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CYNGOR SIR
YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr Richard Parry Jones, BA, MA.
Prif Weithredwr – Chief Executive

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RHYBUDD O GYFARFOD	NOTICE OF MEETING
PWYLLGOR GWAITH (CYLLIDEB)	THE EXECUTIVE (BUDGET)
DYDD LLUN 15 RHAGFYR 2014 10.00 o'r gloch	MONDAY 15 DECEMBER 2014 10.00 am
SIAMBR Y CYNGOR SWYDDFEYDD Y CYNGOR LLANGFNI	COUNCIL CHAMBER COUNCIL OFFICES LLANGFNI
Swyddog Pwyllgor	Ann Holmes 01248 752518 Committee Officer

Annibynnol/Independent

R Dew, K P Hughes, H E Jones and Ieuan Williams (Cadeirydd/Chair)

Plaid Lafur/Labour Party

J A Roberts (Is-Gadeirydd/Vice-Chair) and Alwyn Rowlands

Aelod Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru /Welsh Liberal Democrat (Heb Ymuno / Unaffiliated)

Aled Morris Jones

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I Aelodau'r Cyngor Sir / To the Members of the County Council

Bydd aelod sydd ddim ar y Pwyllgor Gwaith yn cael gwahoddiad i'r cyfarfod i siarad (ond nid i bleidleisio) os ydy o/hi wedi gofyn am gael rhoddi eitem ar y rhaglen dan Reolau Gweithdrefn y Pwyllgor Gwaith. Efallai bydd y Pwyllgor Gwaith yn ystyried ceisiadau gan aelodau sydd ddim ar y Pwyllgor Gwaith i siarad ar faterion eraill.

A non-Executive member will be invited to the meeting and may speak (but not vote) during the meeting, if he/she has requested the item to be placed on the agenda under the Executive Procedure Rules. Requests by non-Executive members to speak on other matters may be considered at the discretion of The Executive.

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A G E N D A

1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest from any Member or Officer in respect of any item of business.

2 URGENT MATTERS CERTIFIED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OR HIS APPOINTED OFFICER

No urgent matters at the time of dispatch of this agenda.

3 MINUTES (Pages 1 - 8)

To submit for confirmation, the minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 1st December, 2014.

4 THE COUNCIL'S EFFICIENCY STRATEGY 2014-17 (Pages 9 - 40)

To consider the Deputy Chief Executive's report on the consultation exercise undertaken.

5 DRAFT REVENUE BUDGET 2015-16 (Pages 41 - 52)

To submit a report by the Interim Head of Function (Resources) and Section 151 Officer.

6 DRAFT CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2015-16 (Pages 53 - 60)

To submit a report by the Interim Head of Function (Resources) and Section 151 Officer.

7 SCHOOL TRANSPORT COSTS (Pages 61 - 72)

To submit a report by the Director of Lifelong Learning.

8 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

To consider adoption of the following:-

"Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, to exclude the press and public from meeting during discussion on the following item on the grounds that it may involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A of the said Act and in the attached Public Interest Test". – TO FOLLOW

9 RESTRUCTURING OF THE SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM WITH A VIEW TO MAKING EFFICIENCY SAVINGS

To submit a report by the Chief Executive. – **TO BE TABLED AT THE MEETING**

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THE EXECUTIVE

Minutes of the meeting held on 1 December 2014

- PRESENT:** Councillor Ieuan Williams (Chair)
Councillor J Arwel Roberts (Vice-Chair)
- Councillors R Dew, K P Hughes, A M Jones, H E Jones and Alwyn Rowlands
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive,
Deputy Chief Executive,
Corporate Director (Lifelong Learning),
Corporate Director (Community),
Head of Function (Resources) & Section 151 Officer,
Head of Service (Housing) (Items 11 & 12),
Interim Head of Democratic Services (Item 4),
Acting Accountancy Services Manager (BO),
Revenues & Benefits Services Manager (GHJ) (Item 7, 8 & 10),
Technical Services Manager (DR) (Item 12),
Planning Manager (Policy)(NHD) (Item 14),
Acting Team Leader (Policy) (LL) Item 14),
Committee Officer (MEH).
- ALSO PRESENT:** Councillors John Griffith, Llinos M. Huws, Bob Parry OBE.
- APOLOGIES:** None

1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Aled Morris Jones declared an interest in respect of Item 10 and took no part during discussion and voting thereon.

2 URGENT MATTERS CERTIFIED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OR HIS APPOINTED OFFICER

None received.

3 MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Executive held on 4th November, 2014 were presented and confirmed as correct.

4 THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The report of the Interim Head of Democratic Services incorporating the Executive's Forward Work programme for the period January – August 2015 was presented for the Executive's endorsement.

The Interim Head of Democratic Services reported that the following items scheduled to be discussed at the January 2015 meeting will be moved to the March 2015 meeting :-

- Constitutional Changes – Terms of Reference of Appeals, Investigation and Disciplinary Committee
- Constitutional Changes – Audit Committee Terms of Reference

The following additional item will be presented to the January 2015 :-

Supporting People Commissioning Plan

It was resolved to confirm the updated Forward Work Programme for the period January - August, 2015.

5 CORPORATE SCORECARD MONITORING REPORT - QUARTER 2, 2014/15

The report of the Deputy Chief Executive was presented in relation to the current end of quarter 2.

The Portfolio Holder (Executive Business, Performance Transformation, Corporate Plan and Human Resources) whilst welcoming an improvement in the sickness levels he expressed that departments needs to improve further the sickness levels and data.

Members of the Executive were concerned with the percentage of 53% of professional development reviews had been completed within the first 6 months compared to the previous year of 64%.

It was RESOLVED to accept the report and to note its contents.

6 2014-15 BUDGET - QUARTER 2 - IDENTIFIED ACTION

The report of the Deputy Chief Executive in relation to the remedial action SLT feels is necessary to bring the Council into a balanced position for 2014/15.

RESOVLED to note the report and to note its contents.

7 2015-16 COUNCIL TAX BASE

The report of the Interim Head of Function (Resources) & Section 151 Officer was presented in respect of the calculation which have been carried out according to the Welsh Government Council Tax Dwellings (CT1) 2015/16 Notes for Guidance based on the number of properties in various bands on the valuation list as at 31 October, 2014 and applying discounts and exemptions. The calculations also take account of changes to the valuation list that appear likely to occur during 2015/16.

RESOLVED to approve:-

- That the calculation by the Head of Function (Resources) for the calculation of the Council Tax Base for the whole and parts of the area for the year 2015/16.
- That in accordance with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base)(Wales) Regulations 1995 (Wales) (SI19956/2561) as amended by SI1999/2935, and the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) and Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings)(Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2004, the amounts calculated by Isle of Anglesey County Council as its tax base for the year 2015/16 shall be 30,188.51 and as listed within the report for those individual Town/ Community areas.

8 COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME 2015-16

The report of the Head of Function (Resources) & Section 151 Officer was presented in respect of the above.

RESOLVED to recommend to the County Council :-

- That its current local Council Tax Reduction Scheme should not be revised or replaced with another scheme.
- To formally adopt the current Council Tax Reduction Scheme for the financial year 2015/16.
- That it provides authority to the Head of Function (Resources) to make administrative arrangements so that all annual charges for uprating of financial figures or technical revisions in any amending regulation or regulations are reflected in the Council's Council Tax Reduction Scheme and for each subsequent year.

9 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT AND MID-YEAR REVIEW REPORT 2014-15

The report of the Head of Function (Resources) & Section 151 Officer was presented in respect of the requirement by the County Council to adopt a Council Tax Reduction Scheme scheme by 31 January, 2015 with regard to 2015/16.

RESOLVED to recommend to the County Council that it notes the report and to note its contents.

10 WALES - ENHANCED LOCAL NEED SCHEME - BUSINESS RATES RELIEF 2014-15

The report of the Head of Function (Resources) & Section 151 Officer was presented in relation to the above.

It was reported that 4 options were considered under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988 for granting business rates relief in relation to the ELNS funding.

RESOLVED :-

- **That Option 1, as noted within the report, be approved as the criteria for the granting of relief in relation to the ELNS funding under Section 47 of the Local Government Finance Act 1988.**
- **That delegated authority is given to the Head of Function (Resources) to make administrative arrangements to approve the granting of the relief to those businesses that meet the Executive's approved qualifying criteria for ELNS.**
- **That the Revenues and Benefits Service works with the Economic Development Service to promote the ELNS adopted by the Executive and the 'Open for Business', 'New Business Relief' and 'Wales Retail Relief'.**

11 EXIT THE HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT SUBSIDY

The report of the Head of Service (Housing) was presented in respect of exiting from the Housing Revenue Account Subsidy. It was noted that agreement with HM Treasury which will allow authorities to exit from the HRAS system and becoming self-financing from April 2015 consists of two parts which were highlighted within the report.

It was considered that a further Seminar for Elected Members needs to be arranged in the New Year in respect of this matter.

RESOVLED :-

- **To approve the exit from Housing Revenue Account Subsidy (HRAS) funding, on 31st March, 2015 thereby becoming self-financing.**
- **To approve the taking out of a loan from the PWLB to fund the exit from HRAS.**
- **To approve entering into the draft Voluntary Agreement with Welsh Government.**
- **To delegate authority to the S151 Officer and the Monitoring Officer to sign the final version of the Voluntary Agreement, to be returned to Welsh Government by 19th January, 2015.**
- **That delegated authority be given jointly and severally to the Head of Housing Services and S151 Officer on the critical dates when money is transferred, to make any last minute changes to figures, or any other**

amendments to the transfer documents, that may arise on the key dates (Conversion date 31st March, 2015 and Transaction date 2nd April, 2015).

- A copy of the 30 year HRA Business Plan (2015/45) will be submitted to the Executive in February 2015 which provides assurance on its viability, sustainability and affordability.
- A further report be submitted to the Executive for approval on whether the current significant changes that self-financing will bring.
- That a further Seminar be arranged for Elected Members in respect of the Housing Revenue Account self-financing opportunities and obligations.

12 CHANGES TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING RENEWAL POLICY

The report of the Head of Service (Housing) was presented in relation to the proposed changes to the Private Sector Housing Renewal Strategy and Policy.

RESOLVED that the Executive approves in principle :-

- The amendments to the private sector housing renewal strategy and policy, subject to consultation with external partners and organisations and that authority be given to the Head of Housing in consultation with the Portfolio Holder to consider any observations.
- The use of Street UK Services Limited, a third party provider, to administer and manage loan schemes on the Council's behalf and to the transfer of the Council's allocation for loans to Street UK Services Limited as 'Facility Monies' in order to service the loans, subject to the recommendations of the Section 151 Officer.

13 WORK PROGRAMME FOR THE ANGLESEY INTEGRATED DELIVERY BOARD FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE SERVICES

The report of the Head of Service (Adult Services) was presented in respect of the above.

RESOLVED to approve the work programme for the Integrated Delivery Board and Social Care Service for Anglesey so that the Board can assist in the development of Community Health and Care Services on Anglesey.

14 DEPOSIT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The report of the Head of Service (Planning & Public Protection) was presented in respect of the Deposit Plan and the revised timetable for the Local Development Plan.

It was reported that when the Councils consult on the Deposit Plan, it must advertise the consultation in accordance with the LDP Regulations and notify those

parties identified in the Community Involvement Strategy (including statutory consultees), allowing six weeks for representation to be made.

In response to a question regarding any minor amendments required to the Deposit Plan before publishing it for public consultation, the Planning Manager explained that it was considered that an additional policy dealing with purpose built accommodation for construction workers would be required. Members of the Executive supported this approach.

The revised Delivery Agreement approved by the Joint Planning Policy Committee in September 2014 shows that the public consultation will take place during February and March 2015.

RESOLVED :-

- **To recommend to the Joint Planning Policy Committee that it approves the draft Deposit Plan, subject to minor amendments, for public consultation in order to conform to statutory requirements.**
- **To recommend to the County Council that it approves the revised timetable to prepare the Joint Local Development Plan in order to reflect new circumstances and conform to stator requirements.**

15 MARITIME FEES

The report of the Head of Service (Economic and Community Regeneration) was presented in respect Commercial Charter/Pleasure Boat Fees 2014/15 and 2015/16.

RESOLVED :-

- **That the 2014/15 and 2015/16 (with the Council's adopted fees and charges increase applied) charter boat fees should be a flat-rate payment of £400 (£480 with VAT) with no discount applied on subsequent boats owned by the same operator. Visiting Licenced operators (from outside the area) to pay £30 (£36 with VAT) per trip.**
- **The Executive also agreed to "write off" the debt of the uncollected 2013/14 commercial charter boat fees as a good-will gesture to the commercial operators in Amlwch Port.**

The meeting concluded at 11.00 am

**COUNCILLOR IEUAN WILLIAMS
CHAIR**

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
REPORT TO:	EXECUTIVE
DATE:	15.12.14
SUBJECT:	Efficiency strategy – Making a Difference Survey Results 2014
PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S):	COUNCILLOR ALWYN ROWLANDS
HEAD OF SERVICE:	BETHAN JONES
REPORT AUTHOR: TEL: E-MAIL:	GETHIN MORGAN 01248 752111 GethinMorgan@anglesey.gov.uk
LOCAL MEMBERS:	n/a

A - Recommendation/s and reason/s
<p>1.1 <i>The Committee is requested to consider the survey results for the Efficiency Strategy “Making a Difference” exercise undertaken during October/November 2014- and note the response of the citizens of Anglesey to the proposals and ideas put forward in the questionnaires</i></p> <p>1.1.1 <i>The survey was available in a variety of ways including online, questionnaires available at the County’s Libraries and questionnaires administered face to face at a the following locations:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Holyhead Market</i> • <i>Holyhead Morrisons</i> • <i>Amlwch Market</i> • <i>Amlwch Co-operative</i> • <i>Llangefni Market</i> • <i>Beaumaris Library</i> • <i>Menai Bridge Library</i> <p>1.1.2 <i>Responses to the survey proposals are outlined in more detail in Appendix A which includes an analysis of responses to the 16 set proposals and a selection of comments from across the different forms of consultation – responses to the comments section of the questionnaires, letters and emails received and comments noted from face to face consultation</i></p> <p>1.1.3 <i>It is recommended that the Executive as a result of the consultation on the Efficiency strategy formally adopt the strategy and align its budget proposals for the forthcoming 3 years with the principles outlined within.</i></p>

B - What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?	
n/a	
C - Why is this a decision for the Executive?	
This decision is not one that has been reserved to full council under the Local Government Act 1972 (s.101), and has not been delegated to an officer under section 13(2) of the Local Government Act 2000, and accordingly, this is an executive decision by default.	
CH - Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?	
Yes	
D - Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?	
Yes	
DD - Who did you consult? What did they say?	
1	Chief Executive / Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)
4	Human Resources (HR)
5	Property
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)
7	Scrutiny
8	Local Members
9	Any external bodies / other/s
E - Risks and any mitigation (if relevant)	
1	Economic
2	Anti-poverty
3	Crime and Disorder
4	Environmental
5	Equalities
6	Outcome Agreements
7	Other
F - Appendices:	
Appendix A - EFFICIENCY STRATEGY – “MAKING A DIFFERENCE” SURVEY RESULTS 2014 Appendix B – Isle of Anglesey Efficiency Strategy 2014-2017	
FF - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):	

EFFICIENCY STRATEGY – “MAKING A DIFFERENCE” SURVEY RESULTS 2014

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Anglesey County Council has a budget of £126m and we estimate we will need to save around £15 million over the next three years
- 1.2 The Efficiency Strategy is required to provide a clear direction over the coming years and to ensure an understanding amongst the public, staff and councillors as to how we aim to meet our financial challenges.
- 1.3 The 2014 consultation exercise follows on from a similar exercise undertaken in 2013 where we undertook a consultation that led to over 900 responses
- 1.4 As part of the 2013 survey we asked where would our residents make savings and if they agreed with some of the proposed ways of making/saving money going into the future. These included:

- Increasing parking and leisure charges
- Stopping free services or services delivered lower than cost
- Transferring some council functions to the private sector, community or voluntary organisations
- Working with private, community and voluntary organisations to create a cooperative or mutual organisation to run a service
- Joint working with other Councils to bring major cost savings
- Reviewing the number of buildings and facilities we run
- Stop delivering some services altogether, and if so which ones

- 1.5 The results from the feedback for the 2013 consultation are in the word cloud below (Fig 2) .



