

# Public Document Pack



CYNGOR SIR  
YNYS MÔN  
ISLE OF ANGLESEY  
COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr Dylan J. Williams  
Prif Weithredwr – Chief Executive  
CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN  
ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL  
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<b>RHYBUDD O GYFARFOD</b>	<b>NOTICE OF MEETING</b>
<b>PWYLLGOR SGRIWTINI CORFFORAETHOL</b>	<b>CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DYDD IAU, 19 IONAWR, 2023 am 10:00 y. b.</b>	<b>THURSDAY, 19 JANUARY 2023 at 10.00 am</b>
<b>SIAMBR Y CYNGOR, SWYDDFEYDD Y CYNGOR AC YN RHITHIOL DRWY ZOOM</b>	<b>COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNCIL OFFICES AND VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM</b>
<b>Swyddog Pwyllgor</b>	<b>Ann Holmes 01248 752518</b>
	<b>Committee Officer</b>

## **AELODAU/MEMBERS**

Cynghorydd/Councillor:

## **PLAID CYMRU / THE PARTY OF WALES**

Geraint Bebb, Neville Evans, Dyfed Wyn Jones (***Vice-Chair***), Jackie Lewis, Llio A. Owen, Alwen Watkin, Arfon Wyn

## **Y GRWP ANNIBYNNOL / THE INDEPENDENT GROUP**

Dafydd Roberts

## **LLAFUR CYMRU/ WELSH LABOUR**

Keith Roberts

## **ANNIBYNNWYR MÔN / ANGLESEY INDEPENDENTS**

Douglas M. Fowlie, Aled Morris Jones (Democratiaid Rhyddfrydol Cymru/Welsh Liberal Democrats)  
R. Llewelyn Jones (***Chair***)

## **AELODAU CYFETHOLEDIG (Gyda hawl pleidleisio ar faterion Addysg) / CO-OPTED MEMBERS (With voting rights when dealing with Educational matters)**

Mr John Tierney (Yr Eglwys Gatholig / The Catholic Church),  
Gwag/Vacant (Yr Eglwys yng Nghymru/The Church in Wales)  
Gwag/Vacant (Rhiant Llywodraethwr – Sector Ysgolion Cynradd/Parent Governor- Primary Schools Sector)  
Llio Johnson (Rhiant Llywodraethwr – Sector Ysgolion Uwchradd ac ADY/Parent Governor- Secondary Schools Sector and ALN)

*Please note that meetings of the Committee are streamed for live and subsequent broadcast on the Council's website. The Authority is a Data Controller under the Data Protection Act and data collected during this live stream will be retained in accordance with the Authority's published policy*

## **A G E N D A**

### **1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST**

To receive any declaration of interest by any Member or Officer in respect of any item of business.

### **2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (Pages 1 - 8)**

To present the minutes of the previous meeting of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee held on 22 November, 2022.

### **3 BUDGET SETTING 2023/24 (REVENUE) - INITIAL DRAFT PROPOSALS (Pages 9 - 30)**

To present the report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer and the Scrutiny Manager.

### **4 FINANCE SCRUTINY PANEL PROGRESS REPORT**

Chair of Finance Scrutiny Panel to report.

### **5 THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2023-2028 (Pages 31 - 78)**

To present the report of the Head of Profession (HR) and Transformation.

## CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

### Minutes of the hybrid meeting held on 22 November, 2022

**PRESENT:** Councillor R. Llewelyn Jones (Chair)  
Councillor Dyfed Wyn Jones (Vice-Chair)

Councillors Geraint Bebb, Neville Evans, Aled M. Jones, Jackie Lewis, Llio A. Owen, Dafydd Roberts, Keith Roberts.

Co-Opted Member – Mr John Tierney (The Catholic Church)

#### Portfolio Members

Councillors Llinos Medi (Leader of the Council), Alun Roberts (Portfolio Member for Adults' Services – Social Services), Carwyn Jones (Portfolio Member for Economic Development, Leisure and Tourism), Dafydd Rhys Thomas (Portfolio Member for Highways, Waste and Property)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive  
Deputy Chief Executive  
Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer  
Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer  
Director of Social Services  
Director of Learning, Skills and Young People  
Head of Adults' Services  
Head of Housing Services  
Head of Highways, Waste and Property  
Head of Regulation and Economic Development  
Head of Profession (HR) and Transformation  
Programme, Business Planning and Performance Manager (GM)  
Commercial Leisure Manager (GR)  
Scrutiny Manager (AGD)  
Committee Officer (ATH)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Douglas M. Fowlie, Alwen Watkin, Robin Williams (Portfolio Member for Finance, Corporate Business and Customer Experience)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr Rhys Davies and Mrs Sharon Warnes (Members of the Standards Committee (present as observers))

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#### 1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declaration of interest was received.

#### 2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee held on the 19 October, 2022 were presented and were confirmed as correct subject to including Councillor Geraint Bebb in the list of attendees.

### 3 MONITORING PERFORMANCE: CORPORATE SCORECARD Q2 2022/23

The report of the Head of Profession (HR) and Transformation incorporating the Corporate Scorecard for Quarter 2 of the 2022/23 financial year was presented for the Committee's consideration and comment.

Councillor Carwyn Jones, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Economic Development, Leisure and Tourism in presenting the report highlighted a number of positive stories with respect to Quarter 2 performance as detailed within the report. In saying that the performance monitoring Key Performance Indicators are aligned to the Council's current three well-being objectives he confirmed that all indicators related to well-being Objective 1 where the Council is working to ensure that the people of Anglesey can thrive and realise their long-term potential, are performing at a green level against their targets. Likewise, the indicators for Objective 2 where the Council is supporting vulnerable adults and families to keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible are also performing well against target with only one of the 16 indicators shown to be underperforming. However, although performance against targets is overall green or yellow decreasing trends are emerging against a number of performance related indicators especially in relation to Well-being Objective 2. It is recognised that particular attention will need to be given to those indicators and the associated processes and work streams as winter approaches especially given the cost of living challenges and increasing food and fuel poverty within communities. The performance of indicators which monitor well-being Objective 3 where the Council works in partnership with communities to ensure that they can cope effectively with change and developments whilst protecting the natural environment has also been good with 70% above target.

In reviewing the performance data for Quarter 2, the Committee raised the following matters with the Officers and Portfolio Members –

- The downward trend against a number of performance related indicators especially with regard to well-being Objective 2. The Committee in seeking further clarification of the areas where the challenges were expected to be greatest and the steps being taken to address and/or mitigate those challenges, also noted the need to monitor the areas ragged Yellow to ensure no deterioration in performance takes place.

The Committee was assured by Officers that performance monitoring happens on a number of levels via the Strategic Leadership Team, Heads of Services and the Transformation Service, and that it takes many forms. The Council also takes account of what is happening in the wider context which is a part of its strategic planning. Whilst performance indicators and targets are set for the year, mitigating measures such as additional resources for example can be introduced where the need has been identified and where it would help improve performance.

As many of the Yellow rated areas were in Children and Families Services, the Director of Social Services advised that it was difficult to predict how the Service's PIs would perform come the winter period given that referrals are on the up and are becoming increasingly complex in nature while the number of social workers to undertake the resulting assessments remains the same. Regular internal meetings are held to monitor pressures and the service response as well as the performance of service specific PIs and a flexible approach is taken to ensure service users' needs are met. It is however envisaged that the coming months will be challenging.

- Referring to PI 23 (the average length of time for all children who were on the CPR during the year and who were de-registered during the year) which was ragged Red, the Committee in accepting that the raw data does not always convey the whole picture especially in relation to complex areas such as child safeguarding and protection, queried whether alternative and fairer means of analysis are available.

The Director of Social Services advised that this indicator was introduced at time when the number of children on the CPR was higher and the children remained on the register for a significant length of time. While the situation is now much improved, the Service is giving attention to this indicator both in terms of improving performance and in terms of the way in which performance under the indicator is measured with a view to better reflecting the position and the factors influencing performance in this area. It is anticipated that performance against the indicator is likely to remain Red for the remainder of the year and that the indicator will be re-assessed for next year in order to arrive at a more meaningful evaluation of performance .

- In response to a question regarding what needs to happen to bring the Corporate Scorecard into alignment with the new Council Plan, the Chief Executive advised that having been out to consultation once the new Council Plan has been adopted, a new Corporate Scorecard and suite of indicators will be developed to correspond with the Plan's priorities and strategic aims; PI 23 will be part of that process and will be assessed to see whether it can be adapted for the new scorecard.
- The financial situation was discussed both as regards the pressures on Social Care with Adults' and Children's Services forecast to overspend by £1.361m by the year end and as regards the wider impact on frontline services, and questions about mitigating measures were asked. The Committee was advised that although every Social Services budget line has been examined for economies and/ or efficiencies, the demand-led nature of the Service as well as statutory obligations mean that managing spending is a challenge. The Council will continue to work with partners and with the Health Board to seek to manage demand and will also continue to explore alternative more economical ways of service provision that still allow statutory responsibilities to be met. The issue will be scrutinised more closely by the Finance Scrutiny Panel at its meeting next month. With regard to the wider context, a report on the Quarter 2 Revenue Budget position is to be presented to the 29 November meeting of the Executive and while this shows a projected underspend at the end of the current financial year, a number of areas of concern will also be highlighted which may affect the Council's financial position going forward. Seasonal factors may also impact on budget performance with winter traditionally seeing a rise in demand. The 2023/24 financial year is expected to be yet more challenging meaning that consideration will have to be given to the services that are being delivered and the way they are being delivered in order to reduce costs.

In further discussions, the Committee was informed that the Adults' Services budget had increased by 20% over the past 3 years and the Children and Families' Services budget by 19%. Councillor Alun Roberts, Portfolio Member for Adults' Services also brought to the Committee's attention Welsh Government's requirement that councils in Wales make care provision arrangements to enable the discharge from hospital of 1,000 patients which will cost Anglesey in the region of £400k with no indication that supporting funding will be provided by Welsh Government to cover the expenditure. A member of the Committee suggested that in light of the financial challenges the Council is facing, Welsh Government should be approached to provide additional resources to help meet the cost of this provision.

- Whether capacity is an issue in terms of there being not enough posts or because of difficulties in recruiting to posts. The Committee was advised that the recruitment process means there are always posts in the system waiting to be filled in an organisation such as the Council although the flow of jobs from services has decreased with current circumstances and also the winter period leading to fewer people moving jobs. Given that capacity has not increased in line with demand, services have to look at doing things differently for example by making greater use of technology.

- The application of the second homes premium was raised with a request being made that in circumstances where local taxpayers are renovating an empty property and completion of the work is delayed or is going beyond the discretionary relief period because of the ongoing impact of the pandemic and shortage of materials etc., a facility in the form of a portal be provided at the same time that Council Tax bills are issued to allow people to explain and provide evidence of their situation to the Council so they are not subject to the empty homes premium. The Committee was advised that having been engaged with distributing business support grants, the Finance Service is now looking to progress and extend the use of the CRM system to interact with citizens which allows them to access and provide information online including Council Tax exemptions; the empty homes premium exemption form can be made part of that process.

**Having considered the Quarter 2 2022/23 scorecard report, the points raised and the additional information provided by Officers and Portfolio Members verbally at the meeting, and having acknowledged the positive stories with regard to Quarter 2 performance, the Committee resolved to accept the report, and to recommend the report to the Executive along with the mitigation measure with regard to monitoring decreasing trends in relation to Well-being Objective 2 indicators.**

#### **4 CENSUS 2021 ANGLESEY POPULATION DATA**

The report of the Head of Profession (HR) and Transformation incorporating information about the Council's population demographic following the release of the 2021 census was presented for the Committee's consideration.

Councillor Carwyn Jones, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Economic Development, Leisure and Tourism in presenting the report said that it is based on the census first release on 28 June, 2022; future census releases will be evaluated and the report will be updated accordingly. The data presented highlights the changes in Anglesey's population between 1981 and 2021 with regard to population density, number of households, population by age and regional changes and differences and is valuable in helping shape and plan services for the future. The headline statistics for Anglesey show that the Island's population has decreased since the last census in 2011; the proportion of the population aged 65 or older has increased as has the size of the population aged 85 years or older and is forecast to continue increasing. While the proportion of the population aged 15 or under is currently stable it has declined since 1981; a more marked decrease is reflected in the size of the working age population which is down 4.2% on the 2011 census figure.

In considering the census data and its implications for service provision the Committee discussed the following –

- The extent to which the data influences the structure and nature of the Council's services in the long-term

The Committee was advised that the Council will need to adapt and recalibrate its budgets in order to prioritise funding and resources to those areas where the census data indicates they will be needed most e.g. an increasing older population as well as expanding its provision as regards housing, transport and community support. The challenge lies in achieving those changes incrementally so that current day to day provision is not impacted by long term strategic decisions. Of vital importance in countering the trend towards a predominantly ageing population is the Council's drive to grow the economy of Anglesey by attracting investment and employment to the Island.

- The ways in which Social Services will use the data to prepare for demographic changes

The Committee was advised that the increase in the 85+ population poses the greatest challenge as regards the type of provision that will need to be made as well as how and

where it will be made. The Council continues to develop and expand its extra care provision as well as providing suitable housing for older people that is adaptive to their changing needs. The increasing number of older people with dementia for whom community provision is a risk, and the lack of family support as the population has become increasingly dispersed are factors which Social Services have to deal with meaning there is no one solution; addressing the situation requires a combination of different approaches and also means being clear and honest about what the Council can and cannot do.

- The challenges in trying to provide suitable affordable housing for young people which is a Council priority at the same time as meeting the housing needs of an increasingly ageing population at two ends of the age spectrum.

The Committee was advised that the census data provides useful baseline information regarding the Island's population and the trends going forward. The Housing Service is also required to undertake a local housing survey every five years which sets out the housing needs for that period and it is expected that the age profiles provided by the census will be reflected in the survey. Extra care housing schemes as well as a scheme to develop more bungalow accommodation are designed to help older people live independently for longer as well as freeing up larger family homes; the council house building programme mitigates some of the housing supply risks and in addition a range of tenancies is being developed including general social rent housing, intermediate social rent housing and a shared equity scheme. Three housing associations also operate on the Island which provides valued support in meeting housing needs.

- The extent to which the increase in the older population is reflected in the funding formula for Anglesey and the need to make representations to ensure a fair settlement for the Island.

The Committee was advised that the funding allocation formula takes account of the population profile including the number of older people as well as other factors including school pupils; people in receipt of benefits and children in receipt of free school meals. In response to a comment about the need to use the census information about Anglesey's ageing population to make a case through the WLGA for fair funding for the Council, assurance was provided that the matter would be escalated for discussion to the WLGA's Rural Forum which deals with issues specific to rural counties and communities.

- Planning for school places and the degree to which the Schools' Modernisation Programme needs to be reviewed in light of what the census statistics say about the decreasing 15 years old and under population

The Committee was advised that the school modernisation plans are under discussion and will as a matter of course take account of population data and trends as revealed in the 2021 census data release. Plans for school places have to reflect current as well as future needs and given the financial context, they will also have to have regard of the financial challenges facing the Council.

**It was resolved to accept and to note the information set out in the census data report**

## **5 YNYS MON LOCAL AUTHORITY REPORT ON SCHOOL SPORT SURVEY – SPORT WALES**

The report of the Head of Economic Development and Regulation incorporating the findings of the Sport Wales school sport survey was presented for the Committee's consideration. The report provides information about Anglesey's response to the survey in terms of pupils' experiences of sport and compares regional and national data.

Councillor Carwyn Jones, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Economic Development, Leisure and Tourism provided a summary of the report which showed that Anglesey's responses exceed regional and national averages across a number of themes including

frequency of participation in sports, membership of a community or sports club and enjoyment of PE and extracurricular sport.

The Committee considered the survey findings and welcomed the positive response of Anglesey's pupils to the survey and their enthusiasm for participation. The Committee discussed the following matters with the Portfolio Member and the Commercial Leisure Manager who advised that the survey provides a good basis from which to take matters forward following the pandemic confirming also that the pandemic had increased awareness of the value of sporting activity and participation in keeping fit and healthy. Assurances were provided about current and planned activities to encourage and further increase pupils' participation in sports:

- The need to build on Anglesey pupils' experiences of sport to further improve the sporting offer and increase participation
- The existence of barriers in terms of responding to the needs and desires of pupils especially given that 94% of Anglesey pupils would like to do more sport including sporting activity that they have not tried before.
- The need to find ways of reaching those pupils who do not enjoy participating in sports and PE as well as those who only participate infrequently.
- Finding ways of improving young people's confidence to engage in new sporting opportunities
- The importance of working in partnership with other organisations. The input of the Urdd organisation was recognised and a suggestion made that collaboration be extended to include the Young Farmers' Association.

**It was resolved to note the contents of the report.**

## **6 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The report of the Scrutiny Manager incorporating the Committee's updated Forward Work Programme for 2022/23 was presented for the Committee's confirmation.

The Scrutiny Manager advised that the exact timing of the 2023/24 Budget related items provisionally scheduled for consideration at the Committee's 19 January, 2023 meeting is to be confirmed and is subject to Welsh Government's timetable for announcing the initial local government financial settlement for 2023/24.

In response to a suggestion that in light of the number of items for the January meeting, an additional meeting be scheduled in the month, the Chief Executive advised that an additional date will be earmarked to consider the 2023/24 budget items.

**It was resolved –**

- **To agree the current version of the Forward Work Programme for 2022/23.**
- **To note the progress thus far in implementing the Forward Work Programme.**

**Councillor R. Llewelyn Jones  
Chair**



<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template</b>	
<b>Committee:</b>	Corporate Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date:</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> January, 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	2023/24 Budget Setting (Revenue)
<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	Scrutiny consideration of initial budget proposals for 2023/24
<b>Scrutiny Chair:</b>	Cllr Robert Llewelyn Jones
<b>Portfolio Holder(s):</b>	Cllr Robin Williams
<b>Head of Service:</b>	Marc Jones, Director of Resources / Section 151 Officer
<b>Report Author:</b>	Anwen Davies, Scrutiny Manager
<b>Tel:</b>	07971167198
<b>Email:</b>	AnwenDavies@ynysmon.gov.uk
<b>Local Members:</b>	Applicable to all Elected Members

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<b>1 - Recommendation/s</b>
Agree a formal response to the Executive on the Council’s draft proposed revenue budget for 2023/24 (using the key scrutiny questions in paragraph 4 below).

