

2024/25 REVENUE BUDGET - FINAL ACCOUNTS

Adults, Health and Well-being Department	2024/25 Budget	2024/25 Position	Gross Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Projected Over / (Under) Spend- November 2024/25 Review
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Adults Services</u>						
Older People's Services						
Residential and Nursing - Homes	23,227	22,477	(750)		(750)	(1,220)
Domiciliary Care	10,188	12,313	2,125		2,125	1,622
Physical Disabilities Services	3,471	2,257	(1,214)		(1,214)	(879)
Others	4,810	4,785	(25)		(25)	1,372
	41,696	41,832	136	0	136	895
Learning Disabilities Services	29,958	29,866	(92)		(92)	155
Mental Health Services	5,193	4,975	(218)		(218)	(37)
Department Management	576	462	(114)		(114)	(81)
<u>Adults Services Total</u>	77,423	77,135	(288)	0	(288)	932
<u>Provider Services (shows net budget)</u>						
Residential Care	(469)	45	514		514	389
Day Care	(50)	(60)	(10)		(10)	(6)
Community Care	132	746	614		614	1,535
Others	(14)	13	27		27	44
<u>Provider Services Total</u>	(401)	744	1,145	0	1,145	1,962
Closure of 2024/25 Accounts Adaption				(757)	(757)	0
<u>Adults, Health and Well-being Total</u>	77,022	77,879	857	(757)	100	2,894

Adults, Health and Well-being

In line with the Cabinet's decision on the November Review, a number of significant budget transfers within the Department for Adults, Health and Well-being services have been implemented to reflect the current pressures, including in the area of Learning Disability, Older People, Physical Disability and Mental Health. Further to this, the basis of reimbursing In-house Domiciliary Care on the Older People's Service has changed since the last review.

Older People - the receipt of income, contributions and significant grants by the end of the year in the Older People field has led to a reduction in overspend to £136k. In residential and nursing, higher fee costs from private providers continue but the use of an independent national care fees system has been effective in providing the Council with assurance of value for money. The arrangements relating to deferred payments for residents are also more effective. In domiciliary care, a further increase in budget pressures coupled with a reduction in income has resulted in an overspend of £2.1 million. In the physical disabilities field, the downward trend in demand for domiciliary care continues. In 'Others', grant receipt and additional one-off income aids the financial situation.

Learning Disability - the service received an additional budget allocation of £1.68 million for the field in 2024/25. An underspend of (£92k) is reported at the end of the year, although pressure remains on supported accommodation and that field worker jobs are above the organisation, day and residential services and nursing are underspending. Grants and one-off funds received by the end of the year have aided the financial situation.

Mental Health - income was received from Health at the end of the year and field workers and support schemes are underspending but there is pressure on the supported accommodation element.

Department Management - underspend on the legal budget and also on wages and travel.

Provider Services - staff overspend in residential care including £0.5 million overspend on the use of agency staff. Although an additional budget of £0.5 million has been permanently invested in domiciliary care in 2024/25, higher staffing costs, with sickness levels and high non-contact hour rates persist and account for £614k of the overspend. The day care provision has reduced over recent years, however there are residual running costs for some of the buildings.

Savings - in terms of the situation of realising savings for the department, a total of £1.3 million of the related £1.8 million has been realised.

In light of the exceptional overspend by the Adults, Health and Well-being Department in 2023/24, the Chief Executive commissioned work earlier on in the year to explain the complex detail in Adults care, in order to gain a better understanding of the issues and a clear programme to respond. The work is being addressed and led by the Statutory Director of Social Services, with a view to reporting on the findings shortly.

It is recommended that the Adults, Health and Well-being Department receives one-off financial support of £757k to limit the level of overspend that is to be carried forward by the Department to £100k, to assist in moving on and facing the challenges of 2025/26.

