

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

**Section 100C of the Local Government Act 1972**

**6 February 2025**

**Virtual Meeting**

**Present:**                   **Chair:**       Carys Edwards  
                                 **Vice-chair:** Rhys Parry

**Councillors:** Menna Baines, Elfed Wyn ap Elwyn, Elwyn Jones, Dafydd Meurig, Edgar Wyn Owen, Arwyn Herald Roberts, Huw Rowlands, Ioan Thomas and Rob Triggs.

**Lay Members:** Sharon Warnes and Eifion Jones

**Officers:** Dewi Morgan (Head of Finance), Ffion Madog Evans (Assistant Head of Finance - Accounting and Pensions), Delyth Jones-Thomas (Investment Manager), Caren Rees Jones (Group Accountant - Capital and Management), Heledd Thomas (Senior Accountant - Resources and Corporate), Gwyn Llŷn Parry (Group Accountant - Accounting and Financial), David Lloyd Williams (Group Accountant), Nel Gwynn Povey (Yfory Scheme Professional Trainee Finance), Bleddyn Rhys (Internal Audit Leader), Eva Williams (Internal Audit Leader), Geraint Owen (Corporate Director), Eleri Jones (Senior Executive Officer) and Lowri Haf Evans (Democracy Services Officer).

**Others invited:**

Councillor Huw Wyn Jones (Cabinet Member - Finance)

Item 5:                   Cllr Nia Jeffreys (Cyngor Gwynedd Leader), Dafydd Gibbard (Chief Executive), Ffion Mai Jones (Operational Support Team Leader) and Meinir Owen (Senior Projects Practitioner)

Item 10:               Dafydd Gibbard (Chief Executive), Aled Davies (Head of Adults, Health and Well-being Department) and Councillor Beth Lawton (Chair of the Care Scrutiny Committee)

Item 11:               Alan Hughes (Audit Wales) and Dewi Wyn Jones (Council Business Service Support Manager)

Item 12:               Iwan Evans (Head of Legal Services) and Erin Haf (Solicitor)

**Apologies:**           Councillors Meryl Roberts, Angela Russell and Richard Glyn Roberts

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 4: IMPLEMENTING THE DECISIONS OF THE COMMITTEE**

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**DECISION:**

- **To accept the contents of the report**

Note:

Two vacant seats for Lay Members on the Committee. The Head of Finance, the Democracy Manager and the Propriety and Elections Manager to discuss and try to motivate interest.

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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: SAVINGS AND CUTS 2025/26**

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**DECISION:**

- Reasonable steps, under challenging circumstances, had been taken to draw up the Savings Plan
- That the savings proposed were reasonable and achievable
- That the risks and implications of the decision were clear
- That the report was adequate to enable the Cabinet to make a decision on the Savings Plan
- To submit observations from the discussion on the report to the Cabinet for their consideration when discussing the 2025/26 Savings Plan at its meeting on 11/02/25
- Welcomed an invitation for the workshops to share information

Note:

To consider reviewing the public consultation in the future to seek the view of residents about the council tax level. To encourage more effort to rationalise services

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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: 2025/26 BUDGET**

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**DECISION:**

- **To accept the report and note the content**
- **To accept the financial propriety of the proposals and the relevant risks**
- **To submit observations from the discussion on the report to the Cabinet for their consideration when discussing and approving the 2025/26 Budget at its meeting on 11/02/25**
- **To thank the Finance Department for their thorough work in preparing the Budget.**

Note:

The over expenditure situation was concerning - there was a need to ensure less use was made of the reserves.

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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 7: CAPITAL STRATEGY 2024/25 (INCLUDING INVESTMENT AND BORROWING STRATEGIES)**

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**DECISION:**

- To accept the report and to note the information and relevant risks
  - To support the Cabinet Member for Finance's intention to submit the Strategy to the Full Council for approval on 6 March 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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**SUBJECT**

**Item 8: INTERNAL AUDIT OUTPUT**

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**DECISION:**

- **To accept the report and support the actions that have already been agreed with the relevant services.**
  - **A time-schedule needed to be included with the actions.**
  - **There was a need for a follow-up report on what had been delivered.**
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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: INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN**

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**DECISION:**

- **To accept and note 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 10: SPECIAL AUDIT REPORT - HOME CARE**

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**DECISION:**

- To accept and note the progress on the findings of the Internal Audit review of the Council's Home Care arrangements
  - The thorough Work Programme that was in place to improve the provision was welcomed.
  - Further updates would be required in 12 months on the progress and the success of the work 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: RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPROVEMENT PROPOSALS OF EXTERNAL  
AUDIT REPORTS**

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**DECISION:**

- **To accept and note that the arrangements and processes were in place to ensure that the improvement proposals were being implemented.**
  - **To welcome the new arrangements to report on the external audit reports every six months to the Committee.**
  - **To welcome the decision that responses to the reports are submitted to the Challenge and Support Performance meetings of the relevant Department.**
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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: CONTRACT PROCEDURE RULES**

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**DECISION:**

- **To accept the amended Contract Procedure Rules taking place as a result of the Procurement Act 2023.**
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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: THE COMMITTEE'S FORWARD PROGRAMME**

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**DECISION:**

**To accept the Work Programme for May 2025 - February 2026**

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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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