<b>2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities</b>
Direct link with the draft Council Plan and strategic priorities. The Committee’s consideration of the initial budget proposals for next year will include how the proposals enable the Council to deliver on the Council Plan as well as any specific risks.

<b>3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members</b>
<b>To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:-</b>
<b>3.1</b> Impact the matter has on individuals and communities [focus on customer/citizen]
<b>3.2</b> A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality [focus on value]
<b>3.3</b> A look at any risks [focus on risk]
<b>3.4</b> Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role [focus on performance & quality]
<b>3.5</b> Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long term</li> <li>• Prevention</li> <li>• Integration</li> <li>• Collaboration</li> <li>• Involvement</li> </ul>
[focus on wellbeing]
<b>3.6</b> The potential impacts the decision would have on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• protected groups under the Equality Act 2010</li> <li>• those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (when making strategic decisions)</li> </ul>

- opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language

[focus on equality and the Welsh language]

#### 4 - Key Scrutiny Questions

The following key questions are proposed to underpin the Committee's consideration of the 2023/24 budget proposals:

- i. Using the information available to the Committee about Council services and draft funding settlement for 2023/24, do the proposals respond adequately to Service pressures and challenges?
- ii. Does the Committee consider that any of the budget proposals will have a detrimental effect on the citizens of Anglesey or any protected groups? Does the Committee consider that any further action should be taken to mitigate the impact of the proposals on Anglesey citizens or protected groups?
- iii. To what degree does the Scrutiny Committee support an increase in the premium on second homes from 50% to 75%?
- iv. The report of the Section 151 Officer discusses the release of funds from the Council's general balances. What are the Committee's views on releasing a total sum of £1.809m from reserves in order to balance the budget for 2023/24?
- v. Does the Committee support an increase in the Council Tax of 5% in order to realise the proposals of the Executive for 2023/24? If it does not, should the increase be more or less than that proposed by the Executive?

#### 5 – Background / Context

##### 1. CONTEXT

**1.1** Scrutiny of the budget setting process has developed and matured over recent years, laying the foundations for a better, more systematic process based on outcomes and good practice. In fact, the process allows for a more systematic approach to financial scrutiny, as an essential building block of sound financial management and governance.

**1.2** Members will be aware that finance is critical to the services the Council delivers and that there are far reaching implications to financial issues facing us as a local authority – both in terms of the services being received by our citizens and also the level of Council Tax or fees and charges being levied<sup>1</sup>. This will inevitably require us to ask challenging questions about which services to offer to the future and which services to invest in and also the degree to which current methods of service delivery remain appropriate. Another consideration is also how best to manage expectations of local people in making the necessary changes. In the current economic climate, Members therefore need to be assured that the Council is making the most effective use of resources, in particular finances.

**1.3** In considering their response to the initial budget proposals, members of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee will need to consider the proposals in terms of the longer term financial position of the Council (our Medium Term Financial Plan) and the Council's objectives and priorities as set out in the draft Council Plan.

<sup>1</sup> Raising the Stakes: financial scrutiny in challenging times. A guide for Welsh local authorities (Centre for Public Scrutiny June, 2014)

## **2. SETTING THE COUNCIL'S BUDGET FOR 2023/24**

2.1 Attached is the report of the Director of Function (Resources) / Section 151 Officer on the initial proposals for the 2023/24 budget (**APPENDIX 1**) which will be submitted to a meeting of the Executive on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2023. The paper provides a position statement on the following issues:

- The Executive's initial budget proposals
- Local Government initial settlement (Welsh Government)
- Initial budget position for 2023/24
- Budget pressures which must be allowed for in the 2023/24 budget
- The financial risks which the Council faces during 2023/24
- The level of Council Tax increase required to set a balanced budget
- Impact on the Medium Term Financial Plan

Details of the Final Settlement for the 2023/24 budget are expected from Welsh Government on 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2023.

The Committee will consider the 2023/24 final draft budget proposals at its next meeting<sup>2</sup> before the Executive<sup>3</sup> makes its recommendations to Full Council on 9<sup>th</sup> March, 2023.

## **3. FINANCIAL SCRUTINY – SETTING THE 2023/24 BUDGET**

3.1 Financial scrutiny is much more than adding value to decisions taken by the Executive. It is about ensuring that there is proper scrutiny in the effective planning, delivery and follow up of key decisions impacting on taxpayers and local communities. Scrutiny should therefore:

- Provide effective challenge
- Hold decision makers to account; and
- Assist the Executive to develop a robust budget for the coming year.

## **4. FINANCE SCRUTINY PANEL**

4.1 The Finance Scrutiny Panel has been established to ensure the following key outcomes:

- Develop a model of working on finance matters focusing on a smaller group to enable Members to become more involved, develop a level of subject expertise, encourage good attendance and teamwork
- Forum to develop a group of members with the expertise and ownership to lead financial discussions at the Corporate Scrutiny Committee

4.2 The Panel considered the initial budget proposals at its last meeting (12<sup>th</sup> January, 2023). A summary of the Panel's deliberations will be presented verbally at the meeting by Cllr Dafydd Roberts, chair of the Panel.

## **5. KEY SCRUTINY ISSUES**

5.1 The 2023/24 budget setting process provides an opportunity for Elected Members to consider and challenge the implications of the draft budget. Input has also been received via the Finance Scrutiny Panel who have given detailed

<sup>2</sup> Meeting of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee to be convened on 28<sup>th</sup> February, 2023

<sup>3</sup> Meeting of the Executive to be convened on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2023

consideration to the initial draft budget proposals. At this stage in the process, the Corporate Scrutiny Committee is now requested to agree a formal response to the Executive<sup>4</sup> on the Council's draft proposals for the 2023/24 revenue budget (using the key scrutiny questions in paragraph 4 above).

5.2 In light of the 2023/24 budget setting process to date, it is therefore proposed that the Committee should:

- i. Consider the Executive's initial budget proposals and provide comments which the Executive can consider before agreeing its proposed budget proposals on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2023.
- ii. Examine in detail the likely impacts on citizens of the initial proposals
- iii. Come to a view about the level of the Council Tax for 2023/24.

## **6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language]**

### **6.1 Potential impacts on protected groups under the Equality Act 2010**

Identify the need for impact assessments later in the 2023/24 budget setting process.

### **6.2 Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (strategic decisions)**

Identify the need for impact assessments later in the 2023/24 budget setting process.

### **6.3 Potential impacts on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language**

Identify the need for impact assessments later in the 2023/24 budget setting process.

## **7 – Financial Implications**

This report discusses the process for setting the Council's 2023/24 budget, which includes consideration of the initial draft proposals for the revenue budgets.

## **8 – Appendices:**

**APPENDIX 1:** report of the Director of Function (Resources) on the proposed revenue budgets for 2023/24.

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

Anwen Davies, Scrutiny Manager, Isle of Anglesey County Council, Council Offices, Llangefni. LL77 7TW

<sup>4</sup> Meeting of the Executive to be convened on 24<sup>th</sup> January, 2023

## ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>24 JANUARY 2023</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>DRAFT REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24</b>
<b>PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S):</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR ROBIN W WILLIAMS – PORTFOLIO HOLDER – FINANCE, CORPORATE BUSINESS &amp; CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE</b>
<b>HEAD OF SERVICE:</b>	<b>MARC JONES – DIRECTOR OF FUNCTION (RESOURCES) / SECTION 151 OFFICER</b>
<b>REPORT AUTHOR:</b>	<b>MARC JONES</b>
<b>TEL:</b>	01248 752601
<b>E-MAIL:</b>	rmjfi@ynysmon.gov.wales
<b>LOCAL MEMBERS:</b>	n/a

### **A - Recommendation/s and reason/s**

The final budget will not be approved by the full Council until 9 March 2023, however, at this point, the Executive is recommended to approve the following:-

- (i) The initial proposed budget for 2023/24 of £172.438m;
- (ii) A proposed increase in Council Tax of 5%, taking the Band D charge to £1,435.86;
- (iii) To formally propose an increase in the premium on second homes from 50% to 75%;
- (iv) That £1.758m is released from the Council's general balances in order to balance the 2023/24 revenue budget.

The detailed report on the preparation of the 2023/24 standstill budget, the provisional settlement and funding the budget gap is attached as Appendices 1 and 2.

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

A number of options have been considered in reaching the proposed budget detailed in this report. The options took into account the level of net expenditure based on the draft settlement from Welsh Government and options relating to the level of Council Tax. The proposed budget aims to strike a balance between reducing Services and raising Council Tax.

### **C - Why is this a decision for the Executive?**

The setting of the initial budget proposal is a matter delegated to the Executive.

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

Yes. The final decision on the 2023/24 revenue budget will be taken by the full Council at its meeting on 9 March 2023.

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

Yes. The final decision on the 2023/24 revenue budget will be taken by the full Council at its meeting on 9 March 2023.

<b>Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):</b>		
<b>1</b>	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	This is an initial budget proposal which will be reviewed prior to setting and approving the final budget for 2023/24. In drawing up the budget proposal, the Executive has considered its statutory duties and the objectives set out in its Corporate Plan.
<b>2</b>	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	The details of any savings proposals are set out in the report.
<b>3</b>	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom	The Council has been working with other Councils and the WLGA to press the Welsh Government for the best financial settlement possible.
<b>4</b>	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.	As part of the Council's consultation on the Corporate Plan for 2023 – 2027, a number of questions were asked regarding the Council's budget for 2023/24. The details of the responses are set out in the report.
<b>5</b>	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	Any proposals included in the draft budget for 2023/24 will take into account the impact on any protected groups.
<b>6</b>	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	The budget will result in an increase in the Council Tax payable by the taxpayers of Anglesey. Those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage are more likely to qualify for help through the Council Tax Reduction Scheme, which should result in no financial impact / limited financial impact to those who are experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.
<b>7</b>	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.	No impact identified.
<b>E - Who did you consult?</b>		<b>What did they say?</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Chief Executive / Leadership Team (LT)</b> (mandatory)	Comments from the LT have been incorporated into the report.
<b>2</b>	<b>Finance / Section 151</b> (mandatory)	n/a – this is the Section 151 Officer's report.
<b>3</b>	<b>Legal / Monitoring Officer</b> (mandatory)	The Monitoring Officer is a Member of the LT and any comments made have been taken into account in discussions on this report in the LT.
<b>4</b>	<b>Human Resources (HR)</b>	Any proposals which impact on staff will have been identified and discussed with the HR Team.
<b>5</b>	<b>Property</b>	Any proposal which impacts on the Council's property and related budgets will have been discussed with the Property Team.
<b>6</b>	<b>Information Communication Technology (ICT)</b>	Any proposal which impacts on the Council's information technology systems and related budgets will have been discussed with the ICT Team.
<b>7</b>	<b>Scrutiny</b>	TBC
<b>8</b>	<b>Local Members</b>	Proposals are applicable to all Members.
<b>9</b>	<b>Any external bodies / other/s</b>	

**F - Appendices:**

- Appendix 1 – Report on Draft Revenue Budget 2023/24
- Appendix 2 – 2023/24 Proposed Budget by Service

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

- Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 – 2024/25 – See Executive Meeting Agenda 27 September 2022 – Item 11

**DRAFT REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24****1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1. The following report sets out the Executive's provisional revenue budget for 2023/24. The budget is prepared on the basis of the assumptions set out in the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) approved by the Executive in September 2022, the provisional local government settlement which was issued by the Welsh Government on 14 December 2022. The report also outlines the proposed revenue savings which have been identified by the individual services and have been discussed by the Leadership Team, individual Portfolio Holders and the Executive.
- 1.2. Following receipt of the final settlement figures on 28 February 2023, the final budget proposal will be subject to a review by the Scrutiny Committee on 28 February 2023, and will be recommended for approval by the Executive on 2 March 2023, with the final 2023/24 budget being approved by the Council at its meeting on 9 March 2023.

**2. MAIN ASSUMPTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN**

- 2.1. The Medium Term Financial Plan sets out a number of assumptions and these assumptions have been taken into account in calculating the standstill budget for 2023/24. The standstill budget is a budget which provides resources to operate services at 2022/23 levels but updated to reflect any known changes outside the control of the services (committed changes) and to reflect the estimated costs in 2023/24.
- 2.2. These assumptions have been factored into the standstill budget, along with more detailed changes (committed changes) which allow for known increases in costs e.g. contractual commitments and minor budget corrections. The draft budget also allows for additional funding, known changes to grant funding and minor budget corrections deemed necessary to ensure that the Council's budget accurately reflects the costs it faces in 2023/24.

**3. PROVISIONAL SETTLEMENT**

- 3.1. The provisional settlement for Local Government in Wales, announced on 14 December 2022, shows an increase of £406.2m in the overall level of funding for Wales, which is equivalent to an 8.0% increase in cash terms. However, £3.0m relates to grants transferred in and, when the effect of these changes are adjusted for, the true figure shows an increase in funding of £403.2m, which is a 7.9% increase. The details are shown in Table 1 below:-



<b>Table 1 2023/24 Provisional Settlement</b>		
	<b>Anglesey</b>	<b>Wales</b>
	<b>£'m</b>	<b>£'m</b>
2022/23 AEF	114.551	5,107.603
Adjustment for the Change in the Taxbase	(0.061)	0.000
Previous Years Grants Transferred In / (Out)	0.000	3.040
<b>2022/23 Adjusted AEF</b>	<b>114.490</b>	<b>5,110.643</b>
<b>Provisional AEF 2023/24</b>	<b>123.555</b>	<b>5,513.888</b>
<b>Increase in comparison to 2022/23 AEF</b>	<b>9.004</b>	<b>406.285</b>
<b>% Increase in comparison to 2022/23 AEF</b>	<b>7.86%</b>	<b>7.95%</b>
<b>Increase in comparison to 2022/23 adjusted AEF</b>	<b>9.065</b>	<b>403.245</b>
<b>% Increase in comparison to 2022/23 adjusted AEF</b>	<b>7.92%</b>	<b>7.89%</b>

- 3.2. A number of various datasets are adjusted in the allocation formula, including population, the number of people in receipt of benefits, children in receipt of free school meals, school pupils etc., and these impact on the allocation to each authority differently. Some authorities fair better from these adjustments, whilst others are impacted negatively and, as a result, not every authority receives the same level of increase. In the 2023/24 provisional settlement, there is a range of increases from 9.3% (Monmouthshire) down to 6.5% (Blaenau Gwent). Anglesey's increase is on the Welsh average, and the 12th highest increase from the 22 authorities.

#### 4. MAIN BUDGET CHANGES FOR 2023/24

- 4.1. The major changes between the 2022/23 final budget and the 2023/24 initial budget are detailed below.

##### 4.2. Pay Inflation and Other Staffing Pressures

Pay costs will change annually to reflect the changes in staff over the year (new staff being appointed to a different point on the pay scale), staff receiving annual increments and the pay award. The 2022/23 pay award, effective from April 2022 was not agreed until November 2022 and, although an estimated sum was included in the 2022/23 budget, it did not fully reflect the actual pay award. The budget allowed for a 2% increase in pay budgets, with a further £1m included as a contingency, this equated to an increase of 3.2% in pay budgets. The final pay award was set as an increase of £1,925 per employee, and this gave a range of increases from 10.2% for the lowest point on the payscale to 3.4% for the highest point on the payscale. On average, the pay award resulted in a 7.5% increase in the Council's non-teaching pay costs. This resulted in an under provision of £1.9m in the 2022/23 budget, which must be corrected in the 2023/24 standstill budget.

The teacher's pay award was also not announced when the Council's budget for 2022/23 was set. Again, the Council allowed for 2% for the teacher's pay increase from September 2022. The final pay award was set at 5%. This has resulted in a shortfall of £926k in the Council's budget which, again, has to be corrected in the 2023/24 standstill budget.

No information is currently available for the likely pay award for non teaching staff which is applicable from April 2023, although the Welsh Government has indicated that the teacher's pay award, applicable from September 2023, is 3.5%. The final pay award is very much dependant on what happens to inflation during 2023/24, but a significant fall is anticipated, with inflation falling from 10% at the beginning of 2023/24 to around 4% by March 2024. Given that there will be pressure on the Unions to accept a lower pay award in 2023/24, falling inflation and the indicated increase in teacher's pay, 3.5% has been allowed for in the standstill budget for the pay awards for teaching and non-teaching staff in 2023/24, although there is a considerable risk that the final pay award may be higher than this figure. If that is the case, the Council will have to fund any excess costs from its own reserves in 2023/24 and then correct the funding shortfall in the 2024/25 budget.

The UK Government has reversed the proposed increase of 1.25% in the employer's national insurance contributions from November 2022. This allows the employer's national insurance budget to be corrected, reducing the starting budget by £260k. The need to correct the pay budget and the pay award for 2023/24 then increases the employer's national insurance contributions, but the reduction in the contribution rate reduces the overall budget. The net effect of the increase in pay and the reduction in the contribution rates is to reduce the national insurance budget by £140k.

The pay budget is also adjusted to reflect the actual pay point which each current member of staff will be paid during 2023/24. This takes account of any staff increments but also any staffing changes as a result of staff leaving and new staff joining the Council, and any staffing restructures that may have taken place during the current financial year.

The estimated cost of all the changes relating to pay is an increase £6.00m in the budget requirement.

#### **4.3. Pension Costs**

The Council enrolls its staff into the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff and the Teacher's Pension Scheme for teachers. The employer's contribution scheme is set by the Administrator of the scheme and is subject to regular revaluations.

The LGPS scheme was revalued during 2022/23, with the new contribution rates coming into effect from April 2023 for a period of 3 years. The scheme sets 2 rates, a primary rate which is designed to fund the pension costs accrued for staff related to the current and future service, and a secondary rate which covers any funding shortfalls in the fund.

