

**CYNGOR GWYNEDD
CABINET DECISION NOTICE**

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	14 May 2024
Date decision will come into force and implemented, unless the decision is called in, in accordance with section 7.25 of the Cyngor Gwynedd Constitution.	29 May 2024
SUBJECT Item 6: COMPLAINTS AND SERVICE IMPROVEMENT ANNUAL REPORT 2023/24	
DECISION The report was approved, and relevant comments and suggestions were offered about the Council's performance in dealing with complaints in an appropriate and timely manner.	
REASONS FOR THE DECISION The purpose of the report is to provide an overview of the Council's performance in relation to dealing with complaints and improving services, highlighting successes, challenges, and developments. This is to ensure that the Cabinet is satisfied with the performance over the periods in question. An analysis of quantitative and qualitative data is presented, which is a measure of the Council's performance in this context for the period 1 April to 31 March 2023 together with comparative information about the previous years.	
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 The Statutory Officers were consulted, which were included in the report.	

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SUBJECT

Item 7: FINAL ACCOUNTS 2023/24 – REVENUE OUT-TURN

DECISION

The report was accepted and the final financial position of the Council's departments for 2023/24 was considered:

	Column A	Column B	Column C	Column D
	Gross Under / (Over) Spend	Recommended Adjustments		Amended Over / Under Spend
	2023/24			2023/24
	£ '000	£'000	£'000	£ '000
Adults, Health, and Well-being	3,906	(3,806)	0	100
Children and Families	2,611	(2,511)	0	100
Education	0	0	0	0
Economy and Community	308	0	(308)	0
Highways, Engineering and YGC	687	(587)	0	100
Environment	1,237	(1,137)	0	100
Housing and Property	255	(155)	0	100
Corporate Management Team and Legal	(11)	0	0	(11)
Corporate Support	(10)	0	0	(10)
Finance	(7)	0	0	(7)

It was noted that there was significant overspend in the Adults, Health and Well-being Department, the Children and Families Department, the Highways, Engineering and YGC Department, the Environment Department and the Housing and Property Department this year (See column A in the table above). To approve the following financial virements (as outlined in Appendix 2):

The departments that are over-spending to receive one-off partial financial assistance to limit the overspend that will be carried forward by the Department to £100k (see column B in the table above).

It was confirmed to provide financial support of £308k above the contracted payment to Byw'n lach (see column C in the table above).

On Corporate budgets:

- Use the remaining balance in the Covid Fund of £4,402k to assist the departments that have overspent in 2023/24.
- Use (£2,091k) of the corporate net underspend to assist the departments that have overspent in 2023/24.
- The remainder of the net underspend of (£495k) on corporate budgets to be transferred to the Financial Strategy Support Fund.

The amounts to be carried forward were approved (the “Revised Over/(Under) Spend” in column D above and in Appendix 1.

The financial virements from the specific reserves were approved as outlined in Appendix 3 following a review of the reserves:

- Harvesting (£1,703k) from reserves to be used in its entirety to assist the departments that have overspent in 2023/24.
- To use £2,975k to fund one-off bids in 2024/25 following the removal of £1,113k from the Transformation Fund and transfer £1,862k from the Financial Strategy Support Fund.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

It is the Cabinet’s responsibility to act, as necessary, to secure appropriate control over the Council’s budgets (e.g., approval of significant virements or supplementary budgets).

The Cabinet is requested to approve the final financial position for 2023/24, which is the basis of the statutory financial statements.

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

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which were included in the report.

