

# Ruabon News Letter 359

01.02.2021



## **Calm after storm Christoph**

**(Another walk and more beautiful photos from Alison Hamlington)**

## £6.5m Flooding Support for Welsh Communities

Welsh Government Ministers have announced £6.5million to support local authorities and people affected by flooding during the Alert Level 4 lockdown.

The funding will allow local authorities to claim for the costs of responding to flooding including support to residents to address the immediate cost of water damage and replacing necessary belongings.

Welsh Government has already announced it will support households who have suffered flooding in their homes or were evacuated with payments of £500 and £1,000, similar to the support provided during storms Ciara and Dennis last year.

### Housing and Local Government Minister Julie James said:

*“Dealing with the damage caused by flooding is difficult enough, but having to deal with it in the midst of a pandemic is extremely challenging. This fund will enable local authorities to make payments to individuals to assist them to stay in their own homes safely, to minimise contacts and the spread of the virus. “Local authorities are working extremely hard to support people whose homes have been devastated by flooding and I want to offer my sympathy and support to everyone who has been affected.”*

### Finance Minister Rebecca Evans said:

*“We understand the devastating impacts that major flooding incidents have on communities, particularly during these challenging times.*

*“I am pleased that the additional funding we are announcing today will help local authorities to provide vital support to those affected.”*

## Ken Skates calls for UK Government plan of action on Welsh ports

Significant bureaucratic pressures faced by hauliers and businesses trading between GB and the EU is having a disproportionate impact on Welsh ports and action must be taken, Minister for Economy and Transport Ken Skates said today in a letter to the UK Government.

The increased burdens as a result of the UK Government's approach to exiting the EU has caused hauliers to avoid the "land bridge" between the Republic of Ireland and the continent, with more ferries being put on routes direct from the EU to Ireland.

There are also reports that freight traffic which used to travel between Wales and Northern Ireland via the Republic of Ireland, is now rerouting through the North of England or Scotland direct to Northern Ireland or is not travelling at all.

Low levels of traffic were expected at the start of the month, but as we near the end of the month reductions of between 50 – 70 per cent is of concern.

Ken Skates said: "The Welsh Government is committed to doing what we can to help businesses navigate and become confident with new border processes which have resulted from the choices the UK Government made about how to leave the EU. These processes are not teething troubles – they are the permanent consequence of the UK Government's choices.

"The systems involved are the responsibility of the UK Government, and we need to see detailed support and training to make sure businesses and hauliers are confident using new border processes to keep goods moving as efficiently and effectively as possible.

"Reports of the loss of the Northern Ireland freight transit represents a concern that the processes which UK Government have put in place are not sufficient to prevent disruption to traffic between Northern Ireland and Wales, which is unacceptable.

"I have written today to the UK Government to ask what their plan is for reversing this consistent reduction in Welsh ports. They must also outline how they propose to compensate those communities most impacted by the policy approach they have chosen.

"Welsh ports are the quickest and most efficient route between Ireland and the UK, and onward to the EU. I call on the UK Government to take action now to ensure these strategically important routes and the communities which depend on them are supported and protected."

