

CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	11 November 2025
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.	26 November 2025

SUBJECT

Item 6: CORPORATE PARENT PANEL ANNUAL REPORT 2024/25

DECISION

To accept and note the information in the report which reports on the work of the Corporate Parent Panel for the year 2024/25.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The purpose of this report is to provide and update on what has been achieved by the Corporate Parent Panel during the period.

It is essential that Cabinet members are aware of the Panel's work and are able to satisfy themselves that the Panel has undertaken the work required, thoroughly and conscientiously.

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

Cllr Nia Jeffreys declared an interest. The member did not consider it to be a prejudicial interest, and she did not leave the meeting.

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 7: CYNGOR GWYNEDD'S ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT AND SELF-ASSESSMENT 2024/25

DECISION

To approve Cyngor Gwynedd's Annual Performance Report and Self-Assessment 2024/25 and it was recommended that it be adopted by Full Council.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

In accordance with the Council's performance management procedure, Cyngor Gwynedd's Annual Performance Report and Self-Assessment for 2024/25 is initially submitted to Cabinet for approval.

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: QUARTERLY REPORT - CHAIR OF THE RESPONSE PLAN PROGRAMME BOARD (NOVEMBER 2025)

DECISION

To accept the report which is the second quarterly report from the Chair of the Response Plan Programme Board.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Cabinet adopted the Response Plan in January 2025 to collate all the support, reviews, investigations and other work streams relating to the response to the crimes of Headteacher Neil Foden.

There was a promise to report quarterly to Cabinet Members on the progress of the Response Board's work programme and operation.

The report is shared by the Chair of the Response Plan Programme Board, with the aim of raising awareness of the developments the Board has achieved and those that still need to be delivered.

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 9: STATUTORY CONSULTATION ON THE PROPOSED GLYNDWR NATIONAL PARK

DECISION

To approve the response in Appendix 4 as Cyngor Gwynedd's response to the statutory consultation, with the addition of opposition to the draft designation order and proposed boundary for the proposed Glyndŵr National Park.

To delegate the right to the Head of Environment Department to make any insignificant changes that may be required to the response before it is submitted to Natural Resources Wales.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

As a statutory consultee, Cyngor Gwynedd is required to provide a formal response to the statutory consultation on the proposed draft designation order and boundary of the proposed national park. The statutory consultation commenced on 15 September 2025 and closes on 8 December 2025.

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 and the Local Member were consulted for their views, which are included in the report.

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SUBJECT

Item 10: HOLDING A CAERNARFON BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS BALLOT DECISION

1. To note that the Business Improvement District (BID) Proposal and supplementary documents from the HWB Caernarfon Company have been received by the Council and that they comply with the Regulations;
2. That the Cabinet instructs the Returning Officer to hold the Caernarfon BID ballot;
3. To approve the financial arrangements and implications noted in Part 3 of the report;
4. To delegate the right to the Cabinet Member for the Economy to vote on behalf of the Authority in the BID ballot.
5. If the ballot is successful in Caernarfon, and in accordance with the Business Improvement District (Wales) Regulations 2005, to delegate the right to the Head of Economy and Community, in consultation with the heads of the following departments to approve the final version of the Operational Agreement and the Baseline Agreement and complete the Agreements in accordance with the Council's arrangements:
 - Environment
 - Highways, Engineering and YGC
 - Legal
 - Finance.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

It is noted in the Business Improvement District (Wales) Regulations 2005 that there is a need for local authorities to authorise the process of holding the Business Improvement District ballot. In accordance with the Council's constitution, the Cabinet is responsible for authorising this.

Local authorities have the veto right if it considers that BID proposals would likely conflict significantly with existing policy, would place a financial burden on taxpayers or that the levy was too high. However, the intention to hold a ballot is supported because:

- The HWB Caernarfon proposal responds to challenges that have been identified by the business community. In holding a vote, the business community receives the opportunity to
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support HWB Caernarfon in order to give them the ability to realise the objectives which have been noted within the business plans.

