

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

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

**15 January 2026**

**Virtual Meeting**

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

**Councillors:**

Menna Baines, Elwyn Jones, Edgar Wyn Owen, Geraint Parry, Arwyn Herald Roberts, Richard Glyn Roberts, Huw Rowlands, Angela Russell, Meryl Roberts, Ioan Thomas and Elfed Wyn ap Elwyn

**Lay Members:** Eifion Jones, Dewi Lewis, Peter Barnes and Paul Millar-Mills

**Officers:**

Dewi Morgan (Head of Finance), Ffion Madog Evans (Assistant Head of Finance - Accounting and Pensions), Luned Fôn (Audit Manager), Caren Rees Jones (Group Accountant - Capital and Management), David Lloyd Williams (Group Accountant), Nel Povey and Alaw Jones (Cynllun Yfory - Finance and Accounting Professional Trainees), Eleri Jones (Senior Executive Officer) and Lowri Haf Evans (Democracy Services Officer)

**Others invited:**

Cllr Huw Wyn Jones (Cabinet Member for Finance) and Yvonne Thomas (Audit Wales)

Item 6: Cllr Nia Jeffreys (Council Leader), Cllr Menna Trenholme (Deputy Council Leader / Cabinet Member for Children and Supporting Families), Cllr Dewi Jones (Cabinet Member for Education), Dafydd Gibbard (Chief Executive), Dylan Owen (Statutory Director of Social Services), Iwan Evans (Head of Legal Service and Monitoring Officer), Gwern ap Rhisiart (Head of Education), Alison Halliday (Assistant Head - School Support), Llion Williams (Quality, Safeguarding and Well-being Lead), Ian Jones (Head of Corporate Services), Catrin Love (Assistant Head of Corporate Services), Ffion Mai Jones (Senior Executive Manager) and Lois Owens (Senior Executive Officer)

Item 10: Sian Pugh (Assistant Head of Finance – Sustainability and Developments) and Bleddyn Jones (Taxation Manager)

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

**Apologies:**

None to note

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**SUBJECT**

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

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**DECISION:**

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

Note:

- To receive an update on the 5/9/24 items (hold an information session on homelessness) and the 10/10/24 items (update on Emergency Care Audit recommendations): Flow Out of Hospital) by the next meeting
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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: RESPONSE PLAN TO THE OUR BRAVERY BROUGHT JUSTICE REPORT**

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**DECISION:**

- To accept the detail of the Response Plan
- To thank the Officers for their work and welcome that the Response Plan is being discussed in several forums
- That a simple and definite summary/front page of the main action points is needed
- That the Committee receives regular updates on the actions that have been taken or are being considered to be a suitable and appropriate response to the situation
- Request by the Committee for Estyn to acknowledge the weaknesses of their report on the Council's safeguarding arrangements, June 2023
- That the Whistleblowing Arrangements and Safeguarding Arrangements need to be among the best;
  - would welcome reviews to these policies
  - need an update on the work, the timetable and how they are adopted

**Note:**

Request to review the last paragraph 2.5 of the Response Plan: 'Investigation into the events of 2019 that has been the subject of press coverage' – more context is needed about the independent investigation that was completed and what reason was for the decision not to share the report/findings.

Request to set out the context for Estyn's commendation of the Council's safeguarding arrangements (June 2023). The wording as it is, is inappropriate given the failures that later emerged.

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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

Unanimously accepted.

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

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No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 7: REVENUE BUDGET 2025/26 – END OF NOVEMBER 2025 REVIEW**

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**DECISION:**

- To accept the end November 2025 report and review of the Revenue Budget
  - To note the latest financial position regarding the budgets of each department / service.
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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: CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2025/26 – END OF NOVEMBER 2025 REVIEW**

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**DECISION:**

- To accept the report and agree on the recommendations for the Cabinet to consider
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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
- To note the progress, the position and the relevant risks in the context of the Savings Overview

Note / Suggestion

Offer targeted support on schemes that Departments are unable to realise

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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: COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION POLICY UNDER SECTION 13A(1)(C) OF THE  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCE ACT 1992**

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**DECISION:**

- **To accept the report and note the situation and relevant risks**
- **To welcome the Cabinet's decision to approve the Policy**
- **To welcome that the Policy is under ongoing review and can be adapted as any legislative changes or changes in circumstances are introduced.**

Note / Suggestion

Reword paragraph 3.3 appendix 2 – Equality Impact Assessment to reinforce the statement

Add sustainable tourism as a priority area to paragraph 4.5, Cabinet Report

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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

Unanimously accepted.

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 11: AUDIT WALES REPORTS – TEMPORARY ACCOMMODATION, LONG-TERM CRISIS?**

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**DECISION:**

**Postponed until the 03/02/2026 meeting**

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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: THE COMMITTEE'S FORWARD PROGRAMME**

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**DECISION:**

- **To accept the work programme until February 2027**
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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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