

# 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  
Swyddfeydd y Cyngor - Council Offices  
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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 MAWRTH, 28 CHWEFROR, 2023 am 2:00 y. p.</b>	<b>TUESDAY, 28 FEBRUARY 2023 at 2.00 pm</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 - 14)**

To present the minutes of the previous meetings of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee held on the following date and times –

- 19 January, 2023 (morning)
- 19 January, 2023 (afternoon)

### **3 BUDGET SETTING 2023/24 - FINAL DRAFT REVENUE BUDGET PROPOSALS** (Pages 15 - 34)

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

### **4 BUDGET SETTING 2023/24 - FINAL DRAFT CAPITAL BUDGET PROPOSALS** (Pages 35 - 50)

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

### **5 FINANCE SCRUTINY PANEL PROGRESS REPORT**

Chair of the Finance Scrutiny Panel to report.

### **6 COUNCIL PLAN 2023-28 (Pages 51 - 82)**

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

### **7 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 83 - 90)**

To present the report of the Scrutiny Manager.

## **CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

### **Minutes of the hybrid meeting held on 19 January, 2023 (A.M.)**

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

Councillors Neville Evans, Douglas Fowle, Jackie Lewis, Llio A. Owen, Dafydd Roberts, Keith Roberts, Alwen Watkin, Arfon Wyn

#### **Portfolio Members**

Councillors Llinos Medi (Leader of the Council), Carwyn Jones (Portfolio Member for Economic Development, Leisure and Tourism), Gary Pritchard (Portfolio Member for Children – Social Services and Youth Services), Alun Roberts (Portfolio Member for Adults’ Services – Social Services), Nicola Roberts (Portfolio Member for Planning, Public Protection and Climate Change), Dafydd Rhys Thomas (Portfolio Member for Highways, Waste and Property), Ieuan Williams (Portfolio Member for Education and the Welsh Language), Robin Williams (Portfolio Member for Finance, Corporate Business and Customer Experience).

#### **Members of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee and Other Members of the Council (by invitation)**

Councillors Non Dafydd, Jeff Evans, Trefor Lloyd Hughes, MBE, Gwilym O. Jones, Euryrn Morris, Pip O’Neill, Derek Owen, Dylan Rees, Margaret Roberts, Ken Taylor

**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 Democracy (DS)  
Head of Profession (HR) and Transformation  
Programme, Business Planning and Performance Manager (GM)  
Scrutiny Manager (AGD)  
Committee Officer (ATH)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Geraint Bebb, Aled M. Jones  
Councillors Glyn Haynes, John I Jones, Liz Wood (invitees)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mr Rhys Davies and Mrs Sharon Warnes (Members of the Standards Committee) (present as observers), Bethan H. Owen (Accountancy Services Manager)

## **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 22 November, 2022 were presented and were confirmed as correct.

## **3 BUDGET SETTING 2023/24 (REVENUE BUDGET) – INITIAL DRAFT PROPOSALS**

The report of the Scrutiny Manager was presented for the Committee's consideration. The report outlined the context to the 2023/24 Budget setting process along with the key issues and questions for Scrutiny in evaluating the Executive's initial revenue budget proposals. The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer to be presented to the 24 January, 2023 meeting of the Executive setting out the provisional revenue budget for 2023/24 was attached at Appendix 1.

Councillor Robin Williams, Portfolio Member for Finance, Corporate Business and Customer Satisfaction in presenting the initial budget proposals for 2023/24 reported that the proposed budget of £171.438m represents an increase of in the region of £14m on the previous year's budget with inflation being the primary factor and an ongoing challenge for the Council and residents alike. Although the provisional funding settlement for local government announced by Welsh Government on 14 December, 2022 was better than anticipated for Anglesey, there remains a funding gap of £5.396m (before any changes in Council Tax) in 2023/24. A number of options to bridge the gap were considered in reaching the proposed budget taking 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 which is an approach generally endorsed by the outcome of the public consultation reported on separately to this meeting. Funding the deficit through the Council Tax alone would mean raising the Council Tax by 12%. 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. It is estimated that the Council will have around £14m in reserves at the end of the current financial year of which £9m will be retained in line with the Council's general policy of holding 5% of the net revenue budget as a minimum level of general balances which leaves £5m which could be used to make up the funding shortfall. Whilst that is an option, given that the financial projections for 2024/25 and 2025/26 are not encouraging it is considered that it would be imprudent to fully utilise the available reserves in 2023/24 and instead to draw on only part of the reserves to balance the 2023/24 budget. The budget that is being proposed therefore combines savings of £1.393m, the use of £1.758m of Council reserves and a 5% increase in Council Tax. It is also proposed that the second homes premium be increased from 50% to 75% in line with the Executive's policy of incrementally increasing the charge over time. Despite the proposed increase in Council Tax, Anglesey's council tax remains among the lowest in Wales and based on information to date, will be the lowest in North Wales in 2023/24.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer confirmed that although the financial position is much improved to that forecast in the Medium Term Financial Plan back in September, 2022, there remain a number of financial risks which are not covered or only partially addressed by the budget predominantly with regard to inflation and its potential impact on pay awards and other Council costs. These are outlined in section 6 of the report. Local Government staff have come to an agreement on the 2022/23 pay offer which may ease the pressure on the 2023/24 pay claim. While any increase above the 3.5% provided for in the provisional budget would have to be funded from Council reserves putting a higher provision in the budget would in turn necessitate a higher Council Tax increase. Other risks

relate to the cost of living crisis which could lead to increased demand for the Council's services in 2023/24 as well as a possible reduction in the Council's income from leisure services and/or Council car parks as people cut back on discretionary spending. With regard to reserves any overspends in 2022/23 or 2023/24 will further reduce the Council's general balances. The Section 151 Officer confirmed that in his professional opinion the proposed budget represents a fair reflection of the costs facing the Council in 2023/24 and meets the statutory requirement in being a balanced budget.

Councillor Dafydd Roberts, Chair of the Finance Scrutiny Panel confirmed that the Panel met on 12 January, 2023 to consider the proposals and that the Panel found the assumptions made to be sound, that the steps to make up the shortfall would avoid further cuts to services and that the proposed budget overall was fair.

In considering the initial budget proposals, the following issues were discussed by the Committee –

- Whether the proposals respond adequately to service pressures and challenges.

The Committee was advised that the draft budget includes increased provision for Children, Adults and Homelessness services as the areas experiencing the greatest demand led pressures. While the exact level of demand cannot be predicted, the budget represents the best assessment of the resources required to meet the Council's costs and what is considered might be the increase in demand.

- The ways in which the proposals might detrimentally affect Anglesey's citizens or any protected groups and whether any steps can be taken to mitigate the impact.

The Committee was advised that the 2022/23 budget included an investment of £700k in education services; the service has not implemented the plans relating to this funding and the additional investment is being postponed until such time as the financial situation improves and the investment is affordable. The inflationary increase in the schools budget is also being capped to 10%; however, it is not envisaged that these proposals will affect any particular group. Likewise, the remainder of the budget funds the services provided currently including those provided for the most vulnerable groups within the Island's communities. The Executive is keenly aware of the impact the cost of living crisis is having on communities and that crafting the budget is a balancing act, and while no specific group(s) may be adversely impacted by the budget proposals, the Executive and Officers alike are mindful of the current crisis.

- Whether the inflationary cap on the schools budget which is tantamount to a cut will be a matter of concern to schools and the Learning Service.

The Committee was advised that the proposals will be considered by the Schools Forum in February. It should however be noted that the Schools Budget is being increased by £4.3m or 10.3%. Funding the teachers 2022/23 pay award is also still under discussion given that it was higher than the provision made in the budget. It is likely that the extra cost for the teachers' pay award will be funded from the Council's central budget rather than from the schools' budget meaning that schools will be £1m better off this year even though the inflationary increase is being capped next year. The impact of the cap on schools will vary depending on the level of reserves each school holds. The draft figures have been forwarded to each school and are in the process of being reviewed with head teachers before each school sets its budget for 2023/24.

The Committee was also reminded that the schools' budget has been protected for many years; schools have also built up their reserves in recent years and are required to show that they have plans for spending the surplus so it is expected that they will be drawing on those reserves in the coming year to fund any shortfall.

- The importance of grant funding and the consequences were one or more grants to be withdrawn or the Council was unsuccessful in its bid for grant funding.

The Committee was advised that the primary source of additional grant funding is Welsh Government and that some of the grants from Welsh Government are awarded annually – for education, housing and waste management which makes it difficult to differentiate within those services what is funded from grants and what is funded from the Council's core budget so if the grant is reduced it becomes difficult to reduce the service. Other grant funding comes in the form of specific grants which are earmarked for specific activity and are usually time limited which makes service and workforce planning around those grants easier. Some of these grants are allocated competitively with no guarantee of success; when those grants end then so does the service/project.

- The use of £172.438m from the Council's general reserves to balance the 2023/24 budget and how this might appear to the public.

The Committee was advised that the Council's current level of unallocated general balances is forecast 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 which for 2023/24 would be £8.7m leaving a potential £5.5m available to help fund the revenue budget over the next two to three years. While the £5.5m could be used in total to fund the budget shortfall in 2023/24, this would create a financial risk to the Council and could lead to future financial difficulties should it be necessary to fund any significant unexpected expenditure or fund future revenue overspending. Having a sufficient level of reserves is considered a key element of financial resilience and stability.

- The affordability of a Council Tax rise for those on low incomes and the means by which the Council publicises the help available in such cases

The Committee was advised that the budget allocates funding for the Council Tax Reduction scheme which is publicised on the Council's website, through the J.E. O'Toole Centre in Holyhead and other welfare advice organisations such the Citizen's Advice.

- Whether the proposed increase in the second homes premium from 50% to 75% is a fair increase and how can the Council ensure that the income from this source remains sustainable

*(The Chief Executive declared a personal and prejudicial interest at this point and withdrew from the meeting)*

The Committee was provided with background information about the second homes premium on Anglesey which has increased incrementally since it was first approved and set at 25% of the level of Council Tax. As the premium has risen to its current level of 50% so has the number of second homes transferring to business rates and although the number of second homes did reduce for a period it has since risen to 2,700. The number has levelled off since the premium rose to 50% and the rules for transferring to business rates were tightened. The aim is to be fair to second homeowners while still trying to make an impact in terms of managing the issue. Too steep or sudden an increase in the premium might prompt second homeowners to seek to avoid paying the premium altogether for example by declaring their second home as their main residence.

Other Members of the Council who had been invited to the meeting were given an opportunity to express their views on the budget proposals. Councillor Jeff Evans, a member of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee spoke about his experience of working with vulnerable and disadvantaged people on the Island over many years. Referring to the cost of living crisis he said he thought the proposed 5% Council Tax increase too high and unacceptable and that for many people who are struggling the £1.32 weekly increase this would entail for a Band D property represents the cost of a pint of milk. He also thought

the 3.5% pay provision unrealistic in the circumstances with many public sector workers striking for more pay to keep up with inflation. He suggested that the Council's reserves should be utilised to a greater extent than that proposed in order to reduce the Council Tax increase to 3.5% or 4%.

Councillor Gary Pritchard, Portfolio Member for Children (Social Services) and Youth Services said that while safeguarding the vulnerable is a concern for everyone, increasing Council Tax will ensure that services which the vulnerable rely on are maintained. Should the final settlement allow a reduced increase in Council Tax, then that will be considered.

Reference was also made to the successful bid to regenerate Holyhead Town Centre under the auspices of the UK Levelling-Up Fund, and the capacity of the Economic Development Service to deliver the work in terms of resources and time were discussed.

Having considered the draft revenue budget proposals for 2023/24 and having questioned the Portfolio Members and Officers on their impact and implications, members of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee were satisfied that the proposals were fair and reasonable and struck an acceptable balance between raising Council Tax, implementing savings and making use of the Council's reserves

**It was subsequently resolved to recommend the 2023/24 draft budget proposals comprising of a budget of £172.438m to include a Council Tax increase of 5%, use of £1.758m from the general balances and an increase in the premium on second homes from 50% to 75% to the Executive as fair and reasonable thereby supporting the County Council to set a balanced budget.**

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

Councillor Dafydd Roberts, Chair of the Finance Scrutiny Panel reported on the outcome of the Panel's 12 January, 2023 meeting as referred to in the narrative on item 3 above.

#### **5 THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2023-2028**

The report of the Head of Profession (HR) and Transformation setting out the outcome of the process of engagement and resident response to the consultation on the strategic priorities outlined in the draft Council Plan 2023-28 was presented for the Committee's consideration.

Councillor Robin Williams, Portfolio Member for Finance, Corporate Business and Customer Satisfaction presented the report which represented the culmination of an engagement and consultation exercise with staff, residents, partners and stakeholders which has been ongoing since the start of the 2022 calendar year when the Council carried out its initial engagement exercise between February and March, 2022. The aim was to gain an understanding of what the residents of Anglesey hoped to see as the focus of the Council Plan for the forthcoming 5 year period. The results of this engagement and subsequent development work identified six strategic priorities which were then consulted upon from 20 September, to 14 November, 2022. The response rate provides the Council with a 95% confidence level in the findings with more than 8 out of every 10 respondents being in agreement with the draft strategic priorities.

The Programme, Business Planning and Performance Manager said that the in excess of 2,500 responses across the year testified to the engagement and consultation approach having been comprehensive and effective in engendering a response from the Island's residents.

In the subsequent discussion the following matters were discussed by the Committee -

- Whether assurance can be offered that the consultation and engagement process is inclusive and meets the statutory requirements.

The Committee was advised that the outcome reflects the work undertaken by the Council with regard to consultation and engagement over the course of recent years which has recognised the importance of giving people a voice in the Council's decision making process. It has been structured and put in place following the establishment of a Corporate Consultation and Engagement Board some years ago with Medrwn Môn and is also the result of the work on the previous Council Plan and it sits comfortably with the sustainable development principle of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act which emphasises the importance of including the public in the decisions of the Council. It is also linked to the work undertaken as part of Place Shaping and the community hubs. The report shows that the Council has created the environment in which people are willing to participate. To ensure as much inclusivity as possible multiple means of engagement were adopted including online and digital, face to face and by distributing paper copies of the survey including an easy to read version to Council establishments, with the process being publicised through social media, press releases, radio and e-mails directly to partners.

- The extent to which the proposed strategic priorities remain relevant and achievable.

The Committee was advised that the process has shown the priorities to be relevant as actions that support both the Council's statutory duties and its aspirations for the Island. Whether they are all achievable over the five year course of the Plan is more difficult to answer with certainty given that circumstances can change rapidly. However a significant amount of work is going on in the background including challenge from Officers and Executive members so that assurance can be provided that areas for action to be identified will take the Council forward to achieving those priorities as well as helping create action plans and a reporting and monitoring framework that dovetail with the Council's performance management methods so that progress can be tracked and additional and/or different actions taken if necessary.

- The means by which the Council ensures joint planning and alignment between the Medium Term Financial Plan and the realisation of the strategic priorities over the next five years.

The Committee was advised that trying to plan the Council's finances over the course of a five year period when the Council does not know how much funding it will receive in 2024/25 is challenging. The MTFP is reviewed and updated annually to monitor how it fits in with the delivery of the Council Plan and priorities, and where possible funding will be allocated to ensure those priorities are realised. Another key document in the delivery of the strategic priorities is the Capital Strategy. The Capital funding position is tighter than that of revenue in terms of the resources available to allow the Council to do what it wants and capital resources now also purchase less having not kept up with costs.

- The key risks which the Council faces going forward.

The Committee was advised that being able to respond to demand and achieve everything that it wants to will be challenging. The Council Plan aims to provide a clear direction for the Council over the next five years but its realisation is dependent on the availability of resources which makes the annual financial processes all the more important in terms of ensuring resources are directed to the right places thereby making the most of opportunities as well as mitigating some of the risks. One of the main risks is the demand for services particularly in the context of an ageing population; another is the uncertainty about funding across the public sector and whether the funding the Council receives will be sufficient to enable it to continue to meet its statutory duties. The



uncertainly around long term funding is also a risk and a barrier to effective planning. However the Annual Delivery Document sets out what the Council intends to achieve each year of the five year Council Plan and is a reflection of how well the Council is delivering progress against its priorities.

**Having received further clarification about the conduct of the engagement and consultation process and having been satisfied as to the appropriateness of the strategic priorities the Committee resolved to recommend to the Executive –**

- **That the engagement and consultation process has been undertaken as comprehensively as possible during 2022.**
- **That the draft strategic priorities for the forthcoming Council Plan 2023-2 still hold firm following the engagement and consultation process.**

**Councillor R. Llewelyn Jones  
Chair**

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# CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

## Minutes of the hybrid meeting held on 19 January 2023

- PRESENT:** Councillor Robert Llewelyn Jones (Chair)  
Councillor Dyfed Wyn Jones (Vice-Chair)
- Councillors Geraint Bebb, Neville Evans, Douglas M Fowlie, Jackie Lewis, Llio A Owen, Dafydd Roberts, Keith Roberts, Alwen Watkin.
- Co-Opted Member – Mr John Tierney (The Catholic Church)
- Portfolio Members**
- Councillors Alun Roberts (Portfolio Member for Adults' Services – Social Services); Gary Pritchard (Portfolio Member for Children's Services – Social Services and Youth Services), Nicola Roberts (Portfolio Member for Planning, Public Protection and Climate Change), Ieuan Williams (Portfolio Member for Education and the Welsh Language), Robin Williams (Portfolio Member for Finance, Corporate Business and Customer Experience).
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive,  
Director of Social Services,  
Head of Adults' Services,  
Head of Democracy,  
Scrutiny Manager (AGD),  
Committee Officer (MEH).
- ALSO PRESENT:** Mr John R Jones (Chair of the Standards Committee) and Mrs Gill Murgatroyd (Member of the Standards Committee) (present as observers).
- APOLOGIES:** Councillor Aled M Jones
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### 1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None received.

### 2 CARE INSPECTORATE WALES: REPORT FOLLOWING THE INSPECTION OF THE ISLE OF ANGLESEY SOCIAL SERVICES - PERFORMANCE EVALUATION INSPECTION

The report of the Director of Social Services and Head of Adults' Services incorporating the Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) Report following the recent

inspection of Social Services – Performance Evaluation Inspection (PEI) was presented for the Committee’s consideration.

The Portfolio Member for Children’s Services (Social Services) and Youth Services in presenting the report said that the Social Services Departments, both Children and Families and Adults Services were inspected by Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) on the 10<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> October, 2022, as part of their routine Performance Evaluation Review Inspection (PEI). He noted that the report is to be welcomed as CIW identified areas of strength, good practice and service development and did not highlight any areas of significant risk or safeguarding matters. CIW has identified that the Authority demonstrated a strong enthusiasm and readiness to work with partner organisations and the third sector together with other services within the Council. He referred to the excellent work between the Social Services Department and the Housing Department as regards to the Cartrefi Clyd project. The Department also works closely with the Education Department as regards to the Hubs within the Secondary Schools. He further said that there is consistent, positive messages from the workforce regarding the quality of leadership and culture across both the children and adults’ services. He further noted that he was glad that CIW has recognised the political and corporate support the Social Services Department has received since 2016. In light of the financial challenges, it should be ensured that the support continues in order to further drive improvements across the children and adults’ services.

The Portfolio Member for Adults’ Services reiterated the comments made by the Portfolio Member for Children’s Services (Social Services) and Youth Services and welcomed the positive CIW report on the Social Services Department. He noted that this is the first time that there has been focus on the Adult’s Services which is to be welcomed. He wished to thank the staff of both the Children and Adult’s services for their work.

The Director of Social Services reported that he was appreciative that the CIW report was a positive report on both the Children and Adult’s services and especially during the immense pressure on the Care Sector, cost of living crisis and the pressure on the workforce to address these issues. He noted that there is an open and constructive relationship between the service and CIW with regular meetings held to discuss improvements within the service. He further said that whilst the report is positive there is continued work required by the service to address the needs of the residents of the Island and especially those with more complex needs within the Children and Adult’s service. Working in partnership with partner organisations and the third sector is paramount which has shown benefits to the vulnerable individuals on the Island. The Director of Social Services further reported that a Development Plan will be produced for both services which will be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee in due course.

In considering the Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) Report following the recent inspection of Social Services – Performance Evaluation Inspection (PEI) the Committee discussed the following:-

- **What plans are in place to monitor progress against the areas that need addressing?**

The Committee was advised that continued monitoring and auditing occurs within the Social Services Department and regular internal Team meetings are convened within both the Children's and Adults' Services to monitor data. It was noted that progress reports are submitted to the relevant Scrutiny Committee and the Social Services Improvement Panel which has a designated work programme. The Director of Social Services said that continued work will be required for improvements and development within the service so as to adapt to the changing needs of the residents. The Committee ascertain whether CIW will be revisiting the Authority to monitor the improvements as regards to their recommendations within the report. The Director of Social Services responded that there are regular meetings with CIW and they will be afforded the Development Plan to monitor the improvement within the service. The Chief Executive said that an Annual Meeting is convened with the Authority, CIW, Wales Audit Office and Estyn to monitor improvements and the regulators can see how the Authority react to the reviews and external recommendations.

- **Reference has been made that comments within the CIW report had regards some weaknesses in recording of meetings.**

The Committee was advised that whilst in some cases there was no record of an active service offer and that we need to enhance technology to evidence work undertaken. The Committee were assured that the matter will be reviewed so as to make sure that evidence based work is recorded and that staff are aware of the need to assure that there is a formal record of work undertaken.

- **Are good practices shared with other local authorities?**

The Committee was informed that both the Director of Social Services and the Head of Adults' Services are part of the Regional and National Social Services meetings and good practices are shared between the local authorities to develop skills. It was noted that the Cartrefi Clyd project has been of interest to other authorities. The Portfolio Members also attend meeting with other local authorities and the Health Authority to communicate good practices.

- **What are the main strengths, and how can we communicate these to celebrate the success?**

The Committee was advised that partnership working is paramount and the relationship with the Health Authority is vital together with voluntary organisations, third sector and the private care providers on the Island. The development of staff within the Authority is also paramount and it has been noted within CIW's report that staff are encouraged and supported with access to opportunities for professional development. The Authority has committed to promoting and sponsoring the training of Occupational Therapists and it is hoped that they return to work for the Authority thereafter. It was also said that joint working between the services of the Council has been imperative to the success of supporting residents of the Island. The Director of Social Services

said that the success of the Cartrefi Clyd project has been celebrated for the work achieved in allowing children in care being able to stay on the Island rather than having to be looked after in other locations. He said that work is being undertaken to promote the career paths within social services. He noted that he had recently attended a careers session in Coleg Menai to promote the careers possibilities within social services sector.

- **What are the risks to the Authority as regards to staff recruitment and retention?**

The Chief Executive said that staffing is the main risk as part of the corporate risk register and especially within the front line services of the Council when dealing with vulnerable people who do not have family support. He noted that the Council has a workforce planning procedure to attract staff and retain those staff within the services of the Authority. The Portfolio Member for Adults' Services said that the recruitment and retention within the Care Sector is a national problem. He noted that there is a need to develop the care sector for the future as there is an ageing population with more complex needs; Carers will also be required with expertise to address the needs of the vulnerable people with intense needs. Members of the Committee ascertain whether there was a professional balance of staff within both services within the Social Services Department. The Head of Adults' Services responded that the Authority has invested in training programmes for local people to enable them to take advantage of the opportunities within Social Services. He further noted that external employees can also bring positive good practice with them to improve the service.

- **What will be the role of the Social Services Scrutiny Panel, with this reassurance?**

The Committee were advised that the Social Services Scrutiny Panel was initially established to address the issues raised within the CIW Inspection report in 2016. It was noted that the role of the Panel is to challenge both the Children's and Families Service and the Adults' Services when reports and presentations are submitted to the Panel. The Director of Social Services said that there is also a Corporate Parenting Panel as which meets on a quarterly basis which focuses on the most vulnerable children in care.

The Committee wished to thank the staff of the Social Services Department for their work in attaining a very positive CIW report.

**It was RESOLVED to recommend to the Executive that the Care Inspectorate Wales Report be welcomed and to note the areas that needs to be addressed within the report.**

### **3 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The report of the Scrutiny Manager incorporating the Committee's updated Forward Work Programme for 2022/2023 was presented for the Committee's confirmation.

The Scrutiny Manager referred to the next meeting of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee to be held on 28 February, 2023. She noted that the Council's Plan for 2023 – 2028 will be included as an additional item for discussion at the next meeting.

**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 ROBERT LL JONES  
CHAIR**

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<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template</b>	
<b>Committee:</b>	Corporate Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date:</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> February, 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	2023/24 Budget Setting (Revenue)
<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	Scrutiny consideration of final draft 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
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<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 final 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 Council Plan and strategic priorities. The Committee’s consideration of the 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. To what degree does the Committee support Executive proposals to use funding released as a result of changes in levies and contributions to joint services, after the initial budget proposal was set, in setting the budget for 2023/24:
  - New schools' management information system – interim handover costs
  - Elections Act 2022 – additional staffing capacity
  - Member Support – additional administrative capacity
  - Economic Development – additional capacity to maximise grant funding opportunities
  - School Meals contract – fund increase in cost per meal (secondary sector) in order to avoid passing on the increase onto pupils
- iii. 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?
- iv. 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.

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

**1.3** In considering their response to the final draft 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 Transitional Plan.

## **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 final draft proposals for the 2023/24 budget (**APPENDIX 1**) which will be submitted to a meeting of the Executive on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2023. The paper provides a position statement on the following issues:

- The Executive's budget proposals
- Local Government 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.

## **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 gave further consideration to the budget proposals at its last meeting (15<sup>th</sup> February, 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 and any additional investment proposals. Input has also been received via the Finance Scrutiny Panel who have given detailed consideration to the budget proposals. At this stage in the process, the Corporate Scrutiny Committee is now requested to

agree a formal response to the Executive<sup>2</sup> on the Council's 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 final draft budget proposals and provide comments which the Executive can consider before agreeing its final draft budget proposals on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 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 final 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>2</sup> Meeting of the Executive to be convened on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2023

## ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>2 MARCH 2023</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY AND BUDGET 2023/24</b>
<b>PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S):</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR R 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
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<b>LOCAL MEMBERS:</b>	n/a

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

#### 1. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY AND 2022/23 REVENUE BUDGET

##### 1.1 Purpose

The Executive is required to agree a number of key matters in respect of the 2023/24 budget. This will then allow the final recommendations to be presented to the full Council at its meeting on 9 March 2023. The matters requiring agreement are:-

- The Council's Revenue Budget and resulting Council Tax for 2023/24;
- The Council's updated Medium Term Financial Strategy;
- The use of any one-off funds to support the budget.

##### 1.2 Summary

This paper shows the detailed revenue budget proposals requiring final review and agreement for 2023/24, and the resulting impact on the Isle of Anglesey County Council's revenue budget. These are matters for the Council to agree, and the Executive is asked to make final recommendations to the Council.

The paper also updates the Medium Term Financial Strategy, which provides a context for work on the Council's future budgets. However, it should be noted that a further report on the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy will be presented to the Executive later in the year, when further information on the economy and the proposed future local government financial settlement may be clearer.

#### 2. 2023/24 REVENUE BUDGET AND COUNCIL TAX RECOMMENDATIONS

The Executive is requested :-

- To agree the final details of the Council's proposed budget, as shown in Section 4 of Appendix 1 and Appendix 2;
- To note the Section 151 Officer's recommendation that the Council should maintain a minimum of £8.6m general balances;
- To note the comments made by the Section 151 Officer on the robustness of the estimates made, as set out in Section 5 of Appendix 1;

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To recommend a net budget for the County Council of £172.548m and resulting increase in the level of Council Tax of 5.00% (£68.40 – Band D) to the full Council, noting that a formal resolution, including the North Wales Police and Community Council precepts, will be presented to the Council on the 9 March 2023;</li> <li>• That any differences between the provisional settlement and the final settlement will be adjusted for by using the general contingency which is included in the 2023/24 budget, or by making a contribution to / from the Council's general reserves in order to set a balanced budget;</li> <li>• To authorise the Section 151 Officer to make such changes as may be necessary before the submission of the final proposals to the Council;</li> <li>• To agree that any unforeseen pressures on demand led budgets during the financial year will be able to draw upon funding from the general contingencies budget;</li> <li>• To request the Council to authorise the Executive to release up to £250k from general balances if the general contingencies budget is fully committed during the year;</li> <li>• To delegate to the Section 151 Officer the power to release funding from the general contingency up to £50k for any single item. Any item in excess of £50k not to be approved without the prior consent of the Executive;</li> <li>• To confirm that the level of Council Tax Premium for second homes increases to 75% and for empty homes remains at 100%.</li> </ul>		
<b>B - What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?</b>		
A number of options were considered following the issue of the initial budget proposals. The final budget proposals take account of the final local government settlement, views expressed during the consultation process and the views of the Scrutiny Committee.		
<b>C - Why is this a decision for the Executive?</b>		
The Council's Constitution requires the Executive to publish its final budget proposal prior to its consideration by the Council.		
<b>CH - Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?</b>		
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>D - Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?</b>		
N/A		
<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?	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.	The budget proposals have been subject to a consultation process, the details of which are included in the report. The Executive has considered the results of the consultation before agreeing the final budget proposal.

5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	Any proposals included in the final budget for 2023/24 will take into account the impact on any protected groups.
6	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.
7	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>DD - Who did you consult?</b>		<b>What did they say?</b>
1	<b>Chief Executive / Leadership Team (LT)</b> (mandatory)	The Chief Executive and Leadership Team have been part of the budget setting process throughout and are in agreement with the report and support the final budget proposal.
2	<b>Finance / Section 151</b> (mandatory)	N/A – this is the Section 151 Officer's report.
3	<b>Legal / Monitoring Officer</b> (mandatory)	The Monitoring Officer is part of the LT and, as such, the Officer's comments have been taken into account.
4	<b>Human Resources (HR)</b>	-
5	<b>Property</b>	-
6	<b>Information Communication Technology (ICT)</b>	-
7	<b>Scrutiny</b>	Final budget proposals were considered by the Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 28 February 2023. A verbal update on the outcome of the meeting will be provided to the Executive.
8	<b>Local Members</b>	The Council's budget is applicable to all Members and consultation has taken place throughout the budget setting process.
9	<b>Any external bodies / other/s</b>	See Section 2 of the report.
<b>F - Appendices:</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appendix 1 – Detailed report on the Budget Proposals</li> <li>• Appendix 2 – Summary of the Proposed Revenue Budget 2022/23 by Service</li> </ul>		
<b>FF - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial Budget Proposals for 2023/24 – Executive Committee – 24 January 2023</li> <li>• Initial Budget Proposals for 2022/23 – Corporate Scrutiny Committee – 19 January 2023</li> <li>• Medium Term Financial Plan for 2023/24 to 2024/25 – Executive Committee – 27 September 2022</li> </ul>		

## 1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1. The following report sets out the 2023/24 revenue budget proposals, and is one of a set of reports which provides an overall picture of the financial position of the Council and ensures that the Council funding is allocated to meet its priorities. The other reports in the set relate to the Council's Capital Programme and Capital Strategy, the Council's Treasury Management Strategy and Fees and Charges.
- 1.2. The revenue budget and the continued need to identify revenue savings has been driven by the Medium Term Financial Plan, as approved by the Executive Committee in September 2022, and can be summarised as follows:-

**Table 1**  
**Medium Term Financial Plan 2023/24 to 2024/25**

	2023/24 £'m	2024/25 £'m
Net Revenue Budget B/F	158.367	164.682
Budget Pressures and Inflation	18.147	8.003
<b>Revised Standstill Budget</b>	<b>176.514</b>	<b>172.685</b>
Aggregate External Finance (AEF) (assuming 3.6% rise in 2023/24 and 2.4% rise in 2024/25)	118.675	121.523
Council Tax (assuming 5% rise in 2023/24 & 2024/25)	46.007	48.307
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>164.682</b>	<b>169.830</b>
<b>Additional Funding Requirement / Savings Required</b>	<b>11.832</b>	<b>2.855</b>
<b>Main Assumptions</b>		
Pay Awards – Non Teaching	7.8%	3.0%
Pay Awards - Teaching	5.2%	3.2%
General Inflation	16.4%	1.8%
Note – The figures for 2023/24 allowed for a correction of the base budget due to an under provision for pay and price inflation in 2022/23 budget.		

- 1.3. Given that the rate of inflation was significantly higher than normal, energy prices had not been received for the forthcoming year and that pay increases for 2022/23 had not been settled when the MTFP was drawn up, there was a significant risk that the funding gap could have been even higher than the figures shown in the MTFP.
- 1.4. In drawing up the initial budget proposal, the 2022/23 pay award had been settled, inflation had begun to show signs that it had peaked and the new energy prices for the year October 2022 to September 2023 had been received. This allowed for more certainty around the base budget.
- 1.5. The draft settlement figures from the Welsh Government were also better than forecast, with the Council receiving an increase of 7.9% compared to the 3.6% that was included in the MTFP.
- 1.6. However, despite these changes and that the funding gap was lower than forecast in the MTFP, it is still a challenging financial position for both 2023/24 and 2024/25, with costs still expected to rise due to inflation and increased demand, but little prospect that the funding from Welsh Government will be sufficient to cover all of these increases in costs.



## **2. THE INITIAL BUDGET PROPOSAL**

- 2.1.** At its meeting on 24 January 2023, the Executive discussed its original budget proposal and the provisional budget settlement which the Welsh Government had published on 14 December 2022.
- 2.2.** The provisional settlement was better than anticipated, and would provide the Council with £123.555m, which is an increase in cash terms of £9.004m (7.86%) but, after allowing for grants transferring into the settlement and the effect of the change in the Council's taxbase, the adjusted increase was £9.065m (7.92%).
- 2.3.** The Executive proposed a budget for 2023/24 of £172.438m and, given the provisional AEF of £123.555m, this would require an increase of 5.00% in Council Tax and the use of £1.758m of the Council's general balances to balance the budget.
- 2.4.** In setting the proposed budget, the Executive recognised the need to protect front line services and increasing budgets to meet an increased demand in Adult and Children's services and homelessness prevention.
- 2.5.** The budget proposal reversed £700k of investment in Education, which had been included in the 2022/23 budget, and capped the inflation increase in the Schools' delegated budget by 1% (£471k). These changes, along with an increase of £169k in the Highways income budget was sufficient to result in a budget that matched the net expenditure to the available funding.
- 2.6.** Although not intended as a measure of what the Council's net revenue budget should be, the Standard Spending Assessment (SSA) does give some indication as to whether the Council's budget is at a reasonable level for the Council. The SSA for 2023/24 is £169.406m and the proposed budget is, therefore, 101.8% of the SSA.

## **3. SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

- 3.1.** Due to the delays in receiving the provisional and final settlement, the budget timetable for 2023/24 has had to be condensed in order to ensure that the Council is in a position to set the Council Tax within the timeframe set out in the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (Section 30(6)). The Finance Scrutiny Panel also examined in detail the service investment proposals at its meeting on 12 January 2023, and the Panel's comments were reported to the Corporate Scrutiny Committee meeting on 19 January 2023.
- 3.2.** The 2023/24 initial budget proposal was considered by the Finance Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 19 January 2023. The Committee resolved to support the Executive's initial budget proposal.
- 3.3.** The final budget proposal was given further consideration by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee at its meeting of 28 February 2023, and a verbal report on the Committee's deliberations will be presented to the Executive at the Committee meeting.

## **4. FINAL BUDGET PROPOSAL**

- 4.1.** In drawing up the initial budget proposal, the Council was awaiting the final budget decision in respect of levying bodies and other organisations which receive contribution from the Council. The impact on the Council's budget of the adjustments resulting from a finalisation of the decisions are shown in Table 2 below.
- 4.2.** In addition, one change has been made to the final settlement from Welsh Government, compared to the draft settlement. A grant to assist the North Wales Fire Authority to meet increased pension costs has been transferred into the settlement. The Fire Authority has increased their levy by a similar amount, resulting in a zero net effect on the Council's budget.

**Table 2**  
**Revised Council Net Revenue Budget**

	£m	£m
<b>Initial Proposed Net Revenue Budget 2023/24</b>		<b>172.438</b>
<b>Adjustments</b>		
Reduction in proposed Fire Authority Levy increase from 13.4% to 9.9%	(0.131)	
Increase in Fire Authority Levy to reflect the grant transferred into the final settlement	0.108	
Increase in the CJC levy to reflect the final decision of the CJC	0.012	
Increase in the Tywyn Trewan Levy	0.010	
Increase in the contribution to the NWEAB to reflect the final budget	0.011	
Decrease in the contribution to GwE to reflect the final budget	(0.061)	
Decrease in the contribution to the North Wales Emergency Planning Team to reflect the final budget	(0.021)	
Other Minor Adjustments	(0.017)	<b>(0.089)</b>
<b>Revised Net Revenue Budget 2023/24</b>		<b>172.349</b>
<b>Funded by</b>		
Aggregate External Finance	123.663	
Council Tax (including 2 <sup>nd</sup> Home and Empty Home Premium)	47.124	
Reserves	1.759	
<b>Revised Funding 2023/24</b>		<b>172.546</b>
<b>Excess of Funding over Net Revenue Budget</b>		<b>0.197</b>

- 4.3. The Executive considered three options in order to match the revised funding with the net revenue budget:-
- Reduce the use of reserves by £197k to £1.562m;
  - Reduce the rise in Council Tax to 4.56%. This would change the Band D Council Tax charge to £1,429.83, which is £6.03 lower than the initial budget proposal;
  - Increase the net revenue budget by £190k, by providing additional resources to meet urgent priorities identified since the initial budget proposal was agreed.
- 4.4. Prior to finalising the budget, a review was undertaken to identify any priority areas which required additional funding to that proposed in the initial budget proposal. Following that review, the Executive has agreed to include the following additional budgets into the final budget proposal.
- The Education Service has procured a new schools management information system, in a joint procurement process with the 5 other North Wales authorities. The annual licence fee for the new system is around £30k less than the cost of the current system. However, for 2023/24 it will be necessary to run both systems in parallel and, as a result, it is necessary to add an additional £44k to the software budget.
  - The new Elections Act 2022 places a number of additional duties on the Council which will require additional staffing capacity to undertake. As a result, one additional post is to be added to the staffing structure of the Elections Team at an additional cost of £34k, which is net of grant funding that is received from the UK Government.

- There has been concern for some time that the level of administrative support for Elected Members is insufficient to enable them to undertake all their duties and responsibilities effectively. The Members Support Team is a very small team and difficulties arise when staff are absent due to leave or sickness. One additional post is proposed to provide a greater level of support and to improve the resilience of the Team. The additional cost of the post is £42k.
- Changes to the grant funding regime following the UK's departure from the European Union has resulted in an increased input required by the Council in schemes such as the Shared Prosperity Fund and the Levelling Up Fund. The changes have also created an opportunity to attract more grant funding to Anglesey and this, along with other economic development opportunities e.g. the development of a Freeport, will require additional economic development capacity to ensure that the maximum benefit is realised. It is therefore proposed to increase the economic development team at a cost of £69k.
- The Council's school meals catering contractor had hoped to maintain prices at the current level until September 2023, but recent rises in respect of food, energy and staff pay have resulted in the agreed cost per meal rising by over 10%, this takes the cost of a meal in a secondary school from £2.60 to £2.88. The Executive has agreed not to pass on the increased cost to pupils and to have further discussions with the catering contractor prior to deciding on the price charged from September 2023 onwards. The additional cost will then fall on the Service and, as a result, an increase of £29k is required to meet this additional cost.

