Date of Cabinet Meeting:	14 February 2023
<b>Date decision will come into force</b> and be implemented, unless the decision is called in, in accordance with section 7.25 of the Cyngor Gwynedd Constitution	1 March 2023

## SUBJECT

Item 6: YSGOL HIRAEL

## DECISION

- 1.1 To allow the allocation of £3,000,000 from a total of £18m from the Bangor Phase 2 budget, Sustainable Learning Communities Programme (Band B) in order to invest in Ysgol Hirael. The budget would be subject to submitting a successful business case to the Welsh Government.
- 1.2 To agree for the Cabinet to assume the review of the Assets Plan by confirming a contribution of £1,050,000 from the Assets Plan for 35% of the match funding to fulfil the Ysgol Hirael project.
- 1.3 Subject to the Cabinet's decision in 1.1 above, and following that, the support of the Welsh Government to transfer the budget for Ysgol Hirael, to approve the preparation and submission of a business case to the Welsh Government in order to release the funds required.

## **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

Unsuitable learning environment and school resources

By now, the resources and the learning environment at Ysgol Hirael do not meet the requirements of the 21st century because the condition of the school has deteriorated. Maintenance costs would likely increase due to a lack of timely investment which is an obstacle for the school to be able to introduce innovative learning models.

## Ensure investment within the Band B timetable

Securing the support of the Cabinet in order to move forward with Ysgol Hirael as a project would enable the Education Department to draw up and submit a business case for Ysgol Hirael without hesitation (as there is no statutory process or re-organisation involved).

## DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

# ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	14 February 2023
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## SUBJECT

Item 7: 2023/24 - 2024/25 SAVINGS PLAN

## DECISION

- To approve the efficiency savings in Appendix A (£6.4M) as the first phase of savings that can be used as a contribution towards our financial gap in 2023/24 – 2024/25.
- To commission further work to establish the next phase of savings and cuts (approximately £1.6M £2.2M) before setting the 2024/25 budget.
- To make a provision of £1.6M to address the level of risk involved in realising the efficiency savings plan.
- To delegate the right to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader of the Council and the Cabinet Member for Finance, to make adjustments to this Savings Plan as the maturity of the plans listed in Appendix A develops, within the financial totals specified below.

## **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

The current exceptional levels of inflation, and in particular the effect on wages and energy costs, together with the significant increase in demand for certain services such as homelessness due to the national housing crisis, means that the Council's costs have increased significantly in a short period of time.

We are also facing a situation where some departments are overspending, mainly due to an inability to achieve past savings plans and a continued increase in demand.

Following detailed consideration of the above factors, unless there is a significant change before announcing the Local Government settlement for 2024/25, we are able to calculate that our financial gap for the next two years will be  $\pounds$ 12.4M. In order to plan prudently we need to include a reasonable assumption for risk and therefore I recommend that we designate  $\pounds$ 1.6M of the  $\pounds$ 8M- $\pounds$ 8.6M that we will need to identify as "at risk".

## DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT

## DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

## ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	14 February 2023
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### SUBJECT

Item 8: 2023/24 BUDGET

## DECISION

To recommend to the Council (at its meeting on 2 March 2023) to:

- 1. Set a budget of £317,880,310 for 2023/24, to be funded by £227,842,930 of Government Grant and £90,037,380 Council Tax income (which is an increase of 4.95% on the tax of individual dwellings).
- 2. To set a capital programme of £67,780,150 in 2023/24, to be funded from the sources noted in Appendix 4 of the report.

## REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Council must set a balanced budget for 2023/24. This year we propose to establish a capital programme of £67.8m in 2023/24, as set out in Appendix 4.

It is a matter for the full Council to consider the budget and set the Council Tax for 2023/24 based on the issues noted in the following report. This detailed report sets out the factors influencing the proposed revenue budget for 2023/24, and outlines the main changes since 2022/23.

#### DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

## ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	14 February 2023
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### SUBJECT

Item 9: CYNGOR GWYNEDD PLAN 2023-28

#### DECISION

To approve the Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-28 (the Plan) for submission to the Council on 2 March 2023.

