

CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	10 February 2026
Date decision will come into force and be implemented, unless the decision is called in, in accordance with section 7.25 of the Cyngor Gwynedd Constitution.	25 February 2026

SUBJECT

Item 6: PROPOSAL PAPER - YSGOL Y GARREG

DECISION

To approve the publication of a statutory notice, allowing a statutory objection period of 28 days in accordance with the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the guidance of the School Organisation Code 011/2018: on the proposal as follows -

"To close Ysgol Y Garreg on 31 August 2026 and denote Ysgol Cefn Coch as the alternative school from 1 September 2026."

The Ysgol Cefn Coch catchment area will be extended to include the existing Ysgol Y Garreg catchment area.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Permission is sought to publish a statutory notice on the proposal to address the critical situation at Ysgol Y Garreg. The substantial drop in the number of learners attending Ysgol Y Garreg recently has led to an unsustainable and very vulnerable situation. Based on the PLASC (Pupil Level Annual School Census) January 2026, Ysgol Y Garreg is the smallest school in the county, with only 2 learners from Reception to Year 6 on the register and 0 in the nursery class.

The Education Department is submitting this report to the Cabinet requesting permission to hold a statutory objection period on the proposal to close Ysgol Y Garreg in accordance with the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 and the statutory Welsh Government Code (School Organisation Code). The main challenges faced by the school are detailed in the body of the report.

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

A declaration of personal interest was received from Cllr June Jones in relation to item 6 as she is a Governor at the School. Cllr June Jones served on the Cabinet as a Local Member for this item; therefore, she did not have a vote on the matter.

The Chief Executive declared a personal interest in relation to Item 6, and he left the

meeting.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

The Statutory Officers and the Local Member were consulted to seek their views, which had been included in the report.

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Item 7: SCHOOLS STRATEGY 2026 - 2036

DECISION

The Gwynedd Schools Strategy 2026 - 2036 (Appendix 1) was approved, and authority was delegated to the Cabinet Member for Education, in consultation with the Head of Education, to make insignificant and editorial changes to the Strategy prior to its formal publication, provided that those changes do not materially affect the content, strategic direction, priorities or financial implications of the Strategy.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The current Strategy dates back to 2010. Following an extended process of stakeholder engagement, we seek the Cabinet's seal of approval on the content that will underpin the direction of education in Gwynedd over the next decade.

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.

The report was submitted to the Education and Economy Scrutiny Committee, and its recommendations were included in the report.

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SUBJECT

Item 8: 2026/27 BUDGET

DECISION

To recommend to the Council (at its meeting on 5 March 2026) that:

1. A budget of £379,701,110 should be set for 2026/27, to be funded by £264,009,390 of Government Grant and £115,691,720 of Council Tax income (which is a base increase of 4.75% plus a further 0.42% to meet the levy from the Fire Authority, which gives a total of 5.17%).
 2. To establish a capital programme of £40,179,430 in 2026/27 to be funded from the sources set out in Appendix 4 of the report.
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REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Council must set a balanced budget for 2026/27.

This budget is set at a time when Welsh local authorities continue to face financial challenges, where the addition to the settlement does not meet the increase in the demand for services.

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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Item 9: PARKING SCHEMES AND FEES

DECISION

To approve and enable the Parking Service to proceed with the realisation of two savings schemes which require further consideration before a final decision is reached, namely:

1.1.1 To extend short stay car park enforcement hours from 10:00 to 16:30 to 9:00 to 17:00.

1.1.2 Adjustment to Band 2 Long Stay Fee Structure.

To approve a new parking order that harmonises current arrangements and includes the above changes.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To update the parking strategy so that plans already due can be implemented, and to ensure that the Department is able to achieve the expected income level.

It must be recognised that parking can be a divisive issue and that proposals for parking management can provoke strong feelings from a personal and local perspective. However, the county-wide picture must be looked at, and the implementation of the plans is inevitable for financial viability in this challenging time in terms of the authority's budgets.

As the current income target already includes the increase that would result from the implementation of the interventions referred to in 1.1.1 and 1.1.2, if these are not introduced, this will result in a deficit of approximately £238,000 (£78,000+£160,000).

It is essential that the parking orders in place are accurate, current and consistent. This is the legal basis for charging, monitoring, enforcing and managing the pay and display car parks.

It would be our intention to proceed with the preparations to implement the changes from 1 April 2026.

**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 10: PRIDE IN PLACE IMPACT FUND

DECISION

To agree to direct the £1.5 million coming to Gwynedd from the UK Government's Pride in Place Impact Fund to the Schemes listed in Appendix 2 of the report

The Head of Economy and Community Department, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for the Economy and the Head of Finance, was authorised to confirm details of the proposed package of schemes to be supported, ensuring operational arrangements in accordance with the terms and conditions of the Fund.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

On 25 September 2025, the Council received a letter from the Secretary of State for Wales and the UK Government's Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government confirming that £1.5 million had been earmarked for Gwynedd from their Pride in Place Impact Fund. The funding was allocated based on £750,000 in 2025/6 and £750,000 in 2026/7.

The Cabinet is required to agree the use of the money coming to Gwynedd from the Fund.

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Item 11: EXEMPTION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

DECISION

It was resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting during the discussion on the following item.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Chair shall propose to exclude the press and public from the meeting during the discussion on the following items due to the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 14, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972: Information about the financial or business transactions of any specific person (including the authority that retains that information). There is an acknowledged public interest in openness in relation to the use of public resources and related financial issues. It is also acknowledged that there are occasions, to protect the financial and commercial interests that matters related to such information need to be discussed without being publicised. The report deals specifically with financial and business matters as well as estimated procurement prices and related discussions. Publication of such commercially sensitive information could adversely affect the interests of the bodies and the Council and undermine the confidence of others to share sensitive information for consideration. This would be contrary to the wider public interest of securing the best overall outcome.

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

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SUBJECT

Item 12: TRAWSFYNYDD SCIENCE PARK

DECISION

It was supported that Cyngor Gwynedd should:

- Lead on an application for North Wales Growth Deal funding to establish the Trawsfynydd Science Park and develop an on-site Innovation, Skills and Business Centre.
 - Take ownership of the new building when completed and agree a lease with a third party to run the centre, when appropriate.
 - Commit £1m of Cyngor Gwynedd's capital funding in the scheme and commit to targeting £1m of additional funding for the area as a contribution.
 - Use up to £545,000 of funding from the NDA, Welsh Government and funding already committed by the Department to deliver the next phases up to design and construction.
 - Negotiate the required use of the land at the Trawsfynydd Site with the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (Site owners).
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REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Economy and Community Department has been preparing an Outline Business Case for the establishment of the Trawsfynydd Science Park and the development of an Innovation, Skills and Business Centre on site as the first phase.

We are seeking Cabinet support for the attached Outline Business Plan (Appendix 1), before it is submitted to Ambition North Wales as the basis for a Growth Deal application.

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 to seek their views, which had been included in the report.