The proposed HWB Caernarfon could attract additional investment and maximise the profile of Caernarfon

- HWB Caernarfon would be a vehicle to work with the Council to provide additional services.

Therefore, there was no reason to implement the statutory veto.

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 11: ENSURING CONSISTENCY OF FEES FOR ADULT CARE IN GWYNEDD

DECISION

To adopt a revised Charging Policy for care in accordance with the recommendations in this report.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

On the 15/10/24, the Llechen Lân report was presented to Cabinet, highlighting the financial and demographic challenges facing social services in Gwynedd over the coming years. To ensure sustainability for the future, it's essential to look at how much care is being provided and in what way. In addition, in order to ensure sustainability the Council needs to charge a fee for services where it has the right to do so.

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

Cllr Paul Rowlinson declared an interest and the member left the meeting.

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 12: WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON EXTENDING THE DUTY ON LOCAL AUTHORITIES TO BROADCAST MEETINGS

DECISION

To adopt the draft response to the questions in the Welsh Government Consultation on extending the duty on Local Authorities to broadcast meetings (as noted in Appendix A), in order to respond to the consultation on behalf of the Council.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Welsh Government has launched a formal consultation seeking views on whether the statutory duty to broadcast local authority meetings should be extended, beyond the full council meetings which are already subject to the duty under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021.

Currently, only full Council meetings are required to be broadcast. The consultation seeks views on extending the duty to include other committees, and there are financial and resource implications for the Council deriving from the decision.

Due to the far reaching implication which could arise from a decision to extend the requirements to broadcast, the Cabinet is asked for political guidance on Cyngor Gwynedd's response to the consultation.

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.

CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET DECISION NOTICE

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SUBJECT

Item 13: COUNCIL TAX: DISCRETIONARY POWERS TO ALLOW DISCOUNTS AND/OR RAISE A PREMIUM ON SECOND HOMES AND LONG-TERM EMPTY DWELLINGS

DECISION

Recommend to the full Council on 4 December 2025 that the following is the favoured option of the Cabinet with regards to the level of Premium on the Council Tax of Second Homes and Long-Term Empty Dwellings for the 2026/27 financial year:

- That Cyngor Gwynedd allows NO discount on class A second homes, under Section 12 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (i.e. no change).
 - That Cyngor Gwynedd allows NO discount and RAISES A PREMIUM OF 150% on class B second homes, under Section 12B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (i.e. no change).
 - That Cyngor Gwynedd allows NO discount on homes that have been empty for 6 months or more and RAISES A PREMIUM OF 150% on homes that have been empty for 12 months or more, under Section 12A of the Local Government Finance Act 1992) (i.e. increase the premium from 100% to 150%).
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REASONS FOR THE DECISION

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Finance Act 1992, the Council must make an annual decision as to whether it is to continue to charge a Council Tax Premium on long-term empty properties and second homes ("periodically occupied dwellings"). Without such decision, a Council Tax discount of 50% would have to be offered to such properties.

Although the Full Council has to make the final decision regarding the Council Tax discount or premium, and the level of the discount or premium, in accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Cabinet needs to make a recommendation to the Full Council.

For the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years, the Council has charged a Council Tax Premium of 150% on second homes and 100% on long-term empty properties, but legislation allows the Council to charge a Premium of up to 300%.

However, if the Council were to increase the Premium rate, it will have to consider whether

such a decision would be reasonable having regard to the statutory guidance, the outcome of research and legal advice that the authority has obtained.

A copy of the latest Statutory Guidance can be found at Appendix 2.

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

Cllr Dewi Jones declared an interest and the member left the meeting.

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

DECISION

To adopt a Council Tax Reduction Policy under Section 13A(1)(c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 to provide officers with clear guidance and boundaries on the use of reductions and exemptions from the standard Council Tax and the Premium.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Section 13A(1)(c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 gives the Council additional discretionary powers to reduce the amount of Council Tax payable for individuals, or for classes of taxpayers. Section 13A does not impose a restriction on its use so the requirement for careful and consistent use, without setting a prejudicial precedent, is essential.