1.6 In order to present options to put before the citizens of Anglesey as part of this year's consultation exercise, ideas and proposals were drafted through extensive discussion with councillors, managers and staff. The underlying principles that guided the proposals were:-

- To make sure the way we work across the whole council ensures good value in the way we spend money
- To reduce the cost of management, democracy and bureaucracy to what is necessary to deliver good services.
- To work with others where this can save us money or keep a small, important service working
- To make sure we get the best out of our staff
- To increase income to the council
- To transform services which we are legally bound to deliver to ensure that they are modern, effective and efficient.
- To challenge whether we should continue to fund non-essential, non-statutory services where others also provide these or where others could provide these.
- To understand the impact of our proposals on Ynys Mon and its residents, in particular those in most need of our services.

1.7 The draft proposals were formed into a questionnaire that was then administered online, through the County's Libraries and administered face to face at locations across the county (Holyhead, Llangefni, Amlwch, Menai Bridge and Beaumaris).

1.8 The results constitute **433** responses as follows:-

- Online/Letters = 146 (34%)
- Libraries = 150 (35%)
- Face to Face = 137 (32%)

1.9 According to acknowledged survey sources (Fluid Surveys and SurveySystem.com) this is a statistically valid sample to be representative of Anglesey's overall population. The figure of - 383 responses would provide a 95% confidence level in the results with a (+/-5% variance).

1.10 The spread of age ranges responded to the survey is as follows –

Age Range	Number	%
-16	1	0.2
16-24	14	3.2
25-44	80	18.4
45-64	114	26.3
65+	107	24.7
Prefer not to say	117	27

With 40% males respondents and
38% female respondents.
12% of respondents preferred not to say

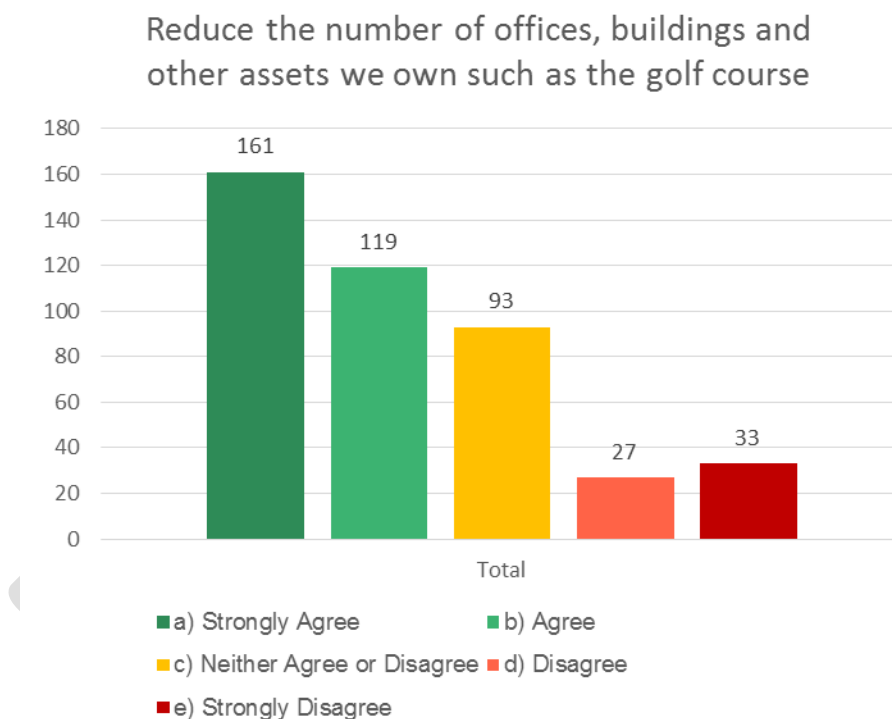
1.11 The split between those who indicated that they were Welsh, English, British or any other nationality also corresponds broadly with the Island's demographic make-up. Most respondents were also residents of the island (over 70%, with 27% not stating their status)

2. SURVEY RESULTS

2.1 The Survey questions consisted of 16 proposals as indicated below, and gave respondents a range of responses from 5-1 according to the following categorisation

1. Strongly Disagree
2. Disagree
3. Neither Agree or Disagree
4. Agree
5. Strongly Agree

2.2 The 1st proposal was to **“Reduce the number of offices, buildings and other assets we own such as the golf course and,** over 62% agreed or strongly disagreed with the proposal as opposed to just over 13% who disagreed or strongly disagreed



Respondents Comments:

“Concerns relating to vacant buildings on the Island - why are these not sold? The Smallholdings - how many are empty at this present time?”

“Selling un-needed buildings and becoming more efficient would be better, in highways I suspect acres of space would be made available should shelving, cabinets and documents (some from 1996) be stored or removed”

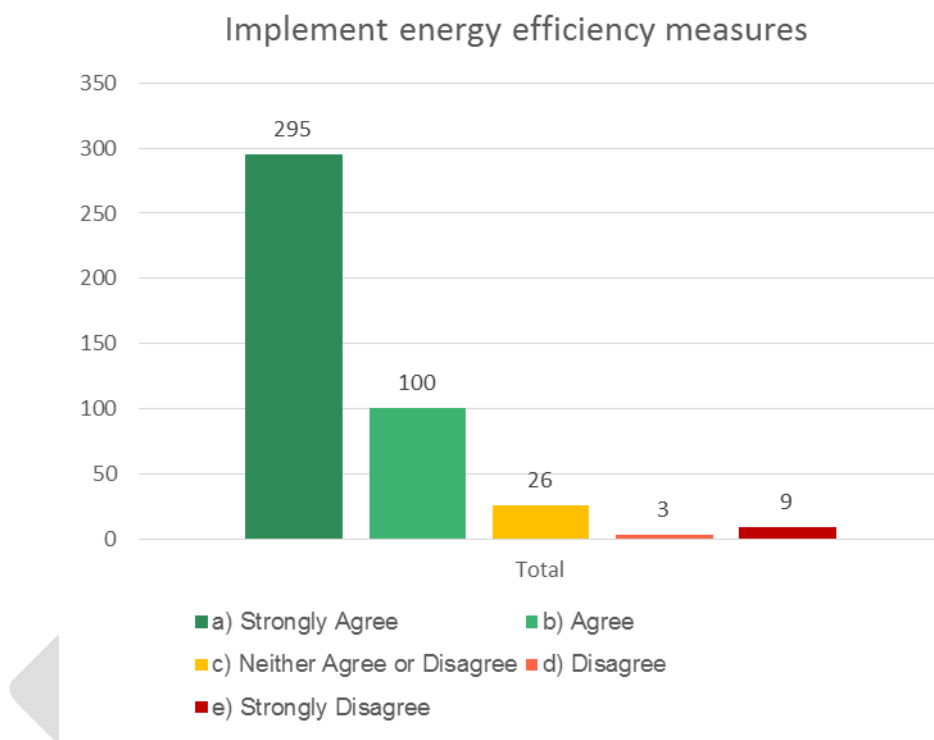
, ...”there does seem to be a considerable number of underutilised buildings owned by the council that could be sold to raise funds”

.” The council should look to dispose of some of its assets which are not seen and appreciated by the public such as Art. The Council should look to restructure and as a consequence reduce its office space occupancy and sell or let any surplus”

“ I agree with reducing number of assets but not necessarily the golf courses - consider that a review of the assets is necessary”

“Sell empty schools”

2.3. Similarly over 91% agreed or strongly agreed with the 2nd proposal to ...”**Implement energy efficiency measures**”



Respondents Comments:

“Very few of the council's buildings make use of renewable energy. Other than general lack of making an effort, there is no ready understanding as to why”

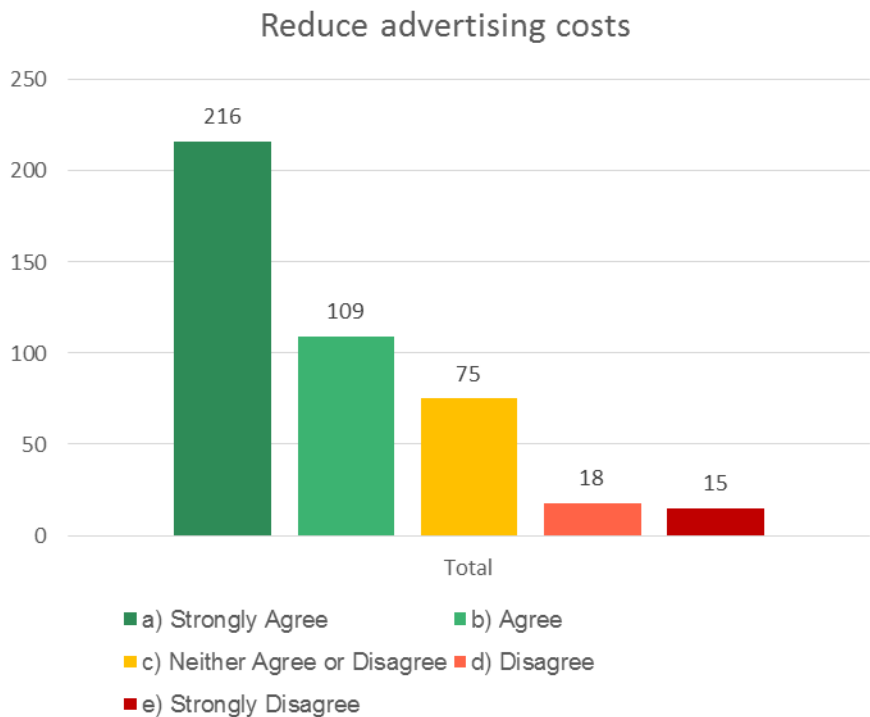
“How much in reality is the Council going to save by the energy efficiency strategy? Staff education e.g. to turn off lights when leaving their offices etc should save money. Has the Council looked at real savings from working with energy providers e.g. New biomass plant?”

“Why can't you have less street lighting in towns and on the main roads?”

“Turn off street lighting from 11pm to 7am”

“Caretaker of all main buildings should be tasked with “lights discipline” and managing the heating systems for out of hours, end of day and weekends – potentially very big savings available here”

2.4 The proposal to ...**Reduce advertising costs**” had 75% agreeing or strongly agreeing, as opposed to the 7% who disagreed or strongly disagreed, with 17% neither agreeing or disagreeing.



Respondents Comments:

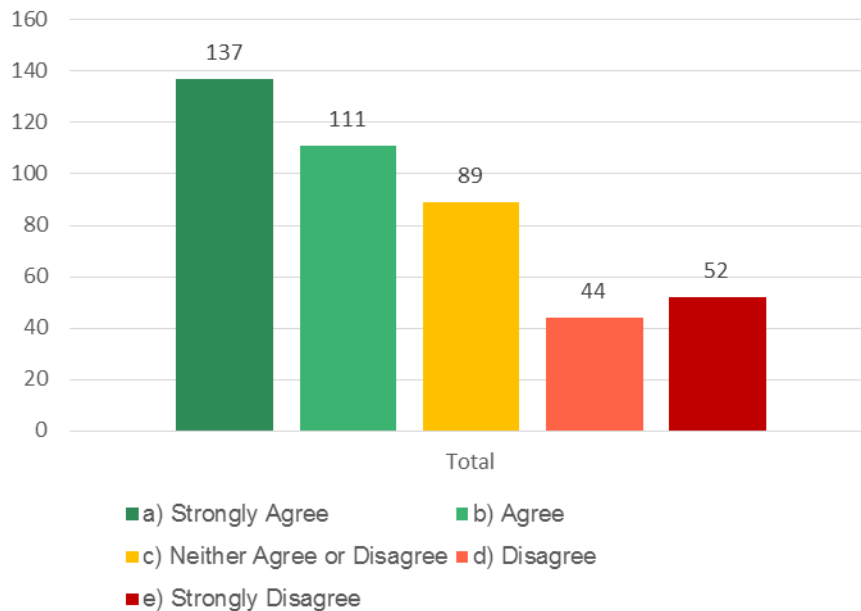
“Reducing advertising’ ought not to translate into ‘reduced notification’ to the public on matters that may affect them. This could undermine democracy if taken too far in the name of cost reduction”

“Businesses succeed through Marketing and Innovation, If you reduce advertising, will you still get the message across and maintain development on the Island?”

2.5 The proposal to..**Encourage the public to access services and contact the Council by email & website**” produced a response where there was general agreement with 284 (57%) people agreeing or strongly agreeing but 96 people (22%) also disagreed or strongly disagreed with the proposal and 89 people neither agreeing or disagreeing



Encourage the public to access services and contact the Council by email & website



Respondents Comments:

“While acknowledging the need to save costs communicating with people encouraging email use for correspondence together with web pages for information care must be taken to ensure that those people (and there are many) without internet access are given adequate access to information and correspondence from and to the council by letter is equally well managed”

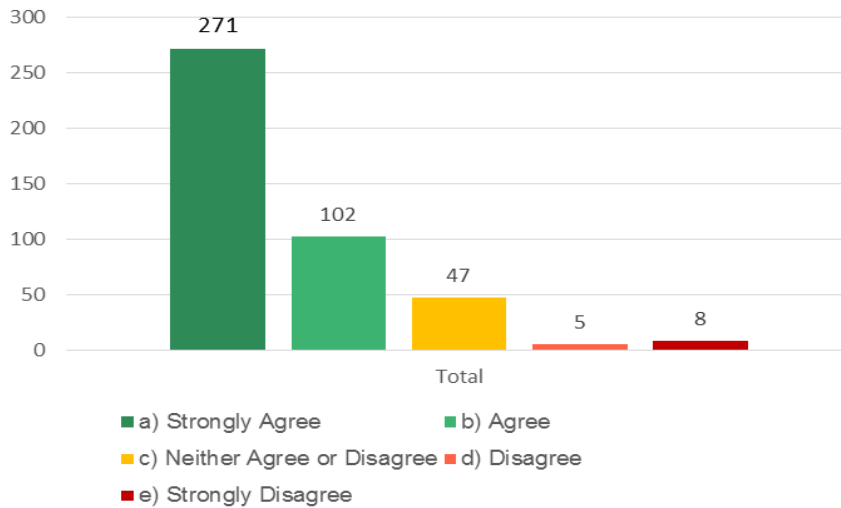
“When improving access to Council services and democracy it is imperative to note that no website or online communication can be accessible to every disabled person simultaneously. Even websites that meet the highest accessibility standards will not be accessible to everyone”

“improve the corporate website - make it more interactive and approachable for people to use”

“the impact of poverty on access to the internet at home it becomes clear that whilst improving online access and services to people is a vital element of accessibility of council services and access to democracy and involvement in scrutiny, there is also a need to ensure that community notices, newsletter or newspapers, direct letters to householders”

2.6 An overwhelming majority agreed with the proposal to..”**Review existing contracts on a regular basis with a view of negotiating efficiency requirements in large long term contracts”** with a total of only 13 disagreeing or strongly disagreeing.

Review existing contracts on a regular basis with a view of negotiating efficiency requirements in large long term contracts



Respondents Comments:

“The outsourcing of contracts to long term 3yr contracts when it means that non local people are brought in needs looking at”

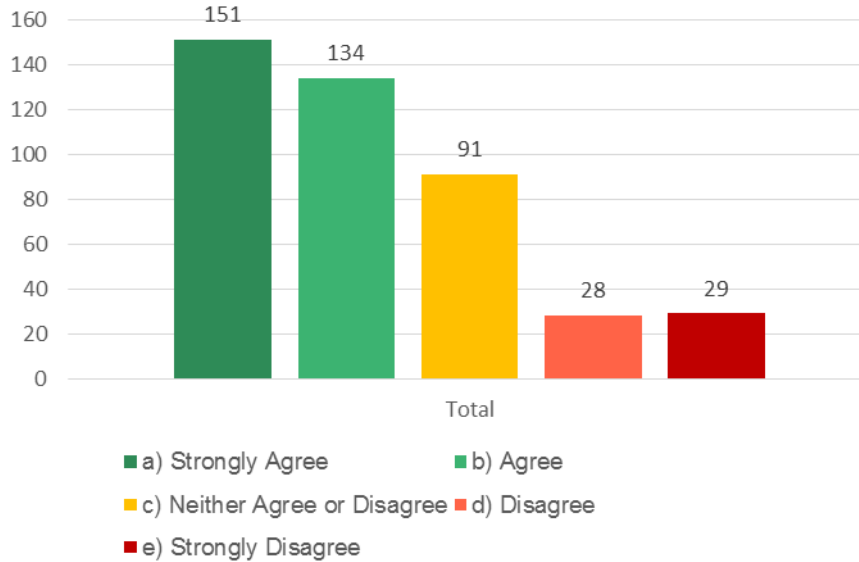
“contracts could support and enhance the local community”

“It is not clear to me why regular reviews of large, high value contracts has not been happening from the outset. There seems little excuse for not doing so”

“ The contracts that local authorities currently award are in my experience closely monitored and more consideration needs to be given to how the councils own services measure up to the requirements it has placed on others”

2.7. The proposal to **“Explore if Anglesey communities (inclusive of Town & Community Councils) might be able to take over responsibility for some of the more local types of services such as sports fields, country parks and public toilets”** produced a response where almost 66% agreed/ strongly agreed with the proposal with only 13% disagreeing/strongly disagreeing.

