

MEETING	Full Council
DATE	14 May 2026
TITLE	Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-2028 – 2026/27 Review
PURPOSE	Approval of the 2026/27 Review of the Council Plan
CABINET MEMBER	Councillor Nia Jeffreys
CONTACT OFFICER	Catrin Thomas, Corporate Director and Dewi W. Jones, Council Business Support Service Manager, Corporate Services Department

1. Decision Sought

- 1.1. On the recommendation of the Cabinet that the Council adopts the **Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-28 - 2026/27 Review**.

2. Introduction

- 2.1. The Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-28 is our public statement as a Council regarding what we intend to deliver for the people of Gwynedd. It conveys our priorities and our ambition for the next five years together with the projects we will be carrying out. The Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-28 was originally adopted by the Full Council at its meeting on 2 March 2023.
- 2.2. 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 Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The objectives will directly contribute to achieving the seven national well-being goals. A copy of the current version can be found here - [Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-28](#)
- 2.3. The purpose of reviewing the Plan is to look at where we have reached as we are now over halfway through the Plan. Looking at the priority areas, our ambitions and projects, we considered what has changed, what has been achieved and what more we need to do.
- 2.4. It is also noted that we are expected to review our Well-being Objectives (Priority Areas) annually to ensure they remain up to date.
- 2.5. In January we held two workshop sessions (one for the Cabinet Members and the other for the Management Team) to look at where we have reached and to review the content of the current Plan. A further session for Cabinet Members was held on 12 February to consider the issues raised in the first two sessions and agree modifications to the 2026/27 version of the Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-28.
- 2.6. Over 20 Councillors attended a workshop session on 24 February, where they had the opportunity to comment on the proposed changes to the Plan as part of the review. Valuable feedback was received from them and thank you to those members who attended for their comments and suggestions. A summary of the main issues identified by them is below. In summary, these are areas that can be incorporated within the Plan's existing projects by adding actions or milestones.
 - **Increased emphasis on job creation and quality employment across the County.** – this is already being addressed by projects within the A Prosperous Gwynedd Priority Area
 - **Promoting and enabling disabled people to work by ensuring the right support and environment.** – this is covered within the project **Developing training and employment opportunities for individuals in need of support**

- **Support for parents and carers of (non-Welsh-speaking) children in immersion provision so that they can support them confidently.** – a suggestion to include milestones within the project **Review of Gwynedd's Education Language Policy as well as carrying out an evaluation of the Immersion System.**
- **More social opportunities and activities for young people.** – this is already being covered within the project **Extending opportunities for play and socialising for children and young people.**

2.7. At its meeting on 10 March 2026 the Cabinet accepted the report on the **Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-2028 – 2026/27 Review** as a record of the technical changes to date in the review of the Council Plan requesting further editorial work before submitting the review in its final form to the Full Council for adoption at its meeting on 14 May 2026.

2.8. As part of our commitment to paying more attention to children's rights we will be developing a version of the Plan that is suitable and easy for children to understand.

3. Relevant Considerations / Project Review

3.1 To ensure that the Plan and its projects continue to deliver for the people of Gwynedd and responds to changes, a review has been carried out. Here are the details.

3.1.1 Response Plan: Our Bravery Brought Justice

- To underline an ongoing commitment to implementing the recommendations of the 'Our Bravery Brought Justice' report, the Response Plan: Our Bravery Brought Justice is included at the beginning of the Council Plan.

The importance of the Response Plan: Our Bravery Brought Justice demands this.

3.1.2. New Priority Area - An Equal Gwynedd

- Equality and treating everyone equally is an all-important life principle. We want to establish a new priority area called An Equal Gwynedd to emphasise that this is an absolutely core basis for our work.
- The development of Gwynedd as a county that is child-friendly and a county that is considerate of trauma are areas where we need to do further work in order to establish direction and strong foundations to achieve the goal. We will use the resource to establish an evidence base, complete research work, and provide training and specific work programmes throughout the year.
- The following projects contribute directly to the work, so it would be sensible to move them from An Efficient Gwynedd to An Equal Gwynedd:
 - **Ensuring fairness for all** - a project that emphasises the Council's commitment to tackling inequalities and ensuring equity and inclusion. These are the 9 equality characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation.
 - **Women in leadership** - a project that strengthens efforts to break down barriers, encourage fair and inclusive representation in leadership roles.

3.1.3. New projects

- It is suggested that the following two projects be:
 - **Return to Gwynedd** - The aim is to retain and attract young people and a skilled workforce who strengthen Gwynedd's communities and economy while promoting the use of the Welsh language.

- **Gwynedd Economic Development Strategy (A Prosperous Gwynedd)** – The objective is to set a clear direction to ensure sustainable economic growth, with a focus on supporting local businesses, jobs and investment, in collaboration with the Council and its partners.

3.1.4. Projects for which there is a commitment to underline their importance

Tomorrow's Gwynedd

- **Extending socialising opportunities for children and young people** – Reinforcing the importance of providing socialising opportunities for children and young people throughout the county.

A Prosperous Gwynedd

- **Creating the best possible circumstances in Gwynedd for community enterprises and businesses to thrive.** – Discuss how the intention to establish a Trawsfynydd Science Park and develop a Skills and Business Innovation Centre can be introduced into the project's work programme
- **Regenerating communities and town centres** - Focus on the areas where we have influence, consider what the views are locally and measure the impact of regeneration on the communities.
- **Keeping the Benefit Local** – By increasing council spending in local supply chains, economies and communities are strengthened. We will do everything we can to intensify the impact of this.

