

## Foreword by the Chairman of Cyfle Ffestiniog

The existence of Cyfle Ffestiniog is in itself an expression of the desire for change in Ffestiniog - an area that has faced unprecedented social and economic upheaval over the last thirty years, and has struggled to find its role in the new Wales.

The Planning for Real exercise, carried out between October – December 2000 and January 2001, was a practical opportunity for the residents of Ffestiniog to individually express their hope for change and their ideas for achieving it - and many hundreds seized their chance and took part in the consultation.

What was particularly encouraging, to myself and the members of Cyfle was the enthusiasm and desire of the area's children and young people to see the locality regenerated and become a place where they can find work and enjoy a decent standard of living. I hope that this commitment among the next generation, will inspire everyone, organisations and individuals, involved in the area to redouble their efforts.

This exercise has, for the first time, prioritised and listened to the wishes of local people, the actions which must be taken. This report, the result of the Planning for Real exercise - is a valuable tool for the broad partnership of public, private and social organisation working in Ffestiniog area, as it enables them to focus their efforts on the identified priorities. But this is not only a document for the attention of agencies and authorities. Everyone living or working in Ffestiniog have a valuable role to play in fulfilling these priorities and a responsibility to support and assist in the area's regeneration wherever possible.

Already Cyfle has incorporated the ideas and priorities identified in the Planning for Real exercise, which are relevant to its work to regenerate the area economically, into its Corporate Strategy for the next three years and has set about establishing a community company to implement them. I would urge others to do the same and act upon this report to fulfil the wishes of Ffestiniog's people.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who took the time to support the events either by taking part or by assisting, your contribution has been much appreciated.

Bryn Williams  
Chair - Cyfle Ffestiniog