

# New town centre police base gets the green light

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A NEW police base is on its way to Carmarthen town centre.

The public will be able to meet with officers in a part of the historic Guildhall building after planning permission was granted by Carmarthenshire Council.

It ends speculation that the town would be left without a town centre police base, after the Friars Park station closed and relocated to a building next to the Dyfed-Powys Police force headquarters in Llangunno.

The new base will be in a room to one side of the Guildhall, with access from Hall Street.

Town leaders had previously welcomed the plans by the police to have a focal point for the public and a base for officers in the heart of the town.

Chairman of Carmarthenshire Council planning committee and Carmarthen councillor Alun Lenny said he welcomed the police plans.

"It is good to see the



The Guildhall, Carmarthen.

Picture: Carolyn Evans

police have a base in the middle of the town," he said.

"It will be visible and a place for people to go in and speak to police if they have any problems.

"Cadw will now be asked to comment and look at the police plan like they have with the other scheme we approved at the Guildhall."

Carmarthenshire Council owns the building and wider plans to turn the rest of the former court house into a cafe bar and restaurant are being considered by Cadw which has recommended the Welsh Government call in

the plans.

Carmarthenshire Council approved the plans in April.

Cadw has said the building is of historical importance and has recommended the final decision on whether it should be turned into a restaurant venue be considered by Welsh Ministers.

Councillors on the planning committee said Cadw had already taken three months to announce it wanted the restaurant plans called in by the Welsh Government and questioned if Cadw would take as long considering the police base.