For 2023/24, the primary rate will increase from 19.3% to 21.1%, but the secondary rate will fall from 2.1% to -1.0%. The increase in the primary rate increases the employer contribution (prior to the pay award) by £732k, but the reduction in the secondary rate reduces the contribution by £1.24m, thus giving a net saving on employer pension contributions of £508k.

However, the increase in pay does increase the employer's contributions as the pay increases. This is estimated at around £600k in additional contributions.

The Council continues to make annual contributions for staff and teachers who may have retired early a number of years ago. A rule change in the mid 2000s stopped the practice of paying for early retirements through an annual charge, and so this budget is slowly decreasing as the pensioners sadly pass away. This has allowed a reduction of £108k in this budget.

#### 4.4. Non Pay Inflation

For a number of years, the level of inflation in the UK has been low and very simple to estimate. However, inflation has risen significantly in 2021, with the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) rising to 11.1% in October 2021, with higher increases for certain goods, including energy, food, fuel and building materials. Generally, inflation forecasts show that inflation will peak at the end of 2022 and then begin to fall in 2023, returning to the levels seen during the past 3 decades during 2024/25. The rate at which it falls will be dependent on a number of factors, including the war in Ukraine and its continuing impact on energy costs, pay settlements in both the public and private sector, and whether Brexit continues to have an impact on the cost of imported goods from Europe.

The Council's non pay costs are made up of a number of different contracts and procurement methods, all of which are affected by inflation in different ways:-

- Long term contracts where the inflation calculation is incorporated into the contract using pre-determined inflation indices, and using the figure as at a particular point in time. These type of contracts tend to favour the Council when inflation rates are rising, but they do reflect what is happening with particular types of goods which impact on the contractor's costs, e.g. the inflation factor for the refuse collection contract will be heavily linked to the cost of fuel as this is a major cost for the contractor.
- Contracts where the annual increase is negotiated. These include residential and nursing care home fees and other care contracts. CPI is not the main factor on these price increases as the main cost is staffing. The level of inflation is linked to pay and in particular, the increase in the national living wage and the real living wage.
- Long term framework agreements where the annual price is set by the framework and not as part of an individual agreement between the Council and the supplier / contractor. These include our main energy contracts. Again, the price increase will be linked to specific factors relating to the goods supplied, rather than using CPI as the basis for the increase.
- Goods and services that are purchased as and when required, either through a one off tender process, obtaining quotations or simply by placing an order. These costs are subject to inflationary pressures as the price the Council pays is dependent on the price at the time the order is placed or tender received.

In drawing up the standstill budget, the level of inflation as determined by a specific contract has been allowed for. The fact that the inflationary increases in the Council's main contracts are based on inflation levels in the Autumn of the preceding year (Autumn 2022 inflation is used to uprate contract rates from April 2023) has worked against the Council and increases in excess of 20% have been allowed for.

The Council purchases gas and electricity through a framework agreement, with the prices being reviewed in October of each year. The unit rate for gas rose in October by 255% with a 110% increase in the standing charge. Electricity unit rates rose by 75% with a 145% rise in the standing charge. The Council still has a small number of properties which are heated by LPG or heating oil, and the costs are based on the day when the purchase is made but, generally, these costs have risen by around 50% since 2021/22. However, part of this increase was allowed for when setting the 2022/23 budget, and it is estimated that budgets will only need to increase by 40% for electricity and 85% for gas, propane and heating oil. This will add an estimated £1.75m to the Council's energy budgets.

The Council agreed to increase the rates paid to private residential and nursing homes in July 2022, to reflect the increase in costs faced by the Sector. The Council continues to support the use of the regional fees toolkit and the increase in rates reflect the output of the toolkit, and the increase in the proposed fees will be lower than the increase in general inflation. The setting of care home fees will be subject to a separate report to the Executive.

Other budgets will be increased by 16.4%, where appropriate, but some budget lines will be increased by a lower amount if they have not been fully utilised during 2022/23. The figure of 16.4% corrects the under provision for inflation in 2022/23 and allows for an estimated average rate of inflation of 6.7% in 2023/24.

Over the last 4 years, a general 3% increase has been applied to non-statutory fees and charges budgets, and this figure has again been applied in 2023/24, although services have the discretion to increase individual fees and charges by more or less than this figure, provided that their overall income rises by 3%.

The net increase of the adjustments for non pay inflation and non statutory income is £12.51m.

#### **4.5. Pupil Numbers**

Each year, the effect of the change in pupil numbers in the primary and secondary sectors is taken into account as part of the budget setting process, with the pupil numbers as at September 2022 being used as the basis for the 2023/24 budget. For 2023/24, the number of primary school pupils has continued to fall, with a further drop of 126 pupils, whilst the number of secondary school pupils has increased by 106. The number of pupils at Canolfan Addysg y Bont remains unchanged . The net effect of these changes is an overall increase in the delegated schools budget of £182k.

#### **4.6. Levies**

The Council's budget includes levies raised on the Council by other bodies who have the statutory power to set a levy. The main levy raised is by the North Wales Fire Authority, which sets an overall levy for the 6 North Wales authorities and this is allocated across the 6 authorities on population. At its meeting in January 2023, the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority resolved to increase its levy on the 6 constituent authorities by 13.4%, and set a budget of £44.71m, which results in an increase to the levy on the Council of £519k. This takes the levy which is funded by the Council to £4.434m.

There is now a requirement for the 6 North Wales Authorities to set up a Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) to be responsible for strategic transport and planning policy and regional economic development. Work is ongoing to determine the responsibilities of the CJC, and the CJC will determine the levy it will charge on each authority at a meeting at the end of January 2023. For the purposes of the initial budget, an estimate of £64k has been included as an estimate of the CJC levy, however, this may change.

#### **4.7. Capital Financing Charges**

Capital Financing Charges are made up of the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP), annual interest charges on outstanding loans and interest received on investments. The change in the MRP policy in 2018 has resulted in an over provision of MRP in previous years. This over provision does allow some scope to reduce the MRP charge in future years, whilst still ensuring that the provision made is prudent. The Council's Treasury Management Consultants are now advising that a further change in the policy would allow for a significant reduction in the MRP in the short to medium term, but then increases in the charges in later years, compared to the current policy. The new method is one that is allowed in the Welsh Government guidance and still achieves a prudent provision. A separate report will be considered by the Executive on this matter, but the draft budget proposal is based on the assumption that the change in policy is approved by the Council.

Interest received on investments has been at an all-time low during 2020 and 2021, but has begun to rise during 2022. It is anticipated that these higher returns will continue during 2023/24, with an average return of between 3% and 4% expected during the 2023/24 financial year. Based on anticipated levels of cash balances a budget of £1.0m has been set for investment returns, compared to a budget of £3k in 2022/23.

The overall effect of the 2 changes is to reduce the capital financing budget by £3.19m.

#### **4.8. Waste Income**

A charge was first levied for the collection of green garden waste in 2020/21. The budget was conservative when assessing the number of subscribers in the first year. The budget for 2022/23 was amended to reflect the number of users of the service who actually subscribed. However it was anticipated that the number of subscribers may fall during the second year (2022/23) because some people may not have felt that they had made sufficient use of the service during the first year. In reality, the number of subscribers actually increased during 2022/23 and, whilst there is no increase in the fee in 2023/24, the budget can be increased by £250k to reflect the current subscription rate.

The Waste Service has seen a significant increase in the prices paid for recyclable materials, with some of the increase arising from raw material shortages as a result of the war in Ukraine. Although prices may begin to fall during 2023/24, there is sufficient surpluses to allow an increase of £150k in the waste recycling income budget.

#### **4.9. Demand Led Budgets**

A number of budgets are impacted by the demand for the particular services and need to be adjusted to reflect the change in demand. The main adjustments include:-

- An addition of £236k for school transport (this includes the impact of retendered contracts, as well as the change in demand).
- A reduction of £134k in the budget in respect of Out of County pupils, due to the falling number of children that are placed outside of Anglesey and receive their education from another local education authority.
- Although the numbers of people claiming under the Council Tax Reduction Scheme has not increased during 2022/23, it is forecast that unemployment will begin to rise again in 2023/24. In order to provide additional funding, a 2% increase above the increase required to cover the rise in Council Tax has been included in the budget. This adds an additional £126k to the budget.
- School Days vary slightly each year (depending mainly on where Easter falls). Easter in 2024 is in early April and, as such, the school term ends in late March, which reduces the number of school days in the 2023/24 financial year. A reduction of £48k has been made to the budget.

#### **4.10. Contingencies**

As part of the budgeting process, a number of contingency budgets are built into the budget to cover fixed term costs, potential risks that may require funding during the year, or as a general contingency which is utilised during the year as additional budget pressures arise or as unexpected events occur. In the 2022/23 budget, £200k was allocated to cover the cost of the County Council elections and this can be removed in 2023/24. In addition, £300k was included as a contingency budget to meet any one off costs relating to Covid. As the risks relating to Covid have diminished, although not entirely eliminated, this contingency budget can be removed with any Covid related expenditure being funded from the general contingency or general balances.

#### **4.11. Other Minor Adjustments**

In drawing up the standstill budgets, a number of minor budget corrections are made to reflect changes that are required or previous decisions to increase individual budgets. The net effect of these adjustments is to decrease the overall standstill budget by £23k.

#### 4.12. Increasing the 2<sup>nd</sup> Homes Premium

At its meeting on 29 November 2022, the Executive approved the Council Tax base for the 2023/24 financial year. The taxbase included the assumption that the premium for 2<sup>nd</sup> homes would increase from 50% to 75%. This reflects the intention previously stated by the Executive to increase the premium up to 100% by April 2024. This decision will be formally ratified by the Council when it adopts the Council's budget and sets the Council Tax for 2023/24. This creates an estimated additional £805k of funding. No formal decision has been taken as to how to use the additional funding but, again, the Executive has expressed its intention to use the additional funding to address housing issues on Anglesey.

### 5. THE FUNDING POSITION

5.1. After taking into account the provisional settlement from Welsh Government (as set out in paragraph 3) and the main budget changes (as set out in paragraph 4), the funding position prior to any increase in Council Tax is set out in Table 2 below:-

<b>Table 2</b>		
<b>Budget Funding Gap 2023/24</b>		
	<b>£'m</b>	<b>£'m</b>
<b>2022/23 Final Budget</b>		<b>158.367</b>
<b>Main Budget Adjustments (as set out in Paragraph 4)</b>		
Pay Inflation and Other Staffing Costs	5.997	
Pension Adjustments arising from the Pension revaluation	(0.619)	
Non Pay Inflation	12.512	
Pupil Numbers	0.182	
Levies	0.518	
Capital Financing Charges	(3.190)	
Additional Waste Income above inflation	(0.400)	
Demand Led Services	0.181	
Contingencies and Other Minor Amendments	(0.523)	
		14.658
Use of Additional Funding from 2 <sup>nd</sup> Home Premium		0.805
<b>Standstill Net Revenue Budget 2023/24</b>		<b>173.830</b>
<b>Funded By</b>		
Revenue Support Grant (RSG)	(100.732)	
Share of Non Domestic Rates Pool	(22.823)	
<b>Total Aggregate External Finance</b>		<b>(123.555)</b>
2022/23 Council Tax Budget (adjusted for the change in the taxbase and increase in second home premium)		(44.879)
<b>Total Funding Prior to Increase in Council Tax</b>		<b>(168.434)</b>
<b>Funding (Surplus) / Deficit (before any change in Council Tax)</b>		<b>5.396</b>

- 5.2. In order to fund the funding deficit of £5.396m, it would be necessary to increase Council Tax by 12.0%. This would take the Band D charge to £1,531.89, which is an annual increase of £164.43 and a weekly increase of £3.15. In order to reduce the increase in Council Tax, it would be necessary to utilise the Council's own reserves or to implement revenue budget savings. Each £1m reserves used, or savings implemented, reduces the increase in Council Tax by 2.23%. Therefore, by using £2.98m of reserves or implementing £2.98m of savings, or a combination of both, it is possible to reduce the required rise in Council Tax down to 5.00%. This would take the increase in Council Tax to £68.40, or £1.32 per week.

## 6. BUDGET RISKS

- 6.1. In setting the budget, there are a number of financial risks which need to be assessed which may result in a financial cost to the Council. Some of these risks have been allowed for in the budget proposal, but others have not been allowed for in the budget and would be covered by the Council's general balances and reserves, should the risk materialise into a financial cost in 2023/24.
- 6.2. The Council's current level of unallocated general balances is forecasted to stand at £10.2m by the end of the financial year, with an additional £4m of earmarked reserves which could be returned to the Council's general balances. As a rule of thumb, the Executive has set the minimum general balance as 5% of the net revenue budget. Based on the standstill net revenue budget for 2023/24 of approximately £174m, the minimum required sum would be £8.7m. This leaves a potential £5.5m available to help fund the revenue budget over the next 2 to 3 years, but it should be noted that reducing the level of general balances and earmarked reserves does weaken the Council's financial position, and could lead to future financial difficulties should it be necessary to fund any significant unexpected expenditure e.g. funding future revenue overspending.
- 6.3. The current position of the 2022/23 revenue budget estimates that there will be an underspend and, although it is difficult to accurately estimate the final level of underspending, it is expected that, at worst, any overspending in 2022/23 will be minimal and would not impact significantly on the level of general balances at the end of this financial year.
- 6.4. There are a number of financial risks which are not covered in the budget, or potentially are only partly addressed in the budget, these include:-
- **Pay Award** – as noted in paragraph 4.2 above, the budget has been inflated to reflect the estimated pay awards for 2023/24, but there is still significant uncertainty over the pay awards. If inflation remains high, then there will be pressure from the Unions to agree a pay award which will be higher than the 3.5% allowed for. Each 1% above this figure adds approximately £1m to the Council's pay bill.
  - **National Living Wage** – the UK Government announced that the National Living Wage (previously known as the minimum wage) would increase by 9.7% in April 2023, to £10.42 per hour, and forecasts by the Low Pay Commission suggest that it could rise to £11.35 per hour by April 2024. The National Living Wage puts pressure on the Council's budget in two ways i.e. what it pays its own staff and what its main contractors pays its staff.

The Council's lowest point on its pay scale for 2022/23 is £20,812, or £10.79 per hour, which is only £0.37 above the National Living Wage level. Of course, a pay award will be paid in April 2023 which will increase this figure and provide further headroom. However, it should be noted that the national payscale includes 2 points which are lower than the minimum paid by the Council, and the lowest point is currently £10.50 per hour, only £0.08 above the National Living Wage level. If the National Living Wage was set at £11.35 in April 2024, then this would require the lowest point on the scale to rise by 8% over the two year period of 2023/24 and 2024/25. This level of increase would have a significant impact on the Council's pay bill if it was to be replicated across all the payscales.

A large number of staff employed by the Council's main contractors and service providers pay their staff on, or around, the National Living Wage level. This is particularly true in the care sector (residential and nursing home care, homecare etc). Increases to the National Living wage are reflected in the increases in the fees the Council has to pay to their contractors and service providers. Although an increasing of funding has been allowed for, there is a risk that it will not be sufficient to meet the demands from providers, who may also be facing pressure as a result of general inflation, particularly food, energy and fuel costs.

- **General Inflation** – Over the past 12 months, the level of general price inflation has increased significantly from the level which it has stood for a number of years and although it is widely forecast that it may have now peaked at around 10%, there is still uncertainty about how fast it will fall during 2023/24. In setting the budget, an assumption has been made that inflation will fall gradually, from 10% at the beginning of the financial year to 4% by March 2024, giving an average level of inflation of 6.7%, which is the sum that has been allowed for in the 2023/24 budget. However, the more pessimistic forecast is that inflation remains high, peaking at around 12% by the summer of 2023 before falling back to around 7.5% by March 2024. This would give an average inflation rate of 9.5% for 2023/24. It should be also noted that the Council may face higher inflation in certain costs, such as energy, food and fuel costs. If inflation remains high into the Autumn of 2023, it will also have a knock on effect on the 2024/25 budget, as the inflation applied to a number of the Council's main contracts is based on the inflation indices in September and October of each year.
- **Energy Costs** – The Council purchases its gas and electricity through a framework agreement, with the prices being updated each October. The increases in October 2022 are noted in paragraph 4.4. The budget allows for a further increase of 20% in October 2023, but again there is a significant level of uncertainty surrounding energy prices. Resolution of the war in Ukraine would considerably ease the pressure on energy prices but conversely an escalation in the war could significantly increase prices again.
- **Service Demand** – The budget allows for the provision of services at the current level of demand in certain services where the demand can fluctuate (Children's Services, Adult Social Care, Homelessness, Council Tax Reduction Scheme). Any significant increase in service demand will create additional financial costs for the Council which would not be covered by the existing budgets.
- **Grant Income** – In addition to the funding received through the Aggregate External Finance, the Council receives significant levels of additional funding in the form of specific grants from the Welsh Government and others. When the level of specific grant funding falls, it is not always possible to react quickly to the change as the service funded by the grant is integrated into the service funded from the Council's core budget. There is, therefore, a delay between the reduction in funding and the Council's ability to reduce the associated cost through the reconfiguration of the service.
- **Income Targets from Fees and Charges** – As the cost of living emergency continues to impact on the disposable income of families, there is a risk that the use of some of the Council's services may reduce e.g. leisure services, car parking, planning and building regulations applications. As a result, there is a risk that the targets for fees and charges budgets may not be achieved.

## 7. BRIDGING THE FUNDING GAP

- 7.1. Included in the 2022/23 revenue budget was an investment of £700k in educational services. Due to various reasons, the service has not yet implemented the plans relating to this funding. It is, therefore, proposed to postpone this additional investment until such time that the financial situation improves and the investment is affordable.



