

Meeting

### ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Date and Time

### 1.00 pm, THURSDAY, 19TH MAY, 2022

\* NOTE \*

This meeting will be webcast

https://gwynedd.public-i.tv/core/l/en\_GB/portal/home

Location

Hybrid Siambr Dafydd Orwig, Council Offices, Caernarfon LL55 1SH / Virtually via Zoom

**Contact Point** 

**Eirian Roberts** 

01286 679018

eirianroberts3@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

(DISTRIBUTED 12/5/22)

Geraint Owen Head of Democracy Service

www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru

### THURSDAY, 12 MAY 2022

Dear Councillor,

#### MEETING OF GWYNEDD COUNCIL – THURSDAY, 19 MAY 2022

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED to attend a hybrid meeting of GWYNEDD COUNCIL which will be held at 1.00 pm on THURSDAY, 19TH MAY, 2022 in SIAMBR DAFYDD ORWIG, COUNCIL OFFICES, CAERNARFON LL55 1SH / VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM, to consider the matters mentioned in the following agenda.

Yours faithfully,

Creraint Ower

Head of Democracy Services

# AGENDA

### 1. CHAIR

To elect a Chair for 2022/23.

### 2. VICE-CHAIR

To elect a Vice-chair for 2022/23.

### 3. APOLOGIES

To receive any apologies for absence.

### 4. MINUTES

5 - 33

The Chair shall propose that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Council held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2022 be signed as a true record.

### 5. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

To receive any declaration of personal interest.

### 6. THE CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

To receive any Chair's announcements.

### 7. URGENT ITEMS

To note any items which are urgent business in the opinion of the Chair so they may be considered.

#### 8. QUESTIONS

To consider any questions the appropriate notice for which have been given under Section 4.19 of the Constitution.

### 9. LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

To appoint the Leader of the Council.

10.	THE COUNCIL'S POLITICAL BALANCE	34 - 40
	To submit the report of the Head of Democracy Services.	
11.	AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION	41 - 54
	To submit the report of the Monitoring Officer.	

### 12. RESPONSES TO PREVIOUS NOTICES OF MOTION55 - 63

- (a) To submit, for information Letters from S4C, Sport Wales and Welsh Government in response to former Councillor Judith Humphreys' notice of motion to the 3rd March, 2022 Council meeting regarding women in sport.
- (b) To submit, for information Letter from Welsh Government in response to Councillor Beca Brown's notice of motion to the 3<sup>rd</sup> March, 2022 Council meeting regarding FareShare.

#### THE COUNCIL 3/3/22

#### Present: Councillor Simon Glyn (Chair)

Councillors:- Craig ab Iago, Menna Baines, Beca Brown, Dylan Bullard, Stephen Churchman, Steve Collings, Annwen Daniels, R. Glyn Daniels, Anwen Davies, Elwyn Edwards, Alan Jones Evans, Aled Evans, Dylan Fernley, Peter Antony Garlick, Gareth Wyn Griffith, Selwyn Griffiths, Alwyn Gruffydd, Annwen Hughes, John Brynmor Hughes, Louise Hughes, R. Medwyn Hughes, Judith Humphreys, Nia Jeffreys, Peredur Jenkins, Aeron M. Jones, Aled Wyn Jones, Anne Lloyd Jones, Berwyn Parry Jones, Elin Walker Jones, Eric Merfyn Jones, Gareth Tudor Morris Jones, Huw Wyn Jones, Keith Jones, Kevin Morris Jones, Linda A. Jones, Sion Wyn Jones, Eryl Jones-Williams, Cai Larsen, Beth Lawton, Dafydd Meurig, Dilwyn Morgan, Linda Morgan, Dafydd Owen, Dewi Owen, Edgar Wyn Owen, Gwynfor Owen, Jason Parry, Nigel Pickavance, Rheinallt Puw, Peter Read, Dewi Wyn Roberts, Elfed P. Roberts, Gareth A. Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Mair Rowlands, Paul Rowlinson, Angela Russell, Dyfrig Siencyn, Mike Stevens, Gareth Thomas, Ioan Thomas, Hefin Underwood, Catrin Wager, Cemlyn Williams, Elfed Williams, Gethin Glyn Williams, Gruffydd Williams and Owain Williams.

**Officers:** Dafydd Gibbard (Chief Executive), Morwena Edwards (Corporate Director), Iwan Evans (Monitoring Officer), Dewi Morgan (Statutory Finance Officer), Geraint Owen (Head of Corporate Support / Head of Democracy Service), Carys Fôn Williams (Head of Housing and Property Department), Sion Huws (Senior Solicitor - Corporate), Vera Jones (Democracy and Language Service Manager) and Eirian Roberts (Democracy Services Officer).

**Also in attendance:** Eurig Huw Williams (Human Resources Advisory Services Manager) (for item 7), Dewi Jones (Council Business Support Service Manager) (for item 8), Ffion Madog Evans (Senior Finance Manager) (for item 9), Rhion Glyn (Assistant Head - Adults, Health and Well-being) and Hawis Jones (Adults, Health and Well-being Projects Team Manager) (for item 11), Gareth Jones (Assistant Head - Environment) and Rebeca Jones (Planning Manager - Joint Planning Policy) (for item 12).

#### 1. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors:- Elwyn Jones, Dilwyn Lloyd, Eirwyn Williams and Gareth Williams.

#### 2. MINUTES

The Chair signed the minutes of the Council meeting held on 2 December 2021 as a true record.

#### 3. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

The Monitoring Officer declared a personal interest in item 7, 'Annual Review - Council's Pay Policy 2022/23' on behalf of the chief officers who were present as the report involved their salaries.

He was of the opinion that it was a prejudicial interest and, along with the Corporate Director, the Statutory Head of Finance and the Head of Housing and Property Department, the Monitoring Officer withdrew from the meeting during the discussion on the item, as they did not need to be in attendance to advise. The Chief Executive and the Head of Corporate Support remained in the meeting to advise.

In reference to item 12 - Review Report - Joint Local Development Plan, the Monitoring Officer noted that a few members of the Councils were among the responders to the consultation;

however, due to the nature of the report and assuming that there would be no specific discussion on the details of the plan, he did not believe that anyone needed to declare an interest.

#### 4. THE CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Condolences were extended to the family of the former chair of this Council, Evie Morgan Jones, and Councillor Annwen Hughes paid tribute to him.

Condolences were also extended to the following:-

- Councillor Menna Baines and her family on the passing of Menna's father.
- Councillor Eirwyn Williams and his family on the passing of Eirwyn's mother at a hundred years old.
- The Member of Parliament for Dwyfor Meirionnydd, Liz Saville Roberts and her family, at the passing of Liz's mother.
- The family of Aled Roberts, the Welsh Language Commissioner, who had died recently.

It was also noted that the Council wished to sympathise with everyone in the county's communities who had recently lost loved ones.

The Council stood in silence as a mark of respect and remembrance.

The Leader gave a statement on behalf of the Council on the situation in Ukraine. He noted:-

- That he wished to express the Council's support to the people of Ukraine and their fundamental right to decide their own fate, without being oppressed through violence by a dictatorial state.
- That Gwynedd Council would be ready to play its part in welcoming any refugees and offering them unconditional sanctuary.
- That he was angry that the Westminster Government was not accepting refugees unconditionally in the same way as other European nations, and that their attitude was merciless and cruel.
- That he had attended a meeting the previous day between the leaders of Welsh councils and Welsh Government and voluntary organisation representatives, and that the work of coordinating and making preparations was underway.
- That the people of Gwynedd were eager to help in every way possible, and that the Council would do its best to provide guidance and support wherever it could.
- That the links recommended by the Government in terms of assisting and making contributions would be shared with the members in due course.

The Leader noted further that he had received a question about any commercial links to Russian companies, and specifically regarding the investments of the Gwynedd Pension Fund. He explained that the Gwynedd Pension Fund invested via the Wales Pension Partnership and that a statement prepared by that partnership noted:-

"The total of our links to Russian Investments are very small and are less than 1%. Nevertheless, in light of the awful events we are seeing and the economic sanctions set internationally, we have made a mutual decision that we should divest from these holdings as soon as practicably possible.

Under the circumstances, we do not believe that being involved with these companies is a possible option."

The Leader noted further that the huge tragedy in this case was that a close and friendly relationship existed between the people of Ukraine and the people of Russia, and that it was also important to realise that the people of Russia were also suffering, and that this was not

their war. He added that the bravery of those who were prepared to express their objection to this war in the face of harsh prosecution was to be admired, and it was very much hoped that the discussions would continue, and that peace would prevail eventually.

The Chair noted, at the brink of the 2022 local elections, that the 22 leaders of Welsh councils had approved a statement regarding the election campaigning, which called on political groups and candidates to commit to campaign both fairly and respectfully. It was explained that the "Fair Campaign Pledge" report was to be seen on the Members' intranet, and that every member would receive a link to this report.

The Chair noted, since this was the final meeting of the Full Council before the elections, that he wanted to wish all the best to those members who would be standing for election, as well as to those members who had decided to stand down, and he thanked everyone for their cooperation over the past five years. Also, as a member who would be standing down, he expressed his sadness at the fact that this final meeting of the Council was being held virtually, and that members were unable to bid farewell to friends with whom they had collaborated over the years, and he expressed his hope that the Chamber would be full once again following the May elections.

#### 5. URGENT ITEMS

None to note.

#### 6. QUESTIONS

(The Cabinet Members' written responses to the questions had been distributed to the members in advance).

#### (1) A question from Councillor Aeron Maldwyn Jones

"When does this Council anticipate that staff will be back at their desks?"

# Response from the Cabinet Member for Corporate Support, Councillor Nia Jeffreys

"Thank you to all Council staff for their work during the crisis. The question asks when will staff be back at their desks. Of course, all Council staff have continued to work for the benefit of the people of Gwynedd, despite the fact that the desk may sometimes be located in an attic or at the kitchen table. The way the staff have adapted at short-notice has been incredible, and I am very grateful to them. A lot of work has gone into this, and I have had the opportunity to report to the Cabinet, and a report has gone to the Audit and Governance Committee, but I am glad to have the opportunity today to repeat this to the Full Council.

Considerable talk and attention has been given to "the working world of the future" at an all Wales level over the past year, with Welsh Government declaring an aim of enabling 30% of the country's workforce to be able to work close to, or from their homes.

Gwynedd Council is no different from any other organisation in its planning in this regard. An "Offices Group" has been established since early 2021, which coordinates the preparation work in the local area, with the Chief Executive, the Director, the Head of Corporate Support and human resources officers, health and safety officers, information technology officers and property officers all serving on that Group.

The vision for future working within the Council has been approved by the Cabinet in February and the Audit and Governance Committee had scrutinised the content prior to that. That vision is the output of the efforts of the Offices Group, but it is also based

on a consultation with various cohorts of Council staff, as well as local trade union representatives.

The aim of the vision is that the Council provides the best possible service for the people of Gwynedd, whilst also showing the Council to be a good place to work, and thus attract and retain quality staff.

With the most recent statements from Welsh Government, and the likelihood of the further easing of restrictions in the near future, the time to implement the vision is getting ever closer and the Chief Executive has shared an outline of an action plan with staff, which is a plan that is looking to be implemented gradually, in three phases, over the coming weeks and months, namely:-

- To allow all those employees who must, or wish to work from their work centres all the time, to do so from 7 March,
- To confirm the arrangements for those employees who will mainly work from home, with a view to complete this step before the Easter holidays.
- To reach a final agreement with every individual who has noted a wish to work partly from home and partly from the office, on the work arrangements for both locations. This phase is likely to be introduced over a period of time, formally commencing after Easter this year."

#### (2) A question from Councillor Kevin Morris Jones

#### "Re: Dolbadarn Hotel, Llanberis

I would like to know what the Council's intentions are for dealing with the problems that exist with the change of use of this building. The former popular hotel is now in the ownership of a businessman from Birmingham (he also has a similar site in Pwllheli). The hotel is being used for homeless people. Although the residents of Llanberis are happy to help each other and the people from the surrounding area, it is obvious that this site - Dolbadarn - is being used to house people who have a vast number of problems in their lives and this creates more problems in the village of Llanberis. Unfortunately, incidents of anti-social behaviour occur within and outside the hotel, which has meant that police and ambulance service presence have been required there often.

I and the residents of the area understand that we need such sites in society, but this site is too big in the centre of a small village like Llanberis. The site is creating more problems and has a negative impact on a village that relies on tourism almost throughout the year.

I have contacted Council officers on this matter in the past but I have not received a clear response or a response that is acceptable to the people of Llanberis."

#### Response from the Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Craig ab lago

"We are all aware of the housing crisis we are currently facing, and homelessness is a very major aspect of this problem. There are fewer houses available to us to act quickly to house everyone. Pre-Covid, we as a Department had introduced a Homelessness Plan, which is a part of our Housing Action Plan, and in that respect, we were going to be dealing with the situation as it was at the time, and make sure that the plan had followed the procedure, or principle, of housing our people in our communities. What was happening with homelessness at the time was ad hoc, and in my opinion, was unsuitable, and without sufficient support, but this is what the Homelessness Plan itself did - it brought an order to everything, and made sure that there was plenty of safety and support, and it ensured that we support those people.

Unfortunately, Covid kicked in, and this has made the situation even worse, much worse than it was. Currently, we are talking about over 700 people who have been registered homeless in the county, and many more who have not registered because they are too proud to do so. Of those people, 270 people were in bed and breakfast and hotels, such as the one in Llanberis, which is far from ideal, for us or the residents or the homeless people themselves, but as a Council, I am of the opinion that we have a broader duty to look after them, both legally and morally. But, what matters to us is that we make sure, wherever we house people, that the situation is safe, and that the lives of the residents of the area does not deteriorate because of the presence of those people.

Consequently, I was shocked from seeing this question. We challenge performance in this field every month, so I would have expected to hear about this before now. Therefore, I asked the Department to look into this, and make sure that we have not missed anything. I wish to state this clearly, in case any residents are watching, and I wish to make sure that the members understand the situation in this hotel. In March, we began using the hotel to house homeless people. We are not talking here about the sex offenders that people are referring to, or about prison leavers. We are not talking about those people at all. We are talking about people we know- people who have possibly lost their jobs or their houses, and who need help, or who have separated from their partner.

In June last year, we heard from the members that issues were arising, and that the community was not happy with what was happening there. Therefore, the Department took immediate action to ensure that 2 security guards were present at the hotel between 5pm and 6am every day, and this has been happening since June in order to ensure that no issues arise. People can inform the Department if any problems arise, and we have not experienced any problems since then. The Police have been there once and the Ambulance Service have been there twice. In the two cases when an ambulance had to be called, residents had been injured or had to be taken to hospital. This had nothing at all to do with their behaviour. Also, the Police had to go there on one occasion as there were protesters outside the building and were causing trouble and talking about sex offenders, but of course, there were no sex offenders in the location. Intensive support is provided to the people who are there. We are talking about a 35-bedroom hotel, and at present, we are using 15 of those rooms. Seven of the residents are women, there are no sex offenders or prison leavers, and no paedophiles.

There is another element here - do we communicate well enough with the community, with the member? Something that is raised very often these days, in the Covid-era, is that Council officers do not respond quickly enough to the members. It is imperative that they do so because we act as the bridge between the community and the Council, and we need to know that the arrangements are good enough to ease any issues that could arise. I have asked the Department to look into the communication with the member, and it seems to me that we have responded immediately. We respond to the problems in writing, and if any problems do arise, we respond. Most of the responses I have seen on black and white from the member are ones thanking the officers very much for their quick response, and so I am happy with what the Council is doing to help our people and to manage the situations. I am happy with what the Department is doing in terms of communication with members, is good enough.

Of course, what matters is - we are talking about a problem that really frightens me, and it completely immoral that this is happening in Wales in the twenty-first century. It is not the Council that is causing homelessness. All we do is try to manage the situation, and it is a situation that gets worse by the day. If we want to point a finger at anyone, we should point a finger at the people in Westminster who punish us for not being rich. They say that there is no magic money tree to help our people, but of course, the magic money tree does exist when it comes to giving grants to their mates who went to the same schools as they did. They recently wrote off £9bn as 'fraud' on their mates' part, and it is important to remember where the problem derives from, and it does not derive from the Council. I want you all to feel like I am feeling. We have stood to be members because we wish to look after and protect our people - not because of the money. We do the work because of our wish to help our people, and I want to make sure that you feel like the Housing Department and Homelessness Unit feel, because we are here to look after our people. If the member has any further problems, and feels unhappy about the way the Department is dealing with anything, I ask him to contact me directly."

#### Supplementary Question from Councillor Kevin Morris Jones

"Has Gwynedd Council been placing former-prisoners in this hotel temporarily?"

#### Response from the Cabinet Member for Housing, Councillor Craig ab lago

"No, and neither has it placed any paedophiles or sex offender there, and we do not place people who can be dangerous in the middle of communities. We are talking here about our people, the people of Gwynedd, people who just happen to have hit a difficult time in their lives, and need support. That is why we are here, to help the people of Gwynedd to live in their communities."

#### (3) A question from Councillor Annwen Hughes

"Could the Leader give us an update on the Llanbedr Bypass scheme?"

