

Complete Agenda

CABINET

GWYNEDD COUNCIL

DATE	Tuesday, 28th March, 2017
TIME	1.00 pm
LOCATION	Siambr Hywel Dda, Council Offices, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1SH
CONTACT POINT	Annes Siôn 01286 679729 cabinet@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET MEMBERS

Members	
Dyfed Wyn Edwards	Leader
Dyfrig L. Siencyn	Deputy Leader
Peredur Jenkins	Cabinet Member for Resources
John Wynn Jones	Cabinet Member for the Environment
Dafydd Meurig	Cabinet Member for Planning and Regulatory
W. Gareth Roberts	Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Wellbeing
Mair Rowlands	Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Leisure
Gareth Thomas	Cabinet Member for Education
Ioan Thomas	Cabinet Member for Housing, Customer Care, Libraries, Deprivation and Equality
Mandy Williams-Davies	Cabinet Member for Economy and Community

AGENDA

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THE CABINET TUESDAY, 7 MARCH 2017

Present -

Councillors: Dyfed Edwards (Chairman), Dyfrig L. Siencyn, Peredur Jenkins, Dafydd Meurig, Gareth Thomas, W. Gareth Roberts, Ioan Thomas, John Wynn Jones and Mandy Williams-Davies.

Also present- Dilwyn Williams (Chief Executive), Dafydd L. Edwards (Head of Finance Department), Iwan G. Evans (Head of Legal Services)

Item 6: Aled Davies (Head of Adults, Health and Well-being Department), Rhion Glyn (Business Manager), Owain B. Williams (Chief Accountant, Adults, Health and Well-being), Llinos Edwards (Senior Executive Officer).

Item 7: Owen Owens (Senior Manager - Schools)

Item 8/9/10: Sioned E. Williams (Head of Economy and Community Department), Catrin Thomas (Senior Community Learning Manager)

Item 12: Dafydd Gibbard (Senior Corporate Property Manager).

Item 13: Gareth Jones (Senior Manager, Planning Service, Environment and Public Protection)

Item 15/16/17: Llinos Edwards (Senior Executive Officer)

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillor Mair Rowlands, Morwena Edwards (Corporate Director) and Iwan Trefor Jones (Corporate Director)

2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest.

3. URGENT ITEMS

There were no urgent items.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

There were no matters arising from overview and scrutiny.

5. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14 FEBRUARY 2017

The Chairman signed the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 14 February, 2017, as a true record.

6. INDEPENDENT CARE HOME FEES

The item was presented by Cllr Gareth Roberts

RESOLVED

To approve the following fees for 2017-18

Care Category	£ per Week
Residential	£507.45
Residential - Dementia/EMI	£566.75
Nursing	£587.23*
Nursing - Dementia/EMI	£617.93*

* It does not include Health's contribution

DISCUSSION

Independent care home fees needed to be reviewed on an annual basis. It had been noted under section 35 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014, that the Council has a duty to meet the care and assistance needs of adults who usually resided in the area. It was noted that many discussions had been held with providers, and the North Wales Care Home Fees Group had carried out much collective research.

It was emphasised that there were various categories in the field, and this had highlighted that nursing care was a challenge in Gwynedd, and consequently, the fees reflected the additional pressures on nursing. It was expressed that the fees varied from county to county but that the range was low and was approximately £20.

The fees had been submitted to the Providers Forum in draft form and it was noted that the response had been positive.

Matters arising from the discussion:

- Enquiries were made regarding point 7 in the report which was a Court Case Ruling. It was noted that a Court Case would appear in the High Court in April, and that it was an argument as to whether the Local

Authority or the Health Board was responsible for paying a small amount of money. This case could affect these fees - however, the situation would need to be considered further after the decision had been received.

7. TRANSFER OF THE BALANCES OF CLOSING SCHOOLS - CHANGE WORDING OF SCHEME FOR FINANCING SCHOOLS

The item was presented by Cllr Gareth Thomas

RESOLVED

To change the wording of clause 4.8 of the Scheme for Financing Schools to read as follows:

4.8 Balances of closing and replacement schools

When a school closes any balance (whether surplus or deficit) reverts to the Authority; it cannot be transferred as a balance to any other school, apart from when that other school has been established as a result of the closure. In such a situation the balance would transfer to the new school under the provisions of the School Funding (Wales) Regulations 2010.

DISCUSSION

It was noted that the wording currently read as follows:

4.8 Balances of closing and replacement schools

When a school closes any balance (whether surplus or deficit) reverts to the Authority; it cannot be transferred as a balance to any other school, even where the school is a successor to the closing school.

Currently, if schools closed, the balances reverted to the authority. It was noted that the department felt that it would be more sensible, if there was a successor to the closing school, that the balances were transferred to the new school. It was emphasised that the matter had been discussed at the School Funding Forum which recommended the change, and discussions had been held with the schools.

8. STEM GOGLEDD PLAN

The report was presented by Cllr Mandy Williams-Davies

RESOLVED

To approve the following:

- To confirm the decision for Gwynedd Council to lead on the Regional Plan on behalf of the four counties.
- On the condition of WEFO approval, the cabinet member in consultation with the Head of Finance and the Head of Economy to accept a grant offer of up to £1,461,000.
- Confirm that Gwynedd Council would contribute up to £150,000 of Match Funding for the project.

DISCUSSION

It was noted that the purpose of the project was to raise the enthusiasm and skills of young people particularly in the subjects of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. It was emphasised that it was a joint project with the three other Local Authorities in North West Wales (Conwy, Anglesey and Denbighshire) to submit a funding application to the European Social Fund to develop the plan.

WEFO's decision and grant offer was awaited in April 2017.

Matters arising from the discussion:

- It was noted that the scheme was one that was being funded by European money which raised a question regarding what would happen after three years. It was emphasised that far-reaching projects had been funded with European funding over the years. It was noted that work was being done by the Government at the moment in an attempt to create a strategy.
- As the project was aimed towards young people aged 11-19 years, it was asked whether or not work was being done with the primary age groups. It was noted that the STEM projects were restricted to a specific age range, and that the primary provision was being led through the Ambition Board.
- The outcomes of the project were discussed, as the report noted regional outcomes. It was confirmed that there were specific outcomes on a county level and per specific schools.
- Enthusiasm was expressed upon hearing that these subjects would be encouraged, however, it was noted that securing teachers in the subjects could be challenging - it was expressed that this was a concern but that it could encourage future teachers.
- It was also suggested that there was a need to ensure that GwE was involved in any plan and it was confirmed that this had happened.

9. AD-TRAC PROJECT

The report was presented by Cllr Mandy Williams-Davies.

RESOLVED

- Give approval to the Head of Economy and Community Department to accept the offer of grant to the value of £1,203,437, following Welsh European Funding Office approval, to deliver the Ad-TRAC Project in Gwynedd.
- Commit match funding of up to £492,095 towards the project by means of the method noted in the report.

DISCUSSION

This was a joint project with North Wales Local Authorities, Grŵp Llandrillo-Menai and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board to work with young people aged 16-24 years who were not in education, employment or training by providing them with intense support to enable them to move closer to education, employment or training. It was emphasised that the most vulnerable young people in society would be a part of this project.

It was noted that this was a project worth £1.2 million. It was noted that there was an update to the published report, namely that WEFO had confirmed that the Business Plan was acceptable and that a confirmation letter was about to be received. It would note that the partners of the scheme could track their expenditure and claim the funding from 1 March.

Comments arising from the discussion:

- It was noted that this type of project ensured that vulnerable young people could stand on their own two feet, and that European funding could deliver and change people's lives.
- It was asked whether the scheme's targets were challenging enough - namely to make a difference to the lives of over half the total of 450 young people that the scheme would attempt to reach? It was noted that the Council sometimes needed to be daring to start on a new way of working and be prepared to fail. The aim of the scheme would be to make a difference to the lives of the total of 450. It was emphasised that the cost per head in Gwynedd was higher than the other North Wales counties due to the geography and dispersed nature of the county. Consequently, transport costs to enable the individuals to reach the provision and for the workers was higher.
- It was noted that this grant paid for preventative work. Research had shown that the long-term cost to public services could be as much as £140,000 for each individual, and therefore that spending between £3,000-£11,000 per head over 2-3 years was cost effective. It was noted that Trac and Ad-Trac worked within the National Engagement Framework - and after the three years of grant intervention, the good practice from this work would be embedded into the Engagement Framework.

10. REGIONAL GOVERNANCE MODEL FOR THE DELIVERY OF THE GROWTH VISION FOR THE ECONOMY OF NORTH WALES

The report was presented by Cllr Mandy Williams-Davies

RESOLVED

- I. To endorse the preferred regional governance model of a statutory joint committee for further development.
- II. To instruct officers to work with colleagues in partner councils to develop a detailed constitution and inter-authority agreement for the proposed Joint Committee, and bring it back for consideration of the Council committing to a statutory joint committee model with the five partner councils, within the first three months of the new Council term.
- III. To note that this Council also expects assurance in terms of establishing the Project/Programme Office in order to understand the accountability of the structure and method of funding that Office when approving any constitution / agreement.

DISCUSSION

In September 2016, the Cabinet approved the Growth Vision for the Economy of North Wales. It was noted that this was the next step, namely the creation of a Statutory Joint Committee in order to govern and look into how to proceed with the work. It was emphasised that the intention was to submit the plan before the new Full Council within three months.

Matters arising from the discussion:

- It was noted that it was an opportunity to protect and develop unique areas that maintain the economy in a different way and to maintain unique communities in Gwynedd.
- From accepting the governance model, enquiries were made about sufficient Resources for support the work, e.g. Project/Programme Office, and that clarity was needed on the financial Resources and Human Resources to support that. The need for a leader to be accountable for the project as a whole was noted.

11. SAVINGS STRATEGY 2015/16 - 17/18 PROGRESS REPORT ON REALISING SAVINGS SCHEMES

The item was presented by Cllr Peredur Jenkins

RESOLVED

- A. To note the encouraging progress towards realising the 2015/16 - 17/18 savings schemes.
- B. To formally accept that two historical schemes would fall short of

the savings target namely:

2013/14 Scheme	North Wales Regional Hub	£29,684
2014/15 Scheme	Enablement	£121,000
	Total Savings to be Deleted	£150,684

- C. In order to achieve the target of £81,566 "Cross-departmental Savings to be found" in 2016/17, to approve the use of savings that the Finance Department has realised early.

DISCUSSION

It was noted that the progress report was an overview of what had been achieved over the past two years. It was emphasised that it was the responsibility of relevant Cabinet members to realise the savings, with the Cabinet Member for Resources keeping an overview of the savings in their entirety.

In the 2016/17 Financial Strategy, £9,201,411 of savings had been planned, namely 141 plans. Of the 141 departmental plans, 128 had been realised in full or in part. It was anticipated that 94% of the 2016/17 savings had been realised on time.

It was noted that the deficit of £150,684 needed to be removed from two historical schemes - "Enablement" and "North Wales Regional Hub". Both schemes had been developed as part of the aim to identify £5m of Cross-departmental savings, but they had achieved fewer saving than had been anticipated.

Matters arising from the discussion:

- It was emphasised that excellent work had been done across the Council to ensure realising the high sum of £9.2m. Everyone was thanked for the excellent work that had been involved with realising these savings.
- Continue to monitor the situation of the following financial year.

12. WATER SUPPLIES FOR SMALLHOLDINGS

The report was presented by Cllr Dafydd Meurig.

Matters arising from the discussion:

- It was noted that the sum for delivering the work was not completely clear thus far, and it was considered reasonable to make an exception this time to subscribe(?) to one of the above options rather than identify a specific source in order to be able to progress with the work.

