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MEETING	GwE Joint Committee
DATE	15 February 2023
TITLE	Base Budget 2023/24
PURPOSE	Present to the Joint Committee :
RECOMMENDATION	Adopt the base budget for 2023/24 as presented in Appendix 1.
AUTHOR	Gwynedd Council Head of Finance

1. Base Budget ("stand still")

- 1.1 GwE's budget is continually evolving and 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 and CPI increase (see Appendix 1). It is recommended to establish a budget of £17,993,147 for 2023/24, which is the same amount as in 2022/23.
- 1.3 The authorities' financial contributions are shown in Appendix 2.

2. Savings to be Found

- 2.1 The attached budget reflects the decision of the Authorities not to add inflation in full, and therefore implement a cut in 2023/24. This meant a cut in real terms of 5.25% after an increase in costs.
- 2.2 The actuary reviews the position of the Pension Fund every three years, with the latest review, completed in December 2022. The result of this being a reduction in the employer's contribution equivalent to £103,964 per year. This reduces the cut faced to 2.60%.
- 2.3 The amount of (£102,112) appears on the "Savings to be Found" line in the budget, which corresponds to the 2.60% above.
- 2.4 Currently, there is insufficient information at hand to identify the financial implications of specific grants in 2023/24.

3. The General Fund

3.1 The report 'GwE Budget 2021/22 – 3rd Quarter Review' (previous item on the agenda) estimates that there will be about £418,996 in the general fund on 31/03/2023, this represents less than 3% of GwE's turnover and in the current climate is an appropriate sum to be kept in reserve.

Appendix:

Appendix 1 - GwE Base Budget for 2023/24

Appendix 2 – Local Authority Contributions 2023/24

VIEWS OF STATUTORY OFFICERS

The Monitoring Officer:

Nothing to add from a proprietary perspective

The Statutory Finance Officer:

Author of the report