Explore if Anglesey communities (inclusive of Town & Community Councils) might be able to take over responsibility for some of the more local types of services such as sports fields, country parks and public toilets



Respondents Comments:

“Getting community council to manage and run facilities is a very good idea as it gives ownership and responsibility back to the communities”

“responsibilities for local services should only be transferred to Town & Community Councils where there is an overall financial benefit for that community”

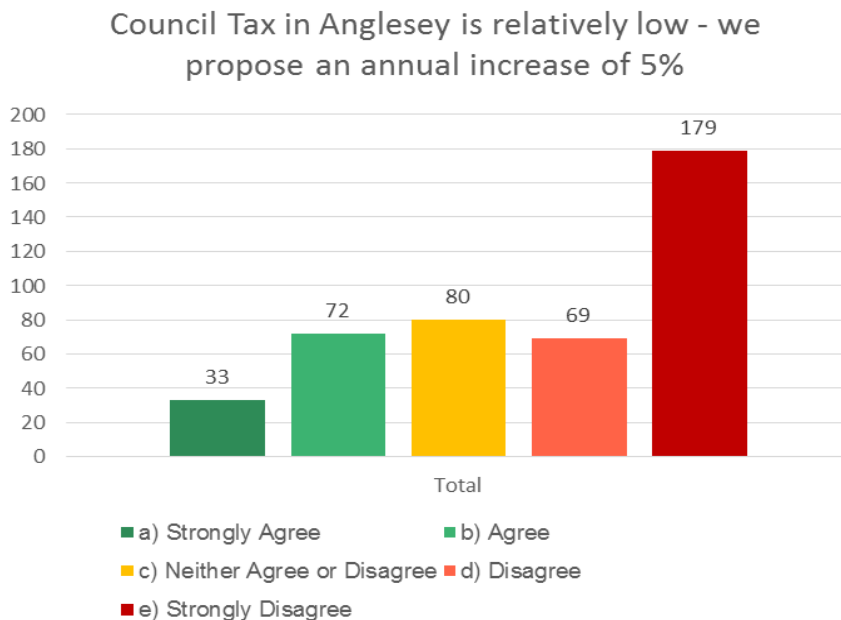
“I am not sure about getting local town councils to take over amenities - this may look like a reasonable option but in the long-term these will have to be maintained”

“YMCC to stop relying on the Town Councils to cover the rapidly increasing shortfalls.... i.e. Toilets, Leisure Centres”

“Make more uses of Towns and community councils they are stale and are not effective in some areas”

“Analysis must include any additional costs incurred by Town & Community Councils - including administrative and staffing costs”

2.8 Not unexpectedly the proposal that ...”**Council Tax in Anglesey is relatively low - we propose an annual increase of 5%**” led to a response where 57% disagreed/strongly disagreed whilst 24% agreed/strongly agreed with the proposal. 18% however neither agreed or disagreed with the proposal.



Respondents Comments:

“I am pleased there is a review going on and the only negative I have is that hitting the working family and homeowners again with a 5% rise in council tax is the easy option”

“Council tax increases should be relative to services provided, and council efficiency, and not automatic year on year”

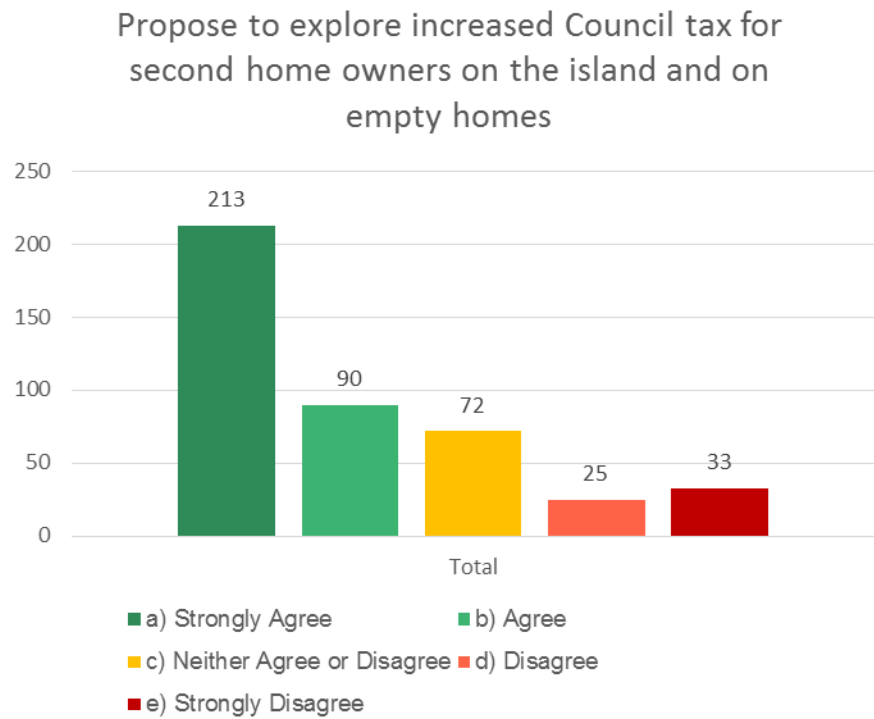
“Now is not the time to increase Council Tax by more than inflation when most people do not even get inflationary increases”

“You cannot keep increasing council tax over and above inflation. We are due a period of below inflation rises. If the Council is unable to meet its statutory obligations with below inflation increases this needs to be known at the earliest opportunity”

“I accept the council's predicament, but increasing council tax by 5% means, in practical terms, a pay cut for essentially all of Anglesey's generally low-paid workforce”

“Whilst increasing the council tax for home owners there is no suggestion that council rent should also be increased by the same 5%. This would be a fair suggestion as everyone uses the council facilities whether they be home owners or rent payers”

2.9 Almost 70% agreed/strongly agreed with the proposal.. **“to explore increased Council tax for second home owners on the island and on empty homes”** with a further 16% neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 13% disagreeing/strongly disagreeing



Respondents Comments:

“I do agree that second home council tax needs to be reviewed as these are a nice to have not a necessity and don’t not think the people Anglesey who live full time and work full time would complain”

“I disagreed with the policy of increasing council tax increases for second homes on Anglesey primarily because of being currently unable to sell my former marital home on Anglesey because of the present stagnation of the property market outside of London”

“Second home owners might simplistically appear to be an easy funding target based on political dogma. Increasing the council tax for second home owners would, in my opinion, be not only inequitable and unlikely to provide a sustainable income source but also detrimental to the long term interests of the island and susceptible to judicial review”

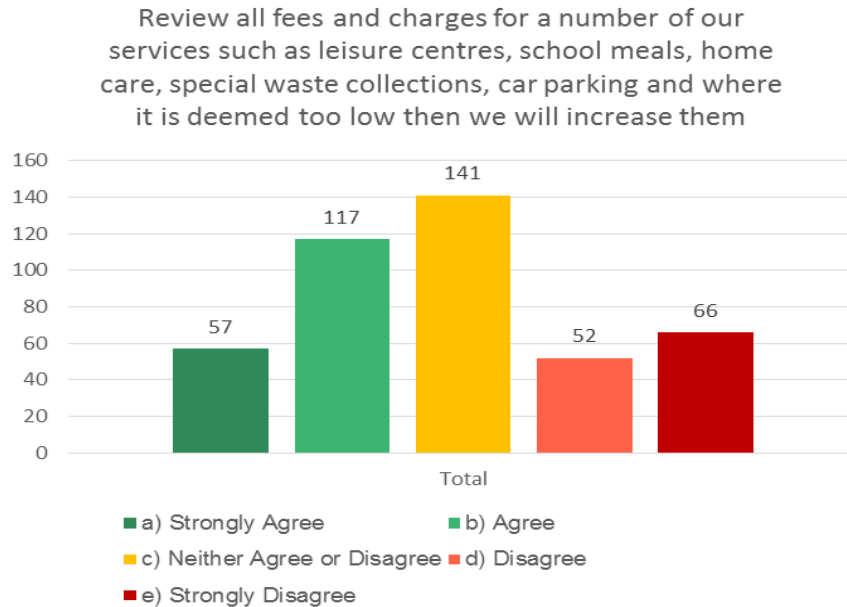
“Council tax is supposed to be raised to provide local services. When a property is not occupied on a full time basis there is no demand on some facilities such as schools and social services support and a reduced demand on services such as police and fire. There is a strong moral argument for such properties to receive a rebate. A surcharge is not only morally wrong but is likely to be counterproductive. A more suitable strategy would be to encourage second home ownership”

“I would like to see some form of engagement between second home owners and officers together with local councillors to try and see what additional attractions could be added to the recreational offer in order to increase the dwell time in Anglesey”

“I think you should really hit second homes that are empty most of the time really hard. With so many homeless it is disgusting, and it kills little villages”

“Double the Tax Band for second homes”

2.10 The proposal to ..”**Review all fees and charges for a number of our services such as leisure centres, school meals, home care, special waste collections, car parking and where it is deemed too low then we will increase them**” had 40% agreeing/strongly agreeing and 27% disagreeing/strongly disagreeing with 32% neither agreeing or disagreeing



Respondents Comments:

“the increase in parking restrictions through time limits and fees are putting people off High Street shopping”

“What’s your plan for non-statutory services to raise fees? Surely they have already explored this avenue?”

“Increase in fees and council tax must be in line with inflation , but focus also on fees charged in areas where it is proving counterproductive in terms of revenue generated against the cost of collection . Abolition of some fees particularly in tourist areas may encourage increased usage and allow revenue to be raised in other ways such as facility concessions being offered to private providers”

Making sure your communities have access to ways of getting healthy, especially in a family setting, should be encouraged by lowering entrance fees and seeking to raise funds through additional events”

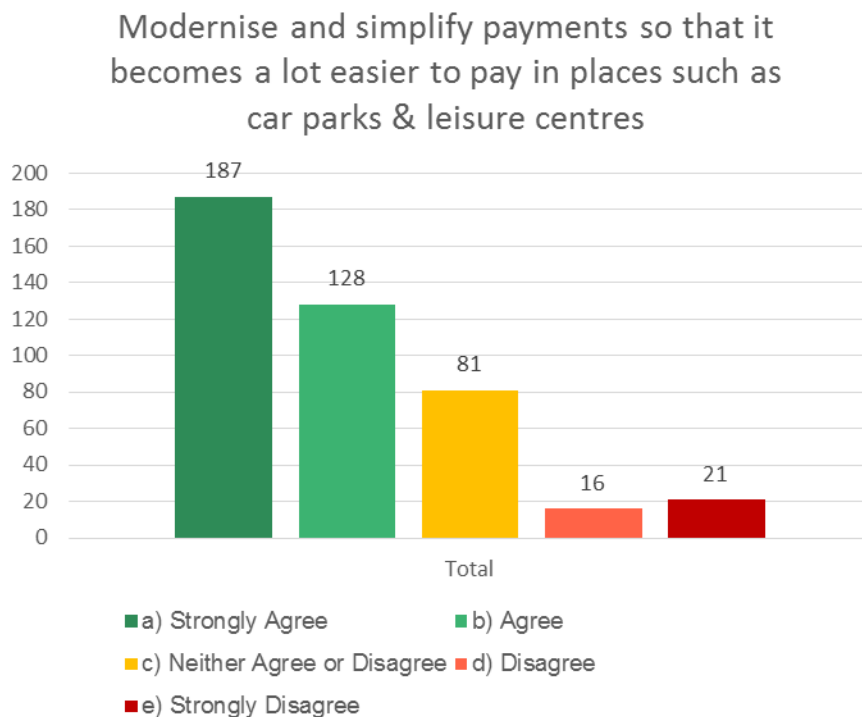
“ Any plans to increase charges must be balanced against the pressures on individuals and families at the moment”

“Higher charges for planning applications etc. based on cost of development and if for holiday home/ 2nd homes (stipulate local person or not use for holiday home for say % years)”

“Privatise Leisure Centres”

“The 4 Llangefni staff car parks together hold around 500 cars. At a minimal charge of £2 per day that would raise £1,000 per week. If you are serious about this consultation, you will consider it.”

2.11 The proposal to ..”**Modernise and simplify payments so that it becomes a lot easier to pay in places such as car parks & leisure centres**” was supported by 72% of respondents with only 8% disagreeing/strongly disagreeing.

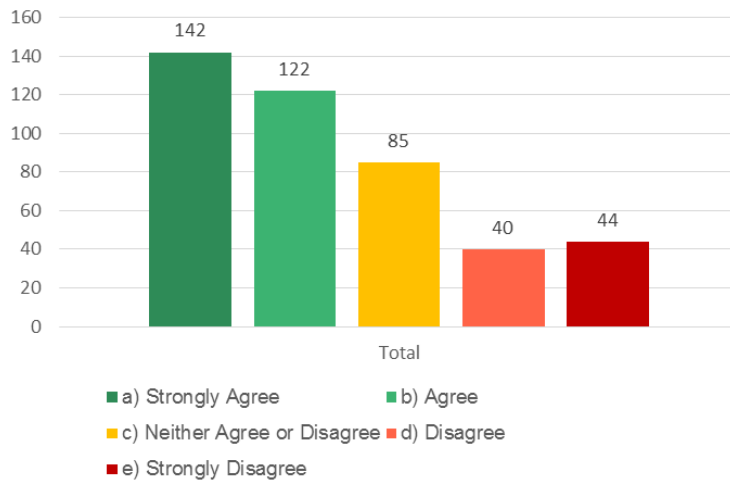


Respondents Comments:

“Install barriers on car parks so people can’t park without paying”

2.12 Almost 61% agreed/strongly agreed that we should..”**Develop extra care housing for older people and thereafter reducing the number of Council run care homes**” and a further 19% neither agreeing or disagreeing with 19% disagreeing/strongly disagreeing

Develop extra care housing for older people and thereafter reducing the number of Council run care homes



Respondents Comments:

“I don't know enough about extra care housing hence a neutral response. Overall it looks a good plan”

“Increase extra care but do not close council run care homes”

“Transfer residential care to public health”

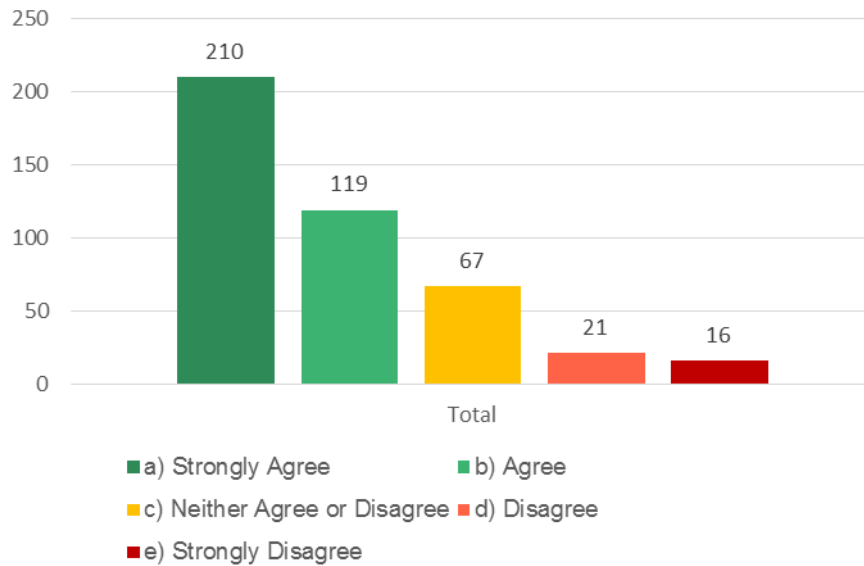
“The Council have a responsibility for the provision of quality care for the elderly people”