2024/25 REVENUE BUDGET - FINAL ACCOUNTS

Children and Families Department	2024/25 Budget	2024/25 Position	Gross Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Projected Over / (Under) Spend- November 2024/25 Review
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Service Management	673	670	(3)		(3)	(12)
Operational	2,592	3,025	433		433	431
Placements						
Out-of-County Placements	5,832	7,939	2,107		2,107	2,007
Small Group Homes	0	28	28		28	0
Fostering through an Agency	1,917	1,490	(427)		(427)	(388)
Fostering - Internal	3,057	2,856	(201)		(201)	(241)
Support Services and Others	2,053	2,480	427		427	411
	12,859	14,793	1,934	0	1,934	1,789
Post-16	1,702	1,975	273		273	65
Derwen Service	2,607	3,842	1,235		1,235	1,378
Youth Justice	270	229	(41)		(41)	(40)
Early Years	155	36	(119)		(119)	(76)
Workforce Development Unit	190	190	0		0	0
Others	2,244	2,337	93		93	148
Closure of 2024/25 Accounts Adaption			0	(3,705)	(3,705)	0
<u>Children and Families Total</u>	23,292	27,097	3,805	(3,705)	100	3,683

Children and Families

Operational - the overspending trend continues as a result of substantial pressure on support plans support, as well as staffing above the budget for field workers. A bid for an additional resource has been approved for the field for 2025/26.

Placements - a further increase was seen in the average number of out-of-county placements again this year to 34.3 (32.5 in 2023/24, 25.7 for 2022/23), and thus an increase in overspend since the 2023/24 situation to £2.1 million. While the average cost of the placements is £248k, there are six exceptional placements this year, costing between £487k and £861k each. An increase was seen in the costs due to the complexities of the packages and recent increased use of unregistered placements, which are more costly.

Average numbers of Fostering through an Agent and Internal Fostering are slightly lower than the 2023/24 numbers and as many asylum seekers without parents or guardians receive a service, the receipt of income for them by the Home Office results in underspending. In the support service and others, there is increasing pressure on the budget of the placements team, support workers and on the North Wales Adoption Service.

Small Group Homes - in the process of being established in Gwynedd, namely in-house provisions which will mean that children can be placed in-house, instead of with external out-of-county providers, which in turn will reduce the existing overspending on placements. The Council received a grant to set it up but the costs have exceeded the grant.

Post-16 - additional pressures on the service including the over 18s asylum seeker element as the Home Office's contribution is not sufficient to cover the costs. Staffing above the social worker budget also contributes to the overspending.

Derwen - the overspend trend continues, with the costs of support plan workers and specialist support now overspending by £1 million. There has been a shift in emphasis on how the service is provided, with increased pressure on direct payments which account for £178k of the overspend. Increased use of placements that are long-time in their nature in the Short Break Unit and therefore, leads to an increase in the pressure on the budget.

Youth Justice - staff turnover and a reduction in the Council's contribution towards the partnership's running costs this year.

Early Years - increasing grants available to fund core spending have led to growth in the underspend.

Others - a number of factors including overspend on specialist services fees and staff costs but which is reduced by additional grant receipt.

As a result of the exceptional overspending by the Children and Families Department, the Chief Executive commissioned work to explain the details in the area of Child care to obtain a better understanding of the issues and a clear programme of response. The work is being led by the Statutory Director of Social Services.

It is recommended that the Children and Families Department receives one-off financial support of £3.705 million to restrict the level of overspend to be carried forward by the Department to £100k, to help them move forward to meet the challenge of 2025/26.

2024/25 REVENUE BUDGET - FINAL ACCOUNTS

Business and Care Commissioning Service	2024/25 Budget	2024/25 Position	Gross Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Projected Over / (Under) Spend- November 2024/25 Review
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Support and Commissioning	2,282	2,205	(77)		(77)	(83)
Income and Finance	719	699	(20)		(20)	21
Preventative Services	264	243	(21)		(21)	(7)
Other Services	166	269	103		103	424
Accounts Closure Adaption - underspend not carried forward				15	15	
<u>Business and Care Commissioning Service Total</u>	3,431	3,416	(15)	15	0	355

Business and Care Commissioning Service

The Business and Care Commissioning Service has been moved from the Adults, Health and Well-being Department during the year to be accountable to the Statutory Director of Social Services, since their area of work includes the care of adults and children.

Support and Commissioning - underspend on a number of budget headings including staff costs, travel, supplies and services and higher income receipts, but jobs above the structure during the year reduce the reported underspend.

Income and Finance - underspend on a number of budget headings including on wages and travel.

