

Complete Agenda

CABINET

GWYNEDD COUNCIL

DATE	Tuesday, 6th June, 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	
Dyfrig L. Siencyn	Leader
Mair Rowlands	Deputy Leader
Craig ab Iago	Cabinet Member for Housing, Leisure and Culture
Gareth Wyn Griffith	Cabinet Member of Highways and Municipal
Peredur Jenkins	Cabinet Member for Finance
Dafydd Meurig	Cabinet Member for the Environment
Dilwyn Morgan	Cabinet Member for Children Services
W. Gareth Roberts	Cabinet Member for Adult Services
Gareth Thomas	Cabinet Member for Education
Ioan Thomas	Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Regeneration

AGENDA

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THE CABINET 25/04/17

Present-

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

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

Item 6: Rachel Jones (Gwynedd and Anglesey Childcare Strategic Officer)

Also present:

1. APOLOGIES

Cabinet Members and Officers were welcomed to the meeting.

No apologies to report.

2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

The Chief Executive declared a personal interest in item 6 on the agenda, because his wife worked for a provider that could be affected by the implementation of the action plan. The officer was of the opinion that it was a prejudicial interest and he left the Chamber during the discussion on the item.

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

The Chairman signed the minutes of the Cabinet meeting held on 28 March 2017, as a true record.

6. CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESMENT 2017-2022

RESOLVED

- To approve the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2017-2022 for submission to Welsh Government.
- To use existing resources and funding to address the gaps highlighted in the Assessment, and develop additional childcare where necessary, in accordance with the action plan.

DISCUSSION

The Childcare Sufficiency Assessment 2017-2022 was presented and it was noted that the Assessment needed to be submitted to Welsh Government by 30 April. It was noted that existing resources and funding would be used to address the gaps highlighted, in accordance with the Action Plan.

The Childcare Act 2006 (Local Authority Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2016 required Local Authorities to prepare assessments of the sufficiency of the childcare provision in their area and for these to be reviewed regularly. It was noted that an Action Plan identified gaps within the assessment and a procedure was in place within the Childcare Statutory Guidance.

Observations from the discussion

- It was enquired how the 30 hours of Childcare Scheme would work alongside this project. Rachel Jones noted that she had written the assessment and worked with the 30 hour childcare scheme, and consequently, both projects would tie-in together.
- It was noted that not much had been noted in the Milestones column in the Action Plan within the Assessment, therefore, a question was asked about who had the responsibility of ensuring that the milestones were realised. It was emphasised that there would be milestones for each action and that a Childcare Strategic Board would be established jointly between Gwynedd and Anglesey.
- A question was asked regarding why the number of responses to the parent questionnaire had been so low - Rachel Jones noted that the Government had reconciled the assessment and questionnaire across Wales and she noted that the number of responses had been low across Wales as a result. Rachel also highlighted the fact that she had created a short local questionnaire herself in order to obtain more information from parents.
- It was noted that grants accompanied the Assessment; however, grants tended to come to an end and where would the service be left if this would be the case. It was emphasised that this could be seen across all departments and that the department would prioritise and look at their services.
- In relation to the Welsh language, it was asked whether the plan and childcare available were in accordance with the education department's language policy. It was highlighted that the phrasing used in the

questionnaire classed provisions that operated through the medium of Welsh, but completed their paperwork through the medium of English, as bilingual provisions; despite the fact that the provision for the children was Welsh-medium. It was emphasised that the questionnaire followed Welsh Government's terminology and it was noted that there was a need to confirm that the provision was available through the medium of Welsh.

- It was noted that discussions were currently underway to develop an inter-generation care plan with Bangor University so that childcare and older people care could be brought together; it was noted that the department hoped that there would be a relationship between this plan and the assessment.

Before bringing the meeting to a close, the Council Leader thanked Council officers for their support during his term as Council Leader.

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and concluded at 2.30 pm

CHAIRMAN

CABINET CYNGOR GWYNEDD



Report to Gwynedd Council Cabinet

Date of the meeting: 6 June 2017
Cabinet member: Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn
Contact Officer: Janet Roberts, Corporate Support Senior Manager
Contact Telephone number: 32873
Teitl yr Eitem: Gwynedd Council Performance Report 2016/17

1 DECISION SOUGHT

Approval of the Gwynedd Council Performance Report 2016/17 and recommendation that it is adopted by the Full Council.

2 REASON WHY DECISION IS NEEDED

In accordance with the Council's performance management system, the Council's Performance Report 2016/17 is submitted to the Cabinet first for approval.

3 INTRODUCTION

The report is based on the Cabinet member's individual reports which have been approved during the year.

The Wales Audit Office will consider this report when preparing an assessment of the Council's performance. As always, they are looking for a balanced report, which addresses the aspects that have not been achieved, as well as the successful aspects.

The Report (Appendix 1) has been prepared as a concise document which visually address the key issues in order to ensure that Gwynedd residents are able to read it easily.

The report is being published earlier this year and consequently the timetable is tight. There is further work to be done on the design of the document.

The contents of Performance Measures Table (Appendix 2) Is different from last years report. The comparative information for comparing Gwynedd's performance with the rest of Wales and the "family" of similar Councils will not be available until September and will be published as an additional Appendix. In the meantime, there are a small number of measures for 2016/17 where the

final data is not yet available, however, the data for these measures will be included in the final version of the report which will be presented in a meeting of the Full Council on June 15th.

This year we will be looking back on and comparing the Council's average performance over a 4 year period rather than only measuring the trends against the previous year. This will provide a better understanding of what has been achieved during the period of the Council's 2013-17 Strategic Plan.

4 NEXT STEPS AND TIMETABLE

The Council will discuss and accept or decline the report at its meeting on 15 June 2017 and once approved by the Council, it will be published. Residents will be made aware of the report via visual messages on the key successes on social media, as well as via printed copies of the document which will be available in the Council's public areas e.g libraries.

Statutory Officer's Comments

Monitoring Officer Comments

No observations from a propriety perspective.

Head of Finance Comments

I confirm the accuracy of the financial aspects and figures in the report submitted, and its appendices. The 'Financial Planning' section of the report outlines how the Council has minimized the detrimental impact of Government grant cuts by achieving £31m worth of efficiency savings over the past four years (£6.15m savings were realized in 2017/18 by changing the way services are provided). It is also noted there that the Council has managed to keep expenditure within the budget in each year between 2013/14 and 2017/18.

In a report 'Savings Planning – Gwynedd Council' published in March 2017, the Auditor General for Wales states that the Wales Audit Office concluded "that the Council has an effective and well-considered savings planning approach, which is supporting future financial resilience. This is a continued strong position from 2015/16 – The Council has well-established and clear policies around its financial planning arrangements."

I look forward to working with Gwynedd's Councillors to ensure that financial performance of this standard continues in order to face the challenge over the coming years.



Performance Report

Gwynedd Council

2016/17



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For further information or to request a copy of this document in large print, Braille, on audio tape or in another language, please contact

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The Council Leader's Foreword



Councillor Dyfed Edwards, **Leader of the Council** during 2016/17

The purpose of this annual report is to provide a clear and balanced summary of the performance of Gwynedd Council for the year 2016/17. I'm pleased to be able to reflect and report that the Council was able to provide strong and stable services to our citizens during a period of change. The Council has attempted to plan sustainable services for the people of Gwynedd, whilst considering the needs of our various communities and future generations.

Through careful financial planning, the Council has succeeded in finding £31m of financial savings over the past 4 years, whilst trying to protect those services that are important to the people of Gwynedd. It is important to remember that the financial challenges persist, but our internal procedures are firmly in place in order to rise to the challenges that lie ahead.

Our priority as a Council was to continue to provide the best possible service to our citizens. Whilst looking to the future, it is very pleasing to see that 92% of pupils in Key Stage 3 (11-14 year old) have reached expected levels of attainment in Welsh, English, Mathematics and Science. It is also important to note that the number of pupils leaving school aged 16 and who don't go on to education, training or work has fallen to 1% (13 young people) during the year. This figure is a significant decrease on 3% in 2012.

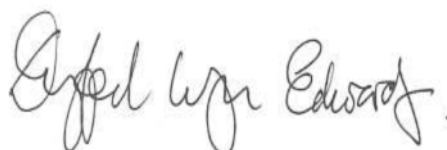
The financial environment of the past few years has led us to plan new means of providing services. By working in partnership with other organisations, and with individuals and communities, we are designing our care services by concentrating on what is important to the individual. Even though the work of Ysbyty Alltwen Integrated Team is a successful example of such provision, great challenges lie ahead because of the issues of recruitment to the care and nursing sector. We will continue to work in partnership with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board during 2017/18 in order to try and secure a deserved workforce able to provide the best services to the people of Gwynedd.

Ensuring an able and skilful workforce for all parts of the county, both rural and urban, remains a challenge. As a Council, we are committed to securing the sustainability of our communities, and a budget of £4m under the Rural Wales Development Programme is a step in the right direction.

Obstacles to digital communications can be a hindrance to businesses and individuals, therefore improving the digital infrastructure remains a priority. Super-fast broadband is now available to 83% of homes and business premises in Gwynedd, which is a higher percentage than in similar counties (Ceredigion, Powys and Carmarthenshire). Work on this aspect will continue in 2017/18.

The Council plan for 2017/18 shows that we are building on the progress made in 2016/17, and that we recognise areas of improvement. As we look into the future I wish the new Council every success with the work of leading and scrutinising the important work ahead. Likewise, I wish the best to the Council, both members and officers, and to the people of Gwynedd for the future.

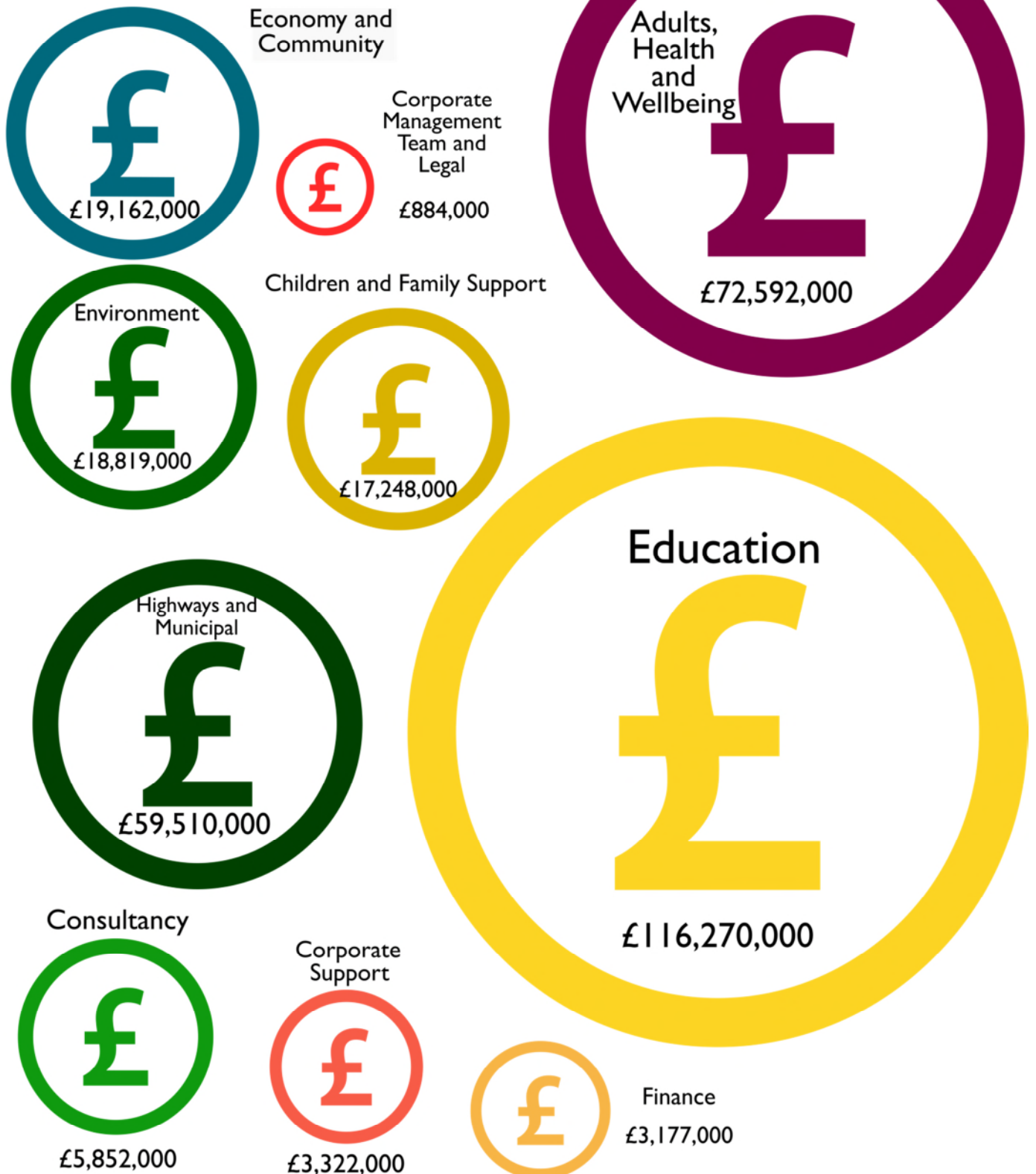
The potential is great; the challenge lies in realising it.