4.5. The net effect of these proposals is to increase the net revenue budget by £218k, which is £21k higher than the funding available. The additional cost would be funded by increasing the use of general balances from £1,759k to £1,780k.

## 5. ROBUSTNESS OF ESTIMATES

5.1. Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 requires the Chief Finance Officer to report on the robustness of budget estimates and the adequacy of the proposed financial reserves.

5.2. Budget estimates are based on assumptions of future expenditure and income and contain an element of assumption risk. The impact of this risk can be mitigated through contingency plans, contingency budgets and financial reserves.

5.3. The robustness of budget estimates is not simply a question of whether they are correctly calculated. In practice, many budgets are based on estimates or forecasts, and there may be an element of risk as to whether plans will be delivered or targets achieved. Different risks to the budget are considered in turn below:-

- **Inflation Risk** – When inflation levels are low and the overall movement in the inflation rate is small, then the inflation risk is low, as has been the case for a number of years. However, there is a greater level of uncertainty surrounding pay and price inflation in 2023/24, and this significantly increases the risk. The general measure of inflation (CPI) peaked in December 2022, and has begun to fall during the first quarter of 2023, however, there is a great deal of uncertainty as to how quickly it will fall, with the optimistic forecast show it will fall to around 2% by the end of 2023, whilst the more pessimistic forecasts showing that it will be around 8% by the end of 2023. In addition, the inflation for some types of expenditure may remain higher than this (food, energy, building materials) and the actual inflation faced by the Council may differ greatly from the CPI figure. To some extent, the Council is protected from this risk because a majority of our larger contracts (school meals, highway maintenance, refuse collection etc.) use inflation indices from September, October or November 2022 to determine the inflation for 2023/24. Given that these figures are known, they have been built into the proposed budget for 2023/24.

- **Pay Inflation** - Pay is the Council's largest cost, and the pay award for non-teaching staff for 2023/24 has yet to be agreed. The Unions have submitted a pay claim of RPI + 2% (equates to around 15%). The budget proposal allows for an increase of 3.5% for 2023/24. Any award above these figures would have to be funded from the Council's reserves, with each 1% increase adding around £600k to the Council's pay bill. The teachers' pay award up to September 2023 has been set and paid (5%), a further offer taking the pay award to 6.5% has been made by Welsh Government. The Welsh Government has also announced an indicative pay rise of 3.5% for teachers from September 2023 and this has been allowed for in the budget although, again, there is a risk that this will not be accepted by the teaching unions.
- **Interest Rate Risk** - Interest rates affect a single year's revenue budget through the interest earned - i.e. an interest rate rise is beneficial. The Authority's Treasury Management Strategy requires investments to be made on the grounds of security and liquidity of the investment as the first consideration, with investment returns being a lower priority, therefore, the budget is not reliant on high investment returns. Interest rates have risen significantly in the past 12 months, with the Council now receiving over 3% on its investments. In setting the budget, an estimate of the interest receivable has been factored into the budget, but there is a risk that the budget will not be achieved if interest rates begin to fall quickly or if the funds available to be invested are lower than forecast. The majority of the interest paid by the Council relates to fixed rate loans which will not change should the interest rate rise. Therefore, the interest rate risk is considered low and, as in previous years, this is a compensating risk for inflation risk, because if one increases, the other is likely to increase also.
- **Grants Risk** - These are risks attached to the large number of specific grants from WG, or other bodies which support a good proportion of Council spending. The final settlement indicates that the majority of the grants received from Welsh Government will increase or remain at the 2022/23 level, which significantly reduces the Council's risk. Whilst the immediate response is to say that when the grant ceases, so must the associated expenditure, there is a risk that this may not always be possible. It may not be possible when contract terms mean the expenditure cannot be cut as quickly as the income, or it involves unfunded severance costs. It may not be possible if the activity funded turns out to be so important to the delivery of the Council's own priorities that the Council decided it must continue the expenditure. Efforts to mitigate this risk are to ensure we have the best information available on each grant, but significant changes during the year cannot be entirely ruled out.
- **Income Risks** – The budget is based on securing an overall 3% increase in fees, and a number of services have assumed rises up to 3%. If the elasticity of demand for Council Services is such that volume falls, and income targets are not achieved, that may cause overspending on net budgets. The cost of living crisis may have an impact on the income generated from services such as leisure, car parking, planning and building regulations, where users may choose to reduce their expenditure on these non-essential services. This will require close monitoring of the net budget position and, if necessary, cutting back on spending to match reduced income.

- **Demand Risk** – A number of services can experience a change in the demand for its services. Some can be predicted and taken into account when setting the budget e.g. changes in pupil numbers. Others are more difficult to predict and a small increase in numbers can have a significant impact on costs. The budget allows for providing the service at current levels, with increases in demand covered by the Council's general balances or, in some cases, earmarked reserves. Allowance has been made in the 2023/24 budget for the current level of service demand for social care and homelessness prevention, although there is a risk of the increase in demand continuing in 2023/24 above what has been allowed for in the budget. This would result in an overspend in those services affected, which would have to be funded from the Council's general reserves and balances.
- **Optimum Risk** – In previous years, probably the greatest risk in current circumstances is that the Authority, Members and Officers have been over-optimistic in the savings that will be achieved or that demand for services, particularly social care, will not increase significantly. For 2023/24, there are no savings proposed and, as such, this risk is not applicable to the 2023/24 budget but the demand risk is still applicable (see above).
- **Over-caution Risk** – This is the opposite of optimum risk: the danger that our budgets have been drawn up with too much caution and, so, are more than is required, and this would result in the Council Tax being set at a level that is higher than required, which is something that Members are keen to avoid. The Section 151 Officer is satisfied with the budget setting process and that the budget set is a fair assessment of the resources required by each service, based on the relevant factors as they stand at the moment.
- **Council Tax Premium** – In setting the taxbase, it is accepted that the number of empty properties and second homes can change during the year and, as such, only 80% of eligible properties are included in the taxbase. This protects the Council's budget should there be a significant drop in numbers. However, it should be noted that the number of empty properties used in the taxbase calculation rose from 324 properties in October 2021 to 334 properties in October 2022, and the number of second homes rose from 2,149 to 2,180 over the same period, even though the second home premium rose from 35% to 50%. The change in the level of the second home premium from 50% to 75% presents a significant risk in 2023/24. The increase may encourage second home owners to sell or let their property i.e. one of the intended purposes of increasing the premium, however, it may encourage a greater amount of non payment or avoidance by transferring to business rates or by other avoidance means. To mitigate the risk, additional staff will be employed to identify tax avoidance and minimise the amount of the premium lost as a result. As the Executive has committed to using all of the additional premium to address the issues caused by high numbers of second homes on Anglesey, any significant reduction in income would result in a reduction in the funding available for these initiatives in future years.

**Council Tax Income** – The Council Tax income budget is based on the taxbase calculation as at November of the previous financial year. The taxbase changes constantly during the year, as new properties are included and exemptions and single person discounts are granted. These changes cannot be estimated and, invariably, lead to a difference between the actual debit raised and the budget. The changes in the thresholds for self catering properties to register for Council Tax has started to see a number of self catering properties transferring back to the Council Tax register, but there is a risk that the owners will achieve the new higher thresholds during the forthcoming year, which will allow them to transfer back to the Business Rates register.

The cost of living crisis may also impact on the Council's collection rate, as more households struggle financially with rising costs. This may result in a financial loss in 2023/24 or future years, when uncollectable debts are eventually written off.

- 5.4. Having considered all the risks noted above and the mitigating actions, the Section 151 Officer is of the view that the budgets are robust and deliverable, and the Council's current healthy level of general balances and earmarked reserves provides sufficient mitigation against the risks identified.

## **6. GENERAL AND SPECIFIC RESERVES**

- 6.1. The proposed budget incorporates a number of assumptions in terms of likely levels of income and expenditure in future years. There are, therefore, inevitably a number of financial risks inherent in the proposed budget, which are set out in paragraph 5 above.
- 6.2. In terms of any contingencies and reserves, the Section 151 Officer needs to review these in their totality in conjunction with the base budget itself and the financial risks which face the Authority. In addition, the review should incorporate a medium term view, where needed, and should take into account key developments that may impact on the need and use of one off resources.
- 6.3. A robust view is being taken on managing budget risks and protecting the financial health of the Council at this time. This is particularly the case when one off funds need to be adequately protected to fund future strategic / transformational changes, as opposed to funding significant overspends on the base budget itself.
- 6.4. Account has been taken of the need to keep the immediate reductions in spending, and the resulting impact on services, to a minimum, but this must be balanced against the need to ensure the medium and long term financial stability of the Council, and for savings to be implemented over the coming years in a phased and structured way. In addition, there is always some risk of unforeseen items of expenditure or overspending because of a more general pressure on a service budget, and reserves must also be adequate to absorb these pressures.
- 6.5. As at 31 March 2022, the Council's general reserves stood at £12.278m, which is equivalent to 8.35% of the Council's net revenue budget for 2021/22, 11.75% if the delegated schools' budget is excluded. During the year, £0.5m was allocated to fund highway repairs and £1.073m was added to the delegated school's budget to fund additional pay costs, £4.139m has been transferred from service and other earmarked reserves. Therefore, the revised forecast level currently stands at £14.844m, although this assumes that there will be no over or underspend of the 2022/23 budget. After allowing for the use of £1.780m as funding for the 2023/24 revenue budget, the revised balance would fall to £13.064m, or 7.55% of the 2023/24 net revenue budget.
- 6.6. The transfer of earmarked reserves back to general balances, and the use of these reserves during the year, has reduced the balance from £24.46m at the beginning of 2022/23 down to a forecasted level of £9.973m at the end of the financial year.
- 6.7. School balances began the 2022/23 financial year at £7.83m, but are forecast to fall to £3.29m by the end of 2022/23, with a further £1.78m being used to balance individual school budgets in 2023/24.
- 6.8. The level of general balances is a matter for the Council to decide based on the recommendation of the Council's Section 151 Officer but, as a general rule, 5% of the net revenue budget is considered to be an acceptable level. It is a matter for debate whether the net revenue budget should exclude the delegated schools budget, as schools hold their own balances to meet unexpected costs. Based on the current financial situation, there is a high degree of confidence that the level of general balances will exceed 5% of the net revenue budget at the beginning of the 2022/23 financial year.
- 6.9. Having taken into consideration the level of the Council's general balances, school balances, earmarked reserves and contingency budgets, the Section 151 Officer is content that the Council's financial position is sufficiently robust to withstand any difficulties that may arise during 2023/24 if the proposed revenue budget is insufficient to meet the actual costs incurred by the Council during 2022/23.

## 7. COUNCIL TAX

- 7.1. The Council's Band D Council Tax charge for 2021/22 was £1,367.46, which was 18<sup>th</sup> from the 22 Authorities in Wales and is lower than the Welsh Average of £1,461. More importantly for Anglesey is the comparison to the 5 other North Wales authorities. This is shown in Table 3 below:-

**Table 3**  
**Comparison of Council Tax Band Charges for North Wales Authorities**

Authority	Band D Charge 2022/23 £	Amount Above / Below Anglesey £	Percentage Above / Below Anglesey %
Anglesey	1,367		
Gwynedd	1,527	+ 160	+ 11.7%
Conwy	1,438	+ 71	+ 5.2%
Denbighshire	1,479	+ 112	+ 8.2%
Flintshire	1,450	+ 83	+ 6.1%
Wrexham	1,372	+ 5	+ 0.4%

- 7.2. The Council Tax budget for 2023/24 (prior to an increase in the Council Tax but after adjusting for the change in the Council Tax Base and premium) is £44.9m. Therefore, each 1% increase generates an additional £449k.
- 7.3. After taking into account the anticipated final settlement figure of £123.663m, the revised budget requirement of £172.567m (see Appendix 2) and the use of £1.780m of reserves, it would require £47.124m in Council Tax funding. To fund the revised budget requirement, the increase in the level of Council Tax would be 5.00%, taking the Band D charge to £1,435.86, an increase of £68.40, or £1.32 per week.

## 8. EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 8.1. In delivering its services, the Council has to be mindful of its duties under the Equality Act 2010 (Statutory Duties) (Wales) Regulations 2011 to assess the impact of key financial decisions on protected groups, and have due regard to the result of such assessments.
- 8.2. The proposed budget will not impact on any of the protected groups set out in the Regulations and, as a result, no Equality Impact Assessments are considered necessary.

## 9. UPDATING THE MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY

- 9.1. As stated in paragraph 1, the economic situation has changed considerably since the Council approved the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) in September 2022. In addition the higher than anticipated provisional local government settlement for 2023/24 also changes the strategy significantly.
- 9.2. The main area of uncertainty for the MTFS moving forward is inflation and its impact on future pay awards, whilst the cost of living crisis and its impact on the demand for Council services is also a major factor.