## Welsh Government plans to make Wales litter and fly-tipping free.

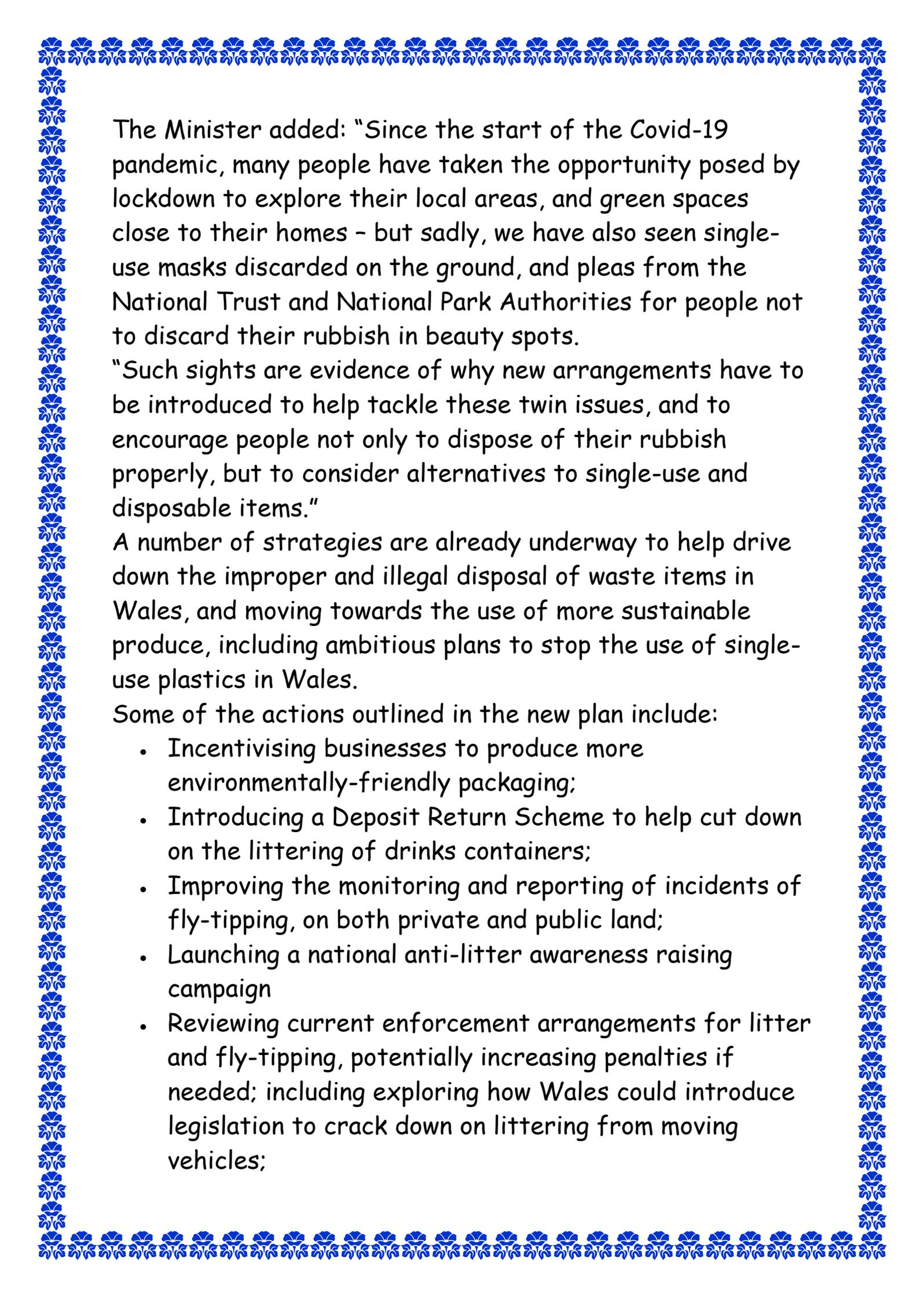
Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs Lesley Griffiths is calling on everyone to “play their part” in eliminating litter and fly-tipping from Wales’ cities, seas and countryside.

The Minister today (Thursday, January 28) launched her new plan: ‘*A Litter and Fly-tipping Free Wales*’, which outlines how the Welsh Government intends to crack down on the issue, while inviting anyone in Wales to submit their own ideas on how to tackle the problem.

Lesley Griffiths, the Minister for Environment, Energy and Rural Affairs, said: “There are no excuses for littering and fly-tipping. I want to see an end to these antisocial behaviours which are a blight on our streets, beaches and countryside, with the cost of clearing often borne by the public.

“As well as being unsightly and spoiling our enjoyment of our towns and countryside, litter - particularly plastic litter and fly-tipping - impacts our health and well-being, and threatens Wales’ wildlife and habitats alike, risking their loss not just for future generations, but for those alive in Wales today.

“The goals set out within the plan are far-sighted ambitions, and enforcement will play a key role-but enforcement alone isn’t enough to tackle these issues, and we will need everyone to play their part at every level of production, use and disposal to not only reduce litter, but to stop items from becoming litter in the first place.