13. PROPOSAL TO CONTINUE THE ARRANGEMENT OF PROVIDING THE JOINT PLANNING POLICY SERVICE FOR GWYNEDD COUNCIL AND ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL FOR A FURTHER FIVE YEARS (2017-2022)

The report was presented by Cllr Dafydd Meurig.

RESOLVED

To approve the proposal to continue the arrangement of providing the Joint Planning Policy Service for Gwynedd Council and Isle of Anglesey County Council for a further five years.

To authorise the Head of the Regulatory Department and the Head of Legal Services to review and agree on a new collaboration agreement to extend the collaboration period to include:

- Review and agree on arrangements for the administration, implementation and management of the Joint Planning Policy Unit
- Review and agree on the role of the Joint Planning Policy Committee as a cross-boundary decision-making body before reporting back to the Cabinet for approval.

DISCUSSION

Gwynedd and Anglesey had been collaborating on providing a Joint Planning Policy Service for five years but the original agreement was ending at the end of the year, or after the plan had been adopted by both authorities - whichever came earliest. Necessary work would continue following the plan's adoption in order to monitor and review it etc.

A review had been undertaken of the work and it was noted that the collaboration model had broken new ground in the planning policy field and the model had been acknowledged by Welsh Government as an example that other Planning Authorities should consider. It was also noted that the project had made a saving of £600,000 between both Authorities.

Matters arising from the discussion:

- Enquiries were made regarding the reduction in staffing numbers, and it was explained that the staffing profile complied with the profile of the work that was to be completed by the Unit.

14. PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULTS, HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

The report was presented by Cllr Gareth Thomas.

RESOLVED

- a) To accept and note the information in the report.
 b) To approve the re-profiling of four of the savings schemes as follows:

Ref	Scheme	Current Profile	Alternative Profile		
			2017/18	2017/18	2018/19
OED2 2	Consider Sheltered Housing/Extra Care Housing as alternative accommodation to residential beds	200,000		120,000	80,000
OED2 5	Review lunch/supper packages	100,000	25,000	75,000	
OED3 4	Improving efficiency of field workers	113,000	38,000	75,000	
C2	Delete 2 posts out of 7.5 in the Systems Support Unit within the Adults Service (Cut)	60,000		60,000	
	Total	473,000	63,000	330,000	80,000

DISCUSSION

It was noted that the department was developing, changes were becoming embedded and that the impact of the changes were being gradually felt.

The Cabinet Member drew attention to a few projects, including integrated working and the Llys Cadfan project. The Llys Cadfan project was an exciting project that worked outside the box. The purpose of the project was to provide more local support for people in the south of the County.

Attention was drawn to performance measures and specifically to "people who note that they can do what is important to them" - it was a new measure for the department and 57% felt that they were able to do what was important to them.

It was noted that the overspend had reduced from £168,000 to approximately £88,000.

Matters arising from the discussion:

- In response to an enquiry, it was noted that a report was expected on the findings and the recommendations by the CSSIW within the next few weeks.

Attention was drawn to Measure 5.7 - "the rate of delayed transfers of care for social care reasons" - it was noted that discussions were ongoing at the moment in order to attempt to improve the situation.

15. PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND LEISURE

The report was presented by Cllr Dyfed Edwards in the absence of Cllr Mair Rowlands

RESOLVED

To accept and note the information in the report.

DISCUSSION

It was noted that the report was comprehensive and noted the projects in the strategic plan. It was emphasised that work was continuing with sections of the youth and leisure service to transform and develop for the future.

Observations arising from the discussion

- A further report was requested for the next meeting to explain whether a difference had occurred in the lives of the young people that had received accreditations from the youth service, and in which way had these accreditations made a difference.
- An explanation was requested on the difference in the figures for the accreditations from the youth service as there was no full clarity.
- An increase had been seen in the number of looked after children - confirmation was received that work was being done on this and that a report would be submitted to the Leadership Team.

16. PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR RESOURCES

The report was presented by Cllr Peredur Jenkins.

DECISION

The report was accepted and approval was given to re-profile the Stop Paying a Fee Scheme to pay Council Tax in Post Offices to 2018/19 rather than 2017/18 as originally intended.

DISCUSSION

It was noted that 12 service reviews had been completed, as well as the programme to promote Ffordd Gwynedd principles amongst managers. Further internal training sessions for Managers would be conducted from April onwards, and it was suggested that it would be beneficial for the new Cabinet Members to attend these sessions.

It was noted that delivering cut scheme number 13 (Stop paying a fee to pay Council Tax in Post Offices) was a challenge and, as a result, further research would be needed on this project, and therefore there was a need to re-profile the saving to be realised in 2018/19.

Matters arising from the discussion:

- Enquiries were made about the electronic filing system (EDRMS) - it was explained that it was a new system for filing electronically, which reduced the number of files that were kept, attempting to ensure saving the essential files only.
- It was noted that the % of sickness days had increased (although comparatively low on a Wales level) and it was noted that many of these were cases of long-term illness.

17. PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING, CUSTOMER CARE AND LIBRARIES, DEPRIVATION AND EQUALITY

The report was presented by Cllr Ioan Thomas

DECISION

To accept and note the information in the report.

DISCUSSION

It was noted that the Affordable Housing project was progressing in collaboration with Grŵp Cynefin. Work was being carried out in Penygroes, Waunfawr, Llanuwchllyn and Bethesda.

It was noted that an increase had been seen in the number of referrals to the Homelessness Unit, and there had been deterioration in the performance measures. However, work was being done in an attempt to respond to the demand.

It was noted that the Council had agreed to accept 40 refugees between 2016-20. It was hoped that twenty refugees would have been accepted to the county and accommodated in the north of the County by April this year.

Matters arising from the discussion:

- Amendment to note regarding the % of deaths registered within five days - needed to be corrected from 5% to 95%.

18.

THE CABINET'S FORWARD PROGRAMME

The report was presented by Dyfed Edwards

RESOLVED

The Forward Work Programme that was included with the meeting papers was

approved, subject to the following amendments:

- Cllr Gareth Thomas - Change the name of the Cabinet Member in the Introduction item by Ffion Johnstone

The meeting commenced at 13:00 and concluded at 15:35

CHAIR

1.

2.

GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET



Report to the Cabinet

Meeting Date: 28th March 2017
Cabinet Member: Councillor Ioan Thomas
Contact Officer: Catrin Thomas, Senior Manager Community Learning
Contact Number: 01286 679 913 (32913)
Item Title: Library Self-service Machines

1 DECISION SOUGHT

Approve the application for £ 74,412 from the Transformational Fund for the purchase of 9 self-service machines to be installed in the 9 main libraries.

2 REASON WHY DECISION IS NEEDED

The level of financial commitment requires Cabinet approval.

3 INTRODUCTION

3.1 The Cabinet has adopted the "More than Books" Strategy for 2016-2020 for the Library Service. Implementing the strategy will change the authority's library provision by moving from 17 libraries to maintaining 9 main libraries and supporting 4 community libraries.

3.2 These changes will lead to increased use of the main libraries, whilst maintaining the same level of staffing.

3.3 This application for funds to install self-service machines is an opportunity to maximize the changes in the library provision by improving the service to residents and make better use of staff time.

4 REASON AND JUSTIFICATION BEHIND THE DECISION

4.1 The Welsh Public Library Standards states that all library authorities should aim for a staffing level of 3.6 (Full Time Equivalent) staff per 10,000 resident population to ensure sufficient staffing resource to undertake the duties expected by residents. The staffing level in Gwynedd in March 2016 was 2.86 (FTE) which is 20% lower than the national standard. Ongoing revenue investment to meet the national standard would be an annual cost of £ 75,442. In the current financial climate seeking additional revenue resources would not be prudent use of scarce resources.

4.2 Therefore, this application for £ 74,412 is a one-off capital investment to develop the service and to make the most efficient use of the staffing levels.

The capital funds would buy nine self-service machines with RFID technology (Radio-frequency identification) to scan books / items for faster lending / returning and offers electronic payment options.

4.3 The Self-service machines would lead to a more efficient book administration system (i.e. the borrowing and returning of books).

- Frontline staff will deal with over one million items a year whilst performing borrowing/returning tasks (1,098,252 in 2015/16). With approximately 20 (FTE) frontline staff that means that every member of staff deals with over a thousand items on average in every week.
- A high percentage of these transactions could be undertaken by the user via self-service.
- Following a simple exercise in Porthmadog, Caernarfon and Penygroes Libraries, users to the library commented that what is important to them when borrowing and returning items was to avoid queuing and waiting.
- The self-service machines would reduce the waiting time for users to return books, and allow user to borrow books with ease.

4.4 The Self-service machines would lead to better and more efficient use of staff resources. Releasing frontline staff from transactional tasks would give them more time to support users with what is important to them such as: -

- Dealing with more complex queries (staff currently deal with over 60,000 inquiries annually);
- Supporting residents to access information;
- Supporting residents with using computers and tablets (over 100,000 sessions per year);
- Organise health and well-being activities, literacy activities, and digital literacy (over 27,000 residents attended library activities during 2015-16).

4.5 Case studies collected by the service as part of the Library Standards Annual Report indicates the value and impact of such activities – the report assessment praised the evidence submitted in these case studies but also noted that the level of activity in Gwynedd is much lower than average for Wales.

4.6 The Library Service regularly gathers users' comments and views and a recurring theme in the responses received is the need for more activities in all libraries, particularly on matters such as digital literacy and health and well-being.

5 NEXT STEPS & TIMETABLE

5.1 Purchase and install the self-service machines in the 9 main libraries from September 2017 onwards.

6 ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Views of the Statutory Officers

Chief Executive

"The investment that is being recommended is sensible because it offers the opportunity to maximize the change that comes by improving the service to residents and make better use of staff service time."

Chief Finance Officer

"A number of deserving needs / uses will be competing for scarce resources from the Transformation Fund, and it is a matter for the Cabinet to prioritise the relevant applications."

In the full Council on the 2nd of March 2017, when 'bids' for additional resources to meet unavoidable pressures on services were approved, I noted that the Council's main priorities, developmental matters to make a difference, were to be funded through the 'Strategic Plan' procedure. It is a matter for the Cabinet members, with the guidance of the Chief Executive, to prioritise the Transformation Fund to this end.

Following the Cabinet's decision on 22 November 2016 to approve the transfer of £635k to the Transformation Fund, I confirm that there is sufficient provision to realise the projects presented to the 28 March 2017 Cabinet meeting, and that further funds are in reserve for some further projects that may mature / come to the fore and reach the Cabinet for a decision in future."

I confirm that the one-off sum of £ 74,412 in paragraph 4.2 is a fair estimate of the capital cost of purchasing and installing the RFID machines."

Monitoring Officer

"No observations with regards to propriety".

Agenda Item 7

ITEM 7 - COUNCIL PLAN 2017/18 - APPLICATIONS FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING

Reports are listed as appendices 7.1 – 7.4

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Report to Gwynedd Council Cabinet meeting

Meeting Date: 28 March 2017

Cabinet Member: Councillor Ioan Thomas
Cabinet Member for Housing, Customer Care, Libraries, Deprivation and Equality

Contact Officer: Catrin Thomas
Senior Manager Community Learning, Economy & Community Department

Contact Number: 01286 679913 (32913)

Item Title: **Council Plan 2017-18:
Resources to extend the 'Working together against poverty'
project (project E3)**

1. DECISION SOUGHT

Commit £155,138 of additional funding, and continue with the remainder of the allocated funding, in order to extend the 'Working together against poverty' scheme for 2017-18 to realise commitments that are a part of the Council Plan 2017-18.

2. REASON WHY THE DECISION IS NEEDED

Committing resources from the Transformation Fund is an issue for the Cabinet.