Councillor Dyfed Edwards

Our Expenditure

Council Departments' gross budgets to provide services to the people of Gwynedd in 2016/17:



Conversing with the people of Gwynedd

Conducting a dialogue with the people of Gwynedd is very important to Gwynedd Council in order to better understand the needs and priorities of our people and communities. This information can then be used to steer that which needs to be done.

4,574 of the people of Gwynedd took part in engagement exercises



In the present economic climate, conducting a conversation is even more important as the Council faces difficult challenges and decisions. One example of including the people of Gwynedd was *Gwynedd Challenge* when local people were invited to give their opinion on 118 different options for cutting services in order to save money and close the financial deficit. The result of this exercise was an agreement on a high percentage of options to save money.

The challenge to us as a Council is how to conduct a conversation with as many people and communities as possible, and to reflect their diversity. As many different methods as possible are used to try and achieve this.

Gwynedd Citizens Panel is a group representative of about 1,200 of the people of Gwynedd who are regularly given the opportunity to have their say on local services in order to assist the Council with planning, delivering and reviewing our local services.

To reach specific groups of people **focus groups** are used when more detailed discussion is needed. 51 young people attended the 'Have your Say' events in Bala, Caernarfon and Pwllheli where the future of young people's services were discussed.

Public meetings are also held, and they are an opportunity for the people of Gwynedd to discuss and question options and changes before decisions are taken.



An increasingly popular method of conversing is new technology. This could be an online questionnaire, video clips, messages on social media and live streaming. The Council has almost 20,000 followers on *Twitter* and *Facebook*. 1,471 of the people of Gwynedd responded to a survey on the standard of the streets of Gwynedd.

We must also remember that we shouldn't disregard the more traditional means of communication such as the press and paper surveys. Our aim is to reach a diverse public, including XXX grwpiau nodwedd cydraddoldeb via the methods most suited to them.

We are, nevertheless, aware that there is a way to go before we reach our destination in this area, and we have plans to improve further.

The opinion of the people of Gwynedd is important to us. It is also important that we as a Council report back after receiving comments from the public, and to explain our decisions and why they were taken.

Please will you help us and take every opportunity to have your say!

www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/ymgyngori

twitter.com/CyngorGwynedd

facebook.com/CyngorGwyneddCouncil

Satisfaction of the people of Gwynedd

1,144

Gwynedd people completed the questionnaire about their satisfaction.

This is what they had to say...



Gwynedd - a good place to live?



Satisfied with Council services?



Waste and Recycling Arrangements (313 comments)

The main concern of residents was issues regarding waste collection and recycling, but recent figures show that more than 61% of Gwynedd's waste is now recycled or composted.

Standard of Streets (228 comments)

Residents are concerned about the standard of Gwynedd streets. But the report "How Clean are our Streets" 2016/17 by Keep Wales Tidy shows that 97.9% of the streets of Gwynedd reach the necessary standards of cleanliness.

Children and Young People

Ensuring a more consistent quality of education across the county's schools and making sure that every child and young person has the same opportunities has remained a priority for 2016-17. During the year we have seen the fruition of many projects which seek to transform the education system in the county and improve results for our children and young people.

We have been focusing on reconciling education standards in every school in the county by challenging and targeting specific subjects and fields which require further attention. Good progress was seen in the performance of our schools across the Key Stages.

In our **Secondary** schools, the performance is very good in Key Stage 3 (11-14 years old) with 92% of pupils attaining the expected levels in English or Welsh, Mathematics and Science. This positive increase in performance since 2012 continues to place Gwynedd among the best authorities in Wales.

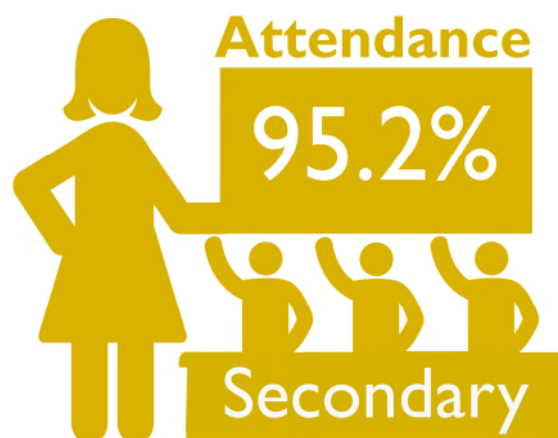
Similarly, our performance remains strong by the end of Key Stage 4 (14-16 years old) with 65.9% of 16-year-old pupils achieving 5 GCSE grades A* to C, including Welsh or English, and Mathematics. During 2017/18, we intend to improve the performance and raise standards further by targeting specific subjects which are under-performing in our schools.



We are aware that further work needs to be done to improve outcomes for children in the Foundation Phase (7 years old) in our Primary schools. The number of children who reach the expected level at 7 years old has been stable since 2012; therefore we intend to focus on this field during 2017-18.

Estyn inspections of Gwynedd Schools have been very positive in this year. By now, no school is in a special measures category and only two schools are in the Estyn monitoring category (important fields for improvement).

During the year, attendance rates of secondary school pupils have increased again, with 95.16% ranking Gwynedd highest in Wales. Though the attendance figure has increased to 95.46% in our primary schools also, we will be focusing on raising this figure again in 2017-18.



We are pleased to see figures which show that the number of pupils leaving school at 16 years old and not entering education, training or employment has dropped to 1% (13 young people) during the year. This shows a significant reduction from the 3% figure in 2012. We will continue to work with the schools, youth service and other partners to reduce this figure in 2017-18.

In order to promote education of the best quality we have prioritised work to improve the quality of leadership in our schools. The support and training available for Leaders and Managers has developed well over the course of the year, with Heads and Senior Managers giving positive feedback on training programmes. We have also started to identify future leaders. Next year, we intend to build on this work and focus on improving the quality of middle-leadership in our secondary schools in particular.

We have already introduced our viable schools network programme, which is progressing well. Since 2012, we have secured investment of £56 million in the viable schools programme in order to ensure the best learning environment for the children and young people of Gwynedd.

“This whole process has been a very exciting experience for pupils and staff as they have been able to see the site at various stages from its design to the construction work. The children and staff are delighted to be in their new school. I strongly believe that pupils will benefit greatly from the new building and the excellent facilities offered here.”

Head of Ysgol Hafod Lon

Ysgol Hafod Lon, which educates children and young people with additional learning needs from the Dwyfor and Meirionnydd areas, was opened in October 2016. The new school, which is located in Penrhyndeudraeth, has modern classrooms with the latest resources, as well as a hydrotherapy pool, therapy rooms, sensory equipment and an open-air play area. Good progress has been made with other sites also, with Ysgol Glancegin opening in October 2017 and work continuing in the Ysgol y Gader and Ysgol y Berwyn areas.

Over the course of the year, we have continued with the process of transforming the provision for approximately 4,000 pupils with Additional Learning Needs in Gwynedd. The progress of this project has been a little slower than expected but we have now agreed to collaborate with Anglesey Council to adopt the Additional Learning Needs Strategy which will address the early years and establish a central team of professionals with specific specialisms. During the next year, we will focus on establishing a new Service for Gwynedd and Anglesey Additional Learning Needs.

We have been working hard over the last year to ensure that we fulfil our responsibilities under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. The act has been in force since April 2016 and it places responsibilities on us to develop a preventative approach in everything we do. The Early Intervention / Preventative project for groups of vulnerable children and young people in Gwynedd has been a priority for the Council since 2015.

We have already held an assessment of identified needs and specific fields which need to be targeted when planning early intervention into the future. These fields include: Speech and Language Delay, Parenting and Behaviour Support, Access to Mental Health Services and Support for Teenagers.



Percentage of families who have reported improvement following the intervention of the Team Around the Family

Over the course of the year we have been supporting children and families by offering access to services in the community or via a service which is co-ordinated by the Gyda'n Gilydd Team. The Gyda'n Gilydd Team offers support and early intervention for children, young people and their families to ensure that the problems they face do not become more severe and complex.

Though very good progress has already been made as a result of the work of our Flying Start and Gyda'n Gilydd teams and our wider partners, development against the pledges in our Strategic Plan has been slower than expected. But, looking at re-commissioning services that are funded via Families First grants gives us an opportunity to set a new direction and priorities that are ambitious and innovative to support young people and families in Gwynedd.

"Just wanted to say thank you for everything, you've gone above and beyond for me and my child and it means a lot to us, so thank you from the bottom of our hearts"

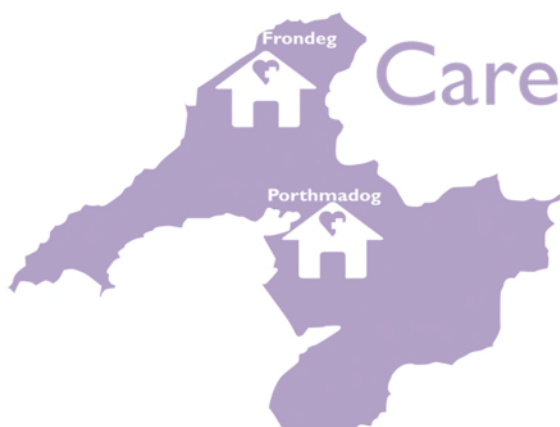
One child's family.

Gofal

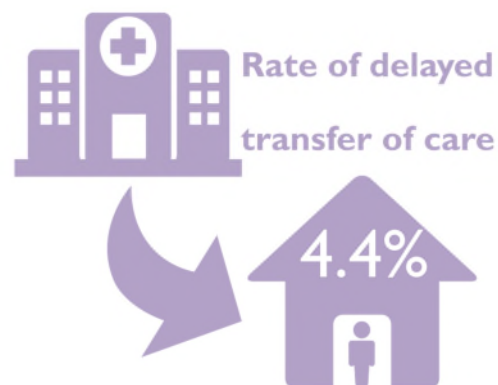
The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 emphasises the need for the Council to work in close partnership with service users, families, informal carers and communities. In order to respond to the evident challenges in the Care field, it is crucial that we work effectively, and when appropriate, in an integrated manner with the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board.

The 'Integrated Working Project, focusing on what counts for individuals' has focused on redesigning our current way of working to ensure that we place the people of Gwynedd at the centre. The Ysbyty Alltwen Integrated Team has been operational since 2015 and has merged specialists from the Social Services and Health fields. This project has set strong foundations in order to extend an entirely integrated model to provide care services for adults across Gwynedd.

In order to continue to offer care to our residents in an environment that suits them, it is essential that the individual's natural contacts with family or the community are used. A key part of ensuring that this support is available in our communities is the need to improve the understanding of the people of Gwynedd of the way communities can support people to live there longer. In order to ensure that the people of Gwynedd truly understand the challenge which faces us, during the year we have held various engagement events with our citizens and partners to discuss responding to this need in the future.



In order to help individuals to live their lives as they want to, it is crucial that we can offer the varied accommodation options across the county which address the needs of our residents. The exciting work of building Extra Care Housing in Porthmadog has moved on over the year and it will be ready during the next year. It is anticipated that the show-flats will be ready in August 2017 and an open day arranged thereafter. Developing a new accommodation model for adults with learning disabilities on the Frondeg site in Caernarfon has been addressed during the year with engagement with families to ensure their contribution to planning the new provision.



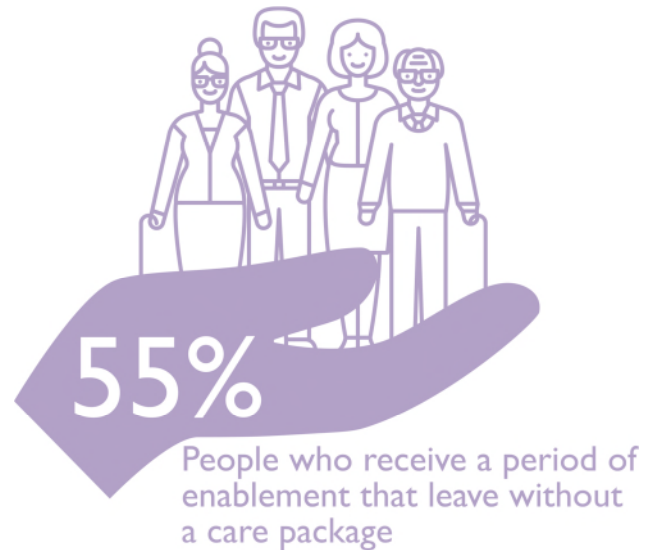
One of the main matters that has been a cause for concern for the Council is the stability and sustainability of our nursing homes across the county within the context of a very fragile sector. The situation with transfers from hospitals for social care reasons has deteriorated, with an increase in the rate of delay from 2.38% in 2015/16 to 4.44% in 2016/17. Despite this, Gwynedd's performance is comparable to the Welsh average, but it must be acknowledged that there is room for improvement. The performance reflects the current situation in the health and care system. It reflects the high demand on hospitals, lack of nursing beds in the community and also a lack of capacity in terms of professionals and home carers in some specific areas of Gwynedd.

Though recruiting to the care and nursing workforce remains extremely challenging, efforts to attract and keep workers are continuing and are being reinforced. Recruitment events and awareness raising sessions of career opportunities continue, and jointly with the Health Board a programme is being prepared to make better use of social media for recruitment.

The Council is currently planning and collaborating with its partners in order to overcome the obstacles which exist in this field. The 'Capacity and sustainability of the Care and Health System' project seeks to respond to the current problems in relation to provisions within the older people field mainly. Jointly with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and Anglesey Council, work has been commissioned during the year to respond to some of the obstacles. The work will look at the availability and quality of the provision of care services in north-west Wales. The three public bodies will work closely with our main stakeholders over the course of the next year.

