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# THE COUNCIL 25/02/10

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**Present:** Councillor Anne Lloyd Jones (Chair)  
Councillor W Tudor Owen (Vice-chair)

**Councillors:** Anwen Davies, E T Dogan, Dyfed Edwards, Dylan Edwards, Elwyn Edwards, Huw Edwards, Trefor Edwards, T G Ellis, Alan Jones Evans, Alun Wyn Evans, Keith Greenly-Jones, Gwen Griffith, Margaret Griffith, E Selwyn Griffiths, Alwyn Gruffydd, Siân Gwenllïan, Christopher Hughes, Dafydd Ll Hughes, Huw Hughes, Sylvia Humphreys, O P Huws, Aeron M Jones, Brian Jones, Charles Wyn Jones, Dai Rees Jones, Dyfrig Jones, Eric Merfyn Jones, Evie Morgan Jones, J R Jones, John Wynn Jones, Linda Wyn Jones, R L Jones, W Penri Jones, Eryl Jones-Williams, P G Larsen, Dewi Lewis, Dewi Llewelyn, Dilwyn Lloyd, Keith Marshall, J Wynn Meredith, Llinos Merks, Linda Morgan, Dewi Owen, W Roy Owen, Arwel Pierce, Peter Read, Dafydd W Roberts, Glyn Roberts, Gwilym Euros Roberts, Ieuan Roberts, John Pugh Roberts, Liz Saville Roberts, Siôn Selwyn Roberts, Trefor Roberts, W Gareth Roberts, Dyfrig Siencyn, Ioan Thomas, Guto Rhys Thomas, Ann Williams, Gethin Glyn Williams, Gwilym Williams, J.W.Williams, Owain Williams and Robert J Wright.

**Also present:** Harry Thomas (Chief Executive), Dilwyn Williams, Iwan Trefor Jones and Dafydd Lewis (Corporate Directors), Dilys Phillips (Monitoring Officer/Head of Democracy and Legal Department), Geraint George (Head of Strategic and Improvement Department), Dafydd Edwards (Head of Finance Department), W E Jones (Senior Finance Manager), Iwan Evans (Legal Services Manager), Arwel Ellis Jones (Senior Manager – Performance and Scrutiny), Sharon Warnes (Senior Manager – Strategic Direction), Ruth Richards (Equality and Language Officer) and Eleri Parry (Senior Committee Officer).

**Apologies:** Councillors Bob Anderson, Stephen Churchman, Jean Forsyth, Simon Glyn, Louise Hughes, John Gwilym Jones, June Marshall, Caerwyn Roberts and R H Wyn Williams.

## 1 PRAYER

The meeting was opened with a prayer from Councillor John Wynn Jones.

## 2 MINUTES

The Chair signed the minutes of the Council meetings held on 10 December 2009 and 21 January 2010 as a true record.

## 3 DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

- (i) Members declared a personal interest in the following items for the reasons noted:-

Councillor Trefor Roberts on items relating to Council housing as he was a Council tenant.

The member was of the opinion that it was not a prejudicial interest, and he did not withdraw from the meeting during the discussion on the item.

Councillor Eryl Jones-Williams on items relating to Council housing and home care as he was a Council tenant and as his wife received home care.

The member was of the opinion that it was not a prejudicial interest, and he did not withdraw from the meeting during the discussion on the item.

Also, the member noted that he had received advice that he had a right to speak on the Council's Budget and Priorities 2010/11 item in relation to a matter involving the Housing Revenue Account (Clause 9(i) (a) (c) on the agenda).

- (ii) Councillor Linda Wyn Jones declared a personal interest in the Council's Budget and Priorities 2010/11 item in relation to matters involving Learning Disability as she ran a company which fulfilled work for the Council in the field of learning disability.

Councillor Dafydd Lloyd Hughes declared a personal interest in the Council's Budget and Priorities 2010/11 item in relation to matters involving Learning Disability as he worked as a community nurse in the field of learning disability.

The members were of the opinion that they were prejudicial interests, and they withdrew from the meeting during the relevant discussions.

- (ii) Councillors Dewi Lewis, Anne Lloyd Jones, Brian Jones and John Wyn Williams declared a personal interest in relation to any matter involving Council Housing and Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd since they were members of the Board of Cartrefi Cymunedol Gwynedd.

The members were of the opinion that they were prejudicial interests, and they did not participate in any discussions regarding the field.

### **3 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- (a) Condolences were expressed to Lord Dewi Prys Davies following the recent death of his wife.
- (b) Councillor Peter Read and his wife were congratulated on the birth of a son.
- (b) The excellent news that the Vaynol Estate had been chosen as the home for the BBC Radio 1 Big Weekend, the largest music festival in the UK where tickets were available free of charge, was welcomed.

It was noted that the Festival, which would attract world-famous artists, would be held on Saturday 22 May and Sunday 23 May.

- (b) A DVD presentation was given by the Council's Training Unit. It was explained that the DVD had been developed in order to provide information regarding the Council and its values. It was intended to use the DVD for the induction of new staff and in order to attract new talent to the Council.

The Training Unit staff, and especially Alun Lloyd Williams, were congratulated and thanked for the excellent DVD.

### **4 QUESTIONS**

#### **A question by Councillor Dyfrig Jones:-**

*"What steps can Gwynedd Council take to ensure that the new medical centre in Bethesda provides fully bilingual services for its clients?"*

#### **Reply by Councillor Liz Saville Roberts, Portfolio Leader – Education and Language**

"Thank you for the question.

Family practitioners and medical centres in Gwynedd operate through contracts provided by the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board. However, every primary care provider (family practitioners, dentists, pharmacists etc) are independent contractors, self employed and not staff of the Health Board, having the right to independent arrangements including appointing staff and doctors. The medical centre in Bethesda is run by a main medical partner and has a Practice Manager.

