CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	10 November 2026
Date on which the 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 November 2026

SUBJECT

Item 6: QUARTERLY REPORT - CHAIR OF THE RESPONSE PLAN PROGRAMME BOARD (NOVEMBER 2026)

DECISION

To accept the quarterly report from the Chair of the Response Plan Programme Board and to agree that future reports be submitted on a seasonal basis (every four months) from now on.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

A Response Plan was adopted by Cyngor Gwynedd's Cabinet in January 2025 to co-ordinate all the support, reviews, audits and other workstreams relating to the response to the crimes committed by the former school headteacher, Neil Foden.

Following the publication of the Child Practice Review (Our Bravery Brought Justice) report in the autumn 2025, a revised version of the Response Plan was adopted in March 2026, in line with the recommendations identified.

There has been a commitment to continue to report quarterly to Cabinet Members on the progress of the Response Board's work programme and implementation.

The report is shared by the Chair of the Response Plan Programme Board, with the aim of raising awareness of the developments the Response Plan Programme 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.

CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET DECISION NOTICE

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SUBJECT

Item 7: HOMES THAT ENCOURAGE INDEPENDENCE PROGRAMME BOARD

DECISION

That the Cabinet agrees to establish a Homes that Encourage Independence Programme Board to maintain an overview and lead on housing with care developments across Gwynedd, led by the Cabinet Members for Housing and Property, Adults, Health and Well-being, Children and Supporting Families, the Corporate Director and the Director of Social Services.

That the functions, membership and arrangements of the Board are in accordance with the Terms of Reference in Part 3.2 of the report, and that the Head of Children and Supporting Families becomes a full member of the Board.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

While there have been housing with care developments in Gwynedd over the past few years, it has become clear that many more similar developments are needed. Following the research report, Llechen Lân, further work was commissioned by Housing LIN to consider the evidence on demographics, needs, and availability of suitable accommodation for the elderly. The report can be seen in Appendix 1. The report shows that there is an urgent need for the development of more housing with care developments across Gwynedd, and in order to meet the need, plans and budgets will need to be coordinated across departments as part of the Council's overall housing development planning.

Whilst developments in supported accommodation (learning disability) and small group homes for children are not currently covered by this report, it is likely that this vital work would also benefit from a similar overview in the future and could potentially be added to the Programme Board's remit at the appropriate time.

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 8: CLIMATE AND NATURE EMERGENCY PLAN: ANNUAL REPORT 2025/26

DECISION

That the Cabinet considers and approves the Cyngor Gwynedd Climate and Nature Emergency Plan Annual Report 2025/26.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Cyngor Gwynedd issued a climate emergency declaration in March 2019, which led to the publication of the Climate-and-Nature-Emergency-Plan.pdf (llyw.cymru) 2022/23-2029/30 (CNEP) in March 2022. During 2025 a public consultation was undertaken to review the plan, which led to the creation of an update of the plan (version 2) which was approved by the Council's Cabinet in July 2026. However, this annual report assesses progress on the original plan published in March 2022.

The CNEP is one of the projects within the Green Gwynedd heading in the Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-2028, and therefore one of our strategic priorities.

Annual progress reports on the CNEP have been published on the Council's website since 2022/23 following approval by the Cabinet.

Much of the work described in this Annual Report has already been scrutinised by the Climate and Nature Board and through the Council's internal performance challenge arrangements, but the annual report brings all the information together for the first time.

A draft version of the Annual Report was discussed at a meeting of Cyngor Gwynedd's Communities Scrutiny Committee on 1 October, and the committee's observations have been summarised in 5. below.

Following the same procedure as in previous years, this is an opportunity for the Cabinet to decide whether it is satisfied that the Annual Report at Appendix 1 provides an accurate and balanced picture of the work delivered during 2025/26 to meet the ambition of the Climate and Nature Emergency Plan (CNEP).

According to Section 6 of the Environment (Wales) Act 2016, public authorities operating in Wales have a duty to maintain and improve biodiversity and to promote the strength of ecosystems. We report on the progress against the 'Section 6 duty' within the Climate and Nature Emergency Plan Annual Report 2025/26.

The Cabinet can also offer comments and guidance on the future work of the Climate and Nature Emergency Plan.