3. INTRODUCTION

The Full Council adopted the 'Council Plan 2017-18' on the 2nd of March 2017.

'Working together against poverty' was identified as one of the projects that needed additional resources in order to continue to fulfil their commitments if extended for another year.

'Working Together against poverty' was therefore included as part of the Council Plan subject to the Cabinet's agreement to fund it.

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4. REASONING AND JUSTIFICATION BEHIND THE DECISION

The purpose of the project is to implement a program of initiatives to tackle poverty in Gwynedd in collaboration with partners. The project includes interventions to help residents cope with household income and debt management, as well as helping them to access information and services online.

The project includes a program of initiatives within the following areas:

1. *Provision of skills to cope with household income and debt management*
2. *Provision of skills to access information and services online*
3. *Provision of skills to access employment and prevent economic inactivity*

Here is a summary of the main outcomes for the project to date:

- Bring together 17 partners across Gwynedd from the private, public and voluntary sector through the Digital Resilience Steering Group, Financial Forum and Employment Group. These groups meet regularly to promote collaboration, coordinate provision and minimize duplication.
- Creation and adoption of the Gwynedd Anti-Poverty Work Plan, targeting residents and communities that suffer most from poverty, or are likely to suffer poverty as a result of welfare reform. The work plan supports the services of the Council and its partners to prioritise interventions to target the identified groups / communities.
- Securing £116,745 funding from the Big Lottery in collaboration with Citizens Online to deliver the Digital Resilience project (Gwynedd was one of 4 areas across the UK taking part in the project). Through the project 143 frontline staff from the Council and partner organisations including the Housing Associations, have been trained to support others to use the internet and 265 drop in sessions for residents across the county have been helped (estimating that around 500 people a week receive support).
- 118 frontline staff from the Council and partner organisations have been trained to support residents to deal and manage their money, with 1,285 residents supported to apply for Discretionary Housing Payment. In collaboration with CAB within the Communities First Areas we estimate that over £300,000 of debt has been managed and over £600,000 of additional income has been secured.
- Developing employment projects (TRAC, Ad-TRAC, OPUS and Communities for Work); developing tracking and referral systems between projects along with referrals to the Department of Work and Pensions (PACE, Work Program etc.) To date £2.8M of European Funding has been secured to support the projects, with 86 individuals supported (these projects will be operational up until 2020).
- Communicating with individuals and families affected by the welfare reform, to offer support along with developing the Council's Discretionary Housing Payment Policy in-

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line with the groups affected.

Securing the resources to extend the project would realise the following by March 2018:

- Continue to train frontline staff in financial and digital literacy.
- Continue to implement the Discretionary Housing Payment Fund to support families to avoid going into debt as a result of the bedroom tax.
- Provide support for Universal Credit claimants.
- Provide a suite of employment projects to support individuals to access employment opportunities.

Receiving additional funding from the Council to correspond with the new period of the Council Plan will allow the continued employment of the team who implement the project and host events to achieve the project outcomes. The Economy and Community Department, as always, will be proactive looking to use the Council's resources to attract additional funding from the Welsh Government and others such as the Big Lottery to increase and expand on the provision available through this project.

5. NEXT STEPS & TIMETABLE

Should the Cabinet commit further resources to the scheme, it will continue to the end of the Council Plan 2017-18 on 31 March 2018.

6. UNRHYW YMGYNGHORIADAU A GYNHALIUYD CYN ARGYMELL Y PENDERFYNIAD

Cabinet Members and senior officers were informally consulted regarding the continuation of the scheme before the matter was submitted to the Cabinet for a decision.

Chief Officers' Comments

Chief Executive

'Four requests for funding relate to these papers, all relating to commitments in the new strategic plan. Clearly, two are relatively small amounts and two are larger. Obviously the aim with such projects is to fund them from existing resources. I understand that insufficient funds are available for these requirements. However, it is suggested that these funds are provided for only a year to consider if more permanent resources can be redirected to these projects if they need to continue once the one-off funds come to an end.'

GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET



Chief Finance Officer

'A number of deserving needs / uses will be competing for scarce resources from the Transformation Fund, and it is a matter for the Cabinet to prioritise the relevant applications.'

In the full Council on the 2nd of March 2017, when 'bids' for additional resources to meet unavoidable pressures on services were approved, I noted that the Council's main priorities, developmental matters to make a difference, were to be funded through the 'Strategic Plan' procedure. It is a matter for the Cabinet members, with the guidance of the Chief Executive, to prioritise the Transformation Fund to this end.

Following the Cabinet's decision on 22 November 2016 to approve the transfer of £635k to the Transformation Fund, I confirm that there is sufficient provision to realise the projects presented to the 28 March 2017 Cabinet meeting, and that further funds are in reserve for some further projects that may mature / come to the fore and reach the Cabinet for a decision in future.'

The Monitoring Officer

'As noted in the report these recommendations stem from commitments in the Council Plan for 2017-18 and are reasonable and appropriate proposals.'

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Report to Gwynedd Council Cabinet meeting

Meeting Date: 28 March 2017

Cabinet Member: Cllr. Mandy Williams-Davies
Cabinet Member for Economy & Community

Contact Officer: Dylan Griffiths
Strategy and Development Manager, Economy and Community
Department

Contact Number: 01286 679611 (32611)

Item Title: **Council Plan 2017-18:
Resources to extend the 'High Value and Quality Jobs' scheme
(project E2)**

1. DECISION SOUGHT

To commit £117,000 of additional funding, and continue with the remainder of the allocated funding, in order to extend the 'High value and quality jobs' scheme for 2017-18 to realise the commitments that are a part of the Council Plan 2017-18.

2. REASON WHY DECISION IS NEEDED

Committing resources from the Transformation Fund is an issue for the Cabinet.

3. INTRODUCTION

The Full Council adopted the 'Council Plan 2017-18' on 2nd of March 2017.

The 'High value and quality jobs' scheme was identified as one of the improvement schemes that would require additional resources to continue to deliver its commitments should it be extended for an additional year.

'High Value and Quality Jobs' was therefore included as part of the Council Plan subject to the Cabinet's agreement to fund it.

4. REASON AND JUSTIFICATION BEHIND THE DECISION

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The purpose of this scheme is to work pro-actively to create the right conditions to develop high value and quality jobs in Gwynedd and respond to the low average salaries in the county.

The project:

1. *Attracts quality inward investment in the county* by promoting and marketing Gwynedd to specific sectors; develops a relationship and provides specialist support to prospective investors and lobbies the UK Government and Welsh Government to ensure that they support investment in Gwynedd.
2. *Supports local businesses to establish and grow* within higher value sectors by providing specialist advice and assistance to businesses and promotion of the provision by others like the Welsh Government. The scheme also supports local businesses to network and collaborate to support their sectors.
3. *Ensures that the local workforce has the correct skills* to gain well paid employment within the higher value sectors by facilitating the development of links between businesses and educational establishments (schools, higher and further education).

Here is a summary of the project's highlights and main outcomes thus far:

- Ensuring that Welsh Government designated the Trawsfynydd nuclear power station and Llanbedr airfield sites as the Snowdonia Enterprise Zone (one of only eight Enterprise Zones in Wales).
- The continuation of the Trawsfynydd Nuclear Power Station decommissioning programme was ensured, safeguarding 250 higher value jobs for an extended period of time.
- Over £1.5m of investment was secured from Welsh Government and private sector, in the infrastructure at Llanbedr airfield (Snowdonia Aerospace Centre) and the development of further schemes to make a substantial investment in the site including the provision of a new entrance.
- The designation of Snowdonia Aerospace Centre as one of six sites favoured by the UK Government for the establishment of a space port was ensured.
- The establishment and development of business networks in the digital sectors (North Wales Tec and Parc Menai Technology Businesses Group) and the creative industries (Gogledd Greadigol), which brings over 200 businesses together, was supported.
- The 'Byw a Bod - Digital' scheme by Arloesi Gwynedd Wledig to raise awareness of the opportunities for the children and young people of Gwynedd within the digital sector in the county was promoted.
- A new phase of the Llwyddo'n Lleol scheme that will support children and young people to study science, technology and engineering based subjects was developed.
- Although it is a long-term project, we have already supported over 100 prospective investors in the county which has led to the creation of 76 higher

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value jobs across Gwynedd.

Securing the resources to extend the scheme would ensure the following by March 2018:

- Developing the package of innovative activities to attract inward-investment to Gwynedd by targeting businesses within the significant sectors identified, paying particular attention to the Snowdonia Enterprise Zone in Trawsfynydd and Llanbedr.
- Supporting a number of prospective investors and ensuring the greatest benefit to Gwynedd from the developments
- Developing the business clusters in the target sectors identified
- Starting to implement a new programme to support young people to study science, technology and engineering based subjects under the Llwyddo'n Lleol banner
- Collaborating with the North Wales Economic Ambition Board and the Energy Island programme to ensure that the people of Gwynedd benefit from the development of Wylfa Newydd.

Over 2,000 higher value jobs are associated with the developments we are working to attract to the county in the medium / long term.

Receiving further funding from the Council to align with the new period of the strategic plan, will allow for the continued employment of the team of officers who are delivering the scheme. It will also maintain the service of the field experts who are supporting prospective investors in Gwynedd and the continuation of our efforts to attract further investment to the county. The Economy and Community Department, as always, will also seek to use the Council's resources to attract money from other sources such as Welsh Government and the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority to increase and extend our efforts in the field.

5. NEXT STEPS AND TIMETABLE

Should the Cabinet commit further resources to the scheme, it will continue to the end of the Council Plan 2017-18 on 31 March 2018.

6. ANY CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Cabinet Members and senior officers were informally consulted regarding the continuation of the scheme before the matter was submitted to the Cabinet for a decision.

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Chief Officers' Comments

Chief Executive

'Four requests for funding relate to these papers, all relating to commitments in the new strategic plan. Clearly, two are relatively small amounts and two are larger. Obviously the aim with such projects is to fund them from existing resources. I understand that insufficient funds are available for these requirements. However, it is suggested that these funds are provided for only a year to consider if more permanent resources can be redirected to these projects if they need to continue once the one-off funds come to an end.'

Chief Finance Officer

'A number of deserving needs / uses will be competing for scarce resources from the Transformation Fund, and it is a matter for the Cabinet to prioritise the relevant applications.'

In the full Council on the 2nd of March 2017, when 'bids' for additional resources to meet unavoidable pressures on services were approved, I noted that the Council's main priorities, developmental matters to make a difference, were to be funded through the 'Strategic Plan' procedure. It is a matter for the Cabinet members, with the guidance of the Chief Executive, to prioritise the Transformation Fund to this end.

Following the Cabinet's decision on 22 November 2016 to approve the transfer of £635k to the Transformation Fund, I confirm that there is sufficient provision to realise the projects presented to the 28 March 2017 Cabinet meeting, and that further funds are in reserve for some further projects that may mature / come to the fore and reach the Cabinet for a decision in future.'

The Monitoring Officer

'As noted in the report these recommendations stem from commitments in the Council Plan for 2017-18 and are reasonable and appropriate proposals.'

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Report to Gwynedd Council Cabinet meeting

Meeting Date:	28 March 2017
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Mandy Williams-Davies Cabinet Member – Economy & Community
Contact officer:	Dylan Griffiths Strategy and Development Manager – Economy & Community
Contact Number:	01286 679611 (32611)
Item title:	Council Plan 2017-18: resources to extend the Rural Gwynedd Development Project (project E6)

1. DECISION SOUGHT

To commit £23,000 of additional funding, and continue with the remainder of the allocated funding, in order to extend the 'Rural Gwynedd Development Project' for 2017-18 to realise the commitments that are a part of the Council's Plan for 2017-18.