Work on the Llys Cadfan project was completed during the year and individuals have begun to move to the new Early Onset Dementia Unit there. This provision will make the lives of service users and their families easier and will mean that they do not have to leave their local areas and travel for miles to receive the specialist support in question. Though there has been some slippage in the programme to improve special and respite services in the south of the County, we are confident that the new provision will be available during this year.

On the whole, the performance measures suggest that the service is on the right track. There seems to be a reduction again this year in the proportion of people who choose to receive traditional support in the community and also in our residential homes. This positive trend suggests that we as a Council are collaborating effectively with our partners to plan the care required for our residents in the future.



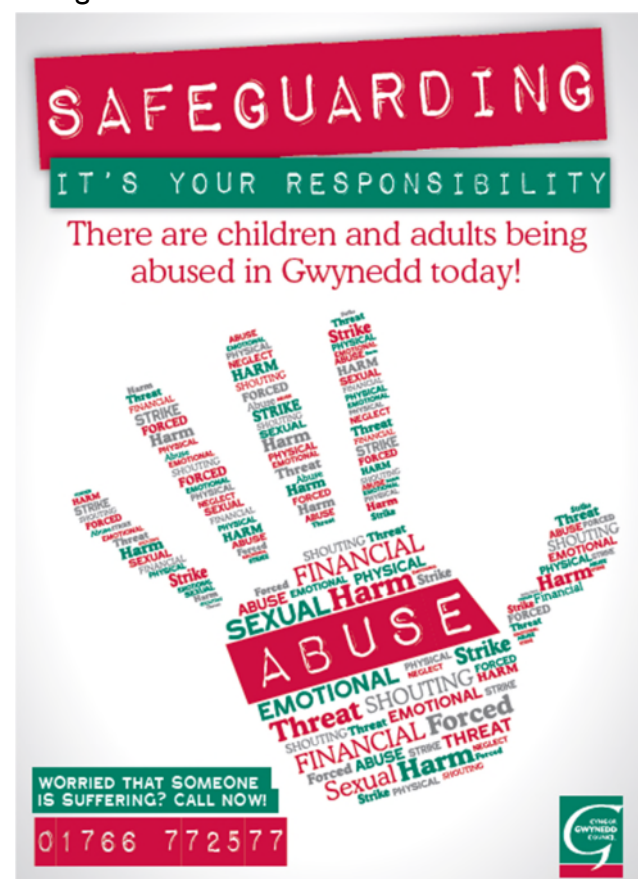
Safeguarding

The responsibility for safeguarding children and vulnerable adults is one of the Council's most important responsibilities. For a number of years now, the Council has identified this important field as a priority and has reviewed its corporate arrangements in order to ensure that robust and suitable arrangements are in place.

The Strategic Safeguarding Children and Adults Panel gives specific attention to corporate and statutory matters relating to safeguarding. These priorities have also been incorporated within the Council's Strategic Plan. Three main projects have been commissioned in response to some of the challenges which have faced the Council in recent years, namely Ensuring Whole Council Ownership of the Safeguarding field, Safeguarding Children and Young People and Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults.

Efforts are continuing in terms of improving awareness of safeguarding across the Council. The Council has ensured that we have adopted safeguarding policies and procedures across all our services, with much work undertaken to raise awareness and provide training across the entire workforce. We have undertaken an annual survey to measure the impact and improvement of awareness levels of the safeguarding field among the workforce, together with undertaking annual inspections to ensure that our arrangements are robust in the field. The Awareness Audit has shown that there has been an increase in awareness level of the Safeguarding Policy and Procedures this year.

The Adults, Health and Well-being Department has put robust arrangements in place during the year in order to ensure expertise and full understanding of all the issues involving safeguarding. This allows the Council to be proactive in order to respond appropriately and effectively to concerns as they arise. There has been a general increase in cases involving safeguarding issues recently; however, from discussions with other Authorities within the region, it is clear that we are all in a similar situation. A meeting was held with the Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales at the beginning of March 2017 and, in acknowledging that there was work to do and a challenge ahead of us, the proposed arrangements were described as 'exciting' changes. This feedback is very encouraging at the beginning of a period of change.



During the year we have ensured that we understand the trends in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in Gwynedd. We have reviewed our operational arrangements and have ensured that they comply with regional arrangements. We have also ensured that we have robust arrangements to gather information which improves our understanding and awareness of this particular safeguarding field. Multi-agency training was conducted during the year by experts in the field in order to develop skills to identify signs of CSE and how to identify vulnerability in individuals exposed to exploitation. We are also continuing to contribute to this work field regionally and nationally.

The Strategic Safeguarding Panel has recently extended its focus and has added the 'PREVENT' agenda to its remit. This is the Home Office-led programme that relates to attempting to prevent individuals from being radicalised. The modern slavery agenda is also a matter which is being addressed.

Manage Risk



Our measures in relation to adults and children suggest a solid performance again in 2016/17. It was seen again this year that the adults safeguarding referrals completed during the year had managed to control the risk 100% of the time.

Specifically regarding safeguarding children, the rate of risk assessments submitted to case conferences that were considered ones that showed quality when making decisions suggests a solid performance again this year - 94% in 2016/17 compared with 97% in 2015/16.

Poverty, Deprivation, Economy and Housing

The challenge facing the Gwynedd economy is significant. The structure of the economy remains narrow, with work opportunities still over-reliant on the public sector. Issues such as low salaries and the need to ensure that we have a workforce with the relevant skills for the world of work are key things which we need to focus on. We also need to be creative when overcoming geographical or technical obstacles which could make it harder for some of our residents to participate in the world of work.

As the role of the private sector is not strong in a rural area such as Gwynedd, the Council has been proactive by working in partnership with Welsh Government and other partners, in attracting investment to the area. Work to attract investments to sites at Trawsfynydd and Llanbedr has maintained momentum over the year, and has a clear focus on attracting a small reactor to Trawsfynydd, and to develop an aerospace centre at Llanbedr.

It is too early to see the effect of these investments on the residents and businesses of Gwynedd, but the work is setting firm foundations which will attract transformational investments to the area over the next five years, with the potential of creating approximately 200 jobs. We have safeguarded high value jobs in the County also by ensuring the continuity of the Trawsfynydd Nuclear Power Station decommissioning programme and protecting 250 jobs in the Meirionnydd area.

We have now identified the most significant sectors to Gwynedd in terms of creating high value jobs, namely the Energy, Digital and Creative sectors. A package of marketing materials for the sectors has been developed and we have established business networks to support them further.

Work to attract inward investment is long-term, but, since 2012, we have supported over 100 prospective investors in the county which has led to the creation of 76 higher value jobs.



We also continue to attract nationally or internationally high-profile events to Gwynedd in order to take advantage of the economic and social benefit which will ensue. During the year, an investment of £6.7 million was made to the economy as a result of these events, which in turn has led to safeguarding 298 jobs in the county.

Securing a quality information and communication technology infrastructure throughout Gwynedd and supporting businesses and residents to take full advantage of it remains a priority. Superfast broadband is now available for 83% of homes and business sites in Gwynedd, which is higher than similar counties (Ceredigion, Powys and Carmarthenshire), with 41% of those who can access it already taking advantage - the highest in Wales. Though these figures are encouraging, we will focus on further improving performance by encouraging and facilitating access for businesses to the opportunities available.

Ensuring the sustainability of rural communities remains a priority. We have secured a budget of £4million from the Wales Rural Development Programme to develop new, innovative methods of responding to the challenges of rural Gwynedd. This funding has allowed us to create a range of exciting developments that are being trialled throughout the county (see a video of the highlights of the year [here](#) LINK)

We have continued with the work of implementing a programme of schemes to reduce the impact of poverty on the County. Over the course of the year, 558 Gwynedd residents in the Communities First areas have received assistance with their skills to cope with household income and debts. While offering this assistance, approximately £300,000 worth of residents' debts has been managed successfully. Attention is also being given to implementing schemes which will give work opportunities for people who are not a part of the labour market. During the year, the OPUS project was established which targets vulnerable, unemployed individuals and offers a support and skills package for them to take a step closer to the world of work.



In addition, a budget of £659,887 was received from the UK Government in order to make Optional Housing Payments during the year, and an Optional Housing Policy was created as a result. This funding was used to support 1,534 households to alleviate the effect caused by the Government's range of welfare reforms.

During the year, we have been implementing our strategy to increase the supply and variety of housing available in order to ensure that they are suitable for the needs of the people of Gwynedd. The project will lead to different solutions in different areas. During the year, the Housing Department has succeeded in bringing 54 empty homes back into use and these have been used to accommodate people nominated by the Homelessness Unit.

Some slippage was seen in the programme to develop provision for homeless people and further work will need to be undertaken during 2017/18 to develop an alternative model and ensuring different provision for homeless people. However, our general efforts to prevent homelessness have been successful and the national performance measures reiterate this. We have focused on seeking to prevent homelessness in the first instance by assisting and offering stability to a number of families in difficult times.

Progress against our pledges has been slower than hoped during 2016/17. Nevertheless, we have consulted across Gwynedd on a Scheme to increase the number of local housing. Work is under-way to submit planning applications in three specific areas for intermediate rent houses and affordable housing for purchase, which would create approximately 39 homes in Gwynedd.

We have continued with the work to maximise expenditure with local businesses, and during 2016/17 the Council's expenditure on goods and services by local businesses was worth over £47m (figures up to the end of December 2016?) to the local economy.

We offered support to 40 companies during the year via various activities which will assist them to compete for contracts with the Council and others.

As part of the project to construct Ysgol Dalgylch y Berwyn, 53% of the sub-contracts have been executed by companies within 30 miles of the site; the percentage was 43% for Ysgol Gancegin, Bangor. This is equivalent to £2.9m. In addition, there are many social advantages which derive from such projects including offering periods of work experience to local students, apprenticeships and creating employment with local contractors.

Since the start of the project, £1 million of savings has been delivered and foundations have been set for a new procurement procedure or buying services and goods, in the Council. However, further work needs to be carried out in order to ensure that we succeed to strike the right balance between making financial savings and ensuring that local benefits emanate from our procurement decisions.

The Welsh Language

Gwynedd has always been a stronghold of the Welsh language and culture; however it has witnessed a gradual decline in the number of Welsh-speakers. According to the 2011 Census, there has been a decline of 846 in the number of Welsh-speakers in Gwynedd, namely -3.5% compared with the 2001 Census. Though an element of uncertainty exists regarding the impact we can have on preventing the decline, as an organisation, we have decided to focus on work within communities, schools and public organisations in the first place.

There are many reasons which militate against the use of the Welsh language in social situations. In order to try to respond to the situation we have been working with the communities of Bangor, Dolgellau, Porthmadog and Pwllheli in order to promote the use of the Welsh language in those communities.

During 2016/17, we have continued with the action plans for the communities and delivered 107 projects which gave those attending an opportunity to experience community events through the medium of Welsh. In addition, in Bangor, we saw the opening of the Popdy language centre and the appointment of a Manager and Development Officer for the Language Initiative which is seen as a focus to maintain and strengthen the language in the city.

Though it is difficult to establish whether the use of the language has increased within the communities, signs of success can be seen in terms of promoting and increasing the status of the language; but further work needs to be done. In the future we will be engaging with specific groups within the community and will try to get to grips with the apathy amongst some Welsh-speakers towards the language.



Dolgellau Resident

"It's so good to see the town full of energy...thank you to Hunaniaith for the boost...We want to keep this going!"

At present there is inconsistency in the provision of bilingual services by public bodies in Gwynedd which means that it is not always possible for residents to use the Welsh language naturally when communicating with public bodies.

Over the past year we have held an assessment in order to discover the level of every public body in terms of their ability to offer the first contact to the citizens of Gwynedd through the medium of Welsh. We have also identified the implications for the various bodies of implementing changes in order to achieve the aim of providing Welsh or bilingual services.



The progress of the work has been a little slower than anticipated. We acknowledge that the only way for us to move this matter forward will be by ensuring our partners come with us, and this is taking time. A lot of time and effort has been invested in order to ensure that the bodies are aware of what they are committing to and that no unrealistic expectations are set. Consequently, it is hoped that this will set a firm foundation for the work of the project in the future.

As a firm succession to the Language Charter project which has been operational in Gwynedd primary schools, it was decided to focus on developing the work in the secondary schools during 2016-17. We now have a strategy in place that sets expectations and will provide clear guidance to the county's secondary schools. It includes the techniques of changing language habits and the different ways of influencing the pupils' social language within and outside the school.

In 2017-18, we intend to create and implement comprehensive training programmes for secondary teachers to promote the value and advantages of bilingualism.

Although Gwynedd Council is at the forefront of using the Welsh language as a living language, we are eager to push the boundaries further to ensure that this happens consistently across all our services.

We have identified gaps which exist in terms of our Welsh-language provision. In order to respond to the gaps, intensive work has been undertaken with four Departments within the Council (Economy and Community, Adults, Health and Well-being, Regulatory and Gwynedd Consultancy) with action plans developed in order to improve the situation. In addition, a series of activities has been identified on a corporate level and we will implement those over the coming year.