“The priority for Elderly Care should always be the provision of quality care to meet people's needs. The Council have a responsibility to regulate standards regardless of ownership”

The elderly are better cared for in well run, efficient Care Homes, rather than spending many hours alone in their homes when at these times they need help and someone to alleviate loneliness

2.13 an overwhelming majority (almost 76%) of respondents also agreed with the proposal to **...”Increase the use of technology in homes so that people can remain independent for longer”**

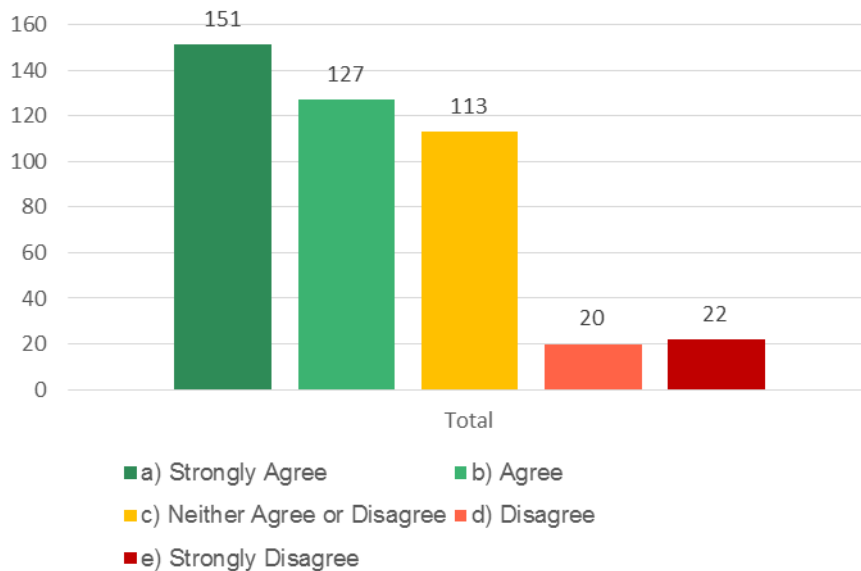
Increasing the use of technology in homes so that people can remain independent for longer



2.14 Only 10% of respondents disagreed/strongly disagreed with the proposal to ..”**Review the number of school places we have against the number of places that we actually need**” with 64% agreeing or strongly agreeing



Review the number of school places we have against the number of places that we actually need



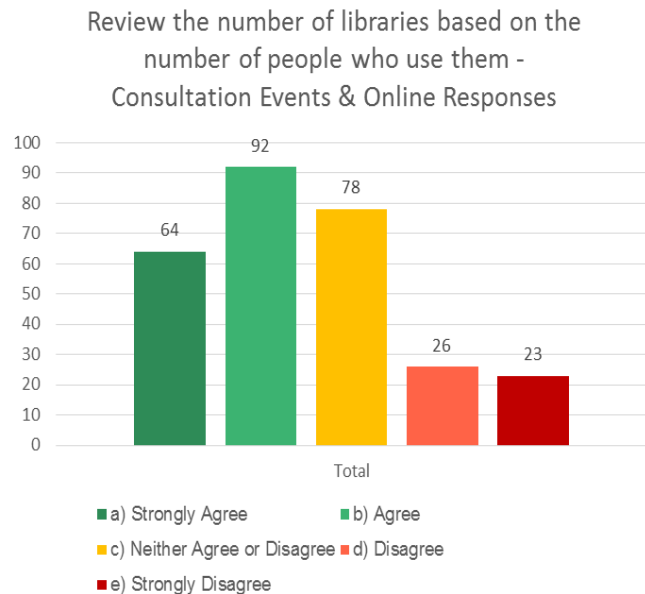
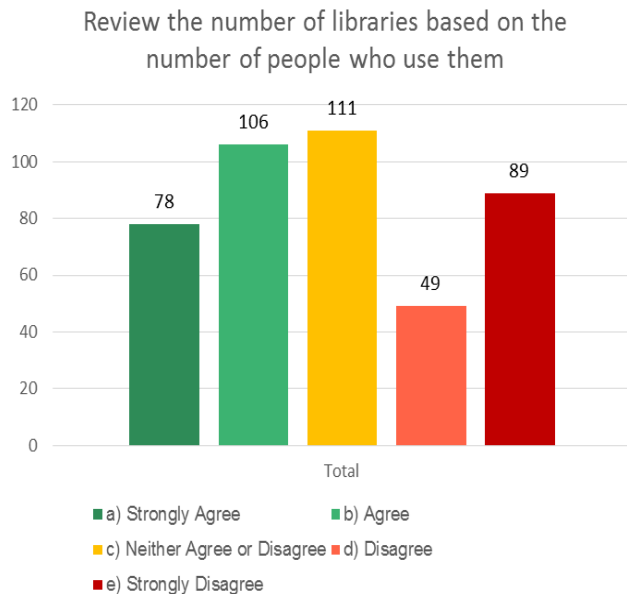
Respondents Comments:

“The requirement for school places fluctuates from year to year”

“I also feel that the council should keep the smaller schools and not force people to take their children long distances to school and I think the children are better educated where there is more time spent on them i.e. smaller classes”

“Consider using the empty spaces in schools for centrally employed staff, allowing there to be less sites to manage”

2.15 The proposal to ..”**Review the number of libraries based on the number of people who use them**” led to an interesting response considering that Libraries were one of the main consultation locations. 42% agreed/strongly agreed with the proposal whilst 31% disagreed/strongly disagreed, whilst 25% neither agreed or disagreed. However, and if we remove the questionnaires that were administered in libraries from the equation, the figures are 55% agreeing/strongly agreeing, 27% neither agreeing or disagreeing and only 17% disagreeing/strongly disagreeing



Respondents Comments:

“Libraries should be more than books and internet. They should be community cafes for people to meet”

“Close ALL out of Towns Libraries”

“ I believe that the libraries will be more important than ever for local communities and that their opening hours should be extended to accommodate their needs. The libraries are not just used for the borrowing of books - they are an important amenity for community groups, information about Council services, support services and information for visitors. I think that libraries are far more important than owning a golf course”

“There is a lack of premises to offer services and libraries could be the solution. Also, the travelling library could be remodelled to host access to the internet to allow citizens who do not have access for whatever reason the opportunity to do so”

“ I have agreed with the review of the number of libraries however there's a possibility of re-housing some of these facilities in a one-stop shop style amenity which could incorporate leisure facilities etc. under one roof”

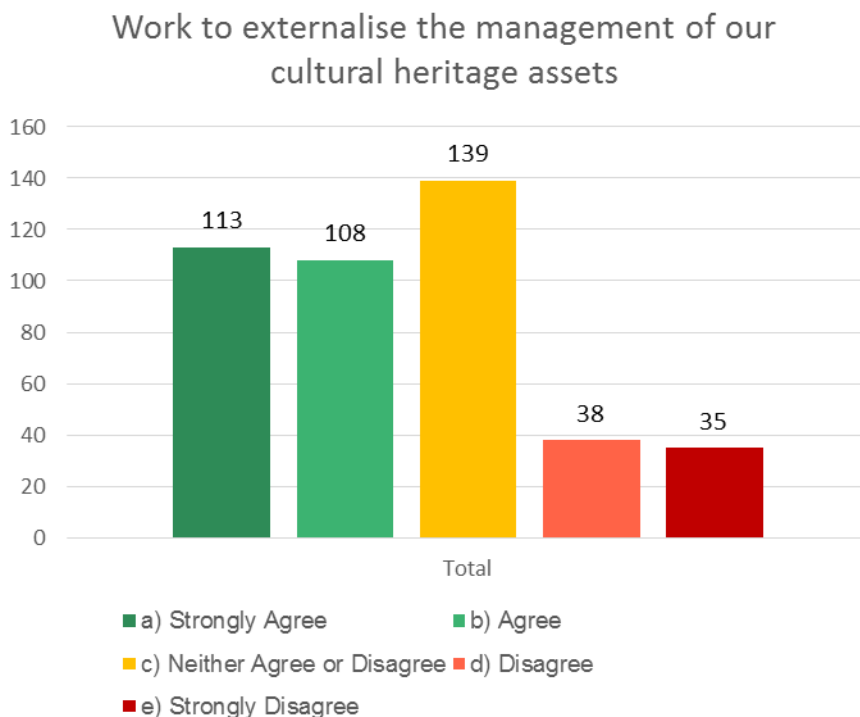
“Charging for Oriol Mon, cuts never seem to effect here, only libraries. Libraries are more use than an art gallery”

“I do wish you every success in your efforts but sincerely hope that our library (Beaumaris) continues to flourish”

“Introduce a small annual fee for the use of libraries - to exclude use by children & students. Introduce a fee for the use of computers in libraries - same caveats as above

“I think that Libraries are a vital asset to the community and need to be remodelled into community hub type facilities”

2.16 Over 51% agreed with the proposal to ..”**Work to externalise the management of our cultural heritage assets”** with a further 32% neither agreeing or disagreeing with the proposal and just over 16% disagreeing/strongly disagreeing

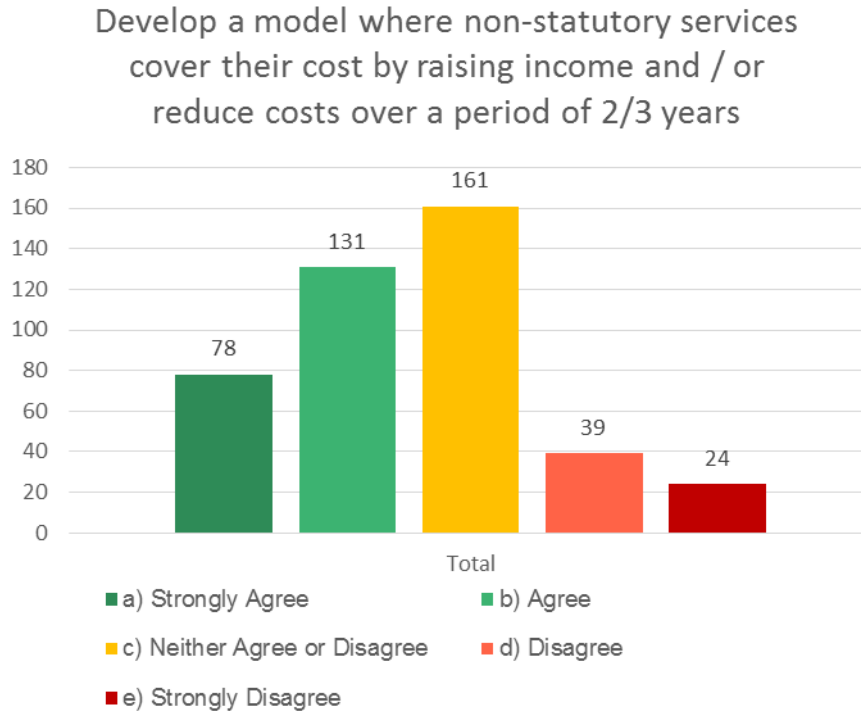


Respondents Comments:

“ The management of our cultural heritage assets should be considered case by case. There may well be some areas where management could be delegated to suitable organisations. Sound fiscal management should always be Council practice. Any review of current services should targeted on areas of highest spending and based on sound management methods”

“get rid of Oriol Ynys mon and sell pictures of value i.e. Tunicliffe”

2.17 51% of respondents also agreed/strongly agreed with the proposal to .. **“Develop a model where non-statutory services cover their cost by raising income and / or reduce costs over a period of 2/3 years”** with 31% neither agreeing or disagreeing and 16% disagreeing/strongly disagreeing



Respondents Comments:

“work in partnership with the third sector to reduce costs and share costs”

2.18 Additional Comments

As indicated in the introduction, a number of qualitative comments were received through the consultation exercise – some through email or letter communication and some through face to face interaction with respondents. Some of the comments that correspond directly with the proposals have been included in the report (above), and the additional comments below are included as they represent a cross-section of the type of responses received which were either a). recurring themes or b). responses which were not directly related to the proposals but worthy of consideration

- Reduce Senior Management, Too top heavy
- Reduce sickness absenteeism
- Less councillors. Reduce number of Councillors. Have meetings online.
- Close electoral register office in Llangefni industrial estate and combine with council offices in town

- *Green bin for garden refuse could be discontinued from Nov. to March when generally they are not used.*
- *I believe that the Council should consider voluntarily merging with Gwynedd Council. This could offer huge savings through the centralization of services, particularly in regard to procurement, management and administration, finance and recruitment*
- *Concerns relating to vacant buildings on the Island - why are these not sold? The Smallholdings - how many are empty at this present time*
- *The green bin collection in winter, this could be changed to once a month? Household waste such items that the bins don't normally collect (bulky items), could take it's place for three of the winter months.. this could save money on the free service of two collections per year that is currently available.*
- *The target for cutting staff costs is very unambitious, only £1M saving out of a total staff cost of c. £75M (60% of council budget), i.e. just 1.3 percent. I am sure that more savings could be made here*
- *An average 10% cut in staff costs would save about £7.5M. This could be made more palatable by giving staff say Friday afternoons off or the equivalent in unpaid leave over the course of the year.*
- *I believe it would be a good idea, that everyone who works in the council should pay an annual fee to park their cars. This would bring in income and also could provide more parking spaces*
- *Review Top Tier Management - Do we need so many managers?*
- *Council should reduce subsidy of bus routes – they are paying for buses full of air to be carried around the island”*
- *Train staff to be more generic workers - so that its an organisation not a department!*
- *The strategy covers basic efficiencies but there is no mention of improving staff performance or reviewing the cost of senior management, most authorities are carrying our significant back office reviews. What about making better use of technology within the council, digital, channel shift etc.*
- *Send out paperwork in one language; ask the rate payer which language they want*
- *I believe if some (not all) employees of the council understood the pressures of small businesses with regards to cashflow, getting things done quickly, efficiently and properly, then implemented that into their everyday worklife (like most SME employees do) then I believe that would help the efficiency targets*
- *Something you do not appear to have greatly is "demand challenge" - reducing the demand for services, although increasing costs will have this effect*
- *Medrwn Mon welcomes the efficiency strategy with its clear vision for facing the financial challenges it presents. The Council acknowledges the need to work with others to provide services and to consider carefully what's statutory and non-statutory. Lessons should be learnt*

from the transfer of services such as Canolfan Beaumaris and the careful planning and community support that was offered.

- *There was generally a broad consensus as to pertinent measures that could be taken ... (Anglesey Branch CPRW) but individuals should also write separately*

Town & Community Council Initial Response (From Liaison Forum 23/10/14)

- Joint working arrangements - More should be done to work with the private sector to achieve savings (Trearddur).
- Reducing the cost of democracy - the importance of strengthening democracy and promoting diversity in local government (Llanfairpwll).
- Getting the best out of our staff – need to be mindful of the potential impact of redundancies and not filling vacant posts on staff sickness levels (Llanfairpwll).
- Consultation – need to ensure that the Council’s consultation methods are robust (Llanfairpwll).
- Challenging the delivery of non-statutory services – need to engage with all stakeholders as early as possible on any major cuts to non-statutory services (Cwm Cadnant)

Reforming Local Government in Wales – Whilst acknowledging that the timescale went beyond the three years covered by the draft efficiency strategy, the importance of researching the potential implications of Council mergers was emphasised (Cwm Cadnant).

3. CONCLUSION

- 3.1** In considering the majority of proposals/ideas presented as part of the 2014 Efficiency Strategy consultation exercise, as well as the previous exercise undertaken in 2013, the overall response would seem to indicate that the Council have presented options that the citizens of Anglesey are in broad agreement with.
- 3.2** With the exception of the proposal to increase council Tax by 5% annually, the proposals are largely supported by a majority of the residents of Anglesey, and as such provide a clear mandate for the Council to proceed to implement and action the proposals associated with the strategy.