To approve the amendment proposed to add the following sentence to Priority Field 5 in the Plan: "*Ensure access to facilities and information of a good quality in relation to leisure, culture and the arts*" in order to reflect the Cabinet's vision.

## REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To ensure there is agreement on the contents of the Plan and that it reflects the priorities that have been identified before recommending its adoption by the full Council at its meeting on 2 March 2023.

### DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

## ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	14 February 2023
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### SUBJECT

Item 10: PARTICIPATION STRATEGY - LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND ELECTIONS (WALES) ACT 2021

#### DECISION

To recommend the draft Participation Strategy to the Full Council meeting on 02/03/2023 for adoption.

## REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, the Council must encourage local people to participate when it makes decisions and must publish a Participation Strategy which notes the ways that local people are encouraged to participate in the Council's decision-making process.

The Cabinet is requested to consider:

- The content of the strategy is it clear and understandable and fulfils the requirement?
- Has the response to the observations which arose from the public consultation been sufficient?

#### DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

## ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	14 February 2023
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## SUBJECT

Item 11: GWYNEDD AND ERYRI SUSTAINABLE VISITOR ECONOMY PLAN

#### DECISION

- To approve the Gwynedd and Eryri 2035 Strategic Plan as our Strategic Plan for the Visitor Economy in the area.
- To approve the establishment of the Gwynedd and Eryri 2035 Partnership in addition to the relevant structures that will be needed to develop, implement and monitor the Strategic Plan, The Gwynedd and Eryri 2035 Action Plan and its relevant indicators.
- To agree to add that there is a need to delegate the right to the Leader, in consultation with the Chief Executive, to confirm the terms of reference of both bodies.

## REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Cyngor Gwynedd and Eryri National Park Authority have reviewed their priorities and plans for the visitor economy in the area.

In November 2021, Cyngor Gwynedd and the National Park Authority signed an Agreement of Understanding. The aim of the Agreement of Understanding is to collaborate effectively and efficiently in partnership to realise the Vision and Principles of the Gwynedd and Eryri Sustainable Visitor Economy Plan 2035 to protect and promote the area's special values.

The draft Plan was approved and submitted to the democratic structures of the Council and National Park by the joint Steering Board on 21 December 2022.

## DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

# ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	14 February 2023
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### SUBJECT

Item 12: LEVELLING UP FUND - LLEWYRCH O'R LLECHI SCHEME

#### DECISION

- To accept an offer letter for funding from the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund, to implement the Llewyrch o'r Llechi scheme jointly with partners within the Slate Valleys.
- To authorise the Head of Economy and Community Department, in consultation with the Head of Finance Department and Head of Legal Services, to agree on the contractual and operational arrangements and the complete financial package with partners.

### REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Three substantial bids were submitted by the Economy and Community Department and the Environment Department to the Levelling Up Fund, UK Government. The Bywiogi Bangor and the Ardudwy Green Corridor bids were unsuccessful but the Llewyrch o'r Llechi bid was a success. A request is made for permission to accept the offer from the UK Government to undertake arrangements to implement the scheme.

## DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

The Cabinet Member for the Environment declared a personal interest as he was the Chairman of Ogwen Partnership one of the partnerships involved in the bid. He withdrew from the meeting during the discussion of this item.

## ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

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#### SUBJECT

Item 13: PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMY AND COMMUNITY

#### DECISION

To accept and note the information in the report.

## REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To ensure effective and transparent performance management, a Cabinet Member is required to periodically report to the Cabinet on the performance of the field for which the Member is responsible.

## DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

## ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	14 February 2023
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#### SUBJECT

Item 14: PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CORPORATE SUPPORT AND LEGAL

#### DECISION

To accept and note the information in the report.

## REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To ensure effective and transparent performance management, a Cabinet Member is required to periodically report to the Cabinet on the performance of the field for which the Member is responsible.

## DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

## ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	14 February 2023
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#### SUBJECT

Item 15: PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR HOUSING AND PROPERTY

#### DECISION

To accept and note the information in the report.

## REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To ensure effective and transparent performance management, a Cabinet Member is required to periodically report to the Cabinet on the performance of the field for which the Member is responsible.

## DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

## ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION