

**CYNGOR GWYNEDD AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE DECISION
NOTICE**

**(Section 100C of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local
Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020)**

17 November 2022

Virtual Meeting

Present:

Councillors: Menna Baines, John Brynmor Hughes, Richard Glyn Roberts, Huw Rowlands, Paul Rowlinson, Angela Russell and Elfed Wyn ap Elwyn

Lay Members: Sharon Warnes (Chair), Hywel Eifion Jones, Clare Hitchcock and Rhys Parry

Officers:

Dewi Morgan (Head of Finance Department), Ffion Madog Evans (Senior Finance Manager), Bleddyn Rhys (Audit Leader) and Lowri Haf Evans (Democracy Services Officer)

Others invited:

Councillor Ioan Thomas (Cabinet Member for Finance)

- Item 7: Ian Jones (Head of Corporate Support Department), Carey Cartwright (Learning and Organisational Development Manager) and Meinir Griffiths (Service Improvement Officer).
- Item 8: Delyth Wyn Thomas Jones (Investment Manager)
- Item 9: Dewi Wyn Jones (Council Business Service Support Manager)
- Item 10: Alan Hughes (Wales Audit) and Geraint Owen (Corporate Director)

Apologies:

Councillors Jina Gwyrfai, Medwyn Hughes, Meryl Roberts and Rob Triggs

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SUBJECT

Item 5: IMPLEMENTING THE DECISIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

DECISION:

- 1. To accept the report**
 - 2. To accept the suggestion to remove the item when the action has been completed.**
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THE RESULT OF THE VOTE

In favour	11
Against	0
Abstentions	0

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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SUBJECT

**Item 6: PREMIUM ON THE COUNCIL TAX OF SECOND HOMES AND LONG-TERM
EMPTY DWELLINGS**

DECISION:

- **To accept that the information in the report and appendices conform to the statutory guidance and legislative requirements**
- **Propose the following observations for the Cabinet's consideration when deciding upon a recommendation to submit to the Full Council to make a final decision on the premium levels:**
 - 1. There is a need to complete a comprehensive linguistic assessment in accordance with the Council's Language Policy**
 - 2. There is a need to consider the impact of the premium on the ability of 'native people' to make a living**
 - 3. There is a need to see statistics that demonstrate the impact of premium on restoring empty homes**
 - 4. There is a need for evidence about the success of the premium. What has been achieved to date?**
 - 5. There is a need for further consultation on the use of the premium. What is the justification for using the second homes premium to fund homelessness? While accepting that the principle is acceptable, what is the evidence behind the decision?**
 - 6. The considerations surrounding the premium must be made in conjunction with the Welsh Government's legislation and measures to control second homes**

THE RESULT OF THE VOTE

In favour	5
Against	0
Abstentions	1

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS

Menna Baines, Clare Hitchcock, Rhys Parry, Huw Rowlands and Angela Russell

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SUBJECT

Item 7: TREASURY MANAGEMENT 2022-2023 MID YEAR REVIEW

DECISION:

To accept the report, for information

THE RESULT OF THE VOTE

In favour	10
Against	0
Abstentions	0

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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SUBJECT

Item 8: COMPLAINTS AND SERVICE IMPROVEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

DECISION:

- To accept that the Council's arrangements and performance in relation to dealing with complaints and service improvements are extremely effective.
- That the report, in future, will be submitted to the Governance and Audit Committee prior to the Cabinet.

Suggestions:

- To include an observation on the positive impact that complaints can have on the Council's performance.
 - To include a summary of the main fields / developmental fields that receive complaints
 - Categorise or set out a wider context for the departments that receive the majority of the complaints, in order to understand the circumstances
 - The Chair to revisit the Committee's responsibilities - should there be an overview of 'all Council departments' (including Care Services and Education that have their own statutory arrangements)?
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THE RESULT OF THE VOTE

In favour	10
Against	0
Abstentions	0

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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SUBJECT

Item 9: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2021 - SELF-ASSESSMENTS

DECISION:

- To accept the draft self-assessment
- To welcome the intention of including the self-assessment in the Council's Annual Performance Report in future
- To ensure that the report is submitted earlier in the year

Suggestion:

- To consider including a reference to the support and training provided to Elected Members
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THE RESULT OF THE VOTE

In favour	10
Against	0
Abstentions	0

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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SUBJECT

Item 8: AUDIT WALES REPORTS

DECISION:

- To accept the Quarter 2 update on the Audit Wales work programme – Cyngor Gwynedd
 - To receive Cyngor Gwynedd's response to the Audit Wales report 'Springing Forward' that focuses on the Council's response to future working arrangements
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THE RESULT OF THE VOTE

In favour	10
Against	0
Abstentions	0

DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.