Preventative Service - receipt of an additional grant for preventive services which means there is an underspend at the end of the financial year.

Other Services - includes £85k of unrealised savings and £25k overspend on a home sharing schemen which has come to an end.

2024/25 REVENUE BUDGET - FINAL ACCOUNTS

Education Department	2024/25 Budget	2024/25 Position	Gross Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Projected Over / (Under) Spend- November 2024/25 Review
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Devolved Schools	96,862	96,862	0		0	0
Schools Quality Services	(1,629)	(1,672)	(43)		(43)	(12)
Infrastructure and Support Services						
Transportation	8,245	8,245	0		0	0
Ancillary Services	760	578	(182)		(182)	(62)
Others	(483)	(501)	(18)		(18)	(35)
	8,522	8,322	(200)	0	(200)	(97)
Leadership and Management	2,588	2,621	33		33	(20)
Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion	5,281	5,305	24		24	15
Youth Service	879	874	(5)		(5)	(31)
Accounts Closure Adaption - underspend not carried forward			0	191	191	0
Education Total	112,503	112,312	(191)	191	0	(145)

Education

Schools Quality Service - a combination of staff turnover and an increase in the use of grant funding to fund core spending.

Transport - following an overspend of £1.5 million during the 2023/24 financial year, the field received an additional budget allocation this year of £896k on a permanent basis, and a further £896k for one year only to address the pressure on the school bus and taxi field, following the re-tendering of contracts. By the end of the year there was an underspend of £49k on school buses and £242k on taxis and school trains, so the contribution from the one-off bid of £290k was reduced so that the final financial position was balanced.

The transport field continues to be the subject of a strategic review to try to control the increase in the expenditure, so that it is possible to reduce overspending and take advantage of opportunities for efficiencies.

Infrastructure and Support Services - Ancillary Services - higher income and lower than forecast costs for catering following the receipt of a grant for free primary school lunches. Overspend on staff costs due to sickness and issues in school cleaning and caretaking. The care element of the breakfast clubs also continues to overspend by £93k as a result of higher staff costs and a lack of income.

Infrastructure and Support Services - Others - underspend on a number of various budgets.

Leadership and Management - higher costs on staffing and on various other headlines.

Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion service - mixed picture which is a combination of staff turnover and grant receipt, however, pressure on a number of other various headings. The circumstances relating to one specific centre continues and is responsible for an overspend of £135k.

Youth Service - realising the 2025/26 savings scheme relating to staffing in advance, additional grant receipt but higher spending.

2024/25 REVENUE BUDGET - FINAL ACCOUNTS

Economy and Community Department	2024/25 Budget	2024/25 Position	Gross Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Projected Over / (Under) Spend- November 2024/25 Review
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Management	394	125	(269)		(269)	(6)
Community Regeneration and Support Programmes	480	593	113		113	(10)
Maritime and Country Parks	(379)	(184)	195		195	181
Byw'n Iach and Other Leisure Contracts	1,555	1,987	432	(281)	151	107
Economic Development Programmes	(81)	(281)	(200)		(200)	(105)
Marketing and Events	293	266	(27)		(27)	(10)
Gwynedd Libraries	1,679	1,574	(105)		(105)	(48)
Gwynedd Museums, Arts and Archives	841	988	147		147	183
Use of the Department's Underspend Fund	5	0	(5)		(5)	(53)
<u>Economy and Community Total</u>	4,787	5,068	281	(281)	0	239

Economy and Community

Management - grant receipt results in an underspend on the core budget.

Maritime and Country Parks - impact of poor weather over the summer disrupted income levels, which has led to a lack of income at beaches and has contributed to a reduction in the income of Hafan Pwllheli. Higher spending and spending above the budget are also issues at Hafan Pwllheli and Doc Fictoria, Caernarfon. Country Parks underspend (£63k) as a result of higher income receipt including from Netflix at Parc Padarn.

Byw'n Iach and Other Leisure Contracts - the leisure provision was transferred to the Byw'n Iach Company in April 2019, but responsibility for the running costs of properties remained with the Council. Over the past few years the company has received annual financial support from the Council which was £550k in 2022/23 and £308k in 2023/24, which was above the contractual payment in the delivery contract, to enable them to maintain their services. Financial support continues this year and the required amount has increased to £281k by the end of the year, from the £201k projected in the November Review.