2014

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1. Introduction

All public sector organisations are facing the need to make large savings. Ynys Mon has a budget of £126m and we estimate we will need to save around £15million over the next three years.

What follows is a description of our three year efficiency strategy. This strategy has been developed through extensive discussion with councillors and managers responsible for the delivery of services and views of staff.

The purpose of this strategy is to provide a clear direction over the coming years and to ensure an understanding amongst the public, staff and councillors as to how we aim to meet our financial challenges. We will be consulting on this strategy during the autumn of 2014.

We have adopted eight principles to drive our work;

- To make sure the way we work across the whole council ensures good value in the way we spend money
- To reduce the cost of management, democracy and bureaucracy to what is necessary to deliver good services.
- To transform services which we are legally bound to deliver to ensure that they are modern, effective and efficient.
- To work with others where this can save us money or keep a small, important service working
- To make sure we get the best out of our staff
- To increase income to the council
- To challenge whether we should continue to fund non essential, non statutory services where others also provide these or where others could provide these.
- To understand the impact of our proposals on Ynys Môn and its residents, in particular those in most need of our services.

2. The Principles

To make sure that the way we work across the whole council ensures good value in the way we spend money

As a large organisation which spends £36m on buying supplies, equipment and running buildings, we know that by doing things differently we can save money. We currently operate from a number of different buildings and every year we buy things such as salt to grit roads, recycling boxes, desks and computers; and services such as school buses, waste collection and electricity. There will be some areas where we are not getting the best price possible when we buy things.

The ideas we have to make savings are:-

- Reducing the number of offices, buildings and other assets we own such as the golf course
- Implementing energy efficiency measures in our buildings and street lighting
- To reduce advertising costs, jobs are now only to be advertised on our website or in Job Centres unless it is a very specialised role.
- Improving the way we buy goods and services, for example, through the use E catalogues and improved contract management arrangements
- Recycling equipment and stationery around the whole council rather than buying new
- Reviewing existing contracts on a regular basis with a view to negotiating efficiency requirements in large long term contracts.
- We will modernise the way we operate and streamline back office functions where needed

We estimate that by March 2017 by doing these things we will save in excess of £2m

Reducing the cost of management, democracy and bureaucracy

As a small council we need to continually review the scale of our management costs and overheads.

We spend about £4.2m on management, approximately £1.1m supporting members and a significant amount on stationary, printing etc. Since May 2013 we have already made progress here by providing councillors with tablet technology for email communication and electronic committee papers.

In addition, we will undertake the following to make more savings in this area:

- We will target a reduction in senior management and review our overall management cost

- We will be making a 10%-20% saving in the cost of administration through introducing electronic methods for our internal and external processes. For example, job application forms, orders and invoices, expense and sickness forms etc.
- We will encourage the public to contact the Council by email and will enable access to our services through the use of our website
- Bureaucracy that does not add value to our work will cease and streamlined ways of working will be introduced.
- We will review the number of formal meetings we have and we will expect officers, and encourage councillors to use computers rather than paper, email rather than letters and video conferencing rather than travelling.

We estimate that by March 2017 by doing these things we will save in excess of £2m.

To transform services which we are legally bound to deliver to ensure that they are modern, effective and efficient

We will continue to prioritise services for vulnerable people such as children who need to be protected and safeguarded; social care services for older people; schools; housing and other services we have to provide, such as road gritting in the winter.

Most of our money is spent on services which we are legally obliged to deliver. For example out of a budget of £126m, around £50m is spent on schools and education and £30m on social care services, which is 62% of the Council budget.

However many of these services are in need of updating and may not be as effective and efficient as they could be. We are therefore reviewing the way in which we deliver these services and also how efficiently we run them.

We are updating our services as follows;

- Modernising the way social care for older people is delivered through initiatives such as
 - Developing extra care housing for older people and thereafter reducing number of Council run care homes,
 - Increasing the use of technology in homes so that people can remain independent for longer within a safe environment
- Negotiating with the companies from which we purchase care to ensure that the price is fair and that they also know that they need to be efficient
- Through our School Modernisation Strategy we are reviewing the number of school places we have against the number of places that we actually need, making sure that the money for individual schools reflects the number of children they have and reducing the surplus places

- Reviewing the number of libraries based on the number of people who use them. We will consider rationalisation, which, while reducing costs could also lead to an enhanced range of community services.

We estimate that by doing these things we will save in excess of £2m by March 2017.

To work collaboratively with others where this has the potential to save money or helps to maintain service levels

There are certain things every local authority needs to have such as senior management, buildings, equipment, and elected members. The fact that we are a small authority makes our “overhead” costs high. We know this can make it more expensive to run some of our services and it also makes it difficult to deliver some small services.

We therefore plan to make savings by working with others in the following ways:

- We are working with the other five North Wales councils through a North Wales school improvement service called GWE.
- We are also working together with other councils in North Wales on projects to secure waste disposal capacity at lower cost than we could on our own.
- We will also look at reviewing our current waste collection service.
- Other cross-council projects and initiatives are being looked at where the pooling of resource could / will provide savings or create more sustainable services. For example in social services we are exploring this potential within Learning Disabilities.
- We are developing joint local teams between social services and health which will reduce duplication, co-locate staff and improve co-ordination between these services

It is difficult to fully estimate now how much we will achieve through joint working, as this work will take longer to develop. Realistically, however, we need to be looking at making savings in the region of £3m in this area by March 2017.

Getting the best out of our staff

Our staff are our most valuable resource and account for about 60% of the Council’s expenditure. It is essential therefore that we work with our staff to enable them to perform to the best of their ability. In addition, our staff are very conscious of the need to contribute to the efficiency debate and many have made some really useful suggestions.

Some of the work we are undertaking include:

- All staff will have a performance appraisal to ensure they are working to the best of their ability.
- We will spend at least £350,000 on training and developing our staff.
- We will implement job evaluation to ensure fairness in how we reward staff.
- We will communicate with staff through a Staff Council.
- Currently our sickness rate is in excess of 12 days per member of staff a year. Last year, 2013/14, a total of 28,811 days off sick were taken by our staff and we paid around £2m while they were off. This is one of the highest rates for councils in Wales. By improving our management of sickness we'll be working to reduce this rate and its associated costs.
- We will be working on a strategy and plan to decrease the amount of agency staff employed so that we can develop our own workforce
- All job vacancies will be reviewed to see if we need to replace the job in the same way or if we could do things differently
- We will review staffing levels and skills to align with developing future delivery models.
- It is inevitable that during a period of financial difficulties redundancies will be made. Voluntary redundancies will always be investigated first and we will always try to redeploy members of staff who are at risk of redundancy to another area of work or transfer them to organisations who are willing to work in partnership with us in order to keep expertise and knowledge at the forefront of delivery.

Through all of these initiatives our main aim will be to develop and nurture a professional, skilled and valued workforce.

While these initiatives are more about getting the best out of our staff, we anticipate that we can make some real savings here too. We estimate about £1million.

To ensure that we are efficiently maximising income generation opportunities to the council

The money we get as a Council comes from four main areas

- Welsh Government from general taxation
- Ynys Môn residents from Council tax
- Other income such as the fees we charge for services and interest on our investments
- Grants from other bodies such as Sport Wales and the Arts Council, and economic regeneration grants from Europe

Most of our money comes from Welsh Government and it is the reduction in this money which means that we have to find savings. We therefore plan to maintain and increase our income as follows;

- Council tax can only be increased by a maximum of 5% otherwise the Welsh Government would take action against us. Council Tax in Ynys Môn is relatively low. We have therefore

planned on an annual increase of 5% for 2015/16 with a proposal to explore increased Council Tax for second home owners on the island and empty homes.

- We will pursue outstanding debts to the Council with vigour
- Our collection rate for in-year Council Tax is relatively high at 97%, but we will work to increase this level where possible and aim for one of the best collection rates Wales wide.
- We charge for a number of our services such as leisure centres, school meals, home care, special waste collections, car parking. We are reviewing all of our fees and charges against the cost of provision and where it is deemed too low then we will increase them
- It is likely that the grants we receive from other bodies will reduce as a consequence of the spending squeeze. We will, therefore, need to reduce what we spend in line with any grant reductions and have clear exit strategies for grants which come to an end. This may have an impact on services such as leisure and the arts.
- We will try and maximise the amount of money we receive from Europe for projects which will support and enhance our plans for Ynys Môn.
- We will promote and dispose of surplus assets in a structured and timely manner which will in turn increase our capital receipts and lead to investment in areas identified within our 4 year corporate plan.
- We will also modernise and simplify payments so that it becomes a lot easier for customers to pay in places such as car parks & leisure centres.

Currently, we estimate the need to secure an additional £1.3m a year through these initiatives.

To challenge whether we should continue to fund non essential, non statutory services where others also provide these.

There are a number of non-statutory services we provide as a council which are also provided by other organisations. For example leisure centres and sports facilities including golf course, arts venues, building control and pest control.

We know these facilities and services are valued by many of you. However the public sector does not have to provide them and the private and voluntary sectors do successfully run services like these. We charge for these services but the income generated does not cover the cost. The council therefore subsidises these services.

We will therefore be working to;

- Externalise the management of our cultural heritage assets
- Develop a model where the non-statutory, non-essential services cover their full cost by raising income and / or reducing costs over a period of 2 to 3 years.
- Stop providing them if we find that there is sufficient provision in the private sector

- Build on our successful collaboration with Canolfan Beaumaris Trust. We are working with the voluntary & third sector to explore how they can help us to deliver a range of future services such as day care and other options with our Adult population.
- Explore if the communities of Anglesey (inclusive of town and community councils) might be able to take over responsibility for some of the more local types of service such as sports fields, country parks and public toilets.

And in doing so, we will ensure that we have the appropriate means to engage comprehensively with communities and partners. This will help understand what and when specific responsibilities can be devolved further in a sustainable manner to a local level.

We estimate that we need to save in the region of £1.5m a year through exploring these options by March 2017.

To understand the impact of the proposals on Ynys Môn and its residents in particular those in most need of our services.

Our first aim will be to reduce the amount of money we spend and improving the way we work without reducing the levels of service.

However, we know that doing this alone will not give us the level of savings we need. We will, therefore, then have to look at making changes to services.

We will look at whether the change will make a real difference and we will ask;

- Is the service well used or used to its maximum?
- Does someone else provide the service?
- If the service wasn't there or was reduced what would happen to individuals and /or communities?

Decisions on whether we will take the idea forward will be based on the answers to these questions.

Impact on staff

We are the largest employer on Ynys Môn with over 3,000 staff. The next few years is going to be a very difficult period for our staff, as well as many others who live in the county.

Staff are at the heart of what we do and how we do it, so it is important during this period of change that we keep them as informed as possible about our ideas and plans, and that we also involve them directly in the discussions.

Our revised People Strategy will define how we value, train, develop and effectively use our staff beyond this difficult period.

Next steps

These actions could provide us with savings in the region of £12.5m. This still leaves us around £3m short of the level of savings needed over the next three years.

We will therefore continue to work on developing these proposals and others. We will also consult with you every year and let you know how much money we are savings in our Annual Performance Report

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ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
REPORT TO:	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
DATE:	15 DECEMBER 2014
SUBJECT:	DRAFT REVENUE BUDGET 2015-16
PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S):	COUNCILLOR H E JONES
HEAD OF SERVICE:	RICHARD MICKLEWRIGHT
REPORT AUTHOR:	BETHAN HUGHES OWEN
TEL:	Ext. 2663
E-MAIL:	bhofi@anglesey.gov.uk
LOCAL MEMBERS:	

A - Recommendation/s and reason/s

1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Earlier Decisions

1.1.1 The budget report to the Executive in July updated the Medium Term Revenue Strategy and assumptions for the 2015/16 budget. The report sets out the budget gap based on the likely Welsh Government settlement and the protection of services. The gross budgets were calculated for each service, which subsequently were asked to develop proposals based on a savings target of 10% where this was based upon the assumption that the Aggregate External Finance (AEF) would be as forecast.

1.1.2 The Budget report on the 14 July 2014 laid the following underlying principles in establishing the standstill budget:-

- To adopt an intention to increase the Council Tax by 5%;
- Current Inflation for supplies and services of 0%;
- Actual inflationary increases where these are required by law or by contract, for non-domestic rates etc.;
- Increases to Fees and Charges of 5%;
- Other committed changes as a result of decisions already taken.

1.1.3 Use of reserves. It has been assumed that there will be no use of reserves to fund the revenue budget in 2015/16.

1.2 Provisional Local Government Settlement

1.2.1 The Minister for Public Services announced the provisional local government settlement on the 8th October 2014.

1.2.2 The all Wales reduction in the Revenue Settlement Grant (RSG) of -3.4% a provisional settlement was lower than the anticipated settlement of -4.5%. The Anglesey provisional settlement was a reduction of -3.9%. This compared to an RSG settlement of £96.432m in 2014/15 to a provisional settlement of £92.887m in 2015/16, is a revenue reduction of £3.545m.

1.2.3 The Final Settlement is due to be announced on 11 December 2014, and, with the final figures not available until then, this report will have the potential for a considerable change in the funding position. This may mean that a call on revenue reserves or further efficiency savings will be needed. This position will be factored into the final budget proposed in February 2015.

There are a number of transfers in and out of the settlement. Full details of the effect on the Isle of Anglesey County Council is yet unknown. Full details are expected in the final settlement due December 2014, the indications are as follows:-

Transfers Out

- Student Finance;
- National Adoption Service (top slice);
- Education Psychologists (currently a top slice to be transferred out);
- Animal Feed Control.

Transfers In

- Integrated Family Support Service;
- Local Government Borrowing Initiative;
- Out of Schools Childcare Grant;
- Autistic Spectrum Disorders.

There is ongoing work by the Welsh Government on the Grants, however, the first indication is the following:-

- Education Grants amalgamated into one Education Improvement Grant for Schools;
- Supporting People reduction of 7.5%;
- Sustainable Waste Management Grant reduction of 3.0%;
- Pupil Deprivation Grant increase of 15.2%;
- Flying Start increase of 10.1%;
- Substance Misuse Action Fund an increase of 21.2%.

2. REVENUE BUDGET 2015/16

2.1 Standstill Budget

2.1.1 Appendix A presents the initial draft high level standstill revenue budget for 2015/16. This takes the 2014/15 finalised budget as the starting point and reflects budget movements throughout the year, grant transfers, staffing movements, inflation and committed changes.

2.1.2 The standstill budget has taken account of the factors described in 1.1.2 as per the Executive Report in July 2014.

2.1.3 The main change from the Executive report in July is the projected Pay Increase from 1% to 2.2%. This has a significant effect on the strategy.

2.1.4 The standstill budget has also allowed for:-

- Loss of Specific Grant Income
- Staff Increments
- Staff Turnover Savings
- Employers Superannuation Increases

2.1.5 Limited demographic changes have been applied. There is little change in the overall pupil numbers for the year. In relation to the changes to Social Services, no change will be applied.

2.1.6 The standstill budget assumes that the current year savings are achieved.

2.2 Risk and Contingencies

2.2.1 There are a number of key risks which the Authority faces in 2015/16 which may have an impact on its finances as the year progresses. Some of these risks cannot be quantified at this stage, they include but are not limited to:-

2.2.2 Specific Grants - As this report is presented, there is currently very little detailed information on grant allocations for 2015/16. The standstill position currently reflects some grants which are at 2014/15 levels. Any reductions in grant levels in 2015/16 will have to be managed by equivalent reductions in expenditure, either directly related to the grant or through other areas of the budget. The income budgets in respect of grants that have been transferred in as part of the provisional settlement have been stripped out of the budget, however, this has had a largely neutral effect as mentioned in section 1.2 above.

2.2.3 The current activity in relation to the potential nuclear power station and Energy Island Programme has been covered in previous budgets. It may be necessary to amend them from time to time and the pressures on the budgets are being reviewed.

2.2.4 Often the uncertainty surrounding proposed budgets is because of a number of major contracts out to tender. This is due to the final value not being known until the tendering exercise is completed. There are only a small number of contracts due for retendering in 2015/16 and this reduced the uncertainty.