2. REASON WHY DECISION IS NEEDED

Committing resources from the Transformation Fund is an issue for the Cabinet.

3. INTRODUCTION

The Full Council adopted the 'Council Plan 2017-18' on 2nd March 2017.

The Rural Gwynedd Development Project was identified as one of the improvement schemes that would require additional resources to continue to deliver its commitments should it be extended for an additional year.

The Rural Gwynedd Development Project was included as part of the Council's Plan therefore it is subject to the Cabinet's agreement to fund it.

4. REASON AND JUSTIFICATION BEHIND THE DECISION

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The purpose of the project is to increase the sustainability of rural communities in Gwynedd and the most rural areas specifically - paying particular attention to developing the range and value of economic activity in the countryside.

The project:

1. *Responds to the particular needs of rural Gwynedd* by seeking to ensure that projects by the Council and others respond to the needs of the rural economy and communities.
2. *Leads on the council's contact / input to the LEADER programme in the county* (Arloesi Gwynedd Wledig) and ensures that the programme ties in with, and achieves, Gwynedd Council's objectives.
3. *Develops and supports the Llŷn and Eifionydd Employment Plan and the Meirionnydd Employment Plan* along with the Project Group of the Rural Gwynedd Development Project that brings the main stakeholders in the rural economy together.
4. *Develops schemes in response to the needs of rural Gwynedd* and targets resources from the Rural Development Plan for Wales and other sources for their delivery.
5. *Lobbies and influences* regionally and nationally to draw attention to the particular needs of the rural economy and communities.

Here is a summary of the project's highlights and main outcomes thus far:

- The Llŷn and Eifionydd Employment Plan was drawn up and adopted and a project group was established. It includes the Snowdonia National Park Authority and Arloesi Gwynedd Wledig to lead on the rural agenda in the county.
- It was ensured that Welsh Government prioritises the most rural counties of Wales when allocating LEADER resources; which led to ensuring that £4M is available in Gwynedd to develop and trial innovative ways of meeting the needs of the county's rural communities.
- Arloesi Gwynedd Wledig was established to implement LEADER in the county. By the end of 2016, 24 trials to test innovative schemes to respond to rural challenges had been conducted / were operational (here is a video of the highlights in 2016 - [hyperlink](#)).
- Five applications for further resources for the Wales Rural Development Programme were submitted, targeting an investment of £800k to support the rural economy of the county.
- Applications from the Corporate Support Department and the Adults, Health and Well-being Department for resources from the Rural Development Plan for Wales were supported.
- It was ensured that the fishing industry and the coastal communities in Gwynedd were eligible to benefit from the Wales Fisheries Fund 2014-2020.
- Gwynedd's input on a regional and national level on future support for agriculture and rural development following the referendum to leave the

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European Union was presented.

Securing the resources to extend the scheme would achieve the following by March 2018:

- Developing the work of Arloesi Gwynedd Wledig and develop and conducting innovative trials across Gwynedd and targeting resources to build on the results of the 24 trials already carried out.
- Working with partners such as Snowdonia National Park, Arloesi Gwynedd Wledig and the business community to develop further projects and secure resources to implement them.

Receiving further funding from the Council to align with the new strategic plan period would allow for the continued employment of the officer who delivers the scheme and would support our efforts to ensure the regeneration of the county's rural economy. The Economy and Community Department, as always, will also seek to use the Council's resources to attract money from other sources such as Welsh Government to increase and extend our efforts in the field.

5. NEXT STEPS AND TIMETABLE

Should the Cabinet commit further resources to the scheme, it will continue to the end of the Council Plan 2017-18 on 31 March 2018.

6. ANY CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Cabinet Members and senior officers were consulted informally regarding the continuation of the scheme before the matter was submitted to the Cabinet for a decision.

Chief Officers' Comments

Chief Executive

'Four requests for funding relate to these papers, all relating to commitments in the new strategic plan. Clearly, two are relatively small amounts and two are larger. Obviously the aim with such projects is to fund them from existing resources. I understand that insufficient funds are available for these requirements. However, it is suggested that these funds are provided for only a year to consider if more permanent resources can be redirected to these projects if they need to continue once the one-off funds come to an end.'

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Chief Finance Officer

‘A number of deserving needs / uses will be competing for scarce resources from the Transformation Fund, and it is a matter for the Cabinet to prioritise the relevant applications.

In the full Council on the 2nd of March 2017, when ‘bids’ for additional resources to meet unavoidable pressures on services were approved, I noted that the Council’s main priorities, developmental matters to make a difference, were to be funded through the ‘Strategic Plan’ procedure. It is a matter for the Cabinet members, with the guidance of the Chief Executive, to prioritise the Transformation Fund to this end.

Following the Cabinet’s decision on 22 November 2016 to approve the transfer of £635k to the Transformation Fund, I confirm that there is sufficient provision to realise the projects presented to the 28 March 2017 Cabinet meeting, and that further funds are in reserve for some further projects that may mature / come to the fore and reach the Cabinet for a decision in future.’

The Monitoring Officer

‘As noted in the report these recommendations stem from commitments in the Council Plan for 2017-18 and are reasonable and appropriate proposals.’

GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET



Report to the Cabinet

Meeting Date:	28 March 2017
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Mandy Williams-Davies Cabinet Member – Economy & Community
Contact Officer:	Dylan Griffiths Strategy and Development Manager, Economy and Community Department
Contact Number:	01286 679611 (32611)
Item Title:	Council Plan 2017-18: Resources to extend the 'High Profile and Strategic Events' scheme (project E8)

1. DECISION SOUGHT

To commit £42,000 of additional funding, and continue with the remainder of the allocated funding, in order to extend the 'High profile and strategic events' scheme for 2017-18 to realise the commitments that are a part of the Council Plan 2017-18.

2. REASON WHY DECISION IS NEEDED

Committing resources from the Transformation Fund is an issue for the Cabinet.

3. INTRODUCTION

The Full Council adopted the 'Council Plan 2017-18' on 2nd of March 2017.

The 'high profile and strategic events' scheme was identified as one of the improvement schemes that would require additional resources to continue to deliver its commitments should it be extended for an additional year.

The 'High profile and strategic events' scheme was therefore included as part of the Council's Plan it is subject to the Cabinet's agreement to fund it.

4. REASON AND JUSTIFICATION BEHIND THE DECISION

The purpose of this project is to attract nationally or internationally high-profile events to Gwynedd in order to take advantage of the ensuing economic and social benefits.

The project provides moderate financial support for the purpose of attracting and holding high profile and strategic events in Gwynedd and underlines the practical support provided to event organisers by the Council.

Here is a summary of the project's highlights and main outcomes thus far:

- 30 events have been supported including a number of events that are new to the county such as the Red Bull Hardline in Dinas Mawddwy ([hyperlink](#)).
- A £98,000 investment secured from the Welsh Government to support major events
- Over 129,000 attended the supported events.
- £2.45M of direct spending in Gwynedd by event organisers (20% of their total expenditure)
- 780 businesses in the county have benefited, safeguarding 835 jobs.
- Approximately £18.96M of economic benefit to Gwynedd was generated from the events.
- Substantial free national and international publicity and marketing.
- A change in the perception of visitors and local residents (young people in particular) of the county as a lively, energetic and modern destination.

Securing the resources to extend the scheme would achieve the following by March 2018:

- Working alongside the major events and identifying opportunities in order to ensure the greatest benefit for the businesses and residents of Gwynedd
- Working closely with Welsh Government's Major Events Unit on projects in order to attract additional investment from the Government
- Working with event organisers in order to ensure that there are opportunities for young people in Gwynedd to benefit from the events

A total of 17 events in 2017 have already asked the Council for assistance.

Receiving further funding from the Council to align with the new period of the strategic plan would allow for the continuation of the financial support and support for major and strategic events in Gwynedd.

5. NEXT STEPS & TIMETABLE

Should the Cabinet commit further resources to the scheme, it will continue to the end of the Council's 2017-18 Plan on 31 March 2018.

6. ANY CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Cabinet Members and senior officers were consulted informally regarding the continuation of the scheme before the matter was submitted to the Cabinet for a

decision.

Chief Officers' Comments

Chief Executive

'Four requests for funding relate to these papers, all relating to commitments in the new strategic plan. Clearly, two are relatively small amounts and two are larger. Obviously the aim with such projects is to fund them from existing resources. I understand that insufficient funds are available for these requirements. However, it is suggested that these funds are provided for only a year to consider if more permanent resources can be redirected to these projects if they need to continue once the one-off funds come to an end.'

Chief Finance Officer

'A number of deserving needs / uses will be competing for scarce resources from the Transformation Fund, and it is a matter for the Cabinet to prioritise the relevant applications.'

In the full Council on the 2nd of March 2017, when 'bids' for additional resources to meet unavoidable pressures on services were approved, I noted that the Council's main priorities, developmental matters to make a difference, were to be funded through the 'Strategic Plan' procedure. It is a matter for the Cabinet members, with the guidance of the Chief Executive, to prioritise the Transformation Fund to this end.

Following the Cabinet's decision on 22 November 2016 to approve the transfer of £635k to the Transformation Fund, I confirm that there is sufficient provision to realise the projects presented to the 28 March 2017 Cabinet meeting, and that further funds are in reserve for some further projects that may mature / come to the fore and reach the Cabinet for a decision in future.'

The Monitoring Officer

'As noted in the report these recommendations stem from commitments in the Council Plan for 2017-18 and are reasonable and appropriate proposals.'

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Report to the Cabinet

Meeting Date: 28 March 2017
Cabinet Member: Councillor Gareth Thomas
Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn
Contact Officer: Garem Jackson
Contact Number: 01286 679 489
Item Title: Council Plan 2017/18
Young people's social use of Welsh [P9]

1 DECISION SOUGHT

The Cabinet is asked to commit £40,000 of extra funding in order to implement the Secondary Language Strategy to lead to a further increase in pupils' social and curricular use of Welsh.

2 REASON WHY DECISION IS NEEDED

Some initiatives contained in the Council Plan 2017/18 require resources in order to fulfil the objectives of the project.

The Leadership Team wishes to individually assess every project applying for extra resources.

3 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this project is to ensure strong progression and to build on the success of the innovative Welsh Language Charter project which is implemented in Gwynedd primary schools and which has now been extended nationally. Following positive reports on the success of the Language Charter in Gwynedd, the Welsh Government requested that the specialisation and good practice in Gwynedd be used to extend the project to other areas in Wales.

In order to ensure solid progression for the Primary Language Charter project, and to continue to improve the Welsh language skills of our young people, during 2016/17 a Secondary Language Strategy was developed which provides clear guidance on how to set about planning intervention in order to improve awareness and increase the use of the language among young people in the secondary sector.

The Strategy incorporates the recommendations of the Trywydd company report (a report commissioned to conduct a survey into the situation of the Welsh language as a social language among young people in Gwynedd secondary schools), the Secondary Language Practices Support Project, the Recommendations in the Report by Alun Charles, the Welsh Government Strategy: a million Welsh speakers by 2050 and the Welsh Government Framework to increase the use of Welsh by children and young people. The Strategy sets out clear expectations and guidance for the county's secondary schools on techniques to change language practices and the various ways of influencing pupils' social language inside and outside school.

The extra resources are needed in order to fund the post (initially a one-year secondment) of 'Secondary Language Charter Co-ordinator', to:

- support the 14 secondary schools to implement the main priorities of the Strategy
- prepare and implement comprehensive training programmes for secondary teachers on the methodologies of bilingual teaching and learning
- further promote the benefits, advantages and usefulness of bilingualism so as to strengthen pupils' motivation to develop into persons who are effortlessly fluent in both languages.

