



MEETING	GwE Joint Committee
DATE	08 March 2017
TITLE	Base Budget 2017/18
PURPOSE	Introduce the GwE Base Budget 2017/18 (Appendix 1) and Financial Contributions of Authorities to the Joint Committee (Appendix 2).
RECOMMENDATION	Adopt the base budget for 2017/18 as presented in Appendix 1.
AUTHOR	GwE Managing Director and Gwynedd Council Head of Finance

1. Base Budget (“stand still”)

1.1 GwE’s budget is continuing to develop and now reflects the National Model’s core business commitments and a significant number of projects funded by grants.

1.2 The financial impact of inflation/price increases has been estimated and included in the base budget (based on “stand still”), including salary increases, national insurance adjustment and CPI increase.

1.3 The budget continues to include the specific line “Savings to be found £131,967” established in the 2016/17 budget as there is no permanent strategy for implementing the saving as of yet.

2. Data Unit

2.1 Following an increase in the demand for data analysis and interpretation information, the decision of the GwE Management Board 23 September 2016 is to establish 1 additional permanent full time data officer funded by additional contributions from authorities.

3. Apprenticeship Levy

3.1 In the Chancellor’s statement (November 2015) a new legislation was announced to charge for Apprenticeship Levy to be operational from 1 April 2017.

3.2 The levy is calculated as 0.5% of the total annual salary cost, which is £13,080 for GwE.

4. Employer Pension Contribution

4.1 The actuary reviews the situation of the Pension Fund every three years, with the latest review, completed in December 2016, leading to a decrease in the employer’s contribution equivalent to £101,000 a year.

5. Underspend Fund

5.1 The ‘Review for 31 January 2017’ report (previous item on the agenda of the Joint Committee) estimates that there will be around £414,967 in the underspend fund on 31/03/2017.

5.2 An appropriate part of the fund will need to be earmarked for any element of the savings target (see 1.3) that cannot be found by GwE during 2017/18.

Appendix:

Appendix 1 - GwE Base Budget for 2017/18

Appendix 2 – Contributions of the Local Authority 2017/18

VIEWS OF STATUTORY OFFICERS

The Monitoring Officer:

Nothing to add from a financial propriety perspective

The Statutory Finance Officer:

Co-author of the report.