- 7.2. In drawing up the standstill budget, a number of assumptions are made in respect of pay and price inflation. In respect of the school's delegated budget, the standstill budget allows for an increase in cash terms of £4.9m (11%), which takes the delegated school's budget to £47.07m (excluding the post 16 budget). It is proposed to cap the inflationary increase to 10.0%, thereby reducing the standstill budget by £471k.
- 7.3. The income budgets have generally been increased by 3%, but there is scope within the Highways Service to increase the fee in respect of road closures by a higher sum. An increase of 15% is proposed, which will generate an additional £169k.
- 7.4. The Adult Social Care Service has been extending the use of direct payments, where certain category of clients arrange their own care, which allows them more flexibility in their care package and can be achieved at a lower cost. Extending the scheme has identified a saving of £35k for 2023/24.
- 7.5. The Adult Social Care Service is currently in the process of reviewing the provision of day care services. This review had identified an opportunity to reduce costs by £35k in a full year. The change would be implemented in October 2023 and would result in a saving of £17.5k in 2023/24, and an additional saving of £17.5k in 2024/25.
- 7.6. Based on the above changes to the standstill budget, the funding gap would fall to £1.758m.
- 7.7. It is estimated that the Council will hold £10.2m in general balances at the end of the 2022/23 financial year. The Council's general policy is to hold 5% of the net revenue budget as the minimum level of general balances. Based on the budget for 2023/24, the minimum balance would be £8.6m. Using £1.758m of the general balances to provide additional funding would close the funding gap and still maintain a level of general balances that is only slightly below the Council's policy.
- 7.8. It should also be noted that the Council held £23.2m as earmarked reserves at the beginning of the financial year. It is estimated that £8.8m will be used during 2022/23, leaving a balance of £14.37m. A review of the remaining reserves has identified that £4.4m could be returned to the general balances if required and would take place at the end of the financial year when the position at the end of the financial year is known.
- 7.9. Based on the above the initial revenue budget proposal for 2023/24 is set out in Table 3 below:-

<b>Table 3</b>		
<b>Initial Budget Proposal 2023/24</b>		
	<b>£'m</b>	<b>£'m</b>
<b>Standstill Net Revenue Budget 2023/24 (as per Table 2)</b>		<b>173.830</b>
<b>Additional Budget Adjustments</b>		
Postpone investment in Education services	(0.700)	
Cap the inflation increase to the delegated schools' budget	(0.471)	
Additional Highways Income	(0.169)	
Reduction in Adult Social Care Budgets	(0.053)	
		(1.392)
<b>Initial Proposed Net Revenue Budget 2023/24</b>		<b>172.438</b>
<b>Funded By</b>		
Revenue Support Grant (RSG)	(100.732)	
Share of Non Domestic Rates Pool	(22.823)	
<b>Total Aggregate External Finance</b>		(123.555)
Council Tax (including premium and 5% rise)		(47.125)
Council Reserves		(1.758)
<b>Total Funding</b>		<b>172.438</b>

## **8. RESULTS OF THE CONSULTATION EXERCISE**

- 8.1.** As part of the Council's consultation exercise on the Corporate Plan, which took place between September 2022 and November 2022, a number of questions were asked about which services residents wanted to see more or less investment in and how the Council should fund the increasing costs of the revenue budget.
- 8.2.** The consultation confirmed that the majority of respondents wished to see continued investment in social care, education, economic development and dealing with homelessness, but less investment in tourism, planning and libraries, museums and archives. Although the views of the residents are important, the Council has statutory responsibilities in a number of areas and it is not always possible to reduce investment.
- 8.3.** In response to how the Council should fund its budget moving forward, 52.6% supported a mixture of increasing Council Tax and reducing some services, whilst 28.5% wanted to see reductions in Council Tax and 18.9% wanted the existing level of services maintained, whilst increasing Council Tax.

## **9. THE BUDGET POSITION FOR 2024/25**

- 9.1.** There is still a significant level of uncertainty surrounding the UK economy and whether it will begin to recover in 2024/25, and the impact that recovery will have on inflation, interest rates, economic growth and the funding levels for the Welsh Government and local government in Wales. The current high level of inflation makes predicting future costs more difficult and there are wide variances between different scenarios. High inflation also makes it extremely difficult to forecast pay awards as far forward as 2024/25.
- 9.2.** The current cost of living crisis is also adding to the demand for Council services, mainly in homelessness and debt support and advice. Money problems within families is also leading to mental health issues and family breakdown, which results in increased demand for adult and children's social care. Any increase in unemployment will also add to the pressures on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme budget and in uncollectable debt. The current difficulties in the NHS adding to the pressure on adult social care services. If the war in Ukraine continues, this will maintain the pressure on energy costs and the risk from a re-emergence of Covid still remains.
- 9.3.** The Welsh Government's draft budget and provisional local government settlement does not directly state what the level of funding for local government in Wales will be, but the draft figures for 2024/25 published in the budget, suggests an increase of 3% in the level of funding in 2024/25. If this was to materialize, then the Council's funding would increase by £3.7m.
- 9.4.** Although the Executive has made no decision on the future rise in Council Tax, maintaining the current policy of a 5% rise in Council Tax would bring in an additional £2.35m.
- 9.5.** By using £1.76m of reserves in balancing the 2023/24 budget, the 2024/25 budget would require that this sum is funded from the additional core funding, continues to be funded from reserves or by a permanent reduction in the budget.
- 9.6.** If it is assumed that the £1.76m of funding from reserves is replaced by core funding, this will increase the overall core funding in 2024/25 by £4.29m (£3.7m + £2.35m - £1.76m), which is equivalent to an increase of 2.6% in the net revenue budget.
- 9.7.** Current inflation forecasts suggest that the average inflation in 2024/25 will be between 1.2% and 4.8% and, as a result, it is estimated that the additional funding in 2024/25 will only cover the inflationary increases and no funding will be available to meet increased demand for services or to invest in services. If the economic recovery is weak and inflation remains high, the additional funding will be insufficient to meet the inflationary pressures and reductions in service budgets will be required. However, it is very uncertain as to the extent of those budget reductions.

- 9.8. It should also be noted that if the actual increases in pay and prices in 2023/24 were above the sum allowed for in the 2023/24 budget, this underfunding would have to be corrected in the 2024/25 budget, which would provide an additional inflationary pressure to the budget.
- 9.9. It is envisaged that balancing the budget in 2024/25 will be extremely challenging. Work has already commenced to identify potential budget savings for 2024/25, and these savings proposals will be considered further during 2023/24.

## 10. CONCLUSION

- 10.1. Although the local government financial settlement is better than previously forecast and although it does not provide funding to meet the full cost of inflationary pressures and service demands, the budget shortfall is manageable for 2023/24.
- 10.2. Prudent financial management in previous years has significantly strengthened the Council's financial position and has increased the Council's level of general balances and earmarked reserves. This improved financial position has allowed the Council to put forward a budget proposal which allows for a lower than inflation increase in Council tax, allows for the use of the Council's reserves and proposes modest reductions in budgets.
- 10.3. There is a level of risk surrounding the budget, in particular whether sufficient provision has been made for pay increases, energy inflation and the increasing demand for services. The risk is mitigated through the fact that the Council could redirect up to £4m of earmarked reserves to fund increased costs in 2023/24.
- 10.4. Although the proposed budget requires a modest and achievable level of budget reductions, it is anticipated that there will be a greater need for budget and service reductions in future years to enable the Council to continue to set a balanced budget and to keep Council Tax rises to a reasonable and affordable level.
- 10.5. The budget position from 2024/25 onwards looks more uncertain and, if the economy fails to recover and funding increases are limited, then there is a significant risk that services will have to be reduced more widely in order to set a balanced budget in 2024/25. These pressures may also continue into 2025/26.

## 11. MATTERS FOR DECISION

- 11.1. The final budget will not be approved by the full Council until 9 March 2023, however, at this point, the Executive is recommended to approve the following:-
- The initial proposed budget for 2023/24 of £172.438m;
  - A proposed increase in Council Tax of 5%, taking the Band D charge to £1,435.86;
  - To formally propose an increase in the premium on second homes from 50% to 75%;
  - That £1.758m is released from the Council's general balances in order to balance the 2023/24 revenue budget.

<b>PROPOSED BUDGET 2023/24 BY SERVICE</b>				
<b>Budget</b>	<b>2022/23 Budget</b>	<b>2023/24 Proposed Budget</b>	<b>Movement</b>	<b>% Change</b>
	<b>£'m</b>	<b>£'m</b>	<b>£'m</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Lifelong Learning</b>				
Schools	44.919	49.270	+4.351	+9.68
Central Education	11.215	12.441	+1.226	+10.94
Culture	1.270	1.350	+0.080	+6.31
<b>Total Lifelong Learning</b>	<b>57.404</b>	<b>63.061</b>	<b>+5.657</b>	<b>+9.85</b>
<b>Highways, Waste &amp; Property</b>				
Highways	6.892	7.891	+0.999	+14.50
Property	1.508	1.548	+0.040	+2.63
Waste	9.164	10.317	+1.153	+12.58
<b>Total Highways, Waste &amp; Property</b>	<b>17.564</b>	<b>19.756</b>	<b>+2.192</b>	<b>+12.48</b>
<b>Regulation &amp; Economic Development</b>				
Economic Development & Maritime	2.214	3.006	+0.792	+35.78
Planning & Public Protection	2.406	2.670	+0.264	+10.99
<b>Total Reg &amp; Economic Development</b>	<b>4.620</b>	<b>5.676</b>	<b>+1.056</b>	<b>+22.87</b>
<b>Adult Services</b>	<b>29.964</b>	<b>34.971</b>	<b>+5.007</b>	<b>+16.71</b>
<b>Children Services</b>	<b>11.715</b>	<b>12.967</b>	<b>+1.252</b>	<b>+10.69</b>
<b>Corporate Transformation</b>				
Human Resources	1.475	1.587	+0.112	+7.64
ICT	3.704	4.172	+0.468	+12.64
Transformation	1.029	1.190	+0.161	+15.61
<b>Total Corporate Transformation</b>	<b>6.208</b>	<b>6.949</b>	<b>+0.741</b>	<b>+11.95</b>
<b>Housing</b>	<b>1.217</b>	<b>1.590</b>	<b>+0.373</b>	<b>+30.59</b>
<b>Resources</b>	<b>3.429</b>	<b>3.732</b>	<b>+0.303</b>	<b>+8.85</b>
<b>Council Business</b>	<b>1.822</b>	<b>1.959</b>	<b>+0.137</b>	<b>+7.49</b>
<b>Total Service Budgets</b>	<b>133.943</b>	<b>150.661</b>	<b>16.718</b>	<b>+12.48</b>
<b>Corporate Budgets</b>				
Corporate Management	0.735	0.760	+0.025	+3.32
Levies	3.957	4.505	+0.548	+13.83
Corporate & Democratic	3.030	3.244	+0.214	+7.07
Capital Financing Costs	7.209	4.329	-2.880	-39.95
Benefits Granted	0.109	0.109	0.000	0.00
HRA Recharges	(0.800)	(0.800)	0.000	0.00
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	6.304	6.752	+0.448	+7.10
Contingencies	3.110	1.271	-1.839	-59.13
Discretionary Rate Relief	0.073	0.105	+0.032	+43.84
Housing Loans and Grants	0.697	1.502	+0.805	+115.51
<b>Total Corporate Budgets</b>	<b>24.424</b>	<b>21.777</b>	<b>-2.647</b>	<b>-10.84</b>
<b>TOTAL BUDGET</b>	<b>158.367</b>	<b>172.438</b>	<b>14.071</b>	<b>+8.89</b>

<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template</b>	
<b>Committee:</b>	<b>Corporate Scrutiny Committee</b>
<b>Date:</b>	19 January 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	The development of the council's strategic priorities 2023-28
<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	To acknowledge and scrutinise the process of engagement and resident response to the consultation on strategic priorities outlined in the developing draft of the Council Plan 2023-28
<b>Scrutiny Chair:</b>	COUNCILLOR ROBERT LL JONES
<b>Portfolio Holder(s):</b>	COUNCILLOR ROBIN W WILLIAMS
<b>Head of Service:</b>	CARYS EDWARDS
<b>Report Author:</b>	GETHIN MORGAN
<b>Tel:</b>	01248 752111
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:GethinMorgan@anglesey.gov.uk">GethinMorgan@anglesey.gov.uk</a>
<b>Local Members:</b>	N/A

<b>1 - Recommendation/s</b>
<p>The Committee is requested to:</p> <p><b>R1</b> Recommend the engagement and consultation process has been undertaken as comprehensively as possible during 2022</p> <p><b>R2</b> Recommend that the draft strategic priorities for the forthcoming Council Plan 2023-28 still hold firm following the engagement and consultation process</p>

<b>2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities</b>
<p>Not applicable as the output of this area of work will be used to develop and confirm the strategic priorities and associated work-streams of the new Council Plan 2023 – 28 in accordance with political direction.</p>

<b>3 – Guiding Principles for Scrutiny Members</b>
<p><b>To assist Members when scrutinising the topic:-</b></p> <p><b>3.1</b> Impact the matter has on individuals and communities [focus on customer/citizen]</p> <p><b>3.2</b> A look at the efficiency &amp; effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality [focus on value]</p> <p><b>3.3</b> A look at any risks [focus on risk]</p> <p><b>3.4</b> Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role [focus on performance &amp; quality]</p>

**3.5** Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of:

- Long term
- Prevention
- Integration
- Collaboration
- Involvement

[focus on wellbeing]

**3.6** The potential impacts the decision would have on:

- protected groups under the Equality Act 2010
- those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (when making strategic decisions)
- opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language

[focus on equality and the Welsh language]

**4 - Key Scrutiny Questions**

- 1) What assurance can be offered that the recent consultation and engagement process is inclusive and meets the statutory requirements?
- 2) Following the comments of the recent consultation and engagement, to what extent do the proposed strategic priorities remain relevant and achievable?
- 3) How does the Council ensure joint planning and alignment between the Medium Term Financial Plan and the realization of the strategic priorities over the next 5 years?
- 4) What key risks does the Council face going forward?

**5 – Background / Context**

5.1 The associated report is the culmination of an engagement and consultation exercise with staff, residents, partners and stakeholders. It has been on-going since the start of the 2022 calendar year when the council carried out its initial engagement exercise. It culminated in an 8 week consultation period which closed on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November, 2022.

5.2 Its aim was to gather an understanding of what the residents of Ynys Môn hoped to see being focused upon during the Council Plan for the forthcoming 5 year period.

5.3 The result of the earlier engagement and development work identified six strategic priorities which were consulted upon for a period of 8 weeks as noted in 5.1. These strategic priorities are tabled in *Appendix A*.

5.4 The findings of the engagement and consultation on the aforementioned six strategic priorities were encouraging. Data informs us that the Council received responses totalling over 2,500 for all types of activity throughout the year. The Engagement and Consultation Report – Council Plan 2023-28 which outlines these findings is tabled in *Appendix B*.

<b>6 – Equality Impact Assessment [including impacts on the Welsh Language]</b>
<b>6.1 Potential impacts on protected groups under the Equality Act 2010</b>
<p>6.1 Due to the complexity and varied content of the draft Council Plan 2023 - 28, it is recommended and advised that the different work-streams and associated projects related to the draft Plan, undertake separate individual Equality Impact Assessments in order to assess the impacts of the associated work.</p> <p>6.2 It is proposed that these assessments are tabled to the either, or a combination of, the –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leadership Team</li> <li>• Corporate Programme Boards</li> <li>• Scrutiny / Executive Committees</li> </ul> <p>(dependent on content) in advance of the progression of work.</p>
<b>6.2 Potential impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (strategic decisions)</b>
As above in 6.1
<b>6.3 Potential impacts on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language</b>
As above in 6.1
<b>7 – Financial Implications</b>
<p>7.1 The Council's draft Plan for 2023 – 28 recognises 6 strategic priorities which the Council will want to achieve over the next five years. 57 associated work-streams have been recognized to enable the Council to achieve these priorities.</p> <p>7.2 Only 9/57 (16%) of the work-streams are carried out using core Council funding alone.</p> <p>7.3 The Council's core funding also contributes towards 32 of the 57 (56%) other activities that have been identified in the Plan. Other sources of funding also subsidise these activities. Of the 32 of these activities, grant funding contributes towards 29 (91%) of them.</p> <p>7.4 10 of the 57 work-streams (17%) are funded through grant funding only.</p> <p>7.5 The remaining 6 out of the 57 (11%) are funded through a combination of Grants, and other sources of funding, for example the Housing Revenue Account, and other sources of external funding.</p> <p>7.6 Grant funding therefore contributes towards 45 of the 57 (79%) related actions. The financial implications related to the implementation of the Council Plan are tabled as <i>Appendix C – Affordability of Council Plan 2023-28</i></p>

**8 – Appendices:**

- A. Consultation Survey – Our Future
- B. Engagement and Consultation Report – Council Plan 2023-28
- C. Affordability of Council Plan 2023-28 ('High Level')

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



**PLEASE RETURN BY**

**14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2022**



**CYNGOR SIR  
YNYS MÔN  
ISLE OF ANGLESEY  
COUNTY COUNCIL**

## **Our Future**

Public spending is under pressure as costs spiral. As the UK Government and Welsh Government announce ways by which to tackle the increasing costs, local government will be facing difficult decisions.

Whilst the amount the Council has to spend falls, in comparison local people are expecting more. People want to see the local economy flourishing, well paid work opportunities, easy access to local services and their local area being kept clean and tidy.

The Council will have to focus. Careful decisions need to be made on what's going to make the most difference to local people's lives into the future, and concentrate on doing those things well.

**That is why your views are important. Please can you take a few minutes to complete this questionnaire?**

You can fill it in online at [www.anglesey.gov.wales/ourfuture](http://www.anglesey.gov.wales/ourfuture) or drop this questionnaire off at your local library, leisure centre, Oriel Môn or the main council offices, Llangefni.

Or you can post it to Our Future, Gethin Morgan, Transformation Services, Isle of Anglesey County Council, Llangefni LL77 7TW.

*Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg. Ymwelwch a [www.ynysmon.llyw.cymru/eindyfodol](http://www.ynysmon.llyw.cymru/eindyfodol) am gopi digidol neu ymwelwch a'ch llyfrgell, canolfan hamdden lleol, Oriel Môn neu swyddfeydd y cyngor am gopi papur*

This document is also available in Welsh. Visit [www.anglesey.gov.wales/ourfuture](http://www.anglesey.gov.wales/ourfuture) for a digital copy or visit your nearest library, leisure centre, Oriel Môn or council offices for a paper copy.