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SUBJECT Item 8: CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24 - END OF YEAR REVIEW (POSITION AS AT 31 MARCH 2024)	
DECISION To accept the report on the end of year review (31 March 2024 position) of the capital programme. To approve the revised financing as shown in part 3.2.3 of the report, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- An increase of £2,189,000 in the use of grants and contributions- An increase of £132,000 in the use of capital receipts- An increase of £645,00 in the use of revenue contributions- An increase of £87,000 in the use of renewal and other reserves.	
REASONS FOR THE DECISION It is the Cabinet's responsibility to take action, as necessary, to secure appropriate control over the Council's budgets. It is necessary to ensure proper financing arrangements for the Council's plans to spend on capital. The Cabinet has been authorised to revise the capital programme. Approval is sought for the proposed programme (part 3.2.2) and its financing (part 3.2.3). Recommendations were made to ensure definite sources of funding for the 2023/24 – 2025/26 capital schemes.	
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SUBJECT Item 9: MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN	
DECISION The Council's Medium Term Financial Plan was approved for the period of 2025/26 - 2027/28. Commission the Chief Executive to establish and lead on ranges of work packs and measures, as outlined in part 4.6 of the report, to prepare for addressing the significant gap in our budget over the next three years.	
REASONS FOR THE DECISION The Medium-Term Financial Plan sets out the financial forecasts for the period of 3 years beginning on 1 April 2025. These estimated are based on the recent forecasts available on the change in the income that the Council will receive during the period (from the Government Grant and Council Tax), and the additional spending requirements during the same period. The Cabinet's adoption of the Medium-Term Financial Plan will allow the Council to consider the work that needs to be done to create detailed plans to address the financial gap that is anticipated for 2025/26 - 2027/28, and to steer the work that is needed. It is not expected for the Council to find out what the Government Grant for 2025/26 will be until at least December 2024, but with the forecasts that the financial settlement will not increase, there is a significant risk of serious financial instability of not taking early and definite steps to consider the situation and take remedial action.	
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SUBJECT Item 10: FINANCIAL VIREMENT FOR THE SMALL GROUP HOMES SCHEME	
DECISION A permanent financial virement authority of £454,580 of out-of-county residential locations' budget for funding in-house provision as part of developing the Small Group Homes scheme.	
REASONS FOR THE DECISION The Council's financial procedures allows financial virement between headings in a department's budget. The Cabinet needs to approve for transferring a higher sum than £200,000. For the registration of the home with CIW there is a need to advertise permanent posts, and to do so there is a need for a permanent funding to set it on the structure. Please note that there will not be a full spending on the budget this year as the grant money of £255,000 has been ensured through the Regional Integrated Fund.	
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SUBJECT Item 11: 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, Cabinet Members are required to report periodically on the performance of the field for which they are responsible to the Cabinet.	
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SUBJECT Item 12: THE CABINET'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME	
DECISION The Cabinet's Forward Work Programme for meetings held between 14 May 2024 and 5 November 2024 was adopted.	
REASONS FOR THE DECISION To ensure effective performance management.	
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SUBJECT Item 14: HUNANIAITH: GWYNEDD'S LANGUAGE INITIATIVE	
DECISION It was approved for Gwynedd Language Initiative Ltd to apply for a grant to Promote and Facilitate the Welsh language for 2025/26, rather than Cyngor Gwynedd and to transfer current staff to work for the Gwynedd Language Initiative on 1 April 2025. Delegated powers were granted to the Head of Corporate Support in consultation with the Head of Legal Services and Head of Finance Department to agree on conditions and complete an agreement with Gwynedd Language Initiative Ltd. in accordance with the report and providing the indemnities noted in paragraph 3.4.6 of the report on the costs of staff. A grant of £61,000 was granted to the Gwynedd Language Initiative to realise some elements of Cyngor Gwynedd's language strategy and contribute towards staff costs for 2025-2026. It was agreed to provide warranty for the Access Agreement to the Gwynedd Pension Fund for Gwynedd's Language Initiative.	
REASONS FOR THE DECISION The Gwynedd Language Initiative Ltd has been established to take on the role of Hunaniaith and receive a grant to Promote and Facilitate the Welsh Language from the Welsh Government from 1 April 2025 onwards. The Cabinet needs to decide to agree on this. To realise the ambition of ensuring that the Gwynedd Language Initiative is sustainable and independent and has embedded in the community, there is a need to make financial provisions to support Gwynedd Language Initiative Ltd. to hold staff work conditions that will be transferred to the company. Without that commitment, there will be no way of continuing with the project in its current	

form.

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ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which were included in the report.