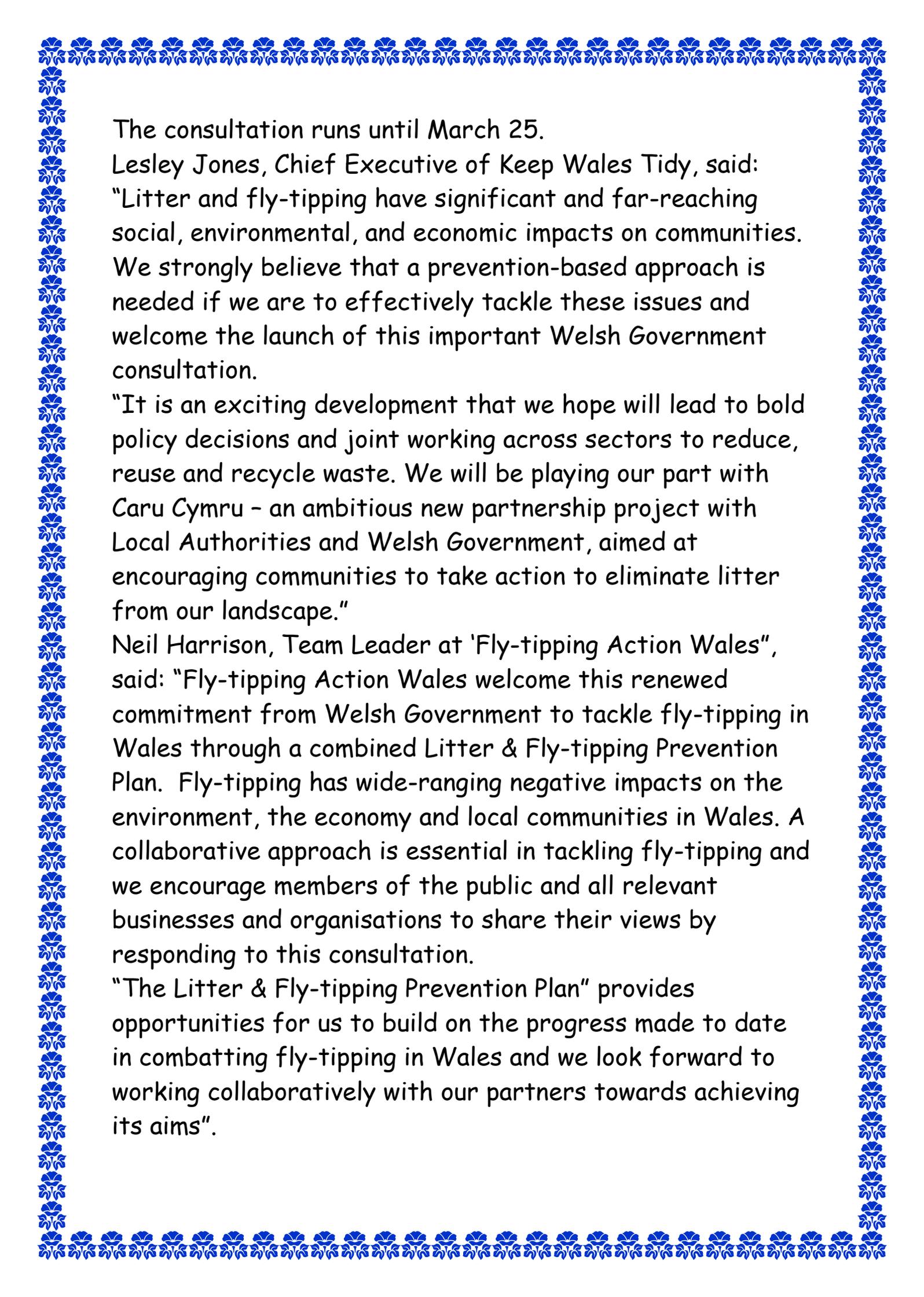
The Minister added: "Since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic, many people have taken the opportunity posed by lockdown to explore their local areas, and green spaces close to their homes - but sadly, we have also seen single-use masks discarded on the ground, and pleas from the National Trust and National Park Authorities for people not to discard their rubbish in beauty spots.

"Such sights are evidence of why new arrangements have to be introduced to help tackle these twin issues, and to encourage people not only to dispose of their rubbish properly, but to consider alternatives to single-use and disposable items."

A number of strategies are already underway to help drive down the improper and illegal disposal of waste items in Wales, and moving towards the use of more sustainable produce, including ambitious plans to stop the use of single-use plastics in Wales.