Further, an overspend of £191k on the Economy and Community Department budget to run leisure facilities.

Economic Development Programmes - success in attracting additional grants to fund staff costs which free up the Council's core budget.

Marketing and Events - grant receipt and advance job savings which are part of the 2025/26 savings schemes.

Gwynedd Libraries - the service is being restructured and a vacancy that is part of the 2025/26 savings plans is contributing to this year's underspend. Higher grant receipt and rental income along with less spending on many budget headings.

Museums, Arts and Gwynedd Archives - staff costs above budget levels and lack of income are issues at Neuadd Dwyfor £146k and at Storiell £35k. The receipt of income and grants in other areas has helped to alleviate some of the overspend.

To reduce the reported overspend, the department is using £5k from a departmental underspend fund.

It is recommended that the Cabinet approves financial support to the value of £281k to Cwmni Byw'n Iach.

2024/25 REVENUE BUDGET - FINAL ACCOUNTS

Highways, Engineering and YGC Department (including Trunk roads)	2024/25 Budget	2024/25 Position	Gross Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Projected Over / (Under) Spend- November 2024/25 Review
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Services:</u>						
Highways (including Trunk roads)	11,546	11,787	241		241	228
Engineering	620	595	(25)		(25)	(8)
Municipal	5,378	6,052	674		674	489
Gwynedd Consultancy	48	(186)	(234)		(234)	(10)
Closure of 2024/25 Accounts Adaption			0	(556)	(556)	0
<u>Highways, Engineering and YGC Total</u>	17,592	18,248	656	(556)	100	699

Highways, Engineering and YGC (including Trunk roads)

Highways Services - the situation of income from outside agencies has improved, but pressure on Highway work units budgets. Following the storms over the winter, additional costs were incurred but no financial support was received towards the relevant costs. Underspend on staff costs reduce the overspend reported.

Engineering Services - underspend on various headings including on salaries and on the external works budget.

Municipal Services - a mixed picture which is a combination of factors that include further additional pressure on the staffing budgets of street cleaning and cleaning public toilets. Income losses are issues for land maintenance and public toilets. There has been an increase in spending since the November Review which worsens the financial situation. Higher income from the bereavement services coupled with staffing underspend in a number of areas is aiding the financial situation.

Gwynedd Consultancy - a significant improvement in income from external organisations such as other councils and the Welsh Government in the area of roads and engineering as well as vacancies and staff turnover.

It is recommended that the Highways, Engineering and YGC Department receives one-off financial support of £556k to restrict the level of overspend to be carried forward by the Department to £100k, to assist them to move on to face the challenges of 2025/26.

2024/25 REVENUE BUDGET - FINAL ACCOUNTS

Environment Department	2024/25 Budget	2024/25 Position	Gross Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Projected Over / (Under) Spend- November 2024/25 Review
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Department Management	714	926	212		212	213
Planning and Building Control Service	474	663	189		189	232
Street Care and Transport Services						
Network Management (Transportation)	231	(316)	(547)		(547)	(468)
Parking and Parking Enforcement	(2,674)	(1,921)	753		753	604
Integrated Transport	2,482	2,414	(68)		(68)	(36)
	39	177	138	0	138	100
Countryside and Access	702	695	(7)		(7)	(23)
Public Protection	2,151	1,868	(283)		(283)	(219)
Waste	13,733	14,833	1,100		1,100	667
Environment Total	17,813	19,162	1,349	0	1,349	970
Use of Parc Adfer Refinance Gain Share Reserve				(1,100)	(1,100)	
Closure of 2024/25 Accounts Adaption				(149)	(149)	
Modified Environment Total				(1,249)	100	

Environment

Department Management - a delay in realising savings schemes to the value of £200k as well as an overspend on staff and travelling costs.

Planning and Building Control Service - lack of income is an issue in Building Control, Development Control and Land Charges, but is reduced by an underspend on staffing costs.

Street Care and Transport Services

Network Management (Transportation) - exceeding street work fees income, as well as empty posts and an underspend on a number of budget headings.

Parking and Parking Enforcement - the parking income deficit has increased to £826k but its impact is reduced by underspending on a number of other budgets.

Integrated Transport - an additional one-off budget of £400k has been allocated for 2024/25 following the additional pressure of re-tendering public bus contracts. Higher grant receipt from Transport for Wales is also helping to ease the situation. It is suggested that the review into the transport provision should continue.

Public Protection - vacant posts and less expenditure on a number of the budget headings, including food and water samples, services and supplies. Income is down for licensing, markets, taxi licensing while health and safety income is higher and grant receipt and income are higher in trading standards.

Waste - a number of issues responsible for the overspend of £1.1 million, work to introduce changes to the field during the year, but the overspending is mainly on waste collection and recycling. Overspend also evident in the running costs of recycling centres. Staff above the organisation, employment costs and levels of sickness and overtime are problematic, but the issue is being addressed. A number of slipping savings schemes are also a part of the picture.

Reclaiming the Shared Returns of Parc Adfer - One-off saving to all councils from the returns of re-funding Parc Adfer. The contribution has been placed in a fund, with the first call on it to be used to fund the overspending in the waste field.

It is recommended firstly, to use (£1.1 million) to fund the overspend in Waste from Parc Adfer's Contributory Earnings Recovery fund. In addition, that the Environment Department receives one-off financial support of £149k to limit the level of overspend to be carried forward by the Department to £100k, to help them move forward to face the challenge of 2025/26.

2024/25 REVENUE BUDGET - FINAL ACCOUNTS

Housing and Property Department	2024/25 Budget	2024/25 Position	Gross Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Projected Over / (Under) Spend- November 2024/25 Review
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Management	540	505	(35)		(35)	(9)
Housing Services						
Homelessness	5,825	5,791	(34)		(34)	(269)
Private Sector Housing	399	414	15		15	(50)
Others	266	257	(9)		(9)	(11)
	6,490	6,462	(28)	0	(28)	(330)
Property Services						
Property	2,426	2,467	41		41	20
Caretaking, Catering and Cleaning	(3)	16	19		19	16
	2,423	2,483	60	0	60	36
Closure of 2024/25 Accounts Adaption			0	3	3	0
<u>Housing and Property Total</u>	9,453	9,450	(3)	3	0	(303)
Corporate Maintenance - slippage			(1,223)			
Transfer to Maintenance Fund at the end of the year			1,223			
<u>Net Corporate Maintenance</u>			0			

Housing and Property

Management - underspending on services and supplies and on staffing costs.

Homelessness - the trend of significant pressure on the emergency accommodation service continues, with expenditure on the field forecast to be £6 million this year, compared to £6.8 million last year. Following consideration of an additional budget to emergency accommodation, namely £3 million allocated from the council tax premium and an additional one-off budget allocated as part of the bids procedure for 2024/25 to assist with the extra pressures. Further to this, an additional grant was received from the Welsh Government at the end of the financial year to greet the additional pressures in the field.

Private Sector Housing - a shortfall in the disabled facilities grant income and on multiple-occupancy housing permits but which is reduced by staff turnover and underspending on supplies and services.

Housing Services, Others - grant receipts and underspend on staffing costs is reduced by a deficit in the contributions from housing associations.

Property Services - pressures on the services and supplies budget in Property and on vehicle costs in Pest Control. Lack of income is also a problem in Pest Control, but the receipt of one-time income in Property reduces the reported overspend.

Caretaking, Catering and Cleaning - overspend on staffing costs is reduced by an income receipt which is higher than the target.

Corporate Maintenance - Education received a maintenance grant from the Government of £1.1 million in July 2024 followed by a further £0.7 million in January, which has resulted in a £1.2 million slippage on the core maintenance budget, which has been transferred to a fund at the end of the year for maintenance purposes.

2024/25 REVENUE BUDGET - FINAL ACCOUNTS

Central Departments	2024/25 Budget	2024/25 Position	Gross Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Projected Over / (Under) Spend- November 2024/25 Review
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Corporate Management Team and Legal	2,706	2,658	(48)	48	0	(61)
Finance (and Information Technology)	8,487	8,482	(5)	5	0	(4)
Corporate Services	8,284	8,242	(42)	42	0	(33)
Central Departments Total	19,477	19,382	(95)	95	0	(98)

Central Departments

Corporate and Legal Management Team - surpassing income following the receipt of grants and income late in the year, along with an attempt to maintain vacancies in various areas. Additional one-off costs were also funded. Contrary to forecasts, Gwynedd's element of the Coroner's costs was within budget by the end of the year.