The responsibilities of the post are noted below:

- Lead, promote and support the work of all Gwynedd secondary schools to implement the Secondary Language Charter, nurturing specialisation, increasing understanding of the essentials of language planning, together with establishing methods of monitoring, gathering data, gauging impact and accrediting the implementation of the Language Charter.
- Lead and collaborate with the county's schools to raise pupils' standards of attainment in relation to the Welsh language.
- Provide appropriate training for different tiers of the workforce.
- Contribute to the work of ensuring that the Authority responds to the requirements and principles of the:
 - Welsh-medium Education Strategy
 - Welsh Government Strategy: a million Welsh speakers by 2050
 - Welsh Language in Education Strategic Plan
 - Authority's Language Strategy and Strategic Plan.
- Responsibility for developing, leading and promoting the Authority's policy within the context of Gwynedd Secondary Schools' Welsh Language Charter.
- Responsibility for determining standards of work and establishing procedures with all members of the secondary schools' workforce that will lead to developing pupils' ability and confidence to become proficiently bilingual.
- Responsibility for leading and co-ordinating meetings of the 'Secondary Language Working Group' task and finish group and undertaking an active role as a member of that group.
- Responsibility for implementing, promoting and supporting schools' work in relation to fulfilling the requirements of the Language Charter,

interpreting this within the context of children's social use of Welsh and raising the standards of educational achievement.

- Plan, provide and commission appropriate training for different tiers of the workforce when responding to the requirements of the Language Charter.
- Responsibility for developing and nurturing skills and specialisation in language planning and language awareness among the workforce.
- Nurture links between schools that will encourage effective and strategic collaboration to promote and support the work of practitioners across the secondary sector.
- Lead and provide specialist knowledge about the essentials of language planning; research and evidence in the field; and offer practical support to schools on methods of gauging the impact of language use.
- Provide advice and support for schools to enable them to prepare a portfolio of sufficient and clear evidence that will confirm the aim of the Language Charter.
- Establish and manage the process of monitoring and accrediting the work of schools.
- Responsibility for establishing an information library of data and evidence of the influence and impact of implementing the Language Charter on children's social use of Welsh.

4 REASON AND JUSTIFICATION BEHIND THE DECISION

Receiving the extra resource from the Council would allow strong continuation and progression for the project and would ensure that Gwynedd continues to lead in innovative work across the north and nationally.

5 NEXT STEPS AND TIMETABLE

The extra resource is needed to implement the Strategy from 1 April 2017.

6 ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

N/A.

Statutory Officers Comments

Chief Executive:

Moving forward in implementing the Secondary Language Strategy and to lead to a further increase in pupils' social and curricular use of Welsh is very important to the Council and therefore this request for funding needs to be approved to implement this further.

Chief Finance Officer:

There will be several requirements/meriting consideration that will compete for the Transformation Fund's scarce resources, and the Cabinet members will decide on

how the relevant applications will be prioritized.

At the full meeting held on 2nd March 2017, when "bids" were approved for additional resources to meet unavoidable pressures on services, I mentioned that the Council's main priorities, developmental issues in order to make a difference, would be funded and commissioned through the 'Strategy Plan' procedure. It is at the Cabinet members discretion, with the Chief Executive's guidance, to prioritize use of the Transformation Fund for this purpose.

Following the Cabinet's decision on 22 November 2016 to approve transfer of £635k to the Transformation Fund, I confirm that adequate provision to realise the submitted plans for consideration at the Cabinet Meeting held on 28 March 2017, and that there are further reserves available for other projects that could become apparent/be developed and reach the Cabinet for future approval.

Monitoring Officer:

No comments regarding propriety.

CABINET REPORT

28 March 2017

Cabinet Member: Councillor Peredur Jenkins

Subject: The Council's Asset Plan 2009/10 to 2018/19

Contact Officer: Dilwyn Williams, Chief Executive

Required decision

The Cabinet is asked to

- i. Note the likely final position with the 10 year Asset Plan;
 - ii. Confirm that we no longer require the £15m provision for social care in the current Plan and that the requirements for that service be considered as part of the new Plan to be established by the new Council;
 - iii. Allocate £200,000 of the £2.14m revenue provision for unsupported borrowing which will not now be required to meet the 2016/17 savings requirement;
 - iv. That £800,000 of this resource be used to supplement the repairs and maintenance programme from 1 April 2017, leaving the remainder for the new Council to decide upon when considering its savings and asset requirements for the future.
-

Background

1. In 2009, following a detailed assessment of the Council's capital spending requirements, and in recognising the fact that our resources would not allow us to meet all of those requirements, a series of workshops for all Council members were convened to try and establish our capital priorities for the following 10 years.
2. As a result of these discussions an Asset Plan was established and it was adopted by the Council on the 22 October 2009.
3. The full plan can be seen by following the link given below –

https://democracy.cyngor.gwynedd.gov.uk/Data/Full%20Council/20091022/Agenda/16_01_Corporate%20Asset%20Strategy.pdf

4. 2018/19 will be the last year of the present Plan and early in the next financial year, the new Council will need to establish a new strategy for the 2018/19 – 27/28 period.
5. This report's purpose is to inform the Cabinet of what has happened over the life of the Plan and close the loop on aspects of the original plan.
6. In general, the Plan anticipated capital spending of £143.8m over the 10 year period. A summary of the matters covered by the plan is given in Appendix 1.
7. The intention was to fund the £143.8m by utilising the following funding streams -
 - i. Capital allocation by the Government – £98.7m
 - ii. Capital Receipts (a programme of asset disposals for those assets which we did not need was agreed in order to meet our capital needs) - £14.1m
 - iii. Specific grants from government departments - £4m
 - iv. Unsupported Borrowing - £23m
 - v. To be found - £4m
8. The Plan anticipated that we would have to use £23m of unsupported borrowing (that is to say, borrowing without financial support from the Government), which would mean having to find revenue savings to fund the borrowing.
9. At the time, we calculated that we would need a revenue budget of £909,100 for each £10m we would want to borrow which meant that we needed to find revenue savings of £2.091m to fund the borrowing we anticipated.
10. The 2009/10 revenue budget already included £1.55m of revenue savings set aside to borrow the required amount with an intention to add to this amount in the following years. [By 2012/13 the Council had managed to raise this sum to £2.7m]

Later developments

11. Soon after adopting the Plan two significant issues arose which meant we had to change it.

12. By 2011/12 the effect of the banking crisis had worked itself through to the public purse and the support we received from the Welsh Government for our capital programme reduced from £9.9m annually to the £6.67m we receive today. This meant that we lost resources amounting to £23.75m over the life of the Plan.
13. Other calls upon the Plan had also appeared, namely the need for the Council to find match funding if we wanted to take advantage of the Government's schools improvement grants initiative. We successfully attracted resources in order to achieve a number of schemes (including Bro Dysyni; Schools in the Penllyn area; Y Gader; Groeslon; Glan Cegin and Hafod Lon). This entailed £34.84m of expenditure on top of that already included in the Asset Plan funded by £22.83m of school improvement grants and £12.01m to be found by the Council.
14. There was also some concern at the time that we would have to do something about the crisis in the Care sector and it was also agreed that we should set aside £15m in the Plan in case we needed to do something in the area.
15. In December 2011, the Council agreed to incorporate the changes to the Plan and to try and find the additional £50.76m by utilising further unsupported borrowing.
16. In theory, on the basis of the calculation made in 2009, this would have meant that we needed to increase the required revenue budget from £2.7m to £6.7m in order to fund all of the unsupported borrowing.
17. Over the following years, the Council also added further capital requirements in the form of an addition to the Hendre School project (£2.93m); an addition to the spending on schools organisation in order to allow us to prepare plans (£1.26m); and a recognition of higher capital costs associated with waste disposal (£1.11m).

Assessment of the current position

18. The first thing to note is that we have not managed to find the £6.7m which we thought we needed to fund unsupported borrowing following the 2011 review.
19. The reason is of course that austerity also found its way through to local authorities' revenue budgets which meant that every penny of savings that we could find needed to be diverted to meet the revenue funding gap which had arisen.

20. However, having adopted an Annual Minimum Revenue Provision Statement as part of our Treasury Management strategy which sets out a policy to repay unsupported borrowing over a specified period of up to 50 years, and taking into account that interest rates are now at historically low levels, we now estimate that we would only need £2.9m to fund all of the £73.76m which would be needed [the original £23m and the £50.76m noted in clause 13 above.]
21. There were also other developments.
22. The need for capital resources in the Care sector has not arisen over the period of the Plan. Any resources which were required (e.g. Frondeg Centre) were funded by utilising revenue savings from within the business case, and diverting social housing grant to extra care housing schemes. The £15m will not be used in the Plan's timeframe (although it may need to be reinstated when preparing the next plan).
23. We have also managed to reduce the need to spend by various methods –
 - i. Having received grant support to improve the condition of our roads we were able to reduce the dependency on the Asset Plan;
 - ii. We managed to find alternative ways to avoid having to spend on "Vic Hallam" type structures in our schools;
 - iii. In disposing of assets we reduced the need to spend on the repairs and maintenance backlog;
 - iv. We have changed the way we renew some vehicles; and
 - v. We received grant funding to finance an element of our carbon reduction programme.
24. We also managed to generate higher capital receipts than expected, and set aside further revenue reserves - although the decision not to dispose of the Victoria Dock dampened the effect somewhat.
25. In addition, we have limited the amount of inflation released from the provision by ensuring that schemes are limited to the original sums where possible.
26. One side effect of proper planning is that due to the fact that we had already set aside revenue resources to fund unsupported borrowing from the outset, and as we do not have to give effect to that borrowing immediately due to the spend profile within the plan, for each year that we do not need to borrow, £2.7m of additional resource (or however much is left in the budget after funding unsupported borrowing) is available to supplement the funding for the programme.

27. This has meant that we have been able to provide a further £16.92m of resources over the life of the plan.

28. By the time we arrive at the final year of the plan, it is anticipated that this will be the position in relation to changes in the need to spend and the funding requirement -

Addition (reduction)	Sum £m
Spending	
Schools projects	39.03
Road improvement scheme (Welsh Government Grant to fund borrowing)	11.87
Reduction in the need for repairs & maintenance as a result of asset disposal	(2.07)
Social Care Provision (Original £15m now not required)	-
Reduction in spending on roads and bridge maintenance as a result of the grant scheme	(5.80)
Reduction in the spending on the Carbon scheme due to funding from Salix	(1.20)
Finding an alternative way of dealing with "Vic Hallam" type buildings in schools	(3.88)
Reduction in the need for capital to renew vehicles	(1.70)
Additional Waste Strategy costs	1.11
Limiting the release of inflation	(14.77)
Total additional net spending needs	<u>22.59</u>
Funding	
School improvement grants	22.83
Grant to fund road improvements	11.87
Additional capital receipts and reserves	2.79
Accumulated borrowing provision not used	16.92
Reduction in Government borrowing support	(23.75)
Unsupported borrowing funded from the capital charges revenue budget	2.27
Total additional net funding	<u>32.93</u>
Reduction in the funding requirement	10.34

29. Despite all of these changes therefore the funding requirement has decreased £10.34m from the original plan for the reasons noted, but as the original plan was under funded by £3.97m, this means that the need for unsupported borrowing has decreased from the original £23m to £16.63m.

30. Originally we had anticipated that we would need £909,100 for each £10m we intended to borrow.

31. As a result of the changes noted in paragraph 20 above in relation to our treasury management strategy and much lower interest rates than those in effect at the time we prepared the plan, it now means that we have needed £394,275 for each £10m of borrowing and therefore we only needed £568,860 of the £2.7m set aside to fund the unsupported borrowing we will actually be undertaking.

