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## Carmarthenshire Disability Coalition for Action **NEWS LETTER**

**April 2021**

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### **Special Notice for the attention of people with 'Hidden Disabilities) from Department for Communities, Carmarthenshire County Council.**

**PAUL DAVIES**, South West Wales Community Cohesion Officer in the Department for Communities, Homes and Safer Communities, Carmarthenshire County Council is seeking people with hidden disabilities willing to feature in a short film to talk about what life is like for people with hidden Disabilities.

Tel / Ffon : 07580 450010

Email / Epost : [Padavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk](mailto:Padavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk)

### **Afasic Glossary Sheets**

Check out the free range of 30 'Glossary' information sheets that explain some of the most common terms used to describe various speech and language impairments. They are all available **FREE** to [download](#).

### **Welsh Government Consultation**

Consultation description. We are proposing to:

- increase provision of CPTs and BNCFs
- revise the Approved Document M guidance on compliance with the Building Regulations
- allow local planning authorities to enhance the provision of CPTs over and above the minimum required.

## CCC appeal to residents to keep Covid cases low across Carmarthenshire as restrictions ease

**PEOPLE in Carmarthenshire are being urged to continue taking extra care in the fight against coronavirus as Wales prepares for further easing of restrictions.**

Welsh Government has confirmed that further relaxations will be brought forward meaning we will be in alert level three by May 3.

The case rate in Carmarthenshire is currently low, 6.4 per 100,000 people (as of 9 am on April 21) - well below the Welsh national average which is an encouraging sign that things are improving.

However, with some services such as tourism and retail already open, and with outdoor hospitality re-opening from Monday, Carmarthenshire County Council is appealing to people to continue following the advice around social distancing, wearing a face covering and good hand hygiene.

The council is asking that people continue to do everything possible to protect one another and ensure case numbers stay low.

The council has been busy supporting businesses as restrictions are eased providing advice and support around safety measures and helping some to set up outdoor space with appropriate permits and licensing.

Teams will continue offering advice and support and will be visiting as many business premises as possible over the coming weeks to ensure appropriate measures are in place to protect staff and customers.

They will also be supporting local communities, ensuring measures are taken to avoid any impact on residents living in popular tourist areas and those who neighbour establishments where outdoor space has been created for customers.

The vaccination programme continues to roll out at pace across Carmarthenshire, with over half of the county's population now having received their first dose which offers enhanced protection against Covid-19, and almost 17 per cent fully vaccinated.

However, the vaccination programme has not yet been widely rolled out to those aged under 40 and those who are yet to be vaccinated remain at risk - as such they are being urged to take particular care when meeting up with others.

## New CCC Car Park ticket issuing machines presenting problems.

### **Digits and Text unreadable**

The Coalition has received a number of complaints about the user interface on new car park ticket issuing machines. Text and digits, which are yellow on a shiny brushed metal background, are unreadable for older people and those with visual impairments.

Despite repeated requests by the Coalition to be consulted at the initial development stages of new services and facilities we remain excluded. Had we been involved during the planning for these devices this situation where the interface is virtually



unreadable would never have occurred. It is so annoying because our consultation is free.

Not only is this an inconvenience for many it is going to take more money to rectify the situation. This could have been prevented if CCC consulted with disability groups at the start of the process instead of at the end when all we are able to do is complain.

While I was taking this photo the machine refused to issue tickets for three people. If you have had any problems with this machine located in St Peters car park in Carmarthen, or at any other locations, please let us know. email; [office@cdcfa.org.uk](mailto:office@cdcfa.org.uk) or phone 07585 626905.

### HYNT - national access scheme

Hynt is a new national access scheme that works with theatres and art centres in Wales to make sure there is a consistent offer available for visitors with an impairment or specific access requirement, and their Carers or Personal Assistants. The link to their website will tell you all you need to know about Hynt: who it's for; what it provides; and how to become a member. [HYNT](#)

### Diverse Cymru Fair and Equal Wales hustings

Due to the passing of Prince Phillip last month, Diverse Cymru had to postpone the Diverse Cymru Fair and Equal Wales hustings. Instead of being able to do a live event, they managed to record the candidates, with BSL translation instead.

The Fair and Equal Wales hustings video is available using this link: <https://www.diversecymru.org.uk/election-hustings-political-party-engagement-video/>

### Good Law Project; defamation advice session for activists, organisations and campaigners.

On Tuesday lunchtime, Good Law Project is hosting a defamation advice session for activists, organisations and campaigners.

They will provide tips about how you can best protect yourself from publishing something (be that an article or social media post) that might leave you vulnerable to the threat of libel proceedings.

They will discuss the defences to defamation proceedings - in particular the "public interest defence" - which is the one you are most likely to rely on. They will consider the steps you should be taking to do everything you can to make this defence work for you.

Also, what you can do if you receive a threatening letter after publishing something online or in print.

If you would like to find more about how to speak truth to power, and how to lessen your risk when doing so, you can watch the live panel discussion.

The panel of speakers include Jo Maugham, Director of Good Law Project, Gracie Bradley, Director of Liberty, Tamsin Allen, Partner at Bindmans and head of the Media and Information Law team and Jonathan Price, Barrister at Doughty St Chambers and libel law specialist.

Here are the details of the event:  
When: 1pm - 2pm, Tuesday 11 May  
Where: [Facebook](#); [Twitter](#).

**RSVP:** [https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/defamation-law-for-activists-a-guide-to-speaking-truth-to-power-tickets-153059157059?utm\\_source=Civi](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/defamation-law-for-activists-a-guide-to-speaking-truth-to-power-tickets-153059157059?utm_source=Civi)

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