Section 1.4. of the Health Board's draft Language Plan recognises this independence and suggests there is no right to insist on services but instead state "support and counsel primary care contractors to provide bilingual services".

The Welsh Language Act affirms the duty on public bodies to ensure that they include language requirements within contracts.

As the portfolio holder for the Welsh language I would like to highlight the importance of Welsh language health services for the public and to note that in our response as a Council to the Health Board's consultative Language Plan.

I recommend, therefore, that Gwynedd Council supports the use of the Welsh language in health services in three ways:-

1. In our response to the Health Board's draft Language Scheme, that we press them to strengthen section 1.4. by changing the words "support and counsel" to "a requirement when setting contracts to deliver statutory services, that the provision conforms with Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board's Language Scheme as set out in the Welsh Language Act 1993".

The Health Board is already in discussions with the Practice Manger in the centre in Bethesda and reports that they are very keen to ensure bilingual services and staff and doctors available to deliver in Welsh. This is also true of the Pharmacy service attached there. The Health Board will support them in this task.

More generally, there is a problem in recruiting bilingual doctors and professional medical staff. In order to improve this situation over time, the Health Board, Bangor University and Cyngor Gwynedd are working closely together to establish Medical Sciences Business Park in Bangor that will include a Medical School, the Headquarters for the Health Board and Medical Enterprise Centre for the medical sector. There is an opportunity to build upon the strengths of this area in this field by focusing on medical businesses. The Medical School would attract young people from the area to follow bilingual training there.

2. That the Council continues to work together with the other two establishments in the Medical Technologies area in order to attract funding to establish a pioneering initiative developing bilingual professionals for the medical area.
3. Through the work that is happening on the Gwynedd Language Charter with other public bodies in the area, that the Council targets staff support towards new businesses such as the Medical Centre in Bethesda, to work to agree on a specific Language Scheme with them (although it is not currently a statutory requirement on them to prepare a Scheme). It is appropriate for Gwynedd Council to do this in relation to other publicly funded organisations because of the role of the authority as a lead body for Hunaniaith in the county".

## **9 MATTERS TO BE DECIDED BY THE COUNCIL**

### **COUNCIL BOARD – 16 FEBRUARY 2010**

- (i) Item 5 - The Council's Budget And Priorities 2010/11

Submitted:-

- (i) The report of Dilwyn Williams, Corporate Director on the financial strategy 2010/11
- (ii) The report of the Head of Strategic and Improvement Department on the process of prioritising the revenue and capital bids as part of the key process of identifying and agreeing on the Council's budget and priorities for 2010/11;
- (iii) An extract of the minutes of the Council Board meeting held on 16 February 2010 regarding the Financial Strategy which included recommending an increase in the Council Tax of 3.9% for 2010/11;

- (v) Draft decision on setting the Council Tax for 2010/11; a statement of the increase in the Band D Council Tax per community.

It was reported that the Board, at its meeting on 16 February 2010, had resolved as follows in relation to the 2010/11 budget:-

**RESOLVED to recommend to the full Council:-**

- (a) to approve the £835,460 provision which is intended to be identified in the budget [Clause 4.8 of the report].
- (b) to approve the provision of £128,890 in the budget to compensate the relevant services for the loss of an external cleaning contract [Clause 4.10].
- (c) to take advantage of any reasonable opportunity to make a one-off contribution to the Pension Fund to reduce the effect upon the employer's contribution at the next valuation including using any residual Housing Revenue Account balances which transfer to us for that purpose [Clause 4.15].
- (ch) to ask the managers of the appropriate units how lower unit costs can be obtained in light of externalising services [Clause 4.17].
- (d) to approve the budgetary additions noted in clause 5, including the £600,000 for the Schools Service and £850,000 for Social Services to assist with the budgetary pressures they face this year and to report on the position of the overspend in Social Services at the Principal Scrutiny Committee meeting in June.
- (dd) to approve the proposals for the one-off budgets and the methods of financing noted in Clause 6 of the report.
- (e) to approve the proposals for the capital programme and the method of financing [Clause 7.8].
- (f) to take advantage of the opportunity to add the amount released from the financial hardship reserve into the transformation reserve [Clauses 8.6 and 8.7].
- (ff) to approve the Financial Issues Scrutiny Working Group's recommendations in relation to earmarked reserves [Clauses 8.8 and 8.9 and Appendix 2].
- (g) to agree with the proposed budget noted in Appendix 3 and the consequent increases / decreases for each service [Clause 9.1 and Appendix 3].
- (ng) to recommend an increase of 3.9% in the Council Tax, bearing in mind the deficits we are likely to face in 2011/12 and 2012/13 [Part 9 of the report].

(The sub-clauses under clause 4 of the Corporate Director's report had been numbered incorrectly, and the clauses noted in the aforementioned recommendations are in accordance with the amended numbering).

- (b) Also in relation to the revenue and capital bids, the following was recommended:-

**RESOLVED to recommend to the full Council:-**

- (a) to approve the revenue bids outlined in the report of the Head of Strategic and Improvement Department, subject to the removal of bid DCH01 – Members' Allowances – basic allowances – from the list and to include bid GCym11 – Parking Spaces for the Disabled. Additionally, if it is not possible to realise the collaborative plans in relation to bid RH10 – Provision of out of hours response, the Board should receive further reports on the one-off £15,000 element.
- (b) to approve the capital bids outlined in the report of the Head of Strategic and Improvement Department.

The background and context of establishing the Council's budget and priorities for 2010/11 were set by the Council Leader. It was explained that it was a statutory requirement on the Council to set the budget annually, and details were given on the thorough processes which had been undertaken in order to bring the recommendations before the committee.