9.3. The updated MTFP for 2024/25 and 2025/26 is shown in Table 4 below:-

**Table 4**  
**Summary Medium Term Financial Plan 2024/25 & 2025/26**

	2024/25 £'m	2025/26 £'m
Net Revenue Budget B/F	172.567	176.854
Budget Pressures and Inflation	8.806	5.128
<b>Revised Standstill Budget</b>	<b>181.373</b>	<b>181.982</b>
Aggregate External Finance (AEF) (assuming 3.0% rise in 24/25 and 2.0% rise in 2025/26)	127.373	129.920
Council Tax (assuming 5% rise in 2024/25 & 2025/26)	49.481	51.955
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>176.854</b>	<b>181.875</b>
<b>Additional Funding Requirement / Savings Required</b>	<b>4.519</b>	<b>0.107</b>
<b>Main Assumptions</b>		
Pay Awards – Non Teaching	3.5%	2.0%
Pay Awards - Teaching	4.8%	2.0%
General Inflation	2.0%	1.2%

9.4. The MTFP estimate above is based on a number of assumptions which may change as we move towards 2024/25, but the plan indicates that there will be a need to make significant reductions in the net revenue expenditure budget in 2024/25 (over £4.5m). This again could be partly offset by the further use of reserves but again this only postpones the need to make budget reductions until 2025/26.

9.5. The situation does improve in 2025/26, with only a very small shortfall in funding projected but this is dependent on the continued strategy to increase Council Tax by 5% per annum.

9.6. An updated MTFP will be presented to the Executive in September 2023.

## 10. CONCLUSIONS

10.1. It is important that the budget set is achievable and reflects the demands faced by services currently, although it is noted that the continuation of the cost of living crisis or a re-emergence of Covid restrictions would have a significant impact on the Council's budget.

10.2. The local government settlement is better than anticipated, and allows the Council to set a balanced budget in 2023/24, with only limited reductions in service budgets, a modest use of service reserves and a below inflation increase in Council Tax. However, it does also take the Council back to a position where significant investment in Council services is not possible.

10.3. The Council's general financial position is still fairly strong, although the level of balances and earmarked reserves have diminished during 2022/23 and, although the use of reserves to balance the 2023/24 budget is a fairly safe strategy, it is not a strategy that can be used long term.



**10.4.** The position in 2024/25 appears to be more difficult and, unless Welsh Government funding increases by more than inflation and / or pay awards are limited and the general level of inflation reduces, then significant budget reductions will be required or Council Tax will have to rise above the 5% allowed for in the MTFP.

**10.5.** Therefore, in the professional opinion of the Section 151 Officer, the proposed revenue budget for 2023/24 achieves the following objectives:-

- Ensures that the financial resources allocated to each service is sufficient to meet the current budget pressures and fulfil the demand for the statutory functions which the services must provide.
- Uses a combination of budget reductions, reserves and a rise in Council Tax to set a balanced budget.
- Sets a level of Council Tax which is comparable with the Welsh Government's assessment of where Anglesey's Council Tax should be, and is in line with the Council Tax set by other Welsh authorities of a similar size and type.

## **11. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**11.1.** The Executive is recommended to approve the final budget proposal, as set out in Paragraph 4, to the full Council meeting on 9 March 2023.

## FINAL BUDGET PROPOSAL 2023/24 BY SERVICE

	<b>Final Proposed Budget 2023/24 £</b>
Education and Culture	63,319,619
Adult Services	34,973,049
Children's Services	12,965,415
Housing Services	1,590,036
Highways, Waste and Property	19,755,398
Regulation and Economic Development	5,754,153
Corporate Transformation	6,993,174
Resources	3,723,134
Council Business	2,013,794
Corporate Management	759,918
<b>Total Service Budgets</b>	<b>151,847,690</b>
Corporate and Democratic Costs	3,244,158
Recharges to HRA	(800,000)
Support for Local Housing Help to Buy Schemes	1,501,907
Levies	4,503,685
Capital Financing	4,328,774
Benefits Granted	109,240
Discretionary Rate Relief	105,000
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	6,751,765
<b>Total Allocated Budgets</b>	<b>171,592,219</b>
General & Other Contingencies	974,768
<b>Total Budget 2023/24</b>	<b>172,566,987</b>
<b>Funded By</b>	
Revenue Support Grant	100,839,789
Non Domestic Rates	22,822,905
Council Tax (Including Council Tax Premium)	47,124,293
Council Reserves	1,780,000
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>172,566,987</b>
<b>Difference Budget to Funding</b>	



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<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template</b>	
<b>Committee:</b>	Corporate Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date:</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> February, 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	2023/24 Budget Setting (Capital)
<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	Scrutiny consideration of final draft 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>
The Corporate Scrutiny Committee is requested to agree a formal response to the Executive on the Council’s final proposals for the 2023/24 capital budget (using the key scrutiny questions in paragraph 4 below), taking into account views from the Finance Scrutiny Panel.

<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 capital 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> </ul>

- 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

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

- To what degree does the Committee support the proposed capital programme and the proposed schemes given the limited capital funding available for the general fund?
- How do the 2023/24 capital proposals enable delivery on the Council's medium term priorities whilst balancing short term pressures and do the principles of the Council's Capital Strategy (Section 5 paragraph 1.3 below) allow the Council to meet its corporate objectives?

#### 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 Capital Strategy 2023/24

The revised CIPFA Prudential Code<sup>1</sup> requires local authorities to produce a capital strategy in order to:

- Set out the long term context within which capital expenditure and investment decisions should be made
- As a means of ensuring that Councils take capital and investment decisions in line with service objectives and priorities
- Ensure that local authorities properly take into account stewardship, value for money, prudence, sustainability and affordability when setting its capital programme.

The Authority's capital strategy and capital programme for 2023/24 will be considered by the Executive next month<sup>2</sup>. It sets out the objectives, principles and governance framework to ensure that the Authority takes capital expenditure and investment decisions in line with the Council Plan and local strategic priorities. A fundamental principle of the Strategy is to focus capital expenditure on projects which assist the Council meet the following key objectives and help the Council meet its statutory responsibilities:

- Ensure that the people of Anglesey can thrive and realise their long term potential
- Support vulnerable adults and families to keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible

<sup>1</sup> Revised Prudential Code (CIPFA) dated September, 2017

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

- iii. Work in partnership with our communities to ensure that they can cope effectively with change and developments whilst protecting our natural environment

The Strategy also identifies the potential future capital expenditure, assesses the impact on the capital financing element of the revenue account and determines the funding available to finance new capital schemes for the period 2022/23. Also, the strategy sets out the long term principles underpinning capital planning to the future.

### **1.3 Principles of the Capital Strategy**

The Capital Strategy discusses a number of long term principles which should underpin the Council's capital programme:

- The annual capital programme should focus capital expenditure on projects which contribute most to the key priorities of the Council during the period up to 2023/24.
- Capital funding should be allocated each year to ensure investment in existing assets to protect them into the future
- The Council will maximise external capital funding wherever possible and affordable
- Capital funding will also be prioritised on assets required to help the Council deliver its statutory responsibilities
- Continued commitment to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme and to fully utilise external funding available

### **1.4 Capital Budget Funding Sources**

The Council's annual capital programme is funded through a number of funding sources:

- Capital Receipts
- Contribution from Revenue / Reserves
- Supported Borrowing
- Unsupported Borrowing
- General Capital Grant
- External Grants
- Major Repair Allowance

**1.5** In considering their response to the final draft capital 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 Capital Strategy & Capital Programme 2023/24) and the Council's long term objectives and priorities.

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

2.1 Attached is the report of the Director of Function (Resources) / Section 151 Officer on the final draft capital proposals for the 2023/24 budget (**APPENDIX 1**) which will be submitted to a meeting of the Executive on 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2023. The paper provides a position statement on the following issues:

- The principles of the capital strategy;
- The proposed capital programme for 2023/24 including the general capital programme, investment in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and the Housing Revenue Account capital programme;
- How the capital programme will be funded in 2023/24;
- Impact on general balances and earmarked reserves.

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

### **4. FINANCE SCRUTINY PANEL**

4.1 The Finance Scrutiny Panel considered the latest details of the budget proposals at its meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> February, 2023. 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 final draft capital budget and any risks. Input has also been received via the Finance Scrutiny Panel who have given detailed consideration to the 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>3</sup> on the Council's final capital budget proposals for the 2023/24 capital budget (using the key scrutiny questions in paragraph 4 above).

## **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 capital budget proposals

## **8 – Appendices:**

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

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



**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

<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL</b>	
<b>Report to:</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>2 MARCH 2023</b>
<b>Subject:</b>	<b>CAPITAL BUDGET 2023/24</b>
<b>Portfolio Holder(s):</b>	<b>COUNCILLOR R WILLIAMS – PORTFOLIO HOLDER – FINANCE, CORPORATE BUSINESS &amp; CUSTOMER EXPERIENCE</b>
<b>Head of Service / Director:</b>	<b>MARC JONES – DIRECTOR OF FUNCTION (RESOURCES) / SECTION 151 OFFICER</b>
<b>Report Author:</b> Tel: E-mail:	<b>MARC JONES – DIRECTOR OF FUNCTION (RESOURCES) / SECTION 151 OFFICER</b> <b>01248 752601</b> <b>rmjfi@ynysmon.gov.wales</b>
<b>Local Members:</b>	n/a

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

##### **1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

The Executive is required to propose a capital budget for 2023/24, which will be presented to full Council for approval at its meeting on 9 March 2023.

##### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

To recommend to the full Council the following capital programme for 2023/24:-

	<b>Ref</b>	<b>£'000</b>
2022/23 Schemes Brought Forward	Para 5.1 & Table 2	12,373
Refurbishment / Replacement of Assets	Para 5.2	5,682
New One Off Capital Projects	Para 6.2 & Table 3	386
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools	Para 7	5,964
Housing Revenue Account	Para 8	13,557
<b>Total Recommended Capital Programme 2023/24</b>		<b>37,962</b>
<b>Funded By:</b>		
General Capital Grant		3,410
Supported Borrowing General		2,158
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools Supported Borrowing		919
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools Unsupported Borrowing		2,797
HRA Reserve & In Year Surplus		9,221
HRA Unsupported Borrowing		0
Capital Receipts		500
External Grants		6,584
2022/23 Funding Brought Forward		12,373
<b>2023/24 Total Capital Funding</b>		<b>37,962</b>

<b>B – What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?</b>		
A number of additional schemes are to be considered in the capital programme, with the main driving factor in funding being affordability and the maximisation of external grant funding.		
<b>C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?</b>		
The matter is delegated to the Executive to propose the capital budget.		
<b>CH – Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?</b>		
Yes		
<b>D – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?</b>		
N/A		
<b>Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):</b>		
1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	The capital budget ensures funding to maintain the Council's assets, and forms part of the strategy to meet the objectives set out in the Council's corporate plan.
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	Continued maintenance of the Council's assets will prevent larger costs in the future.
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom	Capital projects in respect of 21st Century Schools and the HRA are aligned to priorities set out by the Welsh Government.
4	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 consultation process on the Council's Corporate Plan for 2022 – 2027, citizens were asked a number of questions relating to capital expenditure and their priorities.
5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	The capital budget ensures funding to maintain the Council's assets and, forms part of the strategy to meet the objectives set out in the Council's corporate plan.
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	None identified.
7	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>	
<b>F - Appendices:</b>		
Appendix 1 – Report on the Capital Budget 2023/24 Appendix 2 – Final Proposed Capital Budget 2023/24		
<b>FF - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):</b>		
Capital Strategy Report – full Council 10 March 2022 Capital Budget 2022/23 – full Council 10 March 2022 Quarterly Capital Monitoring Reports 2022/23 – Executive 27 September 2022, 29 November 2022, 2 March 2023		

## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The Capital Budget for 2023/24, set out below, takes into account the principles set out in the Capital Strategy which was approved by the Executive and the full Council in March 2022. The Capital Strategy has been updated to reflect the proposed capital budget for 2023/24, but the principles of the strategy remain unchanged.

## 2. PRINCIPLES OF THE CAPITAL STRATEGY

- 2.1. The Capital Strategy for 2022/23 was approved by the Executive and full Council and will be updated for 2023/24 to reflect the new funding levels, any changes in the Council's priorities and any changes set out in the Council's Treasury Management Strategy for 2023/24, which will be approved by the Executive and full Council in March 2023.

- 2.2. The current Capital Strategy sets out the following principles for the Council in determining its capital programme:-

- Each year, capital funding will be allocated to ensure an investment in existing assets to protect them into the future.
- The Council will maximise external capital funding wherever possible and affordable.
- Capital funding will also be prioritised on assets required to help the Council deliver its statutory responsibilities.
- The Council remains committed to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme, and will continue to fully utilise 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools external funding.

