

## CYNGOR GWYNEDD - Report to Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet



<b>Title of Item:</b>	Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-2028 – 2024/25 Review
<b>Cabinet Member:</b>	Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn
<b>Relevant Officer:</b>	Dewi W. Jones, Council Business Support Service Manager
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	20 February, 2024

### 1. Decision Sought:

- 1.1 Cabinet approval of the Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-2028 – 2024/25 Review (the Plan) to be submitted to Council on 7 March 2024.

### 2. The reason why the Cabinet needs to make the decision:

- 2.1 To ensure that there is agreement on the content of the Plan, including any updates that have been made to it, before it is presented to a meeting of the Full Council for adoption at its meeting on 7 March 2024.

### 3 Introduction:

- 3.1 The Council Plan 2023-28 was originally adopted by the Full Council at its meeting on 2 March 2023. The Plan is our public statement as a Council of what we intend to achieve for the people of Gwynedd. It states our vision and ambition for the 5 years together with the projects we will deliver.
- 3.2 A new Plan was developed last year following a rigorous procedure and identifying a number of new priorities that aim to respond to what matters to the people of Gwynedd for the period of stabilisation and rebuilding post pandemic.
- 3.3 The Plan comprises a series of projects for the five years 2023-2028 under seven priority areas: Tomorrow's Gwynedd, A Prosperous Gwynedd, A Homely Gwynedd, A Caring Gwynedd, A Welsh Gwynedd, A Green Gwynedd and An Efficient Gwynedd. The priority areas are our Well-being Objectives under the Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The objectives will directly contribute to achieving the seven national well-being goals. A copy of the current Plan can be found at **Appendix 1**.
- 3.4 The purpose of reviewing the Plan is to look at where we have reached after a year of implementation, as well as to make sure we continue to do the right things. We considered what has changed from last year, looking at priority areas, ambitions and the projects in the current Plan and considered if there are any that should be added, modified or any that should be removed.

## 4 Relevant Considerations

4.1 The issues that Cabinet members need to consider before approving the modifications to the Plan are set out below. Details regarding these modifications have been highlighted in **Appendix 2**.

4.1.1 The following projects have been added:

***Priority Area: Tomorrow's Gwynedd***

- **Formulating and executing on a 10-year strategic direction for education in Gwynedd**
- **Review and improve the range of inclusion provisions in Gwynedd.**

***Priority Area: A Welsh Gwynedd***

- **Reviewing Gwynedd's Education Language Policy together with undertaking an evaluation of the Immersion System to ensure that all education policies and services provided to children and young people in Gwynedd set a firm foundation for the Welsh language**

4.1.2 The scope or content of the following project has changed:

***Priority Area: Tomorrow's Gwynedd***

- **Modernise buildings and the learning environment** - modifications to the project overview.

4.1.3 The following project has transferred to being part of the day-to-day work of the relevant Department during 2023/24:

***Priority Area: Tomorrow's Gwynedd***

- **Free School Meals**

4.1.4 In addition, following a desire to simplify the description and focus on transformational issues, projects in the Adults field within the **A Caring Gwynedd Priority Area** have been repackaged under 5 new projects, namely:

- **Modernising our care resources to meet future needs.**
- **Using more of technology to improve the ability of Gwynedd residents to access support and care.**
- **Working with Health Services to enable people to live their best life in the community.**
- **Developing training and work opportunities for individuals who need support.**
- **Llechen Lân**  
They replace the following projects that were in the original version of the Plan:
- **Local Preventative Support**
- **Living independently**
- **Quality Specialist Care.**

4.1.5 It should be noted that work is ongoing to identify project milestones for 2024-25 and outline milestones for the remainder of the Plan period. There will be an opportunity to discuss those relevant to your area of responsibility at meetings to be held in March.

4.1.6 It is suggested that the remaining projects under the seven priority areas continue from 2023/24.

### **3.2 Resources**

3.2.1 Additional resources are required in order to achieve the commitments noted for a number of projects within the Plan. Without the resource, it may not be possible for us to deliver what is noted. Currently, we propose that all the projects are approved as part of the Plan, subject to the Cabinet's agreement to fund them, after they have considered each business case individually.

### **3.3 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015**

3.3.1 The Act places a duty on public bodies in Wales to improve economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being. As part of the duty, public bodies are required to publish well-being objectives that outline how they will improve well-being. Our seven priority areas are our Well-being Objectives under the Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The objectives will directly contribute to achieving the seven national well-being goals. Our Well-being Statement for 2023-28 remains current.

### **3.4 Public Consultation**

3.4.1 There has been no public consultation on the review of the scheme as we consulted extensively on the content of the Council Plan 2023-28. As part of that process, several pieces of work / information were considered, including the projects that were in the previous Plan 2018-23, feedback from the 'Ardal Ni' Regeneration Framework engagement work, and the Well-being Assessments from Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board.

3.4.2 As part of the formulation of the Plan, two workshop-style sessions were held during December 2022 to which all Elected Members were invited. They were given the opportunity to highlight any matters that needed addressing on a county level along with the areas they represent. A public consultation was also held during December 2022. Overall, there was agreement to the draft priorities along with a welcome for the opportunity to feed into the process before the Plan was formally presented to Cabinet and the Full Council meeting in 2023.

### **3.5 Equality Act 2010**

3.5.1 There is a statutory requirement to prepare and consider the findings of an equality impact assessment in preparing the plan in accordance with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010 as implemented in Wales. The assessment is attached in **Appendix 3**.

3.5.2 The assessment on the Plan in its entirety does not identify any impact that would justify a departure from the recommendation, and there are elements for which a positive impact is anticipated. The Project Leaders will be responsible for undertaking a full Equality Impact Assessment on individual projects.

### **4 Next Steps and Timetable**

4.1 With approval of the modifications to the Plan, the revised Plan is scheduled to be submitted for adoption at the next full Council meeting on 7 March 2024.

### **5 Views of the Statutory Officers**

#### **i. Chief Finance Officer**

As noted when the Plan was adopted in March 2023, there is an acknowledgment that resource requirements for all the improvement priorities in the Plan is greater than the money available to them, and I therefore agree with what is set out in paragraph 3.2 of the report, that there is a need to consider each individual business case before funding is agreed. The specific funds that are available to support the Plan are under constant review.

Financial propriety means that we will continue to ensure that a funding source has been identified for any commitment to spend.

#### **ii. Monitoring Officer**

It is appropriate that the Council keeps the Plan under regular review. I am satisfied with the propriety of the recommendation.

### **List of Appendices:**

Appendix 1: Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-2028

Appendix 2 : Modifications to Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-28 – 2024/25 Review

Appendix 3 : Equality Impact Assessment 2024/25 Review