



Agenda Item 11

Council
24 June 2026

Tracey Brown
Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

MEMBERSHIP OF ONE VOICE WALES – 2026-2027

1 One voice Wales are inviting council to renew its membership to join One Voice Wales from 1 April 2026. Once again, the past year has seen many positive developments in our services and for the community and town council sector in general, which we believe add significantly to the value for money offered by One Voice Wales membership.

2 We continue to represent the sector in a wide variety of ways. We have maintained and further enhanced our working relationships with the Welsh Government, Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) – signing a new Memorandum of Understanding in October 2024, NALC, SLCC and a range of other national bodies strengthening the voice of the sector within the public services family in Wales and improving working relations with the Third Sector.

3 One Voice Wales continues to make significant contributions to public policy developments through our representation on several Welsh Government advisory panels and One Voice Wales is playing an ever-increasing role in the development of resources for the sector.

4 As current members are aware, we provide the following services outlined below, and we are aware from feedback from our members that all aspects of the service are highly valued.

- **Provision of free HR, complex financial and legal advice** from a team of experienced consultants which can save members significant time and cost compared with using local professionals for advice (These savings can in many cases exceed the membership that is payable)
- **Quality and timely advice and support service** on topics relevant to member councils.
- **Training** for members and staff, including policy seminars and new working opportunities.
- **General information via our website including a members' area.**
- **Monthly** editions of our new '**E-Bulletin**'
- **Representation** of the sector on the Local Government Partnership Council.
- Creating **new opportunities for collaboration** with national organisations across Wales.

5 The **training and development** agenda is another area where much progress has been made during 2025-26 with the continued successful delivery of webinar-based training and continued growth in the number of courses available.

6 Furthermore, our **Consultancy Services** have been growing at a pace with many councils taking advantage of this service. We are increasingly able to provide 'One Stop Shop' solutions for our members.

7 For your council to have a voice in the future of this vital sector of local government, and to benefit from the support provided by One Voice Wales, **please return the attached Membership Form by email or to our office in Ammanford – the address is at the top of this letter.**

8 **Please note our membership runs each year from 1st April to 31st March.** We will automatically keep you as members during a new financial year and continue to support you but ask that payment is made by 30 June 2026 at the latest. If you are experiencing any problems with bank accounts etc then please let us know.

9 If you no longer wish to remain in membership, please notify us immediately so that your council do not incur any charges.

10 If you have any further queries relating to membership, please contact the office on 01269 595400 / 07917 846510 or email: tgilmartin@onevoicewales.wales

11 I trust that your Council will give this invitation full consideration, and I hope to be able to welcome you into membership shortly. I look forward to working with your council in 2026-27.

RECOMMENDED: That

Members be asked to approve the renewal of £1056 for the Town Council's membership with One Voice Wales for a further 12 months commencing April 2026-27.