- 2.3. The strategy then went on to provide a little more information on how these principles would be delivered, and included the following key points:-

- That the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme is considered separately from the remainder of the general capital programme.
- That the replacement of existing and obsolete assets has the benefit of reducing revenue costs, and that the capital programme will allocate funding to replace or improve existing IT equipment, vehicles and Council buildings.
- It is a statutory requirement to offer disabled facilities grants, and that the capital programme will allocate funding annually to comply with this requirement.
- A sum will be allocated annually to fund road improvement works. The sum will depend on the amount required to achieve any minimum contract values, the level of external and internal funding available and an assessment of the state of repair of the Authority's roads.
- Projects that require match funding will be assessed on a case by case basis, with any decision to allocate funding being based on how the project fits into the Council's corporate priorities, any ongoing revenue implications and the ratio of Council funding to external funding.
- Projects funded from unsupported borrowing will only be undertaken if the reduction in revenue costs or increased income generated is sufficient to meet any additional capital financing costs.

- 2.4. The Capital Strategy also sets out how any new bid should be assessed, as follows:-

- How closely the project will contribute to the priorities of the corporate plan;
- Whether the project attracts significant external funding;
- Whether the project will lead to revenue savings;
- Whether the project will help mitigate a corporate risk.

### 3. FUNDING THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24

3.1. The funds available to finance the capital programme for 2023/24 are shown in Table 1 below. It should be noted that the figure for the General Capital Grant and Supported Borrowing are based on the provisional Local Government settlement figures. The final figure will not be known until the final settlement figures are announced on 28 February 2023. The level of funding under both headings have remained fairly constant over a number of years and are not anticipated to change significantly between the provisional and final settlement.

**Table 1**  
**Anticipated Capital Funding Available for 2023/24**

Source of Funding	£'m	£'m
<b>General Fund Capital Programme</b>		
Schemes / Funding brought forward from 2022/23	12,373	
General Capital Grant 2023/24	2,216	
Unutilised General Capital Grant b/f from 2022/23	1,701	
Supported Borrowing	2,158	
Capital Receipts	500	
<b>Funding for the General Capital Programme (Council Fund)</b>		<b>18,948</b>
<b>21st Century Schools</b>		
Supported Borrowing	919	
Unsupported Borrowing	2,797	
Welsh Government Grant	2,248	
<b>Funding for 21st Century Schools</b>		<b>5,964</b>
<b>Housing Revenue Account (HRA)</b>		
HRA Reserve	8,646	
HRA - In-year Surplus	575	
Welsh Government Major Repairs Allowance & Other external grants	4,336	
Unsupported Borrowing	0	
<b>Funding for HRA</b>		<b>13,557</b>
<b>Total Capital Funding 2023/24</b>		<b>38,469</b>

3.2. The General Capital Funding received from Welsh Government for 2023/24 totals £4.374m (compared to £3.643m in 2022/23), which is an increase of £0.731m, but only restores the level of funding back to the levels seen in the past 10 years. Although the increase is welcomed, the value of the funding has been significantly eroded over the past 12 months, due to significant inflation in the construction industry. This funding now only provides sufficient funding for the Council to maintain its existing assets.

3.3. The potential for any significant funding in the form of capital receipts is very limited, with any unsold assets already earmarked for existing plans (school modernisation and leisure improvements).

- 3.4. In previous years, the Council has placed funding in earmarked reserves to fund specific projects, to provide a source of match funding when external grant opportunities arise, or to fund emergency capital works should the need arise. The restrictions on the Council's revenue budget has resulted in a review of earmarked reserves and there may be a need to utilise these reserves to help balance the revenue budget in 2024/25 and beyond. This, again, restricts the funding that the Council can allocate from its own reserves towards capital projects.
- 3.5. The HRA funding is earmarked for HRA projects and cannot be used for any other purpose. It is forecast that the balance of the HRA reserve will be in the region of £8.5m by the end of the financial year. The HRA Business Plan sets a target of £1.5m as the minimum HRA reserve balance, which allows the remainder to be used to fund capital expenditure.

#### 4. CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 4.1. As part of the Council's consultation on the Council Plan and future priorities, respondents were asked which areas they wished the Council to prioritise in terms of capital investment, and which areas they wanted to see reduced investment. The conclusion to the consultation process was that the majority of respondents wished to see the Council investing more in building social housing and properties that local people could rent or buy, followed by investment in upgrading Council buildings, investing in road maintenance and improvements and improving flood defences.
- 4.2. Respondents wished to see less investment in improving leisure facilities and 4G pitches, building more industrial and business units and in green energy and electric vehicles.

#### 5. PROPOSED CAPITAL PROGRAMME

##### 5.1. 2022/23 Schemes Carried Forward

There is a forecast underspend of £15.223m on the current Capital Programme for 2022/23 schemes (£4.891m HRA and £10.332m General Fund). This figure is based on the projected outturn position at the end of quarter 3 (Table 4 and Appendix B of the quarter 3 capital budget monitoring report presented to this Committee). The actual outturn position at the end of quarter 4 will be presented to this Committee in a separate capital outturn report, and any slippage amounts requested to be carried forward to 2023/24 will be subject to this Committee's approval at that stage. Committed schemes that are due to run for a number of years from the current year and beyond have been factored in to this programme due to new budgets being required, and are detailed below:-

**Table 2**  
**2022/23 Schemes Brought Forward**

<b>2022/23 Schemes Brought Forward</b>	<b>2023/24 £'000</b>
Holyhead Landscape Partnership	50
Holyhead Regeneration (THI Phase II)	687
Penrhos Phase III	2,400
Levelling Up Funding (various projects)	9,326
<b>Total Schemes Brought Forward</b>	<b>12,373</b>

## 5.2. Refurbishment / Replacing Existing Assets

Each year, it is necessary to invest in the Council's assets to prolong their life and ensure that they are fit for purpose, or to replace obsolete assets. The following sums are proposed:-

- **Refurbishment of Schools** – The cost of clearing the backlog maintenance in the Council's 46 schools is considerable and cannot be fully funded in the short to medium term. The Council's school modernisation programme may reduce some of this cost, but a large number of the existing schools will remain in use in the long term. A sum of £1m is to be allocated in order to undertake the most urgent works which the Council's Property Team have identified and prioritised.
- **Refurbishment of Non School Buildings** – Again, a backlog of work has been identified in the Council's offices, residential homes, day care facilities, libraries and leisure centres and there is insufficient funding to undertake this work in any one year. £600k has been proposed, and this level of funding will be sufficient to meet the cost of the majority of the priority work required to be undertaken.
- **Highways Resurfacing** – The Annual Status and Option Report confirms that an annual budget of £2m is required in order to sustain the Steady State (Preventative) condition of our roads. A budget below this required amount would inevitably result in less efficiency and reduced value for money, with additional costs to the Highway Authority with more money being spent on emergency works and also the risk of increased third party claims being made against the Authority. The Executive recognises the importance of the continued investment in the Council's road network, and proposes a budget of £2.5m for 2023/24, which will allow for some improvement in the overall condition of the road network.
- **Vehicles** – The Council is committed to becoming a carbon neutral organisation by 2030 and in order to achieve that commitment, the Council needs to reduce the number of petrol and diesel powered vehicles. £390k is to be allocated to fund the purchase of replacement vehicles, with electric vehicles being purchased wherever possible. An additional £150k is to be allocated to fund the continued cyclical replacement of the Council's fleet of gritters.
- **IT Assets** – Continued investment is required to maintain the Council's core infrastructure and to replace devices used by staff to access systems. £171k has been identified as a sum required to maintain the core infrastructure, with £121k required for desktop devices.

## 5.3. Disabled Facilities Grants

Although not strictly an investment in the Council's own assets, there is a statutory obligation for the Council to fund grants to private home owners to undertake works which enable disabled residents to remain in their own homes by undertaking adaptation works to their properties. A sum of £750k has been allocated to meet this requirement.

## 6. OTHER BIDS FOR ONE OFF ADDITIONAL FUNDING

- 6.1. Services were requested to put forward bids for capital funding. These bids were assessed by the Finance Team, and then prioritised by the Leadership Team. Excluding the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme and the Housing Revenue Account, the general core funding available, including earmarked reserves and general balances for 2023/24 totalled £6.575m, of which £5.682m is required for the above, leaving £0.893m to fund any new one off projects.



- 6.2. The Leadership Team have reviewed the bids received, and the following projects are recommended to be included in the 2023/24 capital programme:-

**Table 3**

**Recommended One off Capital Projects to be Funded in 2023/24**

<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Sum Recommended £'000</b>
Economic Development and Environmental Wellbeing projects	Match funding to be used as and when grant funding becomes available	100
Flood Relief Schemes	To provide match funding (15%) for small scale schemes and also to provide match funding (15%) for prioritised major schemes in order to draw down Welsh Government (WG) grant funding. WG grant would therefore total £1.621m.	286
<b>TOTAL NEW BIDS FOR CAPITAL FUNDING IN 2023/24</b>		<b>386</b>

- 6.3. All other bids were rejected as it was considered that a further decision was required on the future delivery of the service before a capital investment was made, or that a wider strategy needed to be agreed before undertaking the capital investment. The remaining £0.507m would be held in reserve and used in the funding of the 2024/25 capital programme.

## **7. SCHOOL MODERNISATION**

- 7.1. Due to the significant amount of Welsh Government funding the schemes will attract, and the need to modernise the existing school estate, the Council is committed to funding these schemes through the use of unsupported borrowing and the capital receipts from the sale of old school sites. The 2023/24 Capital Programme allows for the completion of the Extension to Ysgol y Graig.

- 7.2. The estimated cost of the programme in 2023/24 is £5.964m, which will be funded from £2.248m Welsh Government grant, £0.919m supported borrowing and £2.797m unsupported borrowing.

## **8. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT**

- 8.1. The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a ring fenced account in terms of both revenue and capital expenditure. The proposed programme for 2023/24 will see the continued investment in the existing stock to ensure continued compliance with the WHQS standards, with £5.350m being invested. A further £8.207m will be spent on developing new properties and in re-purchasing former right to buy properties.

- 8.2. The programme will be funded from: the HRA Reserve (£8.646m), the revenue surplus generated in 2023/24 (£0.575m) and Welsh Government grants (£4.336m).

8.3. The long term investment programme and how it will be funded over the next 30 years, will be set out in the Housing Revenue Account business plan, which will be presented to the Executive in due course.

## 9. SUMMARY RECOMMENDED CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24

9.1. The recommended capital programme for 2023/24 is summarised in Table 4 below, and analysed in further detail in Appendix 2:-

**Table 4**  
**Summary Recommended Capital Programme 2023/24**

	Ref	£'000
2022/23 Schemes Brought Forward	Para 5.1 & Table 2	12,373
Refurbishment / Replacement of Assets	Para 5.2.	5,682
New One Off Capital Projects	Para 6.2 & Table 3	386
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools	Para 7	5,964
Housing Revenue Account	Para 8	13,557
<b>Total Recommended Capital Programme 2023/24</b>		<b>37,962</b>
<b>Funded By:</b>		
General Capital Grant		3,410
Supported Borrowing General		2,158
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools Supported Borrowing		919
21 <sup>st</sup> Century Schools Unsupported Borrowing		2,797
HRA Reserve & In Year Surplus		9,221
HRA Unsupported Borrowing		0
Capital Receipts		500
External Grants		6,584
2022/23 Funding Brought Forward		12,373
<b>2023/24 Total Capital Funding</b>		<b>37,962</b>

## FINAL PROPOSED CAPITAL BUDGET 2023/24

Scheme	Budget £'000	External Grants £'000	General Capital Grant £'000	Supported Borrowing £'000	Unsupported Borrowing £'000	HRA Reserve £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000
<b>2022/23 Committed schemes b/f</b>							
Holyhead Landscape Partnership	50	50	0	0	0	0	0
Holyhead Regeneration (THI Phase II)	687	687	0	0	0	0	0
Penrhos Phase III	2,400	2,400	0	0	0	0	0
Levelling Up Funding (various projects)	9,236	9,236	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total 2022/23 Committed Schemes</b>	<b>12,373</b>	<b>12,373</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Refurbishment / Replacement of Assets</b>							
Disabled Facilities Grant	750	0	750	0	0	0	0
Refurbishment of Schools	1,000	0	0	1,000	0	0	0
Refurbishment of Non School Buildings	600	0	0	600	0	0	0
Highways Resurfacing	2,500	0	1,942	558	0	0	0
Vehicles	540	0	332	0	0	0	208
IT Assets	292	0	0	0	0	0	292
<b>Total Refurbishment / Replacement of Assets</b>	<b>5,682</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3,024</b>	<b>2,158</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>New One Off Capital Projects</b>							
Flood Relief Schemes	286	0	286	0	0	0	0
Economic Dev – Match Funding	100	0	100	0	0	0	0
<b>Total New One Off Capital Projects</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools</b>							
Ysgol y Graig	5,964	2,248	0	919	2,797	0	0
<b>Total 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools</b>	<b>5,964</b>	<b>2,248</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>919</b>	<b>2,797</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>24,405</b>	<b>14,621</b>	<b>3,410</b>	<b>3,077</b>	<b>2,797</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>500</b>

Scheme	Budget £'000	External Grants £'000	General Capital Grant £'000	Supported Borrowing £'000	Unsupported Borrowing £'000	HRA Reserve £'000	Capital Receipts Reserve £'000
<b>Housing Revenue Account</b>							
WHQS Planned Maintenance Programme	5,350	3,586	0	0	0	1,764	0
New Developments & Re-Purchase of Right to Buy Properties	8,207	750	0	0	0	7,457	0
<b>TOTAL HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT</b>	<b>13,557</b>	<b>4,336</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9,221</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>TOTAL CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24</b>	<b>37,962</b>	<b>18,957</b>	<b>3,410</b>	<b>3,077</b>	<b>2,797</b>	<b>9,221</b>	<b>500</b>

<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template</b>	
<b>Committee:</b>	Corporate Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date:</b>	28 February, 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	COUNCIL PLAN 2023-28
<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	To offer comments on the content of the Council Plan 2023 - 28 for the benefit of further consideration by the Executive before being proposed for adoption at the meeting of the County Council on the 9 <sup>th</sup> of March.
<b>Scrutiny Chair:</b>	COUNCILLOR ROBERT LI JONES
<b>Portfolio Holder(s):</b>	COUNCILLOR ROBIN 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>
The Committee is requested to:
<b>R1</b> Approve the Council Plan for 2023-28 for further consideration by the Executive.

