Sub-committee has met, and work is underway to prepare the Regional Transport Plan in line with Welsh Government guidelines. The Strategic Development Plan is less advanced due to resource constraints. All statutory positions are currently being undertaken in a part-time capacity with the CEO role undertaken by the Growth Deal's Portfolio Director and the Monitoring Officer and Chief Finance Officer at Cyngor Gwynedd appointed to these roles by the CJC also. A Project Implementation Board has been established and is tasked with completing the establishment work and achieving operational delivery.

The North Wales Growth Deal was successfully transferred to the CJC on 1 April 2025. One of the key tasks that will enable the CJC to fully operationalise is the transfer of the Growth Deal, its funding and the PMO officers responsible for its delivery into the CJC organisation. The CJC has also been designated as the Accountable Body for the North East Wales Investment Zone ([Covering Report - Investment Zone Update.pdf](#))

## What is the name of the CJC?

While the formal name is the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee, the CJC will adopt the name and branding of Ambition North Wales. This was approved at the CJC Board meeting held on the 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2023 - [CJC Branding](#).

## Who sits on the CJC?

The Leaders of each Council of the six Local Authorities in North Wales constitute the membership of the CJC. The Chair of Eryri National Park Authority is also a member with a right to speak and to vote on matters specifically related to the strategic planning function and its specific budget. These are determined by Regulations.

Although called "Corporate Joint Committees" the CJC is a stand-alone body that has exclusive statutory responsibility for its own functions. It can establish and appoint sub-committees with delegated functions. It determines the scope of delegation, but some key decisions are designated for the CJC only by law, for example setting the budget and adopting the SDP and the RTP. It is also required to appoint a Governance and Audit and a Standards Sub Committee.

Except for the core membership all other members are co-opted by the CJC into its membership and that of its sub committees. This includes not only other elected members but also representatives of partner or stakeholder organisations.

## What is the proposed governance structure?

The CJC's sub-committees are being established as part of the CJC implementation project. These are:

- Strategic Transport
- Strategic Planning
- Economic Well-being
- Governance and Audit
- Standards

Other sub-committees may be required in the future. The way in which the scrutiny of the CJC occurs will also change. It will have its own Governance and Audit Sub-Committee as well as a proposed regional Joint Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The constituent Councils retain responsibility for Overview and Scrutiny arrangements.

Delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal has been transferred into the CJC as of 1 April 2025. The Economic Well-being sub-committee has assumed the role of the Economic Ambition Board (EAB) albeit within the CJC framework. It has substantially the same delegated functions as the EAB model and the advisory framework such as the Executive Officers Group is to remain in place although this will need to be reviewed and updated. Notwithstanding that it is designated a sub-committee the six Local Authority Leaders will constitute the membership of the Economic Well-being Sub-Committee together with co-optees from stakeholder bodies.



## What staffing structure will the CJC have?

The CJC has a legal responsibility to appoint to the following roles:

- Chief Executive Officer
- Monitoring Officer (Legal)
- Section 151 Officer (Finance)

The Monitoring Officer and S151 Officer of Cyngor Gwynedd respectively Iwan Evans (Legal Monitoring Officer) and Dewi Morgan (Finance S151 Officer) have been appointed to undertake those roles by the CJC.

The Growth Deal Portfolio Management Office are employed by the CJC alongside the transfer of the Growth Deal and its funding.

The CJC has an agreed budget which allows for the recruitment of staff to support the planning and transport functions.

As with any organisation, the organisational design work for the CJC is being reviewed to ensure it is appropriate to deliver its functions effectively and is likely to change over time.

## Will the CJC be responsible for its own IT, data protection, FOI, HR, procurement, finance, and legal?

Yes, it will operate exactly as a Local Authority. However, initially most of these functions (IT, HR, Finance, Legal) will be provided through Cyngor Gwynedd under service level agreements.

## How is the CJC funded?

The CJC is a "levying body", and it is mainly funded through charging a levy on the six local authorities together with Eryri National Park Authority (which contributes only towards the Strategic Planning function). It can also receive grants from Welsh Government. In this respect the CJC is similar to the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority.

The CJC is required to set an annual budget by 31 January, and which will show how much of the CJC's income is to be obtained from the levy. A further decision is then made on apportioning and setting the levy to each of the constituent councils (and the NPA in aspect of Strategic Planning). For 2024/25 the levy was apportioned using the same population figures as were used by Welsh Government in the funding settlement for local authorities and although it is anticipated that this will continue in future years, this will need to be subject to an annual, unanimous decision by all members.

All current funding sources for the Growth Deal Portfolio Management Office have also transferred to the CJC as part of the transfer of the Growth Deal. This is a ring-fenced budget supported by a Delivery and Funding Agreement made with the Councils and education partners.

## What is its budget for the CJC?

The budget for the CJC for 2025-26 can be found here [Adroddiad Cyllideb 2025-26 - S.pdf](#)