## **Part 1 – Council Finances**

The current economic situation with rising inflation is putting significant pressure on the Council's budget with the Council having to fund –

- higher pay awards;
- increasing energy costs;
- increased costs of outsourced services in response to the increased costs faced by our contractors.

In addition the Council is facing increased demands for services to support the most vulnerable during the cost of living crisis, these include Homelessness prevention, adult social care and children's social care.

It is estimated that the Council may need to increase its revenue budget by £15m to £20m (9% to 13%) in 2023/24 and between £6m to £10m (4% to 6%) in 2024/25.

Prior to the steep rise in inflation, the Welsh Government indicated that the Council's revenue support grant (which funds around 75% of the Council's budget each year) would rise by 3.6% in 2023/24 and 2.5% in 2024/25.

Clearly that will not provide sufficient additional income to cover the rising costs and the Council will have to consider how it sets a balanced budget over the coming years.

In order to assist the Council to determine its budget strategy and its priorities for the future, it would like to seek your views on the following:-

### **1) In order to balance the budget which of the following strategies would you support?**

- a. Maintaining existing levels of service, funded by increases in Council Tax above inflation.
- b. Cuts in Council services to keep rises in Council Tax significantly lower than inflation.
- c. A mixture of Council Tax increases at or slightly below inflation, with some reductions in Council services.

2) If the Council is to change the delivery of services, please indicate which services you wish to see further investment in, which you wish to maintain at their current levels and which you would be happy to see being reduced:-

<b>Service</b>	<b>Invest More</b>	<b>Maintain Existing Service</b>	<b>Reduce Service</b>
Schools			
Adult Social Services			
Children's Social Services			
Highway Maintenance			
Street Lighting			
Refuse Collection			
Street Cleaning			
Leisure Centres			
Libraries, Museums and Archives			
Tourism including Maritime			
Planning			
Trading Standards			
Environmental Health and Public Health			
Homelessness Prevention			
Economic Development			
Public Transport			
Reducing the Council's Carbon Footprint			

- 3) The Council also makes capital investment in maintaining and improving its existing assets (buildings, vehicles, roads), and to provide new assets.**

**The capital budget is limited and is funded through borrowing and grant funding from Welsh Government, the UK Government and others.**

**Increased borrowing does need to be repaid with interest and this has to be funded from the revenue budget.**

**Do you support:-**

- a. Increased capital expenditure funded by increased borrowing which results in higher council taxes
- b. Reducing borrowing in order to reduce the annual revenue costs even if this resulted in a reduction in the investment in existing assets and no new assets being provided
- c. Maintain the capital expenditure at its current level with a limited amount of affordable borrowing.

**4) For each of the following do you wish to see more capital investment, less capital investment or maintain the current investment?**

<b>Asset</b>	<b>Invest More</b>	<b>Maintain Existing Investment</b>	<b>Reduce Investment</b>
Building New Schools			
Improving and upgrading existing building including schools, residential care homes and day care facilities			
Road Maintenance and Improvements			
Reducing the Council's carbon footprint through investments in green energy and electric vehicles			
Improving and Upgrading Leisure Centres			
Improving other leisure and tourist facilities			
Improving and upgrading public conveniences			
Invest in Charging Points for electric vehicles			
Improve the Council's IT systems to allow more services to be undertaken on line			
Invest in more 4G sport pitches			
Improving flood defences			
Building more Industrial and Business Units			
Building Social Housing			
Building houses for people to rent or buy at the market price			

## PART 2: Our Future?

As noted previously, the challenges are far and wide. As noted in part 1, the public purse is being stretched once again.

Whilst you've identified what you think the Council should spend its money on, are these in keeping with what you think the Council's priorities should be?

Tell us.

### 1. Following the engagement with you at the outset of 2022, the following six strategic priorities have been identified up to the end of 2028:

<b>Social Care, Health and Wellbeing</b> – providing a service for residents when needed
<b>Education</b> – ensuring the system is fit for current and future generations
<b>Housing</b> – ensuring that everyone has the right to call somewhere home
<b>Economy</b> – promoting opportunities to develop the Island's economy
<b>Climate</b> – prioritising the decarbonisation agenda across the Council
<b>Welsh</b> – increasing the opportunities to learn and use the language

### To what extent do you agree with these priorities?

Strongly Agree

Agree

Neither Agree nor Disagree

Disagree

Strongly Disagree


**2. We have identified areas for development under each of the strategic priorities which are listed as follows -**

<b>Social Care, Health and Wellbeing</b>
1. Strengthen the provision of Day Opportunities for Adults with Learning Disabilities by enhancing and encouraging access to community resources
2. Work with partners and communities to reduce the impacts felt by people in poverty and utilise UK and Welsh Government mitigations in response to increasing costs of living
3. Working together through community based services and partners to ensure that the early intervention and prevention programme improves quality of life
4. Ensure Community Hubs are accessible and provide meaningful services to enable independence, minimise loneliness and improve people's health and wellbeing
5. Work with communities, partners and 3rd sector organisations to increase where appropriate social and inter-generational opportunities
6. Invest in Leisure facilities to increase enjoyment, attendance, and participation levels
7. Review and modernise Supported Living provision for Adults with Learning Disabilities
8. Continue to work with residents and communities through the Place Shaping agenda to support and enhance community resilience
9. Review and modernise the Council's Youth Service provisions and work with partners to make the service fit for the future
10. Providing looked after children with the opportunities to identify what is important to them so that they can influence their own care

**Do you agree with the areas for development? (please circle)**

All                      Mostly                      Few                      None

<b>Education</b>
1. Securing the best possible outcomes for learners through investment and the implementation of the curriculum for Wales
2. Adopting and delivering a new Modernising Learning and Improving the Welsh Language strategy
3. Supporting children and young people to manage their mental health, improve wellbeing, and digital skills
4. Continue to offer support and guidance to the Youth of Anglesey in an inclusive and innovative way
5. Implementing a revised sustainable communities for learning programme so that learning environments are fit for purpose and working towards a carbon neutral status
6. Working with our partners to provide training and learning opportunities post-16.
7. Supporting children and their families to access educational and community based activities outside of traditional school hours
8. Ensuring and promoting traineeship and apprenticeship opportunities for young people through work
9. Enhancing public participation to enable residents (children and young people in particular) to play a part in the Council's decision making processes

**Do you agree with the areas for development? (please circle)**

All                      Mostly                      Few                      None

<b>Housing</b>
1. Collaborate with key partners to sustain the quality and range of accommodation options available in the care sector
2. Develop a new Council owned Extra-Care facility in Menai Bridge
3. Further develop Cartrefi Clyd
4. Increase respite and Day Care service for children with a disability
5. Identify the Islands housing needs
6. Build new energy efficient homes with 'A' energy performance ratings to meet the recognised housing need
7. Reduce the requirement for emergency accommodation units by sourcing permanent homes for individuals who currently reside in such accommodation
8. Raising the Council tax premium on second homes and using the monies raised to provide funding support for first time buyers unable to afford to purchase a home on the open market
9. Continue to bring empty homes back into use across the Island
10. Work in partnership to help support any refugees that come to live on the Island

**Do you agree with the areas for development? (please circle)**

All

Mostly

Few

None

<b>Economy</b>
1. Explore opportunities to construct new business units across the Island to enable new and existing businesses to grow
2. Work with landowners to redevelop redundant industrial sites
3. Maximise opportunities for local companies to benefit from public sector contracts and opportunities
4. Collaborate to Deliver the North Anglesey Economic Regeneration Action Plan
5. Collaborate with key stakeholders and partners to strengthen the role of Holyhead and the Port as a key International 'Gateway'
6. Continue to work in partnership through the North Wales Economic Ambition Board to create new local and regional opportunities
7. Capitalise on external funding opportunities to ensure that the Island's economic needs are addressed.
8. Collaborate with UK and Welsh Governments, and other key stakeholders, to influence potential new developments and investment opportunities
9. Support and facilitate potential low carbon energy developments, including wind, tidal, solar, hydrogen and nuclear, as well as associated grid infrastructure on the condition that it's not above ground.
10. Influence major energy developments to maximise local and long term benefits, and minimise potential impacts
11. Implement new Destination and AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) Management Plans
12. Support and welcome cruise ship visits to Anglesey and North Wales
13. Invest in core infrastructure to provide safe and sustainable experiences for residents and visitors to enjoy the island's coast and countryside

**Do you agree with the areas for development? (please circle)**

All

Mostly

Few

None



**Climate**

- |  |
|--|
| 1. Adopt a new Local Development Plan  |
| 2. Deliver a range of biodiversity enhancement initiatives inclusive of tree planting schemes                    |
| 3. Continue to improve the quality and reduce the carbon footprint of the Council's housing stock and buildings  |
| 4. Continue to minimise flood risks in areas of concern  |
| 5. Continue to deliver on a green, sustainable recovery and enhancing the vitality and viability of Town Centres |
| 6. Work towards a household waste recycling rate of 70%  |
| 7. Collaborate to develop and deliver sustainable transport alternatives   |

**Do you agree with the areas for development? (please circle)**

All

Mostly

Few

None

**Welsh**

- |  |
|--|
| 1. Increasing the number of Welsh language speakers on the Island  |
| 2. Create positive language associations by ensuring that children, young people and families appreciate the value of Welsh        |
| 3. Mainstream the Welsh language and secure its status in the workplace  |
| 4. Promoting Welsh as a living language in our communities   |
| 5. Support the Island's communities that are strongholds of the Welsh language to prosper economically through the Arfor programme |

**Do you agree with the areas for development? (please circle)**

All

Mostly

Few

None

**Have we missed anything? What else makes / would make a real difference to the quality of life here on Anglesey? (please continue on next page)**

**Our current Wellbeing Objectives are –**

- 1) Wellbeing Objective 1 - Ensure that the people of Anglesey can thrive and realise their long-term potential
- 2) Wellbeing Objective 2 - Support vulnerable adults and families to keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible
- 3) Wellbeing Objective 3 - Work in partnership with our communities to ensure that they can cope effectively with change and developments whilst protecting our natural environment

The Council believe that they are strongly supported by our six strategic priorities identified earlier in the survey.

**Do you agree that the wellbeing objectives remain current? (Please Circle)**

Yes

No

**If no, why?**

We would like to know your views on the effects that these proposals would have on the Welsh language, specifically on opportunities for people to use Welsh and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than English.

**What effects do you think there would be?**

**How can positive effects be increased, or negative effects be mitigated?**

**Please also explain how you believe the proposals could be formulated or changed so as to have positive effects or increased positive effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language, and no adverse effects on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.**

**Please tell us if you are filling out this questionnaire:**

On behalf of yourself

On behalf of your family

As a member of a Community Group

As a member of a Town and Community Council or County Councillor

On behalf of an organisation


**Thank you for your responses.**

The results will be analysed and considered by the –

- Corporate Scrutiny Committee and
- Executive meetings

in January and thereafter by the Isle of Anglesey County Council.

**If you would like to be informed of future consultations from the Isle of Anglesey County Council please write your email in the box below:**

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*Information on how to unsubscribe will be available at the bottom of any consultation email received. Your email address will not be used for any other purposes other than for noted above. For further information visit [www.anglesey.gov.wales/ourfuture](http://www.anglesey.gov.wales/ourfuture) to view our privacy notice*

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## THIS FORM IS OPTIONAL

### (Anglesey Priorities –Your Views) Equality Monitoring Form

We would appreciate your co-operation in providing, on an entirely voluntary basis, the information as requested below, to ensure our engagement is inclusive and delivered in a way that is fair to all and free from bias. **The information is confidential and anonymous**, and will be used solely for statistical monitoring purposes.

<b>Age:</b> Please indicate your age by ticking the appropriate box:	0 – 15 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	16 – 24 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	25 – 34 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
	35 – 44 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	45 – 54 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	55 – 64 years	<input type="checkbox"/>
	65 – 74 years	<input type="checkbox"/>	75 and above	<input type="checkbox"/>		

<b>Sex:</b>	Male <input type="checkbox"/>	Other <input type="checkbox"/>
	Female <input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer Not To Say <input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Ethnic Group:</b>	What is your ethnic group? Choose one option that best describes your ethnic group or background.					
	White	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black -	<input type="checkbox"/>	Any other ethnicity	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gypsy or Irish Traveller	<input type="checkbox"/>	Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/>		
			Black – African	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Mixed – White / Black Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/>	Black – Any other background	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Mixed – White Caribbean	<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian - Indian	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	White / Black African	<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian - Bangladeshi	<input type="checkbox"/>		
	Mixed - any other background	<input type="checkbox"/>	Asian - Pakistani	<input type="checkbox"/>		
			Asian – Chinese	<input type="checkbox"/>		
			Asian – other	<input type="checkbox"/>		

<b>Sexual Orientation:</b>	Which of the following options best describes how you think of yourself?			
	Heterosexual/Straight	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bisexual	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gay Man	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (state if desired)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Gay Woman/Lesbian	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Marital Status:</b>		
Are you married or in a same-sex civil partnership?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Religion or Belief:</b>	What is your religion?			
	Christian (all denominations)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No religion	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Buddhist	<input type="checkbox"/>	Muslim	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Jewish	<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (State)	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Hindu	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sikh	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Atheist	<input type="checkbox"/>	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Disability:</b>	Section 6(1) of the Equality Act 2010 states that a person has a disability if:		
	(a) That person has a physical or mental impairment, and		
	(b) The impairment has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on that person's ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.		
	Using this definition do you consider yourself to be disabled?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Gender Identity:</b>	Has your gender identity changed from that assigned at birth?	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
		No	<input type="checkbox"/>
		Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>

<b>Caring Responsibilities:</b>	Do you look after or give help or support to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of either:		
	Long term physical or mental ill-health/disability;	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>
	or	No	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Problems related to old age	Prefer not to say	<input type="checkbox"/>

*In submitting this form, I hereby acknowledge and give explicit consent to use this data, freely provided by me, for the purposes of lawfully monitoring and reporting the response to this questionnaire.*



# **Engagement & Consultation Report: Council Plan 2023 - 2028**

**December 2022**

**Status of report – Official**

**Prepared by:**

**Transformation Team within HR & Transformation Service**

## 1.0 - Introduction

**1.1** This report is the culmination of an engagement and consultation exercise with staff, residents, partners and stakeholders. It has been on-going since the start of the 2022 year when the Council carried out its initial engagement exercise.

Its aim was to gather an understanding of what the residents of Ynys Môn hoped to see being focused upon during the Council Plan for the forthcoming 5 year period.

**1.2** The initial engagement lasted a period of 6 - 8 weeks between February and March, 2022.

The results and how it played out were varied:

- From an online perspective - 368 residents responded with 58% of those respondents coming from the 45-74 age bracket.
- Age Cymru working in partnership with the Council's Social Services – carried out 11 focus groups across the island, which resulted in 45 elderly people responding.
- Staff also had an opportunity to voice their opinion – of which 217 responded and
- From a young people's perspective – 22 school councils responded to the engagement exercise, democratically representing approximately 3000 children from both primary and secondary schools.

**1.2** Following this public engagement, the Council's services were asked to identify their most important work-streams for realisation over the forthcoming 5 years.

**1.3** Together, and in light of the initial engagement exercise the Council identified six strategic objectives which would support the Council's wellbeing objectives for the next 5 years. These were also aligned with the political direction emanating from the results of the May 2022 election:

- Social care – providing a service for residents when needed
- Housing – ensuring that everyone has the right to call somewhere home
- Education – ensuring the system is fit for current and future generations
- Economy – promoting opportunities to develop the Island's economy
- Climate Change – prioritising the decarbonisation agenda across the Council
- Welsh language – increasing opportunities to learn and use the language

**1.4** Associated work-streams were developed under each strategic objective by services which formulated the first draft plan which would now be considered for consultation.



## 2.0 - The Consultation Process

- 2.1** The Council designed the consultation process to try and enthuse and engender as many responses as possible. To that end, it was focused, targeted and contained easy to read material.
- 2.2** Firstly, staff were consulted on the six strategic objectives and the associated work-streams. Staff members responded which enabled improvements to be made and further consideration of views to be considered prior to a 'public' consultation.
- 2.3** The original timeline for consultation was extended to 8 weeks following discussion with and guidance from Town & Community Councils at their meeting of September 8th. The consultation period opened following a period of mourning due to the death of her Majesty, the Queen.

It opened on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September through till the 14<sup>th</sup> of November.

- 2.4** The Council worked to make the consultation as accessible as possible. This can be evidenced from the concerted effort to target every ward on the island in some way or form.

Hard copies of the surveys, in both 'easy read' and normal versions, as well as posters and flyers with direct links to the online consultation were dispersed to –

- the islands leisure centres,
- libraries
- Oriel Mon
- Council offices

It was also dispersed to community hubs where specific face-to-face engagement sessions and forums were held. These sessions involved a panel of officers who'd attended to talk and involve themselves with the public around associated pressures and work-streams related to the strategic objectives.

Face-to-face sessions took place at:

- Town Hall, Llangefni
- Gwelfor, Holyhead
- Neuadd Llaingoch
- Iorwerth Arms, Bryngwran
- Neuadd Llanfairpwll
- Canolfan Beaumaris
- Caffi Mechell, Llanfechell

The mobile library was used to distribute 'easy read' copies in hard format of the consultation to those who could not leave their homes.

School age children (3-18) were targeted and invited to take part through the school councils.

**2.5** Coinciding with the above – and the consultation in general – there was a concerted marketing effort to ensure awareness of the consultation. The Council achieved this by:

- Social Media posts through Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
- Public engagement emails via the Mon Actif database
- Emails to partners of the Council
- Promotion via Môn FM
- Regular press releases at varying times throughout the consultation period

**2.6** The responses to this consultation work were as follows –

- 538 staff members responded prior to the consultation
- From an online perspective – 1620 interacted with the survey and 1098 either responded fully or partially.
- 61% of responses were received from people of working age.
- 79 responses were received via hard copy and
- From a young people’s perspective – 27 school councils responded to the consultation, democratically representing approximately 3,500 - 4000 children from both primary and secondary schools.
- 91% of respondents replied through the medium of English whilst 9% replied through the medium of Welsh.