2.2.5 The annual contingency budget for Job Evaluation and Employment Costs now stands at £700k. This has been this rate for the last few financial years. This reflects a decision in 2010/11 to proceed with a review of lower paid workers, mainly on spot salary. More work has now been undertaken on Job Evaluation. This is a key financial risk and it will require continual review as the Job Evaluation draws to a close. Although Reserves have been built up over a number of years, the outcome of the exercise is currently unknown and, given the varying experiences of other Authorities within the UK, it is difficult to assess. However, reviewing other schemes and costs, it is likely that there may be insufficient funds in the reserves currently to implement fully.

2.2.6 The 'general' contingency contains an additional £500k which is held to cover uncertainty as the budget process proceeds. It should be possible to remove the main part of this contingency in the next phases of the budget round. No significant contract contingency is required, but a general contingency will be required to deal with unforeseen events during the year.

2.2.7 The budget also includes contingency of £190k for mainly one-off spend to support the performance and implementation activities.

2.3 Budget Gap

2.3.1 It is recommended that the draft standstill budget should be adopted by the Executive as a basis for the 2015/16 revenue budget.

2.3.2 Taking the Provisional Settlement figures and assuming the Council increases the Council Tax by 5%.

	£'000
Aggregate External Finance	92,887
Council Tax	30,988
Total	123,875

2.3.3 The standstill budget, i.e. budget before any additional growth is considered. The budget gap at the draft initial standstill position is £4.081m.

2.3.4 The gap is based upon a council tax increase of 5%. Below is a table which identifies the various council tax levels and the level of savings it would require and the weekly effect on a band D property.

%	Council Tax £	Savings Required	Weekly Effect on Band D	Total Cost
5	30,988,000	4,080,801	1.2	25.2
4.75	30,914,000	4,154,801	1.14	25.14
4.5	30,840,000	4,228,801	1.08	25.08
4.25	30,766,000	4,302,801	1.02	25.02
4	30,766,000	4,302,801	0.96	24.96

2.3.5 The Budget report in July 2014 included a top level forecast showing the potential funding gap of £6.663m for 2015/16. This did not include any growth items over and above the demographic growth and protection for the schools budgets. The main changes are:-

- Increase in the Employees Pay award;
- Removal of the non - achievement of previous years efficiency savings target protection;
- Removal of the effect of Demography.

3. BUDGET STRATEGY

3.1 Efficiency Strategy

As a part of the budget and service planning framework, an efficiency strategy has now been prepared, based on Annual Service reviews and Efficiency Strategy Document. This medium term strategy highlights:-

- Reducing the cost of management, democracy and bureaucracy;
- To work collaboratively with others where this has the potential to save money or help to maintain service levels;
- To make sure we get the best out of our staff;
- To ensure that we are efficiently maximising income generation opportunities to the Council;
- To transform services which we are legally bound to deliver to ensure that they are modern, effective and efficient;
- To challenge whether we should continue to fund non-essential, non-statutory services where others also provide these;
- To understand the impact of the proposals on Ynys Môn the place and its residents, in particular those in most need of our services.

3.2 Savings Proposals

- 3.2.1** The need to make revenue savings on an unprecedented scale, not just for 2015/16 but for the foreseeable future, is, of course, the dominant issue of the efficiency strategy. The proposals that have been put forward to date by Directorates are a mix of Savings, Efficiencies and Income Generation.
- 3.2.2** The savings targets will not necessarily be applied in an even pattern across all services, but will reflect choices and priorities as set out by the Executive.
- 3.2.3** All Member workshops to discuss the options is scheduled for the new year.
- 3.2.4** The savings proposals that have been submitted to date do include for any anticipated redundancies.
- 3.2.5** The majority of the savings proposals that have been submitted to date will inevitably have an impact on service delivery to different degrees, which will need to be considered when making decisions.
- 3.2.6** The proposals will depend also on the Executive's objectives. There is a potential that not all the proposals that have been submitted will be implemented, some need further verification, some are not new and some will take time to deliver. The Council is currently undertaking service reviews across the Council and, in parallel, is developing an efficiencies strategy to help in taking the Council forward in meeting budget targets over the next three years.

3.2.7 Some of these savings proposals will, inevitably, involve reduction in staff numbers, some of which may be achieved by 'natural wastage'. The savings proposals currently assume a full year's worth of saving in relation to staffing reductions. There is a timing risk associated with these, in that if the staffing is not reduced on 1 April 2015, then the full saving will not be achieved. It is also likely that there will be staff severance costs involved in making savings. For this purpose, it will be necessary to set aside a further contingency for redundancy on a similar scale to that approved in the 2014/15 budget.

3.2.8 It is proposed to reduce the Third Sector contributions by 5%.

3.2.9 It is recommended that:-

- The Executive should seek to make sufficient savings in 2015/16 to balance the revenue budget without the use of reserves.
- The Executive should plan to cover unavoidable costs of severances or other one-off costs of delivering savings without the use of reserves.

3.3 Growth Bids and Pressures

3.3.1 There is no allowance for any Growth Bids.

4. SCHOOLS BUDGETS

4.1 In October 2014, the Welsh Government announced its intention to continue to protect school funding for 2015/16. The level of protection has been set at 0.6%, or an increase of £235k, based on a budget of £39.09m for 2014/15. For 2015/16, schools are facing increased pension costs and an increase in Broadband costs from the Learning in Digital Wales Programme.

4.2 In terms of budget for 2015/16, currently budgets have been set for schools with funding for the pay award and increased pension costs. This gives an allocation of £39.42m. However, at the Schools Forum meeting on 3 November 2014, a paper was presented to Forum members with the proposal to implement efficiency savings between £2m to £3m over the next three years.

4.3 For 2015/16, if the increase in funding is restricted to the 0.6% increase, this would reduce school budgets to £339.32m. This would reduce the schools budget by £100k.

4.4 With regard to additional efficiency savings, a working group involving Local Authority Officer and a selection of Head Teachers has been set up. The remit of this group is to come up with an efficiency savings strategy for schools.

5. MATTERS FOR DECISION

5.1 The content of the Budget is not prescribed, but its timetable requires the co-operation of the Executive, Scrutiny and the Full Council, if it is to be adopted in February 2015.

5.2 An all Member workshop has been established for early next year to go through the options for savings.

5.3 This report has recommended:-

- (a) The draft standstill budget should be adopted by the Executive as a basis for the 2015/16 revenue budget;
- (b) That the Executive should seek to make sufficient savings in 2015/16 to balance the revenue budget without the use of reserves;
- (c) That the Executive should plan to cover unavoidable costs of severance or other one-off costs of delivering savings without the use of reserves.

B - What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?

C - Why is this a decision for the Executive?

This is delegated to the Executive

CH - Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?

Yes

D - Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?

Yes

DD - Who did you consult?

What did they say?

	Who did you consult?	What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	Consultation with Budget Steering Group
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	This is a S151 Officer Report
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	
4	Human Resources (HR)	
5	Property	
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	
7	Scrutiny	
8	Local Members	
9	Any external bodies / other/s	

E - Risks and any mitigation (if relevant)

	Risks and any mitigation (if relevant)	
1	Economic	
2	Anti-poverty	
3	Crime and Disorder	
4	Environmental	
5	Equalities	
6	Outcome Agreements	
7	Other	

F - Appendices:

Appendix A: Summary of Draft Standstill Budget and Budget Gap
Appendix B: Efficiency Savings Identified

FF - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):

SUMMARY OF DRAFT STANDSTILL BUDGET AND BUDGET GAP**Based upon a 5% Council Tax Increase**

Directorate	Draft Standstill position £
Lifelong Learning (Including Schools)	48,113,280
Community Services	30,854,780
Sustainable Development	19,999,050
Deputy Chief Executive	12,344,780
Corporate and Democratic Costs	1,819,530
Legal & Administrative	2,667,970
Levies	3,219,600
Capital Financing and Interest	7,782,590
Recharges to HRA/DSO	-357,767
Affordable Priorities Programme	-23,012
Total	126,420,801
Improvement Contingency	190,000
General Contingency	500,000
Job Evaluation Contingency	800,000
Sub Total Standstill Budget	127,910,801
Salary & Grading	500,000
Cost of Change Contingency	221,000
Discretionary Rate Relief	50,000
Total Before Savings	128,681,801
Funded By:	
Aggregate External Funding	92,887,000
Council Tax	30,988,000
Outcome Agreement	726,000
Total Funding	124,601,000
Funding Gap	4,080,801

EFFICIENCY SAVINGS**Good Value for Money**

Proposed Saving	Total Proposed Savings £'000	Service
Cease the use of an Independent Chair for the Fostering Panel and provide internally	4.0	Children's
Reduction in costs of the Independent Fostering Agencies	75.0	Children's
Reduction Out Of County Placements Costs	51.0	Children's
CAMHS Termination of current arrangement	38.0	Children's
Third Sector Efficiencies	8.0	Children's
Review of contribution by IOACC to the Youth Justice Partnership	8.0	Children's
General Supplies and Services Reduction	3.0	Planning
Joint Planning Policy Unit Reduction in Contribution	25.0	Planning
Open Spaces Country Side and Coast General Efficiencies	2.0	Planning
Reduction in delivery of Coed Cymru	7.0	Planning
Reduction in Warden Hours - Seasonal and Community	5.0	Planning
Bus Service Amendment Retendering	60.0	Highways
Reduction in Highway Lighting Budget	100.0	Highways
Reduction in Highway Works Budget	414.0	Highways
Reduction in Traffic Calming Works Budget	20.0	Highways
Reduction in the Structures Budget	20.0	Highways
Changes to the Clinical Waste Services Delivery	67.0	Waste
Removal of long term vacant post	38.0	Waste
Reduction in Landfill Costs Budget	75.0	Waste
Amendments to Current Working Practices at HWRC	80.0	Waste
Reduction in Bulky Waste Collection from 2 to 1 collections	60.0	Waste
Reduction Improve School Standards Budget	43.4	Education
A Change to the Delivery of the Outreach Service part of Youth Service provision	16.3	Education
Family Information Service - office relocation	1.9	Culture
Culture - reduction in general supplies and services budget lines	2.0	Culture
Archives - Budget rationalisation	1.7	Culture
Archives - cleaning contract	2.3	Culture
Heritage - Museums general budget reductions	4.6	Culture
Heritage - Community Arts Reduction in Budget	1.1	Culture
Reduction in Grants to the Arts Allocation	10.7	Culture
TOTAL	1,244	

Challenge continuation of services

Proposed Saving	Total Proposed Savings £'000	Service
Leisure General Operational Budget Reductions	3.0	EC&R
Reduction in Sports Development Island Games Contribution	3.0	EC&R
Removal of Sports Development Post	8.0	EC&R
NERS Co-ordinator Grant Funding Contribution	6.0	EC&R
Amlwch café Staff Rationalisation	9.3	EC&R
Reduction in Holyhead Leisure Centre Casual Staff Budget	10.0	EC&R
Reduction in Operational Budget - Tourism	53.0	EC&R
Reduction in Operational Budget - Marketing	2.0	EC&R
Reduction in Operational Budget - European Projects	13.0	EC&R
Reduction in Operational Budget - European Unit	2.0	EC&R
Reduction in Street Cleaning Budget	206.0	Waste
Reduction in Arts Grants	2.6	Education
Reduction Childcare Sufficiency Budget	6.0	Education
Counselling Service - Reduction in Contribution	9.0	Education
10% Reduction in Contribution to SEN Joint Committee	93.0	Education
Reduction Out of County Placements	80.0	Education
Reduction in Primary Dyslexia Budget	27.2	Education
Reduction in URDD Grant Contribution	21.0	Education
Reduction in Young Farmers Grant Contribution	21.0	Education
Reduce contribution to William Mathias Music Service	23.6	Education
Llynonn - Reduction in budget lines	3.0	Culture
Family Information Service - Reduction in Admin Hours	9.0	Culture
TOTAL	610.7	

Reducing cost of Management, Democracy and Bureaucracy

Proposed Saving	Total Proposed Savings £'000	Service
Committees section savings on paper, printing and posting hard copy minutes and agendas	25.0	Council Business
Reduction Operational Budget - Administration	11.0	EC&R
Reduction in Operational Budget - Business Support	1.0	EC&R
Staff Rationalisation	150.0	Highways
Archives - Staff Rationalisation	8.0	Culture
Archives - Early retirement contribution ceasing	4.5	Culture
Library Service - Reduction in staffing	15.0	Culture
Museums - Staffing rationalisation: Oriel	25.0	Culture
Museums - Staffing rationalisation: Oriel	15.3	Culture
Staffing Reductions	22.6	Audit
Staffing Reductions	50.0	Transformation
Staffing Rationalisations	74.4	Leisure
Staffing Rationalisations	92.7	EC&R
Removal of General Unused Budget Lines	200.0	Adult
Removal of Vacant Post	54.0	ICT
Smarter Working Project	300.0	
Rationalisation of SLT	300.0	
TOTAL	1,348	

Work collaboratively with Others to save money or maintain service levels

Proposed Saving	Total Proposed Savings £'000	Service
Vibrant and Viable Places Fee Income	10.0	Planning
Reduction to the Safecote Budget	25.0	Highways
Collaborative Working	50.0	Waste
TOTAL	85.0	

Maximise Income Gen

Proposed Saving	Total Proposed Savings £'000	Service
Môn Enhanced Care Income Generation	10.0	Adults
Creation of Income Budget for Deferred Payments for Care	127.0	Adults
General Reduction to the Supplies and Services Budget Lines	2.0	Housing
Tendering exercises	65.0	Resources
Credit Card Charges	16.0	Resources
Amlwch Leisure Centre general income	32.0	EC&R
Holyhead Leisure Centre general income	25.0	EC&R
Plas Arthur Leisure Centre general income	34.0	EC&R
David Hughes Leisure Centre general income	4.4	EC&R
Leisure centre corporate direct debit	4.0	EC&R
Leisure centre vending machine sales (2 new)	6.5	EC&R
Small Holding review of Ring Fenced Income	36.0	Property
Increase in net parking income	40.0	Highways
Sale of Green Waste	75.0	Waste
Charge Replacement Black Bin	50.0	Waste
Free School Breakfast - to introduce a fee to non Free School Meal pupils	171.0	Education
Increase rental for Caretakers houses	4.0	Education
Increasing fees for Post 16 travel and charging Post 16 pupils in Schools	50.0	Education
Museums - income generation - Paranormal events Beaumaris Gaol	4.8	Culture
TOTAL	756.7	

Best out of our Staff

Proposed Saving	Total Proposed Savings £'000	Service
Removal of the Car Allowances Budget	20.3	Housing
Secondment of Staff Member	13.0	Planning
Reduction in Car Allowances	3.0	ICT
Reduction in Car Allowances	3.0	HR
TOTAL	39.3	

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ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
REPORT TO:	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
DATE:	15 DECEMBER 2014
SUBJECT:	CAPITAL BIDS 2015/16
PORTFOLIO HOLDER:	COUNCILLOR H E JONES
LEAD OFFICER:	GARETH ROBERTS
CONTACT OFFICER:	RICHARD MICKLEWRIGHT (EXT: 2601)
Nature and reason for reporting:	
To enable the Executive to be responsible for scheduling Capital Bids for 2015/16 at a corporate level.	
A - Recommendation/s and reason/s	
<p>1. <u>BACKGROUND</u></p> <p>1.1 This is the schedule of Capital Bids proposed by departments for inclusion in the 2015/16 to 2019/20 Capital Programme.</p> <p>2. <u>PROGRESS</u></p> <p>2.1 Following the report to the Executive in July 2014 setting out a Capital Strategy, request was made of departments to put forward bids for capital projects to be included in the 5 year Capital Programme.</p> <p>2.2 The response was far greater than expected and the full list of requests received is outlined in Appendix A.</p> <p>2.3 Each bid was reviewed for completeness and then prioritised according to a points based set of criteria, as set out in Appendix B.</p> <p>2.4 An estimate of available capital resources (Appendix C) was prepared, against which the schedule of bids was compared. As a result of this exercise, the items shaded on Appendix A were deemed to be those which were to be proposed for inclusion in the 2015/16 capital programme. Future years' inclusions will depend on the available resources at the appropriate time. However, it should be noted that the inclusion of projects in 2015/16 will have a commitment effect on future years.</p> <p>3. <u>MATTER FOR DECISION</u></p> <p>3.1 This report has recommended:-</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">That the items shaded on Appendix A to the report (items valued at £14,480m) be included in the Capital Programme 2015/15 to 2019/20.</p>	
B - What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?	
C - Why is this a decision for the Executive?	
This is delegated to the Executive.	
CH - Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?	
Yes.	
D - Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?	
Yes.	