The main issues in the budget were outlined, and details were given on the recommendations of the Principal Scrutiny Committee and Council Board and their implications.

It was explained that the Principal Scrutiny Committee and the Council Board had agreed to all of the recommendations in the Director's report, and had given detailed attention to the level of increase in the Council Tax. It was noted that 3.6% had been the average increase across Wales, and that the Principal Scrutiny Committee and the Board had recommended an increase of 3.9% in the Council Tax.

It was emphasised that the Scrutiny Committee and the Board had carefully weighed up the needs of the services in order to ensure a budget to maintain services for the most vulnerable people in the county. It was emphasised that the recommendations before the committee had allowed for this and had struck a balance between maintaining services and not placing too much pressure on the taxpayers also.

It was reported that the Principal Scrutiny Committee and the Council Board had approved the revenue bids, subject to removing bid no. DCH01, namely a bid to increase members' allowances, from the list. It was explained that both committees were of the opinion that it would not be appropriate to increase members' allowances at present, and it was emphasised that there would be an opportunity to discuss the field further in considering the response of the Independent Panel on Members' Allowances.

Also, it was explained that the Principal Scrutiny Committee and the Board had recommended including bid no. GCym11 – Parking Spaces for the Disabled in the bids. It was noted that the Board had addressed the matter and had asked for further work into the field to be completed in order to obtain the most effective ways of fulfilling the work.

The Corporate Director expanded on elements of the strategy, in response to enquiries and requests for further information on some matters.

Aspects of the budget and the associated recommendations were discussed in detail and the following observations were noted in relation to specific headings:-

**(i) Using the balances of the Housing Revenue Account which will be transferred to the Council to make one-off bids to the Pension Fund (recommendation (c))**

A member expressed his objection to using the balances of the Housing Revenue Account for the Pension Fund. He noted that he had been given to understand that the money would have to be spent on the houses themselves. He emphasised that work had not been completed on several houses, he noted that he was very dissatisfied with the money going to the Pension Fund and that he was eager for the money to be transferred to the new body to be spent on the houses.

The Corporate Director explained that the regulations regarding outsourcing housing noted that any balance remaining in the Housing Revenue Account after the transfer would return to the Council. He referred to the costs which would not be paid by the tenants and which would fall on the Council from 1 April onwards. He emphasised that the tenants would be getting a much better deal in reality. In terms of the pensions elements, should the houses not be outsourced, the Director explained that the tenants would have to pay the backlog through the rent in the future. However, as the houses had been outsourced, he explained that it was not possible to obtain the costs from the tenants any longer, and that it would be the taxpayers paying for the backlog in the future. He emphasised that using the balances of the Housing Revenue Account for the Pension Fund would go towards compensating the taxpayers who would be facing more costs in the future.

The member asked to have the information in writing.

**(ii) Budgetary additions of £850,000 for Social Services (recommendation (d))**

A member expressed concern regarding giving an additional £850,000 to social services. He referred to the Joint Review report, which noted that lack of investment was not the problem, but rather the use made of the resources. He noted that the additional budget would only be filling a gap, and he expressed concern that the Council had not gone to the root of the problem which had existed for a number of years.

The Chief Executive noted that he understood members' concerns regarding overspend in social services. However, he explained that there had been a growth in the demand for learning disability services in Gwynedd; that the growth had been seen on a national basis and he emphasised that further growth would be expected in the future regionally and nationally.

Furthermore, he noted that the Joint Review report stated that many of the Council's services were too traditional, and that it would be possible to make better use of the money should the services be redesigned. To that end, he explained that a strategic review was in the pipeline in the field of learning disability, in order to find the best provision for the expected growth in the future. He noted that the matter would be addressed through the committees system in due course.

The Human Resources Portfolio Leader reiterated the serious concern regarding the overspend situation of social services. He noted that he was concerned regarding the way business was planned within the department, and that the problems which arose time after time made it difficult for the Council to plan financially. Furthermore, he noted that he, as the Human Resources Leader, agreed to create additional jobs in the department last year and he was concerned that no benefits had been seen from those jobs.

The member asked for support to commission independent external research within three months to try to identify and understand what was happening within social services – in order to assist with the work of planning for the future.

The Chief Executive emphasised that the situation should not be prejudiced. He noted that it was quite possible that the expenditure was necessary due to the growth in demand for the service.

He explained that the new jobs and unit created recently did not work directly in the field of learning disability.

He referred to the research which would be commissioned in order to understand the exact reasons for the overspend and the results of the research would be presented to the Principal Scrutiny Committee. He pressed members to trust officers to choose the best method of achieving the various elements of the work.

The Corporate Director added that the research would be independent of the service and that it was intended to use the Council's Internal Audit Department for elements of the work. He noted that money should not be spent unnecessarily on external consultants if the Council itself could complete the work independently.

A member noted that she objected to using external consultants as they were so costly. Another member called for support to allow the research to be undertaken, and to report on the outcomes of the work to the Principal Scrutiny Committee in June, before considering whether further steps needed to be taken.

**(iv) Budgetary additions of £600,000 for the Schools Service (recommendation (d))**

In relation to the addition of £600,000 for the Schools Service, a member referred to the great pressure on schools budgets and he noted that the money should be allocated directly to schools. He asked for a full explanation of the situation.

The Corporate Director expanded upon the overspend in the education field. He explained that there was an overspend of approximately £1m in the special educational needs field, and that the money was being spent on one-to-one support. It was intended to provide the budget in order to meet the expenditure which was already happening. He explained that the current expenditure happened under the care of individual schools or under the care of the department centrally. It was intended to give the budget to where it was required – whether in the school or centrally – in order to meet the expenditure already happening. He emphasised that giving the money to the schools to do what they wished with it would be completely contrary to the intention.