**2.7** Whilst this is a positive response rate which provides the Council with a 95% confidence level of the findings (+/- 3%), it is interesting to note of the 1620 who interacted with the consultation online, 442 did not continue to partake. ***This, it is proposed is a lesson learnt and needs to be addressed going forward re: how to make the on-line consultation survey as simpler and more interactive as possible from the first screen onwards so as not to deter people upon undertaking such surveys.***

### **3.0 - Overview of Demographics**

**3.1** The demographics for age (full table below) showed a good range in the age of people who have taken part in the consultation.

Age Range	Number of responses (percentage)
Under 25 years old	1%
25 – 35 years old	5.96%
35 – 44 years old	12.1%
45 – 54 years old	16.01%
55 – 64 years old	26.44%
65 – 74 years old	27.56%
75 years old and above	11.17%

- 3.2** In line with the results of the recent Census, it is encouraging to note that the number of people aged under 25 – 64 (of working age) for the Census was 57.5%, whereas the % responding to this consultation was 61%.
- 3.3** 14% of respondents who responded to the consultation noted themselves as disabled whilst 33% noted they had caring responsibilities. These figures are encouraging for the County Council as it demonstrates that we've been able to reach and receive responses from a wide range of recipients.
- 3.4** Whilst this is positive, it is also acknowledged that a greater focus and drive is required to target 16-24 year olds in future consultation exercises due to this age groups response rate being less than 1%. ***This again, is a lesson learnt and something which will need addressing in future engagement and consultation exercises.***

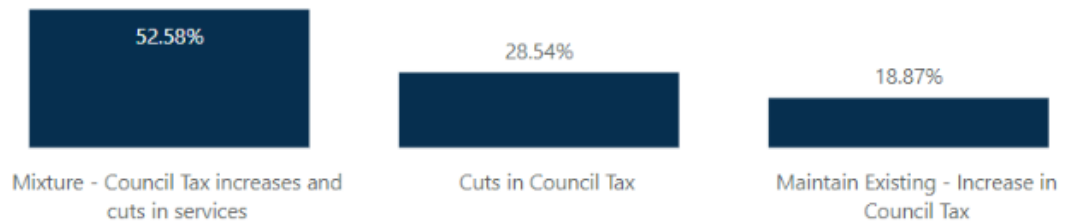
#### 4.0 - General Findings

- 4.1** The survey was structured in 3 specific parts –
- Our financial strategy and how to structure it going forward
  - Our wellbeing objectives and whether they were still current
  - Our strategic objectives and whether anything had been missed
- 4.2** From a financial perspective, people were asked which strategy they would support in order to balance the Council's budget. The results for this showed that people on the

whole were generally in support of a mixture, i.e. some Council Tax increases, with some cuts to certain services (see fig 1 below).

The second most popular option as can be evidenced via the graph below is that respondents would prefer to see cuts in Council Tax levels.

**Q1. In order to balance the budget which of the following strategies would you support?**



**4.3** On the whole, the respondents wanted to **maintain the existing revenue spend** in all but three areas. The three areas that overall respondents wanted to **reduce** were:

- Street Lighting
- Reducing the Council’s carbon footprint, and
- Tourism (including maritime)

**4.4** Although in the main they wanted to maintain the existing revenue spend, the areas that the respondents wanted to invest more thereafter included:

- Adult Social Services
- Children’s Social Services
- Economic Development
- Schools, and
- Homelessness

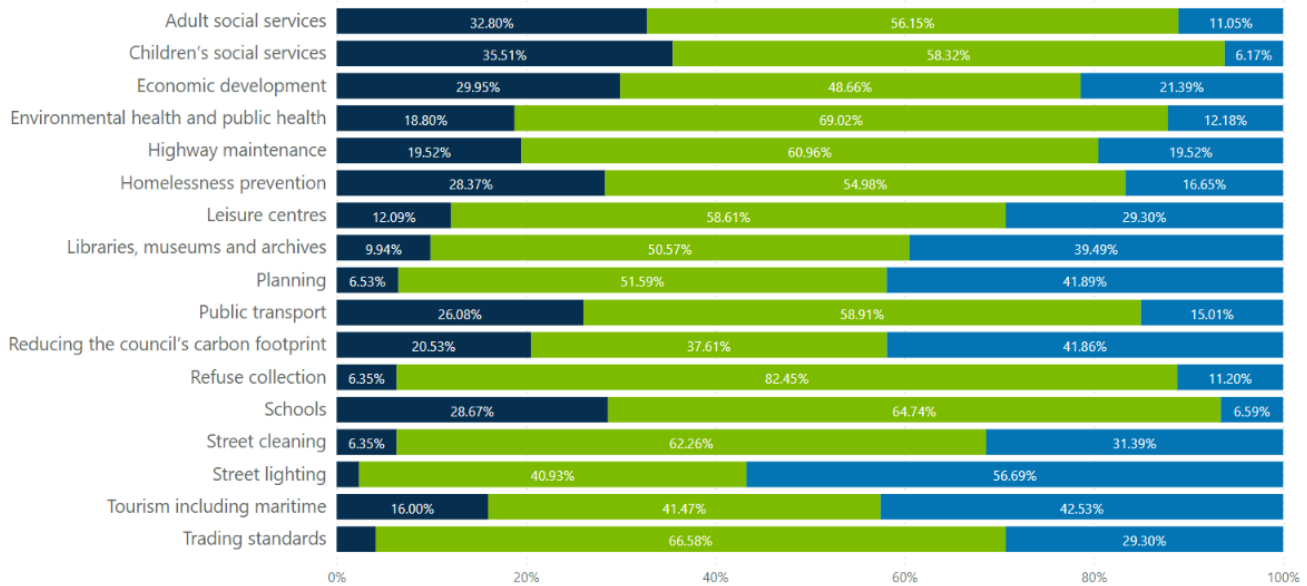
**4.5** And the areas if there was a need to reduce revenue spend included:

- Planning, and
- Libraries, museums and archives

## Appendix B

### Change the delivery of services - revenue spend

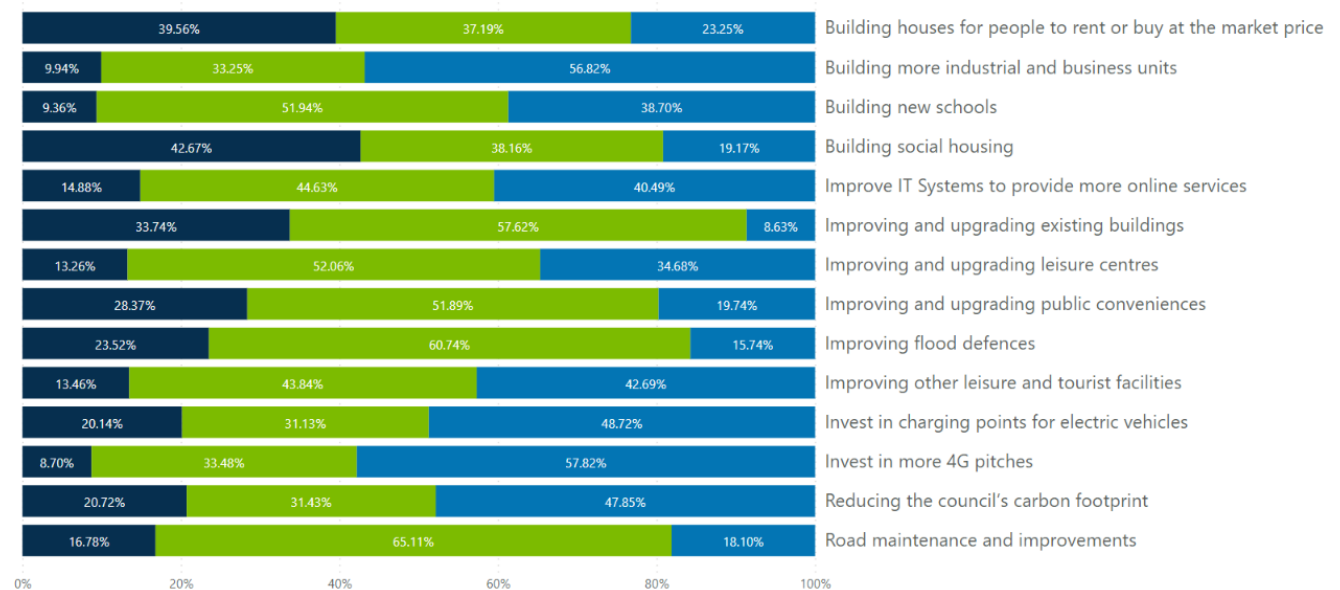
Value ● Invest more ● Maintain existing service ● Reduce service



**4.6** From a capital spend perspective, there was a general mix on where to spend the investment as can be seen from the chart below:

### Q4. Where to spend Capital Investment

Value ● Invest more ● Maintain existing investment ● Reduce investment



**4.7** The areas that overall respondents wanted to invest more capital spend included:

- Building houses for people to rent or buy at market price, and
- Building social housing

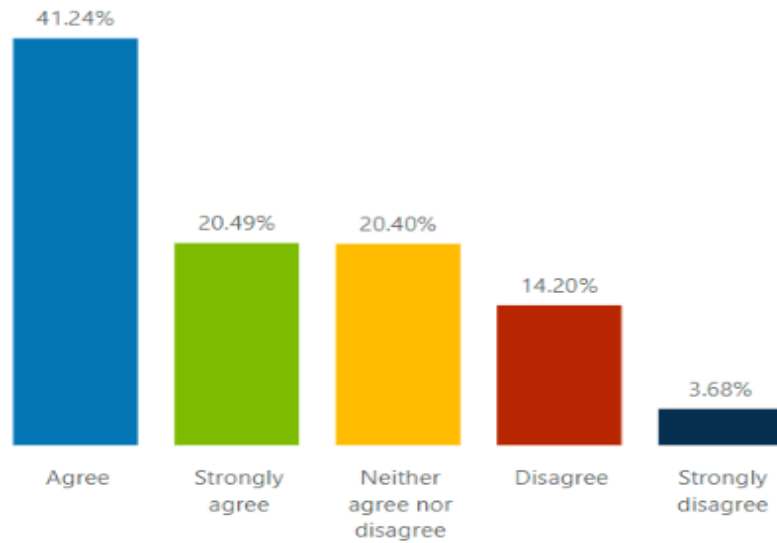
**4.8** Respondents wanted to reduce capital spend on:

- Investing in more 4G pitches,
- Building more industrial and business units,
- Investing in charging points for electric vehicles, and
- Reducing the Council's carbon footprint through investments in green energy and electric vehicles

**4.9** The remaining options were overall wanting to maintain existing capital investments.

**4.10** When questioned further, respondents were encouragingly in agreement with the strategic priorities identified in the Council Plan with 62% of respondents either strongly agreeing or agreeing with them.

**Q5. To what extent do you agree with these priorities?**

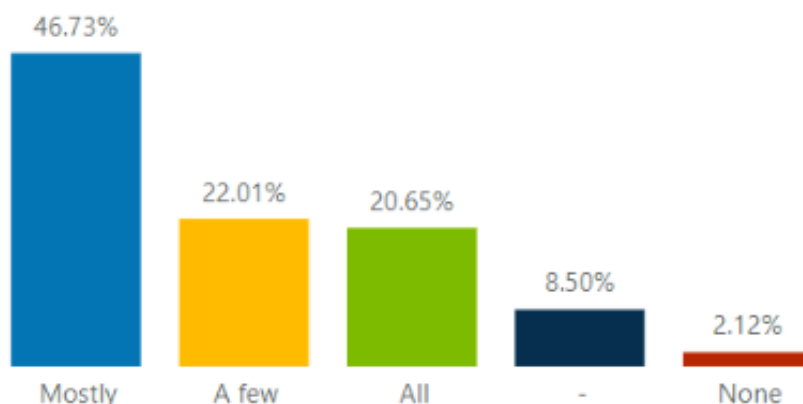


**With in excess of 8 out of every 10 people who responded to the consultation survey either agreeing or strongly agreeing with the draft priorities set out, it is encouraging to note that the plan itself appears to be along the lines expected of us as a County Council.**

## 5.0 - Social Care, Health and Wellbeing – Providing a Service for residents when needed

5.1 When asked if people supported the 9 proposed work-streams, the results suggested on the whole a good level of support. This is seen with the ‘mostly’ and ‘all’ options receiving approximately three quarters of the responses (conveyed in fig below).

Q6. Social care, health and wellbeing



5.2 Whilst this is encouraging and demonstrated that the priority is in keeping with respondents views, as part of financial strategy questions, people were also asked whether they would like to see a change to the delivery of a service. There were three options for each service, which came in the shape of ‘invest more’, ‘maintain existing investment’ and ‘reduce investment’.

5.3 From a care and wellbeing perspective, there were three services linked to the overarching body of care. These were -

- ‘Adult social services’
- ‘Children’s social services’
- ‘Environmental health and public health’.

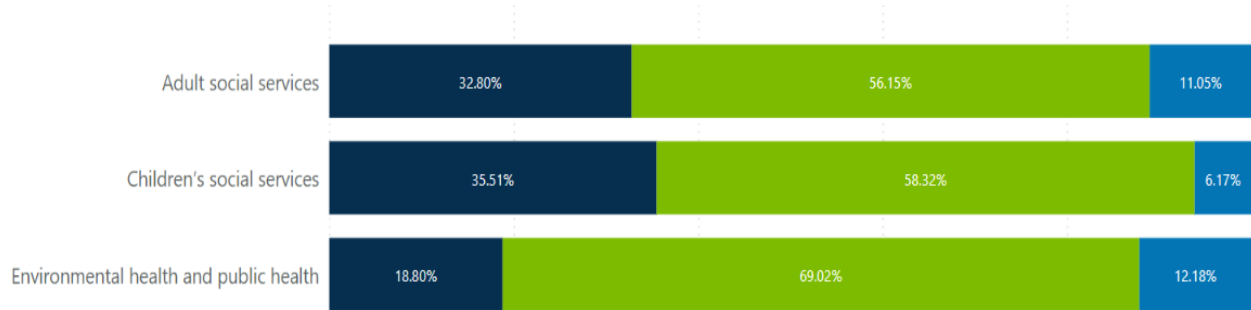
The first two were the most popular in terms of investment, whilst also being the two most popular for not seeing a reduction in the service – receiving in excess of 30% of the response for ‘invest more’ for both, and less than 15% for ‘reduce service’. Children’s social services in particular had only 6.17% of people say that they would like to see a reduction, which is the lowest of all of the services.

5.4 For ‘Environmental health and public health’ it was very much a middle ground work stream, where people were keen for it to continue as it is. This was reflected with 69.02% of its responses coming under ‘Maintain existing service’ (see fig 2 below).

## Appendix B

### Change the delivery of services - revenue spend

Value ● Invest more ● Maintain existing service ● Reduce service

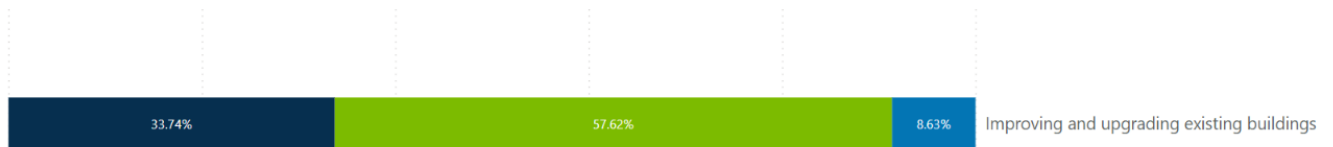


**5.5** In addition, people were also asked whether they would like to see capital investment being invested, with the same options as the above question being offered.

**5.6** In relation to care, 'Improving and upgrading existing building including schools, residential care homes and day care facilities' scored the third highest for 'invest more' and had the fewest people say that they would like to see the service reduced (conveyed in fig 4 below).

### Q4. Where to spend Capital Investment

Value ● Invest more ● Maintain existing investment ● Reduce investment



**5.7** The Council also during its consultation sought to gather an understanding as to whether or not anything had been missed under the priority work-streams. Thus, one of the main themes that came out, with a total of 30 responses, was that people were keen to see an improvement in care.

This came in several forms. People felt that there was currently an issue with holding on/enticing new carers. Therefore, many of the comments were keen to see an improved terms of agreement for the carers that work on Ynys Mon.

Additionally, the comments further strengthened the point surrounding that Social care is of major importance to the people of the island. An array of the comments highlighted how they would like to see improvements in both care for adults, the elderly and children.

From an external point of view, the recommendations from the 'Future Generations report' which was forwarded to the Council in response to the consultation, highlight work that public bodies could be doing with regards to a Healthier Wales.



Day to day actions it is stated should include –

- Explore opportunities to shift spend to activities that support primary and secondary prevention
- Prioritise opportunities to work in partnership on primary and secondary preventative activities

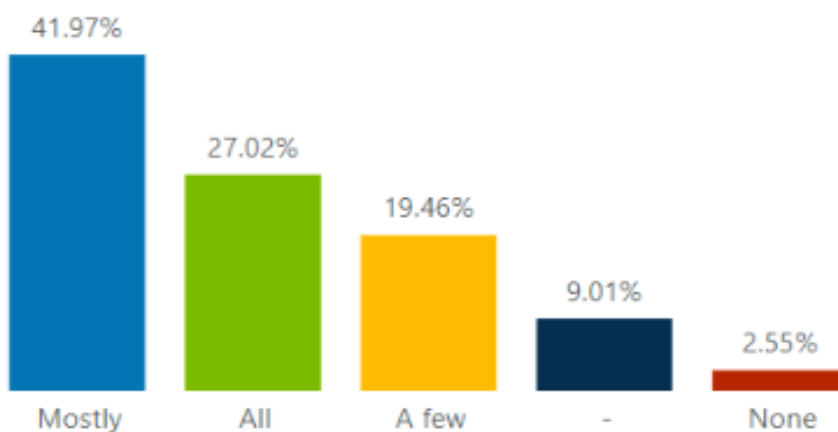
**5.8** Whilst the cost of living crisis continues, it is encouraging that the Council identifies the preventative mind-set within its current work-streams. The results of the care and wellbeing strategic priority objective would suggest that people are generally supportive of the priority itself and its associated work-streams that have been set-out.