DD - Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	Consultation with Budget Steering Group
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	This is a S151 Officer report.
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	
4	Human Resources (HR)	
5	Property	
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	
7	Scrutiny	
8	Local Members	
9	Any external bodies / other/s	
E - Risks and any mitigation (if relevant)		
1	Economic	
2	Anti-poverty	
3	Crime and Disorder	
4	Environmental	
5	Equalities	
6	Outcome Agreements	
7	Other	
F - Appendices:		
<p>Appendix A: Summary of Capital Bids 2015/16 Appendix B: Scoring Matrix Appendix C: Capital Resources</p>		
FF - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):		

Reference	Directorate	Department	Capital Reference	Original Rank	Weighted Rank	Rolling / One off Schemes	Proposed Scheme	Brief Description	2015/16 Year 1 Cost (£'000)	2016/17 Year 2 Cost (£'000)	2017/18 Year 3 Cost (£'000)	2018/19 Year 4 Cost (£'000)	2019/20 Year 5 Cost (£'000)	Grant	Net funding by IOACC 2015/16 (£'000)	Corporate priority the bid meets	Which part of the priority it meets	Projects Contribution to delivering corporate priorities	Level of Corporate risk that the proposal mitigates	Requirement to comply with statutory health, DDA responsibilities to mitigate	Level of joint / match funding potentially available	Favourable impact on revenue budget or invest to save	Robustness of Project Management	Total
11	Lifelong Learning	Education				One off	3 New Schools on Anglesey	3 other 21st century schools with commitments in 2015/16. No Capital Bid put forward, but there is a commitment to IOACC	1,442	1,110	8,235	3,634		174		C	Continue to raise the standards in educational attainment rates and standards							
12	Sustainable Development	Property	26	10	10	Rolling Programme - There will be a schedule, but not available yet	Disabled Access	The Equality Act requires the authority to carry out reasonable adjustment to the Authorities properties. Works are to be carried out to ensure all disabled people have access to services	150	150	150	150	150	0	150	F		240	140	150	0	0	35	565
13	Lifelong Learning	Education	7	11	11	Rolling Programme with a schedule attached	Rewiring Education Buildings	Programme to rewire schools that are deemed high risk. The Electricity at Work Regulations 1989 requires precaution to be taken against the risk of death or personal injury from electricity in work activities. All schools are required to be tested over 5 years, and some will only require minor repairs, while others will require a complete rewiring.	250	250	250	250	250	0	250	C	Continue to raise the standards in educational attainment rates and standards	240	140	150	0	0	30	560
14	Lifelong Learning	Education	4	12	12	Rolling Programme - There will be a schedule, but not available yet	Disabled Access in Education Buildings	Improve disabled access in various schools to comply with the Equality Act 2010, to meet the needs of some disabled pupils	300	300	300	300	300	0	300	C	Continue to raise the standards in educational attainment rates and standards	240	140	150	0	0	30	560
15	Lifelong Learning	Education	9	13	13	Rolling Programme - There will be a schedule, but not available yet	School catering Facilities	Replace existing ovens, upgrade ventilation systems in kitchens to meet the requirements. Should schools canteen close, this leads to children being sent home and disruption to their education and parents.	200	200	0	0	0	0	200	C	Continue to raise the standards in educational attainment rates and standards	240	100	150	0	40	30	560
16	Deputy Chief Executive	ICT	38	14	14	One off	Offsite ICT Backup Facilities	An audit revealed the backup system was not for purpose and posed a risk to the council. Following the audit, the previous Section 151 Officer commissioned Mazars to produce an options paper for a new system which would meet the Council's data backup requirements. The options paper was presented to SLT who decided upon the option of a comprehensive offsite backup system, unfortunately the costings in the report produced by Mazars did not consider the non-ICT requirements of such a facility	42	0	0	0	0	0	42	G		300	200	0	0	0	50	550
17	Lifelong Learning	Education	8	15	15	Rolling Programme with a schedule attached	School Repair & Maintenance	Address deficiencies to all the buildings which are unaffected by the school reorganisation plan. The condition of school stock is unsatisfactory such as leaking roofs, rotten windows that don't open, damp problems and other health and safety risks.	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800	0	1,800	C	Continue to raise the standards in educational attainment rates and standards	240	120	150	0	0	30	540
18	Lifelong Learning	Education	5	16	16	Rolling Programme - There will be a schedule, but not available yet	Falls from height risk	Schools with flat roofs and old roof-lights made with non-safety glass pose significant risk to contractors carrying out works, to surveyors and trespassers, and the authority could be prosecuted should harm be proved as a result of lack of compliance with standards. Programme needs to be in place to provide safe areas to work and replace roof-lights as necessary.	50	50	50	50	0	0	50	C	Continue to raise the standards in educational attainment rates and standards	240	120	150	0	0	30	540
19	Lifelong Learning	Education	10	17	17	Rolling Programme - There will be a schedule, but not available yet	Refurbish school toilets	An audit in 2013 revealed school toilets are in a poor state and need improving. In some cases children refuse to use the toilets as they are unsanitary. This bid is to provide up to date facilities in school, which are sanitary and designed to reduce the likelihood of bullying, other anti-social behaviour and vandalism.	200	200	200	200	0	0	200	C	Continue to raise the standards in educational attainment rates and standards	240	160	105	0	0	30	535
20	Lifelong Learning	Education	3	18	18	Rolling Programme - There will be a schedule, but not available yet	Boiler replacement in Education Buildings	Replacing Boilers in schools that are at the end of their serviceable life. Repairs are no longer possible due to parts no longer being available. Without boiler or hot water, schools would be forced to close	150	150	150	150	150	0	150	C	Continue to raise the standards in educational attainment rates and standards	240	80	150	0	0	30	500
21	Community	Housing	12	22	19	One off	Affordable Housing	Provide good, quality accommodation to residents of Anglesey, and this is recognised as being essential to health, education attainment, family well being, community sustainable and life quality.	935	0	0	0	0	0		D	Increase the affordable housing options, island wide and bring empty homes back into use	300	80	75	0	0	35	490
22	Sustainable Development	Economic & Community	29	19	21	To early to provide information - Work in progress	EU Structural Funding	Match funding to regenerate our communities and develop the economy. The future of Anglesey looks brighter with projects like Wyifa Newydd and Energy Island. With EU programmes becoming more focused and concentrated around maximising areas of opportunities within the economy - Anglesey is uniquely placed to take full advantage of these programmes	2500	5000	5000	5000	2500		Match Funded from Europe	B		300	0	0	80	0	50	430
23	Deputy Chief Executive	Legal Department	43	28	22	One off	Regional Electronic Legal Case Management System	The Council plays a part in the regional legal services' collaboration project. The project is moving ahead to purchase an electronic case management system (CM). Whilst this Council's Legal Section already has CM it may not be the same one as the collaboration chooses to buy from the G Cloud. Should that be the case then this Council will need to buy the same system as that which the rest of the region will be buying. A failure to do so will severely curtail this Council's future participation in regional legal collaboration.	80	0	0	0	0	0	80	G		300	100	0	0	0	20	420
24	Sustainable Development	Property	27	21	23	Rolling Programme - There will be a schedule, but not available yet	Property Repairs and Maintenance	Many non-educational buildings eg Leisures Centres, Libraries, Social Services buildings etc have leaking roofs, windows that don't open or are rotten, damp issues and other safety risks, this bid addresses these.	700	700	700	700	700	0	700	D		150	140	75	0	0	35	400

Reference	Directorate	Department	Capital Reference	Original Rank	Weighted Rank	Rolling / One off Schemes	Proposed Scheme	Brief Description	2015/16 Year 1 Cost (£'000)	2016/17 Year 2 Cost (£'000)	2017/18 Year 3 Cost (£'000)	2018/19 Year 4 Cost (£'000)	2019/20 Year 5 Cost (£'000)	Grant	Net funding by IOACC 2015/16 (£'000)	Corporate priority the bid meets	Which part of the priority it meets	Projects Contribution to delivering corporate priorities	Level of Corporate risk that the proposal mitigates	Requirement to comply with statutory health, DDA responsibilities to mitigate challenge	Level of joint / match funding potentially available	Favourable impact on revenue budget or invest to save potential	Robustness of Project Management	Total	
25	Sustainable Development	Economic & Community		34	25	24	To early to provide information - Work in progress	Regional Supply chain programme		871	871	0	0	WEFO Funding required	TBC	B		300	0	0	80	0	10	390	
26	Sustainable Development	Economic & Community		33	24	25	To early to provide information - Work in progress	Cyfenter Social Enterprise Support Scheme		1100	1100	1100	1100	1100	3,575 over the five years	TBC	B		300	0	0	70	0	15	385
27	Sustainable Development	Property		28	26	26	Programme to be provided	Smallholdings		1,300	1,300	0	0	Ringfenced Capital receipts	1,300	B		90	100	60	0	100	10	360	
28	Deputy Chief Executive	ICT		40	29	37	One off	Corporate Content Management System Upgrade		126	0	0	0	0	126	G		150	100	0	0	60	50	360	
29	Sustainable Development	Environment & technical Service		17	23	27	One off	Public Conveniences		100	0	0	0	0	100	N/A		0	100	75	0	140	35	350	
30	Sustainable Development	Planning & Public Protection		37	27	28	One off	Motorhome & tourer park at Holyhead		250	0	0	0	0	80% of £200k from VVP Grant not yet secured, if secured IOACC contribution £50k	50	B		150	0	0	80	100	5	335
31	Sustainable Development	Economic & Community		35	37	29	To early to provide information - Work in progress	Local Investment Fund		TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	WEFO Funding required	TBC	B		300	0	0	0	0	15	315
32	Sustainable Development	Economic & Community		36	38	30	To early to provide information - Work in progress	Marine Renewables Infrastructure							WEFO Funding required	TBC	B		300	0	0	0	0	15	315
33	Sustainable Development	Environment & technical Service		20	30	31	Rolling Programme - There will be a schedule, but not available yet	Estate Roads		50	50	50	50	50	0	50	N/A		0	140	45	0	60	25	270

Reference	Directorate	Department	Capital Reference	Original Rank	Weighted Rank	Rolling / One off Schemes	Proposed Scheme	Brief Description	2015/16 Year 1 Cost (£'000)	2016/17 Year 2 Cost (£'000)	2017/18 Year 3 Cost (£'000)	2018/19 Year 4 Cost (£'000)	2019/20 Year 5 Cost (£'000)	Grant	Net funding by IOACC 2015/16 (£'000)	Corporate priority the bid meets	Which part of the priority it meets	Projects Contribution to delivering corporate priorities	Level of Corporate risk that the proposal mitigates	Requirement to comply with statutory health, DDA responsibilities to mitigate challenge	Level of joint / match funding potentially available	Favourable impact on revenue budget or invest to save potential	Robustness of Project Management	Total		
34	Sustainable Development	Environment & technical Service	19	32	32	Rolling Programme - Install new py and display machines	Car Parks	Maintain Car Parks which bring income for revenue budget. This enables major works if not addressed could become major safety issues. It also serves as match funding when grants become available for enhancements	50	50	50	50	50	0	50	B		90	100	45	0	0	25	260		
35	Lifelong Learning	Museums and Heritage	42	35	33	One off	Essential works to Beaumaris Gaol and Courthouse (in preparation for possible outsourcing to another agency, dependent on decision of elected members)	Outsourcing as one way forward for some of the island's prestigious tourist and heritage sites. In order to attract an outside agency to adopt and undertake the running of these sites instead of the Council, the buildings must be in good enough condition to be regarded as viable tourist income generators. A detailed report has been commissioned to provide a breakdown of essential costs of repairs to the Beaumaris Gaol and Courthouse in order to ensure that the buildings reach the minimum standard of repair expected by any agency that would take over the sites.	232	0	0	0	0	0	232	B,E		90	40	0	0	80	25	235		
36	Community	Housing	11	31	34	One off	Purchase Land for Gypsies and Travellers	Acquire and develop land for Gypsies and travellers on Anglesey. The bid is based upon the need to acquire land for 2 temporary / transit sites of 1 acre, and 1 permanent residential site of 2.5 acres.	3,590	0	0	0	0	0	Funding could be made at the end of 2015 for 2016/17	TBC	D		120	0	75	0	0	35	230	
37	Sustainable Development	Environment & technical Service	22	33	35	Rolling Programme - There will be a schedule, but not available yet	Major Structural Schemes	Maintain several bridges, culverts and retaining walls. This will undertake planned maintenance to these structures above and beyond that can be undertaken from revenue budget	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	0	200	N/A		0	100	45	0	60	25	230
38	Sustainable Development	Environment & technical Service	23	34	36	Rolling Programme - There will be a schedule, but not available yet	Carriageways	The Council network requires constant maintenance. This fund enables major work to be undertaken which would otherwise not be possible	200	200	200	200	200	200	0	200	N/A		0	100	45	0	60	25	230	
39	Sustainable Development	Economic & Community	30	41	38	To early to provide information - Work in progress	Strategic Sites and Premises	Anglesey is on the cusp of significant inward investment from the low carbon and energy sector. This project will seek to deliver high quality serviced sites and premises at key employment sites to attract inward investment and business Expansion linked to EIP supply chain	5000	0	0	0	0	0	0	Subject to WEFO funding	TBC	B		180	0	0	0	10	190	
40	Sustainable Development	Economic & Community	31	42	39	To early to provide information - Work in progress	Utilities Infrastructure Programme	There are significant constraints within the utility of highway infrastructure which could serve to limit the economic impacts of planned investment. Significant investment is required to improve capacity and load of critical utility infrastructure (electric network etc) to maximise opportunities associated with major energy developments	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC	0	0	Subject to WEFO funding	TBC	B		180	0	0	0	10	190	
41	Sustainable Development	Economic & Community	32	43	40	To early to provide information - Work in progress	Llangefni Strategic Infrastructure Programme	Llangefni identified as a key location. Three sites in close proximity have potential to be key employment and training hub of regional significance given the right investment	circa £10m+ over the 5 years (unknown with any certainty)	circa £10m+ over the 5 years (unknown with any certainty)	circa £10m+ over the 5 years (unknown with any certainty)	circa £10m+ over the 5 years (unknown with any certainty)	circa £10m+ over the 5 years (unknown with any certainty)	0	0	Subject to WEFO funding	TBC	B		180	0	0	0	10	190	
42	Sustainable Development	Environment & technical Service	21	39	41	Rolling Programme - There will be a schedule, but not available yet	Lighting	A programme to replace lamps with more energy efficient and reduced light polluting lamps, resulting in lower electricity consumption thus resulting in revenue savings and reducing carbon footprint.	30	30	30	30	30	0	30	N/A		0	0	0	0	140	25	165		
43	Community	Housing	14	36	42	No Programme Ad Hoc	Private Sector Housing Loan Scheme	Improving Homes of Private Landlords on Anglesey eg for quality of homes for contractors. Should Wylfa Newydd go ahead it is estimated 8,000 workers will be employed on site at peak times.	740	500	510	0	0	WG £254k	486	D		90	0	0	40	0	30	160		
44	Sustainable Development	Property	25	40	43	Rolling Programme - There will be a schedule, but not available yet	Energy Conservation	Lack of investment could impact on ability to meet Public Sector targets. It is recommended that 10% of the energy and water expenditure should be invested in energy and water efficiency schemes	200	200	200	200	200	0	200	N/A		0	0	0	0	100	35	135		
<p>Key: Corporate Priority:</p> <p>A Transform Adult Social Care</p> <p>B Regenerating our Communities and Developing the Economy</p> <p>C Improving Education, Skills and Modernising our Schools</p> <p>D Increasing our Housing Options and Reducing Poverty</p> <p>E Transforming our Leisure and Library Provision</p> <p>F Becoming Customer, Citizen and Community Focused</p> <p>G Transforming our Information and Communication Technology (ICT)</p>																										

SCORING MATRIX**1. Projects Contribution to delivering corporate priorities (Weighting 30%)**

- 300 points is awarded if the scheme fully meets one or more of the bullet points within the corporate plan.
- A score of between 1 and 299 is awarded if part of the bullet points within the corporate plan is met, with the score reflecting the severity of the impact. If a scheme meets most of the corporate priority, it should score over 200 points, but if the scheme only meets a fraction of the corporate priority, it should score less than 100. The scoring is based on the scorer's discretion.
- A score of 0 is awarded if the scheme doesn't meet any of the bullet points within the corporate plan.