<b>2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities</b>
Not applicable as this Plan recognises our strategic priorities and related work streams for the period 2023 – 28 in line with political direction.

<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 [ <b>focus on customer/citizen</b> ]
<b>3.2</b> A look at the efficiency & effectiveness of any proposed change – both financially and in terms of quality [ <b>focus on value</b> ]
<b>3.3</b> A look at any risks [ <b>focus on risk</b> ]
<b>3.4</b> Scrutiny taking a performance monitoring or quality assurance role [ <b>focus on performance &amp; quality</b> ]
<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]**

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. To what extent does the Plan offer a balance between being ambitious, realistic and achievable given the current challenges and uncertainty?
2. Statutory expectations and duties have been placed on the Council in terms of service provision. To what extent are these addressed in the Council Plan?
3. Are there any gaps in the document?
4. Who will be the Council's main partners in the effective delivery of the objectives in the Plan?
5. To what extent does the Plan's delivery contribute towards the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act (Wales)?
6. What are the main challenges in delivering the Plan?
7. What arrangements will be put in place to challenge, monitor and report on progress in delivering against the objectives and work programmes in the Council Plan?

**5 – Background / Context**

5.1 The related report is the culmination of 12 months of preparation.

5.2 During this time, we have gained an understanding of what staff, councillors and the residents of Anglesey would like to see the Council focusing on over the next five years, during the period of the Council Plan.

5.3 The consultation process was designed to generate an interest and encourage as many responses as possible. To that end, easy read materials were produced highlighting the issues involved.

5.4 As noted in 5.2, staff were consulted on the six strategic objectives and related work streams. In light of staff responses, improvements were made and further consideration was given to their views before the 'public' consultation.

5.5 The original timetable for the consultation was extended to 8 weeks following discussions and guidance from the Town and Community Councils at their meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> of September. The consultation was opened following a period of mourning as a result of the death of Her Majesty, the Queen.

It was launched on the 20<sup>th</sup> of September until the 14<sup>th</sup> of November.

5.6 In consultation with others, the Council tried to make the consultation as accessible as possible.

Evidence of this can be seen in the collective effort to target every ward on the island in one way or another.

5.7 Hard copies of the survey, general and 'easy read' versions, along with posters and leaflets with direct links to the online consultation, were distributed to -

- the island's leisure centres
- libraries
- Oriel Môn
- Council offices.

5.8 They were also distributed to community hubs where face to face engagement sessions and forums were held. These sessions included a panel of officers who were there to meet the public and discuss the associated pressures and work streams relevant to the strategic objectives.

Face to face sessions were held at:

- Llangefni Town Hall
- Gwelfor, Caergybi
- Llaingoch Hall
- The Iorwerth Arms, Bryngwran
- Llanfairpwll Hall
- Beaumaris Centre
- Caffi Mechell, Llanfechell

5.9 The mobile library was used to distribute hard copies of the 'easy read' version to those who are confined to their homes.

5.10 School age children (3-18) were targeted and invited to participate through school councils.

5.11 This targeting resulted in the following responses –

- 538 members of staff responded prior to the consultation
- In terms of on-line responses – there were 1620 interactions and 1098 fully or partly completed surveys
- 61% of the responses were from people of working age
- 79 hard copies were received

- In terms of young people – 27 school councils responded to the democratic consultation, representing approximately 3,500 - 4000 children from primary and secondary schools
- 91% of the respondents responded in English, with 9% responding in Welsh.

5.12 The results of this engagement work and consultation were addressed in the 'Developing the Council's Strategic Aims 2023-28' report which was considered by this Committee at its meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> of January.

5.13 The findings of the engagement and consultation on the six strategic objectives mentioned above were positive. The above data informs us that the Council received 2,500 responses for all types of activity.

5.14 As a result of this work and previous considerations, the current 'draft' Council Plan 2023-28 is presented for the attention of the Committee in *Appendix A*. This plan includes the corporate wellbeing aims, along with strategic objectives and associated work streams.

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

### **6.1 The possible impact on groups protected under the Equality Act 2010**

6.1 Due to the complexities and varied content of the draft Council plan 2023 – 28, it is recommended that individual Equality Risk Assessments are undertaken for the different work streams and associated projects linked to the draft Plan, to assess the impact of the associated work.

6.2 It is proposed that these are presented to one, or a combination of, the following –

- Leadership Team
- Corporate programme boards
- Scrutiny /Executive Committees

(depending on content) before progressing with the associated work.

### **6.2 The possible impact on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage in their lives (strategic decisions)**

As noted in 6.1

### **6.3 The possible impact on opportunities to use Welsh and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language.**

As noted in 6.1

## **7 – Financial Implications**

7.1 The draft Council Plan for 2023 – 28 recognises 6 strategic priorities that will be delivered by the Council during the next five years. The associated work streams have been recognised to allow the Council to deliver these priorities.



7.2 Only 16% of these work streams will be funded solely through the Council's core budget.

7.3 The Council's core budget will also contribute towards 56% of the other activities noted in the Plan. These activities will be subsidised by other sources of funding. Grant funding will contribute towards 91% of these.

7.4 17% of the work streams will be funded solely through grant funding.

7.5 The remaining 11% will be funded through a combination of grants, other sources of funding, for example the HRA, and other sources of external funding.

7.6 Therefore grant funding will contribute towards 79% of the associated actions.

## **8 – Appendices:**

A. 'Draft' Council Plan 2023-28

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

- Transitional Plan 2022-23
- Engagement and Consultation Report: Draft Council Plan (2023-2028)



CYNGOR SIR  
YNYS MÔN  
ISLE OF ANGLESEY  
COUNTY COUNCIL

## **Draft Council Plan 2023 - 2028**

**February 2023**

**Status of report – Official**

**Prepared by:**

Transformation Team within HR & Transformation  
Service

**FOREWORD – Leader / Chief Exec**

Anglesey Council Plan for 2023 - 2028

**To follow**

DRAFT

Signed –

Llinos Medi  
Council Leader

Dylan Williams  
Chief Executive

## Introduction

The Council's vision is **to create an Anglesey that is healthy and prosperous where people can thrive.**

Collaboration is key to realising our vision. We will be a respectful Council that is considerate of others, we will collaborate honestly and we are committed to high standards of behaviour and integrity to present the Island and its communities in the best light possible.

To realise this vision, we will need to continue modernising and transforming our services and our way of working. An integral part of modernising will be listening to what our residents, service users and businesses think – and being ready to act.

To create this Plan, we carried out our most far-reaching consultation work ever as a Council. During the engagement and consultation exercises conducted by us in 2022, we asked residents for their views on their most important priorities. The response played a central role in setting our strategic objectives.

Across all age groups and the different engagement and consultation methods that we used, the consistent strategic objectives were:

1. Social Care and Well-being – providing the right support at the right time
2. Education – ensuring an effective provision for today and for future generations
3. Housing – ensuring that everyone has the right to call somewhere home
4. Economy – promoting opportunities to develop the Island's economy
5. Climate Change – responding to the crisis, tackling change and working towards becoming a net zero organisation by 2030
6. The Welsh Language - increasing opportunities to learn and use the language

The Plan focuses on these objectives.

Like all other Councils, we will face significant financial pressure and further savings will have to be identified. We will have to control increased costs when setting budgets and respond to increasing demands due to demographic and social changes.

To work in this challenging and changing period, we are adopting a strategic approach to managing our resources. Pressures have been identified in the mid-term financial forecasts. Based on the forecasts for inflation, the cost of living and growth pressure, together with an annual council tax increase of 5%, we predict that challenging times lie ahead of us.

Consequently, this is an ambitious Plan. As delivering services will be challenging, our residents' experiences and feedback will be an important measure of success. We will produce an annual delivery document and will formally report on progress, success and outcomes.

By 2028, there will be a significant change in the way services are delivered, success will be celebrated and we will have progressed on the journey of creating an Anglesey that is healthy and prosperous where people can thrive.

## The Council's Vision

“Creating an Anglesey that is healthy and prosperous where people can thrive.”

## Strategic Objectives

1. Social Care and Well-being – providing the right support at the right time
2. Education – ensuring an effective provision for today and for future generations
3. Housing – ensuring that everyone has the right to call somewhere home
4. Economy – promoting opportunities to develop the Island's economy
5. Climate Change – responding to the crisis, tackling change and working towards becoming a net zero organisation by 2030
6. The Welsh Language - increasing opportunities to learn and use the language

## Values and General Principles

The Council's values define who we are and our direction as an organisation.

We will use the values identified below to develop and guide our vision, strategic plans and services into the future:

Values			
Respect	Collaborate	Honesty	Champion the Council and the Island
We are respectful and considerate towards others regardless of our differences	We work as a team, with our communities and partners to deliver the best outcomes for the people of Anglesey	We are committed to high standards of conduct and integrity	We create a sense of pride in working for the Council and present a positive image of the Council and the Island

These are the six general principles that we will use to help us deliver our objectives:

General Principles		
Sustainable Development	Equality and Diversity	Prevention and Safeguarding
Sustainability must be the cornerstone of the Council's strategic and operational direction in policy development and service delivery, partnership work and the way in which the organisation is run.	The Council is committed to equality, securing better outcomes for those facing socio-economic disadvantage. As an employer and service provider, we will work to eliminate unfair and unlawful discrimination in all our policies, procedures and practices.	Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. All Council services and employees, regardless of their role or title, have a responsibility to safeguard people. The Council believes that every child and adult has the right to be safe from harm.

<b>Commitment and Accountability</b>	<b>Communication</b>	<b>Modernisation</b>
<p>The Council and its employees work together to plan, monitor and review our priorities through corporate objectives, service objectives and individual objectives, within allocated resources. This process demonstrates the Council's commitment to be open, transparent and accountable for the delivery of the Council Plan.</p>	<p>Communication is a two-way process. The Council takes an inclusive approach, using various channels to reach the maximum number of residents and stakeholders. By ensuring effective communication (internally and externally), we can ensure that we interact and foster a stronger relationship with others and conduct more productive discussions.</p>	<p>Through a modernisation agenda, the Council will be looking to make better use of available data to inform new services and ensure that customer needs are met through digital channels where appropriate.</p>

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## The Strategic Cycle



The strategic cycle shown above identifies the plans that are in place to ensure that we can deliver our priorities and objectives. It identifies what needs to be achieved, how we will achieve it and why.

This Plan and the related strategic plans set out:

- The Council's Vision
- Values and cross-cutting themes
- Strategic objectives, and
- Key actions to be realised and delivered.

**\*\*\*\* DATA INFOGRAPHICS \*\*\*\***

### **COUNCIL DATA**

**The Council's net Revenue Budget - £174m**

**Council Staff – over 2500**

**Number of County Council buildings (excluding schools) - 68**

**Number of schools - 46**

**Length of roads serviced – 1,187km / 738 miles**

**Size of the Island (area) – 712km<sup>2</sup> / 275 square miles**

**125 miles / 201km of coastal path**

**Number of social houses – 3,948**

**Number of Councillors – 35 (8 female / 27 male)**

**Multi-member Wards - 14**

### **ONS / NOMIS DATA**

**Population – 68,900 2021 Census – 33,700 (male) / 35,200 (female)**

**Breakdown of Anglesey's population according to country of birth – 67% Wales / 29% England / 1% Scotland / 3.5% Other Countries**

**56.5% of working age / 26.5% older (65+) / 20.1% <18**

**92% satisfied with where they live**

**55.8% can speak Welsh**

**14% feel lonely – lowest rate in Wales**

**Average Age – 48 Anglesey / 42 Wales**

**76% of working age people are economically active**

**74% of working age people are in work**

**Average gross pay for people in full-time employment – £589 per week / Wales Average, £603**

**21,500 hectares designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**



## Strategic Objectives and

### Key Actions

#### **1. Social Care and Well-being – providing the right service at the right time**

The health, well-being and safety of residents is vital to achieving a better quality of life and promoting independence on Anglesey. Therefore, continuing to deliver healthier, safer and fairer communities through a range of preventative, curative and supportive services in partnership with other likeminded stakeholders therefore continues to be a cornerstone of our agenda.

Building on the good practice of working together with our partners, the Council will aim to ensure that the most vulnerable residents are protected and receive joined up services from health and social care. This will be an important priority, and will require continued collaboration across all sectors and areas of the community.