**(v) Increase of 3.9% in the Council Tax (recommendation ng)**

A member expressed disappointment that the Council had recommended loading the residents of Gwynedd with an increase of 3.9% in the Council Tax, and he noted that he was dissatisfied with an increase higher than the Welsh average of 3.6%.

Another member explained that the Principal Scrutiny Committee had given serious consideration to the level of increase in the Council Tax, and had carefully weighed up the implications to the services and the taxpayers. He emphasised that the Principal Scrutiny Committee and the Board had come to the conclusion that an increase lower than 3.9% would cause serious problems in the future.

The Corporate Director provided details on the implications of not increasing the Council Tax by 3.9%. He noted that an increase of 3.9% was tantamount to an increase in Band D of £36.06 per annum (namely 69p per week, and an increase of 3.6% was tantamount to an increase of £33.29 (namely 64p per week). Should the Council Tax be increased by 3.6% rather than 3.9% he emphasised that it would mean a loss of income of £136,000 for the Council.

Another member noted that he supported increasing the level of the Council Tax by 3.9% and that Gwynedd Council was required to increase the tax higher than some councils in Wales as it had received a lower settlement than some other councils. Should the tax not be increased to this level, he emphasised that more cuts would have to be made in the future, and that services would be under threat. Furthermore, the member noted that a letter should be sent to Carl Sargeant expressing dissatisfaction regarding the low settlement for rural councils.

The Chief Executive explained that Gwynedd was receiving a settlement lower than the Welsh average because the population was smaller. He noted that he had met with Carl Sargeant at the beginning of January and had expressed concern regarding the allocation formula. Also, he explained that research had been commissioned through the Rural Forum to look at the increase patterns of rural councils in Wales.

The Corporate Director added that Gwynedd Council had suffered for years because of the nature of the formula. He explained that the formula was complex, driven by several factors, but that the population was the major element of the formula. Gwynedd and Blaenau Gwent were the only two counties in Wales where the population had decreased recently, and this had been reflected in the formula.

The Leader emphasised that increasing the Council Tax by 3.6% would result in a loss of income of approximately £136,000 for the Council, and this money would have to be found from elsewhere.

An increase of 3.9% in the Council Tax would safeguard the savings of £16m and would ensure that the Council could maintain the necessary services without placing too much pressure on the taxpayers.

An amendment to increase the Council Tax by 3.6% failed.

**RESOLVED**

1. **1. To approve the Financial Strategy and Revenue Budget for 2010/2011 as recommended by the Council Board at its meeting on 16 February 2010 including the approval to a net budget in 2010/11 (not including community council precepts) of £217,202,330.**
2. **That it be noted that at its meeting on 24 November 2009, the Council Board calculated the following amounts for 2010/2011 in accordance with Regulations made under Section 33 (5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 ("The Act"):-**
  - (a) **49,212.93 being the amount calculated by the Board in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Wales) Regulations 1995 as amended, as its Council Tax base for the year.**
  - (b) **Part of the Council's Area - Community**

Betws Garmon	132.27	Llanllyfni	1,323.60
Bontnewydd	430.38	Llannor	887.55
Botwnnog	416.98	Llanrug	1,098.19
Brithdir and Llanfachretl	395.60	Llanuwchllyn	302.89
Bryncrug	327.18	Llanwnda	748.39
Buan	224.03	Llanycil	189.90
Caernarfon	3,396.31	Llanystumdwy	848.78
Clynnog Fawr	443.21	Maentwrog	265.20
Corris	288.00	Mawddwy	332.95
Criccieth	913.21	Nefyn	1,356.49
Dolbenmaen	589.07	Pennal	205.69
Dolgellau	1,149.81	Penrhyndeudraeth	741.34
Dyffryn Ardudwy	789.60	Pentir	969.60
Ffestiniog	1,657.05	Pistyll	231.94
Harlech	724.54	Porthmadog	1,962.89
Llanaelhaearn	420.30	Pwllheli	1,666.44
Llanbedr	304.61	Talsarnau	305.78
Llanbedrog	665.98	Trawsfynydd	503.80
Llanberis	740.58	Tudweiliog	436.58
Llanddeiniolen	1,762.33	Tywyn	1,515.82
Llandderfel	488.75	Waunfawr	541.82
Llandwrog	976.64	Y Felinheli	1,023.95
Llandygai	948.78	Y Ganllwyd	82.76

being the amounts calculated by the Board, in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations, as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

3. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2010/2011 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Act.
- (a) £331,571,710 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (2)(a) to (e) of the Act.
- (b) £113,189,880 Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (3)(a) to (c) of the Act.
- (c) £218,381,830 Being the amount by which the aggregate at 3 (a) above exceeds the aggregate at 3 (b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32 (4) of the Act, as its budget requirement for the year.
- (ch) £169,707,670 Being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its council fund in respect of redistributed Non-Domestic Rates and Revenue Support Grant, less the estimated cost to the Council of discretionary non-domestic rate relief granted.
- (d) £989.05 Being the amount at 3 (c) above less the amount at 3 (ch) above, all divided by the amount at 2 (a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 33 (1) of the Act, as the basic amount of its council tax for the year.
- (dd) £1,390,650 Being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34 (1) of the Act.
- (e) £960.79 Being the amount at 3 (d) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 3 (dd) above by the amount at 2 (a) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34 (2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates.
- (f) Part of the Council's Area -