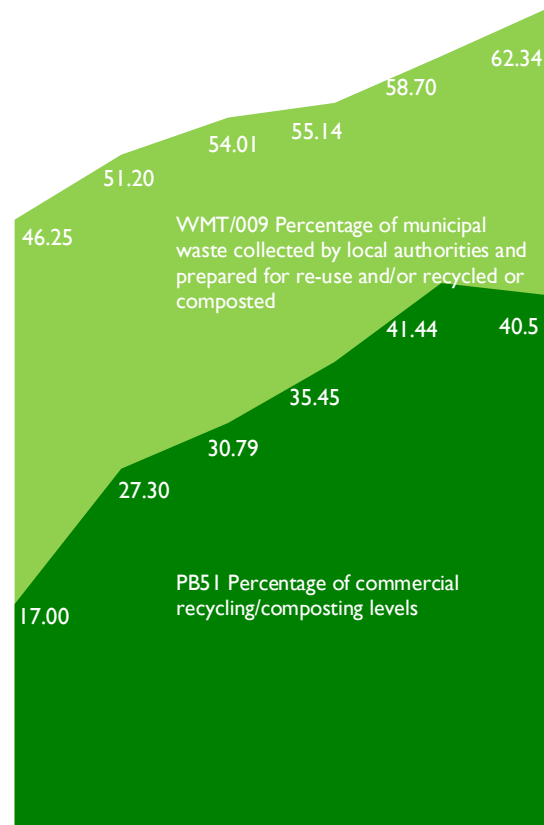
The Environment

Gwynedd has a natural environment of a high standard and there are several challenges in trying to ensure that we protect that environment. At the same time we must ensure that we do not hinder the ability of our residents to live and prosper within the county.

For some years now, emphasis has been placed on the need to reduce our dependency on sending waste to landfill by disposing of our waste in a more environmentally-friendly way by increasing composting and recycling levels.

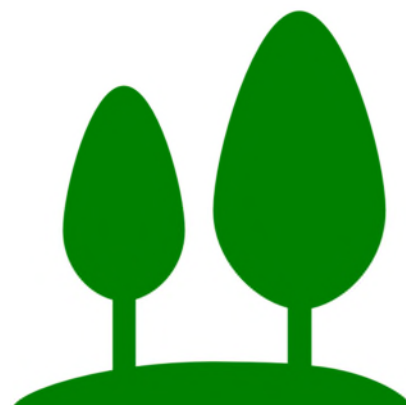
By now, the three-weekly green bin collection system is operational throughout the County. Through the commitment of the county's residents and businesses to reducing their over-dependence on the disposal of waste to landfill, this change in the system has been crucial in improving our performance. At the end of 2016/17, 62.34% of waste from Gwynedd homes is reused, recycled or composted, which is an increase of over 8% in the rate since 2013/14. In 2015-16, we were in 16th position (out of 22) among Welsh local authorities with a recycling/composting rate of 58.70%.

The county's businesses have also contributed to the improvement, and though the rates have reduced a little to 40.5% in 2016/17 compared with 41.44% at the end of 2015/16, it is important to remember that the recycling rates by businesses was only 30.79% in 2013/14.



2011/12 2012/13 2013/14 2014/15 2015/16 2016/17

We will continue to implement the Waste Strategy in future, with the intention of reusing, recycling or composting 64% of the waste from our households by 2020.



The cleanliness of our streets is an important issue for the people of Gwynedd and the cleanliness standards of our streets scored 75.7 out of 100 in an assessment carried out by independent Inspectors which is comparable to the score of 76.26 in 2015/16 and an improvement on the score of 73.5 in 2013/14.



Carbon emissions in Gwynedd have a harmful effect on the local environment as well as contributing towards the climate change effects on a global level. In this context, it could be argued that the contribution of the people of Gwynedd and the Council is only very small, but it is important that we play our part by reducing our carbon emissions to an appropriate level.

By reducing the use of energy in our buildings, street lighting, upgrading lighting, installing solar panels and reducing business journeys we have succeeded to reduce our carbon footprint by 26.20% since 2005 and have succeeded in delivering accumulative financial saving of over £3.09 million since starting to roll-out the scheme. This means that the people of Gwynedd benefit environmentally and financially.

One of the side-effects of climate change is the likely increase in flood risk. Over the last year, we have started a process to develop flood prevention schemes in seven coastal communities which would lead to protecting up to 1,138 properties. If bids for financial resources are successful further work must be carried out during the coming year in order to develop detailed schemes.

During 2016/17, work of preparing the Joint Local Development Plan with Anglesey County Council was carried out, which will set out the framework for planning applications in future. The Planning Inspectorate is considering the robustness of the plan and their report is expected shortly. The Plan will be ready to be adopted during the summer of 2017.

Our performance in dealing with planning applications remains good with applications taking 59.26 days on average to be determined compared with 60 last year.

Effective and Efficient Council

Despite the financial pressures, the Council's objective is to ensure that the resources we have are used to give the biggest benefits to the people of Gwynedd.

Work of seeking to ensure a consistent culture across the Council and the principle of placing the people of Gwynedd at the centre of everything we do continues. It is noted that time and effort have been invested over the past year in ensuring that we have the right material to promote the principles, to train Senior Officers in the principles and to implement the programme to develop leaders. By now, we are trialling a new way of working within eight services in the Council.

Although it is still very early days, and a culture shift in a large organisation such as the Council will take time, some evidence can be seen that awareness has improved among staff members and examples where trialling new ways of working has led to improving services for the people of Gwynedd.



We will continue to place the people of Gwynedd at the centre of all our efforts in 2017/18 by focusing on changing culture, trialling new ways of working within service units and providing a training programme for all Council Managers. Over the year, it became apparent that it may not be possible to use the same methods to develop elected members as are used for officers and our arrangements in this field will need to be reviewed. Nevertheless, there is a feeling and an element of evidence that the standard of leadership has improved within the Council over the years.

We completed the work of reviewing the performance system within the Council during 2016/17 and by now, the services' performance measures focus more on what matters to the people of Gwynedd. Major steps have been taken to improve our arrangements and, over the next year, we will undertake further work to ensure that the measures are meaningful and are used in order to manage and improve performance.

Work has continued to improve the way the Council gathers opinion and holds discussions with the people of Gwynedd. We have focused on high-level engagement plans such as the Public Survey in Summer 2016 (Satisfaction), a consultation on raising the Council Tax Premium on second homes and a consultation on charging a fee for garden waste collections.

In recent years, nearly 23,000 individuals and organisations have had an opportunity to contribute and voice their opinions on the work and priorities of the Council. We acknowledge that we started from a low level and that there is further room for improvement. But, in order to establish where we have reached we will hold an audit of individual Departments' ability to engage effectively with their customers during 2017/18.

The information kept by the Council about people and resources is essential and valuable, and we are required to ensure that our working arrangements mean that it is kept securely. Over the course of the last year, we have continued with the training sessions and the latest evidence regarding the number of cases where we haven't complied with data protection requirements suggests that our arrangements are improving. There were three incidents in 2016/17 compared with 10 in 2014/15. We will of course continue with our efforts to protect sensitive information during the coming year.

In the modern age, many people prefer to make contact with services by using technology and they are therefore able to do so at a time convenient to them. The self-service system is now live with several services, such as paying for garden waste bin collection services, offered through this medium as well as via more traditional methods. More services will be introduced to the system over the coming year.

The Well-being of Future Generations Act came into force in April 2016, and it requires specific public bodies in Wales to work alone and in partnership to improve the well-being of the people of Wales. The seven well-being goals and five ways of working sets a common purpose for public bodies. They also aim to ensure better decisions are made by considering the longer term, preventative measures, working integrated and in partnership, and including people of all ages.

As part of our response to the Act, the Council announced our Well-being Statement and Aims in our Gwynedd Council 2017/18 Plan. A multi-agency Public Services Board was formed, and this Board was responsible for co-ordinating the Gwynedd Well-being Assessment X Mai 2017. But, the main challenge lies in integrating the five ways of working formally into all our daily working practices, and to try and meet the needs of today without stifling the ability of future generations to act upon their own priorities.



Financial Planning

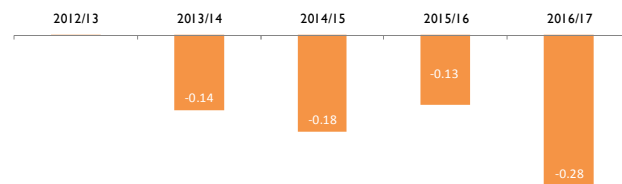
The cuts in funding that the Council receives from the Government means that we must cope with receiving less money to maintain our services. We had identified that the financial deficit over the period of four years up to 2017/18 could be as much as £50 million. Consequently we have been looking at ways of ensuring that the effects of the savings on the people of Gwynedd are kept to a minimum and to continue to deliver more in those priority fields.

The grant reductions we were facing in 2017/18 were not as much as expected. The deficit of £50 million to be met has reduced to £40 million through a combination of a moderate increase in the Council Tax and delivering savings to the value of £31 million over the period.

All the developmental plans noted in this report are being delivered at the same time as resources for local government are declining.

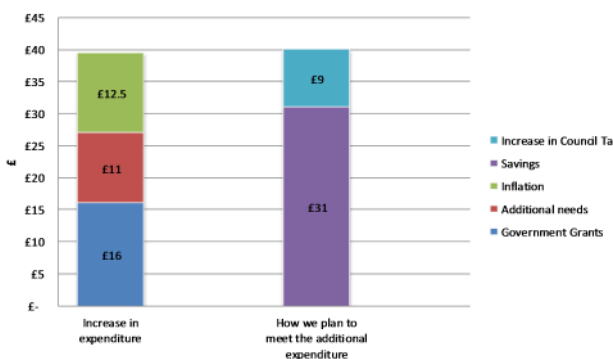
The graph shows that the Council has had to close a deficit of £39.5m over the past four years due to inflation, increased demand for services and a significant loss in the support given to local government by Welsh Government. After the Council Tax increase, we have had to identify £31m in savings over a period of four years. This is in addition to the £31m we had to find in the previous eight years.

This, of course, means that the work of improving the Council's services is much harder.



It is crucial that the Council keeps within the budget and over the course of the last year we managed to keep within £469,000 (or 0.28%) of the budget. Every year since 2013/14 it is seen that we have managed to keep within the budget available.

2014/2018
£39.5m

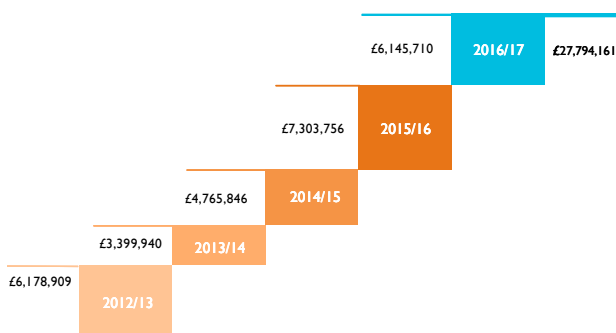


One of the year’s main successes is that a further £6.15 million of efficiency savings have been delivered by changing the way we provide services, whilst maintaining or improving the standard of the service for residents at the same time. Further work needs to be done within some departments in order to ensure that they deliver their plans in full, in accordance with our pledges.

Since 2014/15 the Council has identified savings worth £31million with £26million of this being efficiency savings, and of that, schemes worth £23.4million have been realised. By planning and taking proactive action we have been able to avoid making unnecessary cuts.

Unfortunately, however, due to the reduction in grant from the Government, we unavoidably have to look at cutting services. After undertaking the 'Gwynedd Challenge' consultation during 2015/16 a series of cuts worth £4.9million was approved, which was based on the response of the public and businesses. During 2016/17 we implemented cuts worth £2.58million and we will continue with the implementation programme during 2017/18.

Financial Strategy Savings



In addition we have a programme to find and develop further efficiencies which aim to ensure as few service cuts as possible. We have managed to identify schemes worth £1.084 million in 2016/17 in order to address a financial deficit of £1.082 million during 2017/18.

