

MEETING: AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

DATE: 10 FEBRUARY 2022

**TITLE: REVENUE BUDGET 2021/22 –
END OF NOVEMBER 2021 REVIEW**

PURPOSE: Monitoring Report on the Latest Financial Position

**ACTION: Receive the information, consider the risks arising from
the forecast expenditure against the budget, and scrutinise
the Cabinet’s decisions regarding budget management by
the Council and its departments.**

CABINET MEMBER: COUNCILLOR IOAN THOMAS

CONTACT OFFICER: FFION MADOG EVANS, SENIOR FINANCE MANAGER

1. In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, the Audit and Governance Committee is expected to scrutinise some financial matters, including budget monitoring reports, as appropriate.
2. The attached report (Revenue Budget 2021/22 – End of November 2021 Review) was submitted to the Cabinet on 18 January 2022.
3. The Cabinet Member for Finance and the Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee have asked us to present this report to the Audit and Governance Committee to be scrutinised, together with the relevant decision notice which is on the next page.
4. The Audit and Governance Committee is requested to note the situation and the relevant risks regarding the budgets of the Council and its departments, consider the Cabinet’s decisions and comment as necessary.

Appendices:

Cabinet Decision Notice 18/01/2022

Cabinet report 18/01/2022: Revenue Budget 2021/22 – End of November 2021 Review

GWYNEDD COUNCIL CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	18 January 2022
Date decision will come into force and be implemented, unless the decision is called in, in accordance with section 7.25 of the Gwynedd Council Constitution	2 February 2022

SUBJECT

Item 7: REVENUE BUDGET 2021/22 - END OF NOVEMBER REVIEW

DECISION

- The report on the end of November 2021 review of the Revenue Budget was accepted, and the latest financial situation regarding the budgets of each department / service was considered.
- It was noted that the financial impact of Covid continues in 2021/22, which is a combination of additional costs, income losses and a slippage in the savings programme, as the Council has given priority to safeguarding the health and lives of the people of Gwynedd in response to the crisis.
- It was noted that the Welsh Government's Covid support system via the hardship fund was continuing, however, it did not address overspend due to a slippage in the savings programme.
- It was noted that there was significant overspend in the Adults, Health and Well-being Department and the Highways and Municipal Department this year.
- The following recommendations and financial virements on Corporate budgets were approved, that:
 - An underspend of (£20k) relating to capital costs is earmarked to a fund to finance the capital programme.
 - A net underspend of (£1,846k) on Corporate budgets goes to the Financial Strategy Support Fund to assist with the financial challenges facing the Council, particularly due to the Covid crisis.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

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.