2. Projects Contribution to delivering corporate priorities (Weighting 20%)

- 200 points is awarded if the scheme fully mitigates a corporate risk.
- A score of between 1 and 199 is awarded if the scheme partly mitigates a corporate risk. The score will reflect the severity of the mitigation. If a scheme mitigates a lot of the corporate risk, it should score over 120 points, but if the scheme only mitigates a small amount of corporate risk, it should score less than 50. The scoring is based on the scorer's discretion.
- A score of 0 is awarded if the scheme doesn't mitigate any of the corporate risk.

3. Requirement to comply with statutory, health, DDA responsibilities to mitigate challenge (Weighting 15%)

- 150 points is awarded if the scheme is fully required to comply with either statutory, health, or DDA responsibilities.
- A score of between 1 and 149 is awarded if the scheme partly complies with either statutory, health, or DDA responsibilities. The score will reflect the severity of the compliance. If a scheme complies a lot with either the statutory, health, or DDA responsibilities, it should score over 100 points, but if the scheme only complies slightly with either statutory, health, or DDA responsibilities it should score less than 30. The scoring is based on the scorer's discretion.
- A score of 0 is awarded if the scheme doesn't comply with either statutory, health, or DDA responsibilities.

4. Level of joint / match funding potentially available (Weighting 10%)

- If the scheme is 100% grant funded, the scheme will score 100 points. If the scheme is 50% grant funded, the scheme will score 50 points. If the scheme will receive no grant funding, it will score 0 points.

5. Favourable impact on revenue budget or invest to save potential (Weighting 20%)

- 200 points is awarded if the scheme has a major impact on revenue budget or invest to save potential.
- A score of between 1 and 199 is awarded if the scheme has some favourable impact on revenue budget or invests to save potential, with the scoring dependant on how much impact there is on the revenue budget. A high favourable impact should score over 120, with a low impact expected to score less than 50 points.
- A score of 0 is awarded if there is no favourable impact on revenue budget or invest to save potential.

6. Robustness of Project Management (Weighting 5%)

- A fully robust project management will score 50 points.
- A score of between 1 and 49 will be scored dependant on how robust the project management is, with the scoring based on the scorer's discretion.
- A score of 0 is awarded if the project management is not robust at all.

CAPITAL RESOURCES

The Council is currently extremely short of capital resources. There was approximately £2m of capital receipts in hand as at the 1 April 2014 with a further anticipated £2.5m to be made available by the 31st March 2015. In addition, the Council receives, through the Support Grant, a further £3.522m allocation which can be spent on capital. Thus, the Council has a base £6.5m to which can be added grants if and when capital schemes attract such approvals.

At this stage, it has not been possible to reasonably define resources available beyond 2016/17 as shown in the tables below. Therefore, even though certain projects are shown into future years, there is a degree of uncertainty with any project after 2016/17. It should also be born in mind that 'emergency' schemes or changes in priorities may occur at any time and, therefore, new schemes may be put forward for consideration and inclusion in the Capital Programme.

CAPITAL RESOURCES 2015/16

The following are the Capital Resources available for 2015/16 :-

	£'000	£'000
Estimated Capital Receipts (Excluding Ring Fenced Smallholdings)	2,500	
Supported Borrowing (WG via Support Grant)	2,189	
General Capital Grant (WG)	1,333	
Estimated 2014/15 Capital Receipts released	2,000	
		8,022
Capital Grants available for schemes included in proposed Schedule (Beaumaris)		765
		8,787
Special Grants relating to proposed Schools schemes Schools	4,578	
		4578
Total Available Resources (without recourse to Borrowing)		<u>13,365</u>

POTENTIAL RESOURCES 2016/17

	£'000	£'000
Estimated Capital Receipts (Excluding ringfenced Smallholdings)	1,000	
Supported Borrowing (Assuming at same levels as 2015/16 (WG via Support Grant)		
General Capital Grant (WG)	1,333	
		4,522
Special Grants relating to proposed schemes Schools	1,700	
		1,700
Total Potential Available resources (without recourse to Borrowing)		<u>6,222</u>

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to:	Executive Committee
Date:	15 December, 2014
Subject:	School bus contracts – tenders and charges structure
Portfolio Holder(s):	Cllr. Ieuan Williams
Head of Service:	Delyth Molyneux
Report Author: Tel: E-mail:	Jane Marr 01248 752936 jaynemarr@anglesey.gov.uk
Local Members:	

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s
<p>The Executive Committee are requested to make a decision on three matters:</p> <p>R1 Introduce a “no pass no travel” policy for all pupils. R2 Increase the charges to align closer with true costs. R3 Rationalize non-statutory bus services.</p> <p>There are several reasons why there is a need to give consideration to these matters including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure the health and safety of every traveller with an allocated seat on the bus service. • Regain costs that have been absorbed by the department to date as it is not possible to continue to do so in the present climate. • Ensure equality of opportunity to all families across primary school provision. <p>It is recommended that the Executive Committee agree to the following matters</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Agree to introduce a “no pass, no travel” system. This will be of assistance in ensuring that every traveller has an allocated seat on the bus. 2. Option 2 noted in the appendix, namely to <u>gradually</u> increase charges in order to reconcile the fees with the remainder of the North Wales authorities. 3. Ensure consistency in the implementation of the authority’s transport policy by abolishing the following non-statutory services: Pentre Berw to Ysgol Esceifiog and Maes Llwyn / Porth Amlwch to Ysgol Gynradd Amlwch.

B – What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?

The principle “no pass, no travel” is relevant to each one of the proposals. Consideration was given to two other options in relation to raising fees, namely (i) raise the fee by 5% annually to meet inflation costs and (ii) adapt the level of increase in charges to the groups of travellers described in the report [pupils living under 3 miles from the secondary school (2 in primary school); post-16 school students; post-16 college students; pupils purchasing ‘vacant seat scheme’ / out of catchment area school].

Due consideration was given to continuing with the service for Esceifiog and Amlwch Primary schools on condition that users meet the costs, but this was not accepted on the basis that the arrangement is contrary to the county’s policy.

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

The decision involves raising transport fees that is part of the Executive Committee’s terms of reference.

CH – Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?

Yes

D – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?

Yes

DD – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Strategic Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	No legal issues, but some procurement aspects to be considered.
4	Human Resources (HR)	No comments
5	Property	The transport department consider the report to be reasonable. Some additional costs may arise for the administration of additional bus passes and fees. This will be duly considered as the process is reviewed.
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	
7	Scrutiny	<p>Extract: Draft Minutes Corporate Scrutiny Committee 24th November, 2014 - Relating to Item9/10: School Bus Contracts;</p> <p>9 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC It was resolved under Section 100(A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting during the discussion on the following item on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Section 12A of the said Act and in the Public Interest Test presented.</p> <p>10 SCHOOL BUS CONTRACTS – TENDERS AND CHARGES STRUCTURE The report of the Secondary Education Officer outlining proposed changes to the school bus tenders and charges structure was presented for the Committee’s consideration. The report set out the issues which need to be addressed as part of the re-tendering process along</p>

		<p>with proposals for introducing a no pass, no travel policy for all pupils; an increase in charges in line with true costs and the rationalisation of non-statutory bus services.</p> <p>The Secondary Education officer reported on the rationale for introducing a no pass, no travel policy which would better enable the Education Authority to ensure health and safety arrangements in terms of being able to provide a passenger list in circumstances where that may be required. With regard to charges, the Officer explained that the new contracts for bus travel will continue to include annual inflationary adjustments for the department. Whilst the department has to date been able to absorb these costs without increasing costs to the traveller, the present financial situation makes it difficult to sustain this situation. She referred to the current charging structure compared with the situation in other counties and elaborated on the options for change and their revenue implications. In relation to the provision of non-statutory bus services, the Officer said that that the proposal is to cease providing the non-statutory services set out in the report which are based on historical arrangements and are not in line with the Council's present transport policy. This would also ensure parity of opportunity to all families across the Island who are not served by such a provision.</p> <p>The Committee considered the proposals and sought assurance with regard to the following issues:</p> <p>That the proposed increase in charges will not disfavour pupils from disadvantaged areas. The Secondary Education Officer confirmed that there is a system of support available for poorer families under the Education</p>
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		<p>Maintenance Allowance for those in further education. A full impact assessment and consultation with stakeholders will be undertaken to ensure that no parents/pupils/schools are disadvantaged and that a fair payment system is introduced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• That safeguards will be put in place to ensure that pupils who lose or misplace their travel pass will not be denied access to a bus service and that their safety will at all times be ensured. The Secondary Education Officer said that adequate temporary arrangements will need to be established for pupils who have lost or mislaid passes.• Arrangements for monitoring and administering the system. The Head of Learning said that the favoured way forward is to move towards an electronic system e.g. by extending the Squid school meals payment system whereby payments are made on line or by arranging a direct debit payment system.• The imperative need to communicate the proposed changes to parents, pupils and governors in a way that ensures they fully understand what they entail and what support is available. The Secondary Education Officer confirmed that work is being done with the Welfare Officers and support groups e.g. Team around the Family to inform parents and families of their entitlements.• The need to undertake a risk assessment in relation to the proposal to discontinue the non-statutory services as referred to in the report. The Secondary Education Officer said that that would be a first step in the process.
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		<p>It was resolved; –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To support the introduction of a no pass, no travel policy for all pupils (Councillor A. Griffith abstained). • To support increasing charges in line with true costs as from September 2015 in accordance with Option 2 in the report. • To support the discontinuation as from September, 2015 of the non-statutory bus services referred to in the report, subject to the completion of a risk assessment of the routes involved. <p>NO FURTHER ACTION ARISING</p>
8	Local Members	
9	Any external bodies / other/s	Head of Children’s Services emphasized the need to consider the safety and safeguarding of children and young people as part of any new contract.

E – Risks and any mitigation (if relevant)		
1	Economic	
2	Anti-poverty	
3	Crime and Disorder	
4	Environmental	
5	Equalities	
6	Outcome Agreements	
7	Other	

F - Appendices:
Appendix 1 – School Bus Contracts – tenders and charges.

FF - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):

School Bus Contracts – tenders and charges

Introduction

There are three issues that the education department wish to have a decision about:

- Introduce 'no pass no travel' policy for all pupils.
- Increase charges to align more closely with true costs.
- Rationalise bus services that are non-statutory.

Introduce 'No pass no travel' policy.

The current position

The current school bus contracts are due to expire at the end of September 2015. New contracts need to be tendered to be operational from October 2015. No change is envisaged to the current policy on which the school bus contracts are arranged (as agreed by Scrutiny Committee on the 26/10/12).

The LEA provides free school transport for pupils under 16 as follows:-

- a) For primary school pupils residing 2 miles or more from the primary school in whose catchment area they reside;
- b) For secondary school pupils residing 3 miles or more from the secondary school in whose catchment area they reside;
- c) For pupils with additional needs (eg SEN, serious medical condition) whose assessment of need and/or risk assessment indicate that they are unable to access or travel independently on the usual transport provided to the nearest school appropriate to their needs;
- d) For pupils who do not qualify for transport under (a), (b) or (c) but who travel to school along a route that is considered by the County Council to be hazardous;
- e) For pupils who attend a school other than the catchment area school if it is the nearest school to the home and if the distance from the home to the school is 2 miles or more in the case of primary pupils or 3 miles in the case of secondary pupils.

Except for those children in (c), the LA expects a child to travel up to 2 miles to meet any transport provided.

Pupils who live under these distances (2 miles for primary pupils and 3 for secondary) are able to pay 40p per day direct to the driver of the bus for their transport to school. This is presently included as part of the contract and the bus companies keep this money. The department arranges extra buses in order to provide this service e.g Llanfairpwll, Porth Amlwch, Pencraig.

There is no free provision for post 16 pupils, and they are able to purchase a heavily subsidised travel pass for £60 per year to travel on the school/college buses.

The LA also offer a vacant seat scheme where parents can purchase a spare seat on dedicated school buses when their child attends an out of catchment school. This costs £60 per term or £120 if purchased for the whole year.

Issues which need to be addressed as part of the re-tendering process

'No pass no travel' policy.

The present policy of allowing pupils to pay on the buses makes it difficult to ensure that a seat is always available for every pupil. Consequently the Authority cannot provide a list of passengers in the event of an accident or breakdown, and cannot therefore guarantee being able to contact parents in such circumstances.

It is proposed to move towards all pupils needing passes either issued free to eligible pupils, or purchased if non-eligible.

This would introduce a blanket 'no pass no travel' policy, whilst ensuring that no pupil is endangered in an emergency, or if not in possession of a bus travel pass. Consultation with stakeholders will be undertaken to ensure that no parents/pupils/schools are disadvantaged, and that a fair payment system is introduced.

A number of Authorities currently operate such arrangements.

Ensure the collection of the £60 fee from sixth form pupils.

All figures referred to in the paper are for the academic year, not financial year.

Currently not all post-16 students who should pay for their travel passes, do so.

The authority is asking for permission to establish arrangements to ensure that all students who are supposed to pay for a travel pass, do so. Fair and flexible charging arrangements will be established to facilitate this, following a full consultation.

Increase charges in line with true costs.

The Authority will have to adjust annual charges in order to meet inflationary increases in the new bus travel contracts. To date the department has been able to absorb these costs without increasing costs to the travellers. However this will not be sustainable in the present financial situation.

Below is the current situation (annual costs), as compared to other North Wales authorities:

	Post 16	Pupils under 3 miles	Out of catchment
Anglesey	£60	20p per journey/£60 per year	£120
Authority 2	£0	£150	£150
Authority 3	£0	£150	£150
Authority 4	£0	£165	£165
Authority 5	£180	30p per journey/ £75 per year	£150
Authority 6	£0	£150	£150

Anglesey's post-16 students pay far less than a neighbouring county, and Anglesey pupils pay the least compared to the other five authorities for secondary pupils who live under three miles from their school.

Proposed changes to charging for bus journeys

We wish to explore a number of options as follows:

Option 1

Maintain status quo BUT introduce 'no pass no travel' system and increase charges by approximately 5% per annum, to cover inflationary costs.

BENEFITS	RISKS	MITIGATING FACTORS
Increased revenue	Families unable to pay lump sum	Introduce direct debit or on-line payments options
Dedicated seat for each traveller reduces the duty if care conflict for drivers		
Compliance with seatbelt regulations from October 1st 2014.		
Identification of all travellers on bus.		

Based on the revenue already received from college students, the 'vacant seat scheme' and passes for those pupils travelling under 3 miles to school, this would generate an increase in revenue of approximately £35,000. This will mean that not enough income is generated to meet the additional costs of new bus contracts.

Option 2

Gradually increase the charge annually in order to bring Anglesey in line with other North Wales authorities. For example raising the fee for under 3 miles for 2015/16 to £80, the charge for Post-16 to £90 and 'out of catchment' fee to £150.

Based on the revenue already received from college students, the 'vacant seat scheme' and passes for those pupils travelling under 3 miles to school, this example would generate an increase in revenue of approximately £64,000 in 2015-16 (not taking into account increase in the cost of the contract).

Option 3

Adjust the options presented above for the different groups.

Preferred option

The department does not wish to cut these services, but in order to maximise revenue, the department's preferred option is Option 2.

However should this option not be favoured, either of the other two options will improve health and safety on buses because of the introduction of 'no pass no travel'.

Option 1 is the least favoured as the new school transport bus contracts (due in October 2015) will be more costly than the present contract and adopting this would place the department in a worse monetary position. Option 3 is therefore the preferred second option.

Rationalise bus services that are non-statutory

Currently there are two dedicated services for primary school pupils living less than two miles from their school, these are Pentre Berw to Ysgol Esceifiog, Gaerwen and Maes Llwyn, Porth Amlwch to Ysgol Gynradd Amlwch. These arrangements are historical ones that were established when the routes were considered inappropriate for pupils to walk. Neither service complies to the council's current transport policy which states that transport will be provided "For primary school pupils residing 2 miles or more from the school in whose catchment area they reside". No other schools have such a service in place.

Providing this non-statutory service currently adds to the transport costs of the department by approximately £25,000.

In order to ensure parity of opportunity to all families across the island, the preferred option is to cease to provide this service from September 2015.

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