#### Response from the Leader, Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn

"As you all know, this is a matter that is very close to the heart of the member, but it is also very close to my heart. You will recall that the substantial road scheme in the Llanbedr area was overturned by Welsh Government in November last year, as a result of an independent roads review, which suggested that there were many environmental and economic weaknesses in the plan.

There were two elements to the road scheme:-

- A bypass for the village of Llanbedr, which is very narrow, with a very narrow bridge in the village, and which suffers very substantial congestion on a regular basis.
- Improving the access to the Snowdonia Aerospace Centre site, which is essential to realise the full potential of the site, and to create quality jobs in the innovative space and aeroplane field.

Gwynedd Council has strongly opposed the decision made by the roads review panel, and has detailed a long-list of shortcomings in their final report. Letters have been sent to ministers, including the First Minister, and meetings were held with Welsh Government officers in the field of transportation and the economy, and I also attended two public meetings in the village of Llanbedr. Unfortunately, we are now in a position where, although Welsh Government cannot explain the shortcomings in the work of the review panel, they are also not prepared to revisit the work. Welsh Government's decision not to support the bypass scheme is likely to stand, and this is saddening and a true injustice for the people of Llanbedr.

We must bear in mind that the scheme continues to have planning permission, but that Welsh Government's decision not to provide financial support has led to the loss of all surplus funding that was required to implement the scheme, including £7.5m in European funding, and these monies are completely lost to the whole of Wales - they have just gone. This is because of the withdrawal from previous vows made regarding

transportation funding and economic funding (due to the Enterprise Zone status of the Aerospace Centre).

In moving forward, we will collaborate with Welsh Government to look at how the access to the Airport can be improved, and they are very eager to do so. The Site is essential in the Space Strategy that has just been published by Welsh Government. Therefore, it is obvious that they continue to support the development of the Site, and improving the access is at the core of the successful implementation of a number of the recommendations in the report. As a part of the work of re-considering improving the access road, we intend to ensure that all types of transport are considered, so that it is possible to improve walking and cycling links for the future."

#### Supplementary Question by Councillor Annwen Hughes

"Following the news that there is a new plan to launch the space sector, will other plans be put into practice to improve the access to Llanbedr airport?"

#### Response by the Leader, Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn

"It is encouraging that the Minister for the Economy, Vaughan Gething, has published his Space Strategy, which places major emphasis on the possibilities in Llanbedr, and those possibilities are very important to us, not just in Llanbedr itself, but in Meirionnydd and beyond. There are opportunities for high quality jobs here. It is strange, because one minister has refused the plan. The Independent Panel, by the way, has alleged that this site and this type of development is unsuitable for rural areas, and I have drawn attention on numerous occasions to the threat to economic developments in rural area, where we genuinely need these jobs. This does give me some solace, and gives me a glimmer of hope to be honest. The Government's left hand is refusing; and the right hand wants to do something, and I, very soon, will be arranging a meeting with the Minister for the Economy and his team, most probably, to discuss how he intends to proceed with his plans without any sort of road scheme. Meanwhile, our officers are collaborating with officers from Transport for Wales and Welsh Government to proceed with the necessary studies to see whether any type of different solution to the road is available here. You and I all know this area very well, and we know that there is no other option apart from this scheme. But there we are - unfortunately we must press on and collaborate and see where we will reach. But I will be holding further discussions with the ministers in the meantime. It is also disappointing that they have not been able to answer our questions, which were specific questions, but we have met with officers, and unfortunately, we have only heard civil service speak - answers that are not really answers."

#### (4) A question from Councillor Sion Jones

"Welsh Government gave Gwynedd Council £550,000 last year to develop a cycle route from Bethel to Caernarfon. Section 1 of this route from Bethel to Tyddyn Hen was completed recently, with thanks to the Transport Department for ensuring work of a high standard. Welsh Government has awarded a further sum of £200,000 to plan and develop 'Section 2' of the route, from Tyddyn Hen, Bethel to Caernarfon. Can the Cabinet Member assure me that the Transport Department will prioritise the completion of this scheme within the next year?"

# Response from the Cabinet Member for the Environment, Councillor Gareth Griffith

"The Department has prepared a comprehensive answer to the question. It has slipped somewhat as the member is aware, and I also know that the member has been in contact with the Department. There are processes to follow with land purchases, etc., which take time This has slipped somewhat, but the answer today also refers to other schemes that the Department has for similar paths across the county. Although it has slipped somewhat, we hope that it will be completed within the period that the member refers to."

#### Supplementary Question from Councillor Sion Jones

"Is there a specific officer who deals with active travel in Gwynedd?"

# Response from the Cabinet Member for the Environment, Councillor Gareth Griffith

"This falls within different departments, not just within Environment. It is a good point, and something that arises often. There may be a demand for something of this sort, and I will raise this with the Department."

#### (5) A question from Councillor Judith Humphreys

"As a part of this Council's work and efforts to ensure equality between women and men and the commitment to work towards tackling violence against women, would the Council consider taking steps towards gaining the White Ribbon accreditation? This would be a clear statement of the Council's commitment."

# Response from the Cabinet Member for Corporate Support, Councillor Nia Jeffreys

"Thank you to the member for her work in promoting the "White Ribbon" scheme and for everything she does to promote women's rights at every opportunity. The "White Ribbon" is a charitable organisation that attempts to bring an end to the violence of men against women. Its aim is for every man to achieve the White Ribbon pledge, which is to never be violent against women and to not excuse or keep silent about violence against women.

The charity attempts to be a catalyst, by encouraging people, specifically boys and men, to change their behaviour where needed, with an emphasis on taking proactive steps and promoting equality and respect.

Every organisation in Britain can be accredited by the "White Ribbon". According to the charity, securing the accreditation helps an organisation to:-

- Make a difference in your communities in order to bring an end to violence against women;
- Increase staff knowledge and skills to address violence against women;
- Be an employer of choice

It is important to note that a lot of good work is already achieved within the Council in this context, with the terms of employment for staff including a domestic violence policy (which notes the support that is available in such situations), whilst officers in the Community Safety Partnership within the Adults, Health and Well-being Department are doing a lot to raise awareness and bring attention to the issue.

Officers from the Human Resources Service have already been in contact with the charity to express an interest in submitting an application for accreditation, as a part of the work identified as a corporate priority in the Council Plan, which is "Ensuring Fairness for All".

The intention is to submit a formal application for accreditation during the next weeks and if approved, to work with the charity to establish a work plan based on four specific criteria, namely;

- Strategic Direction
- Working with men and boys
- Change of culture
- Raising Awareness

Securing accreditation initially and then establishing a specific work plan, in collaboration with the charity, will show clearly and strongly our commitment as a Council to make a difference in our efforts to bring an end to violence against women."

#### (6) A question from Councillor Angela Russell

"Recently, the Report of the Royal College of Surgeons was published into the VASCULAR services of Betsi Cadwaladr Health Board.

The vascular service was lost from Ysbyty Gwynedd in 2019 and the entire service was moved to Ysbyty Glan Clwyd. A service that was globally renowned for its success was lost from Ysbyty Gwynedd, and also lost was a well-known, successful and popular surgeon, Professor Dean Williams.

The Royal College's Report provides a frightening account of the quality of the new service at Glan Clwyd - it reports a high number of deaths (the highest in Britain in many fields), and stories of unnecessary amputations. When reading the Royal College's report, it sounds like a third world service, not a service in one of the wealthiest countries in the world.

Between 2019, when the service was centralised in Glan Clwyd, and 2021, I wrote a series of letters, as the Leader of the Independent Group in Gwynedd, to the Chair and Chief Executive of the Health Board, to express concern. I also contacted the Coroner and Public Health Wales on more than one occasion, and I wrote numerous letters to the Daily Post to draw attention to the matter.

It has taken over THREE YEARS for the Health Board to acknowledge that there are huge shortcomings in the service and that patients have suffered unnecessarily. The service is now so horrendous, Liverpool Hospital will now supervise the work of the surgeons.

Almost £3m was invested in a new vascular theatre at Glan Clwyd and it was announced that we in North Wales had a "state of the art theatre".

The truth about it is that shiny, new toys do not always mean that the service will be better. PEOPLE make a good service, people like Professor Dean Williams, who had the experience, the skills and expertise with patients. A huge loss is felt after his departure.

Does the Council agree that we should all work together ACROSS THE POLITICAL PARTIES in this County Council to support and secure local services in Ysbyty Gwynedd?"

# Response from the Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Well-being, Councillor Dafydd Meurig:

"Of course, I agree 100% with the member. The decision made by Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board back in 2017, I believe, is unpardonable. The report we have received about the service at Ysbyty Glan Clwyd is damning to say the least, and I am certainly very prepared to continue working across political boundaries with the member, and others, to get this sorted. Many people have been working diligently over the years to attempt to draw attention to this, and I most definitely agree with the member, and I am prepared to collaborate."

#### (7) A Question from Councillor John Brynmor Hughes

"Does the Leader of Plaid Cymru agree with a councillor who represents a rural area that all farmers do is reap the rewards of public money throughout their lives?".

#### Response by the Leader, Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn

"One correction to the question before I begin, to avoid any misconception - I am not the Leader of Plaid Cymru - I am the Leader of Gwynedd Council, and I am proud of that. This question lies very close to my heart and the answer is simple. I could have answered it in one word - No. I do not agree with the statement and it is unfounded. I seriously believe that the suggestion made is offensive to a sector that is currently under threat across the whole of Wales. I know this from personal experience, having worked in the agricultural field throughout my life. Farmers make a key contribution to the protection and maintenance of our environment, economy, culture and language of our communities. This contribution is invaluable; and justifies the value of public investment. But the changes facing the sector and the rural economy are significant and we must be alert to the risks that can transform the fabric of our rural communities. The UK Government does not provide all the money due to fund the direct payments to farmers or the rural development plans following Brexit. There is a shortfall of £137 million in the current financial year from what the UK Government sends to the Welsh Government to support agriculture and rural development. This creates concern as it does not appear that the Welsh Government's new Rural Development Plan for the future will fund the type of activity to support the local economy seen under the Rural Development Plan for Wales within the EU and will focus from now on, on supporting environmental schemes. There is also concern that the new scheme being developed by the Welsh Government – The Sustainable Farming Scheme – which replaces the Basic Payment Scheme from 2024/25 onwards, will focus too much on supporting farmers to be involved in environmental schemes and plant trees rather than produce food. We may see a situation under this policy where it will not be viable for farmers to continue to farm and our farms will be bought, as already witnessed, by organisations from outside Wales as an investment and the impact on our rural communities could be very far-reaching. It is key that our future policies enable us to respond to the threat positively."

#### (8) A question from Councillor Elwyn Jones

(The question was asked by the Chair in the absence of Councillor Elwyn Jones)

"Over the years, many have campaigned, particularly in the south of the County, to do away with the transport charge for Pupils/Students over 16 years old to attend School or College. £260k has been allocated in the 2022-23 budget for this. At the beginning of 2021 adverts were posted by Gwynedd for bids for the Arfon schools school bus contracts DEMANDING the requirement for eligible PSVA (Public Service Vehicle Access Regulation) buses.

One of the reasons for this was that in Arfon Year 12 and 13 pupils pay for School transport - i.e. paying passengers on a bus service.

Due to the lack of such buses the Department of Transport in London delayed the act two or three times - and this is how matters currently stand.

However, the Transport Department in Gwynedd demanded this (and I know that a local company have had significant expenditure to change 5 buses). Due to the

significant expenditure of course there was an increase in contract costs = higher costs for Gwynedd. Therefore for 5 years, Gwynedd sought to justify this by saying that this was a requirement for the disabled.

I agree a 100% of course that we have to have equality, but how many of these pupils wanted to travel on a school bus, while a taxi or family arrangement existed.

May I therefore ask what was the increase in the cost of the Arfon school buses contracts as a result of demanding that the buses conform to PSVAR regulations compared to the former contracts?"

# Response from the Cabinet Member for the Environment, Councillor Gareth Griffith

"The member has contacted the Department about this prior to today, and has received a response. I have spoken to one of his electors who has been affected by this. The situation as it stands is that the Westminster Government introduced a set of rules, which includes the type of buses we must have in Britain, and subsequently, this Authority has had to ask companies to tender, and for those companies to have the appropriate buses. I know that this has been expensive to local companies, but we have no choice in the matter. The Westminster Government has postponed the decision to start implementing the rules on many occasions, although I know understand that this will now commence in June. I understand the member's concerns, and I have spoken to at least two local companies about the difficulties they have experienced, but the root of this matter has lied in the Westminster Government from the beginning."

#### (9) A question from Councillor Gwynfor Owen

"Speeding is a concern to many communities, and my Ward, Harlech and Talsarnau, suffers gravely from this problem. The Council has conducted a survey of the situation in Harlech and in Talsarnau. They acknowledge that a problem exists and that something needs to be done about the problem, yet nothing has been done. Therefore, I ask what the Council intends to do about this problem in communities where the Council's surveys themselves prove that a problem does exist?"

# Response from the Cabinet Member for the Environment, Councillor Gareth Griffith

"The Department has sent a written response, and as this notes, the Department is seeking to work with partners to deal with such problems, and is in the progress of rolling out, over the coming year, rules that Welsh Government will enforce on us with the county's roads, where the speed limit will be 20mph. Considerable work is being done on this, and this is how things currently stand."

#### A supplementary question by Councillor Gwynfor Owen

"After a lot of whining, I got an officer to agree to visit the sites in September, and gauges were installed and the results were released in October. Again, at a meeting with the officer last month, I was told that the Council was considering consulting with the community around June. I am certain that the Cabinet Member would agree with me that a delay like this is unacceptable, but what can the Department do to speed up the process?"

# Response from the Cabinet Member for the Environment, Councillor Gareth Griffith

"In terms of speeding up the process, that is very difficult. I apologise that you have had to wait so much time. I am sure that the other councillors will recall that Dafydd Wyn Williams, Head of Department, wrote to us all recently to explain the problems experienced by the Department, and that he seeking to resolve various things - staffing problems, problems with staff changes, long-term sickness - it has all affected the Department, and other departments of the Authority. The pandemic is still with us, and the departments are still trying to deal with that, but Dafydd Wyn Williams wrote to everyone to apologise and to ask people to be patient, and as I say, I am sure that we all, as Councillors, have the same type of question about speeding in our wards. The honest answer is that the Department is trying to deal with everyone, and is struggling to deal with everyone, and with the councillors."

#### 7. ANNUAL REVIEW - COUNCIL'S PAY POLICY 2022-23

The Chair of the Chief Officer Appointment Committee presented a report recommending that the Council approves the recommendation of the Chief Officer Appointment Committee to adopt the Pay Policy Statement for 2022/23.

Members were given an opportunity to make observations and ask questions.

A member noted that Gwynedd Council did not make carers a special case, since we were losing staff from the Care Department. In response, it was explained:-

- That Welsh Government had set out an aspiration to see care workers receiving pay that was equivalent to the living wage. That this would happen here in Gwynedd, and it would be above the living wage level if the expected increase expected in national salaries in April would be realised.
- That the vast majority of the Council's carers followed the long-awaited agreement obtained at the beginning of this year, as well as the national pay increase. The vast majority of carers were on a salary of £9.99 per hour, backdated to 1 April 2021. That national discussions would commence again during April / May on the 2022/23 pay rise, and there was a strong likelihood that next year's pay increase would be a percentage higher than what had been determined for the year gone by. This meant that the carers would certainly be on a salary of between £10 and £10.50 per hour, backdated to 1 April, 2022.

# **RESOLVED** to approve the recommendation of the Chief Officers Appointment Committee to adopt the Pay Policy for 2022/23.

#### 8. GWYNEDD COUNCIL PLAN 2018-23: 2022/23 REVIEW

The Leader, Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn, presented the report, inviting the Council to adopt the Gwynedd Council Plan 2018-23: 2022/23 Review for it to be implemented during 2022/23.

The Leader thanked the Business Support Service Manager and his team for their heroic work in preparing the plan.

Members were given an opportunity to make observations and ask questions. The following matters were raised by individual members:

• The Government's intention to provide free school meals to all primary aged pupils was welcomed, however, a question was asked as to whether this would incur additional costs that would need to be shouldered by the Council. In response, it was noted that the scheme was not as simple as it appeared, but to date, there had been financial commitment from Welsh Government to meet the additional cost. Discussions were taking place between each council and the Government in order to establish the exact amount of those costs.

It was explained that the cost of providing, or paying for the dinner was one element, and that the cost of providing buildings, space within those buildings and support services, etc., was an additional element that was not, possibly, fully costed at this point in time. More information would be shared with the members as the details developed, but the officers were quite confident about the current situation. The Leader noted that he would place pressure on the Government to fully fund the scheme. In response to a further question about the impact of the plan on school budgets, it was noted that everyone realised that the plan was having a substantial impact on some schools, particularly large schools, but it was confirmed that this was included in the discussions with the Government.

- Concern was expressed about the direction under Improvement Priority 6 to give priority to the Dolgellau and wider Meirionnydd area when identifying opportunities for care provisions, and it was emphasised that the highest priority should be given to provide a nursing care home on the Penrhos site, since no nursing beds were left in Pen Llŷn anymore. In response, it was emphasised that there was no competition between Meirionnydd and Pen Llŷn. There was an excellent opportunity in Penrhos to create a very special resource that would combine all care and nursing services on one site, and it was confirmed that the Council would continue to place pressure and collaborate with the Health Service and the housing association to realise this ambition.
- With reference to the bid (under item 9 on the agenda), to abolish the £300 fee for a post-16 travel pass, it was noted that parents in Dwyfor and Meirionnydd (particularly in the rural areas), who had been paying this fee over the past 10 years had suffered real inconsistency and unfairness, and it was suggested that the Council had considered the additional money as bait for parents in Arfon to send their children to the colleges. In response, it was noted that should the Council approve the bid, abolishing the fee would assist families at a time when living costs were rising substantially, and improved young people's access to courses and better career paths. It was also explained that the decision was made to charge a fee for a post-16 travel pass many years ago by a different Council to this one, under a different financial situation. Fortunately, this year, a settlement had been received that enabled the Council to consider different options to what had been possible during the period of cuts, and one of those options was to abolish the fee for a post-16 travel pass.

# RESOLVED to adopt the Gwynedd Council Plan 2018-2023: 2022/23 Review for it to be implemented during 2022/23.

#### 9. 2022-23 BUDGET

The Chair noted, in line with the Constitution, that the Head of Finance had to receive notice of any amendment to the budget in writing in advance, and that this amendment had to lead to a balanced budget, if it was to be discussed. All Council members had been reminded of this the previous week, and as the Head of Finance had not received any notice of an amendment by the designated deadline, it would not be possible for the Council to consider any amendment to the budget.

The Cabinet Member for Finance, Councillor Ioan Thomas submitted the following:-

- A report recommending a budget for the Council's approval for 2022/23;
- The draft decision on the Council Tax based on the Cabinet's recommendation to the Council (based on an increase of 2.95%), along with tables showing the Council Tax level and the increase per community.

The Head of Finance reminded the members of some of the main risks in Appendix 10 of the report, and he confirmed, having considered all risks and mitigation steps, that he was of the opinion that the Council Budget for 2022/23 was sound, sufficient and deliverable.

Members were given an opportunity to make observations and ask questions.

The following matters were raised by individual members:

- A question was asked about how much less the Council Tax increase would have been if the Council had not approved 1 March as an additional day's leave for staff. In response, it was explained that the expenditure on allowing a holiday on St David's Day was expenditure from the current financial year, and as explained to the Cabinet and the Audit and Governance Committee, it had been funded from an underspend in specific corporate budgets. It was explained that the maximum of £200,000 earmarked for that was a one-off bid, and that no decision had been made to fund the bank holiday on 1 March every year. As a result, it would not have had any impact on the budget submitted before the Council.
- It was noted that the Council had transferred the cost of the additional day of leave for staff to the next financial year in order to reduce the tax increase, and it was asked how much £200,000 would be as a percentage of the tax. In response, it was explained, in brief, that a 1% increase (or reduction) in Council Tax equated to around £800,000, so £200,000 would be around 0.25%.
- It was noted that the people of Gwynedd were angry that the Council had approved an additional day's leave for staff, and that the timing of this had been disgraceful.
- It was noted, although the fact that money was available to spend on various bids this year, it was the greatest disappointment that general members were not given an opportunity to weigh up those bids in workshops similar to the cuts workshops held in the past, since the input of members could have led to a situation where the Council would not be looking at voting for a tax increase of 2.95%. In response, it was noted that every member of the Council had been given the opportunity to attend seminars on the budget, where information had been shared about the bids.
- It was argued that the seminars did not provide an opportunity to consider the bids properly, and instead, the members had been guided through the figures.
- It was noted, although the Welsh Government announcement that a living costs support payment of £150 would be available for every household residing in properties in Council Tax bands A-D, that this highlighted that the current system did not work. Also welcomed was the announcement made by the Government and Plaid Cymru that a change would happen in this field, and it was emphasised that this should happen as soon as possible.
- It was suggested that consideration should be given to allowing a Council Tax discount of more than 25% for single persons as it was much more difficult to pay bills when a household only had one salary.
- It was noted that nurses, who had worked so hard throughout the pandemic, would only receive a 2% pay increase this year, whilst councillors received 16%, which would cost around £160,000 extra for the Council. In response, it was explained that the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales, and not the Council, was responsible for determining the allowances payable to elected members.
- It was asked whether the Council's reserves could be used for one year in order to delay the increase in Council Tax. In response, it was explained that £7m in general balances had been earmarked and other funds had been created for specific purposes. In terms of the funds that had been earmarked, £72m out of the £79m was there for specific reasons for the future. It was explained that using our reserves to avoid increasing the Council Tax was not a permanent answer, and should the Council start using reserves to fill gaps, the gap would always be there.
- It was asked whether it would be possible for us to live on what we had for a year, and see how things would be from next year onwards. In response, it was noted that the Council had received a relatively good settlement this year; however, the settlement for next year and the following year would be very difficult.

Members objected to the proposal to raise Council Tax by 2.95% on the following grounds:-

- That the Council had increased the tax by 40% over the past 10 years, but it offered fewer services than it did 10 years ago.
- That the situation was at crisis point in Gwynedd, with the costs of energy, fuel and food increasing more than ever, with an increasing number reliant on food banks.
- That farmers and rural businesses were working so hard, but received no support from any source.
- That we were living in ivory towers in Gwynedd Council, and maybe that we did not fully appreciate the circumstances of people in the county.
- That we would have hoped that an increase of around 1% would have sufficed this year to maintain services with the reserves we had, in order to convey the message that we are concerned about our residents' circumstances.
- That this was not the correct time to increase the tax, particularly as people had gone through the hardship of the pandemic, and this would create more stress and worry for hard-working families.

Other members supported the proposal on the following grounds:-

- That everyone had been given an opportunity to submit alternative proposals on a balanced budget, but that nobody had submitted any other ideas, or made suggestions as to where the Council should make cuts in order to avoid increasing the tax.
- Unless the proposal was accepted, then more essential services for the vulnerable people of Gwynedd would have to be cut.
- That the only option was to accept the budget as it stood so that the people of Gwynedd received the best service that could be offered to them under the circumstances.
- That the Council Tax system was not a Gwynedd Council system, and that all members were there to improve the lives of the people of the county.
- That a finger needed to be pointed to the Westminster Government and to call for independence for Wales so that we could run our own budget in our own nation.

In response to a question, the Monitoring Officer confirmed that it was not possible to separate the recommendation on setting the budget from the recommendation on setting the capital programme. He explained that if either recommendation fell, the other would subsequently fall, since both matters were interrelated.

To close, the Cabinet Member noted:-

- Although a better than expected settlement was received this year, acknowledgement had come from the seminars and the Audit and Governance Committee that services had been under pressure, and this was the main reason why a smaller increase in the Council Tax could not be recommended.
- That he was concerned about the circumstances of the county's residents and he emphasised that anyone who was experiencing difficulties in paying the tax should contact the Finance Department.

A registered vote was called for on the motion.

Councillor Stephen Churchman noted that he had just returned to the meeting after leaving for almost an hour, and he asked whether he had the right to vote. In response, the Monitoring Officer explained that he had the right to vote, provided that he was confident that he was aware of the content of the report, etc. The member confirmed that he had prepared thoroughly before the meeting.

According to Procedural Rules, the following vote on the motion was recorded:

In favour (36) Councillors:- Craig ab Iago, Menna Baines, Beca Brown, Stephen Churchman, Steve Collings, Annwen Daniels, Elwyn Edwards, Aled Evans, Simon Glyn, Gareth Wyn Griffith, Selwyn Griffiths, Annwen Hughes, R. Medwyn Hughes, Judith Humphreys, Nia Jeffreys, Peredur Jenkins, Aled Wyn Jones, Berwyn Parry Jones, Elin Walker Jones, Gareth Tudor Morris Jones, Huw Wyn Jones, Cai Larsen, Dafydd Meurig, Dilwyn Morgan, Linda Morgan, Dafydd Owen, Edgar Wyn Owen, Gwynfor Owen, Dewi Wyn Roberts, Mair Rowlands, Paul Rowlinson, Dyfrig Siencyn, Gareth Thomas, Ioan Thomas, Cemlyn Williams and Gethin Glyn Williams.

<u>Against</u> (30) – Councillors:- Dylan Bullard, R. Glyn Daniels, Anwen Davies, Dylan Fernley, Peter Antony Garlick, Alwyn Gruffydd, John Brynmor Hughes, Louise Hughes, Aeron M.Jones, Anne Lloyd Jones, Eric Merfyn Jones, Keith Jones, Kevin Morris Jones, Sion Wyn Jones, Eryl Jones-Williams, Beth Lawton, Dewi Owen, Jason Parry, Nigel Pickavance, Rheinallt Puw, Peter Read, Elfed P. Roberts, Gareth A. Roberts, John Pughe Roberts, Angela Russell, Mike Stevens, Hefin Underwood, Elfed Williams, Gruffydd Williams and Owain Williams.

Abstentions (0)

The Chair noted that the motion had been carried.

#### RESOLVED

- 1. To approve the recommendations of the Cabinet, namely:-
- (a) To set a budget of £295,232,820 for 2022/23, to be funded by £213,210,400 of Government Grant and £82,022,420 of Council Tax income, with an increase of 2.95%.
- (b) To establish a capital programme of £59,074,980 in 2022/23, to be funded from the sources noted in Appendix 4 of the report.
- 2. To note that the Cabinet Member for Finance, in a decision notice dated 9 November 2021, approved the calculation of the following amounts for 2022/23 in accordance with Regulations made under Section 33 (5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 ("The Act"):
  - (a) 53,715.10 being the amount calculated as Gwynedd's Tax Base in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Wales) Regulations 1995 as amended, as its Council Tax base for the year.
  - (b) Part of the Council's Area Community Tax Base -

Aberdaron	571.25	Llanddeiniolen	1,840.10
Aberdyfi	1,095.65	Llandderfel	501.76
Abergwyngregyn	124.71	Llanegryn	164.55
Abermaw (Barmouth)	1,210.43	Llanelltyd	308.89
Arthog	654.41	Llanengan	2,289.52
Y Bala	781.39	Llanfair	335.58
Bangor	3,974.34	Llanfihangel y Pennant	232.58
Beddgelert	323.40	Llanfrothen	233.04
Betws Garmon	138.27	Llangelynnin	433.07
Bethesda	1,701.20	Llangywer	145.28
Bontnewydd	436.43	Llanllechid	348.06
Botwnnog	460.05	Llanllyfni	1,425.75
Brithdir a Llanfachreth	457.62	Llannor	906.33
Bryncrug	340.19	Llanrug	1,137.62
Buan	227.96	Llanuwchllyn	316.77
	Dogo	20	

			THE COUNCIL 3/3/22
Caernarfon	3,640.35	Llanwnda	807.58
Clynnog Fawr	470.35	Llanycil	205.27
Corris	305.84	Llanystumdwy	885.48
Criccieth	972.85	Maentwrog	303.24
Dolbenmaen	624.58	Mawddwy	362.81
Dolgellau	1,275.63	Nefyn	1,535.07
Dyffryn Ardudwy	817.14	Pennal	231.82
Y Felinheli	1,165.68	Penrhyndeudraeth	792.98
Ffestiniog	1,786.14	Pentir	1,272.62
Y Ganllwyd	88.69	Pistyll	264.01
Harlech	821.55	Porthmadog	2,160.67
Llanaelhaearn	466.26	Pwllheli	1,779.02
Llanbedr	351.64	Talsarnau	343.74
Llanbedrog	780.02	Trawsfynydd	506.49
Llanberis	788.78	Tudweiliog	478.76
Llandwrog	1,051.46	Tywyn	1,691.37
Llandygai	1,001.64	Waunfawr	569.37

namely the amounts calculated as the Council Tax Base amounts for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which one or more special items relate.

3. That the following amounts now be calculated by the Council for the year 2022/23 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Act:-

(a)	£443,927,600	Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32(2)(a) to (e) of the Act (gross expenditure).
(b)	£146,536,120	Being the aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (3)(a) to (c) of the Act (income).
(c)	£297,391,480	Being the sum that corresponds with the difference between the above aggregate 3 (a) and the above aggregate 3 (b) calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 32(4) of the Act, as its budgetary requirements for the year (net budget).
(ch)	£212,714,737	Being the aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its fund in respect of redistributed Non-domestic Rates and Revenue Support Grant, less the estimated cost to the Council of discretionary Non-domestic rate relief granted.
(d)	£1,576.40	Being the amount in 3(c) above, less the sum in 3(ch) above, all divided by the sum noted in 2(a) above, that was calculated by the Council in accordance with 33(1) of the Act, which is the basic amount of Council Tax for the year (Gwynedd Council tax and the average community council tax).
(dd)	£2,654,323.06	Being the aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34 (1) of the Act (community council precepts).

(e) £1,526.99

Being the sum in 3(d) above, less the result of dividing the amount in 3(dd) above divided by the amount in 2(a) above, that was calculated by the Council in in accordance with Section 34(2) of the Act, as the basic amount of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of its area to which no special item relates (Band D for Gwynedd Council Tax only).

(f) For parts of the Council's area -

Aberdaron	1,553.25	Llanddeiniolen	1,544.27
Aberdyfi	1,562.10	Llandderfel	1,544.93
Abergwyngregyn	1,559.06	Llanegryn	1,563.45
Abermaw (Barmouth)	1,579.04	Llanelltyd	1,551.27
Arthog	1,546.86	Llanengan	1,551.01
Y Bala	1,561.54	Llanfair	1,574.67
Bangor		Llanfihangel y	
	1,627.98	Pennant	1,576.54
Beddgelert	1,579.56	Llanfrothen	1,566.90
Betws Garmon	1,545.79	Llangelynnin	1,550.70
Bethesda	1,601.16	Llangywer	1,556.24
Bontnewydd	1,569.38	Llanllechid	1,572.27
Botwnnog	1,541.12	Llanllyfni	1,562.06
Brithdir a	-		
Llanfachreth	1,553.21	Llannor	1,549.06
Bryncrug	1,565.45	Llanrug	1,594.68
Buan	1,543.44	Llanuwchllyn	1,571.19
Caernarfon	1,586.51	Llanwnda	1,563.27
Clynnog Fawr	1,569.51	Llanycil	1,548.91
Corris	1,557.50	Llanystumdwy	1,547.72
Cricieth	1,578.39	Maentwrog	1,546.94
Dolbenmaen	1,555.81	Mawddwy	1,556.48
Dolgellau	1,587.35	Nefyn	1,578.78
Dyffryn Ardudwy	1,588.18	Pennal	1,562.79
Y Felinheli	1,566.45	Penrhyndeudraeth	1,579.32
Ffestiniog	1,655.76	Pentir	1,570.21
Y Ganllwyd	1,560.82	Pistyll	1,572.44
Harlech	1,612.19	Porthmadog	1,555.95
Llanaelhaearn	1,580.61	Pwllheli	1,577.58
Llanbedr	1,569.65	Talsarnau	1,590.99
Llanbedrog	1,557.76	Trawsfynydd	1,566.48
Llanberis	1,570.09	Tudweiliog	1,541.61
Llandwrog	1,593.56	Tywyn	1,580.40
Llandygai	1,555.31	Waunfawr	1,548.07
	.,		.,

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

(ff) In respect of part of the Council's area, the figures noted in Appendix 1, being the amounts given by multiplying the sums specified in 3(f) above by the number

which, in the proportion set out in Section 5 (1) of the Act, is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D, calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 36 (1) of the Act, as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

4. That it be noted that for the year 2022/23 the North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner has stated the following amounts in a precept issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Act, for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Band	Band	Band	Band			Band	Band	
Α	В	С	D	Band E	Band F	G	н	Band I
211.20	246.40	281.60	316.80	387.20	457.60	528.00	633.60	739.20

Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 3(ff) and 4 above, the Council, in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Act, hereby sets the amounts noted in Appendix 2 as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2022/23 for each of the categories of dwellings shown in the Appendix.

# 10. CAPITAL STRATEGY 2022/23 (INCLUDES INVESTMENT AND BORROWING STRATEGIES)

The Cabinet Member for Finance, Councillor Ioan Thomas, submitted a report, providing a high-level overview on the manner capital expenditure, capital funding and the treasury's management activity contributed to the provision of local public services. The report also gave an overview of the way associated risks could be managed, and the implications for future financial sustainability.

#### **RESOLVED** to adopt the Capital Strategy for 2022/23.

#### 11. NORTH WALES POPULATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT DRAFT REPORT 2022

The Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Well-being, Councillor Dafydd Meurig, submitted a report providing an overview, and seeking the support of the Full Council to approve the North Wales Population Needs Assessment 2022, drawn up as a requirement under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

The Project Manager, Adults, Health and Well-being Team, elaborated further on the content of the report.

Councillor Gwynfor Owen enquired whether he should declare an interest as he had recently used the North Wales Integrated Autism Service, and as he was also involved with other matters within the field. In response, the Monitoring Officer explained that the member was within his rights as this was a report of a general assessment for North Wales.

Members were given an opportunity to make observations and ask questions. The following matters were raised by individual members:

It was noted that it was understood that this was a live document, and it was enquired how quickly it could be changed. In response, it was explained that the document submitted was a version that would be approved by the Council today, it was hoped, and by the Regional Partnership Board further along in the month, before it would be forwarded to Government and published. The officers were undertaking more detailed work on Gwynedd's details and needs, therefore anything could be adapted as a part of that work. The document would also be reviewed within 5 years, but the officers would also carry out some work during that time. It was noted that the Gwynedd Plage 23

document would be a separate assessment, that was not linked to any statutory publication date, and this would be the actual live document that would be available to amend and add to it from day-to-day.

- Concern was expressed that members only had five days to read this 450-page document, and it was asked how it had been possible for them to scrutinise the matter and ask detailed questions. It was also suggested, since members could only speak once on a matter in the Full Council, that important matters were being pushed through without discussion. It was also questioned how valuable a document of this size would be for the people of Gwynedd. In terms of the observations regarding the 'live' document, it was noted that the members had heard about such things previously, and had subsequently found out that it was not possible to change those documents for years. There was also concern that the new Council would be told that they could not change the document, as the previous Council had adopted it, and a call was made for the Cabinet Member and the officers to be more considerate from now on.
- It was noted that the Care Scrutiny Committee had scrutinised this matter, and had supported and sympathised with the officers, who had had to prepare the documents in a very short time-frame.

To close, the Cabinet Member noted:-

- That the officers had completed heroic work within a considerably tight timetable, in line with the requirements of the legislation.
- That the Government was asked to allow more time due to the pandemic, but that this permission had not been granted.

The Chair noted that he was also of the opinion that it was impossible for members to scrutinise such a bulky report within 5 days, and he asked the Cabinet Member to take the comments into consideration and pass them on.

#### **RESOLVED** to approve the Assessment of the North Wales Population Needs 2022.

#### 12. REVIEW REPORT - JOINT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The Chair explained that a report on the next step of the process of reviewing the Local Development Plan was being submitted, and that this was not an opportunity to have a discussion on individual planning policies. He explained, should the Council agree to proceed to hold a full review of the current plan, then there would be many opportunities to have input into individual policies and discuss specific fields at a later date.

The Cabinet Member for the Environment, Councillor Gareth Griffith, submitted a report seeking approval from the full Council to publish a Review Report and forward it to Welsh Government, in order to proceed with the work of preparing an Amended Plan.

The Assistant Head of the Environment Department elaborated on the content of the report.

Members were given an opportunity to make observations and ask questions. The following matters were raised by individual members:-

- It was noted that a lot of work had gone into the report, and the Cabinet Member and officers involved with this were thanked.
- It was expressed that the phraseology and bureaucracy associated with the document was immense and incredible, and that the entire planning system was so complex, so that the majority of people, including elected members, did not fully understand what was going on. It was suggested that the latest consultation work could be used as an example of that, since only 5 members had responded to this all-important consultation.

- Disappointment was expressed that officers were not of the opinion that the one out of almost 80 indicators used to save the Welsh language highlighted that harm was being caused to the language, and that it appeared, without Brexit and Covid, that no changes would be mentioned at all.
- Concern was expressed about what exactly was being submitted, and what exactly would be returned from Welsh Government, and worse than that, there was major concern that the Joint Planning Policy Committee would be dealing with any changes.
- It was noted, in 2017, that the Joint Planning Policy Committee had given its approval to bring the plan before the Council, and it had been passed there by a whisker. All members could do at the time was approve it or refuse it, and it was not possible to ask for more time in order for the new members at the time to have an opportunity to discuss the policies.
- It was noted that we were seeing, time and time again, that planning policies were working against the wishes of members to seek to protect our Welsh communities, and it was concerned, when a response was received from Welsh Government, that the new members would not understand the importance or significance of this.
- A wish to abolish the Joint Planning Policy Committee was expressed, so that Gwynedd Council implemented this on its own, but it was concerned that this would not happen, despite all evidence highlighting that there was a major difference between our wishes in Gwynedd and the wishes of Anglesey.

In response to these observations, the Cabinet Member noted:-

- That sessions had been arranged for members, where the Planning Policy Department submitted information about this part of the review, and should the Council decide to forward it to Cardiff, the hard work would happen after the Elections in May.
- That the work would continue and the Department had declared its willingness to listen, hold more sessions and consult.

The observations of the previous speaker were reiterated by other members, who noted:-

- That members had only been given five days to read this 152-page document, and it was asked how they had been able to scrutinise and approve the report, particularly since we were now almost 4 hours into this meeting.
- That these things were being dumped on us and being pushed through, and doubtless that the new Council would be told that they would not be able to change the document as the previous Council had adopted it.
- That members had been told in 2017 that this was a 'live' document, but it was subsequently realised that it could not be changed for 3.5 years.
- That sending this plan to the Government as it was did nothing but confirm the status quo, and we should think outside the box and be revolutionary.
- That a number of the points raised during the public consultation, and that were at the core of our vision, i.e. the Welsh language, affordable housing for local people, local market housing, second homes and holiday homes, tourism and over-tourism, the Well-being Act, etc., was only a part of what was being submitted to the Government, and it was asked for assurance that approving the recommendation did not close the door on any full and detailed discussion on all of these matters.
- There was concern that all we would be doing by adopting the recommendation was confirm what had been voted in favour of, by one vote, in 2017, with only some minor changes made.
- That the question of separating from Anglesey was a question that the new Council would have to seriously consider.

It was asked whether approving the recommendation bound the Council to a joint local plan in the future. In response, it was explained that the current system of collaborating with Anglesey was not any under discussion at this meeting. Should there be a wish to make a different decision on that, the right was there, and the Council could discuss that in the future. It was noted further that the brief of the Full Council was that they wished to see a full review of the plan, and for this to happen quickly, and the first step to allow that to happen would be to publish a Review Report and send it to Welsh Government.

In response to some of the observations, an individual member noted:-

- That it was not seen how having a full review of the plan could confirm the status quo in any way.
- That he was disappointed with the allegation that elected members did not understand the planning system, and he had found that insulting.
- That some were of the opinion that the 3.5 years it took to review the plan was too
  much time, and that it would be better to have a way to speed this up; however, it had
  to be borne in mind that the Council had passed this as a principle and had written to
  the Government to ask for the process to be sped up, but that the Government had
  said that this was not possible.
- That this did not close the door on a discussion, but rather opened it, and the important points raised during the public consultation would be discussed in detail over the coming years.

In his closing comments, the Cabinet Member noted:-

- Although he accepted the comment about the size of the document, that the report
  had been available on the Council's website for some months, but one had to go and
  look for it.
- That he was disappointed that so few members had participated in the first consultation, and he pleaded on everyone to participate in the second consultation following the Election.
- That the observations submitted during the first consultation were being considered in the second consultation, and therefore, there was no need to submit the same observations twice.

# RESOLVED to agree to publish the Review Report in Appendix 1 to the report and to present it to Welsh Government, so that the preparation of the Replacement Plan can commence.

#### 13. RECOMMENDATION OF THE INTERVIEW PANEL - APPOINTMENT OF LAY MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

The Chair of the Interview Panel, Councillor John Pughe Roberts, submitted a report asking the full Council to appoint Mr Hywel Eifion Jones, Mrs Sharon Warnes, Mr Elwyn Rhys Parry and Mrs Claire Hitchcock as lay members of the Audit and Governance committee for a period of 5 years.

Members were given an opportunity to make observations and ask questions. The following matters were raised by individual members:

- Disappointment was expressed that so few had applied for the role.
- It was suggested that it would have been of interest for the Council to obtain some more background information on the 4 persons that could be recommended for appointment. In response, the Monitoring Officer explained that the usual process had been followed, and that the Council needed to be satisfied that the interview panel had followed the appointment criteria, and had submitted recommendations that corresponded to those criteria.

The Chair of the Interview Panel confirmed that the panel was completely happy with these 4 persons.

RESOLVED to appoint Mr Hywel Eifion Jones, Mrs Sharon Warnes, Mr Elwyn Rhys Parry and Mrs Clare Hitchcock as Lay Members of the Governance and Audit Committee for a period of 5 years.

# 14. RE-APPOINTMENTENT OF INDEPENDENT MEMBERS TO THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

Councillor Gwynfor Owen declared a personal interest as, in his translation business, he received a great deal of work from Mr Aled Jones.

The member was of the opinion that it was a prejudicial interest, and he withdrew from the meeting during the discussion on the item.

The Monitoring Officer submitted a report noting that the membership term of Mr Aled Jones, an independent member on the Standards Committee, was ending, and recommended to the Council that he be re-appointed to serve for a further four-year term.

It was noted, as an existing member of the Standards Committee, that information on Mr Aled Jones was available in the Standards Committee's Annual Report.

Members were given an opportunity to make observations and ask questions.

A member expressed his discontent that no background information was submitted regarding this person, and he emphasised the need for openness and transparency, noting that there was a need to look at how these appointments were being made.

The Chair noted that he was given to understand that this person had been serving on the Standards Committee already, and that he had done praiseworthy work in the past.

**RESOLVED** to re-appoint Mr Aled Jones as an independent member of the Standards Committee to serve for a further four-year term.

#### 15. COMMITTEES CALENDAR 2022-23

The Head of Democracy Services submitted a calendar for the dates of Council meetings for 2022/23.

Members were given an opportunity to submit observations and ask questions. The following matters were raised by individual members:

- It was questioned whether there was a point approving the calendar, since many of the current members would not be serving on the Council after May. In response, it was noted, despite the observation, that the calendar for the year needed to be arranged and dates put in place, and for officers to make arrangements, with plenty of notice.
- In response to a question regarding the practicality of holding a meeting of the Council on 2 March, 2023, that should an additional day's leave for staff be approved on 1 March, it was confirmed that this would not cause any difficulties whatsoever.

#### **RESOLVED** to adopt the Committees Calendar for 2022/23.

#### 16. NOTICES OF MOTION

(A) Submitted - the following notice of motion by Councillor Judith Humphreys, in accordance with Section 4.20 of the Constitution, and it was seconded:-

"That the Council calls on Welsh Government, Westminster Government and the relevant organisations to commit to:

- professionalise women's sport so that women have the same opportunities and pay as men.

- ensure that women are represented on sports bodies at all levels.

- ensure facilities suitable for women's sport particularly football and rugby.

- that women's sport is given coverage equal to that of men's sport in the media and Press."

The member set out the context to her motion, noting that:

- That fewer women than men took part in sports, and that women were more likely to not continue with sports after they started.
- According to the "Women's Sports Foundation" established by Billie Jean King, the main reason for having equal opportunities in sports was in order for women to also receive the important benefits obtained by participating in sports - i.e. the psychological, physiological and social benefits.
- That this was a matter that merited serious attention from public health officers, sports leaders, educators and our politicians.
- Historically, that women did not have the right to participate in sports, but that the sporting culture in our society to date was more male-orientated than female-orientated, with greater status given to male sports, because male sports received much more investment and it was much more obvious and visible in the media.
- According to the "Women's and Sports Fitness Foundation", that commercial investment, and the attention that women's sports received in the media, were intertwined.
- In order to increase women's participation in sports, women needed to see inspiring role models in the media, and receive the encouragement that men received.
- Although S4C was to be praised for the attention they gave women's sports on the whole; women were much less visible in the media and the Press than men.
- In 2018, a report on the visibility of women's sports in the media across European countries was published. Five countries were under the spotlight, and the results of the report showed that the proportion of women's sports broadcasting did not raise above 10% in any of the five countries. Around 7% was the percentage for broadcasting women's sport in Britain!
- Also, unfortunately, when women received attention, the focus could be on what they wore, instead of their athletic conquests.
- That there was very little commercial investment in women's sports. This means that women's pay is less, as well as less opportunity to have quality coaches and facilities.
- Considering the lack of attention, the type of attention, the lack of promotion and investment, it was no surprise that women had less motivation to participate.
- That it was no surprise that women were worried about being criticised, worried that they were not good enough, and that many women pulled out of sports when they were teenagers.
- As a result, women lost out on the benefits to their health and self-confidence the physical and mental benefits, and participation in sports could also improve academic results. Also, it was important to consider that a significant percentage of women aged over 50 suffered from osteoporosis, and physical exercise was essential to sustain bone density.

Members expressed support to the proposal and noted:-

• That it would be good to see someone from the sporting world coming forward as a champion to the proposal.

- That the inequality between men and women was so prominent in many fields, and that the proposer had encompassed the reasons for that really well.
- That there were pay inequalities in men's football as well, with the stars earning millions and those at the bottom of the league almost starving.
- That there was a need to change the culture for the psychological, physical and social benefit of all, not just women, and that this was such a timely proposal after Covid.
- That it was believed that Welsh Government saw the value in this, and that there were some quite simple things that they could do to lead the way.

#### **RESOLVED** to adopt the motion, namely:-

"That the Council calls on Welsh Government, Westminster Government and the relevant organisations to commit to:

- professionalise women's sport so that women have the same opportunities and pay as men.

- ensure that women are represented on sports bodies at all levels.

- ensure facilities suitable for women's sport particularly football and rugby.

- that women's sport is given coverage equal to that of men's sport in the media and Press."

(B) Submitted - the following notice of motion by Councillor Beca Brown, in accordance with Section 4.20 of the Constitution and it was seconded:-

"With the cost of living rising sharply and people and families often having to choose between eating or heating, there is more demand than even before on the services of local food banks and food schemes. According to FareShare Cymru, there were four food schemes in North Wales before the pandemic, but that figure is expected to rise to approximately 40 by April this year.

Local voluntary groups must pay an annual membership fee to receive food from schemes such as FareShare and, during lockdown, Welsh Government funded the first year of membership only.

However, after the first year, local food schemes must find the money to pay their own membership fee, which can be approximately £3,000 a year.

We call upon Welsh Government to commit to funding 70% of the cost of food (i.e. the membership fee of FareShare or similar distribution schemes) for a period of 5 years in order to protect these local food schemes which provide a crucial service to people and families at a time of great hardship."

The member set out the context to her motion, noting that:-

- As FareShare delivered surplus food, that would otherwise be thrown out, that the scheme not only provided necessary support to people in need, but also contributed to reducing food waste.
- That the substantial increase in the number of food schemes in North Wales had happened before the cost of living crisis had really struck, and who knows how many food schemes would arise across the county and the rest of the country in another year.
- Although the money received from Welsh Government to fund the first year's membership in the FareShare scheme was greatly appreciated, having assurance that 70% of the membership money had been paid by the Government for a five-year period, whilst people faced the double challenge of finding their feet after the pandemic and dealing with the cost of living crisis, would take the stress and anxiety off food schemes of having to think where the money would come from. This, in turn, would give

assurance to the people who received the food that this essential service would not end abruptly.

Due to a glitch in the audio during her presentation, the proposer was asked to send a written copy to the members after the meeting.

Members expressed support to the proposal and noted:-

- That the Councillors for Bangor and Plaid Cymru Bangor volunteers supported the food scheme established by Councillor Steve Collings, and that he had introduced the idea of FareShare in Bangor.
- That the motion was praiseworthy and ensured that vulnerable people and people in need received the food they needed, and addressed social inequality. It also helped to save the planet and was a way of reducing waste.
- That it was important that schemes like this were known to everyone across the county as the need in rural areas such as Meirionnydd was as great as that in the largest towns. It was required to obtain Government support to this, and a plea was made for any scheme to be implemented across the county.
- All the volunteers in Bethesda who collected food from the supermarkets were thanked.
- Although the motion was supported, it was outrageous that people were reliant on food banks in the twenty-first century, and it was noted that this again was an example of how the system was broken and unfit for purpose.

#### **RESOLVED** to adopt the motion, namely:-

"With the cost of living rising sharply and people and families often having to choose between eating or heating, there is more demand than even before on the services of local food banks and food schemes. According to FareShare Cymru, there were four food schemes in North Wales before the pandemic, but that figure is expected to rise to approximately 40 by April this year.

Local voluntary groups must pay an annual membership fee to receive food from schemes such as FareShare and, during lockdown, Welsh Government funded the first year of membership only.

However, after the first year, local food schemes must find the money to pay their own membership fee, which can be approximately £3,000 a year.

We call upon Welsh Government to commit to funding 70% of the cost of food (i.e. the membership fee of FareShare or similar distribution schemes) for a period of 5 years in order to protect these local food schemes which provide a crucial service to people and families at a time of great hardship."

#### 17. RESPONSES TO PREVIOUS NOTICES OF MOTION

Submitted for information:-

- (a) A letter from the Westminster Government in response to Councillor Elwyn Edwards's notice of motion at the Council meeting on 7 October, 2021, regarding acknowledging St David's Day formally as a bank holiday in Wales.
- (B) A letter from Welsh Government in response to Councillor Gethin Glyn Williams's notice of motion at the Council meeting on 2 December, 2021, regarding the creation of woodlands in Wales.

The meeting commenced at 1.00pm and concluded at 6.00pm.

