

MEETING	Council
DATE	1st of March 2018
TITLE	Council Plan 2018-23
PURPOSE	Approve the Council Plan for 2018-23
AUTHOR	Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn

1. Introduction

- 1.1. In recent months, work has been carried out to prepare the Council Plan that would set a direction for the Council's work for the 2018-23 period.
- 1.2. As part of the process of forming the plan, a number of workshop sessions were held for all Elected Members. They were given the opportunity to highlight any matters that needed attention on the county level along with the areas that they represent.
- 1.3. In addition, members of the Scrutiny Committees identified matters that they believed that should be included within the Council Plan in the future. The material from these consultation sessions was used to form the 'Consultation Document on the proposed priorities for the Council Plan 2018-2023' and the document was approved by the Cabinet on the 21st of November.
- 1.4. After the document was approved by the Cabinet in November 2017, a public consultation was held for a period of six weeks.
- 1.5. The Council Plan is based on these materials and includes an **Improvement Plan** and also individual **Departmental Plans** within the Council. A copy of the Plan can be found in **Appendix 1**.
- 1.6. The **Improvement Plan** includes a vision for the Council in addition to well-being objectives (these are our improvement objectives to meet the demands of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009) and improvement priorities for the period in question. Under each priority, a summary is included of what is intended to carry out.
- 1.7. See a description of the Departments' daily work within the **Departmental Plans**. In addition, a more detailed description of what it intended to carry out in response to the improvement priorities is given.
- 1.8. The priorities that were consulted upon in the 'Consultation Document on the proposed priorities for the Council Plan 2018-23' are addressed within the Plan. The matters of county-wide importance are in the text framed in black, and the responses to the matters of local priority have been highlighted within the frames with a coloured background.
- 1.9. At its meeting on the 13th of February the Cabinet approved the Council Plan for 2018-23 for submission to the Council on 1st March 2018.

2. Resources

- 2.1. Additional resources are required in order to achieve the commitments noted for a number of the improvement priorities within the plan. Without the resource, it may not be possible for us to achieve what is noted.
- 2.2. Currently, it is proposed that all improvement priorities are approved as part of the plan, subject to the Cabinet's agreement to fund them, after they consider each business case individually. This is expected to take place as soon as possible.

3. Public Consultation

- 3.1. The public consultation on the Consultation Document on the Council Plan priorities for 2018-23 was held for a six-week period during December 2017 and January 2018.
- 3.2. Appropriate opportunities were provided for individuals and interest groups to participate in the exercise by completing a questionnaire that was available on the Council's website or via hard copies that were available in Gwynedd Shops, Libraries and Leisure Centres. In addition, third sector organisations, and organisations representing the protected characteristics such as equality and the Welsh Language, were contacted.
- 3.3. A total of 197 responses were received to the questionnaire, with positive feedback and constructive observations on the whole. Below is a summary of the main points:
 - A number of supportive observations were received in relation to the Welsh language, including the need for the Council to continue prioritising the Welsh language.
 - On the other hand, a number questioned the priority given to the Welsh language and the associated costs, noting the need for funding in other areas - e.g. job creation, children's services.
 - It was suggested that the salaries of domiciliary workers / care sector workers should be increased / offer 'living wage' salaries, by improving training and the promotion of career paths within the field.
 - The need to keep tourist information centres and public toilets was noted, so that they were available for visitors and residents.
 - There was agreement with the need to increase the number of jobs in Gwynedd - high-value and other jobs, but they should be full-time and permanent posts, not seasonal jobs.
 - The costs of staff and elected members were questioned, and it was suggested that the salaries and costs should be reduced.
- 3.4. It is noted that the results of the consultation have been fed into the process of drawing up the plan but we will also be considering the wider messages received. An analysis of the consultation responses will be published in the coming weeks.

4 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act (2015)

- 4.1 The Act places a duty on public bodies in Wales to improve economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being. As part of this duty, public bodies need to publish the well-being objectives that outline how they will improve well-being.
- 4.2 We have consulted with the Elected Members and the public regarding the matters that affect their well-being as part of the process of developing the plan, while also analysing the findings of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Well-being Assessment.
- 4.3 The original set of 29 well-being objectives for the Council were included in the 2017/18 Council Strategic Plan. As well as being an extension to the Strategic Plan 2013-17, it bridged the period between that plan and the Council Plan 2018-23.
- 4.4 However, when the original set of well-being objectives was introduced it was acknowledged that the objectives would need revising in the near future to consider matters such as the results of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Local Services Board Well-being Assessment.
- 4.5 It was suggested that it was appropriate and timely to review the objectives when considering the content of the Council Plan for 2018-23. We have reviewed and evaluated our well-being objectives when producing the new plan, with the aim of reflecting the main messages that became apparent in the consultation and in the Well-being Assessment. It is also noted that the majority of the previous well-being objectives are addressed within the new set. The well-being objectives are listed in the Well-being Statement which an appendix within the plan.

5 Equality Act 2010

- 5.1 There is a statutory requirement to prepare and consider the findings of an equality impact assessment when preparing the plan in accordance with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 as is implemented in Wales. The assessment is appended in **Appendix 2**.
- 5.2 The assessment on the Plan in its whole did not discover any impacts which would justify deviating from the recommendation and it is anticipated that there are elements which would have a positive impact. A full Equality impact assessment will be carried out on each individual plan that would derive from the improvement priorities.

6 Recommendation

- 6.1 The Council is invited to adopt the Council Plan for 2018-23.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – Gwynedd Council Plan 2018-23

Appendix 2 - Equality Assessment