Appendix 2 - MEASURES

* Lower figure is an improvement

Measure	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend 2013-2017
Children and Young People					
SOGS (Schedule of Growing Skills) Assessment 2 years old Percentage of **Dechrau'n Deg' children that have reached their norm or above their developmental norm	-	-	-	53	Not relevant
SOGS (Schedule of Growing Skills) Assessment 3 years old Percentage of **Dechrau'n Deg' children that have reached their norm or above their developmental norm	52	57	51	51	↓
The percentage of children aged 2 that are present in **Dechrau'n Deg'	84	82	83	84	↔
The number of higher parenting care packages that leads to a positive difference	57	38	48	89	↑
Percentage of families who have reported improvement following the intervention of the Team Around the Family, Gyda'n Gilydd Team	15.0	30.0	25.3	95.0	↑
Percentage of Children that are 11 years of age that have reached the curriculum standard for swimming	79	82	78	79	↔
Number of children and young people that take part in open air activities competitions regional and nationally	-	-	-	466	Not relevant

* Lower figure is an improvement

Measure	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend 2013-2017
Percentage of pupils aged 16 who achieve the Core Subjects Indicator (Grade C or above in Welsh/English, Mathematics and Science)	53.20	57.35	60.50	64.40	↑
Percentage of pupils aged 16 who achieve the Level 1 Threshold or equivalent - that corresponds to 5 A* – G Grades including a vocational qualification	93.1	97.1	97.9	97.3	↑
Percentage of pupils aged 16 who achieve the Level 2 Threshold (5 A* – C Grades) or equivalent	81.55	87.70	88.90	85.90	↑
Percentage of young people 16-18 not in education, work or training	3.0	1.7	1.8	1.0	↑*
Percentage of case conferences where the voice/the child was heard (and excluding children under the age of 7)	81	83	85	84	↑
The percentage of Pupils in local authority care, in any local authority maintained school, aged 15 as at the preceding 31 August that leave compulsory education, training or work based learning without an approved external qualification	0.0	0.1	0.2	1.2	↓
The percentage of Pupils in local authority care, in any local authority maintained school, aged 15 as at the preceding 31 August that leave compulsory education, training or work based learning without an approved external qualification	6.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	↑*

* Lower figure is an improvement

Measure	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend 2013-2017
The percentage of pupils assessed at the end of Key Stage 2, in schools maintained by the local authority, achieving the Core Subject Indicator, as determined by Teacher Assessment	86.6	86.0	89.5	89.8	↑
The percentage of pupils assessed at the end of Key Stage 3, in schools maintained by the local authority, achieving the Core Subject Indicator, as determined by Teacher Assessment	85.40	89.11	91.30	92.00	↑
The percentage of pupils assessed, in schools maintained by the local authority, receiving a Teacher Assessment in Welsh (first language) at the end of Key Stage 3	82.5	81.2	83.2	83.7	↑
The number of permanent exclusions in primary schools during the academic year	0	0	3	0	↔*
The number of pupils permanent excluded in secondary schools during the academic year	4	4	3	2	↑*
The average point score for pupils aged 15 at the preceding 31 August, in schools maintained by the local authority	578.2	616.0	617.2	591.0	↑
The percentage of final statements of special education need issued within 26 weeks including exceptions	43.1	57.4	42.4	55.0	↑
The percentage of final statements of special education need issued within 26 weeks not including exceptions	96.3	100	100	100	↑

* Lower figure is an improvement

Measure	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend 2013-2017
Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools during the academic year	94.3	95.1	95.0	95.5	↑
Percentage of pupil attendance in secondary schools during the academic year	93.6	94.2	94.6	95.2	↑
The percentage of pupils aged 15 at the preceding 31 August, in schools maintained by the local authority who achieved the Level 2 threshold including a GCSE grade A*-C in English or Welsh first language and mathematics	58.0	61.1	63.3	65.9	↑
Percentage of pupils who gained a good level 3 or above in KS2 (7-11 years old) who received a Teacher Assessment in first language Welsh at the end of KS3 (11-14 years old)	-	87.4	89.5	88.7	↑
Number of accreditations young people receive through the youth service	2,323	2,049	2,807		
Percentage of Children that attend 20 or more 5x60 sessions or more (The percentage of Gwynedd Secondary Schools children who have attended any activity that has been organized by the Active Young People Officers at least twenty times during the year as part of the 5x60 scheme.)	22.6	19.2	21.5	20.7	↓
Number of visits to leisure and sports centres during the year per 1,000 of the population	12,906	13,790	10,278	11,063	↓
Transition plan has been agreed for disabled children at 16 years of age	100	100	100	No children in care	Not relevant

* Lower figure is an improvement

Measure	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend 2013-2017
Pathway plan has been agreed for children in care	100	100	100	100	↔
The percentage of children looked after at 31 March who have experienced one or more changes of school, during a period or periods of being looked after, which were not due to transitional arrangements, in the 12 months to 31 March	22.8	18.7	18.1	17.1	↑*
The percentage of children looked after on 31 March who have had three or more placements during the year	4.9	6.2	7.7	6	↑
The percentage of looked after children reviews carried out within statutory timescales during the year	94.3	93.8	91.0	91.0	↓
The percentage of statutory visits to looked after children due in the year that took place in accordance with regulations	83.7	89.0	86.9	90.0	↑
The percentage of eligible, relevant and former relevant children that have pathway plans as required	100	100	100	100	↔
The percentage of eligible, relevant and former relevant children that have pathway plans as required	100	100	100	100	↔

* Lower figure is an improvement

Measure	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend 2013-2017
Care					
Enablement - Percentage of cases that have received a period of enablement who leave without a care package	54.0	45.0	55.0	59.3	↑
Number of adult service users receiving direct payments	104	121	-	100	↓
Percentage of Older People and Physical Disabilities where people see progress in achieving what they consider important	-	-	-	88.0	
The rate of delayed transfers of care for social care reasons per 1,000 population aged 75 years or over	1.55	1.05	2.38	4.44	↓
The rate of older people (aged 65 or over) supported in the community per 1,000 population aged 65 or over at 31 March	46.21	45.07	43.10	42.06	↓
The rate of older people (aged 65 or over) supported to live at home per 1,000 population aged 65 or over (Including adaptations and equipment)	79.41	78.17	73.00	74.00	↓
The rate of older people (aged 65 or over) whom the authority supports in care homes per 1,000 population aged 65 or over at 31 March	25.59	24.15	22.69	21.96	↑

* Lower figure is an improvement

Measure	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend 2013-2017
Rate of older people (65 or over) the authority supports in care homes per 1,000 population ages 65 or over at 31 March – excluding self funders	20.08	18.48	17.10	16.40	↑
The percentage of adult protection referrals completed where the risk has been managed	95.72	100	96.70	100	↑
Of the adult protection referrals completed during the year, the percentage where the risk was managed (with the exception of those who refused intervention)	-	-	99	100	↑
Safeguarding					
Percentage of all Gwynedd staff will have received training in Level 1 protection and safeguarding	-	-	Corporate procedures being developed	-	Not relevant
The proportion of children who were discussed in supervision, where significant harm had been considered (and the answer recorded)	100	100	100	100	↔
The percentage of risk assessments presented to Case Conferences which were considered to illustrate quality in decision making	95	98	97	94	↓

* Lower figure is an improvement

Measure	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend 2013-2017
Percentage of all staff working directly with children, young people and vulnerable adults with a current Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check	-	100	100	-	
Poverty, Deprivation, Economy, Housing					
Percentage of regeneration projects supported that are viable/ sustainable in 3 years	-	-	-	78	Not relevant
Percentage of Council spending with local businesses	40.33	40.42	38.00	Yearly	
Number of jobs protected with support from the Unit	206	163	-	25	↓
The time (number of days) taken to process new Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit claims	23.10	19.74	16.00	17.30	↑*
The time (number of days) taken to process changing events in Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit	6.91	6.23	3.70	5.80	↑*
Investment secured to develop innovative rural enterprises in Gwynedd	-	-	-	256,000	Not relevant
The number of visits to Public Libraries during the year, per 1,000 population	5,301	4,199	4,309	3,073	↓

* Lower figure is an improvement

Measure	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend 2013-2017
Percentage who have benefited from Information Literacy sessions	-	-	-	100	Not relevant
Percentage of library users (adults) that note that they discovered the information they needed	85.0	90.7	-	89.0	↑
Number of new jobs created with the support of the Council	123.5	234.5	81.0	40.0	↓
The average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant	242	316	271	311	↓
The percentage of private sector dwellings that had been vacant for more than 6 months at 1 April that were returned to occupation during the year through direct action by the local authority	5.24	5.70	5.13	3.68	↓
Investment secured through projects	£4,332,108	£1,255,000	£3,241,616	£6,622,171	↑
Number of affordable units secured in Gwynedd	70	144	48	71	↔
The time (number of days) taken for the Homelessness Unit to complete a prevention plan for those under threat	145.85	84.94	69.08	54.00	↑*

* Lower figure is an improvement

Measure	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend 2013-2017
Length of stay in temporary accommodation (number of days)	113.78	75.82	126.02	104.44	↑*
Benefit to the local economy from supporting strategic and high-profile events	£4,666,662	£4,814,867	£5,928,034	£6,764,860	↑
Number of high value jobs that have been created	-	34	35	22	↓
Number of County businesses reporting their use of technology (e.business/e.commerce) as a result of Digital Gwynedd's intervention	-	-	36	49	↑

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The Welsh Language

Percentage of primary schools that can demonstrate increase in the children's social use of Welsh	64	Heb Adrodd	75	
Percentage of secondary schools that have established a baseline of young people's social use of Welsh Year 7	-	Gosod Gwaelodlin	100	

The Environment

Number of complaints received about public transport services under contract to the Council	-	-	-	10 (September 2016 onwards)	Not relevant
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* Lower figure is an improvement

Measure	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend 2013-2017
Percentage of customers who stated that they were satisfied or very satisfied with the level of service from Planning Department	-	-	88.9	94.4	↑
Percentage of attendees who have learned to be safer on the roads due to the lesson / training	-	-	99.0	100	↑
Percentage of Council buildings in the good or acceptable condition category	96.00	96.00	97.18	97.00	↑
Percentage of food establishments who are 'broadly compliant' with food hygiene standards	97.49	97.20	97.95	98.61	↑
Percentage of graffiti / posters that hide traffic signs and cause hazards that is cleaned / cleared within 24 hours of notification	100	100	100	100	↔
Percentage of racial / offensive graffiti / posters on Council property that is cleaned / cleared within 5 working days of notification	100	100	100	100	↔
Percentage of commercial waste collected by the local authority which is prepared for reuse, recycling and composting	30.79	35.45	41.44	40.5	↑
Percentage of dangerous damage to roads and pavements incidents repaired or made safe within 24 hours of notification	97.2	97.0	97.8	98.0	↔

* Lower figure is an improvement

Measure	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend 2013-2017
Percentage of all relevant planning applications determined within 56 days	72.86	76.44	82.30	81.18	↑
Number of days on average it takes to make a decision on relevant planning applications	-	-	60.00	59.26	↔*
Measure of cleanliness and appearance of streets	73.50	70.65	76.26	75.70	↑
The percentage of highways inspected of a high or acceptable standard of cleanliness	93.50	94.30	96.70	96.55	↑
Percentage cases of fly tipping on relevant land which is cleared within five working days of the time that they are reported.	97.67	96.53	96.28	97.90	↔
The percentage of adults aged 60 or over who hold a concessionary bus pass	84.6	80.3	79.0	80.0	↓
The average number of calendar days taken to repair street lamp failures during the year	2.7	3.5	2.3	2.5	↔
Percentage of principal (A) roads that are in overall poor condition	4.4	3.5	3.1	3.5	↑*
Percentage of non-principal/classified (B) roads, that are in overall poor condition	4.7	3.7	3.4	3.9	↑*

* Lower figure is an improvement

Measure	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend 2013-2017
Percentage of Non-principal (C) roads that are in overall poor condition	14.7	14.2	15.8	15.2	↓*
The percentage of municipal waste collected by local authorities sent to landfill	45.88	44.09	34.33	30.62	↑*
The percentage of municipal waste collected by local authorities and prepared for reuse and/or recycled, including source segregated biowastes that are composted or treated biologically in another way	54.01	55.14	58.70	62.34	↑
Profit against target- Consultancy Department	£120,000	£21,000	-£34,000	£66,000	Not relevant

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Percentage of invoices paid within 30 days (across the Council)	94	94	93	88	↓
Amount of efficiency savings achieved as a percentage of total savings	95.2	99.0	98.0	68.0	Not relevant
Current Year Council Tax Collection Rate	96.98	97.20	97.29	97.35	↔
Current Year Non-domestic Taxes Collection Rate	97.79	98.20	98.13	97.91	↔

* Lower figure is an improvement

Measure	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	Trend 2013-2017
Assessment of the security of the Council's money (The security of the Council's money deposited in banks - quarterly analysis by Arlingclose of the credit score (1 is the best, which is credit status AAA, 2 is AA+, 3 is AA, 4 is AA-, 5 is A+, 6 is A, 7 is A-))	5.50	3.62	3.57	3.27	↑
Council's actual expenditure in comparison with the budget (%)	-0.14	-0.18	-0.13	-0.28	↔
The rate of collecting various debts within the quarter - Value	67.84	87.47	92.90	93.47	↑
Sum of the savings fulfilled	£3,399,940	£4,765,846	£7,303,756	£6,145,710	Not relevant

Effective and Efficient Council

The number of working days/shifts per full-time equivalent (FTE) local authority employee lost due to sickness absence	8.20	8.62	8.44	9.00	↓*
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REPORT TO THE CABINET

6 June 2017

Cabinet Member: Councillor Peredur Jenkins, Finance Cabinet Member

Subject: Capital Programme 2016/17 – End of Year Review
(31 March 2017 position)

Contact Officer: Dafydd L Edwards - Head of Finance

The decision sought / Purpose of the report

To accept the report on the end of year review (31 March 2017 position) of the capital programme, and approve the revised financing as shown in part 4 of the report, that is:

- an increase of £136,000 in the use of other borrowing
- an increase of £190,000 in the use of grants and contributions
- an increase of £319,000 in the use of capital receipts
- an increase of £136,000 in the use of revenue contributions
- a decrease of £297,000 in the use of renewal reserves

To approve the allocation of £100,000 for the preliminary and planning work to review the provision of education in the Bangor area. This is to be financed from a contribution which has already been received from a section 106 agreement with Redrow, in connection to a housing development site in Bangor. This will result in an increase of £100,000 in the 2017/18 capital programme.

1. Introduction / Summary

This technical report is presented as part of the 2016/17 end of year process. The main purpose of the report is to present the revised capital programme and to approve the relevant financing sources. There is a summary in parts 3 and 4 of the report, with the recommendations in part 6:

Part 3: Analysis by Department of the £62.131m capital programme for the 3 years 2016/17 – 2018/19.

Part 4: Sources of finance for the net increase of approximately £0.484m since the previous review.