CHAIR

#### Treth Cyngor: Cyngor Gwynedd + Cyngor Cymuned Council Tax : Cyngor Gwynedd + Community Council

, ,									
	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H	Band I
Aberdaron	1,035.50	1,208.08	1,380.67	1,553.25	1,898.42	2,243.58	2,588.75	3,106.50	3,624.25
Aberdyfi	1,041.40	1,214.97	1,388.53	1,562.10	1,909.23	2,256.37	2,603.50	3,124.20	3,644.90
Abergwyngregyn	1,039.37	1,212.60	1,385.83	1,559.06	1,905.52	2,251.98	2,598.43	3,118.12	3,637.81
Abermaw (Barmouth)	1,052.69	1,228.14	1,403.59	1,579.04	1,929.94	2,280.84	2,631.73	3,158.08	3,684.43
Arthog	1,031.24	1,203.11	1,374.99	1,546.86	1,890.61	2,234.35	2,578.10	3,093.72	3,609.34
Y Bala	1,041.03	1,214.53	1,388.04	1,561.54	1,908.55	2,255.56	2,602.57	3,123.08	3,643.59
Bangor	1,085.32	1,266.21	1,447.09	1,627.98	1,989.75	2,351.53	2,713.30	3,255.96	3,798.62
Beddgelert	1,053.04	1,228.55	1,404.05	1,579.56	1,930.57	2,281.59	2,632.60	3,159.12	3,685.64
Betws Garmon	1,030.53	1,202.28	1,374.04	1,545.79	1,889.30	2,232.81	2,576.32	3,091.58	3,606.84
Bethesda	1,067.44	1,245.35	1,423.25	1,601.16	1,956.97	2,312.79	2,668.60	3,202.32	3,736.04
Bontnewydd	1,046.25	1,220.63	1,395.00	1,569.38	1,918.13	2,266.88	2,615.63	3,138.76	3,661.89
Botwnnog	1,027.41	1,198.65	1,369.88	1,541.12	1,883.59	2,226.06	2,568.53	3,082.24	3,595.95
Brithdir & Llanfachreth	1,035.47	1,208.05	1,380.63	1,553.21	1,898.37	2,243.53	2,588.68	3,106.42	3,624.16
Bryncrug	1,043.63	1,217.57	1,391.51	1,565.45	1,913.33	2,261.21	2,609.08	3,130.90	3,652.72
Buan	1,028.96	1,200.45	1,371.95	1,543.44	1,886.43	2,229.41	2,572.40	3,086.88	3,601.36
Caernarfon	1,057.67	1,233.95	1,410.23	1,586.51	1,939.07	2,291.63	2,644.18	3,173.02	3,701.86
Clynnog Fawr	1,046.34	1,220.73	1,395.12	1,569.51	1,918.29	2,267.07	2,615.85	3,139.02	3,662.19
Corris	1,038.33	1,211.39	1,384.44	1,557.50	1,903.61	2,249.72	2,595.83	3,115.00	3,634.17
Criccieth	1,052.26	1,227.64	1,403.01	1,578.39	1,929.14	2,279.90	2,630.65	3,156.78	3,682.91
Dolbenmaen	1,037.21	1,210.07	1,382.94	1,555.81	1,901.55	2,247.28	2,593.02	3,111.62	3,630.22
Dolgellau	1,058.23	1,234.61	1,410.98	1,587.35	1,940.09	2,292.84	2,645.58	3,174.70	3,703.82
Dyffryn Ardudwy	1,058.79	1,235.25	1,411.72	1,588.18	1,941.11	2,294.04	2,646.97	3,176.36	3,705.75
Y Felinheli	1,044.30	1,218.35	1,392.40	1,566.45	1,914.55	2,262.65	2,610.75	3,132.90	3,655.05
Ffestiniog	1,103.84	1,287.81	1,471.79	1,655.76	2,023.71	2,391.65	2,759.60	3,311.52	3,863.44
Y Ganllwyd	1,040.55	1,213.97	1,387.40	1,560.82	1,907.67	2,254.52	2,601.37	3,121.64	3,641.91
Harlech	1,074.79	1,253.93	1,433.06	1,612.19	1,970.45	2,328.72	2,686.98	3,224.38	3,761.78
Llanaelhaearn	1,053.74	1,229.36	1,404.99	1,580.61	1,931.86	2,283.10	2,634.35	3,161.22	3,688.09
Llanbedr	1,046.43	1,220.84	1,395.24	1,569.65	1,918.46	2,267.27	2,616.08	3,139.30	3,662.52
Llanbedrog	1,038.51	1,211.59	1,384.68	1,557.76	1,903.93	2,250.10	2,596.27	3,115.52	3,634.77
Llanberis	1,046.73	1,221.18	1,395.64	1,570.09	1,919.00	2,267.91	2,616.82	3,140.18	3,663.54
Llandwrog	1,062.37	1,239.44	1,416.50	1,593.56	1,947.68	2,301.81	2,655.93	3,187.12	3,718.31
Llandygai	1,036.87	1,209.69	1,382.50	1,555.31	1,900.93	2,246.56	2,592.18	3,110.62	3,629.06
Llanddeiniolen	1,029.51	1,201.10	1,372.68	1,544.27	1,887.44	2,230.61	2,573.78	3,088.54	3,603.30
Llandderfel	1,029.95	1,201.61	1,373.27	1,544.93	1,888.25	2,231.57	2,574.88	3,089.86	3,604.84
Llanegryn	1,042.30	1,216.02	1,389.73	1,563.45	1,910.88	2,258.32	2,605.75	3,126.90	3,648.05
Llanelltyd	1,034.18	1,206.54	1,378.91	1,551.27	1,896.00	2,240.72	2,585.45	3,102.54	3,619.63
Llanengan	1,034.01	1,206.34	1,378.68	1,551.01	1,895.68	2,240.35	2,585.02	3,102.02	3,619.02
Llanfair	1,049.78	1,224.74	1,399.71	1,574.67	1,924.60	2,274.52	2,624.45	3,149.34	3,674.23
Llanfihangel y Pennant	1,051.03	1,226.20	1,401.37	1,576.54	1,926.88	2,277.22	2,627.57	3,153.08	3,678.59
Llanfrothen	1,044.60	1,218.70	1,392.80	1,566.90	1,915.10	2,263.30	2,611.50	3,133.80	3,656.10
Llangelynnin	1,033.80	1,206.10	1,378.40	1,550.70	1,895.30	2,239.90	2,584.50	3,101.40	3,618.30
Llangywer	1,037.49	1,210.41	1,383.32	1,556.24	1,902.07	2,247.90	2,593.73	3,112.48	3,631.23
Llanllechid	1,048.18	1,222.88	1,397.57	1,572.27	1,921.66	2,271.06	2,620.45	3,144.54	3,668.63
Llanllyfni	1,041.37	1,214.94	1,388.50	1,562.06	1,909.18	2,256.31	2,603.43	3,124.12	3,644.81
Llannor	1,032.71	1,204.82	1,376.94	1,549.06	1,893.30	2,237.53	2,581.77	3,098.12	3,614.47
Llanrug	1,063.12	1,240.31	1,417.49	1,594.68	1,949.05	2,303.43	2,657.80	3,189.36	3,720.92
Llanuwchllyn	1,047.46	1,222.04	1,396.61	1,571.19	1,920.34	2,269.50	2,618.65	3,142.38	3,666.11
Llanwnda	1,042.18	1,215.88	1,389.57	1,563.27	1,910.66	2,258.06	2,605.45	3,126.54	3,647.63
Llanycil	1,032.61	1,204.71	1,376.81	1,548.91	1,893.11	2,237.31	2,581.52	3,097.82	3,614.12
Llanystumdwy	1,031.81	1,203.78	1,375.75	1,547.72	1,891.66	2,235.60	2,579.53	3,095.44	3,611.35
Maentwrog	1,031.29	1,203.18 1,210.60	1,375.06	1,546.94	1,890.70 1,902.36	2,234.47	2,578.23	3,093.88	3,609.53
Mawddwy	1,037.65		1,383.54	1,556.48		2,248.25	2,594.13	3,112.96	3,631.79
Nefyn Pennal	1,052.52	1,227.94	1,403.36	1,578.78	1,929.62	2,280.46	2,631.30	3,157.56	3,683.82
	1,041.86	1,215.50	1,389.15	1,562.79	1,910.08	2,257.36	2,604.65	3,125.58	3,646.51
Penrhyndeudraeth	1,052.88	1,228.36	1,403.84	1,579.32	1,930.28	2,281.24	2,632.20	3,158.64	3,685.08
Pentir Pictul	1,046.81	1,221.27	1,395.74 1 307 72	1,570.21 1 572 44	1,919.15	2,268.08	2,617.02 2,620.73	3,140.42 3 144 88	3,663.82 3,669.03
Pistyll Porthmadog	1,048.29	1,223.01	1,397.72	1,572.44	1,921.87	2,271.30		3,144.88	
Porthmadog Pwilboli	1,037.30	1,210.18	1,383.07	1,555.95	1,901.72	2,247.48	2,593.25	3,111.90	3,630.55
Pwllheli Talsarnau	1,051.72	1,227.01 1 237 44	1,402.29	1,577.58	1,928.15 1 044 54	2,278.73	2,629.30	3,155.16	3,681.02 3,712.31
Talsarnau Trawsfynydd	1,060.66 1,044.32	1,237.44	1,414.21	1,590.99	1,944.54	2,298.10 2,262.69	2,651.65 2,610.80	3,181.98	
Trawsfynydd	1,044.32	1,218.37	1,392.43 1,370.32	1,566.48	1,914.59 1 884 10	2,262.69 2,226.77	2,610.80 2,569.35	3,132.96	3,655.12 3,597.09
Tudweiliog		1,199.03		1,541.61 1 580 40	1,884.19			3,083.22	
Tywyn Waunfawr	1,053.60 1,032.05	1,229.20 1,204.05	1,404.80 1,376.06	1,580.40 1,548.07	1,931.60 1,892.09	2,282.80 2,236.10	2,634.00 2,580.12	3,160.80 3,096.14	3,687.60 3,612.16
waanawi	1,002.00	1,207.03	1,0,0.00	1,070.07	1,092.09	2,200.10	2,000.12	5,050.14	3,012.10

Treth Cyngor: Cyngor Gwynedd + Cyngor Cymuned + Comisiynydd Heddlu a Throsedd Gogledd Cymru Council Tax : Cyngor Gwynedd + Community Council + North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner

	dwyned		mancy	council		vales i o			
	Band A	Band B	Band C	Band D	Band E	Band F	Band G	Band H	Band I
Aberdaron	1,246.70	1,454.48	1,662.27	1,870.05	2,285.62	2,701.18	3,116.75	3,740.10	4,363.45
Aberdyfi	1,252.60	1,461.37	1,670.13	1,878.90	2,296.43	2,713.97	3,131.50	3,757.80	4,384.10
Abergwyngregyn	1,250.57	1,459.00	1,667.43	1,875.86	2,292.72	2,709.58	3,126.43	3,751.72	4,377.01
Abermaw (Barmouth)	1,263.89	1,474.54	1,685.19	1,895.84	2,317.14	2,738.44	3,159.73	3,791.68	4,423.63
Arthog	1,242.44	1,449.51	1,656.59	1,863.66	2,277.81	2,691.95	3,106.10	3,727.32	4,348.54
Bala	1,252.23	1,460.93	1,669.64	1,878.34	2,295.75	2,713.16	3,130.57	3,756.68	4,382.79
Bangor	1,296.52	1,512.61	1,728.69	1,944.78	2,376.95	2,809.13	3,241.30	3,889.56	4,537.82
Beddgelert	1,264.24	1,474.95	1,685.65	1,896.36	2,317.77	2,739.19	3,160.60	3,792.72	4,424.84
Betws Garmon	1,241.73	1,448.68	1,655.64	1,862.59	2,276.50	2,690.41	3,104.32	3,725.18	4,346.04
Bethesda	1,278.64	1,491.75	1,704.85	1,917.96	2,344.17	2,770.39	3,196.60	3,835.92	4,475.24
Bontnewydd	1,257.45	1,467.03	1,676.60	1,886.18	2,305.33	2,724.48	3,143.63	3,772.36	4,401.09
Botwnnog	1,238.61	1,445.05	1,651.48	1,857.92	2,270.79	2,683.66	3,096.53	, 3,715.84	4,335.15
Brithdir & Llanfachreth	1,246.67	1,454.45	1,662.23	1,870.01	2,285.57	2,701.13	3,116.68	, 3,740.02	4,363.36
Bryncrug	1,254.83	1,463.97	1,673.11	1,882.25	2,300.53	2,718.81	3,137.08	3,764.50	4,391.92
Buan	1,240.16	1,446.85	1,653.55	1,860.24	2,273.63	2,687.01	3,100.40	3,720.48	4,340.56
Caernarfon	1,268.87	1,480.35	1,691.83	1,903.31	2,326.27	2,749.23	3,172.18	3,806.62	4,441.06
Clynnog Fawr	1,257.54	1,467.13	1,676.72	1,886.31	2,305.49	2,724.67	3,143.85	3,772.62	4,401.39
Corris	1,249.53	1,457.79	1,666.04	1,874.30	2,290.81	2,707.32	3,123.83	3,748.60	4,373.37
Criccieth	1,263.46	1,474.04	1,684.61	1,895.19	2,316.34	2,737.50	3,158.65	3,790.38	4,422.11
Dolbenmaen	1,248.41	1,456.47	1,664.54	1,872.61	2,288.75	2,704.88	3,121.02	3,745.22	4,369.42
Dolgellau	1,269.43	1,481.01	1,692.58	1,904.15	2,200.75	2,750.44	3,173.58	3,808.30	4,443.02
5	1,269.99	1,481.65	•	•	•	•	-	3,809.96	•
Dyffryn Ardudwy	•	•	1,693.32	1,904.98	2,328.31	2,751.64	3,174.97		4,444.95
Y Felinheli	1,255.50	1,464.75	1,674.00	1,883.25	2,301.75	2,720.25	3,138.75	3,766.50	4,394.25
Ffestiniog	1,315.04	1,534.21	1,753.39	1,972.56	2,410.91	2,849.25	3,287.60	3,945.12	4,602.64
Y Ganllwyd	1,251.75	1,460.37	1,669.00	1,877.62	2,294.87	2,712.12	3,129.37	3,755.24	4,381.11
Harlech	1,285.99	1,500.33	1,714.66	1,928.99	2,357.65	2,786.32	3,214.98	3,857.98	4,500.98
Llanaelhaearn	1,264.94	1,475.76	1,686.59	1,897.41	2,319.06	2,740.70	3,162.35	3,794.82	4,427.29
Llanbedr	1,257.63	1,467.24	1,676.84	1,886.45	2,305.66	2,724.87	3,144.08	3,772.90	4,401.72
Llanbedrog	1,249.71	1,457.99	1,666.28	1,874.56	2,291.13	2,707.70	3,124.27	3,749.12	4,373.97
Llanberis	1,257.93	1,467.58	1,677.24	1,886.89	2,306.20	2,725.51	3,144.82	3,773.78	4,402.74
Llandwrog	1,273.57	1,485.84	1,698.10	1,910.36	2,334.88	2,759.41	3,183.93	3,820.72	4,457.51
Llandygai	1,248.07	1,456.09	1,664.10	1,872.11	2,288.13	2,704.16	3,120.18	3,744.22	4,368.26
Llanddeiniolen	1,240.71	1,447.50	1,654.28	1,861.07	2,274.64	2,688.21	3,101.78	3,722.14	4,342.50
Llandderfel	1,241.15	1,448.01	1,654.87	1,861.73	2,275.45	2,689.17	3,102.88	3,723.46	4,344.04
Llanegryn	1,253.50	1,462.42	1,671.33	1,880.25	2,298.08	2,715.92	3,133.75	3,760.50	4,387.25
Llanelltyd	1,245.38	1,452.94	1,660.51	1,868.07	2,283.20	2,698.32	3,113.45	3,736.14	4,358.83
Llanengan	1,245.21	1,452.74	1,660.28	1,867.81	2,282.88	2,697.95	3,113.02	3,735.62	4,358.22
Llanfair	1,260.98	1,471.14	1,681.31	1,891.47	2,311.80	2,732.12	3,152.45	3,782.94	4,413.43
Llanfihangel y Pennant	1,262.23	1,472.60	1,682.97	1,893.34	2,314.08	2,734.82	3,155.57	3,786.68	4,417.79
Llanfrothen		1,465.10						3,767.40	
Llangelynnin	1,245.00	1,452.50	1,660.00	1,867.50	2,282.50		3,112.50	3,735.00	4,357.50
Llangywer	1,248.69		1,664.92	1,873.04	2,289.27	2,705.50	3,121.73		4,370.43
Llanllechid		1,469.28	1,679.17	1,889.07	2,308.86	2,728.66	, 3,148.45	3,778.14	
Llanllyfni		1,461.34	1,670.10	1,878.86	2,296.38		3,131.43	3,757.72	
Llannor	1,243.91		1,658.54	1,865.86	2,280.50	2,695.13	3,109.77	3,731.72	•
Llanrug	1,274.32	•	1,699.09	1,911.48	2,336.25	2,761.03	3,185.80	-	4,460.12
Llanuwchllyn		1,468.44	1,678.21	1,887.99	2,307.54	2,727.10		3,775.98	4,405.31
Llanwnda		1,462.28	1,671.17	1,880.07	2,297.86		3,133.45	3,760.14	
Llanycil		1,451.11	1,658.41	1,865.71	2,280.31		3,109.52	3,731.42	
Llanystumdwy	1,243.01		1,657.35	1,864.52		2,693.20	3,107.53	3,729.04	
Maentwrog	1,242.49		1,656.66	1,863.74	2,277.90	2,692.07	3,106.23	-	4,348.73
Mawddwy		1,457.00	1,665.14	1,873.28	2,289.56	2,705.85	3,122.13	3,746.56	4,370.99
Nefyn		1,474.34	1,684.96	1,895.58	2,316.82	2,738.06	3,159.30		4,423.02
Pennal Describerta describerta		1,461.90	1,670.75	1,879.59	2,297.28	2,714.96	3,132.65	3,759.18	
Penrhyndeudraeth		1,474.76	1,685.44	1,896.12	•	2,738.84		3,792.24	•
Pentir	1,258.01		1,677.34	1,887.01	2,306.35	2,725.68	3,145.02	3,774.02	4,403.02
Pistyll		1,469.41	1,679.32	1,889.24	2,309.07	2,728.90	3,148.73	3,778.48	4,408.23
Porthmadog		1,456.58	1,664.67	1,872.75	2,288.92		3,121.25		4,369.75
Pwllheli		1,473.41	1,683.89	1,894.38	2,315.35	2,736.33	3,157.30	3,788.76	4,420.22
Talsarnau		1,483.84	1,695.81	1,907.79	2,331.74	2,755.70	3,179.65	-	4,451.51
Trawsfynydd	1,255.52		1,674.03	1,883.28	2,301.79	2,720.29	3,138.80	3,766.56	4,394.32
Tudweiliog	1,238.94		1,651.92	1,858.41	2,271.39	2,684.37	3,097.35		4,336.29
Tywyn		1,475.60	1,686.40	1,897.20	2,318.80	2,740.40	3,162.00	3,794.40	
Waunfawr	1,243.25	1,450.45	1,657.66	1,864.87	2,279.29	2,693.70	3,108.12	3,729.74	4,351.36

