

NOVEMBER 2022

# Fairbourne Moving Forward

PROJECT NEWSLETTER

In this Issue:

Health Impact Assessment

# A Note from Huw Williams YGC

As a member of the Fairbourne Moving Forward Project Board, Gwynedd Council is pleased to see the publication of this newsletter. I hope it provides a helpful update about the project and related community activity. It also gives the opportunity to let you know about the upcoming important pieces of work related to the project, namely the independent Health Impact Assessment (HIA) that will be led by the consultancy company Savills.

As is regularly reported in the news, and as will be discussed during the forthcoming UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP27) in November, the impact of climate change will be at the forefront of all our minds, including sea level rise and adverse weather events. The HIA will give you, as community members, the opportunity to share your feelings and thoughts about how the risks of climate change impact on your health and wellbeing. We are also interested in understanding your aspirations for the future of Fairbourne, including solutions to address the things that are most important to you. We would warmly welcome your contribution to the HIA community engagement events being held between the 9th-11th November, including responding to the questionnaires that will be distributed. Your valuable insights will help to shape a number of important pieces of work going forward, including informing an Outline Business Case (OBC) to the Welsh Government and the development of a Health Action Plan that will seek to highlight the wellbeing improvement priorities from the perspective of the community.

The Fairbourne Moving Forward Project Board has been aware of the negative impact on the community as a consequence of the mention of 'decommissioning' Fairbourne in '2054' by the press and other stakeholders. The timeline was assessed in the Technical Overview Report (2018) prepared by the Technical Group on behalf of the Fairbourne Moving Forward Project Board and the statement came with important caveats i.e. based on condition of the coastal assets and what was known at the time about the rate of climate change. This information was fed into the Adaptation Masterplan. There have been significant revisions to climate change predictions since 2018 and it is now appropriate for the Fairbourne Moving Forward Project Board to review the current evidence and data going forward and this will inform future planning decisions. Whilst this is taking place, it is appropriate to remember the 2054 caveats and work with the Project Board, which is committed to providing ongoing support to ensure the sustainability, safety and wellbeing of the Fairbourne community. There are no current plans to decommission the village.

The Savills HIA Team therefore look forward to meeting with and listening to you during the engagement events, and I would like to sincerely thank you in advance for your time and support to this important work.





# Local backing for the Health Impact Assessment

**From Arthog Community Council and Fairbourne Project Board Members**

**When the Fairbourne Project Board was revamped by Gwynedd Council into a more manageable mechanism, just prior to Covid hitting the World, it was suggested that Workstreams were introduced to manage the “five ways of working” as noted within the FCERM National Strategy, in line with the “Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015”.**

Huw Williams, YGC, (Gwynedd Council) introduced the idea of an HIA, Health Impact Assessment, at a Project Board Meeting in November 2021. The Terms of reference and a presentation were given at the Project Board Meeting on Friday 12th November 2021.

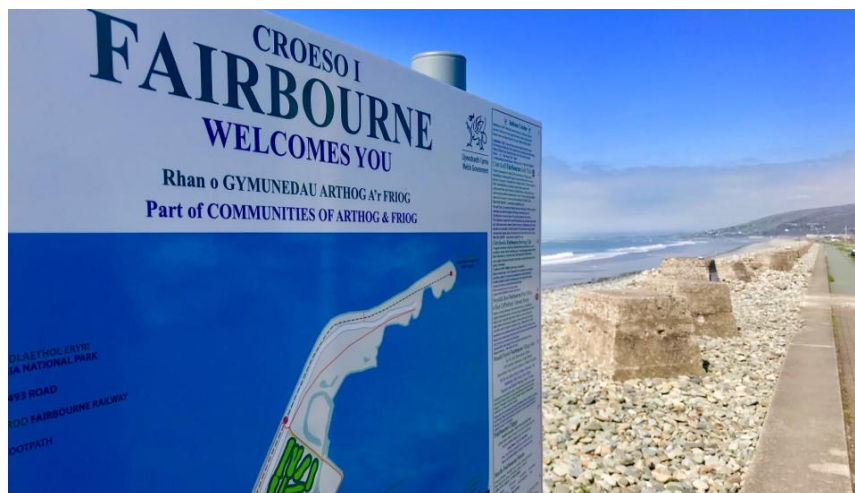
**The Fairbourne Project Board Members agreed unanimously to embrace the idea of introducing the opportunity of a Health Impact Assessment for all Fairbourne Residents**

The HIA will allow you to “have a say” regarding actions and solutions for Fairbourne moving forward, and the impacts upon you and your family, your health and wellbeing.