The Cabinet has the authority to adapt the capital programme. Approval is sought for the revised programme (part 3) and financing (part 4).

The remainder of the report is for information:

- Appendix A: The main changes per source of finance
- Appendix B: Movements from 2016/17 to 2017/18

2. Main Findings:

The main conclusions that arise from the revised position are:

- The Council succeeded in spending over £29m in 2016/17 on capital projects, with £11m being financed by attracting specific grants.
- £9.4m of budgeted expenditure will slip from 2016/17, compared to a slippage of £9.5m at the end of 2015/16. No loss of grant funding was caused to the Council where schemes have slipped.

3. Capital Programme 2016/17 to 2018/19

See below the revised capital programme as at the end of March 2017.

DEPARTMENT	END OF MARCH REVIEW				INCREASE/ (DECREASE) SINCE THE LAST REVIEW £'000
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	TOTAL	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Education	15,033	11,815	237	27,085	110
Environment	5,053	5,691	52	10,796	14
Corporate Support	70	510	0	580	(61)
Finance	609	981	0	1,590	70
Economy and Community	1,951	589	0	2,540	333
Adults, Health and Wellbeing - Housing	2,040	2,708	0	4,748	124
Adults, Health and Wellbeing - Other	762	498	0	1,260	226
Children and Families	58	0	0	58	10
Highways and Municipal	2,558	5,708	3,085	11,351	(342)
Consultancy	1,175	26	0	1,201	0
Corporate	0	922	0	922	0
TOTAL	29,309	29,448	3,374	62,131	484

4 Changes to the Sources of Finance

The budget for the three year programme shows an increase of £0.484m since the previous review. The proposed sources of financing for this are noted below:

SOURCE OF FINANCE	END OF MARCH REVIEW				INCREASE/ (DECREASE) SINCE THE LAST REVIEW £'000
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	TOTAL	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Supported Borrowing	4,136	6,352	321	10,809	0
Other Borrowing	6,970	7,957	119	15,046	136
Grants and Contributions	11,460	3,457	0	14,917	190
Capital Receipts	770	1,320	0	2,090	319
Departmental & Corporate Revenue	3,038	1,655	0	4,693	136
Capital Fund	0	2,587	0	2,587	0
Renewals & Other Funds	2,935	6,120	2,934	11,989	(297)
TOTAL	29,309	29,448	3,374	62,131	484

5. Provision of Primary Education in the Bangor Catchment Area (2017/18)

In its meeting on the 17th January 2017 the Cabinet decided to proceed with the review of the provision of education in the Bangor area, and the relevant discussions are due to start locally. It is acknowledged that there is an extremely tight timetable set by the Government in order to spend any grant allocated to 21st Century School projects, and if we are to take full advantage of the grant, it is necessary to start the preliminary and planning work immediately. To this end it is recommended that £100,000 is included in the 2017/18 Capital Programme. This is to be financed from a contribution which has already been received from a section 106 agreement with Redrow, in connection to a housing development site in Bangor. These are specific payments that are required from a developer towards the costs to the Council of accommodating an increased number of children as a result of the development. Depending on the Cabinet's recommendation, this increase will be reflected in the next Quarterly Review.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Cabinet is asked to:

- **accept the 2016/17 to 2018/19 revised programme, and**
- **approve the relevant sources of finance (part 4 above), and**
- **to approve the allocation of £100,000 for the preliminary and planning work to review the provision of education in the Bangor area. This is to be financed from a contribution which has already been received from a section 106 agreement with Redrow, in connection to a housing development site in Bangor. This will result in an increase of £100,000 in the 2017/18 capital programme.**

7. Reasons for recommending the decision

It is necessary to ensure appropriate financing arrangements for the Council's plans to spend on capital, and the Cabinet must approve the capital programme and its sources of funding.

Incorporating funding via grant is a point of order, but it is also necessary to deal with situations where there has been a change in expenditure profiles between years and the value of capital receipts and contributions.

These are recommendations to ensure definite sources of funding for the 2016/17 – 2018/19 capital schemes.

8. Relevant considerations

These are technical issues regarding the financing of schemes and relevant implications and debates have already been addressed when the individual schemes were adopted.

9. Next steps and timetable

To implement the recommendations to finance the programme in order that the Finance Department can move forward to close the Council's financial accounts for 2016/17, and publish the statutory statement by the end of June.

View of the Local Member

Not relevant.

Views of the Statutory Officers**Monitoring Officer:**

Nothing to add from a propriety perspective.

Head of Finance:

I have collaborated with the Cabinet Member in the preparation of this report and I confirm the content.

Appendix

Appendix A: Main changes per source of financing (2016/17)

Appendix B: Budget re-profiling – main schemes

MAIN CHANGES PER SOURCE OF FINANCING (2016/17):

See below the relevant schemes that have caused the main changes to the sources of finance during the last quarter:

	Increase / (Decrease) £'000
Other Borrowing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pulse Equipment (Economy and Community Department) – the purchase of fitness equipment for the leisure centres via the use of internal borrowing, which is a more cost efficient option than leasing the equipment through an external company. The relevant cost of borrowing will be financed through future income streams. 	299
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carbon Management Schemes (Environment Department) – a reduction in expenditure on planned Salix schemes resulting in a reduction in the need to borrow. 	(141)
Grants and Contributions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Relocation of the Bro Tegid Library, Bala (Education Department) – a Government grant towards the cost of relocating the library to the school. 	120
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECO Arbed Project (Housing Unit) – a grant through the Government's Warm Homes programme and specifically through the ECO Arbed project, which supports energy efficiency schemes on the basis of underprivileged communities. The relevant area on this occasion is the Peblig area in Caernarfon, which is in addition to the grant received last year. 	128
Capital Receipts	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pant yr Eithin Supported Housing scheme (Adults, Health and Wellbeing Department) – a technical adjustment to reflect the agreement between Grwp Cynefin and the Council to sell this site to Grwp Cynefin at market value, and to earmark this sum as a contribution towards the development of the site to those with learning difficulties. 	225
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical adjustment – Strategic Plan (the use of capital receipts from the Mynwy scheme rather than financing the schemes via revenue) – see also Corporate Revenue below. 	52
Departmental and Corporate Revenue	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roads Safety (Environment Department) – contributions from specific revenue budgets to finance necessary expenditure on the Blaenau to Rhyd y Sarn (A496) scheme 	144
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IT Equipment - Laptops (Finance Department) – relevant contributions from the revenue budgets of many departments towards the cost of purchasing laptops. 	44
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical adjustment – Strategic Plan (the use of capital receipts from the Mynwy scheme rather than financing the schemes via revenue) – see also Capital Receipts above. 	(52)
Renewals and Other Funds	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Skips, Recycling and Food Bins (Highways and Municipal Department) - a decrease in expenditure following a review of the useful lives of skips, together with the decision to delay the purchase of other bins. 	(210)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycling Vehicles (Highways and Municipal Department) – it was decided to purchase 3 alternative recycling vehicles to those in the original programme which has reduced expenditure. 	(142)

BUDGET RE-PROFILING – MAIN SCHEMES:

See below the main schemes that have been re-profiled since the original budget:

	2016/17 £'000	2017/18 £'000
Renewal of the Council's Vehicles (Highways and Municipal Department)	(2,423)	2,423
21 st Century Schools Schemes (Education Department)	(1,747)	1,747
Carbon Management Schemes (Environment Department)	(1,640)	1,640
Housing Grants Schemes (Adults, Health and Wellbeing Department – Housing Unit)	(708)	708
Information Technology Schemes for the Council (Finance Department)	(445)	445
Relocation of Segontium Day Care Service (Adults, Health and Wellbeing Department)	(301)	301
Car Parks Resurfacing Schemes (Environment Department)	(288)	288
i-Gwynedd (EDRMS) Scheme (Corporate Support Department)	(241)	241

Note:

The above re-profiling will not result in any loss in grant.

There is a variety of valid reasons behind the re-profiling in many cases, but the delay prior to implementing these schemes can mean that the services have to cope for longer with current assets which have not been improved. I am sure that the responsible Cabinet Members and the relevant Scrutiny Committees will wish to satisfy themselves regarding this re-profiling.

REPORT TO THE CABINET

6 JUNE 2017

Cabinet Member: COUNCILLOR PEREDUR JENKINS, FINANCE CABINET MEMBER

Subject: FINAL ACCOUNTS 2016/17 - REVENUE OUTTURN

Contact Officer: DAFYDD L EDWARDS, HEAD OF FINANCE

1. The decision sought / purpose of the report

The Cabinet is requested to:

- 1.1 To consider and note the final financial position of the Council's departments for 2016/17.
- 1.2 **To approve the amounts to be carried forward** (the "Revised Over/(Under) Spend" column of the summary in **Appendix 1**), namely -

DEPARTMENT	£'000
Adults, Health and Wellbeing	(100)
Children and Families	0
Education	(48)
Economy and Community	(19)
Highways and Municipal	0
Environment (formerly Regulatory)	(38)
Gwynedd Consultancy	(96)
Corporate Management Team & Legal	(45)
Finance	(67)
Corporate Support	(56)

- 1.3 To approve the following recommendations and financial transfers (as outlined in **Appendix 2**) –
- Use (£46k), that is the underspend in excess of £100k Adults, Health and Wellbeing to contribute towards the shortfall in another department.
 - Clear the overspend in the Children and Families Department so that they can move forward to face the 2017/18 challenge, and to finance this by re-directing the Adults, Health and Wellbeing Department underspend (£46k) and Corporate underspend (£151k).
 - Clear the overspend in Highways and Municipal Department so that they can move forward to face the 2017/18 challenge, and to finance this by re-directing Corporate underspend (£88k).

- Use the £939k underspend on Corporate Budgets for 2016/17 as follows: -
 - £151k to clear the Children and Families overspend
 - £88k to clear the Highways and Municipal overspend
 - £700k to be earmarked in a reserve to contribute towards the Financial Strategy for the future.

1.4 To approve the virements from the specific reserves and release the provisions as outlined in Appendix 3 following a comprehensive review of reserves and provisions.

2. Introduction / Background

2.1 Generally, despite the sustained challenging need to achieve savings and cuts, **the final financial position of the Council's departments for 2016/17 confirms that there was effective financial management by the relevant Cabinet Members, department heads and budget managers.** Of course, that is supported by our accountants' professional monitoring work, together with constructive challenge as required by the Cabinet, the Audit Committee, and the Corporate Management Team.

2.2 Therefore, **the Cabinet is requested to approve the final financial position for 2016/17 to enable the Finance Department to move forward to produce, certify and publish the statutory financial statements by 30 June,** then present these for Audit Committee scrutiny on 13 July 2017.

3. Council Departments

3.1 **I can confirm that most departments' budgets have been robustly controlled again this year.** A summary of the final position for every department is outlined in Appendix 1, with the sums to be carried forward (subject to the Cabinet's approval) in the "Revised Over/(Under) Spend" column. In Appendix 2, further details relating to the major issues and areas where significant variances from those previously reported are noted, together with several specific recommendations. Those recommendations are highlighted for consideration above in 1.3.

3.2 The financial position of most departments disclosed an underspend, and accurately projected during 2016/17, but there was a significant improvement in the financial position of the **Adults' Department** during the last quarter of the year, and a portion of their gross underspend will be available to finance the shortfall in another department.

3.3 There was an overspend on placements and operational services in the **Children and Families** Department, and in the waste field in the **Highways and Municipal** Department.

- 3.4 **In Appendix 1, the underspend / overspend position of each department is reported to the Cabinet, who will approve the sums to be carried forward.** Financial Procedure Rule 16.3.1 specifies the arrangements for sums to be “carried forward” at the year-end. There are two requests for the Cabinet to write off the department’s deficit, and one Department with an underspend exceeding the £100,000 threshold on closure of the 2016/17 accounts.
- 3.5 Generally, where departments have underspent, those are one-off positions in 2016/17 only.
- 3.6 In the majority of budgets where there was an over/underspend in 2016/17, appropriate consideration has been given to the related requirements and opportunities in the 2017/18 budgetary cycle, and most of those issues have already been addressed in the financial strategy for 2017/18 (by management action to halt trends, and/or by amending the budget).

4. Schools

- 4.1 A section of Appendix 2 elaborates on the position of the schools budgets, where statute has conferred delegated powers for governing bodies to carry balances forward at the end of the financial year. The county total of schools’ balances has reduced from £3.3m to £2.9m in 2016/17. We will be publishing detailed annual information regarding individual schools’ balances before long in a ‘Section 52 Statement’.
- 4.2 The Education Department has arrangements to challenge individual schools to justify the need for their balances, and they ask school heads and the relevant schools’ governing bodies to explain their intention to use their balances (particularly those with balances exceeding 5% of their budget).
- 4.3 The total schools financial deficit has reduced from £447,692 (11 Primary, 4 Secondary, 1 Special) on the 31 March 2016 to £420,471 (12 Primary, 4 Secondary, 1 Special) on the 31 March 2017. I confirm that the relevant Finance Unit will also ensure the heads and governing bodies of the schools which have financial deficits that this needs to be dealt with.

5. Corporate Budgets and Reserves

- 5.1 There were one-off underspends of (£939k) on several corporate budget headings this year, as outlined in the final section of Appendix 2. (£239k) of this net underspend is available towards the overspend of two departments, and (£700k) for earmarking towards financing the financial strategy for the future.

- 5.2 The adequacy of all the Council's specific reserves and provisions was thoroughly reviewed again by the Head of Finance on closure of this year's accounts, in accordance with the policy approved two years ago. This review succeeded in harvesting £1.060m of resources (£998k from specific reserves and £62k from provisions), as outlined in Appendix 3.
- 5.3 At present, the Council is facing considerable uncertainty regarding the level of Government's financing grant for 2018/19 and beyond. Accordingly, it is necessary to establish a reserve fund to buy time and ensure flexibility to deal with the challenge and uncertainty. Setting aside £1.76m in a specific reserve will give time for the Council to plan so that it responds appropriately.
- 5.4 With the Cabinet's support, if the underspend is applied as recommended in paragraph 1.3 above, through effective control over its budgets, the Council will have succeeded in reducing the planned use of its reserves and avoid using any of the Council's general balances in 2016/17.

6. Next steps and timetable

- 6.1 In accordance with The Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014, and the CIPFA Code of accounting practice, the Chief Finance Officer has to certify the statutory financial statements for 2016/17 by 30 June. Whilst appreciating that this is a challenging timetable, I would like to thank everyone who has contributed in this process.
- 6.2 The purpose of this report is to detail the outturn position relating to underspends and overspends within individual Departments and the Council's expenditure as a whole for 2016/17, and to consider the information in this report, in order to reflect that position in the final accounts.
- 6.3 The position reflected here is based on the latest information, and in bringing the accounts closure process to a conclusion, there could be some further changes. However, no significant change in the general position is anticipated.
- 6.4 The Finance Department will produce the 2016/17 statutory financial statements for certification by the Head of Finance by 30 June and submission for scrutiny by the Audit Committee on 13 July.

Local member's views

Not relevant

Opinion of the Statutory Officers**Monitoring Officer:**

Nothing to add from a propriety perspective.

Head of Finance:

I have collaborated with the Cabinet Member in the preparation of this report and I confirm the content.

Appendices

Appendix 1 - the final underspend / overspend position of each department

Appendix 2 - budgetary issues and areas where significant variances occurred

Appendix 3 - resources harvested from reviewing reserves and provisions

Final Accounts 2016/17 Revenue Budget - Summary of position by Department

	Final Review				Third Quarter Review £ '000
	Revised Budget 2016/17 £'000	Overspend / (Underspend) 2016/17 £ '000	Recommended Adjustments £'000	Overspend/ (Underspend) £ '000	
Adults, Health and Wellbeing	44,705	(146)	46	(100)	88
Children and Families	12,990	197	(197)	0	222
Education	81,752	(48)	0	(48)	42
Economy and Community	6,659	(19)	0	(19)	2
Highways and Municipal	20,637	88	(88)	0	58
Environment (Planning and Public Protection, Transportation and Countryside, Corporate Assets)	6,008	(38)	0	(38)	(100)
Gwynedd Consultancy	320	(96)	0	(96)	(47)
Corporate Management Team and Legal	2,069	(45)	0	(45)	(55)
Finance	5,572	(67)	0	(67)	(56)
Corporate Support	7,894	(56)	0	(56)	(80)
Corporate Budgets (Variances only)	*	(939)	939	0	(5)
Totals (net)	188,606	(1,169)	700	(469)	69

Final Accounts 2016/17						
Adults, Health and Wellbeing Department	Revised Budget 2016/17	Final Position 2016/17	Gross Overspend / (Underspend) 2016/17	Use of Other Sources or Other Recommended Adjustments	Overspend/ (Underspend)	Net Overspend/ (Underspend) 3rd Quarter Review
Area:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Adult Services						
Older People's Service						
Residential and Nursing - Homes	9,861	9,589	(272)	46	(226)	(316)
Home Care	6,329	6,306	(23)	0	(23)	(28)
Other	1,954	1,916	(38)	0	(38)	(18)
	18,144	17,811	(333)	46	(287)	(362)
Physical Disability Services						
Residential and Nursing	479	439	(40)	0	(40)	(50)
Home Care	1,016	1,069	53	0	53	41
Other	677	605	(72)	0	(72)	(63)
	2,172	2,113	(59)	0	(59)	(72)
Learning Disability Services	14,545	14,188	(357)	0	(357)	(103)
Mental Health Services						
Residential and Nursing	1,386	1,595	209	0	209	236
Other	1,953	1,802	(151)	0	(151)	(48)
	3,339	3,397	58	0	58	188
Other Services (Adults)						
Management	290	255	(35)	0	(35)	(34)
Older People and Physical Disability Team	2,450	2,460	10	0	10	(5)
	2,740	2,715	(25)	0	(25)	(39)
Adult Services Total	40,940	40,224	(716)	46	(670)	(388)

<u>Final Accounts 2016/17</u>						
Adults, Health and Wellbeing Department	Revised Budget 2016/17	Final Position 2016/17	Gross Overspend / (Underspend) 2016/17	Use of Other Sources or Other Recommended Adjustments	Overspend/ (Underspend)	Net Overspend/ (Underspend) 3rd Quarter Review
Area:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Provider Services (showing net budget)</u>						
Residential Care	(616)	(457)	159	0	159	86
Day Care	(232)	(232)	0	0	0	3
Community Care	59	228	169	0	169	122
Other	(37)	(74)	(37)	0	(37)	(27)
<u>Provider Services Total</u>	(826)	(535)	291	0	291	184
<u>Other Services</u>						
Housing Services	1,601	1,565	(36)	0	(36)	13
Departmental Central Services <i>(including Department savings)</i>	2,990	3,305	315	0	315	279
<u>Total Other Services</u>	4,591	4,870	279	0	279	292
<u>Adults, Health and Wellbeing Total</u>	44,705	44,559	(146)	46	(100)	88

Adults, Health and Wellbeing Department

After the forecasts of overspending slowly reduced through the year, there was a change in the final financial position, with an underspend of (£146k). The main movements and variances are as follows:

Older People's Services - an underspend of (£333k) mainly as the trend of a reduction in the number of clients in residential and nursing placements continued.

Physical Disability Services - an underspend of (£59k), with (£40k) of this sum on residential and nursing, the trend of a reduction in the number of direct payment cases continues, but an increase in the demand for home care packages.

Learning Disability Services - the underspend is mainly on residential and nursing and therefore follows the same trend reported on elderly and physical disability services above. The use of a grant in the final quarter on Supported Accommodation resulted in a substantial increase in the underspend, together with backdated contributions from Health.

Mental Health Services - a reduction of (£130k) in the net overspend, with a reduction in the number of residential and nursing packages. During the final quarter, Health have contributed to a number of support packages, with some of these relating to the previous year. An additional grant has resulted in the reduction to the forecasted overspend on alcohol and drugs care.

Provider Services - a continuation in the trend in the overspend which has increased to £291k, with the main movement during the quarter being on residential care, stemming from additional staffing costs, including long term sickness. An overspend of £169k on community care, £86k of this from an overspend on travelling costs, with the remainder on staffing and overheads.

Other Services - Central Departmental - net under achievement of realising the savings schemes is responsible for a £483k overspend under this heading, with slippage on a number of savings schemes to be realised in 2017/18. The Department propose taking additional steps to try to ensure that the position improves by re-packaging their savings schemes. Staffing underspend and receipt of an additional grant has reduced the reported overspend to £315k.

Summary and Recommendation

In accordance with the usual practice, £100k can be carried forward to 2017/18.

It is recommended that (£46k), which is the underspend above £100k Adults, Health and Wellbeing is used to contribute towards the shortfall in another department.

Final Accounts 2016/17						
Children and Families Department	Revised Budget 2016/17	Final Position 2016/17	Gross Overspend / (Underspend) 2016/17	Use of Other Sources or Other Recommended Adjustments	Overspend/ (Underspend)	Net Overspend/ (Underspend) 3rd Quarter Review
Area:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Service Management	483	466	(17)	0	(17)	(23)
Operational Services	1,906	2,154	248	0	248	226
Placement Services						
Out of County Placements	2,322	2,413	91	0	91	60
Agency Fostering	970	999	29	0	29	25
Internal Fostering	1,640	1,713	73	0	73	110
Support Services and Other	1,440	1,584	144	0	144	99
	6,372	6,709	337	0	337	294
Post-16 Services	1,045	847	(198)	0	(198)	(184)
Specialist Services/Derwen	1,476	1,397	(79)	0	(79)	(34)
Youth Justice Services	242	217	(25)	0	(25)	(25)
Early Years Services	122	59	(63)	0	(63)	(45)
Other Services	1,344	1,338	(6)	0	(6)	13
Recommendation				(197)		
Children and Families Total	12,990	13,187	197	(197)	197	222

Children and Families

Operational Services - an increase of £22k in the overspend since what was reported in the third quarter review, with an overspend of £248k at the year end. The overspend mainly on staffing, and the Department was successful with a bid to respond to the pressure on the budget from 2017/18 onwards. £54k of the overspend was on higher costs of complex care packages.

Placement Services - an overspend of £337k on placement services, which is £43k higher than reported in quarter 3, but with a reduction in the overspend on internal fostering as there was no increase in the number of cases during the quarter. There was an increase in the overspend on out of county placements as there was one new case during the quarter and the costs of two other cases were higher than anticipated. There was an increase in the overspend on special guardianship allowances and residential orders to £144k by the year end.

Post 16 Services - an underspend of (£198k) following a reduction in the demand for Post-16 support packages, in accordance with the trend throughout the year.

Derwen Specialist Services - One-off staff savings, use of a grant, and early realisation of 2017/18 savings schemes.

Early Years Services - an increase in the underspend by the year end following receipt of additional grants in the final quarter together with additional fee income.

Summary and Recommendation -

The reported overspend has reduced £25k during the last quarter, being £197k at the end of the year. The Children and Families Department have already used up all their reserves. The Department received a permanent bid of £50k and £210k one-off towards 2017/18 to acknowledge the pressure on the services. The Department is therefore asking for the Cabinet's support with this financial year end overspend position. The Head of Children and Families Department, with the support of the Corporate Management Team, is presenting an application to the Cabinet to write off the Department's deficit of £197k on 31/03/2017.

It is recommended that the Children and Families overspend is written off to allow them move forward to face the 2017/18 challenge, and to finance this by re-directing the underspend in the Adults, Health and Wellbeing Department (£46k) and Corporate underspend (£151k).

Final Accounts 2016/17

Education Department	Revised Budget 2016/17	Final Position 2016/17	Gross Overspend / (Underspend) 2016/17	Use of Other Sources or Other Recommended Adjustments	Overspend/ (Underspend)	Net Overspend/ (Underspend) 3rd Quarter Review
Area:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Delegated Schools	71,361	71,361	0	0	0	0
Transport	4,266	4,297	31	0	31	7
Redundancies and Early Retirement	1,373	1,373	0	0	0	2
Integration						
Out of County	979	973	(6)	0	(6)	0
Catering and Cleaning	228	127	(101)	0	(101)	(103)
Nursery Education	569	559	(10)	0	(10)	(10)
Education Improvement Grant	588	601	13	0	13	0
Management	1,393	1,386	(7)	0	(7)	(22)
Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion	1,952	2,128	176	0	176	186
Support for Underperforming Schools			0	0	0	0
Further Education	24	13	(11)	0	(11)	(14)
School Reserve Budgets	95	79	(16)	0	(16)	0
Contribution to Joint Committees	1,574	1,544	(30)	0	(30)	0
Other	(2,650)	(2,737)	(87)	0	(87)	(4)
Education Total	81,752	81,704	(48)	0	(48)	42

Education

A favourable movement of (£90k) was seen since quarter three forecasts, with the Education Department in an underspend position of (£48k) by the year end. The main areas contributing to the position are:

Transport - a deterioration of £24k since quarter three, with an overspend of £31k now apparent, which is a combination of an overspend on school bus transport following on from higher costs, and a reduction in post-16 transport income, but which is reduced by an underspend in school taxi transport.

Catering and Cleaning - an underspend of (£101k) in accordance with the forecasts during the year, mainly as a result of the early realisation of 2017/18 school catering savings.

Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion - Circumstances relating to one specific centre being responsible for the overspend of £186k under this heading, with receipt of additional income to the Pre School Units at the year end reducing the overspend to £177k.

Education Contribution to Joint-Committees (GwE and Cynnal) - one-off savings in Gwynedd's contribution to the Joint-committees and to Cynnal for 2016/17.

Other - Education support budgets are responsible for the favourable movement since quarter three, with an underspend of (£87k) on various Education budgets. This includes (£16k) on the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) costs, (£12k) supply teacher budget, (£11k) school visits and (£8k) strategic group budgets, with the remainder on support budgets in the Education Department.

Final Accounts 2016/17						
Economy and Community Department	Revised Budget 2016/17	Final Position 2016/17	Gross Overspend / (Underspend) 2016/17	Use of Other Sources or Other Recommended Adjustments	Overspend/ (Underspend)	Net Overspend/ (Underspend) 3rd Quarter Review
Area:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Management	409	409	0	0	0	0
Business Support	(120)	(124)	(4)	0	(4)	7
Marketing and Customer Care	603	601	(2)	0	(2)	0
Community Regeneration	458	468	10	0	10	6
Skills and Enterprise	61	59	(2)	0	(2)	(5)
Strategic Projects Team	258	295	37	0	37	45
Strategy and Development	317	312	(5)	0	(5)	0
Archives	285	272	(13)	0	(13)	(10)
Museums	89	98	9	0	9	(5)
Galleries	63	64	1	0	1	0
Halls	175	181	6	0	6	3
Arts	263	256	(7)	0	(7)	(3)
Country Parks	40	1	(39)	0	(39)	(26)
Maritime	(198)	(107)	91	0	91	75
Youth Service	987	879	(108)	0	(108)	(98)
Healthy Communities Service - Leisure Centres	1,285	1,310	25	0	25	25
Sports Development	210	204	(6)	0	(6)	(2)
Libraries	1,474	1,462	(12)	0	(12)	(10)
Total Economy a Community	6,659	6,640	(19)	0	(19)	2

Economy and Community

The financial situation has improved during the year and now in an underspend position of (£19k), with a number of services across the Department having succeeded in reducing their costs and attracting more income. The areas with the greatest variances are:

Strategic Projects Team - an overspend of £37k relating to the financing of one strategic project.

Country Parks - an underspend of (£39k) mainly as a result of parking fees at Parc Padarn exceeding the target for the year.

Maritime - the overspend has increased to £91k by the year end, mainly stemming from the shortfall of income at Hafan Pwllheli and the harbours, following a reduction in the demand for anchorages. The Department has tried to reduce the shortfall in the income by reducing the costs at the sites. The Economy and Community Department is to prepare a comprehensive report on the situation at Hafan Pwllheli, following a request by The Audit Committee on 1 December 2016.

Youth Service - the trend of an underspend reported during the year continues and has now increased to (£108k), of which (£74k) is on two vacant Development Officer job posts, and (£34k) on youth clubs, as the Department identify savings for 2017/18 and onwards in these fields.

Final Accounts 2016/17						
Highways and Municipal Summary Position (including Trunk Roads)	Revised Budget 2016/17	Final Position 2016/17	Gross Overspend / (Underspend) 2016/17	Use of Other Sources or Other Recommended Adjustments	Overspend/ (Underspend)	Net Overspend/ (Underspend) 3rd Quarter Review
Area:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Highways Services (including Trunk Roads)	7,827	7,797	(30)	0	(30)	23
Engineering Services	491	517	26	0	26	33
Municipal Services						
Waste						
Waste Disposal	2,617	2,508	(109)	0	(109)	(125)
Treatment and Transfer Sites	973	973	0	0	0	5
Waste Collection and Recycling	3,079	3,254	175	(88)	87	56
Commercial Waste	(94)	(6)	88	0	88	119
Other Waste	1,458	1,524	66	0	66	19
Waste Sub-total	8,033	8,253	220	(88)	132	74
Crematorium and Cemeteries	(172)	(275)	(103)	0	(103)	(36)
Other Municipal	3,500	3,542	42	0	42	32
	11,361	11,520	159	(88)	71	70
Municipal Works Unit	958	891	(67)	0	(67)	(68)
Highways and Municipal (including Trunk Roads) Total	20,637	20,725	88	(88)	0	58

Highways and Municipal (including Trunk Roads)

An increase of £30k in the overspend from the figure reported in the third quarter to £88k.

Waste - numerous reasons for the variances by the services within the waste field including:

- **Waste Disposal** - in line with the trend throughout the year, an underspend of (£109k) as a result of less waste going into land-fill.
- **Waste Collection and Recycling** - an increase in the overspend since quarter three to £175k, with £89k of the increase in the last quarter emanating from higher fleet costs. A higher tonnage than forecasted on dealing with recycling materials leading to an increase in the overspend to £139k. A reduction in the recycling bank savings, grant reduction, and additional pressures on the service due to the increase in the number of houses resulting in higher operating and renewal costs. An underspend on costs and additional income from green waste has reduced the reported overspend level.
- **Commercial Waste** - following on from new rationalisation arrangements in respect of school bins, there was a loss of income that has reduced to £37k by attracting external income. But side by side with this, the effects of rationalisation can already be seen as there has been a reduction in the waste going into landfill, and accordingly an underspend against the Waste Disposal budgets reported above. The 2017/18 prices have been adjusted to reflect the loss of income. Overspend on fleet costs has increased in the last quarter but an underspend on staff costs has helped the situation.
- **Other Waste** - less gasses from the Cilgwyn old landfill site leading to a £54k income shortfall on royalties and problems in the last quarter with machinery at the Recycling Centres leading to an overspend.

Crematorium and Cemeteries - an increase in the income from that forecasted in the third quarter, with the crematorium income (£73k) higher and funerals (£20k) and a further £10k saving on energy.

Municipal Provider Unit - an underspend of (£67k) by the end of the financial year as a result of early realisation of staffing savings and less operating costs.

Summary and Recommendation

An overspend of £88k at the end of the year as a result of pressure on the Department's Waste services. It is expected that the Department will take positive steps in 2017/18 to ensure that they operate within their budget. The Department received a permanent bid of over £657k to meet the increasing costs from 2017/18 onwards. The Department is therefore asking for the Cabinet's support with this financial year end overspend position. The Head of Highways and Municipal, with the support of the Management Team, is submitting a request to the Cabinet to write off the deficit of £88k.

It is recommended that the Highways and Municipal Department overspend is written off to allow them move forward to face the 2017/18 challenge, and to finance this by re-directing Corporate underspend (£88k).

Final Accounts 2016/17						
Environment Department (formerly Regulatory)	Revised Budget 2016/17	Final Position 2016/17	Gross Overspend / (Underspend) 2016/17	Use of Other Sources or Other Recommended Adjustments	Overspend/ (Underspend)	Net Overspend/ (Underspend) 3rd Quarter Review
Area:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Department Management	155	143	(12)	0	(12)	(15)
Planning Services						
Development Control	175	170	(5)	0	(5)	(5)
Other	(104)	(119)	(15)	0	(15)	(12)
	71	51	(20)	0	(20)	(17)
Street Works and Transport Services						
Forward Planning	50	50	0	0	0	0
Structural Maintenance	1,143	1,143	0	0	0	0
Road Safety	160	140	(20)	0	(20)	(9)
Traffic and Statutory Arrangements	102	86	(16)	0	(16)	(2)
Parking Services and Parking Enforcement	(1,745)	(1,746)	(1)	0	(1)	3
Integrated Transport	1,620	1,579	(41)	0	(41)	(10)
Enforcement and Transport	303	321	18	0	18	0
	1,633	1,573	(60)	0	(60)	(18)
Countryside and Access Services	891	940	49	0	49	(1)
Joint Planning Policy Unit	252	252	0	0	0	(1)
Public Protection Services	1,455	1,462	7	0	7	(23)
Catering, Cleaning and Caretaking Services	(10)	(17)	(7)	0	(7)	(16)
Property Services	1,561	1,566	5	0	5	(8)
Environment Total	6,008	5,970	(38)	0	(38)	(99)

Environment (formerly Regulatory)

Movement of £62k during the last quarter with the underspend reducing to (£38k) by the end of the financial year. A substantial underspend was forecasted by the department in the previous reviews, and £445k has already been transferred towards the Council's priorities, with the Environment Department also having been given approval to use a further £200k towards capital projects to improve the state of car parks.

Department Management and Planning - an underspend on staff costs and supplies and services, and income in excess of the target by Planning.

Enforcement and Transport - an underspend of (£60k) for a number of reasons including vacant posts in Road Safety and Integrated Transport, higher income by Traffic and Statutory Arrangements and Integrated Transport and lower supplies and services and fuel costs. The Department is using part of the underspend to finance related capital projects.

Countryside and Access - movement of £50k during the last quarter following a combination of redundancy costs, lack of income and higher expenditure on footpaths and multi-user paths.

Final Accounts 2016/17						
Consultancy Department	Revised Budget 2016/17	Final Position 2016/17	Gross Overspend / (Underspend) 2016/17	Use of Other Sources or Other Recommended Adjustments	Overspend/ (Underspend)	Net Overspend/ (Underspend) 3rd Quarter Review
Area:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Roads and Engineering Services	(175)	(212)	(37)	0	(37)	(35)
Flood Risk Management Unit Services	426	393	(33)	0	(33)	0
Building Control	69	43	(26)	0	(26)	(12)
Consultancy Total	320	224	(96)	0	(96)	(47)

Consultancy

Consultancy financial forecasts have slowly improved during the year from an overspend at the beginning of the year to an underspend of (£96k) by the end of the year.

Roads and Engineering Services - an underspend of (£36k) following the success of the Department in attracting additional income through a combination of additional internal and external work during the year.

Flood Risk Management Unit Services - an underspend on staff costs, use of grants and lower operational costs leading to a favourable movement of (£34k) since the Third Quarter Review.

Building Control - a combination of underspend on supplies and services, and a vacant position.

Final Accounts 2016/17						
Central Departments	Revised Budget 2016/17	Final Position 2016/17	Gross Overspend / (Underspend) 2016/17	Use of Other Sources or Other Recommended Adjustments	Overspend/ (Underspend)	Net Overspend/ (Underspend) 3rd Quarter Review
Area:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Corporate Management Team and Legal	2,069	2,024	(45)	0	(45)	(55)
Finance	5,572	5,505	(67)	0	(67)	(56)
Corporate Support	7,894	7,838	(56)	0	(56)	(80)
Central Departments Total	15,535	15,367	(168)	0	(168)	(191)

Central Departments

Corporate Management Team and Legal - a reduction of (£10k) in the underspend forecasted in the third quarter to (£45k), mainly as a result of receiving additional income by the Legal Unit, and income from Denbigh Council to the Corporate Director's budget. In addition to this, a 2017/18 saving realised early (£13k) in the Emergency Planning field contributing towards the favourable position at the year end.

Finance - an increase of £11k in the underspend to (£67k) by the year end. One-off underspends across the Department, with substantial staff turnover in the Audit field at the end of the year increasing the Department's underspend. The trend of attracting income in excess of the budget from outside bodies in the Audit and Information Technology fields continues, and contributes to a favourable financial position.

Corporate Support - an underspend of (£56k) by the year end, mainly resulting from one-off staff savings due to staff turnover across the Department. Number of units exceeding their income target, including Registration and Translation, and although the forecast was of an overspend during 2016/17 for the Printroom, there was an underspend of (£11k) by the year end following receipt of additional income, including external income.

Final Accounts 2016/17						
Corporate (Only reflecting variances)	Revised Budget 2016/17	Final Position 2016/17	Gross Overspend / (Underspend) 2016/17	Use of Other Sources or Other Recommended Adjustments	Overspend/ (Underspend)	Net Overspend/ (Underspend) 3rd Quarter Review
Area:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Net Interest Income	*	*	82	0	82	78
Benefits	*	*	(382)	0	(382)	0
Corporate Capital Costs	*	*	(35)	0	(35)	-
No 6 Festival Costs Recovered	*	*	(1)	0	(1)	-
Other	*	*	(603)	0	(603)	(83)
Contribution towards Department Overspends	*	*	0	239	239	-
Contribution towards future Financial Strategy	*	*	0	700	700	-
Corporate Total	*	*	(939)	939	0	(5)

Corporate

Net Income Receipts - a shortfall of £82k on interest as a result of the current market position, the shortfall level is in line with the previously forecasted position.

Benefits - an underspend of (£382k) on the element of reducing the Council Tax from Benefits.

Corporate Capital Costs - an underspend of (£35k) as a result of higher departmental contributions to borrowing costs.

Recoupment of Festival No 6 Costs - the Council succeeded to recoup all of its £8k costs in relation to the No 6 Festival problems.

Other - an underspend of (£603k) which is a combination of savings in advance and one-off corporate by nature, business tax appeals cost savings, receipt of additional income on external activities, one-off underspend on related staffing costs and bids.

Contribution towards future Financial Strategy - the Corporate underspend position at the year end means that it is possible to reduce the contribution from financial reserves by £700k, so that it will be available to be used to contribute towards Financial Strategies for the future.

As we are now in the third quarter of the financial year and consequently the end of year picture is clearer, it is possible to release £600k of the reserve budget for 2016/17 as the calls are not as great as the amount reserved.

Within the "other" heading numerous on off savings of a corporate nature are included, including business rates appeals and one-off savings of bid related staffing costs.

It is recommended that £939k of the underspend on Corporate Budgets for 2016/17 is used as follows:

- £151k to clear the overspend in Children and Families
- £88k to clear the overspend in Highways and Municipal
- £700k to be earmarked in a reserve to contribute towards the Financial Strategy for the future.

Harvesting Reserves

Following a comprehensive review by Finance officers of all reserves, it is recommended that the following sums are released for use in the Financial Strategy for the future:

Reserve	Sum to be released £
Corporate and Legal Management Team underspend (harvesting above specific threshold)	32,484
Corporate General - Chief Executive (not committed)	50,000
Corporate Support underspend (harvesting above specific threshold)	263,146
Lone Working Project (project completed)	10,267
Health and Safety (not committed)	6,025
Corporate Support Savings and Cuts Projects (not committed)	25,000
Human Resources General Consultancy Assistant (not committed)	6,520
Finance Department underspend (harvesting above specific threshold)	23,637
Finance Systems and Financial Arrangements (not committed)	50,000
Pay Review (related matters dealt with)	90,976
Contracts Tenders (succeeded without resorting to the reserve)	150,000
Complaints Process (permanent budget now available)	90,000
Benefits Reserve (not committed)	200,000
Total	998,055

Provisions Requirements Review

Following a review of the requirements regarding provisions, it is recommended that the following is released for use in the Financial Strategy for the future:

Provision	Sum to be released £
Pay Review (related matters dealt with)	62,179

Total Reserves and Provisions to be Harvested	1,060,234
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