

DECISION NOTICE OF AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET

DATE OF DECISION	18/05/2026
DATE DECISION PUBLISHED	19/05/2026
DATE DECISION WILL COME INTO FORCE and implemented, unless the decision is called in, in accordance with section 7.25.1 of the Gwynedd Council Constitution	26/05/2026

NAME AND TITLE OF THE CABINET MEMBER:

Councillor Paul Rowlinson (Cabinet Member for Housing and Property)

SUBJECT – Grant a long leasehold of Clwb Hirael directly to Bangor City Council

DECISION

To surrender Clwb Hirael committee's current Lease and grant a long lease of the property known as 'Clwb Hirael', Bangor directly to Bangor City Council on terms and conditions to be determined by the Head of Housing and Property Department.

REASON WHY THE DECISION IS NEEDED

Please see attached Officer Report.

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE COUNCIL'S STANDARDS COMMITTEE


None.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Consultation with
Cyngor Gwynedd Statutory Officers and Local Members.

The results of the consultations are reported upon in the attached report.

**DECISION NOTICE OF AN INDIVIDUAL MEMBER OF GWYNEDD COUNCIL
CABINET – OFFICER REPORT**

Name and title of Cabinet Member/s:	Councillor Paul Rowlinson
Name and title of Report Author :	Lleucu Myrddin Estates Management Professional Trainee
Date of Decision :	18/05/2026
Signature of Cabinet Member/s :	

Subject :

Grant a long leasehold of Clwb Hirael directly to Bangor City Council.

Recommendation for the Decision :

To surrender Clwb Hirael committee's current Lease and grant a long lease of the property known as 'Clwb Hirael', Bangor directly to Bangor City Council on terms and conditions to be determined by the Head of Housing and Property Department.

Reason why Decision is needed :

To allow the Council to grant a lease directly to Bangor City Council.

Reason and justification behind the Decision :

Clwb Hirael has operated as a community social centre serving the residents of Hirael, Bangor for the past fifteen years. Since the building was first leased to the organisation in 2011, it has been managed successfully by a committee of volunteers with a range of activities including social services provision, mental health support, a pensioners' club, and various community associations being held weekly.

Over time, the number of active committee members has declined, and the final remaining member—now in her eighties—has indicated her intention to step down.

Unfortunately, no new volunteers have come forward to assume responsibility for the centre's ongoing governance.

Following discussions between the remaining member and Bangor City Council, the Council has expressed its willingness to take over responsibility for managing the building. This would allow existing activities and associations to continue operating, ensuring that the local community continues to benefit from the centre.

Bangor City Council is a democratic body with experience managing multiple buildings and parcels of land across the city for the benefit of residents, and it possesses the resources and capacity required to take on this additional responsibility.

Consultation with the Economy and Community Department of Cyngor Gwynedd, the building's owner, has confirmed that the property no longer meets their service needs. Should the building revert to Cyngor Gwynedd's control, they would be required to dispose of it, resulting in the closure of Clwb Hiracl as a community facility.

By approving the recommendation to transfer the site directly to Bangor City Council, the closure of this valuable community resource can be avoided, and its effective management can be safeguarded for the future.

Given the building's use as a Social Centre as has been established since 2011, there is no intention to receive the market rent for the property.

Declarations of personal interest by any Cabinet Member consulted with and any relevant dispensations approved by the Standards Committee :

None.

Any consultations undertaken prior to making the decision :

Head of Finance – Dewi Morgan -

'No objections from the perspective of financial propriety.'

Monitoring Officer – Iwan Evans -

'A pragmatic solution that protects and maintains an important community asset is presented. I am satisfied with the propriety of the decision sought.'

Local Members:

Councillor Dylan Fernley -

'I have been involved with trying to get someone to take over running the club from Jean since November, I'm relieved that the city council have offered to oversee the running of this great resource for the local community, you have my full support.'

Councillor Nigel Pickavance -

'I think it's the most sensible of decision to be made. As long as the Community are kept up to date with any progress.'