Aberdaron	973.49	Llanegryn	988.13
Aberdyfi	982.88	Llanelltyd	981.43
Abergwyngregyn	969.39	Llanengan	976.36
Abermaw	986.38	Llanfair	977.36
Arthog	974.87	Llanfihangel y Pennant	980.69
Bala	983.27	Llanfrothen	978.80
Bangor	1030.40	Llangelynnin	976.49
Beddgelert	979.61	Llangywair	976.82
Bethesda	992.24	Llanllechid	969.09
Betws Garmon	968.35	Llanllyfni	986.43
Bontnewydd	985.19	Llannor	973.18
Botwnnog	970.38	Llanrug	977.18
Brithdir and Llanfachretl	979.75	Llanuwchllyn	976.64
Bryncrug	977.59	Llanwnda	983.10
Buan	977.53	Llanycil	975.01
Caernarfon	1015.89	Llanystumdwy	973.16
Clynnog Fawr	973.65	Maentwrog	973.99
Corris	980.83	Mawddwy	974.31
Criccieth	993.64	Nefyn	986.36
Dolbenmaen	977.77	Pennal	978.29
Dolgellau	997.32	Penrhyndeudraeth	1005.30
Dyffryn Ardudwy	984.85	Pentir	986.96
Ffestiniog	1001.83	Pistyll	980.19
Harlech	980.11	Porthmadog	984.42
Llanaelhaearn	984.58	Pwllheli	998.60
Llanbedr	987.05	Talsarnau	993.49
Llanbedrog	977.31	Trawsfynydd	983.62
Llanberis	981.04	Tudweiliog	973.16
Llanddeiniolen	966.46	Tywyn	990.48
Llandderfel	972.04	Waunfawr	971.61
Llandwrog	985.36	Y Felinheli	981.30
Llandygai	978.67	Y Ganllwyd	992.21

**being the amounts given by adding to the amount at 3(e) above the amounts of the special item or items relating to dwellings in those parts of the Council's area mentioned above divided in each case by the amount of 2(b) above, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34(3) of the Act, as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.**

- (ff) **In respect of part of the Council's area, the figures noted in Appendix 1, being the amounts given by multiplying the sums specified in 3(f) above by the number which, in the proportion set out in Section 5 (1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36 (1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.**

4. That it be noted that for the year 2010/2011 the North Wales Police Authority has stated the following amounts in a precept issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H	Band I
134.22	156.59	178.96	201.33	246.07	290.81	335.55	402.66	469.77

5. That, having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3 (ff) and 4 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30 (2) of the Local Government Finance Act, 1992, hereby sets the amounts noted in Appendix 2 as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2010/2011 for each of the categories of dwellings shown therein.

- (ii) **Item 6 – Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Minimum Revenue Provision Strategy an Annual Investment Strategy for 2010/11.**

Submitted – the report of the Head of Finance Department to the Council Board on 16 February 2010.

**“RESOLVED to adopt the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, the Minimum Revenue Provision Strategy and the Annual Investment Strategy for 2010/11 (Appendix A to the report), the Prudential Indicators (Appendix B) and the changes to the Treasury Management Schedules (Appendix C).**

## 10 WELSH LANGUAGE SCHEME 2010/2013

The Welsh Language Scheme for 2010-13 was submitted for adoption by the Council.

The background and context of the amended Scheme were set by the Language Portfolio Leader.

Members’ attention was drawn to the main changes which had been addressed in detail by the Language Sub-committee, and it was noted that there was some editorial work to be completed on the document, in order to correct minor errors and to standardise the Welsh and English versions.

It was explained that guidelines would be prepared for Council staff in order to implement the amended Scheme.

The Portfolio Leader reported that the Council had consulted on the draft document, and that the only response which had been received noted that the Language Scheme should be very much welcomed, that it had been evidence of the Council’s commitment to promoting the Welsh language in the life of the Council area, and that it had been an anchor for the language in its regeneration across Wales.

Some aspects of the Scheme were discussed, and the following observations were noted:-

### **Accuracy (Clause 3.1.4.)**

A member drew attention to incorrect road signs across the County. He noted that the errors ridiculed the Council, and a request was made for “road signs” to be included in clause 3.1.4. Furthermore, members were of the opinion that the accuracy of documents, signs etc. was the responsibility of the Council’s linguistic experts rather than individual managers.

### **Planning Application Forms**

A member noted that the Council's planning application forms used to be bilingual in the past, but that the documents were now available with the Welsh and English on separate forms. The member was of the opinion that the recent procedure was contrary to Council policy. The Chair of the Language Sub-committee promised that the sub-committee would address the matter.

### **Demographic Background**

A member referred to the Welsh Language Board's Language Use Survey 2004-06 and she noted that she was very pleased that 83.3% of the people of Gwynedd could speak Welsh fluently.

It was noted that the proportion of Welsh speakers tended to be higher in some urban areas, and the town of Caernarfon, and the Peblig ward in particular, were congratulated for having the highest percentage of Welsh speakers throughout the county, namely 88%. Reference was made to the wards of Bangor where over 50% were Welsh speakers, namely Dewi, Marchog, Glyder, Hendre and Hirael. She then expressed her disappointment and disgust that the University ward in Bangor, namely the Menai ward, had the lowest percentage of Welsh speakers throughout the county, namely 27.45%.

### **Working in Partnership**

A member noted that it had become increasingly difficult for members to hold open and public meetings in Welsh due to the cost involved with hiring translation equipment etc. He asked the Language Sub-committee to investigate whether a Scheme existed to help members to obtain translation equipment at a reasonable price. The Chair of the Language Sub-committee promised that the sub-committee would address the matter.

### **Legal Work**

A member noted that the Council had been outsourcing some legal work to the courts, and he asked for assurance that the solicitors acting on behalf of the Council were fluent Welsh speakers and could work through the medium of Welsh in the courts.

The Equality and Language Officer was thanked for her diligent work on the Amended Language Scheme.

