

# CYNGOR GWYNEDD GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT COMMITTEE DECISION NOTICE

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

10 October 2024

## Virtual Meeting

### Present:

**Councillors:** Menna Baines, Elwyn Jones, Edgar Wyn Owen, Meryl Roberts, Richard Glyn Roberts, Huw Rowlands, Angela Russell, Ioan Thomas, Elfed Wyn ap Elwyn and Rob Triggs.

**Lay Members:** Sharon Warnes, Hywel Eifion Jones, Clare Hitchcock, Carys Edwards and Rhys Parry

**Officers:** Ffion Madog Evans (Assistant Head of Finance - Accounting and Pensions), Luned Fôn Jones (Internal Audit Manager), Delyth Thomas Jones (Investment Manager), Caren Rees Jones (Group Accountant - Capital and Management), Eleri Jones (Senior Executive Officer) and Lowri Haf Evans (Democracy Services Officer)

### Others invited:

Councillor Paul Rowlinson (Cabinet Member - Finance)

Item 6: Alan Hughes, Fflur Jones and Yvonne Thomas (Audit Wales); Aled Davies (Head of Adults, Health and Well-being Department) and Dewi Jones (Council Business Support Service Manager)

Item 7: Councillor Beth Lawton (Chair of Scrutiny Committee) and Councillor Dewi Jones (Vice Chair of Care Scrutiny Committee)

Item 13: Vera Jones (Democracy Services Manager)

### Apologies:

Councillor Arwyn Herald Roberts  
Dewi Morgan (Head of Finance Department)  
Dylan Owen (Statutory Director of Social Services)

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 3: URGENT ITEMS**

- 1. Concern about the high risks associated with legal challenges against the Council.**
  - **Need reassurance that robust systems are in place to manage high risk situations.**
  - **Need an update on the Council's insurance arrangements and any risk relevant to that arrangement.**
  - **Following the receipt of External Audit recommendations to the Council's safeguarding arrangements, there is a need to ensure that a detailed action plan is adopted as a means of avoiding any future risks and costs.**
  
- 2. Highlighted that two vacant seats remain on the Committee.**

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**DECISION:**

**Request to the Chair to discuss the concerns with the Head of Finance so that Committee Members can gain a better understanding of the Council's arrangements.**

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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

Unanimously accepted.

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 5: IMPLEMENTING THE DECISIONS OF THE COUNCIL**

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**DECISION:**

**To accept the contents of the report.**

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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

Unanimously accepted.

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 6: AUDIT WALES: URGENT AND EMERGENCY CARE: 'FLOW OUT OF  
HOSPITAL - NORTH WALES REGION'**

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**DECISION:**

- **To accept the contents of the report.**
- **Submit an update on the recommendations in 12 months' time.**

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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

Unanimously accepted.

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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

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### **SUBJECT**

**Item 7: INTERNAL AUDIT OUTPUT**

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### **DECISION:**

- **To accept the report**
- **Findings of the Residential Homes (Plas Pengwaith, Llys Cadfan and Plas Hafan) Services Audits to be referred to the Management Improvement Group.**

**Carys Edwards, Rhys Parry, Cllr Angela Russell, Cllr Meryl Roberts, and Cllr Ioan Thomas were nominated as members for the Management Improvement Group with an invitation to Cllr Beth Lawton (Chair of the Care Scrutiny Committee) and Cllr Dewi Jones (Vice Chair of the Care Scrutiny Committee) to observe. Should issues arise from the Management Improvement Group that required further attention, they would be referred to the Care Scrutiny Committee.**

#### **Note:**

Freedom of Information Requests Audit – a request to consider that the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 are addressed by the Committee – the Committee to receive an annual report setting out the Council's Arrangements to deal with Freedom of Information matters.

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### **THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

Unanimously accepted.

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### **DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

Carys Edwards, as her mother was a resident of Plas Pengwaith. It was not a prejudicial interest as the subject was part of a wider report. She did not have to leave the meeting.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 8: INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2024/25**

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**DECISION:**

**To accept the report.**

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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

Unanimously accepted.

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 9: SAVINGS OVERVIEW: PROGRESS REPORT ON REALISING SAVINGS  
SCHEMES**

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**DECISION:**

**To accept the report and note the situation and relevant risks in the context of the  
Savings Overview.**

Note:

Draw up a table in future that differentiates between the historical situation and the latest situation so that it is possible to identify risks for the current situation.

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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

Unanimously accepted.

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 10: CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2024/25 - END OF AUGUST REVIEW**

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**DECISION:**

**To accept the report and note the situation and risks in the context of the Council's capital programme.**

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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

Unanimously accepted.

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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## SUBJECT

Item 11: REVENUE BUDGET 2024/25 - END OF AUGUST 2024 REVIEW

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## DECISION:

- To accept the report and note the situation and relevant risks in the context of the Council's budgets and its departments.
- To agree with the recommendation to the Cabinet:
  - Transfer £1,868k of underspend on corporate budgets to the Council's Financial Strategy Reserve.

### Note:

Work that has been commissioned by the Chief Executive to gain a better understanding of exceptional overspending by the Adults Health and Well-being Department: a request for the Cabinet to challenge the timescale of this work - assurance needed that this work is in place to set a budget.

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## THE RESULT OF THE VOTE

Unanimously accepted.

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## DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 12: TREASURY MANAGEMENT QUARTERLY UPDATE**

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**DECISION:**

**To accept the report for information.**

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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

Unanimously accepted.

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 13: NORTH WALES CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE- ESTABLISHMENT OF  
GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT SUB-COMMITTEE**

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**DECISION**

- **Nominate Councillor Ioan Thomas to serve on the Governance and Audit Sub-committee of the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee.**
  - **Nominate Councillor Richard Glyn to act as deputy to serve on the Governance and Audit Sub-committee of the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee.**
  - **Nominate Carys Edwards (Chair of Gwynedd's Governance and Audit Committee) for consideration to serve on the Governance and Audit Sub-Committee of the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee.**
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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

Unanimously accepted.

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 14: THE COMMITTEE'S FORWARD PROGRAMME**

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**DECISION:**

**Accept the Work Programme for November 2024 - October 2025**

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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

Unanimously accepted.

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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