#### Cynnydd yn y Dreth Cyngor fesul Cymuned / Increase in Council Tax by Community

	Sylfaen Drethiannol /	Praesept /	Treth Cymuned /	Treth Gwynedd /	Treth Heddlu	- Cyfanswm / Total	Band D	Cynnydd / Increase	
	Taxbase	Precept	Community	Gwynedd	/ Police	(Band D)	2021/22	21/22 -	Cynnydd /
Cymuned/ Community	(Band D)	£	Тах	Tax	Тах	2022/23	£	22/23	Increase %
Aberdaron	571.25	15,000	26.26	1,526.99	316.80		1,816.42	53.63	3.0%
Aberdyfi	1,095.65	38,468	35.11	1,526.99	316.80		1,826.88	52.02	
Abergwyngregyn	124.71 1,210.43	4,000 63,000	32.07 52.05	1,526.99 1,526.99	316.80 316.80		1,814.42	61.44 54.81	
Abermaw (Barmouth) Arthog	654.41	13,000	52.05 19.87	1,526.99	316.80		1,841.03 1,809.84	53.82	
Y Bala	781.39	27,000	34.55	1,526.99	316.80		1,823.78	54.56	
Bangor	3,974.34	401,350	100.99	1,526.99	316.80		1,889.73	55.05	
Beddgelert	323.40	17,000	52.57	1,526.99	316.80		1,824.18	72.18	
Betws Garmon	138.27	2,600	18.80	1,526.99	316.80	1,862.59	1,808.71	53.88	3.0%
Bethesda	1,701.20	126,179	74.17	1,526.99	316.80	1,917.96	1,863.16	54.80	2.9%
Bontnewydd	436.43	18,500	42.39	1,526.99	316.80		1,831.50	54.68	
Botwnnog	460.05	6,500	14.13	1,526.99	316.80		1,803.27	54.65	
Brithdir & Llanfachreth	457.62	12,000	26.22	1,526.99	316.80		1,816.92	53.09	
Bryncrug	340.19	13,084	38.46	1,526.99	316.80		1,828.30	53.95	
Buan Caernarfon	227.96 3,640.35	3,750 216,674	16.45 59.52	1,526.99 1,526.99	316.80 316.80	'	1,805.46 1,843.97	54.78 59.34	
Clynnog Fawr	470.35	210,074	42.52	1,526.99	316.80		1,843.97	57.19	
Corris	305.84	9,330	30.51	1,526.99	316.80		1,820.20	54.10	
Criccieth	972.85	50,000	51.40	1,526.99	316.80	'	1,833.86	61.33	
Dolbenmaen	624.58	18,000	28.82	1,526.99	316.80		1,818.59	54.02	
Dolgellau	1,275.63	77,000	60.36	1,526.99	316.80	1,904.15	1,845.55	58.60	3.2%
Dyffryn Ardudwy	817.14	50,000	61.19	1,526.99	316.80	1,904.98	1,848.90	56.08	3.0%
Y Felinheli	1,165.68	46,000	39.46	1,526.99	316.80		1,823.97	59.28	
Ffestiniog	1,786.14	230,000	128.77	1,526.99	316.80		1,923.01	49.55	
Y Ganllwyd	88.69	3,000	33.83	1,526.99	316.80	'	1,823.35	54.27	
Harlech	821.55	70,000	85.20	1,526.99	316.80		1,879.76	49.23	
Llanaelhaearn Llanbedr	466.26 351.64	25,000	53.62 42.66	1,526.99	316.80 316.80		1,844.43 1,833.38	52.98 53.07	
Llanbedrog	780.02	15,000 24,000	42.00	1,526.99 1,526.99	316.80		1,835.58	54.55	
Llanberis	788.78	34,000	43.10	1,526.99	316.80		1,820.01	56.49	
Llandwrog	1,051.46	70,000	66.57	1,526.99	316.80		1,852.99	57.37	
Llandygai	1,001.64	28,363	28.32	1,526.99	316.80		1,815.12	56.99	
Llanddeiniolen	1,840.10	31,800	17.28	1,526.99	316.80		1,806.14	54.93	
Llandderfel	501.76	9,000	17.94	1,526.99	316.80	1,861.73	1,806.90	54.83	
Llanegryn	164.55	6,000	36.46	1,526.99	316.80	1,880.25	1,823.69	56.56	3.1%
Llanelltyd	308.89	7,500	24.28	1,526.99	316.80		1,814.74	53.33	
Llanengan	2,289.52	55,000	24.02	1,526.99	316.80		1,814.90	52.91	
Llanfair	335.58	16,000	47.68	1,526.99	316.80		1,840.13	51.34	
Llanfihangel y Pennant Llanfrothen	232.58 233.04	11,525 9,300	49.55 39.91	1,526.99 1,526.99	316.80 316.80		1,840.29 1,830.28	53.05 53.42	
Llangelynnin	433.07	10,270	23.71	1,526.99	316.80		1,830.28	54.66	
Llangywer	145.28	4,250	29.25	1,526.99	316.80		1,812.84	53.24	
Llanllechid	348.06	15,759	45.28	1,526.99	316.80		1,834.76	54.31	
Llanllyfni	1,425.75	50,000	35.07	1,526.99	316.80		1,824.30	54.56	
Llannor	906.33	20,000	22.07	1,526.99	316.80		1,808.84	57.02	
Llanrug	1,137.62	77,000	67.69	1,526.99	316.80	1,911.48	1,841.98	69.50	3.8%
Llanuwchllyn	316.77	14,000	44.20	1,526.99	316.80		1,834.75	53.24	
Llanwnda	807.58	29,300	36.28	1,526.99	316.80		1,825.32	54.75	
Llanycil	205.27	4,500	21.92	1,526.99	316.80		1,808.90	56.81	
Llanystumdwy	885.48	18,360	20.73	1,526.99	316.80		1,809.61	54.91	
Maentwrog	303.24	6,051	19.95	1,526.99	316.80		1,810.09	53.65	
Mawddwy Nefyn	362.81 1,535.07	10,700 79,500	29.49 51.79	1,526.99 1,526.99	316.80 316.80		1,816.19 1,841.73	57.09 53.85	
Pennal	231.82	8,300	35.80	1,526.99	316.80		1,818.29	61.30	
Penrhyndeudraeth	792.98	41,500	52.33	1,526.99	316.80		1,842.03	54.09	
Pentir	1,272.62	55,000	43.22	1,526.99	316.80		1,832.42	54.59	
Pistyll	264.01	12,000	45.45	1,526.99	316.80		1,835.05	54.19	
Porthmadog	2,160.67	62,581	28.96	1,526.99	316.80	1,872.75	1,819.82	52.93	2.9%
Pwllheli	1,779.02	90,000	50.59	1,526.99	316.80		1,835.63	58.75	
Talsarnau	343.74	22,000	64.00	1,526.99	316.80		1,856.47	51.32	
Trawsfynydd	506.49	20,000	39.49	1,526.99	316.80		1,828.84	54.44	
Tudweiliog	478.76	7,000	14.62	1,526.99	316.80		1,806.28	52.13	
Tywyn	1,691.37	90,328	53.41	1,526.99	316.80		1,844.38	52.82	
Waunfawr	569.37	12,000	21.08	1,526.99	316.80		1,810.28	54.59	3.0%
Awdurdod Cyngor Gwynedd			2022/23	2021/22	2 0504	Authority Gwynedd Counc			
Cyngor Gwynedd Comisiynydd Heddlu a Thros	1,526.99 316.80	1,483.23 305.55	2.95% 3.68%	North Wales Pol		ommissioner			
Cynghorau Cymuned (Cyfart		-	49.41	49.03	0.78%	Community Cou			
Cyfanswm			1,893.20	1,837.81	3.0%	Total			

# Agenda Item 10

# **GWYNEDD COUNCIL**

## Report to a meeting of Gwynedd Council

Date of Meeting:	19 May 2022
Title of Item:	The Council's political balance
Contact Officer:	Geraint Owen, Head of Democracy Services

#### 1. DECISION

The Council is asked to:

- 1.1 adopt the list of committees and sub-committees to be established for the 2022/23 municipal year, as noted in Appendix A (to follow), and to adopt the allocation of seats as noted in the appendix.
- 1.2 delegate the authority to the Head of Democracy Services to make appointments to the committees on the basis of political balance, and in accordance with the wishes of the political groups.
- 1.3 adopt the chairpersonships of scrutiny committees on the basis of political balance as follows:

Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee Communities Scrutiny Committee Care Scrutiny Committee Seat to be allocated to: Group (to be confirmed) Group (to be confirmed) Group (to be confirmed)

- 1.4 adopt the higher salaries for 2022/23, and to ask the Democratic Services Committee to review the list for 2023/24.
- 1.5 confirm the allocation of the political groups support officers' posts and hours for the duration of this Council term unless a substantial change takes place in the political balance of the Council or that a political group has fewer than 10% of members.
- 1.6 adopt the seat allocation for the Snowdonia National Park Authority and the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority for the term of this Council unless a review is required because of changes in the political balance or a lack of commitment from an individual member.
- 1.7 nominate members to represent the Council on the Police and Crime Panel for the duration of this Council term in accordance with the allocation given to Gwynedd.

### BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

### 2. THE COUNCIL'S POLITICAL BALANCE

- 2.1.1 In accordance with Section 15 of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, the Council must ensure that the constitution of its committees and subcommittees reflects the strength of various political groups on the Council.
- 2.1.2 The Council is required to do so at least annually at the Annual Meeting of the Council. It must also be reviewed at any other meeting of the Council when a change to the political balance occurs.
- 2.1.3 At the beginning of the new Council term there is also a requirement to review the allocation of any political posts between the groups.
- 2.1.4 Statutory requirements also state the need to adopt the list of committees and subcommittees to be established for the municipal year.
- 2.1.5 At the time of writing this report, the exact political balance of the Council was not known.
- 2.1.6 In accordance with this Council's procedures, a meeting of the Council's Business Group will be held, namely a meeting of the political group Leaders. They will discuss the matter in order to submit recommendations to the Full Council.
- 2.1.7 The Business Group will meet on 16 May 2022 and feedback from the Business Group's discussions will be reported at the Council meeting.

#### 2.2 ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES

- 2.2.1 To remind members, the four main rules in the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 in relation to the allocation of seats are noted here:-
- 2.2.2 (a) Every seat on a committee cannot be allocated to the same political group;

(b) The majority of seats on a committee must be allocated to a political group if the number of persons who are members of that group constitute a majority of the Council's members;

(c) Subject to paragraphs (a) and (b) above, the number of seats on ordinary committees allocated to each political group will be the same as the number of total seats the members of that group have on the Council;

(ch) Subject to paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) above, the number of seats on a committee allocated to each political group will be the same proportion of seats on the committee as the number of seats the members of that group have on the Council.

2.2.3 In order to ensure that these rules are adhered to, the Council has been dealing

with committees in different blocks in the past. This makes it easier to ensure that rule (c) in paragraph 2.2.2 above is also adhered to.

# 3. CHAIRMANSHIPS AND VICE-CHAIRMANSHIPS

- 3.1 **Scrutiny Committees** In accordance with the requirements of sections 66-75 of the Local Government Bill (Wales) 2011 ("the Bill") it is a requirement to allocate the chairpersonships of scrutiny committees in order to ensure, as far as possible, that political balance is reflected in those chairpersonships and that the groups that are not represented on the executive are given a fair proportion of the chairpersonships.
- 3.2 There are no statutory or constitutional provisions to control the appointments to the vice-chairpersonships.
- 3.3 At the time of writing this report, neither the exact political balance of the Council nor the executive's membership were known. Consequently, and in accordance with this Council's procedures, the Council's Business Group was asked to discuss the matter in order to submit recommendations regarding scrutiny chairpersonships, in line with the statutory rules, to the Full Council.
- 3.4 There are no statutory or constitutional provisions to control the appointments to the chairmanships of the remaining committees (other than as noted below)

**Governance and Audit Committee** – In accordance with the requirements of Part 1 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, a Lay Member will be the Chair of the Governance and Audit Committee. It is a matter for the Committee to appoint a chair from among the Lay Members appointed by the Council on 03/03/2022.

**Democratic Services Committee** - In accordance with section 14 of the Bill, the chairperson of the Democratic Services Committee shall be appointed by the Full Council. It cannot appoint a member of a political group which is represented on the executive. As the executive's membership is not yet known, the Full Council will appoint a Chair for the Democratic Services Committee at is meeting on 23 June 2022.

**Licensing Committee** - a member of the executive cannot chair the Licensing Committee.

3.5 The committees themselves will elect their chairpersons in these cases subject to the procedural rules limiting the term of a Chairperson to two years.

## 4. HIGHER SALARIES

- 4.1 The latest guidance of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales states that Gwynedd Council has a right to appoint 18 higher salaries. There has been no change to the maximum higher salaries for 2022/23.
- 4.2 Previously, 18 higher salaries were allocated as follows:
  - Leader
  - Deputy Leader
  - Up to 8 other Cabinet members
  - The Leader of the largest Opposition\*
  - Committee Chairs
    - Scrutiny Committees (x3)

- Audit and Governance Committee
- Planning Committee
- Licensing Committee (the Central and General Licensing committees count as one Committee)
- Pensions Committee
- 4.3 As is highlighted above, the Chairpersonship of the Governance and Audit Committee is to be appointed to a Lay Member. Alternative arrangements now exist for remuneration for that role.
- 4.4 The above was reported to the Democratic Services Committee on 17 February 2022. Members of the Democratic Services Committee resolved to recommend to the full Council:

a) that the list of higher salaries continues to include the same roles, save for the Chair of the Governance and Audit Committee (a new list is provided at the end of the Appendix A table)

b) that members of the Democratic Services Committee review the list further for 2023/24.

# 5. POLITICAL GROUPS' SUPPORT OFFICERS

- 5.1 In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations 1990 it is also a requirement to review the allocation of political support between the groups in accordance with the strength of the groups eligible for them.
- 5.2 The Council is reminded that there are some limitations on such posts; only groups which have 10% of seats on the council are eligible to have political support and there is a restriction of three to each council.
- 5.3 In the case of this Council, therefore, and subject to receiving formal confirmation of the membership of the political groups, only the Plaid Cymru and Independent groups are eligible. Within the budget available, the hours are divided between the groups in accordance with the comparative strength of the groups, i.e. on the basis of the Council's political balance.
- 5.4 The posts and allocation of hours will stand for the term of this Council. They will need to be reviewed if there is a significant change to the political balance and/or that a party has fewer than 10% of members.

# 6. OUTSIDE BODIES

- 6.1 The Council has representation on a significant number of outside bodies. There is a long list of such bodies, which vary significantly some are national, others local in nature, some are charities, companies and so forth. The majority of representatives are nominated by the Cabinet Members.
- 6.2 However, it is the Council that decides on and approves allocations of the seats to bodies that require political balance. There are two of these, namely
  - Snowdonia National Park Authority, and

- North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority
- 6.3 The members nominated to represent the Council on outside bodies will serve on these bodies for the Council term unless there is a significant change in the political balance or a lack of commitment from an individual member. It is essential that these representatives commit fully to the role and attend the various bodies regularly.
- 6.4 Police and Crime Panel. The Council will be required to identify members to represent the Council on the Police and Crime Panel. The membership of the panel will reflect political balance across North Wales as far as possible. Information about the allocation of seats on the Panel which will be available to Gwynedd is not known at the time of writing the report. The Council will be required to identify representatives during the Council meeting.
- 6.5 Members nominated to the Police and Crime Panel will be required to have the necessary knowledge and experience in order for the Police and Crime Panel to fulfil its functions effectively, and this should be taken into consideration when nominating representatives. The names will be submitted to the Home Office for approval.

# 7. ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO RECOMMENDING THE DECISION

- 7.1 As usual, the Council's Business Group will be consulted on 16 May, 2022.
- 7.2 It has been noted in the report that the Democratic Services Committee was consulted regarding the Higher Salaries element.