### **RESOLVED**

- (i) **To adopt the Welsh Language Scheme 2010-2013:**
- (ii) **To give permission to the Corporate Director in consultation with the Portfolio Leader to complete any necessary minor editorial changes to the document.**
- (iii) **To ask the Language Sub-committee to address the following matters**
  - (a) **Planning application forms which are in either Welsh or English;**
  - (b) **A scheme to assist members to obtain translation equipment at a reasonable price.**

## **11 DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS IN 2010/11**

The dates of Council meetings for 2010/11 were submitted for adoption by the Council.

A member referred to working groups which had been arranged without taking account of meetings which had already been noted in the Council's committee calendar, and officers were asked to avoid doing this in the future.

Another member noted that a committee had been scheduled for 1 March 2011, and that arranging committees on St David's Day should be avoided.

**RESOLVED to adopt the dates of Council meetings for 2010/11.**

The meeting commenced at 1.00pm and concluded at 3.00pm.

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**CHAIR**

## ATODIAD 1 / APPENDIX 1

	<b>Band A</b>	<b>Band B</b>	<b>Band C</b>	<b>Band D</b>	<b>Band E</b>	<b>Band F</b>	<b>Band G</b>	<b>Band H</b>	<b>Band I</b>
Aberdaron	648.99	757.16	865.32	973.49	1189.82	1406.15	1622.48	1946.98	2271.48
Aberdyfi	655.25	764.46	873.67	982.88	1201.30	1419.72	1638.13	1965.76	2293.39
Abergwyngregyn	646.26	753.97	861.68	969.39	1184.81	1400.23	1615.65	1938.78	2261.91
Abermaw	657.59	767.18	876.78	986.38	1205.58	1424.77	1643.97	1972.76	2301.55
Arthog	649.91	758.23	866.55	974.87	1191.51	1408.15	1624.78	1949.74	2274.70
Bala	655.51	764.77	874.02	983.27	1201.77	1420.28	1638.78	1966.54	2294.30
Bangor	686.93	801.42	915.91	1030.40	1259.38	1488.36	1717.33	2060.80	2404.27
Beddgelert	653.07	761.92	870.76	979.61	1197.30	1414.99	1632.68	1959.22	2285.76
Bethesda	661.49	771.74	881.99	992.24	1212.74	1433.24	1653.73	1984.48	2315.23
Betws Garmon	645.57	753.16	860.76	968.35	1183.54	1398.73	1613.92	1936.70	2259.48
Bontnewydd	656.79	766.26	875.72	985.19	1204.12	1423.05	1641.98	1970.38	2298.78
Botwnnog	646.92	754.74	862.56	970.38	1186.02	1401.66	1617.30	1940.76	2264.22
Brithdir a Llanfachreth	653.17	762.03	870.89	979.75	1197.47	1415.19	1632.92	1959.50	2286.08
Bryncrug	651.73	760.35	868.97	977.59	1194.83	1412.07	1629.32	1955.18	2281.04
Buan	651.69	760.30	868.92	977.53	1194.76	1411.99	1629.22	1955.06	2280.90
Caernarfon	677.26	790.14	903.01	1015.89	1241.64	1467.40	1693.15	2031.78	2370.41
Clynnog Fawr	649.10	757.28	865.47	973.65	1190.02	1406.38	1622.75	1947.30	2271.85
Corris	653.89	762.87	871.85	980.83	1198.79	1416.75	1634.72	1961.66	2288.60
Criccieth	662.43	772.83	883.24	993.64	1214.45	1435.26	1656.07	1987.28	2318.49
Dolbenmaen	651.85	760.49	869.13	977.77	1195.05	1412.33	1629.62	1955.54	2281.46
Dolgellau	664.88	775.69	886.51	997.32	1218.95	1440.57	1662.20	1994.64	2327.08
Dyffryn Ardudwy	656.57	765.99	875.42	984.85	1203.71	1422.56	1641.42	1969.70	2297.98
Ffestiniog	667.89	779.20	890.52	1001.83	1224.46	1447.09	1669.72	2003.66	2337.60
Harlech	653.41	762.31	871.21	980.11	1197.91	1415.71	1633.52	1960.22	2286.92
Llanaelhaearn	656.39	765.78	875.18	984.58	1203.38	1422.17	1640.97	1969.16	2297.35
Llanbedr	658.03	767.71	877.38	987.05	1206.39	1425.74	1645.08	1974.10	2303.12
Llanbedrog	651.54	760.13	868.72	977.31	1194.49	1411.67	1628.85	1954.62	2280.39
Llanberis	654.03	763.03	872.04	981.04	1199.05	1417.06	1635.07	1962.08	2289.09
Llanddeiniolen	644.31	751.69	859.08	966.46	1181.23	1396.00	1610.77	1932.92	2255.07
Llandderfel	648.03	756.03	864.04	972.04	1188.05	1404.06	1620.07	1944.08	2268.09
Llandwrog	656.91	766.39	875.88	985.36	1204.33	1423.30	1642.27	1970.72	2299.17
Llandygai	652.45	761.19	869.93	978.67	1196.15	1413.63	1631.12	1957.34	2283.56
Llanegryn	658.75	768.55	878.34	988.13	1207.71	1427.30	1646.88	1976.26	2305.64
Llanelltyd	654.29	763.33	872.38	981.43	1199.53	1417.62	1635.72	1962.86	2290.00
Llanengan	650.91	759.39	867.88	976.36	1193.33	1410.30	1627.27	1952.72	2278.17
Llanfair Llanfihangel y Pennant	651.57	760.17	868.76	977.36	1194.55	1411.74	1628.93	1954.72	2280.51
Llanfrothen	653.79	762.76	871.72	980.69	1198.62	1416.55	1634.48	1961.38	2288.28
Llanfrynog	652.53	761.29	870.04	978.80	1196.31	1413.82	1631.33	1957.60	2283.87
Llangelynnin	650.99	759.49	867.99	976.49	1193.49	1410.49	1627.48	1952.98	2278.48
Llangywair	651.21	759.75	868.28	976.82	1193.89	1410.96	1628.03	1953.64	2279.25