Some of the actions outlined in the new plan include:

- Incentivising businesses to produce more environmentally-friendly packaging;
- Introducing a Deposit Return Scheme to help cut down on the littering of drinks containers;
- Improving the monitoring and reporting of incidents of fly-tipping, on both private and public land;
- Launching a national anti-litter awareness raising campaign
- Reviewing current enforcement arrangements for litter and fly-tipping, potentially increasing penalties if needed; including exploring how Wales could introduce legislation to crack down on littering from moving vehicles;

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The consultation runs until March 25.

Lesley Jones, Chief Executive of Keep Wales Tidy, said: "Litter and fly-tipping have significant and far-reaching social, environmental, and economic impacts on communities. We strongly believe that a prevention-based approach is needed if we are to effectively tackle these issues and welcome the launch of this important Welsh Government consultation.

"It is an exciting development that we hope will lead to bold policy decisions and joint working across sectors to reduce, reuse and recycle waste. We will be playing our part with Caru Cymru - an ambitious new partnership project with Local Authorities and Welsh Government, aimed at encouraging communities to take action to eliminate litter from our landscape."

Neil Harrison, Team Leader at 'Fly-tipping Action Wales', said: "Fly-tipping Action Wales welcome this renewed commitment from Welsh Government to tackle fly-tipping in Wales through a combined Litter & Fly-tipping Prevention Plan. Fly-tipping has wide-ranging negative impacts on the environment, the economy and local communities in Wales. A collaborative approach is essential in tackling fly-tipping and we encourage members of the public and all relevant businesses and organisations to share their views by responding to this consultation.

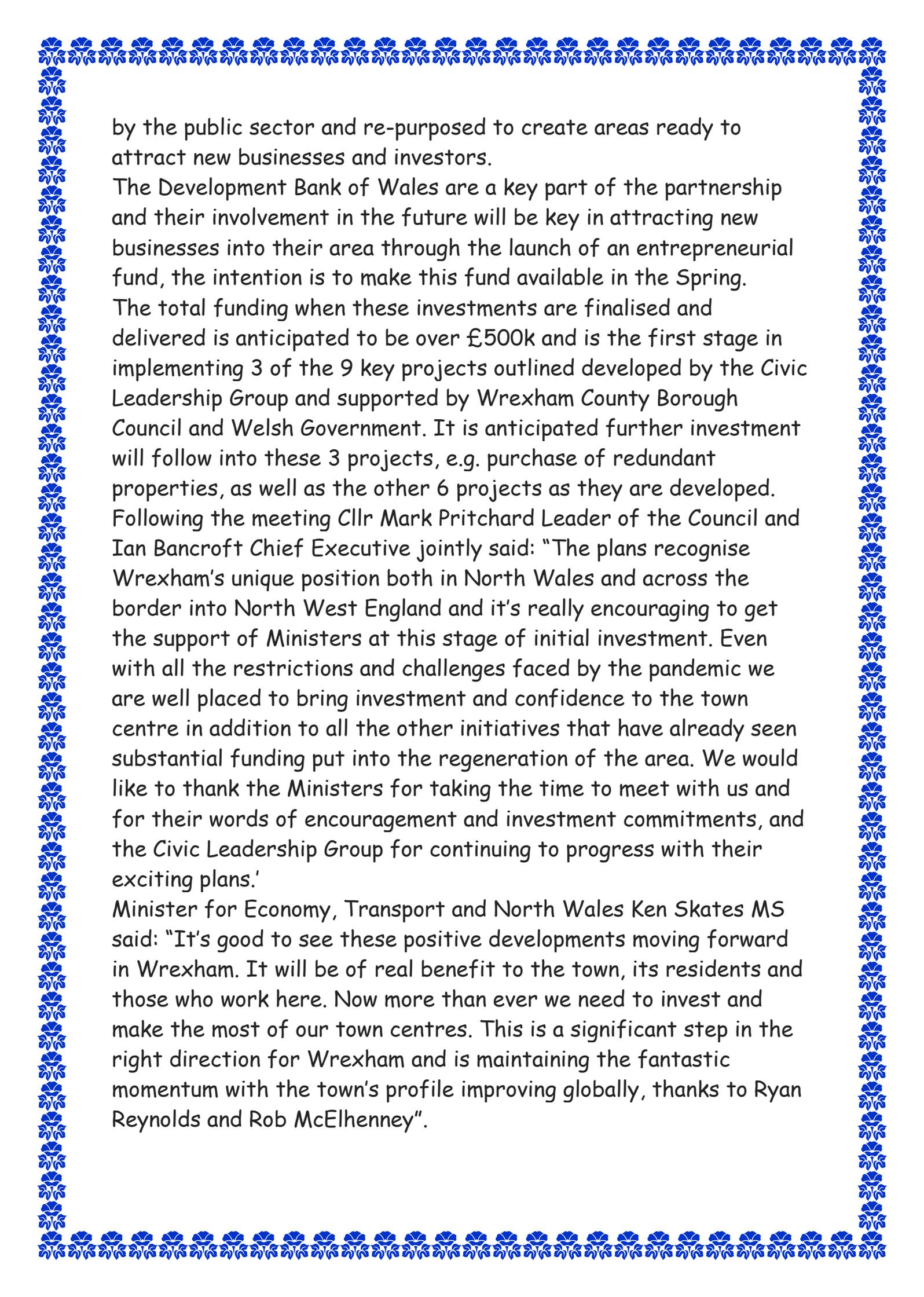
"The Litter & Fly-tipping Prevention Plan" provides opportunities for us to build on the progress made to date in combatting fly-tipping in Wales and we look forward to working collaboratively with our partners towards achieving its aims".