32. We already knew an element of this picture when we set the savings programme for 2016/17, and assumed that £200,000 would be available for our savings programme. The additional efficiency savings for 2016/17 has assumed that this will therefore be available in order to meet the funding gap.

Repairs and Maintenance of Buildings

33. One fundamental aspect of the original plan was to try and rectify the repairs and maintenance backlog on our buildings which had built up over many years.
34. An assessment at the time identified that the backlog (that is to say the works required to bring buildings back to a satisfactory state of repair) amounts to a little over £20m. It was later identified as our systems improved that the sum was closer to £27m.
35. As the repairs and maintenance revenue budget is around £2.5m per annum, given that a backlog had been created this amount was insufficient. It was agreed at the time therefore that an additional provision of £1.5m per annum would be included in the plan to try and avoid the backlog getting worse.
36. We also provided for £1.9m per annum to try and get rid of the £27m backlog which had accrued by 2009/10.
37. A review conducted in 2015/16 showed that after spending £15.4m on the backlog it had reduced to £14.5m from the original £27m but of course we would have expected it to reduce to £11.6m if our original assumptions were correct.
38. This suggested that the £1.5m per annum we added to the repairs and maintenance budget was insufficient to avoid a continuing backlog growth and that we should be spending closer to £2.16m per annum if we wanted to avoid it growing.
39. Our experience has shown therefore that the additional spending has significantly reduced the repairs and maintenance backlog, but that there will continue to be a backlog at the end of the current Plan, and if we wish to ensure that it does not increase further, we need to spend over an additional £2m per annum on repairs and maintenance.
40. In the current environment that is going to be difficult but we should perhaps move in that direction.

Conclusions

41. Despite the significant reduction in Government support for our capital programmes, we have successfully achieved that which we set out to do in our Asset Plan and over the years we have managed to add further priorities as they arose.
42. Strong management of the programme has meant that we have managed to fund the additions to the original plan whilst reducing the amount of unsupported borrowing we required and lower interest rates have meant that we required less resource to fund that borrowing.
43. Our experience has shown that the additional £1.5m of repairs and maintenance funds are insufficient to avoid a further deterioration in the condition of our buildings and that the requirement is closer to £2m if we are to avoid further increases in the backlog.

Recommendations

44. It is therefore recommended that the Cabinet –
 - i. Notes the likely final position with the 10 year Asset Plan;
 - ii. Confirms that we no longer require the £15m provision for social care in the current Plan and that the requirements for that service be considered as part of the new Plan to be established by the new Council;
 - iii. Allocates £200,000 of the £2.14m revenue provision for unsupported borrowing which will not now be required to meet the 2016/17 savings requirement;
 - iv. That £800,000 of this resource be used to supplement the repairs and maintenance programme from 1 April 2017, leaving the remainder for the new Council to decide upon when considering its savings and asset requirements for the future.

APPENDIX 1

Summary of the contents of the Asset Plan adopted in October 2009

Expenditure on	Sum £m
Supplement the spending on repairs and maintenance to avoid further deterioration	15.00
Rectify the repairs and maintenance backlog	19.00
Steps to guard against fire and asbestos	5.60
Education :	
Provision in place of "Vic Hallam" type buildings which have come to the end of their life	15.30
Schools organisation	5.80
Provision for a new school in Bangor	4.50
Other education issues	2.64
Housing Renewal Grants	21.00
Highways and Municipal Services :	
Road Maintenance	8.00
Safety Fence Renewal	1.10
Street Lighting renewal	0.50
Waste Strategy	6.90
Vehicle renewal	3.40
Other minor Highways and Municipal issues	0.49
Regulatory :	
Preparation of Transport Schemes	1.10
Bridge and Retaining Wall maintenance	1.25
Cycle routes	0.20
Care Homes - minor improvements	0.50
Economic Development - Minor schemes	0.10
Information Technology renewal	3.90
Carbon management	2.00
Other buildings and systems	2.79
Provision for issues which would arise over time	5.00
Provision for inflation	17.75
Total	143.82

Views of the Statutory Officers**Chief Executive :**

Author of the report

Monitoring Officer:

The report includes a review and appropriate recommendations to bring the current plan to a conclusion and bridging towards the next plan. No further observations in terms of propriety.

Head of Finance:

The Finance Department has cooperated with the author in preparing the report and I confirm the accuracy of the content. I believe the recommendations to be sensible in the circumstances, until a new plan is brought before the Council.

REPORT TO A MEETING OF GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET

Date of Meeting:	28 March, 2017
Cabinet Member:	Councillor Gareth Thomas, Cabinet Member for Education
Contact Officer:	Iwan T. Jones, Corporate Director
Contact	
Telephone Number:	01286 679685
Title of Item:	Education Department Performance Report

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The purpose of this report is to update you on what has been achieved in the field for which I, as Cabinet Member for Education, have responsibility. This will include outlining the latest with the pledges in the Strategic Plan; where the performance measures have reached; and the latest in terms of the savings and cuts schemes in the Department.
- 1.2. I will remind you that all matters have already been the subject of discussions and have been scrutinised at meetings of the relevant management team, which also included a representation from the scrutiny committee.
- 1.3. On the whole, I am comfortable with the performance of the Strategic Plan projects, with good progress made on the majority of them. In addition, the performance is generally good across the key stages; however, specific attention is given to the fields of Primary Foundation Phase, and Key Stage 3.

2. THE DECISION SOUGHT

- 2.1 To accept and note the information in the report.
- 2.2 The Cabinet is asked to approve the re-profiling in relation to the free Breakfast Club for primary school children, as a slippage has been seen in the realisation time. There will be a need to slip £41,700 to realise it in 2018/19.

3. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDING THE DECISION

- 3.1. In order to ensure effective performance management and that we respond pro-actively to the need to achieve efficiency savings as expected.

4. STRATEGIC PLAN PROJECTS

4.1. P1 Improve and Standardise Education Standards

- 4.1.1 The purpose of this project is to improve and reconcile education standards across Gwynedd in order to ensure that children and young people attain the highest standards so that they may gain qualifications and skills.
- 4.1.2 Following the scrutiny and analysis of the performance of summer 2016, the project has prioritised the matter of raising standards in the Foundation Phase as performance has been static for some years now.
- 4.1.3 In order to respond to this, the Department, through the County Quality Board, has been focussing on the following:
- Establish a classroom assistant Up-skilling Programme in order to respond to under-performance in the field: Training to target literacy in the foundation phase
 - Target consistency in teacher assessments
 - Ensure better understanding amongst head teachers of the requirements associated with the foundation phase outcomes so that they are more confident to challenge targets and assessments. Three challenge advisors are working with the schools to target outcomes in terms of linguistic and mathematics development.
- 4.1.4 It is fair to say that the County Quality Board (CQS) is increasingly proving its value, and the fact that fewer schools are going into a category is proof of that. The work undertaken by CQS was certainly having an impact on reviews and categorisation profiles. Only two schools are in any follow-up categories at present and only two Schools are in the red category. The 2016-17 categorisations highlights improvements in the profile - see **Appendix 1**. The important message here is that we have seen progress in the Green and Yellow categories since 2014. Substantial progress was seen in the percentage from 71.2% in 2014-15 to 86.3% in 2016-17.

4.2. P2 Improving Leadership and Management

- 4.2.1 The purpose of this project is to improve the conditions for leaders in order to raise standards. We will implement proposals to improve leadership and management with the aim of moving toward the goal of having schools with non-contact head teachers, i.e. who do not teach children.

- 4.2.2 The work of consulting with schools and governors on the 'Education for Purpose for Gwynedd' is continuing. Since I reported last time, drop-in sessions were held across Gwynedd with governors, parents and the extended community. The department analyses the information that has been received through these sessions. The hope is to present the new vision before the summer. This timetable will go hand in hand with plans for Welsh Government's Band B programme.
- 4.2.3 The work of developing leadership is progressing at good pace, with work commenced on planning a programme to support the leaders of the future and identify suitable individuals. In addition, an additional development programme has been introduced for middle Leaders where there is an element of concern regarding its implementation.
- 4.2.4 The inspection profile for 2016-17 is very positive - see **Appendix 2**. By now, no school is in a statutory category and only two schools are in the Estyn Monitoring category (Bro Cynfal and Llanbedr). These two schools have made expected progress at the appropriate pace.

4.3. Programme for a network of viable schools for the future.

4.3.1 P4 Ysgol Bro Idris

The purpose of this project is to establish an All-through Welsh-medium Catchment Area School for 3-16 year olds in the Gader catchment area.

The construction work is progressing in line with the timetable set. The staffing structure for the new school has been agreed along with the majority of managerial posts, with the site heads appointed at the beginning of February. The Deputy will also start in post after Easter.

The school place allocation policy has been agreed and a process to allocate every pupil will take place during the coming weeks.

4.3.5 P5 Ysgol Glancegin

The purpose of this project is to secure an investment to provide a new building for Ysgol Glan Cegin, which is located in Maesgeirchen, Bangor.

The construction work is progressing with the new school to be ready by the beginning of the Autumn Term 2017. The Authority is monitoring applications for access in order to ensure that the capacity will be sufficient for the catchment area.

Discussions are continuing with key stake-holders regarding the possibility of establishing an Integrated Family Centre on the site. A meeting was held with the Health Board recently regarding the needs for the area. I have asked the department for a further report on the work of establishing the centre, and ensure clear project management arrangements.

I am also eager for the Department to hold discussions with the Early Years Team in the Council and the Property Department regarding the Flying Start provision in the new School.

4.3.4 P6 Y Berwyn Catchment Area

The timetable for commencing the process of establishing the Shadow Governing Body and appointing a headteacher for the Campus has slipped due to the recent discussion between the Council and officers from St. Asaph diocese.

I submitted a report to the Cabinet on 14 February detailing the situation and a decision was made to re-consult with the governors and governing bodies of the schools of Berwyn Catchment-area on the option to abandon the proposal to establish a Voluntary Controlled 3-19 Learning Campus (VC, Church in Wales) in the town of Bala. The proposal is to return to the Cabinet, to report on the outcome of the consultation and propose recommendations in terms of the way forward.

4.4 P7 Transforming the Provision of Additional Educational Needs and Inclusion

The formal consultation process has commenced with the workforce being affected and two Senior Managers have been appointed. The process of adapting the strategy and staffing structures is continuing; however there is a definitive target to appoint to the posts within the structure before the end of May 2017. The Service will be operational across Gwynedd and Anglesey by September 2017.

5. MEASURING PERFORMANCE

5.1. Education Performance Measures - Data of Summer 2016

5.1.1 I attach a copy of the department's measures in **Appendix 3**.

5.1.2 I reported on the measures / results for Summer 2016 in the report I submitted to you before Christmas. As the figures relating to results are reported annually, this data is not different to what I presented to you last time.

5.1.3 I have already noted the fields that require improvements in the primary and secondary sector, and the department will focus on specific matters that I have elaborated upon already in point 4.1 (**P1 Improve and Standardise Education Standards**).

5.1.4 I recently received correspondence from Cllr Peredur Jenkins asking me to consider the measure regarding monthly invoices paid as evidence showed that the figure slipped with schools invoices. I will ask business officers in the area offices to address this and I will report back to you in due course.

6. SAVINGS/FINANCIAL POSITION

6.1. It is anticipated that £55,408 of the savings for the Education Department for the year 2016/17 will be realised on time, with the remainder (£38,681) slipping to 2017/18 with the Department bridging the deficit.

6.2 I confirm that £ 2,095,000 of school effectiveness savings target of £ 4.3 m (2016/16-2016/17) has been fully implemented in 2016/17.