Llanllechid	646.06	753.74	861.41	969.09	1184.44	1399.80	1615.15	1938.18	2261.21
Llanllyfni	657.62	767.22	876.83	986.43	1205.64	1424.84	1644.05	1972.86	2301.67
Llannor	648.79	756.92	865.05	973.18	1189.44	1405.70	1621.97	1946.36	2270.75
Llanrug	651.45	760.03	868.60	977.18	1194.33	1411.48	1628.63	1954.36	2280.09
Llanuwchllyn	651.09	759.61	868.12	976.64	1193.67	1410.70	1627.73	1953.28	2278.83
Llanwnda	655.40	764.63	873.87	983.10	1201.57	1420.03	1638.50	1966.20	2293.90
Llanycil	650.01	758.34	866.68	975.01	1191.68	1408.35	1625.02	1950.02	2275.02
Llanystumdwy	648.77	756.90	865.03	973.16	1189.42	1405.68	1621.93	1946.32	2270.71
Maentwrog	649.33	757.55	865.77	973.99	1190.43	1406.87	1623.32	1947.98	2272.64
Mawddwy	649.54	757.80	866.05	974.31	1190.82	1407.34	1623.85	1948.62	2273.39
Nefyn	657.57	767.17	876.76	986.36	1205.55	1424.74	1643.93	1972.72	2301.51
Pennal	652.19	760.89	869.59	978.29	1195.69	1413.09	1630.48	1956.58	2282.68
Penrhyndeudraeth	670.20	781.90	893.60	1005.30	1228.70	1452.10	1675.50	2010.60	2345.70
Pentir	657.97	767.64	877.30	986.96	1206.28	1425.61	1644.93	1973.92	2302.91
Pistyll	653.46	762.37	871.28	980.19	1198.01	1415.83	1633.65	1960.38	2287.11
Porthmadog	656.28	765.66	875.04	984.42	1203.18	1421.94	1640.70	1968.84	2296.98
Pwllheli	665.73	776.69	887.64	998.60	1220.51	1442.42	1664.33	1997.20	2330.07
Talsarnau	662.33	772.71	883.10	993.49	1214.27	1435.04	1655.82	1986.98	2318.14
Trawsfynydd	655.75	765.04	874.33	983.62	1202.20	1420.78	1639.37	1967.24	2295.11
Tudweiliog	648.77	756.90	865.03	973.16	1189.42	1405.68	1621.93	1946.32	2270.71
Tywyn	660.32	770.37	880.43	990.48	1210.59	1430.69	1650.80	1980.96	2311.12
Waunfawr	647.74	755.70	863.65	971.61	1187.52	1403.44	1619.35	1943.22	2267.09
Y Felinheli	654.20	763.23	872.27	981.30	1199.37	1417.43	1635.50	1962.60	2289.70
Y Ganllwyd	661.47	771.72	881.96	992.21	1212.70	1433.19	1653.68	1984.42	2315.16