The following two items have been taken from  
'Wrexham Council News'



## Plans continue for the regeneration of Wrexham town centre.

This includes announcements of initial funding and timescales as part of the Welsh Government's "Transforming Towns" Programme. Following a very positive meeting the work of Wrexham's Civic Leadership Group (CLG) has been recognised and supported by Welsh Government, which means work will continue on the "Common Purpose", which aims to see the regeneration of the town centre through targeted investment and intervention. The work also support the wider development of the Welsh Government Transforming Towns programme with Wrexham being seen as one of a number leading towns in developing this programme. Ken Skates, MS, Minister for Economy, Transport and North Wales and Hannah Blythyn, MS, Deputy Minister for Housing and Local Government met with the Leader of the Council, Cllr Mark Pritchard and representatives of the CLG to discuss the plans for the future and how mutual working can see ambitious plans continue to progress. The initial work includes developing a strong brand and embarking on marketing and engagement to complement the ambitious plans and take Wrexham into the national arena. This work is ready to begin. A market appraisal is also about to begin which will look at key redundant sites in the town centre and how they can be purchased

A decorative border with a repeating blue floral pattern surrounds the text on all four sides.

by the public sector and re-purposed to create areas ready to attract new businesses and investors.

The Development Bank of Wales are a key part of the partnership and their involvement in the future will be key in attracting new businesses into their area through the launch of an entrepreneurial fund, the intention is to make this fund available in the Spring.

The total funding when these investments are finalised and delivered is anticipated to be over £500k and is the first stage in implementing 3 of the 9 key projects outlined developed by the Civic Leadership Group and supported by Wrexham County Borough Council and Welsh Government. It is anticipated further investment will follow into these 3 projects, e.g. purchase of redundant properties, as well as the other 6 projects as they are developed. Following the meeting Cllr Mark Pritchard Leader of the Council and Ian Bancroft Chief Executive jointly said: "The plans recognise Wrexham's unique position both in North Wales and across the border into North West England and it's really encouraging to get the support of Ministers at this stage of initial investment. Even with all the restrictions and challenges faced by the pandemic we are well placed to bring investment and confidence to the town centre in addition to all the other initiatives that have already seen substantial funding put into the regeneration of the area. We would like to thank the Ministers for taking the time to meet with us and for their words of encouragement and investment commitments, and the Civic Leadership Group for continuing to progress with their exciting plans.'

Minister for Economy, Transport and North Wales Ken Skates MS said: "It's good to see these positive developments moving forward in Wrexham. It will be of real benefit to the town, its residents and those who work here. Now more than ever we need to invest and make the most of our town centres. This is a significant step in the right direction for Wrexham and is maintaining the fantastic momentum with the town's profile improving globally, thanks to Ryan Reynolds and Rob McElhenney".

Deputy Minister for Housing and Local Government Hannah Blythyn MS said: "The regeneration of Wrexham Town Centre is a prime of example of how we are supporting and securing the future of Welsh towns through our Transforming Towns programme. This project will not only boost sustainability, footfall and economic growth by creating jobs, homes and business opportunities but will have a beneficial impact on the wellbeing of the local community.