This policy sets out the criteria and process for awarding discretionary reductions to Council Tax in accordance with Section 13A(1)(c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Currently, Cyngor Gwynedd has used Section 13A of the 1992 Act to introduce local, optional exceptions in very limited cases. For example, on 8 April 2025 the Cabinet decided to use Section 13A to give a local discount to Foster Carers in Gwynedd, and project 3e in the Housing Action Plan uses the power to give a tax rebate to first-time buyers who are repairing a property, beyond the statutory exemption.

Any action to exercise this power must be consistent with other legislation (e.g. Equality Act, Well-being of Future Generations Act). In accordance with the Constitution of the Council and Section 67 of the 1992 Act, the use of Section 13A is a matter for the Cabinet, it is not a matter which must have a full Council decision. The power under Section 13A(1)(c) is broad, and allows the billing authority to reduce the Council Tax bill of any dwelling for any period as the billing authority considers fit.

A copy of the Council Tax Reduction Policy under Section 13A(1)(c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 can be found at Appendix 1. It is good practice to have such a Policy in order to ensure transparency and consistency, with clear guidance for officers but at the same time explaining the steps that need to be taken to deal with cases

that are truly exceptional.

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

Cllr Dewi Jones declared an interest and the member left the meeting.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

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

CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET DECISION NOTICE

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SUBJECT

Item 15: SAVINGS OVERVIEW: PROGRESS REPORT ON REALISING SAVINGS SCHEMES

DECISION

1.1 To accept the information in the report and to note the progress towards realising the savings schemes for 2025/26 and previous years.

1.2 To approve the deletion of one savings scheme worth £25k relevant to 2025/26 in the Customer Contact field of the Corporate Services Department, using the savings provision set aside in the corporate budget.

1.3 To approve bridging funds of £80k per year for a period of two years for 2025/26 and 2026/27 to the Neuadd Dwyfor savings scheme in the Economy and Community Department.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Realising the individual schemes is the responsibility of the relevant Cabinet members, who challenge the performance of the relevant departments, including the progress of the savings schemes. It is the responsibility of the Cabinet Member for Finance to maintain an overview of the full picture.

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 16: REVENUE BUDGET 2025/26 - END OF AUGUST 2025 REVIEW

DECISION

1.1 To approve additional financial support above the contractual payment projected to be £219k to Cwmni Byw'n Iach to be funded from the transformation fund, delegating the right to the Cabinet Member for Economy in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Finance, the Chief Executive and the Head of Finance to agree on the amount of the final financial support above the contractual payment to Byw'n Iach at the end of the financial year.

1.2 To ask the Head of Finance and Head of Environment to submit a further report on the possible options for funding the costs of making safe/demolishing the Corbett Arms building in Tywyn.

1.3 To approve the transfer of £3.757 million of underspend on corporate budgets to the Council's Financial Strategy Reserve, with its use to be considered before the end of the current financial year.

1.4 To approve the financial virements as outlined in Appendix 3 following a review of the funds, removing £576k worth of negative balances from the funds of the Adults, Health and Well-being Department (£300k) and the Children and Supporting Families Department (£276k), following the departments' overspending for three consecutive years.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The purpose of this report seeks to provide a trajectory of the revenue position by the end of the financial year. Therefore, the amounts noted below is an estimate of what we are projecting by March 2026 and they are not amounts that represent the current overspend position.

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

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 17: CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2025/26 - END OF AUGUST REVIEW (31 AUGUST 2025 POSITION)

DECISION

- To accept the report on the end of August review (31 August 2025 position) of the capital programme.
 - To approve the revision to the Capital Budget approved on 6 March 2025 from the programme's financing perspective (as shown in part 3.2.3 of the report), that is:
 - an increase of £290,000 in the use of borrowing
 - an increase of £13,390,000 in the use of grants and contributions
 - an increase of £36,000 in the use of revenue contributions
 - a decrease of £2,743,000 in the use of the capital reserve
 - an increase of £29,000 in the use of renewal and other reserves.
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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 are made here to ensure definite sources of funding for the 2025/26 – 2027/28 capital schemes.

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.