Furthermore, the findings correlate well with external, national reports/assessments that have been created in the past.

## 6.0 – Education – ensuring the system is fit for current and future generations

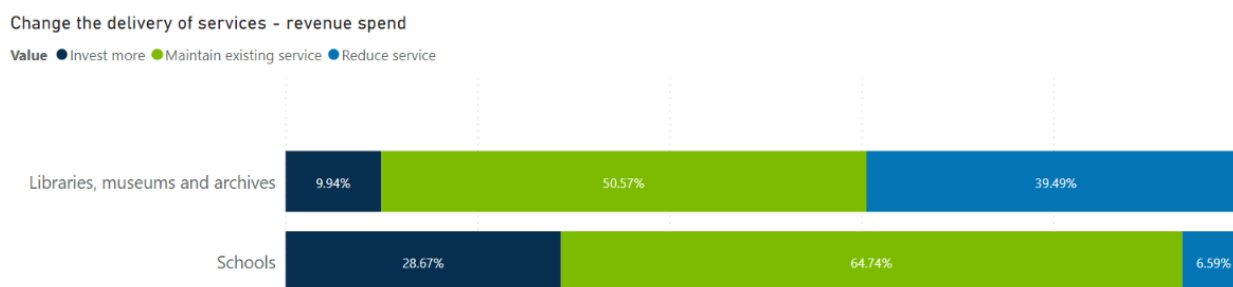
6.1 The results for whether or not people agreed with the 9 proposed work-streams related to the Education priority was fairly clear. Approximately three quarters of the respondents favoured the ‘Mostly’ or ‘All’ options when asked whether they agreed with the proposed objectives (see fig below).

### Q7. Education



6.2 This seems to be in-keeping with the results of the questions related to finance. When asked about the financial aspects of service delivery, schools were a popular area where the fourth highest number of respondents noted a need for ‘more investment’ and the second lowest for ‘reduce service with only 6.59% noting their opinion in this way.

6.3 ‘Libraries, museums and archives’ did not have the same support. Only 9.94% of the respondents supported an increase in funding, whilst 39.49% were in favour of seeing a reduction of the service (see fig below).



6.4 It is therefore fair to assume that the Education provision and the associated objectives noted above are in line with the expectations of respondents.

6.5 When asked about possible future capital investment, two options related to this priority were identified. These were –

- Building new schools

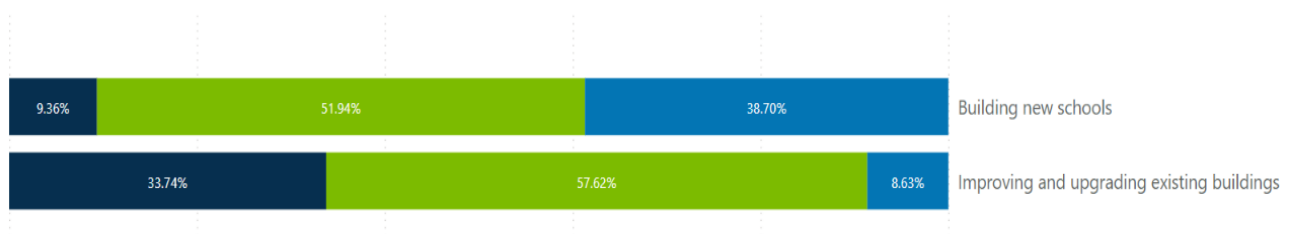
- Improving and upgrading existing building including schools....

For 'Building new schools' there did not seem to be much appetite for investment, with it scoring the second lowest for 'invest more' (full comparison of all work streams for 'invest more' can be found on the next page).

In addition, the 'reduce investment' option was also quite high with 38.70% of the respondents noting their choice in this fashion. The result for 'Improving and upgrading existing building including schools - highlighted that this work stream was desirable, scoring the third highest for 'invest more' and the lowest for a reduction in investment.

Q4. Where to spend Capital Investment

Value ● Invest more ● Maintain existing investment ● Reduce investment

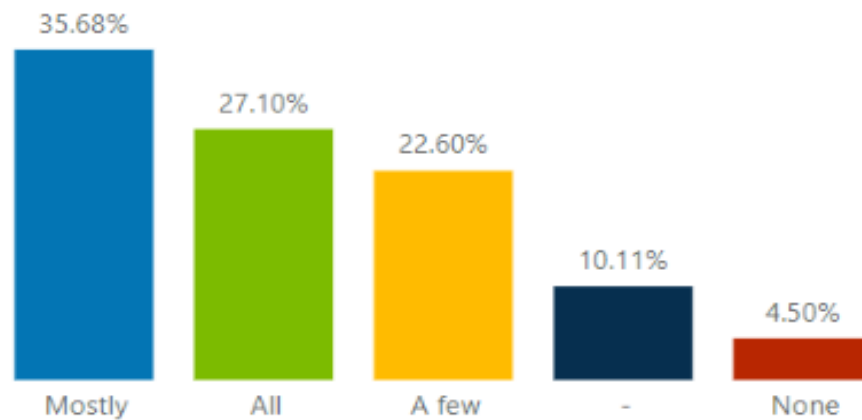


- 6.6** From the results of the open ended questions, the resounding theme which was apparent and can be attributed to education revolved around Welsh lessons. However, there were also two aspects to this. Some of the responses were keen to ensure that the next generation are taught in a bilingual manner. The majority of the responses however, were built on the premise that those who want to learn Welsh should have the opportunity to do so, via cheap if not free lessons.
- 6.7** This aspect is also aligned with the 'Future Generations Report' – in particular the 'A Wales of Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language' chapter which identifies that public bodies should 'Develop skills, increase opportunities and respect our status as a bilingual nation'. Thus, the support for more opportunities to have Welsh lessons goes hand-in-hand with the expectations set-out in this report and further endorses the second work-stream.
- 6.8** When comparing the findings to that of the 'Anglesey Wellbeing Assessment', it appears that there are elements that correlate.
- 6.9** The assessment notes that a high number of year 11 leavers in Anglesey are NEET (not in education, employment or training) which corresponds well with the sixth work-stream noted.
- 6.10** Furthermore, under the title of culture (within the assessment) it is noted that there is a lack of activities for children and young people. This has again been reflected via the seventh work stream as an area for development over the forthcoming 5 year period.

## 7.0 - Housing – ensuring that everyone has the right to call somewhere home

7.1 People were supportive again of the work- streams related to the Housing priority. 'Mostly' and 'All' were the most popular answers, however the number for 'Mostly' was lower in comparison to the previous two, with those responses seemingly going to either 'A few' or 'None' (see fig 8 below).

Q8. Housing



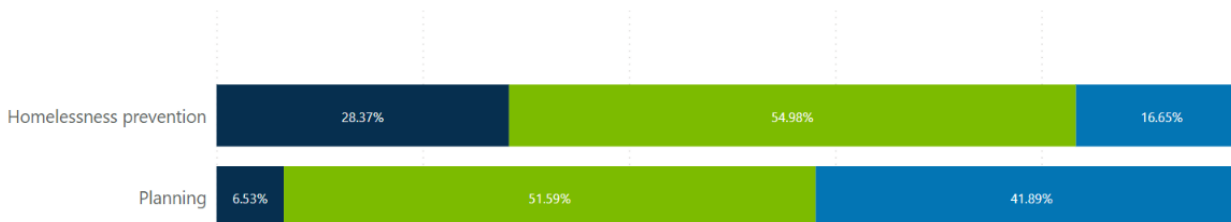
7.2 When questioned with regards further investment in the service or not there are two work streams which could be related. These came in the shape of –

- Homelessness prevention
- Planning

It would be fair to say that there was a contrast in the results between the two, with 'homelessness prevention' being something that people were keen to support, whereas 'planning' was not (fig 2 below shows results).

Change the delivery of services - revenue spend

Value Invest more Maintain existing service Reduce service



7.3 For where the council should spend its capital investment, there were again two themes linked to Housing. These were –

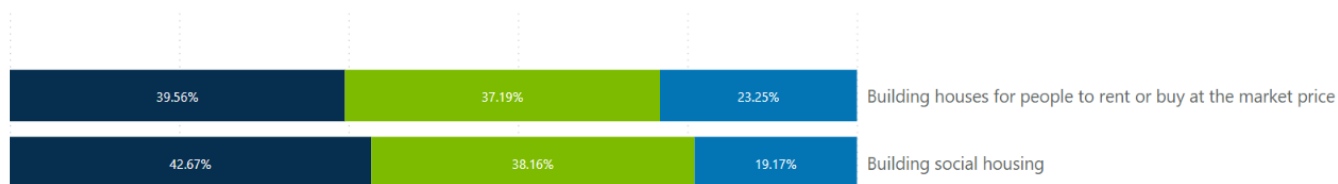
- Building houses for people to rent or buy at the market price

- Building social housing

Both were the most popular for seeing more investment. The support for both of these is further amplified by the fact that both had a higher percentage for ‘invest more’ rather than ‘maintain existing investment’ – the only two within this list (see fig 2).

Q4. Where to spend Capital Investment

Value ● Invest more ● Maintain existing investment ● Reduce investment



7.4 This result was echoed within the open ended question of the survey, where a couple of themes linked to housing appeared upon further scrutiny.

7.5 The most obvious example, related to 2<sup>nd</sup> / holiday homes. There appeared to be a theme which believed that the Council should either reduce the number of people who have the ability to own 2<sup>nd</sup> / holiday homes, or increase the council tax on them substantially.

7.6 It is important to note that the 2<sup>nd</sup> home question wasn't clear cut with some keen to see no increase in council tax for 2<sup>nd</sup> homes as it would have a detrimental impact on tourism.

7.7 Another theme directly linked to housing, was the wish from respondents to see more affordable housing/social housing. An important point to note when scrutinising this theme was the fact that the two mentioned themes were the most debated/popular responses given by people who responded in a written manner via 'hard copies' of the survey.

7.8 Coupling this with the results re: capital investment, it is suggested that these are topics in which the public would like to see the Council prioritise within the housing service.

7.9 Whilst this can be seen as a positive it is also important to note that the Office of Future Generations in their report recommend that public bodies when dealing with housing issues should –

- work with housing associations to share and implement innovative practices
- consider how they can require zero waste construction through their procurement practices
- consider housing as one of the wider determinants of health.

**These are challenges which are recommended to be considered as part of the process of working to meet the housing needs of the island now and into the future.**

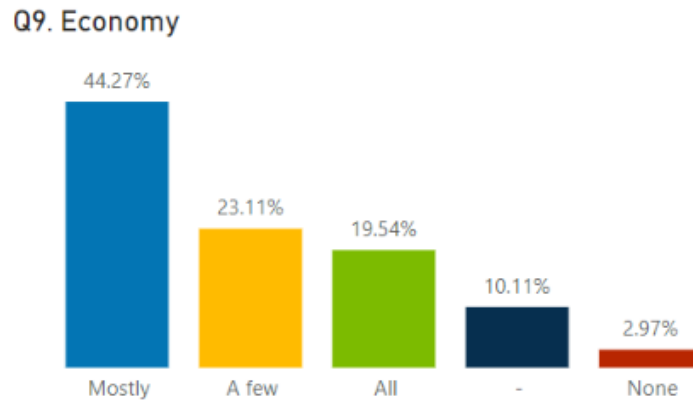
7.10 Within the 'Anglesey Wellbeing Assessment' it's noted that house price and affordability are of major concern to local communities. Thus from the work-streams set-out it is encouraging to note that the Council are trying to tackle / mitigate this problem.

**7.11** From an overall picture therefore, the strategic objective set-out for housing again shows a strong level of support. It would be fair to suggest that the ability of local people to acquire a local house is one of the main themes that emanates from this consultation.

**It is recommended therefore that further consideration about how to realise this theme should be progressed as the implementation of the new Council Plan is realised.**

## 8.0 – Economy – ensuring opportunities to develop the Island’s economy

8.1 The respondents, on the whole agreed with the majority of the 13 proposed work-streams related to Regeneration, Energy Island and the Visitor Economy with 49% mostly agreeing and 22% agreeing with all.



8.2 A little over a quarter of respondents did however only agree with a few or none of the identified priorities.

8.3 From a finance perspective, there were four work streams that can attributed to the Economy. These were –

- Leisure Centres
- Tourism including maritime
- Economic development
- Trading standards

From these 4, the most popular was ‘Economic development’ which had 29.95% of respondents’ note that they would like to see an increase in investment. On the other hand, it would be fair to suggest that ‘Tourism including maritime’ was the least popular with 42.53% believing that the service should be reduced.

8.4 Analysis of the comments provided by the respondents identify that there was one main theme that was linked to this objective:

- Better paid jobs – This included attracting major industry to the island, to assist with their creation through Wylfa and the realisation that the lack of well-paid jobs being a major contributor to young people leaving the island.

8.5 Furthermore for the above theme, the ‘Anglesey Wellbeing Assessment’ agrees that a lack of high value jobs was having a detrimental impact on the well-being of the area. Noting that in addition to the effect it’s having on the economy, the retention of young people is being impacted and in turn the Welsh language. As such they have identified the below priority for the Public Service Board –

- Future workforce planning that meets the needs of the community and the local economy

**8.6** Whilst the above comments are valid points, it is believed that the majority of those points have been met within the following sub-priorities:

- Regeneration and Economic Development, and
- Energy Island Programme

Although it could be highlighted that the Future Generations Report 2020 identifies opportunities which perhaps need further exploration from an Island's perspective.

**8.7** The Future Generations Report 2020, identifies many recommendations that are related to the Economy objective. Some of these include:

- Move beyond setting well-being objectives and steps that respond to the economic opportunities and industries of today and, instead, use long-term horizon scanning to mould our future economy - not just ensure current businesses have the workforce they need now and in the short-term;
- Adopt repair and re-use targets to incentivise circular economy over recycling;
- Build the business development in towns and cities around cultural offer;
- Ensure that they have mechanisms in place to involve children and young people in their decision making processes;
- Undertaking meaningful involvement with local businesses in the development of local economic plans;
- Supporting local businesses and providers where possible

**8.8** As mentioned in the general findings (section 4 of this report), the analysis of how the Council should spend the revenue and capital budgets suggested that less money should be spent on promoting tourism as well as building less industrial and business units.

**8.9** In the light of the findings above, **it is recommended that the priorities listed below should be re-considered to ensure that they remain current:**

- i. Explore opportunities to construct new business units across the Island to enable new and existing businesses to grow

and it is proposed that the following areas perhaps need to be explored further to garner a greater involvement and interest in the future direction of the local economy keeping in mind the decarbonisation agenda -

- Involve children, young people and local businesses in the planning of current and future economic development opportunities for the island
- Undertaking meaningful involvement with local businesses in the development of local economic plans
- Adopt repair and re-use targets to incentivise circular economy over recycling



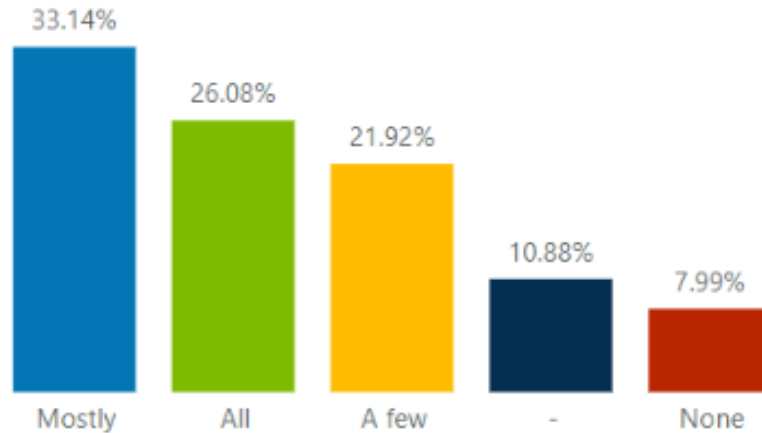
**8.10** The overall picture related to this strategic priority is therefore a conflicted one. Although the level of support for the proposed work-streams was strong, the questions relating to finance were amongst the most unsupported throughout the whole of the results.

Although the better jobs theme can perhaps be linked to 'Economic development' for the change of delivery to services question, the promotion of tourism amongst the open ended answers contradicts that of the capital investment question.

## 9.0 - Climate – prioritising the decarbonisation agenda across the Council

9.1 On the whole, it would be fair to suggest that the general consensus was one of support for the climate work-streams. However, not to the same extent as the previous four strategic objectives – with the ‘none’ option approximately three times higher than that of Social care and Education.

Q10. Climate



9.2 In terms of the council tax question and where people would like to see a change in services. There were five work streams that can attributed to Climate. These are;

- ‘Public transport’,
- ‘Street lighting’,
- ‘Refuse collection’,
- ‘Street cleaning’ and
- ‘Reducing the Council’s carbon footprint’.

The results were fairly mixed.

People generally supported an increase of investment for ‘Public transport.