## ATODIAD 2 / APPENDIX 2

	<b>Band A</b>	<b>Band B</b>	<b>Band C</b>	<b>Band D</b>	<b>Band E</b>	<b>Band F</b>	<b>Band G</b>	<b>Band H</b>	<b>Band I</b>
Aberdaron	783.21	913.75	1044.28	1174.82	1435.89	1696.96	1958.03	2349.64	2741.25
Aberdyfi	789.47	921.05	1052.63	1184.21	1447.37	1710.53	1973.68	2368.42	2763.16
Abergwyngregyn	780.48	910.56	1040.64	1170.72	1430.88	1691.04	1951.20	2341.44	2731.68
Abermaw	791.81	923.77	1055.74	1187.71	1451.65	1715.58	1979.52	2375.42	2771.32
Arthog	784.13	914.82	1045.51	1176.20	1437.58	1698.96	1960.33	2352.40	2744.47
Bala	789.73	921.36	1052.98	1184.60	1447.84	1711.09	1974.33	2369.20	2764.07
Bangor	821.15	958.01	1094.87	1231.73	1505.45	1779.17	2052.88	2463.46	2874.04
Beddgelert	787.29	918.51	1049.72	1180.94	1443.37	1705.80	1968.23	2361.88	2755.53
Bethesda	795.71	928.33	1060.95	1193.57	1458.81	1724.05	1989.28	2387.14	2785.00
Betws Garmon	779.79	909.75	1039.72	1169.68	1429.61	1689.54	1949.47	2339.36	2729.25
Bontnewydd	791.01	922.85	1054.68	1186.52	1450.19	1713.86	1977.53	2373.04	2768.55
Botwnnog	781.14	911.33	1041.52	1171.71	1432.09	1692.47	1952.85	2343.42	2733.99
Brithdir a Llanfachreth	787.39	918.62	1049.85	1181.08	1443.54	1706.00	1968.47	2362.16	2755.85
Bryncrug	785.95	916.94	1047.93	1178.92	1440.90	1702.88	1964.87	2357.84	2750.81
Buan	785.91	916.89	1047.88	1178.86	1440.83	1702.80	1964.77	2357.72	2750.67
Caernarfon	811.48	946.73	1081.97	1217.22	1487.71	1758.21	2028.70	2434.44	2840.18
Clynnog Fawr	783.32	913.87	1044.43	1174.98	1436.09	1697.19	1958.30	2349.96	2741.62
Corris	788.11	919.46	1050.81	1182.16	1444.86	1707.56	1970.27	2364.32	2758.37
Criccieth	796.65	929.42	1062.20	1194.97	1460.52	1726.07	1991.62	2389.94	2788.26
Dolbenmaen	786.07	917.08	1048.09	1179.10	1441.12	1703.14	1965.17	2358.20	2751.23
Dolgellau	799.10	932.28	1065.47	1198.65	1465.02	1731.38	1997.75	2397.30	2796.85
Dyffryn Ardudwy	790.79	922.58	1054.38	1186.18	1449.78	1713.37	1976.97	2372.36	2767.75
Ffestiniog	802.11	935.79	1069.48	1203.16	1470.53	1737.90	2005.27	2406.32	2807.37
Harlech	787.63	918.90	1050.17	1181.44	1443.98	1706.52	1969.07	2362.88	2756.69
Llanaelhaearn	790.61	922.37	1054.14	1185.91	1449.45	1712.98	1976.52	2371.82	2767.12
Llanbedr	792.25	924.30	1056.34	1188.38	1452.46	1716.55	1980.63	2376.76	2772.89
Llanbedrog	785.76	916.72	1047.68	1178.64	1440.56	1702.48	1964.40	2357.28	2750.16
Llanberis	788.25	919.62	1051.00	1182.37	1445.12	1707.87	1970.62	2364.74	2758.86
Llanddeiniolen	778.53	908.28	1038.04	1167.79	1427.30	1686.81	1946.32	2335.58	2724.84
Llandderfel	782.25	912.62	1043.00	1173.37	1434.12	1694.87	1955.62	2346.74	2737.86
Llandwrog	791.13	922.98	1054.84	1186.69	1450.40	1714.11	1977.82	2373.38	2768.94
Llandygai	786.67	917.78	1048.89	1180.00	1442.22	1704.44	1966.67	2360.00	2753.33
Llanegryn	792.97	925.14	1057.30	1189.46	1453.78	1718.11	1982.43	2378.92	2775.41
Llanelltyd	788.51	919.92	1051.34	1182.76	1445.60	1708.43	1971.27	2365.52	2759.77
Llanengan	785.13	915.98	1046.84	1177.69	1439.40	1701.11	1962.82	2355.38	2747.94
Llanfair Llanfihangel y Pennant	785.79	916.76	1047.72	1178.69	1440.62	1702.55	1964.48	2357.38	2750.28
Llanfrothen	788.01	919.35	1050.68	1182.02	1444.69	1707.36	1970.03	2364.04	2758.05
Llanfrothen	786.75	917.88	1049.00	1180.13	1442.38	1704.63	1966.88	2360.26	2753.64
Llangelynnin	785.21	916.08	1046.95	1177.82	1439.56	1701.30	1963.03	2355.64	2748.25
Llangywair	785.43	916.34	1047.24	1178.15	1439.96	1701.77	1963.58	2356.30	2749.02

Llanllechid	780.28	910.33	1040.37	1170.42	1430.51	1690.61	1950.70	2340.84	2730.98
Llanllyfni	791.84	923.81	1055.79	1187.76	1451.71	1715.65	1979.60	2375.52	2771.44
Llannor	783.01	913.51	1044.01	1174.51	1435.51	1696.51	1957.52	2349.02	2740.52
Llanrug	785.67	916.62	1047.56	1178.51	1440.40	1702.29	1964.18	2357.02	2749.86
Llanuwchllyn	785.31	916.20	1047.08	1177.97	1439.74	1701.51	1963.28	2355.94	2748.60
Llanwnda	789.62	921.22	1052.83	1184.43	1447.64	1710.84	1974.05	2368.86	2763.67
Llanycil	784.23	914.93	1045.64	1176.34	1437.75	1699.16	1960.57	2352.68	2744.79
Llanystumdwy	782.99	913.49	1043.99	1174.49	1435.49	1696.49	1957.48	2348.98	2740.48
Maentwrog	783.55	914.14	1044.73	1175.32	1436.50	1697.68	1958.87	2350.64	2742.41
Mawddwy	783.76	914.39	1045.01	1175.64	1436.89	1698.15	1959.40	2351.28	2743.16
Nefyn	791.79	923.76	1055.72	1187.69	1451.62	1715.55	1979.48	2375.38	2771.28
Pennal	786.41	917.48	1048.55	1179.62	1441.76	1703.90	1966.03	2359.24	2752.45
Penrhyndeudraeth	804.42	938.49	1072.56	1206.63	1474.77	1742.91	2011.05	2413.26	2815.47
Pentir	792.19	924.23	1056.26	1188.29	1452.35	1716.42	1980.48	2376.58	2772.68
Pistyll	787.68	918.96	1050.24	1181.52	1444.08	1706.64	1969.20	2363.04	2756.88
Porthmadog	790.50	922.25	1054.00	1185.75	1449.25	1712.75	1976.25	2371.50	2766.75
Pwllheli	799.95	933.28	1066.60	1199.93	1466.58	1733.23	1999.88	2399.86	2799.84
Talsarnau	796.55	929.30	1062.06	1194.82	1460.34	1725.85	1991.37	2389.64	2787.91
Trawsfynydd	789.97	921.63	1053.29	1184.95	1448.27	1711.59	1974.92	2369.90	2764.88
Tudweiliog	782.99	913.49	1043.99	1174.49	1435.49	1696.49	1957.48	2348.98	2740.48
Tywyn	794.54	926.96	1059.39	1191.81	1456.66	1721.50	1986.35	2383.62	2780.89
Waunfawr	781.96	912.29	1042.61	1172.94	1433.59	1694.25	1954.90	2345.88	2736.86
Y Felinheli	788.42	919.82	1051.23	1182.63	1445.44	1708.24	1971.05	2365.26	2759.47
Y Ganllwyd	795.69	928.31	1060.92	1193.54	1458.77	1724.00	1989.23	2387.08	2784.93