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 presented to the Communities Scrutiny Committee, and its recommendations are included in the report.

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SUBJECT

Item 9: ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT AND SELF-ASSESSMENT 2025/26

DECISION

To approve Cyngor Gwynedd's Annual Performance Report and Self-assessment 2025/26 and to recommend its adoption by the 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 2025/26 is initially submitted to the 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.

CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET DECISION NOTICE

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SUBJECT

Item 10: RECOMMENDATIONS ARISING FROM THE PANEL PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT - THE COUNCIL'S RESPONSE

DECISION

Resolved:

To welcome and accept in full the recommendations of the Panel Performance Assessment report and implement the recommendations as soon as possible.

To approve the draft response and Action Plan addressing the Assessment's recommendations, and recommend that the Full Council adopt them at its meeting on 3 December 2026.

To note that the Governance and Audit Committee reviewed the draft response on 22 October 2026 and recommended no changes.

To support the intention to present an update to the Governance and Audit Committee within 12 months on progress in implementing the recommendations.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 sets a duty on the Council to conduct a Panel Performance Assessment at least once within an electoral cycle, and to prepare a response to the assessment's conclusions and recommendations.

The report and draft response are submitted to the Cabinet to consider the findings and proposed actions before recommending their adoption by the Full Council. In accordance with the Council's arrangements, responsibility for adopting the response to the Panel's report and recommendations rests with the Full Council.

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 11: 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 3 December 2026 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 2027/28 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. no change).

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

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

While the final decision on the Council Tax discount or premium, and the level of discount or premium, must be made by the full Council, in accordance with the Council's Constitution, the Cabinet needs to make a recommendation to the full Council.

For the financial year 2026/27, the Council has raised a Council Tax Premium of 150% on both second homes and long-term empty dwellings, 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 after considering statutory guidance, the outcome of research and legal advice which the authority has obtained.

A copy of the latest Statutory Guidance is found in Appendix 1.

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 12: SAVINGS OVERVIEW: PROGRESS REPORT ON REALISING SAVINGS SCHEMES

DECISION

To accept the information in the report and to note the progress towards realising the savings schemes for 2026/27 and previous years.

To approve the removal of savings worth £925,600 by using the specific provision that was set aside in the budget to fund it.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Realising the individual schemes is the responsibility of relevant members of the Cabinet, who challenge the performance of the departments, including the progress of the savings schemes. It is the responsibility of the Cabinet Member for Finance to maintain an overview of the whole 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 13: REVENUE BUDGET 2026/27 - END OF AUGUST 2026 REVIEW

DECISION

That the Cabinet:

Accepts the report, noting that there are forecasts of a significant budget deficit for 2026/27 in the Children and Families Department and the Adults, Health and Well-being Department, with a deficit to a lesser extent in the Environment Department and Highways Department as well.

Approves additional financial support above the contractual payment 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 with Byw'n Iach at the end of the financial year.

Approve funding of the £1.006 million above budget expenditure in the field of Waste using £1.006 million from the Producer Extended Responsibility Fund for packaging materials.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The purpose of this report is to attempt to provide a trajectory of our revenue position by the end of the financial year. Therefore, the amounts noted below are an estimate of what we are projecting by March 2027 and they are not amounts that represent the deficit in today's budget.

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 14: OUR CULTURE, OUR FUTURE: A PLAN FOR CULTURE IN GWYNEDD

DECISION

To accept the report and acknowledge the research into the Value of Culture in Gwynedd.

To approve Our Culture, Our Future: A Plan for Culture in Gwynedd (Appendix A).

To approve the implementation and monitoring arrangements as outlined in the report and Plan.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Cyngor Gwynedd has no vision or plan for supporting Culture or the culture sector in the county. This has been highlighted as an opportunity for it to be prioritised in the Council Plan.

Research into the value of culture in Gwynedd shows the importance of the sector economically and socially (Appendix C).

By working with the culture sector, a statement, vision, principles and action plan have been co-developed in Our Culture, Our Future.

This report summarises the process that has been followed, presents the statement, vision and principles and provides an overview of the content of Our Culture, Our Future: A Plan for Culture in Gwynedd.

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.