

## REPORT TO CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET

12 MARCH 2024

**Cabinet Member:** Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn, Leader of the Council

**Title of Item:** One-off Bids/Transformation Fund 2024/25

**Contact officer:** Dafydd Gibbard, Chief Executive

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### 1. The decision sought

The Cabinet is asked to approve the one-off bids of £6,508,260 for 2024/25 which are to be funded from the Transformation fund and the Financial Strategy fund.

### 2. Reason for the need of a decision

The bids for a one-off resource are presented in a separate report to the Budget report as the allocation of a one-off resource does not have an impact on setting our annual revenue budget or a consideration when having to determine the rate of Council Tax. This report will be submitted before the start of the 2024/25 financial year so that action can be taken from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2024.

### 3. Introduction and rationale

- 3.1 Annually the Council's departments are invited to submit bids for a one-off resource for issues such as coping with temporary pressures, carrying out Council Plan projects, transforming services or trialling before concluding if it is sensible to provide a permanent budget.
- 3.2 Although a number of bids were submitted by the departments, it was necessary to prioritise and limit the bids that were to receive approval to ensure that no excessive use of the funds is made.
- 3.3 Normally the Council's Transformation Fund / Scheme is used to finance the one-off bids. There is a balance of £3.53 million in the fund which isn't committed, therefore available to partially fund the bids of £6.51 million. It is intended to use the remaining £2.97 million to finance it from the Financial Strategy Fund.
- 3.4 Following the allocation of the one-off bids above, there are no funds left in the Council's Transformation Fund / Scheme. If temporary bids are to be funded in the future, it will be necessary to consider how to re-supply this fund when opportunities arise.
- 3.5 It is recommended that a higher than usual amount be approved for the 2024/25 one-off bids as we are not in a position to provide permanent revenue for them. As a result, it is recommended to fund them for a period rather than permanently. Some of these bids go to

areas that are overspending e.g. homelessness, in the hope that we will be able to bring those overspenders under control.

	Balance 31.3.23 £000	Funding for One-off bids £000	Amended Balance £000
Balances	7,912		7,912
Financial Strategy Fund	9,024	(2,974)	6,050
Transformation Fund (uncommitted)	3,534	(3,534)	-
	<u>20,470</u>	<u>(6,508)</u>	<u>13,962</u>

*\* Financial Strategy Fund - following the August and November revenue budget review additional money will be put into the Financial Strategy Fund, which results from corporate underspend, the exact figure will be dependent on the amount of departmental overspend that needs to be funded at the end of 2023 /24.*

#### 4. One-off Bids 2024/25

- 4.1 The bids received have been assessed by me, the two directors and the Head of Finance and are presented in **Appendix 1** details of the one-off bids recommended to receive financial support for 2024/25.
- 4.2 It is recommended to approve 22 bids worth £6,508,260 as listed in **Table 1** below, with more detailed information about the individual bids included in **Appendix 2**. The transform fund available to fund the Council's priorities, together with the financial strategy fund, to be used as a source to finance these bids.

**Table 1 One-off Revenue Bids 2024/25**

	Bid Title	Recommended amount (£)
<b>Economy and Community Department</b>		
One-off 1	Town Centre Regeneration	145,000
One-off 2	Sustainable Tourism Assistant position	46,040
<b>Corporate Support Department</b>		
One-off 3	Random alcohol and drug testing	15,380
One-off 4	Fund to pay for Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) security checks	50,000
One-off 5	Accessibility of the corporate website	41,960
One-off 6	Meeting statutory language matters	79,920
One-off 7	Language Strategy – action on delivery	85,080

One-off 8	Continue with the Apprenticeship Scheme and the Graduate Scheme. Establishment of a new Work Experience Scheme and Care Academy - Children and Adults	2,383,500
<b>Highways, Engineering and YGC Department</b>		
One-off 9	Commercial, Projects and Contracts Manager position	198,150
One-off 10	Continue to employ a Single Point of Contact	48,300
One-off 11	Contactless payment technology for public toilets	80,000
One-off 12	Modernise and improve the Street Cleaning service	88,610
One-off 13	Pilot Scheme - Town Centre Rubbish Collection	181,000
<b>Environment Department</b>		
One-off 14	Public transport	400,000
One-off 15	Waste and recycling structure	45,100
One-off 16	CCTV cameras on vehicles	196,970
<b>Housing and Property Department</b>		
One-off 17	Homelessness emergency accommodation costs	1,200,000
<b>Education Department</b>		
One-off 18	Re-tendering of school buses	486,000
One-off 19	Taxi transport and school trains	409,610
<b>Children and Supporting Families Department</b>		
One-off 20	Additional workers as a result of accepting Asylum Seekers without parents as part of the National Transfer Plan	115,000
<b>Adults and Children Together</b>		
One-off 21	Salaries of Social Workers and Occupational Therapists	212,640
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>6,508,260</b>

## 6. Conclusion

- 6.1 Following approval of the bids set out in Part 1 of the report, the money will be allocated to the relevant Departments so that they can act to spend on the services during the 2024/25 financial year.

### View of the local member

Not relevant

### View of the Statutory Officers

Monitoring Officer:

No observations to add in relation to propriety

**Head of Finance:**

Officers from the Finance Department have collaborated closely with the author of the report, and I can confirm the accuracy of the figures contained therein. I am satisfied that adequate resources have been identified, as shown in part 3.5, to finance the one-off bids shown in Table 1.

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**Appendices list**

Appendix 1 – One-off Bids Summary

Appendix 2 – One-off Revenue Bids