The Arthog Community Council and the Fairbourne representatives on the Project Board would strongly urge all residents to take part in this HIA. It will be conducted in differing ways, face to face, by questionnaire, by group meetings and more. It will be conducted in both Welsh and English depending on residents' preference. Whatever your circumstances this will be your opportunity to discuss and be heard

We recognise that people have been invited to several consultations over the past few years, but that the impact hasn't always been clear. It's therefore really important to emphasise that the HIA will directly inform a business case to the Welsh Government early in 2023.

This will summarise thoughts, aspirations, and potential solutions to improve our health and wellbeing as part of the Fairbourne Moving Forward Project. The findings of the HIA will also feed into Cyngor Gwynedd's Ardal Ni community engagement process, which will inform the Gwynedd Regeneration Plan. This Plan will seek to identify the key regeneration opportunities for Fairbourne.



# What is a Health Impact Assessment?

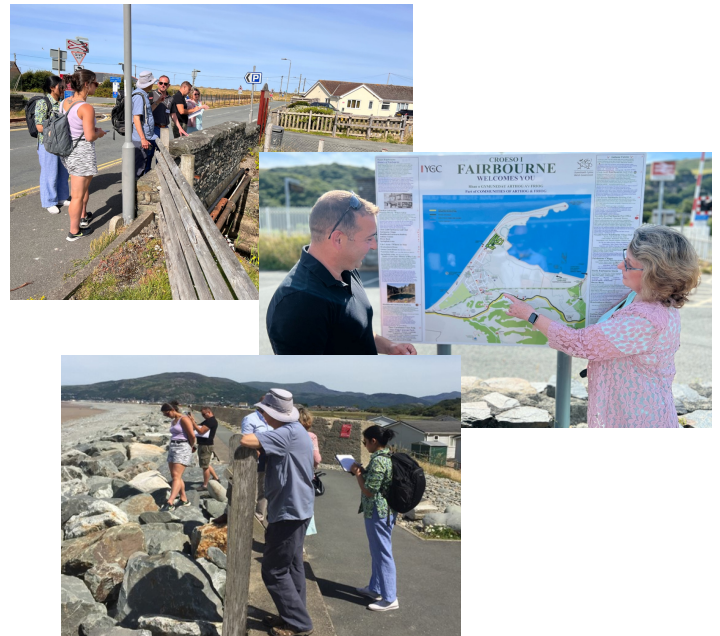


Our health is influenced by various factors, such as our biological factors (age, sex, genetics), our socio-economic status, physical and mental health, our access to services and resources, and other determinants important to health. HIA is a tool which explores and assesses the potential impact of policies/projects/scenarios on health within communities, and importantly, generates actions, mitigations and initiatives to address the impacts and maximise the benefits.

Savills have been appointed to conduct the Health Impact Assessment with the residents of Fairbourne.

They were selected as being the strongest candidate showing a thorough understanding of the situation that Fairbourne and its residents face

In July the Savills team visited Fairbourne, hosted by the Arthog Community Council to familiarise themselves with the location and the community and to take the opportunity to talk informally with representatives of the village.



**Here in Fairbourne, the HIA will help investigate the health and wellbeing impacts of living with climate change, and help explore the opportunities and potential solutions for our community in context of our environment, social and economic circumstance.**

The Savills HIA team will engage with the community on 9-11 of November (Village Hall), through drop in sessions, questionnaires and structured discussions. The objective is to capture your experience, concerns and support the development of bespoke solutions tailored to the community of Fairbourne.

Please contact Llion Pritchard, Project Manager with any enquiries about the project:  
[llionwynpritchard@gwynedd.llyw.cymru](mailto:llionwynpritchard@gwynedd.llyw.cymru) mob: 07765 883650



# **Fairbourne Moving Forward**

Drop-in Sessions

**November 9-11th**

**10am - 7pm**

@

**Village Hall - Multi Use Room**

Please come by and share  
your thoughts

**savills**