Finance (and Information Technology) - staff turnover, which is reduced by higher software costs in the Taxes, Benefits, Income and Payments Units. Additional grant receipts were seen in a number of areas by the end of the year including Internal Audit and Accounting, but one-off expenditure on CIPFA Consultation reduced the reported underspend.

Corporate Services - a combination of reasons responsible for the situation including staff turnover and an attempt to maintain vacancies during the year. Realising the 2025/26 savings in advance is also evident and contributes to the underspending. The Human Resources Advisory Service, Health and Safety, Translation and Printing House have exceeded income but a deficit in the Registration income. Customer Contact received an additional grant at the end of the year which has transformed their position from the projections. A permanent bid was allocated for 2024/25 to alleviate the additional pressure on the counselling and physiotherapy budget thus eliminating the associated overspend.

2024/25 REVENUE BUDGET - FINAL ACCOUNTS

Corporate (Reflects variances only)	2024/25 Budget	2024/25 Position	Gross Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2024/25	Projected Over / (Under) Spend- November 2024/25 Review
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Council Tax	*	*	(3,057)	3,057	0	0
Council Tax Reductions	*	*	43	(43)	0	0
Capital Costs	*	*	(221)	221	0	0
Government Grant - Supporting Local Government Pressures	*	*	(1,572)	1,572	0	0
Savings Provision	*	*	(719)	719	0	0
Budgets / Bids Returned	*	*	(402)	402	0	0
Others	*	*	(764)	764	0	0
Corporate Total	*	*	(6,692)	6,692	0	0

Corporate

Council Tax - additional council tax returns as a result of prudent projections when setting the 2024/25 budget. While there was a reduction of 239 in the number of the premium's second homes during 2023/24, there was a significant increase of 387 in the number in 2024/25, 100 of these since the November Review. Furthermore, we saw 692 properties transferring from non-domestic rates to Council Tax during the year (381 in 2023/24). However, on the other hand, the Valuer's Office permitted 189 properties to transfer from Council Tax to non-domestic rates, which is lower than in previous years (193 in 2023/24, 452 in 2022/23, 469 in 2021/22 and 506 in 2020/21). In 2024/25, £6 million of the Council Tax Premium has been earmarked for the Housing Strategy and a further £3 million for the field of Homelessness.

Council Tax Reductions - following a campaign to target different groups to increase the number of applications, an increase was seen in the number who claim the reduction in Gwynedd this year compared with the trend in previous years.

Capital Costs - impact of the current treasury management policy has meant that it was possible to avoid external borrowing, thus avoiding the associated costs.

Government Grant - an additional grant allocation by the Government at the end of March 2025 towards the additional demand, rising costs and overall pressures facing Local Government.

Savings Provision - following the inability of some departments to realise savings in certain areas, corporate provision has been made so that it is available to eliminate problematic savings and bridge the realisation of savings.

Budgets / Bids Returned - the pressures on some budgets not as much as provided in the budget.

Others - the demand on the provision was not as high as what was projected when setting the budget.

It is recommended that the Departments that are overspending in 2024/25 should be supported by funding them from the following sources:

- firstly, use (£304k) from the six departments that are underspending
 - use (£1.1 million) of the Parc Adfer Contributory Earnings Recovery fund to fund overspend in the Waste area
 - fund the £281k overspend by Cwmni Byw'n Iach
 - use (£5.144 million) of the underspend on Corporate budgets
 - that the remainder of the Corporate underspend (£1.548 million) be transferred to the Transformation Fund, to be used for the Council's priorities.
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- following a fund harvesting exercise detailed in **Appendix 3**,
 - that (£1.275 million) be transferred to the Transformation Fund for use for the Council's priorities and to fund future one-off bids
 - uncommit (£375k) of historic or non-committed schemes in the Transformation Fund.
 - that (£2.5 million) is moved from the Council's Financial Strategy Reserve to the Transformation Fund.