# 7.3 THE STATUTORY OFFICERS' OBSERVATIONS

# **Monitoring Officer:**

I'm content with the propriety of the report noting that further information is to be included. It correctly reflects the legal position.

# Statutory Finance Officer:

Nothing to add to the report in terms of financial propriety.

# APPENDIX A - ALLOCATION OF SEATS ON COMMITTEES

A	Plaid	Independent	Llais	Labour Liberal	Individual	Total
	Cymru		Gwynedd	Democrats	Member	
Education and Economy						18
Scrutiny Committee						
Communities Scrutiny						18
Committee						
Care Scrutiny Committee						18
Governance and Audit						12

Plaid	Independent	Llais	Labour Liberal	Individual	Total
Cymru		Gwynedd	Democrats	Member	
					15
					15
					15
					15
					15
					7

	υ
	മ
(	0
	ወ
	ω
	Ó

Number of seats

С	Plaid Cymru	Independent	Llais Gwynedd	Labour Liberal Democrats	Individual Member	Total
Pensions						7
Local Joint Consultative Committee						11
SACRE						7
Joint Planning Policy Committee						8

148

Total seats			181

Note that the 17 higher salaries allocated for the 2022/23 financial year are as follows:

- Leader
- Deputy Leader
- Up to 8 other Cabinet members
- The Leader of the largest Opposition\*
- Committee Chairs
  - Scrutiny Committees (x3)
     Planning Committee

  - Licensing Committee (the Central and General Licensing committees count as one Committee)
     Pensions Committee

MEETING:	Council
DATE :	19 May 2022
TITLE :	Amendments to the Constitution - Appointment of Cabinet Member Assistants and Cabinet Member Job Sharing Arrangements, Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021
AUTHOR :	Iwan Evans, Monitoring Officer

## It is recommended that the Full Council:

- 1. Adopts the amendments to the Constitution (Appendix 1) to allow for the implementation of Section 57 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.
- 2. Accepts for information the amendments made to the Constitution (Appendix 1) by the Monitoring Officer to incorporate the provisions of Section 58 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.
- 3. Authorises the Monitoring Officer to make such further consequential amendments to the Constitution that derive directly as a result of this amendment

# Background

# 1. Section 57 - Appointment of Assistant to the Cabinet Members and Leader

- 1.1 This section allows for the addition of a provision within the Constitution which gives the Leader of the Council the right to appoint Assistants to the Cabinet Members and the Leader. The ability to appoint Cabinet Assistants has been introduced by the Local Government and Elections (Wales ) Act 2021.
- 1.2 The Assistant will have a supporting role. An Assistant will be entitled to attend and speak at Cabinet meetings and Cabinet committees. The Assistant's tasks will be delegated as agreed between the Member and Assistant. This could include, e.g. attending/chairing meetings; speaking at/opening meetings; reading and making

observations on work papers; meeting Officers; agreeing upon press releases and sitting as a representative at suitable groups.

- 1.3 The restrictions in terms of who can take up the post of Assistant to a Cabinet Member are noted in Appendix 1 of the report. In addition to this, at Committees such as Scrutiny, Audit and Governance and Democratic Services, the same restrictions apply to the Cabinet Assistant as those that relate to a Cabinet Leader or Member.
- 1.4 The Act highlights that this Assistant will not be a Cabinet Member, and neither will they make any decision-making. The power to vote or make decisions cannot be delegated to the Assistants.
- 1.5 The recommendation is that the Council adopts these amendments to the Constitution to enable the Leader to have the means if he considers it appropriate to appoint Cabinet Assistants.

# 2. Section 58 - Job Sharing: Cabinet Members and Cabinet Leader

- 2.1 This section makes it mandatory to make <u>arrangements</u> that enable job sharing in the posts of Cabinet Members and Cabinet Leader. The purpose of creating this section is to make it easier to promote diversity amongst elected members by giving an opportunity for more Councillors to participate as Cabinet Members.
- 2.2 The Act sets out the restrictions on the numbers that the Leader can appoint to job share. This Section does not create more Cabinet posts, it merely enables more than one Member of the Council to share one Cabinet post.
- 2.3 These Members who share the Cabinet or Leader posts will count as 'one' for the purposes of voting and quorum.
- 2.4 When two or more members job share, the number of members of the Cabinet may exceed 10 up to a maximum o 13 and where the number of members of the Cabinet is:

- (a) 11 or 12 at least 2 members must have been appointed to job share
- (b) 13 at least 3 members must have been appointed to job share.
- 2.5 A sharing arrangement that is clear to Members, Officers, stakeholders and the Public will be required. The Annual Report of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales makes provision for this arrangement, which is based on sharing an appropriate proportion of the salary.
- 2.6 Every Member who job shares is entitled to attend the Cabinet. There is one vote for each post in the Cabinet, therefore, if two Members share a post, they have one vote between them. However, in terms of quorum, the attendance of members who job share is considered as one member.
- 2.7 There will be many matters to agree upon by Members who have been appointed to job share, e.g. who will make a recommendation; who will respond to enquiries by the Press and how; communication regarding the relationship with the Head of Department; how functions will be highlighted and communicated; whether there will be a lead between those who job share and what this means in terms of sharing work. The Leader should establish the arrangements when approving and appointing Cabinet members.
- 2.8 I have implemented the change deriving from Section 58 as it is a statutory requirement to have a provision in place for job sharing in the Constitution.

# 2.6.3 Legislative Change

The Monitoring Officer may amend any part of the Constitution where such an amendment is necessary in order to comply with any legislative provision. Such amendments will come into force when the Monitoring Officer so decides or when the legislation (where relevant) provides for that. Such changes will be reported to the next meeting of the Full Council for information.

# **Statutory Officers Comments**

# **Monitoring Officer**

**Report Author** 

# **Chief Finance Officer**

I have no objection to the decision sought from the perspective of financial propriety".

## SECTION 5

## 5. THE CABINET

## 5.1 Introduction

The Cabinet is appointed to carry out all of the Council's functions which are not the responsibility of any other part of the Council, whether by Law or under this Constitution.

## 5.2 Form and Composition of the Cabinet

The Cabinet will consist of:

- 5.2.1 the Leader Leader(s) of the Council (the "Leader"); and
- 5.2.2 at least two but not more than nine other Councillors appointed to the Cabinet by the Leader.

#### 5.3 <u>Leader</u>

5.3.1 Election

(a) The Leader will be a Councillor elected to the position of Leader by the Council.

(b) Two or more Councillors may be elected to share the position of Leader by the Council

#### 5.3.2 <u>Term of Office</u>

The Leader(s) is/are appointed for the term of the Council.

5.3.3 Role of the Leader(s)

The Leader<u>(s)</u>-will Chair meetings of the Cabinet and determine the portfolios of Members of the Cabinet. Further information is contained in Section 13.

## 5.4 Deputy Leader

- 5.4.1 The Leader(s) will appoint a Deputy Leader to act as Leader in the Leader's absence and may also if he/she thinks fit remove the Deputy Leader from Office at any time.
- 5.4.2 The Deputy Leader may exercise all of the functions of the Leader(s) where the position is vacant or where the Leader(s) is/are absent or otherwise unable to act.

## 5.5 Other Cabinet Members

Other Cabinet Members will be Councillors elected to the position of Cabinet Member by the Leader(s). Each Cabinet Member shall hold office until:

- 5.5.1 he/she resigns from that office; or
- 5.5.2 he/she is removed from that office by the Leader upon such notice (if any) as the Leader considers appropriate; or

5.5.3 he/she ceases to be a Councillor.

The Leader(s) may at any time appoint a Cabinet Member to fill any vacancies.

#### 5.6 Delegation of Functions

The Leader<u>(s)</u> may exercise Executive Functions himself/herself or may otherwise make arrangements to delegate responsibility for their discharge. The Leader<u>(s)</u> may delegate Executive Functions to:

- 5.6.1 the Cabinet as a whole;
- 5.6.2 a Committee of the Cabinet (comprising executive Members only);
- 5.6.3 an individual Cabinet Member;
- 5.6.4 a joint committee;
- 5.6.5 another local authority or the executive of another local authority;

5.6.6 5.6.6 a delegated Officer.

#### 5.7 Assistants to the Cabinet

5.7.1 Other Councillors may, from time to time, be designated by the Leader(s) as Assistants to the Executive. Such Councillors will not be:

- (a) a Member of the Cabinet
- (b) The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council
- 5.7.2 Assistants to the Cabinet will not participate in Executive Decision making, but may work closely with a Cabinet Member.
- 5.7.3 An Assistant to the Cabinet may support the Cabinet Member through the

delegation of tasks as agreed for his/her area of responsibility, including attending/chairing meetings; speaking/opening events; reading and commenting on papers; meeting Officers; agreeing press releases./comments and carrying out interview; representative the Council on appropriate groups. A Cabinet Support Member will not, however, have delegated powers and will not be entitled vote at Cabinet Meetings or Cabinet Committee Meetings nor deputise for the Cabinet Member when the Cabinet Member is called to appear at an Overview and Scrutiny Committee Assistant's to the Cabinet will be are entitled to attend, and speak at, any meeting of the Cabinet or a committee of the Cabinet Executive.

#### 5.78 Rules of Procedure and Debate

The proceedings of the Cabinet shall take place in accordance with the Executive Procedure Rules in Section 5.8 below.

#### 5.89 Cabinet Procedure Rules

5.89.1 Delegation by the Leader

Following the annual meeting of the Council, the Head of Democratic Services, at the direction of the Leader, will draw up a written record of executive delegations made by the <u>Leader Leader(s)</u> for inclusion in the Council's scheme of delegation at Section 13 to this Constitution. This will contain the following information about Executive Functions in relation to the coming year:

- (a) the extent of any authority delegated to Cabinet Members individually, including details of the limitation on their authority;
- (b) the terms of reference and constitution of such Cabinet committees as the <u>Leader-Leader(s)</u>appoints and the names of Cabinet Members appointed to them;
- (c) the nature and extent of any delegation of Executive Functions to any other authority or any joint arrangements;

(d) the nature and extent of any delegation to Officers with details of any limitation on that delegation, and the title of the Officer to whom the delegation is made; and

## 5.89.2 Sub-Delegation of Executive Functions

- (a) Where the Cabinet, a committee of the Cabinet or an individual Member of the Cabinet is responsible for an Executive Function, they may delegate further to joint arrangements or an Officer.
- (b) Unless the <u>Leader Leader(s)</u> directs otherwise, a committee of the Cabinet to whom functions have been delegated by the <u>Leader</u> <u>Leader(s)</u> may delegate further to an Officer.
- (c) Where Executive Functions have been delegated, that fact does not prevent the discharge of delegated functions by the person or body who delegated.
- 5.89.3 The Council's Scheme of Delegation and Executive Functions
  - (a) The Leader Leader(s) may amend the scheme of delegation relating to Executive Functions at any time. In doing so the Leader Leader(s) will give written notice to the Head of Democratic Services and to the person, body or committee concerned. The notice must set out the extent of the amendment to the scheme of delegation, and whether it entails the withdrawal of delegation from any person, body or committee. The Monitoring Officer will present a report to the next ordinary meeting of the Council setting out the changes made by the Leader.
  - (b) Where the <u>Leader Leader(s)</u> seeks to withdraw delegation from a committee of the Cabinet, notice will be deemed to be served on that committee when he has served it on its chair.

#### 5.89.4 Conflicts of Interest

- (a) Where the <u>Leader Leader(s)</u>has a conflict of interest this should be dealt with as set out in the Council's Code of Conduct for Members in Section 18 of this Constitution.
- (b) If any Member of the Cabinet has a conflict of interest this should be dealt with as set out in the Council's Code of Conduct for Members in Section 18 of this Constitution.
- (c) If the exercise of an Executive Function has been delegated to a committee of the Cabinet, an individual Member or an Officer, and should a conflict of interest arise, then the function will be exercised in the first instance by the person or body by whom the delegation was made and otherwise as set out in the Council's Code of Conduct for Members in Section 18 of this Constitution.
- 5.98.5 Cabinet Meetings When and Where?

The frequency and timing of meetings of the Cabinet will be determined by the Leader. The Cabinet will meet at the Council's main offices or another location to be agreed by the Leader.

#### 5.98.6 Public or Private Meetings of the Cabinet?

The Cabinet will hold its meetings in public, except in the circumstances set out in the Access to Information Procedure Rules in Section 14, for example where confidential or exempt information is being discussed.

#### 5.<u>9</u>8.7 <u>Quorum</u>

- (a) The quorum for a meeting of the Cabinet shall be one quarter of the members including the <u>Leader-Leader(s)</u> or Deputy Leader.
- (b) The quorum for a meeting of a committee of the Cabinet shall be 2.

For the avoidance of doubt presence shall Presence will include presence through electronic means which allow the member to hear and speak at the meeting.

The failure of any technological provision whether that leads to a partial or complete loss of contact shall not invalidate any part of the deliberations or any vote taken. The Chairman may postpone the meeting if they deem that appropriate.

#### 5.89.8 How are Decisions to be Taken by the Cabinet?

- (a) Executive Decisions made by the Cabinet as a whole will be taken at a meeting convened in accordance with the Access to Information Procedure Rules in Section 14 of this Constitution.
- (b) Where Executive Decisions are delegated to a committee of the Cabinet, the rules applying to Executive Decisions taken by them shall be the same as those applying to those taken by the Cabinet as a whole.

#### 5.910 How are Cabinet Meeting Conducted?

5.910.1 Who Presides?

The <u>Leader(s)</u>will preside at any meeting of the Cabinet or its committees at which he is present. In his absence, the Deputy <u>Leader</u> <u>Leader(s)</u>will preside. In his/her absence, then a person appointed to do so by those present shall preside.

#### 5.910.2 Who May Attend?

These details are set out in the Access to Information Procedure Rules in Section 14 of this Constitution. See also Section 3 in relation to Member participation in meetings.

#### 5.910.3 What Business?

At each meeting of the Cabinet the following business will be conducted:

- (a) consideration of the minutes of the last meeting;
- (b) declarations of interest, if any;
- (c) matters referred to the Cabinet (whether by Scrutiny Committees or by the Council) for reconsideration by the Cabinet in accordance with the provisions contained in the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules or the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules set out in Sections 7 and 15 of this Constitution;
- (d) consideration of reports from Scrutiny Committees;
- (e) consideration of reports from Cabinet Committees;
- (f) reports from Officers of the Authority

#### 5.910.4 Consultation

All reports to the Cabinet from any Member of the Cabinet or an Officer on proposals relating to the Budget and Policy Framework must contain details of the nature and extent of consultation undertaken with stakeholders and with the Scrutiny Committees and the outcome of that consultation. Reports about other matters will set out the details and outcome of consultation as appropriate. The level of consultation required will be appropriate to the nature of the matter under consideration.

#### 5.910.5 Who can put Items on the Cabinet Agenda?

- (a) The <u>Leader Leader(s)</u> will decide upon the schedule for meetings of the Cabinet. He/she may put any matter on the agenda of any Cabinet meeting whether or not authority has been delegated to the Cabinet, a committee of it or any Member or Officer in respect of that matter.
- (b) Any Member of the Cabinet may require the Head of Democratic Services to make sure that an item is placed on the agenda of the next available meeting of the Cabinet for consideration.
- (c) The Head of Paid Service, the Monitoring Officer and/or the Chief Financial Officer may include an item for consideration on the agenda of a Cabinet meeting and may require that such a meeting be convened in pursuance of their statutory duties.
- (d) In other circumstances, where any two of the Head of Paid Service, Chief Finance Officer and Monitoring Officer are of the opinion that a meeting of the Cabinet needs to be called to consider a matter that requires a decision they may jointly include an item on the agenda of a Cabinet meeting. If there is no meeting to deal with the issue in question, then the person(s) entitled to include an item on the agenda may also require that a meeting be considered at which the matter will be considered.

#### 5.101 Disturbance by the Public and Use of Social Media

- 5.101.1 The provisions in Council Procedure Rules in Section 4.30 in relation to disturbance by the public apply to meetings of the Cabinet.
- 5.101.2 The provisions in Council Procedure Rules in Section 4.31 relating to the use of social media apply to meetings of the Cabinet.

#### 5.12 Job sharing by Leaders and Cabinet Members

- 5.12.1 Any election or appointment to the [Cabinet] [Executive] (including the Leader) may include the election of two or more Councillors to share office.
- 5.12.2 Where two or more Members have been elected or appointed to share the same office on the [Cabinet] [Executive] the maximum number of members of the [Cabinet] [Executive], including the Leader[s], will be:
  - 5.12.2.1 12, where at least two of the members have been elected or appointed to share office; or
  - 5.12.2.2 13, where at least three of the members have been elected or appointed to share office.

- 5.12.3 The members of the [Cabinet] [Executive] who share the same office will have one vote between them in respect of any matter on which they have a right to vote because they are a member of the [Cabinet] [Executive].
- 5.12.4 Where any meeting is attended by more than one of the members who share the same office and those members are attending in their capacity as a member of the [Cabinet] [Executive], they together count only as one person for the purpose of determining whether the meeting is quorate.

## SECTION 6

## 6. <u>THE LEADER</u>

## 6.1 <u>Election</u>

- 6.1.1 The Leader Leader(s) will be elected by Full Council.
- 6.1.2 The <u>Leader Leader(s)</u>will usually be elected at an annual Council meeting for the term of the Council. However, where the post of <u>Leader</u> <u>Leader(s)</u>becomes vacant between Council elections the <u>Leader</u> <u>Leader(s)</u>will be elected at the next meeting of the Full Council.

## 6.2 <u>Term of Office</u>

The Leader Leader(s) is/are appointed for the term of the Council.

#### 6.3 Resignation, Dismissal, Disqualification and Suspension

- 6.3.1 The <u>Leader Leader(s)</u>may resign the position of <u>Leader Leader(s)</u>by writing to the Chair.
- 6.3.2 The <u>Leader Leader(s)</u>can be dismissed where the Council passes a resolution removing him/her from office in accordance with the Rules below.
- 6.3.3 <u>The The /A Leader Leader shall cease to be Leader if he/she is suspended</u> or disqualified as a Councillor, or, for other such reasons, cannot fulfil the role of Leader.
- 6.3.4 The<u>/A Leader Leader will cease to be Leader upon suffering any disability</u> which will, or is likely to, prevent him/her from undertaking the role of Leader for a period of three months or more, unless the full Council consents to him/her remaining in post.

## 6.4 Deputy Leader

#### 6.4.1 Appointment

The <u>Leader Leader(s)</u>may designate one of the Members of the Cabinet as Deputy Leader.

6.4.2 Duties of the Deputy Leader

The Deputy <u>Leader Leader(s)</u>may exercise all the functions of the <u>Leader</u> <u>Leader(s)</u>where the position is vacant or where the <u>Leader Leader(s)</u>is/are absent or is otherwise unable to act.

#### 6.4.3 Removal from Office

The Leader Leader(s) may, if he/she thinks fit, remove the Deputy Leader Leader(s) from office at any time.

## 6.5 Functions and Delegated Authority

## 6.5.1 <u>Membership of the Cabinet</u>

The <u>Leader Leader(s)</u> appoint<u>i</u>s and dismisses the Members of the Cabinet subject only to their being a minimum of two, and a maximum of nine, Members of the Cabinet (not counting the Leader) at any time.<u>This number</u> may be increased pursuant to section 5.13.2(b) in the event of a job share to 13.

6.5.2 Role of the Leader

The Leader Leader ( or one of the Leaders) will chair meetings of the Cabinet and determine the portfolios of Members of the Cabinet.

## 6.5.3 The Cabinet Scheme of Delegations

The <u>Leader Leader(s)</u>will prepare and submit for approval a Cabinet Scheme of Delegations setting out the delegations of Executive Functions, including, where the principle has been approved as part of the Council's Executive Arrangements the delegated authority of each Member of the Cabinet, and thereafter keep this under review and submit updates to the Scheme as appropriate. In addition, the <u>Leader Leader(s)</u>has powers under s.15(4) of the Local Government Act 2000 to discharge personally or to arrange for discharge under others' delegated powers any Executive functions not covered by the Scheme of Delegations for the time being.

(NB: no Member of the Cabinet may have a Deputy, other than the Leader. This means that no Member of the Cabinet can have responsibilities which mean that they will work to, or under, another Member of the Cabinet, except the Leader).

#### 6.5.4 Meetings of the Cabinet

Subject to the requirement to publish notice of each meeting three clear days before it takes place, and other conditions contained in Section 14 the Leader-Leader(s) can call meetings of the Cabinet at such times and places as he/she chooses (NB: the Head of Paid Service, the Section 151 Officer, and the Monitoring Officer can all, should the need arise, call meetings of the Cabinet as well).

#### 6.5.5 Chairing Cabinet Meetings

The <u>Leader-Leader(s)</u>shall chair Cabinet meetings. In the Leader's absence the Deputy <u>Leader-Leader(s)</u>will chair. If the Deputy <u>Leader-Leader(s)</u> is not available the Cabinet will appoint a Member of the Cabinet to Chair the meeting on their behalf.

#### 6.5.686 Appointments of Representatives on Outside Bodies

The <u>Leader Leader(s)</u>has authority to appoint representatives of the Council on outside bodies where those outside bodies relate to Executive Functions of the Council.

# Agenda Item 12



28 March 2022

Seimon Glyn, Gwynedd Council Chairman Council Offices Caernarfon Gwynedd LL55 1SH

#### **Women in Sport**

Dear Seimon Glyn,

Thank you for your letter regarding women's sport, and your kind words about S4C in particular.

We are very proud of our women's sport provision and try our best to reflect all the activity and it is good to see that Gwynedd Council shares the same ambition.

It is our aspiration to increase our coverage of women's sport, but this is often beyond our control, or subject to issues such as rights.

We will, however, continue to seek to reflect what is happening across all sports in Wales.

Yours sincerely,

SGRuller

Sue Butler Sports Commissioner, S4C

Mae croeso i chi gysylltu ag S4C yn y Gymraeg, ac os byddwch chi'n gwneud hynny byddwn yn ateb yn y Gymraeg ac ni fydd oedi oherwydd hynny. You are welcome to contact S4C in Welsh, and if you do so we will respond in Welsh and this will not lead to any delays. Cadeirydd Prif Weithredwr Lawrence Conway Brian Davies

Sophia Gardens | Gerddi Sophia Cardiff | Caerdydd CF11 9SW T / Ff 0300 300 3111 www.sport.wales www chwaraeon cymru

Twitter - @sport\_wales www.facebook.com/Sportw ales

Dear Councillor Simon Glyn,

Thank you for your letter dated 25 March 2022, detailing the proposal from Gwynedd Council in relation to Women's sport in Wales, I hope you find this response useful.

Sport Wales is the national organisation responsible for developing and promoting sport and physical activity. We support the delivery of strategic priorities through the Vision for Sport in Wales and the Sport Wales Strategy. Although we act as an advisor to Government and the sport sector – it is important to stress, we are not a regulatory body and as such cannot enforce the adoption of specific policies and procedures. We work alongside all our partners, and wider stakeholders to enable sport in Wales to thrive.

As an insight led organisation, we understand that there are barriers that all women and girls face, when engaging with sport. We recognise that the trends within Wales, mirror that of global insight. We understand women and girls participate in sport on average, less than men and boys, and face barriers related to confidence, access, and gender specific provision. It is for these reasons, and others related to ensure sporting is equitable, that we have purposefully changed the way in which we invest in sport in the last 24 months.

We use a transparent, data driven investment approach which specifically considers the impact that our partners will have with their investment, across all protected characteristics. We weight robust data sets to determine funding to those receiving public money, to ensure they are offering opportunities that are accessible and equitable. For women and girls, this means our investment approach rewards partners best placed to impact on improving diversity in sport, including in relation to gender equality. You can read more about our approach <u>here</u>.

You highlight two points in your letter, that relate to our work at Sport Wales:

#### - Ensuring women are represented on sports boards at all levels.

We set gender parity targets for all National Governing Bodies (NGBs) of sport, which we directly invest in. We monitor this as part of our essential criteria in line with our capability framework, for all NGB partners.

#### - Ensuring that there are suitable facilities for women's sports, especially for football and rugby.

We are part of the All-Wales Sport Collaboration Group, which is also comprised of the Welsh Rugby Union, Football Association of Wales, and Hockey Wales. Through this, we look the strategic placement of artificial pitches across Wales. By working closely together, the group seek to understand the landscape and need for such facilities in



Noddir gan Lywodraeth Cynulliad Cymru Sponsored by Welsh Assembly Government different parts of Wales, based on need and demand. Those who feel that their area may benefit from an artificial pitch are again encouraged to engage with the appropriate local authority, national governing body, and community. It is also the case that we fund community clubs and organisations through our Be Active Wales Fund and Crowdfunder collaboration, and tackling inequalities is a significant factor in our decision-making process. As part of the application approach- we specifically ask about the way any investment will support opportunities for women and girls.

We are also currently undertaking a review of our strategic approach to capital investments, and the impact on supporting provision for demographical groups that are underrepresented - including women and girls, will factor highly in this work.

Ensuring everyone has equitable access to sport is fundamental to us at Sport Wales. We continue to place equality, diversity, and inclusion as a core priority within our business plan and are continually reflecting the need for sport to evolve in line with the needs of the people of Wales. This includes new approaches to investment, the development of new partnerships and reviewing our data and insight collection.

Finally, I am pleased to share that this year we are partnering with the Sport and Recreation Alliance to bring the International Working Group (IWG) of Women in Sport to the United Kingdom. You can find information on the working group <u>here</u>. We are delighted to support this global initiative and are optimistic about the growth in women's sport it will develop locally. We have set four core objectives for our partnership and will look to develop these in the four-year period that the IWG is with us in the UK.

Thank you for taking the time to write to us. If you would like to meet representatives from Sport Wales to discuss this further, I would be happy to arrange with the most appropriate team member.

Best wishes,

Brian Davies Acting Chief Executive Officer Sport Wales

Page 2

Dawn Bowden MP/MS Dirprwy Weinidog y Celfyddydau a Chwaraeon, a'r Prif Chwip Deputy Minister for Arts and Sport, and Chief Whip

Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref ER Ein cyf/Our ref DB/00192/22 Councillor Simon Glyn

eirianroberts3@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

19 April 2022

Dear Councillor Simon Glyn

Thank you for your letter of 25 March in which you describe the proposal unanimously adopted by Gwynedd Council for achieving greater equality for women in all aspects of sport in Wales.

The Welsh Government is committed to breaking down barriers and promoting gender equality in Wales, including in sport; our Programme for Government wants to see inequality broken down in all its forms. Accordingly, we are considering Legislation to address pay gaps based on other factors and not just gender, such as sexual orientation, ethnicity, disability and other forms of discrimination. We will ensure that public bodies and bodies in receipt of public money tackle pay gaps and set targets for Gender Budgeting. We are also working with National Sport Governing Bodies on the No Excuse campaign to raise awareness of stalking, harassment, violence and abuse of women. The aim is to help women feel that it is safe for them to participate in the sports and that they have the right to participate in them and to benefit from the advantages of living an active life.

Sport Wales is the Welsh Government's principal adviser and main spending partner on sports issues and I see that Brian Davies, the Chief Executive, has received a copy of your letter. Sport Wales has been informed that gender equality targets have been set for each National Sport Governing Body invested in, to ensure that women are represented on the sports boards at all levels. Sport Wales monitors this as part of its criteria in accordance with its capacity framework.

In ensuring that there are suitable facilities for women's sport, it is recognised that facilities are usually shared by all genders. Having said that, Sport Wales is part of the All Wales Sports Collaboration Group, which also includes the Welsh Rugby Union, the Football Association of Wales and Hockey Wales. Through the group, the strategic location of artificial pitches in Wales will be looked at, to try to understand the situation and the need for such facilities in different areas in Wales, on the basis of need and demand.

> Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay Caerdydd • Cardiff CF99 1SN

Correspondence.Dawn.Bowden@gov.wales Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact

Gohebiaeth.Dawn.Bowden@llyw.cymru

Centre: 0300 0604400

gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.



An area that feels that it could benefit from an artificial pitch should ask the local authority, national management body and community concerned. Sport Wales also funds community clubs and organisations through the Active Wales Fund and through Crowdfunder. Tackling inequality is central to that decision-making process. As part of the application process, specific evidence will be sought on how the investment will address opportunities for women and girls. It is clear that demand is growing; it was good to see earlier this year, at the start of the women's rugby season, a positive number applying, with the WRU registering over 5,000 girls, the largest number ever. This happened after offering the first professional contracts to female rugby players in Wales, a move that I would like to see extended to all sports in Wales.

In terms of equal gender representation on screen, the Welsh Government recognises the importance of the media in public perception and raising awareness of sport and role models in the world of sports. I meet regularly with public service broadcasters in Wales where discussing how to achieve equality in the broadcasting sector is a matter of priority. Our Memorandum of Understanding with BBC Cymru Wales and S4C includes joint commitments to develop a more diverse and inclusive on-screen and off-screen sector. By continuing discussions, we encourage a wider range of voices including within sports programmes and my officials meet regularly with Ofcom where we discuss how to support diversity and inclusion.

Through our work with the Working Group on Public Interest Journalism Wales, we are seeking to ensure a more inclusive journalism sector. That backs initiatives to increase opportunities for individuals from disadvantaged and diverse backgrounds who are more likely to represent a range of characteristics, and reflect them positively, both in terms of content and contribution, including gender.

It is important that these topics remain central to our discussions and work. Personally, I am fully committed to doing all that I can to ensure equality of opportunity and that everyone across Wales has the same opportunities to take part in sport.

Yours sincerely

wdly

**Dawn Bowden MP/MS** Dirprwy Weinidog y Celfyddydau a Chwaraeon, a'r Prif Chwip Deputy Minister for Arts and Sport, and Chief Whip

Jane Hutt AS/MS Y Gweinidog Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol Minister for Social Justice



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref Ein cyf/Our ref JH-/00451/22

Y Cynghorydd Simon Glyn Cadeirydd y Cyngor Cyngor Gwynedd

eirianroberts3@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

19 Ebrill 2022

Diolch am eich llythyr dyddiedig 25 Mawrth mewn perthynas â chefnogaeth ar gyfer Aelodau Bwyd Cymunedol FareShare.

Rydym yn cydnabod yr effaith y mae'r argyfwng costau byw yn ei chael ar bawb, yn enwedig y rheini sy'n byw ar aelwydydd incwm isel. Mae awdurdodau lleol a grwpiau cymunedol ledled Cymru wedi nodi cynnydd yn y nifer sy'n manteisio ar fanciau bwyd a darpariaeth bwyd cymunedol, megis oergelloedd cymunedol.

Ym mis Mawrth eleni, darparwyd cyllid ychwanegol o £1m i CLILC ar gyfer trechu tlodi bwyd, er mwyn i awdurdodau lleol ei ddefnyddio a'i ddyrannu i brosiectau trechu tlodi bwyd lleol. Fodd bynnag, mae hyn yn eithriad mewn ymateb i'r pwysau sy'n wynebu sefydliadau ar hyn o bryd, ac ni ellir cytuno i wneud yr un fath mewn blynyddoedd dilynol.

Gallai'r cyllid gefnogi sefydliad bwyd cymunedol i brynu bwyd a nwyddau hanfodol eraill; gall gefnogi mentrau fel banciau babanod neu fanciau dillad/gwisg ysgol; gellir ei ddefnyddio i gefnogi mentrau sy'n helpu teuluoedd i arbed arian ar fwyd drwy feithrin sgiliau bwyd a gwybodaeth. Gellir defnyddio'r cyllid hefyd i gefnogi camau gweithredu i gynyddu'r defnydd o gymorth sy'n bodoli eisoes, megis talebau Cychwyn lach.

Mae yna opsiynau eraill wrth gwrs, a gellir defnyddio'r cyllid i helpu Aelodau Bwyd Cymunedol FareShare gyda'u tâl aelodaeth. Mae disgwyliad y bydd Aelodau Bwyd Cymunedol yn cymryd camau i godi'r arian sydd ei angen i ysgwyddo costau aelodaeth. Er enghraifft, er na chaniateir iddynt werthu'r bwyd y maent yn ei gael gan FareShare, caniateir iddynt ofyn am gyfraniad gan eu cleientiaid/aelodau neu gyflwyno polisi 'talu'r hyn a fedrwch'.

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay Caerdydd • Cardiff CF99 1SN

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government Dylai Aelodau Bwyd Cymunedol FareShare siarad â'r awdurdod lleol am y cyllid sydd ar gael.

The Hutt

Jane Hutt AS/MS Y Gweinidog Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol Minister for Social Justice Eich cyf/Your ref Ein cyf/Our ref JH-/00451/22

Jane Hutt AS/MS Y Gweinidog Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol Minister for Social Justice



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref Ein cyf/Our ref JH-/00451/22

Councillor Simon Glyn Chairman of the Council Gwynedd Council

eirianroberts3@gwynedd.llyw.cymru

19 April 2022

Dear Simon,

Thank you for your letter of 25 March regarding support for FareShare Community Food Members (CFMs).

We recognise the impact that the cost-of-living crisis is having on everyone, especially those living in low income households. Local authorities and community groups across Wales have reported a rise in the number of those accessing food banks and community food provision, such as community fridges.

In March this year we provided an additional £1m funding for tackling food poverty to the WLGA to be drawn down by local authorities and allocated to local projects for tackling food poverty. However, this is an exception in response to the pressures that organisations are currently facing and cannot be agreed for subsequent years.

The funding can support community food organisation to purchase food and other essential goods; it can support initiatives such as baby banks or clothes banks / uniform banks; it can also be used to support initiatives which can help families save money on food by building their food knowledge and skills. Funding can also be used to support action to increase the uptake of existing support such as Healthy Start vouchers.

This list is not exhaustive and the funding can be used to support FareShare CFMs with their membership fees at this time. There is an expectation that CFMs will take steps to raise the funding needed to meet the cost of their membership. For example, while they are not allowed to sell the food they receive from FareShare, they are allowed to ask for a donation from their clients/members or introduce a 'pay what you can' policy.



Llywodraeth Cymru Welsh Government

FareShare Community Food Members should speak to their local authority about the funding available.

forme Hutt

Jane Hutt AS/MS Y Gweinidog Cyfiawnder Cymdeithasol Minister for Social Justic