"By having a town centre first approach we can better connect our communities and ensure more people access our towns. I remain committed to transforming towns like Wrexham into community assets where people want to live, work and shop."

Recent work on major proposals for the Wrexham area have seen progress on the Wrexham Gateway project incorporating the train station and the football ground, plans for the Wrexham Museum to become the home of the Welsh Football Museum, Transforming Towns funding to develop and improve the town centre markets, and the £1.5 million of heritage funding awarded to restore and conserve many of Wrexham's historically important buildings making them attractive for local businesses and individuals.

The Civic Leadership Group for Wrexham was established in 2018 in partnership with Wrexham County Borough Council and is made up of Civic Leaders from a range of public and voluntary organisations and businesses in Wrexham who are united around an ambition to support Wrexham achieve its full potential, in particular through a focus on and investment in the town centre.

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## Information below from Wrexham County Borough Council:

"Plas Madoc estate office telephone number has changed to **01978 292061**. Please use this number to contact them and share this with anyone else who might need it".

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**EXTRA TIME! DEADLINE EXTENDED FOR PROJECT  
MANAGER APPLICATIONS AT WALES FIRST  
FOOTBALL MUSEUM.**

January 25, 2021

**We have extended our deadline for project manager applications until the 31<sup>st</sup> January, giving you extra time to get applications submitted.**



This temporary role exists within the Heritage Team based at Wrexham Museum part of the Regeneration Team of the Housing and Economy Department.

Wrexham Museum is one of Wales's largest regional museums and has a varied and innovative programme of temporary exhibitions often including objects from the UK's National Collections.

**The post holder** will project manage the circa £5m redevelopment of Wrexham Museum to include the new Football Museum for Wales which will be a major addition to the cultural landscape of north Wales and will tell the story of football in Wales.

**The post holder** will work with museum and council staff, the external project design team, the project steering group, external stakeholders, funders and the contractors to manage the redevelopment of the museum and ensure that the project achieves its objectives.

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## New Funding Announced

29.01.2021

**Following the announcement by the First Minister at lunchtime today, we were pleased to hear that there will be another round of funding to cover the period 25 January until the end of March 2021.**

We are waiting for details from Welsh Government about the eligibility criteria for the grants and as soon as we have this information we will send out details early next week via an update email.

Please note - in Wrexham the discretionary grant scheme covering the period December 2020 / January 2021 is now closed as it is fully subscribed. It is hoped that the new funding announced today covering February / March will be open for applications on 8<sup>th</sup> February as indicated on the Business Wales website.

The information above has been taken from Businessline Wrexham – Sorry it seems there are no updates to find as yet, either by phone or internet!

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**The following message is from Karen Long, (communications BCUHB). It refers to the attached PDF document Welcome to the Engagement Team's January Covid Conversations newsletter, part of our "monthly dialogue". The newsletter aims to keep in touch with you and provide key Health Board and partner information to keep communities safe during this challenging period. We are keen to reach as many people as possible and would be grateful if you could share this with your teams and wider networks.**

Thank you.

**Karen has also sent us the following information for those with Diabetes.**

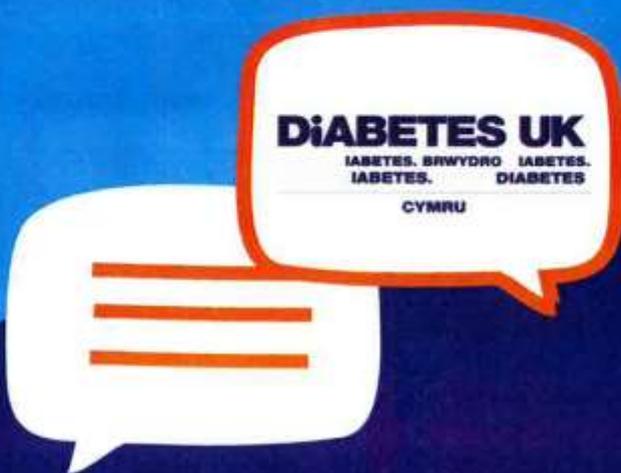
# VIRTUAL DIABETES PEER SUPPORT GROUP

## 2021 DATES

- 14th Jan - Diabetes UK Cymru 2021 Plan
- 11th Feb - Fitness and Diabetes (Live Session)
- 11th Mar - Know Diabetes, Fight Diabetes
- 8th Apr - Foot Health (Stance Training)
- 13th May - Get Cooking (Cooking Demo)
- 10th Jun - Diabetes UK Volunteers Week
- 8th Jul - Fitness and Diabetes (Live Session)
- 12th Aug - Get Cooking (Cooking Demo)
- 9th Sept - Local Community Diabetes Team Update
- 14th Oct - Fitness and Diabetes (Live Session)
- 11th Nov - Learning Zone
- 9th Dec - Get Cooking (Cooking Demo)