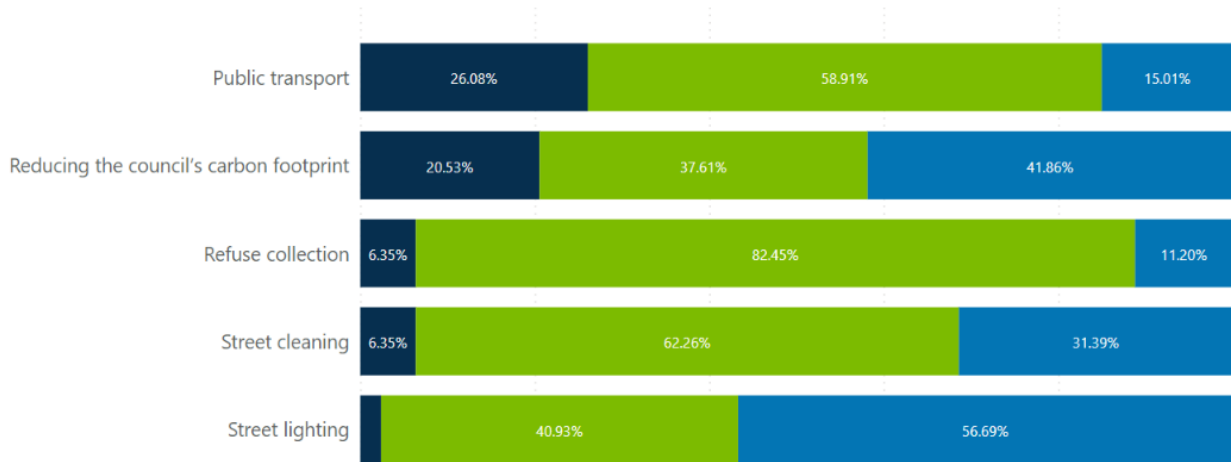
‘Refuse collection’ received the largest number of people wanting to see the service maintained as it is – 82.45% in total.

‘Street lighting’ however was the most unpopular work stream of all of possible options within the list, with 56.69% of people choosing for it to see a reduction of investment (see fig for breakdown).

## Appendix B

### Change the delivery of services - revenue spend

Value ● Invest more ● Maintain existing service ● Reduce service



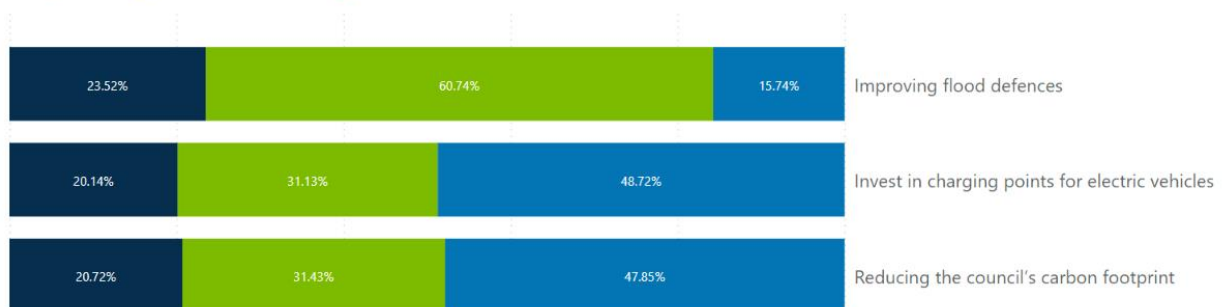
**9.3** For capital investment, there were three work streams that are linked to Climate. These came in the shape of –

- 'Reducing the Council's carbon footprint through investments in green energy and electrical cars',
- 'Invest in charging points for electrical vehicles' and
- 'Improve flood defences'.

The results for both the first two mentioned were almost exactly the same, with over 45% of the response for both coming under 'reduce investment'. Around 31% of the responses felt that the investment should be maintained as it is for both, whilst only marginally above 20% of the respondents for both work streams felt that the council increase the investment – overall little support for both. Flood defences was supported more than the previous two mentioned. Although the number of respondents who wanted to see an increase in investment was slightly above 20% again, the number of people who wanted to see the service maintained was far higher – 60.74% (see fig below).

### Q4. Where to spend Capital Investment

Value ● Invest more ● Maintain existing investment ● Reduce investment



**9.4** The comments revealed that there were two major themes. The first theme was that people wanted to see the council tackle the climate change agenda. Within this, many noted that they would be keen on seeing an increase of green spaces and the introduction of more green energy.

The second most popular theme linked to climate was to stop the ‘destruction’ of the Penrhos Woodland. The opposition to it argued that it goes against the second priority set-out for climate which was “Deliver a range of biodiversity enhancement initiatives inclusive of tree planting schemes”.

**9.5** In addition to above, the ‘Anglesey Wellbeing Assessment’ notes that ‘Anglesey’s diverse natural environment is an important resource’, whilst also pointing that ‘Protecting nature and biodiversity is important for decarbonisation’. Both of these aims strengthen the above two themes mentioned and coincide well with the second and fifth work-stream from this strategic objective.

**9.6** Furthermore, the ‘Future Generations Report’ recommends that authorities should look to ‘Restoring forests and peatland and more sustainable land-use to protect nature’. It also emphasises the need to align local development plans with well-being objectives and that effort should be afforded to take every step to integrate work between agencies impacting place-making and our built environment.

The report progresses to identify areas which public bodies could further consider in order to maximise the decarbonisation agenda through –

- reducing the need for resources and use resource more efficiently,
- reducing the need for energy and using energy more efficiently,
- prioritising local sustainable and active travel schemes
- encouraging the development of local renewable energy schemes.

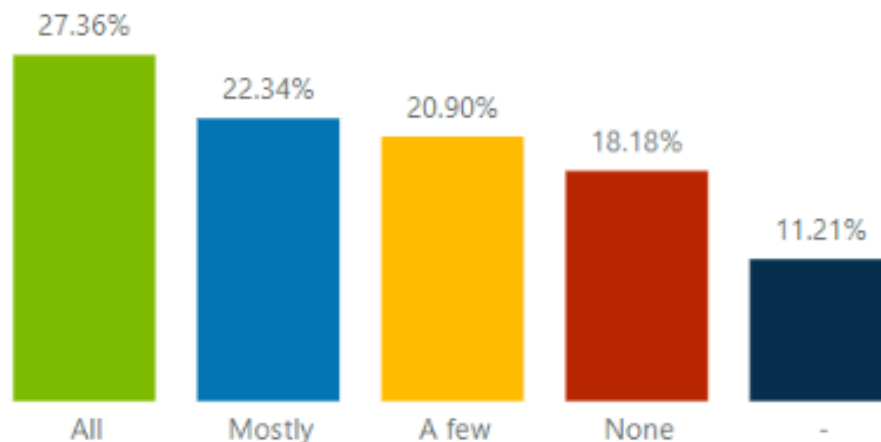
**It is recommended therefore that these initiatives should be afforded due consideration in the work of the Council over the forthcoming period and that the work-streams could be added to forthcoming decarbonisation plans.**

**9.7** Generally speaking, people are supportive of the measures set-out. Although it would be fair to suggest there isn’t much appetite for electric cars/electric car charging points, people are supportive of the other measures that are being proposed. Essentially the priorities which capture the whole of the population have the support of the people (public transport, refuse collection), whereas the ones which are perhaps less likely to have an effect on the majority of people are not (electric cars).

**10. Welsh –**

10.1 Welsh was the least supported strategic objective from the six identified. The ‘none’ response in particular scored approximately twice as much as that of Climate – the second highest for this response. However, the overall picture was one of marginal support for the priority, with ‘all’ and ‘mostly’ still scoring higher than that of ‘a few’ and ‘none’ (see fig 11 below).

**Q11. Welsh**



10.2 From a change of delivery perspective, there were no real work streams linked to Welsh. For capital investment, there were no work streams linked to Welsh.

The open ended questions had numerous themes linked to the Welsh language.

10.3 The strongest one was equality between the languages. People were keen to see neither language treated less favourably, with many citing that they feel that Council should allow more English only speakers to work within the Council itself. Furthermore, ensuring a reduction in xenophobia on both sides was noted.

10.4 With support to promoting/prioritising the Welsh language being the second largest theme related to this strategic priority it could be said that the theme itself provoked a good response which was conflicting in nature.

10.5 This came in many forms, with some feeling more should be done to promote Welsh culture - in addition to the language - through more Welsh language events. Others were keen to see Welsh as the main language of the island, through supporting local businesses to adopt the language. It was also noted that people were keen to see the Welsh language promoted more in regards to tourism too.

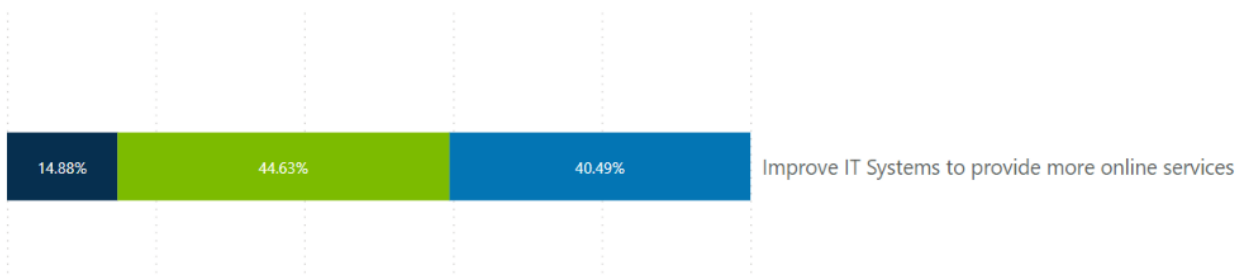
- 10.6 Others felt that language should be prioritised less, and less money spent on it. People were keen to see the Council not push the Welsh language, and reduce funding for it.
- 10.7 Whilst the above points demonstrate the different feelings towards the language it is important to state that there were some that were keen to see matters remain as they are for the Welsh language. Essentially keep operating in the manner the Council currently does, in regards to this strategic objective.
- 10.8 More Welsh lessons and more Welsh lessons that are cheap - if not free - was a theme that was supported by 48 people. People were keen for more free Welsh lessons in general for people to do in their communities. Some were also keen for this to be taught in a fun way, others in order to stand a better chance at getting a job on Ynys Mon.
- 10.9 When revising the 'Future Generations report' it largely agrees with the point in regards to promoting the Welsh language from the additional comments. Example of this can be seen by the report recommending that we use the 'Welsh language as a driver for economic and environmental change'. Thus supporting the notion of promoting the Welsh language in tangent with tourism is something that aligns well with this report.
- 10.10 Furthermore, the priorities set-out within the objectives coincide well with the expectations set-out in the 'Future Generations report'. The report notes as an action for public bodies that the Welsh language should be mainstreamed, which in turn coincides with the third priority of this strategic objective.
- 10.11 The general conclusion for the Welsh language is a split one. Whether it be how much people support the proposed priorities, or the open ended questions there were arguments on both sides. Although it is clear that this priority on the whole is the least supported of the six strategic objectives it is aligned to the direction afforded by Welsh Government in their aim to realise 1million Welsh speakers by 2050.

## 11. Miscellaneous/ Other findings

**11.1** With regards to capital investment there was one work stream that did not fit in to any of the strategic objectives. This was 'Improve the council's IT systems to allow more services to be undertaken online'. The general consensus is that this work stream was not supported, with the 'reduce investment' option receiving more than double that of the 'invest more' option – 40.49% compared to 14.88% (see fig below).

Q4. Where to spend Capital Investment

Value ● Invest more ● Maintain existing investment ● Reduce investment



**11.2** However, it could be argued that this result is at odds with the expectation of the Future Generations Commissioners report which outlines the need to use resources as efficiently as possible (see pt 9.6).

**11.3** Furthermore there was also only one major theme that arose from the additional comments that cannot be attributed to any of the strategic objectives which was a pertinent point by many at the time. This was in regards to the bridges and the wish from respondents to see either greater resilience with the bridges, a third crossing established or amendments made to the current Britannia Bridge.

## 12. Conclusion –

12.1.1 To sum up, with in excess of 2,500 responses across the year, it is believed that this has been a comprehensive engagement and consultation approach with Anglesey residents, councillors, communities, businesses and partners which has provided views from many individuals and organisations.

12.1.2 The findings above demonstrate that in excess of 8 out of every 10 respondents are in agreement with the draft strategic priorities. There are varying views associated with the majority of draft work-streams. This will help to map what the council will prioritise over the next five years and provides a good basis for decisions to be taken upon what the Council should focus on in the immediate and forthcoming period.

12.1.3 In implementing the Economy strategic priority should the Council consider further in its implementation whether it –

- Involves children, young people and local businesses in the planning of current and future economic development opportunities for the island
- Undertakes meaningful involvement with local businesses in the development of local economic plans
- Adopts a repair and re-use target to incentivise circular economy over recycling

12.1.4 In implementing its Housing strategic priority and associated work-streams should the Council consider further how it –

- works with housing associations to share and implement innovative practices
- considers how they can require zero waste construction through their procurement practices
- considers housing as one of the wider determinants of health.

12.1.5 In realising the Climate priority it is recommended that the following initiatives should be afforded due consideration and that the work-streams should either be added or included within forthcoming decarbonisation plans –

- reducing the need for resources and use resource more efficiently,
- reducing the need for energy and using energy more efficiently,
- prioritising local sustainable and active travel schemes
- encouraging the development of local renewable energy schemes.



**AFFORDABILITY – COUNCIL PLAN 2023-2028**

This paper has been formed to give an overlook of the affordability of the Council Plans operation, by identifying financial sources and the associated risks.

**SUMMARY**

- The Council Plan identifies 6 objectives for the Council to achieve within the next five years. **57** high level activities have been identified to enable the Council to achieve these objectives.
- Only **9/57 (16%)** of these activities are delivered by using the Council’s core funding alone.
- The Council’s core budget also contribute towards **32/57 (56%)** of other activities identified within the Plan, but other sources of funding also subsidise these activities. Of these 32 activities, grant funding contributes towards 29 (91%) of them.
- **10/57 (17%)** of activities are funded by grant funding alone.
- Whilst the remaining **6/57 (11%)**, are funded by a combination of grants, and other sources of funding, such as Housing Revenue Account, and other external funding sources.

*Grant funding therefore contributes towards 57 (79%) of the activities.*

See below an analysis at individual objective level:

**OBJECTIVE 1 – SOCIAL CARE AND WELLBEING – PROVIDING A SERVICE FOR RESIDENTS WHEN NEEDED**

<b>Activities funded by:</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Council core budget only	1	8%
Council core budget and other sources	9*	69%
Grant Funding Only	3	23%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Of the 9 activities funded through core budget and other sources, grants contribute towards 9/9 (100%) of these activities.

Grants therefore contributes towards 12/13 (92%) of these activities.

**OBJECTIVE 2 – EDUCATION – ENSURING THE SYSTEM IS FIT FOR CURRENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.**

<b>Activities funded by:</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Council core budget only	2	22%
Council core budget and other sources	7*	78%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* Of the 7 activities funded through core budget and other sources, grants contribute towards 7/7 (100%) of these activities.

Grants therefore contributes towards 7/9 (78%) of these activities

**OBJECTIVE 3 – HOUSING – ENSURING THAT EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO CALL SOMEWHERE HOME**

<b>Activities funded by:</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Council core budget only	2	20%
Council core budget and other sources	3*	30%
Grant funding only	1	10%
Grant funding and other sources of funding, for example Housing Revenue Account / Other external sources of funding	4	40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Of the 3 activities funded through core budget and other sources, grants contribute towards 3/3 (100%) of these activities.

Grants therefore contribute towards 8/10 (80%) of these activities.

**OBJECTIVE 4 – ECONOMY – PROMOTING OPPORTUNITIES TO DEVELOP THE ISLAND’S ECONOMY.**

<b>Activities funded by:</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Council core budget only	1	8%
Council core budget and other sources	6*	46%
Grant funding only	5	38%
Grant funding and other sources of funding, for example Housing Revenue Account / Other external sources of funding	1	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Of the 6 activities funded through core budget and other sources, grants contribute towards 4/6 (67%) of these activities.

Grants therefore contribute towards 10/13 (77%) of these activities.

**OBJECTIVE 5 – CLIMATE – PRIORITISING THE DECARBONISATION AGENDA ACROSS THE COUNCIL**

<b>Activities funded by:</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Council core budget only	1	14%
Council core budget and other sources	5*	72%
Grant funding and other sources of funding, for example Housing Revenue Account / Other external sources of funding	1	14%
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Of the 5 activities funded through core budget and other sources, grants contribute towards 5/5 (100%) of these activities.

Grants therefore contribute towards 6/7 (86%) of these activities.

**OBJECTIVE 6 – WELSH**

<b>Activities funded by:</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Council core budget only	2	40%
Council core budget and other sources	2*	40%
Grant Funding Only	1	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>100%</b>

\*Of the 2 activities funded through core budget and other sources, grants contribute towards 2/2 (100%) of these activities.

Grants therefore contribute towards 3/5 (60%) of these activities.

**CONCLUSION**

Whilst the Council's core funding contributes towards most (72%) of the activities identified within the Council Plan, grant funding also contributes towards a significant amount of them (79%). Grant funding is usually provided for a specific period. As a result, there is no certainty that the funding will continue beyond that specific period. This highlights the risk of the sources funding some of the activities (fully or partly) to come to an end, which could affect the council's ability to achieve some of the identified objectives.

The percentage of activities funded (partly or fully) by grant ranges between 60% and 92% per objective.

The objectives with most activities funded by grants are:

Objective 1 – Social Care and wellbeing – Grant funding contributes towards 92% of activities, with 23% of activities funded by grants alone.

Objective 4 – Economy – Grant funding contributes towards 77% of activities, with 38% of activities funded by grants alone.

Objective 5 – Climate – Grant funding contributes towards 86% of activities.

**APPENDIX 1**

These are **examples** of the types of grants which have been identified, which will support the realisation of some of the objectives (this is not a complete list):

- Regional Integration Fund towards Health and Social Care
- Area Schools
- Food Poverty
- Warm Spaces
- Winter Fuel
- Cost of Living
- Free School Meals
- Age Friendly Communities
- Housing with Care Fund
- Loneliness and Separation Fund
- Respite Fund
- Youth Homelessness
- Community Safety Grant
- Safe Streets
- TRAC
- Mon Ymlaen CRF
- Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing
- Sustainable Communities for Learning
- Local Authority Education Grant
- Capital Repair and Maintenance – Schools
- Post 16
- Trochi
- Social Housing
- Houses into Homes
- Home Office
- Sustainable Waste Management
- Circular Economy
- Water Management Act
- Transport Grants
- Major Repairs Allowance
- Education Improvement Grant
- Arfor 2