A Homely Gwynedd

- **Management of second homes and short-term holiday accommodation** - Establishing how the current interventions have helped and what impact the work has had.

A Caring Gwynedd

- **Working with Health Services to enable people to live their best life in the community** - Achieving better outcomes for individuals and communities through greater collaboration and better integration of services.
- **Autism Plan** - Placing greater emphasis on the service user experience; making sure the service is easier to access; that there is greater co-ordination of support and that it better responds to the needs of autistic people and their families.
- **Llechen Lân** - The desire is to establish a Clean Slate for children. The key steps that need to be taken to do this are set out in the amendments. What needs to be done to implement the recommendations for adults is there as well.

An Efficient Gwynedd

- **Developing the Council's culture** - We want to improve the experience of residents dealing with the Council, establish how the current interventions have helped and what impact the work has had.

3.1.5. Projects that can become part of the day-to-day work of departments because their original objectives have been completed. (The projects will continue to be covered within the Departments' performance challenge and support regime.)

Tomorrow's Gwynedd

- **Promote the well-being of children and young people and reduce the cost of sending children to school** - The milestones for auditing, mapping and creating a guidance on the

cost of sending children to school have been completed. The next steps will contribute to the Supporting People project.

- **Extend opportunities for play and socialising for the county's children and young people**

Having taken steps to review and improve playing fields, secure grant funding, strengthen maintenance arrangements, and continue to work with Community and Town Councils, the milestones for the playing fields element have been completed.

A Homely Gwynedd

- **Dealing with the energy cost crisis and fuel poverty** - Embedded within day-to-day work with an Energy Team now set up to provide advice and guidance to people, the Fuel Poverty Partnership brings together relevant services and agencies.

A Welsh Gwynedd

- **Modernising and expanding immersion provision to teach Welsh to children** – We have invested in the Language Centres and arrangements have been put in place to improve communication with parents about Welsh language education, strengthen collaboration with community partners, and provide training and immersion resources to Foundation Phase staff. This is now part of long-term provision to ensure better quality for children and young people.

A Green Gwynedd

- **Clean and Tidy Communities** - The Tidying Team and community collaboration arrangements have been developed.
- **Public Transport** - The project has undertaken a strategic review of the network and introduced electric vehicles.

An Efficient Gwynedd

- **Workforce Planning** – Response arrangements in place.
- **Strategic review of Health and Safety management** - Steps to strengthen strategic arrangements for Health, Safety and Well-being have been put in place within the Council.
- **Managing the impact of national budgetary cuts** - Arrangements are now in place in terms of budget management and savings arrangements.

3.2. It is suggested that the remaining projects under the current seven priority areas will continue from 2025/26.

3.3. A text-only copy (Word) of the modified Plan is attached to this report as **Appendix 1**. **Appendix 2** also shows the revised front page on the website for the Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-28 – 2026/27 Review.

3.4. We have also consulted with the trade unions (as required under the Social Partnership Duty) to receive their input on the recommendations but have not receive a response.

4. Resources

4.1. 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.

- 4.2. Proactive steps have been taken to identify resources for the matters that are being included as new in the Plan or where the scope of work has changed. A number of these bids were approved by the Cabinet at its meeting on the 10th of March 2026 and further information can be found below:

Plan/Project	Resource
Response Plan: Our Bravery Brought Justice	£600,000 of permanent revenue has been included in the revenue budget which has already been approved by Cabinet and by Full Council on 10 th March. A one-off revenue funding of £200,000 has also been approved at the Cabinet meeting on 10 March.
An Equal Gwynedd	£200,000 of one-off revenue funding approved at the Cabinet meeting on 10 th March.
Creating the best possible circumstances in Gwynedd for community enterprises and businesses to thrive. (Trawsfynydd Science Park)	£1M of capital already committed by the Council and an Outline Business Case (OBC) for £10M of Growth Deal funding was considered by the Corporate Joint Committee's Economic Well-being Sub-Committee at its meeting on 13 March. Bids for funding from other sources are also in hand.
Return to Gwynedd	£200,000 of one-off revenue funding approved at the Cabinet meeting on 10 th March.
Gwynedd Economic Development Strategy	Delivered within existing Economy and Community Department resources

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

- 5.1 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 Well-being of 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.

6 **Public Consultation**

- 6.1 A new public consultation on the review was not carried out as extensive work has already been done during the formulation of the Council Plan 2023–28, including the use of information from the previous plan, the **'Ardal Ni' (Our Area)** Engagement, and Well-being Assessments for Gwynedd and Anglesey.
- 6.2 As noted above, a workshop session for the Elected Members was held in February 2026. There was general agreement to the modifications as well as a welcome opportunity to feed into the process prior to the formal submission of the review of the Plan to Cabinet and the meeting of the Full Council.

7 **Equality Act 2010**

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

- 7.2 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.

Views of the Statutory Officers:

i. Head of Finance

I can confirm the financial information contained in section 4 of this report. The Council Plan is a key part of the Council's governance arrangements and keeping it under review is essential. I support the decision sought.

ii. Monitoring Officer:

The Council Plan includes any review of part of the Council's Policy Framework. In accordance with statutory requirements, the strategy is submitted on the recommendation of the Cabinet for adoption by the Council. The report highlights the processes carried out along with the assessments and relevant statutory considerations in an appropriate manner. I am satisfied with the appropriateness of the decision being sought.

8 Views of the Local Member

Not a local matter.

9. Appendices

Appendix 1: Cyngor Gwynedd Plan 2023-2028 – 2026/27 Review (Word version)

Appendix 2: The Council Plan Front Page on the website

Appendix 3: Equality Impact Assessment – 2026/27 Review