## HOW TO JOIN

The peer support group will be held on Zoom between 2-3pm. If you would like to join please email [lucy.snell@diabetes.org.uk](mailto:lucy.snell@diabetes.org.uk)





# St Mary's School, Ruabon

## APPLICATIONS FOR NURSERY PLACES

If you have, or know of, a child turning three before 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021 you can now apply online for a Nursery place at St Mary's Church in Wales School, Ruabon.

If you would like to speak to us for further information, please contact the school on 01978 820979.

Online admissions must be completed by  
**19th February 2021.**



# St Mary's School, Ruabon

## Sign up now – Tŷ Pawb arts masterclasses for young people aged 9-14

Wrexham County Borough Council sent this bulletin at 14-01-2021 11:45 AM GMT

Having trouble viewing this email? [View it as a Web page.](#)

# tŷ pawb

## Sign up now for Criw Celf – arts masterclasses for young people



Criw Celf offers young people (aged 9 to 14) who love art, an opportunity to take part in artist-led masterclasses during February half term over a consecutive 4 day period.

Our programme of special workshops are being delivered online via zoom with professional artists, and offer participants opportunities to develop new creative skills and understanding of visual art and craft.

Meet new friends who also enjoy art too!

# Join Neighbourhood Watch!

## It's as easy as 1, 2, 3...

# 1

**Visit [www.ourwatch.org.uk/join](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk/join) and complete the online form**

You will receive a email with a confirmation code, enter this code when prompted and continue completing the form

**Once registered as a member, you need to join or start a scheme**

To do this, log into your account by clicking on Login from our website or by entering <https://ourwatchmember.org.uk/> - Click on SCHEME ADMIN and you will be given the option to join a local scheme or if there isn't one which covers your road, then you can start a scheme by selecting the option at the bottom left of the screen.

# 2

# 3

**Become an ACTIVE member/lead for your scheme and make your area safer**

Talk with your neighbours about keeping your community safer and raise awareness of issues. Actively make differences in your community and work together to be more resilient.

**Your Local Neighbourhood Watch Scheme:**

Contact details:



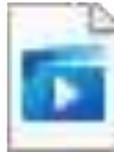
Neighbourhood Watch Network  
is a Charitable Incorporated  
Organisation (CIO) registered in  
England and Wales, no: 1173349

**THIS IS THE LINK FOR THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH PAGE WHERE YOU CAN REGISTER TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER. A GROUP OF PEOPLE IS NEEDED, PEOPLE TO ADMIN THE GROUP AS WELL AS PEOPLE TO ACTUALLY MONITOR THE AREA. PLEASE REGISTER IF YOU CAN HELP OUT. [www.ourwatch.org.uk/join](http://www.ourwatch.org.uk/join). Please also email [clerk@ruaboncommunitycouncil.gov.wales](mailto:clerk@ruaboncommunitycouncil.gov.wales) too, so that we can get a group together.**



These photos of 'snow people' were fashioned by residents of Ruabon - photos sent in By Alison Hamlington

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## The\_Front\_Fell\_Off 1.wmv

I have 'found' this video clip that my family in Australia sent to me some years ago, after the shipping disaster. They do have a sense of the ridiculous! The clip does work if you click the left button twice and press 'open'.

There are a few more clips about the duo on 'Clarke and Dawe' on line.

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Best wishes everyone, we just cannot allow the present circumstances to get us down. I am sure that happier times are ahead!

**With thanks to everyone who keeps this news letter alive with all your positive donations of photos and information**

Please let me know if you would like the Ruabon News Letter sent to you by email (free of charge). [<bremner.millhouse@btinternet.com>](mailto:bremner.millhouse@btinternet.com)  
Sybil