6.3 On the whole, I do not anticipate a problem in realising schemes for 2017/18 but I do anticipate that there will be a need to re-profile the scheme regarding breakfast club for primary school children as there has been a slippage in the implementation period. As I have noted already, £41,700 from this scheme will need to be slipped to be realised in 2018-19.

Statutory Officers Comments

Chief Executive:

"The report submitted is extremely positive with progress in the key fields of Standards of Education and Improving Leadership deserving of specific attention. The slow pace at which savings are realised in accordance with the profile is causing some concern and is something which needs to be monitored."

Monitoring Officer:

"No observation from a propriety perspective".

Head of Finance:

"I can confirm the accuracy of the Financial aspects in part 6 of the report. I agree that the request for reprofiling one savings plan is reasonable, so in the Council's budget I had planned prudently on the assumption that the Cabinet will endorse the recommendation."

Appendices:

- Appendix 1** Schools Categorisation List 2016
- Appendix 2** School Inspections Data
- Appendix 3** Education Department Measures

APPENDIX 1 – SCHOOLS CATEGORISATION, JANUARY 2017

	Gwynedd: Primary	Cat: ESTYN	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
Dyffryn Ogwen					
1	Bodfeurig		2	A	
2	Penybryn, Bethesda		1	A	
3	Llanllechid		2	A	
4	Rhiwlas, Bangor		2	B	
5	Abercaseg, Bethesda		1	A	
6	Tregarth		1	A	
Brynrefail					
1	Gwaun Gynfi		2	B	*
2	Llanrug		2	B	*
3	Bethel		2	A	
4	Cwm-y-Glo		2	B	
5	Dolbadarn		2	B	*
6	Penisarwaun		3	B	*
7	Waunfawr		3	B	*
Dyffryn Nantlle					
1	Bro Llifon		3 [D/B]	B	*
2	Brynaerau		2	A	
3	Llanllyfni		2	B	
4	Baladeulyn		1	C	
5	Nebo		2	B	
6	Bro Lleu		1	A	
7	Talysarn		1	A	
Friars/Tryfan					
1	Glanadda		2	D	
2	Glancegin		1	B	*
3	Coedmawr Infants		2	C	
4	Garnedd		2	A	
5	Felinheli		2	B	
6	Hirael		3	B	
7	Faenol		1	A	
8	Llandygai		1	B	*
9	Cae Top		1	A	
10	Our Lady		4	B	
Syr Hugh Owen					
1	Gelli		1	B	
2	Felinwnda		2	B	*
3	Rhosgadfan		3	D	
4	Rhostryfan		3	B	
5	Hendre		2	B	
6	Bontnewydd		3	A	*
7	Maesincla		1	B	*
8	Llandwrog		3	B	*
9	Santes Helen		4	C	
Tywyn					
1	Ysgol Craig y Deryn:	MA	4	B	
2	Dyffryn Dulas		2	B	
3	Penybryn		3	B	*
4	Pennal		3	B	
Gader					
1	Brithdir		2	A	
2	Dinas Mawddwy		1	B	*
3	Ganllwyd		4	B	
4	Llanelltyd		3	B	
5	Ieuan Gwynedd		3	B	
6	Friog		3	A	*
7	Dolgellau		2	B	
Moelwyn					
1	Bro Cynfal	ME	3	C	
2	Edmwnd Prys		3	B	

APPENDIX 1 – SCHOOLS CATEGORISATION, JANUARY 2017

3	Manod		1	B	*
4	Tanygrisiau		2	B	
5	Bro Hedd Wyn		4	B	
6	Maenofferen		2	A	
Berwyn					
1	Bro Tegid		3	B	*
2	O.M.Edwards		1	A	
3	Bro Tryweryn		1	A	
4	Ffridd y Llyn		2	A	
5	Beuno Sant		3	A	*
Ardudwy					
1	Traeth		3	B	*
2	Dyffryn Ardudwy		4	B	
3	Llanbedr	ME	3	C	
4	Garreg		3	B	*
5	Cefn Coch		1	A	
6	Talsarnau		2	B	#
7	Tan y Castell		2	B	*
Glan y Môr					
1	Abererch		2	A	
2	Chwilog		1	B	
3	Bro Plenydd		2	B	*
4	Llanaelhaearn		2	C	
5	Llanbedrog		3	B	*
6	Llangybi		2	B	
7	Pentreuchaf		3	A	*
8	Eifl		2	C	
9	Cymerau	MA	1	B	*
Botwnnog					
1	Nefyn		2	A	*
2	Abersoch		3	B	
3	Crud y Werin		3	B	
4	Ederon		2	B	*
5	Babanod Morfa Nefyn		2	A	
6	Sarn Bach		2	A	*
7	Tudweiliog		1	B	*
8	Pont y Gof		2	B	*
9	Foelgron		2	B	
Eifionydd					
1	Beddgelert		1	B	*
2	Borth y Gest		2	B	*
3	Treferythyr		3	B	
4	Garndolbenmaen		1	B	*
5	Eifion Wyn		1	A	
6	Gorlan		3	B	
7	Llanystumdwy		3	B	*
Special Schools					
1	Pendalar		-	B	*
2	Hafod Lon		-	A	

	Gwynedd: Secondary	Cat: ESTYN	Step 1	Step 2	Step 3
1	Ardudwy		2	B	
2	Berwyn		2>3	B	
3	Botwnnog		2	B	
4	Brynrefail		1	B	*
5	Dyffryn Nantlle		3	C	
6	Dyffryn Ogwen		1	A	
7	Eifionydd		2>3	C	
8	Friars		1	B	*
9	Gader		1	C	

APPENDIX 1 – SCHOOLS CATEGORISATION, JANUARY 2017

10	Glan y Môr		1	B	
11	Moelwyn		2>3	B	*
12	Syr Hugh Owen		1>3	B	
13	Tryfan		1	B	*
14	Tywyn		1	B	

APPENDIX 3: PERFORMANCE MEASURES - DATA OF SUMMER 2016

Reference			Performance measures	2013-2014 Performance Summer 2014	2014-15 Performance Summer 2015	2015-16 Performance Summer 2016	2017-18 Direction of ambition
CB	CS ESTYN	National					
1	P1 A2	EDU/017	Percentage of pupils who were 15 years old (on 31 August of the previous year) at schools maintained by the local authority who achieved 5 GCSE grades A* to C, including Welsh first language or English, and Mathematics - Threshold Level 2+.	61.1%	63.3%	65.9%	Improvement
1	P1 A2	DANS08	Percentage of 16 year old pupils who gain 5 GCSE grades A* - C - Threshold Level 2.	87.7%	88.9%	85.9%	Improvement
1	P1 A2	DANS07	Percentage of 16 year old pupils who gain 5 GCSE grades D - G - Threshold Level 1.	97.2%	97.9%	97.3%	Improvement
1	P1 A2	DANS06	Percentage of 16 year old pupils who achieve the Core Subjects Indicator, Grade C or above, in Welsh or English, Mathematics and Science.	60.5%	62.4%	64.4%	Improvement
1	P1 A2	EDU/011	Average point scores for pupils who were 15 years old on the 31 August of the previous year in schools maintained by local authorities.	615.8	617.2	591.0	Improvement
1	P1 A2		Average capped point scores for pupils who were 15 years old on the 31 August of the previous year in schools maintained by local authorities.	362.2	362.0	355.8	Improvement
	P1	DGD17	Percentage of young people aged 16-18 who are not in education, employment or training	1.7%	1.8%	To be confirmed	Improvement
1	P1	EDU/004	Percentage of pupils assessed at the end of Year 9 (KS3), and	89.1%	91.3%	92.0%	

			who reach the expected level in Welsh or English, Mathematics and Science (CPI).				Improvement
5	P1	EDU/006ii	Percentage of pupils assessed in schools maintained by the local authority, and who receive a Teacher Assessment in Welsh (as a first language) at the end of Key Stage 3.	81.20%	83.2%	83.7%	Improvement
5	13	GY06	Percentage of pupils who achieved a Level 3 good or above in KS2 who received a Welsh First Language teacher's assessment at the end of KS3.	87.4%	89.5%	88.7%	Improvement
1	P1	-	Percentage of pupils assessed at the end of Year 6 (KS2), and who reach the expected level in Welsh or English, Mathematics and Science (CPI).	86.0%	89.5%	89.8%	Improvement
2	P1	-	Percentage of pupils assessed at the end of the Foundation Phase (FP), and who reach the expected level (CPI).	85.2%	86.8%	86.8%	Improvement
6	P7	EDU/008a	Number of permanent exclusions in primary schools during the academic year.	0	3	0	Maintain
6	P7	EDU/008b	Number of permanent exclusions in secondary schools during the academic year.	4	3	3	Improvement
4	P1	EDU/016a	Percentage of attendance at primary schools during the academic year.	95.10%	95.19%	95.45%	Improvement
4	P1	EDU/016b	Percentage of pupil attendance at secondary schools during the academic year.	94.20%	94.6%	95.16%	Improvement



Report to a meeting of Gwynedd Council Cabinet

Date: 28 March 2017
Title of Item: Performance Report of the Deputy Leader
Purpose: To accept and note the information in the report
Cabinet Member: Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn
Contact Officer: Dilwyn Williams, Chief Executive

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update my fellow members on what has been achieved in the fields within my remit as Deputy Leader. This includes outlining the latest developments against pledges within the Strategic Plan; where we have reached with the performance measures; and the latest in terms of savings and cuts schemes.
- 1.2 I would remind you that all matters have already been the subject of discussions and have been scrutinised at meetings of the relevant Management Teams.
- 1.3 On the whole, I am happy with the progress of the Strategic Plan projects and the performance measures for which I am responsible.

2 THE DECISION SOUGHT

2.1 To accept and note the information in the report

2.2 The Cabinet is requested to approve re-profiling the **Savings in the Coroner's budget (DaCh13)** to 2018/19 rather than 2017/18 as originally intended and as outlined in 6.2.

3 THE REASON FOR THE NEED FOR A DECISION

3.1 In order to ensure effective performance management.

4. STRATEGIC PLAN PROJECTS

The Welsh Language

4.1. **11 Communities promoting the Welsh language - Promote the Welsh language by supporting and empowering four communities by assisting residents to undertake an assessment of the position of the Welsh language in the community in order to strengthen the status and the use of the language.**

Project Progress

4.1.1 The project is still underway in the communities of Bangor, Dolgellau and Porthmadog/Pwllheli and a summary of the main activities can be seen below. You are reminded that the work programme for the project has been agreed jointly with Welsh Government which funds the work via Hunaniaith.

4.1.2 **Bangor**

- **Popdy** - Over the past weeks, the task of raising awareness of Popdy has continued with various activities that promote the Welsh language being held. In addition, Bangor Language Initiative continues to consider applying for a grant that would be able to fund community project(s).
- Businesses (private nurseries, sports clubs and primary health carers) were targeted in order to motivate them to increase their visual use of the Welsh language and boost the confidence of oral Welsh for 25 staff that will benefit from attending five three-hour sessions. The sessions started in January 2017.
- The work continues in the field of children and young people, with football practice sessions being held through the medium of Welsh for 27 individuals, providing four days of outdoor activities for 15 individuals, and a presentation on the Treachery of the Blue Books for 25 individuals. In addition, a Welsh language music set and a quiz was held, targeting approximately 475 pupils in Years 7-13.
- In light of the meeting held to discuss the Welsh language at Ysgol Friars, it is intended to give a language awareness presentation to Year 7 and 12 pupils during the coming weeks.

4.1.3 **Dolgellau**

- A disco was held for individuals under 18 years old by Dolgellau Entertainment Organisation in November with 138 in attendance and the Winter Gig at the end of January.
- A number of activities have been held in the community in order to promote the use of the Welsh language, including a lantern-making workshop, a Carols procession and Christmas Bingo. In addition, a Soup and Song Evening was held which was funded by one of the local businesses, which is encouraging in terms of local ownership of the work.

