

GWYNEDD COUNCIL

MEETING	Council
DATE	9 July 2015
TITLE	Gwynedd Council Strategic Plan 2015-17
PURPOSE	To adopt the Strategic Plan
AUTHOR	Geraint Owen, Head of Corporate Support
CABINET MEMBER	Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn
RECOMMENDATION	To adopt the Strategic Plan

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 In May 2013, the Council adopted its Strategic Plan for 2013-17. The main purpose of the Strategic Plan is to set out the vision of the Council for 2013-17, and it will be reviewed on an annual basis. This is the Council's Improvement Plan.
- 1.2 The Strategic Pan sets out the priority areas for the Council for the period of the plan, the isutation that we wish to see for those areas, and describes that which the Council will do in order to reach that situation.
- 1.3 Once again this year, it is necessary for the Council to adopt a specific plan for the coming year. This is all in the context of the enormous challenge of the savings that the Council needs to identify over the coming years.

2. The Content of the Plan

- 2.1 The purpose of reviewing the plan this year was to ensure that we are continuing to do the right things considering the context of financial hardship in which we are working. In order to review properly, it was necessary for us to consider what had changed since last year, looking at the social, economic, environmental and policy factors which influence the Council and county and which are likely to do so over the coming years.
- 2.2 As part of the review, and in order to include in it the opinion of the people of Gwynedd, a series of sessions with the the public across the county were held in November 2014, namely Gwynedd Challenge.

- 2.3 The submitted plan in Appendix I represents the change that there has been in the emphasis of the plan since last year. The emphasis this year, and to the end of March 2017 is on improving the ability of the Council to ensure the best for the people of Gwynedd, and we will do that through the transformation of Services to be Services which we will be able to sustain for the future.
- 2.4 As part of the change of emphasis we needed to decommission some projects which had already made sufficient progress. Of course, this also means that they are now appropriate to continue as part of the Council's daily work. These projects are listed below.

Early Intervention/Preventative
Sports and Energetic Activities
Sufficiency Review of Leisure Provision
Investment in Gwynedd Projects: This is where things happen
The Council's Carbon Management Plan
Responding to Threats of Climate Change
Reducing Waste
Language Charter of Gwynedd Primary Schools
Returning Empty Homes to Use
Realisation of Savings
Demand Management
Leasing of Private Housing*
Preventing Homelessness*

*It is noted that the Review of the Housing Supply Strategy Project in the 2015-17 plan will review our strategy to increase the supply and variety of housing in order to ensure that our housing supply is appropriate for the needs of the people of Gwynedd.

The Council's 2014-15 Performance Report will report in full on the performance of the 2014-15 Strategic Plan projects.

- 2.5 Once again this year, we have tried to be clearer about our rationale for addressing some of the matters in the plan, outlining the current situation and conveying the situation that we want to see.
- 2.6 There are possible financial implications connected with some of the commitments in the plans and those are noted clearly for each project. The Cabinet will aim to identify a budget for those projects.
- 2.7 We also demonstrate what exactly we want to do and by when to reach the situation that we wish to see. The plan includes projects which will address the challenge, some which transform services and save money, and others where there is a clear priority for delivery. The lifespan of some of the projects extend beyond the lifespan of the plan.
- 2.8 There is a statutory requirement to prepare and consider the findings of an equality impact assessment from an equality point of view when preparing the Strategic Plan in accordance with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 as it is enacted in Wales. The assessment is attached in Appendix 2.

The assessment does not detect any effect which would justify deviation from the recommendation and elements with a positive effect are foreseen. The process of undertaking the assessment will continue as specific proposals are developed.

3.0 Recommendation

The Council is invited to adopt the Strategic Plan.