- Over the past weeks, efforts have been made to create a Love Session and put Dolgellau on the map as a romantic destination, bridging Dydd Santes Dwynwen and Valentine's Day.

4.1.4 Porthmadog/Pwllheli

- A Welsh gig was held in Pwllheli on 2 December 2016 that was attended by 58 local residents.
- In addition, work is still ongoing within the Porthmadog community, with five community groups having agreed on action plans to stabilise the Welsh language as a language medium, and have visited 82 businesses to share information on the Welsh language Promotion Package.

4.2 **12 - The Welsh language and public services - Assist public organisations to increase and improve their provision of bilingual services for the residents of Gwynedd so that they can use the Welsh language naturally. By collaborating with the Local Services Board, it will be possible to set consistent and clear standards and act jointly on plans that will improve the user's experience.**

Project Progress

4.3 As I mentioned in my previous performance report, it was agreed that every organisation would provide a very brief paper assessing their body against the ambition of providing the first contact for any citizen through the medium of Welsh, and to report back by the end of November. This timetable has slipped somewhat but, by the Cabinet meeting, I expect that each body's responses will have been received and the intention is to organise a meeting of the senior officers group who are leading on this issue during April.

4.3.1 An assessment of the Council's abilities to do the above has been prepared and I have agreed to submit the information to the Hunaniaith group.

4.4 **13 Young people using the Welsh language socially - Set a baseline and measure the increase in young people's social use of the Welsh language.**

Project Progress

4.4.1 The work of developing a Strategy continues. It will set clear expectations and directions for the County's Secondary Schools on the techniques of changing language habits and the different ways of influencing the pupils' social language within and outside the school.

4.4.2 Since I last reported, a Working Group has been nominated from amongst the Secondary Headteachers and the Language Co-ordinators to work together to develop the Strategy and they have already started on their work.

4.5 **14 Audit of the Welsh Language's situation in Gwynedd Council - We will:**

- i) **Consider the success of the Council in normalising the Welsh language in its departments and the services it provides to the county's residents.**
- ii) **Deliver research work in order to find and confirm to what extent the Council goes a step further and succeeds in taking advantage of every opportunity to promote the Welsh language through the services that we provide to the county's residents.**

Project Progress

4.5.1 You will remember that I mentioned last time that four Departments have been prioritised (Gwynedd Consultancy, Economy and Community, Regulatory and

Adults, Health and Well-being) and by now, the draft action plans have been drawn for Gwynedd Consultancy and the Adults Department.

- 4.5.2 Further work needs to be done with the Economy and Community and Regulatory Departments but it is anticipated that these plans will be in place by the time I next report to you.
- 4.5.3 Following a discussion before the performance challenging meeting, I have some concern about the ownership of Gwynedd Consultancy of the action plan and, consequently, the Chief Executive and I will arrange to meet soon with the Head and the Cabinet Member in order to emphasise the importance of having ownership of the Plan on the highest level.
- 4.5.4 I will continue to report on the project's progress in its entirety as part of my performance reports. However, in order to ensure ownership of the project within the Departments, I suggest that the relevant Cabinet Members should take ownership of the work within the Departments in question, and challenge the projects' progress within the performance challenging meeting.
- 4.5.5 In addition to the intense work in the four priority Departments, some interventions of a more general nature have been put into practice in response to some of the Audit's findings. A Language Awareness E-module has been developed and trialled with a focus group in December and it is anticipated to be available for staff within the coming weeks.
- 4.5.6 A Communication Plan has been developed that will be a way of ensuring that messages of encouragement and positive messages about the importance of promoting the Welsh language in our services are conveyed regularly to front-line staff. Signs have already been placed in all Siopau Gwynedd in order to highlight the fact that Welsh can be spoken with staff in every Siop Gwynedd and to encourage the public to do so.

Effective and Efficient Council

- 4.6 **C3 Engagement - The purpose of this project is to improve engagement across the Council.**

By the end of March 2017, this project will ensure that an Engagement Strategy is implemented that includes a series of activities aimed at improving engagement across the Council.

- 4.6.1 In order to empower Senior Managers and officers to take responsibility for the engagement field, and in line with the feedback received from officers, an electronic engagement resource has been developed that ties in with the Corporate engagement Handbook, including a series of practical engagement links, guidance and templates that are available on the intranet by now.
- 4.6.2 In addition, the Senior Managers Group has received a presentation on the field and an overview of the support and the available materials, and have held an initial discussion on their responsibilities in the engagement field. Links to the on-line resource have been circulated to the Senior Managers to be disseminated in order to spread good practice and empower officers to take ownership of the field.

- 4.7 **C4 Implementing a performance system - The purpose of this project will be to develop and implement a new performance system. The system will ensure that**

service teams measure what matters to the people of Gwynedd, and use those measures to improve performance.

The procedure for reporting on that will add value by holding services accountable.

- 4.7.1 I have already reported that a pilot was carried out of the Performance Module Training on 2 November 2016. Following the completion of amendments, this training will be incorporated within the Ffordd Gwynedd training that will be introduced to the Council's managers from April onwards.

5 PERFORMANCE

- 5.2 A full report on the performance measures associated with the portfolio is provided in **Appendix 1**. I am responsible for the remit of seven Units within the **Corporate Support Department** along with the **Legal Service**.

- 5.3 Following challenging the performance of the **Research and Analysis Unit**, I am happy with the performance of the measures.

- 5.4 The **Communications and Engagement Unit** enables the Council to share information and hold a two-way dialogue with the people of Gwynedd. For the November 2016 to January 2017 period, the average score for the measure of **To what extent has the support you have received from the Unit assisted you to engage effectively with the people of Gwynedd?** was 9.6 out of 10, compared to 10 in November and 9.5 in September. I have challenged the reasons given and I am satisfied with the steps that have been put in place for response.

- 5.5 The **Projects Team** is responsible for managing, co-producing and driving change for the benefit of the people of Gwynedd. As it is difficult to acquire a suitable measure for the Team, I have asked them to submit information in narrative form for the performance meetings in future, highlighting any feedback that has been received regarding members of the Team.

- 5.6 The purpose of the **Strategic and Performance Planning Team** is to prepare information in order for the people of Gwynedd to know what the Council is doing and what they're going to be doing in the future, such as the *Annual Performance Report* and the *Strategic Plan*.

- 5.7 For the measure **Gwynedd's residents are satisfied with the information available to them about what the Council is doing, and its future intentions (CG26)** only 54% noted that they were satisfied. 5% said that they did not want to know but 41% were unsatisfied with the information on performance that is submitted. I have challenged the reasons for this and hope that the steps that will be put in place will lead to improvement.

- 5.8 **Gwynedd and Anglesey Partnership Unit** is responsible for supporting public bodies, voluntary organisations and communities to work together to improve services for the benefit of the people of Gwynedd and Anglesey. This includes administrating the Public Services Board and the Community Safety Partnership.

- 5.9 Over the past months, the unit has been responsible for holding a Gwynedd and Anglesey Well-being Assessment and it is expected that a draft of the assessment will be published by the end of February, with the final version to be published before the end of April.

- 5.10 In addition, for future performance reports, I have asked the Unit to include qualitative information regarding the feedback that has been received by partners.
- 5.11 The **Translation Unit** is responsible for providing written and oral Welsh and English translations to staff, members and residents. At the previous performance challenging meeting, it was noted that some Departments had made significant use of external translators. In order to get a better understanding of the situation I have asked the Unit to do further work in order to establish what the incentive of those Departments are for using external translators and to compare the cost with doing the work internally.
- 5.12 It is seen that the performance of the measure **Percentage of satisfaction questionnaires from client officers that score the service as 9 or 10/10** by the Legal Services was 96% for the year to date. I have discussed the reasons why a score of lower than 10 has been given by clients and I am happy with the steps that have been put in place by the Service in order to respond to them.
- 5.13 In addition, I have asked the Service to consider measuring the time it takes to complete cases or work and to submit it on graph form to meetings in future so we can identify any tendencies.

6 FINANCIAL POSITION / SAVINGS

- 6.1 As I reported in my previous report, the **Corporate Support Department** has delivered all of the 2016/17 efficiency and cuts schemes, and is making very decent progress towards delivering the schemes of the subsequent two years.
- 6.2 However, it is anticipated that it will be difficult to realise the DaCh13 savings plan (**Savings in the Coroner's budget**) that is equivalent to £13,795 in 2017/18, and as a result, I ask the Cabinet to approve re-profiling the plan to 2018/19.

7 NEXT STEPS AND TIMETABLE

- 7.1 None to note.

8 ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO RECOMMENDING THE DECISION

8.1 Views of the Statutory Officers:

i. Chief Executive:

In general, the information and progress seen is good. I note the problem in terms of measuring people's satisfaction and information about what the Council is doing but it's difficult to know what further can be done without needless spending. It will be interesting to see if creative ideas emerge to address this.

ii. Monitoring Officer:

No observations from a propriety perspective.

iii. Head of Finance Department:

I confirm the accuracy of the financial aspects in part 6 of the report, which is a welcome situation in terms of savings. I agree that the request for re-profiling of one savings plan is reasonable, and therefore in the Council's budget I've planned prudently on the assumption the Cabinet will approve the recommendation.

8.2 **Views of the Local Member:**

8.2.1 Not a local matter.

8.3 **Results of Any Consultation:**

8.3.1 None to note.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - Performance Measures

Appendix 1

Corporate Support Measures

Measure - definition	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Direction of Ambition	2016-17 Latest Information
Translation Unit					
1. User opinion on quality of written translation work	-	100%	-	Maintain	100%
2. User opinion on quality of simultaneous translation work	-	100%	-	Maintain	New
Comments:					
1. There were 5 responses to the questionnaire that asks "what is your view on the translation? (1-5) "with all providing the maximum score of 5.					
Research and Analysis					
1. The number of customers who note that the assistance helped them to benefit the people of Gwynedd	-	-	-	-	12 Yes 1 No
Comments:					
The 1 customer that answered no was requesting information where the data is not being collected or to held at the moment.					
Gwynedd and Anglesey Partnership Unit					
1. % of the partners who are agreed that the administrative elements of the partnerships are of good quality and timely					
Public Services Board	-	-	-	-	
Community Safety Partnership	-	100%	-		100%
Children and Young People Partnership	-	100%	-		
2. % of the partners who are agreed that the meetings and partnership work delivers effectively for the people of Gwynedd and Anglesey	-	-	-	-	New
Communication and Engagement					
1. Department's satisfaction with the Unit's support to help them engage with the residents of Gwynedd	-	-	-	-	9.6
Strategic Planning and Performance Team					
CG26 Gwynedd's residents are satisfied with the information available to them about what the Council is doing, and its future intentions	-	-	-	Improvement	54%
CG27 Does the information help you to know how/what the Council is doing?	-	-	-	Set a baseline	72%
Sylwadau:					
CG27 – Work has been done to establish the reasons why 28% thought that the information did not help them and measures have been put in place to respond.					

Legal Service Measures

Measure - definition	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	Direction of Ambition	Latest information
1. Percentage of satisfaction questionnaires from client officers that score the service as 9 or 10/10.	-	-	-	Maintain	96%

Agenda Item 12

ITEM 12 – EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Chairman shall propose that the press and public be excluded from the meeting during the discussion on the following item due to the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 12, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

14.10.2 Exempt Information – Discretion to Exclude Public

- (a) The public may be excluded from meetings whenever it is likely in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, that exempt information would be disclosed.

The report includes information relating to contract details and sales procedures which aren't evident at this time. The information is considered exempt in accordance with category 14 because it is information relating to an individual's personal business or financial matters.