- ***Protecting and supporting the vulnerable***
  - i. Strengthen the provision of day opportunities for adults with learning disabilities by enhancing and encouraging access to community resources
  - ii. Reduce the impacts felt by people in poverty and utilise UK and Welsh Government mitigations in response to increasing costs of living
  - iii. Ensure that the early intervention and prevention programme improves quality of life
  - iv. Ensure Community Hubs are accessible and provide services to enable independence, minimise loneliness and improve people's health and well-being
  - v. Work with communities, partners and 3rd sector organisations to increase, where appropriate, social and inter-generational opportunities
  - vi. Invest in Leisure facilities to increase enjoyment, attendance, and participation levels to improve community health
  - vii. Modernise Supported Living provision for individuals
  - viii. Continue to work with residents and communities through the Place Shaping agenda to support and enhance community resilience
  - ix. Modernise the Council's Youth Service and work with partners to ensure the service is fit for the future
  - x. Provide looked after children with opportunities to identify what matters to them so that they can influence their own care
  - xi. Continue with our development of more *Cartrefi Clyd* (small group homes)
  - xii. Educate partners and communities about the effect of trauma

**We are committed to –**

- supporting people to remain as independent as possible in the community
- collaborating with users and partners, focusing on “what matters”
- protecting the standard of services and tailoring a response in line with expectations
- listening to people who receive services and giving them the opportunity to express their views
- simplifying and improving operational arrangements in order to respond appropriately and consistently

**By 2028 we will have:**

- Reviewed and modernised the way we provide care and support
- Improved and extended the supported housing provision
- Extended opportunities for people to receive care closer to their local communities
- Developed additional internal provision for looked after children, *Cartrefi Clyd* and foster carers

## **2. Education – ensuring an effective provision for today and for future generations**

Our aim is to deliver our Communities for Learning Modernisation strategy and our Welsh Language Strategy by investing in leaders, staff, buildings and facilities that are fit for current and future generations.

By continuing to work with stakeholders, we will improve the educational attainment and achievement of children and young people, by supporting their well-being, together with securing wider opportunities to learn and thrive.

We will ensure that local heritage thrives in an increasingly multi-cultural and multi-lingual community, and that greater use is made of the Welsh language.

- ***Raising educational attainment and achievement***
  - i. Secure the best possible education for each child and young person by investing in our workforce, developing good quality learning communities and implementing the Curriculum for Wales
  - ii. Support children and young people to manage their mental health and improve their well-being
  - iii. Continue to support children and young people to develop their key skills and digital skills
  - iv. Work with the Children's and Families Services to offer support and guidance to Anglesey's young people in an inclusive and innovative way
  - v. Provide 'second-chance learning' opportunities, so that Anglesey residents can continue to develop personally throughout their lives
- ***Providing sustainable communities for learning***
  - i. Implement a revised communities for learning modernisation programme, ensuring that schools are fit for purpose and are working towards a carbon neutral status
  - ii. Continue with our investment in our workforce to develop leadership and teaching across the Island
  - iii. Support children and their families to access education and community based activities outside of traditional school hours
  - iv. Working to become a Trauma Informed Island, taking a community approach to have a positive impact on our children, young people and the wider community
  - v. Promote and collaborate to secure work-based training opportunities for young people
  - vi. Improve participation amongst children and young people, enabling them to play a part in decision making processes

- vii. Adopt and deliver a new strategy for Modernising Communities for Learning and Developing the Welsh Language
- viii. Modernise and develop post-16 learning provision and training opportunities
- ix. Continue to offer good quality libraries, effective archives and an innovative art gallery and museum, which are fully accessible and contribute to the lives of Anglesey residents

**We are committed to –**

- supporting children and young people to be:
  - ambitious and capable learners ready to learn throughout their lives
  - enterprising, creative contributors ready to play a full part in life and work
  - ethical and informed citizens ready to be citizens of Wales and the world
  - healthy, confident individuals ready to lead fulfilling lives as valued members of society
- ensuring that children and young people are able to achieve their full potential
- supporting the emotional and mental well-being of the Island's children and young people
- supporting learning communities to become learning organisations with the capacity for self-improvement
- providing a quality libraries and archives service, together with the *Oriel*, which inspire and meet the needs of our customers, corporate aims and associated standards

**By 2028 we will have:**

- Ensured that the communities for learning modernisation strategy creates effective schools with strong leadership and an appropriate teaching environment
- Developed the Welsh language across all learning settings by realising the aims, objectives and outcomes set in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan
- Ensured the best possible experiences and progress for children and young people by delivering the Curriculum for Wales in all learning communities across the Island
- Increased educational opportunities for adults so that Anglesey's residents can continue to develop personally throughout their lives
- Ensured that the archives, libraries and gallery services are of the highest standard and provide the best value for money by making an effective contribution to learning

### 3. Housing – ensuring that everyone has the right to call somewhere home

A strong community ethos exists in rural areas, villages and towns, and loneliness rates are amongst the lowest in Wales. The fact that Anglesey is a safe place is appreciated and the majority of residents feel safe and are very satisfied with where they live.

We remain committed to working with the Welsh Government and partners, such as registered housing associations, to respond to local housing challenges. We will work together to identify the Island's housing needs so that we can provide for the recognised need and the required tenures.

- **Quality, affordable and accessible homes**
  - i. Collaborate with key partners to maintain the quality and range of accommodation options available in the care sector
  - ii. Develop a further extra-care facility in Menai Bridge
  - iii. Increase respite and day care services for children with disabilities
  - iv. Build new energy efficient homes, with A rated energy performance, to reduce our carbon footprint
  - v. Continue to invest in our housing stock by remodelling property that is no longer suitable and work towards achieving the Welsh Housing Quality Standards II
  - vi. Continue to invest in new technology to improve access to digital services for our tenants and customers
  - vii. Reduce the requirement for emergency accommodation units by increasing the number of permanent homes developed
  - viii. Using the council tax premium collected to provide financial support to first time buyers unable to afford to buy a home on the open market
  - ix. Continue to bring empty homes back into use across the Island
  - x. Work in partnership to help support any refugees coming to live on the Island

**We are committed to –**

- focusing on our customers' needs and being responsive to them
- supporting our customers, tenants, colleagues and key partners to enable us to support our communities
- innovating to improve our housing provision by taking advantage of legislative changes and seeking to reduce waste associated with the development process
- innovating to improve services and secure value for money for our tenants and residents

**By 2028 we will have:**

- Addressed the energy efficiency / fuel poverty agenda and will be working towards achieving the Welsh Housing Quality Standards II
- Opened a third Extra-Care Housing scheme with plans in place for a fourth
- Increased the choice and number of homes available for the Island's residents, together with assisting households to purchase their first homes
- Conducted a housing market needs assessment, together with an annual housing prospectus, allowing us to report on the increase in the supply of affordable housing
- Agreed the priorities for tenant participation activities and the allocation of resources to include the voice of our tenants in our services

#### 4. Economy – promoting opportunities to develop the Island’s economy

Half of Anglesey’s population is of working age and we recognise the need to improve job opportunities on the Island. Residents are eager to see greater opportunities in the computing & technology, energy, manufacturing, tourism and health sectors.

Our continuous aim is to support existing businesses, attract appropriate new investment, increase the number of new businesses and ensure that the Island continues to have one of the lowest business closure rates across Wales.

- **Regeneration and Economic Development –**
  - i. Explore opportunities to construct new business units across the Island enabling new and existing businesses to grow
  - ii. Working together with landowners to redevelop former industrial sites
  - iii. Continue to deliver a green, sustainable recovery and improve the vitality and viability of town centres
  - iv. Maximise opportunities for local companies to benefit from public sector contracts and opportunities
  - v. Collaborate to deliver the North Anglesey Economic Regeneration Action Plan
  - vi. Collaborate with key stakeholders and partners to strengthen the role of Holyhead and the Port as a key International ‘Gateway’
  - vii. Continue to work in partnership through the North Wales Economic Ambition Board to create new local and regional opportunities
  - viii. Continue to capitalise on external funding opportunities to ensure that the Island’s economic needs are addressed.
  - ix. Maintain, retain and develop our key infrastructure
- **The Visitor Economy -**
  - i. Implement new Destination and Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plans
  - ii. Continue to invest in core infrastructure to provide safe and sustainable experiences to allow residents and visitors to enjoy the Island’s coast and countryside
  - iii. Support and welcome cruise ship visits to Anglesey and North Wales
  - iv. Influence visitor behaviour and ensure that everybody appreciates the Island’s qualities

**We are committed to –**

- stimulating economic and community regeneration
- supporting the economy and local businesses to grow and prosper
- increasing and encouraging the development of low carbon projects
- working with the tourism sector to capitalise on the Island's popularity as a destination

**By 2028 we will have:**

- Supported low carbon energy production schemes
- Worked together to realize circular economy objectives
- Developed new business units to help local businesses grow and develop
- Capitalised on additional investment for the benefit of the local economy
- Grown and promoted the visitor economy in a respectful and sustainable manner to secure benefits for our communities and visitors
- Redeveloped redundant industrial sites and brownfields

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## **5. Climate Change – responding to the crisis, tackling change and working towards becoming a net zero organisation by 2030**

It is time step up and take decisive action on the climate emergency declared by the Council in 2020. It is an important issue for children and young people on the Island. The need to act for the benefit of the climate and our environment has never been more vital.

By working with local, regional and national partners, our aim is to respond to these challenges and opportunities positively, bravely and innovatively so that we can continue the journey to become a net zero Council and country by 2030.

- **Key Infrastructure & Planning for Climate Change**
  - i. Continue on our journey to reduce carbon emissions from the Council's land and assets and change the way we operate and deliver services
  - ii. Establish a household waste recycling rate of 70%
  - iii. Develop and deliver sustainable transport plans such as decarbonising transport, active travel, cycle routes
  - iv. Encourage the development of local renewable energy schemes
  - v. Continue to manage our countryside sites effectively to support the regeneration of nature and decarbonisation
  - vi. Consider climate change and biodiversity when making decisions across the Council
  - vii. Develop and deliver schemes for tree planting and locking up carbon
  - viii. Continue to minimise flood risk in areas of concern
  - ix. Adopt a new Local Development Plan
- **Energy Island Programme -**
  - i. Continue to influence major energy developments to secure long-term local and community support and benefits and minimise potential negative impacts
  - ii. Support and facilitate potential low carbon energy developments e.g. wind, tidal, solar, hydrogen and nuclear, together with suitable associated grid infrastructure

**We are committed to –**

- working towards achieving net zero carbon status
- supporting communities to reduce carbon emissions and their effect on the environment
- managing our land efficiently to support the regeneration of nature, biodiversity and lock up carbon where possible
- responding to global warming and climate change and supporting society to adapt the way it works, lives and uses land
- working with all key stakeholders to influence new energy developments and capitalise on opportunities to invest in low carbon energy
- supporting sustainable and green opportunities in our communities

**By 2028 we will have:**

- Minimised our direct carbon emissions to ensure that the net zero 2030 target is achievable
- Increased recycling rates
- Ensured that services consider climate change and biodiversity as fundamental issues when reaching decisions
- Creating extensive low carbon travel options for the Island's residents and visitors

## 6. The Welsh Language - increasing opportunities to learn and use the language

The Welsh language is an integral part of our identity, culture and heritage and we have a responsibility to ensure that it continues to develop and thrive. Welsh is widely spoken in our communities and the percentage of the population who can speak Welsh on Anglesey is the second highest in Wales. We want to see an increase in the number of people on Anglesey who can speak Welsh and an increase in the number of people who use the language on a daily basis.

Our aim is to ensure that our local efforts make a positive contribution towards achieving the Welsh Government's national vision of a million Welsh speakers by 2050.

Language and communication is also a vital part of delivering many of our services such as education, health and social care. Being able to use Welsh has an effect on our residents' well-being and it is often a matter of necessity rather than just choice.

- ***Thriving heritage and Welsh language***
  - i. Increase the number of children and young people studying through the medium of Welsh by implementing the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan
  - ii. Ensuring that parents and carers understand the value and benefits of the Welsh language by working with the Anglesey Welsh for Children and Families Partnership
  - iii. Continue to provide opportunities for children and young people to use the Welsh language socially, outside the classroom, by working with local partners
  - iv. Raise the status of the Welsh language in the workplace by offering development opportunities, improving confidence and practical support
  - v. Provide high quality Welsh medium services and comply with statutory requirements
  - vi. Ensure that opportunities are available for residents to learn Welsh and develop Welsh language skills in their communities by working with learning and training providers
  - vii. Develop the economy to support the Welsh language by capitalising on grant programmes and working with local businesses

**We are committed to –**

- offering high quality Welsh language services
- implementing our Welsh Language Promotion Strategy
- working with local and national partners to create more opportunities to use the Welsh language in social settings
- supporting our staff and councillors to improve their confidence and use Welsh more often in their work

**By 2028 we will have –**

- Ensured that when our Welsh Language Promotion Strategy is revised in 2026, it is appropriate to respond to the results of the last census
- Updated our Welsh language policy and developed a new policy on the use of Welsh in the workplace
- Used grant programmes to develop the Welsh language in the economy and with businesses
- Expanded our training offer to create increased opportunities for our staff, councillors, partners and the island's residents to develop their Welsh language skills

## The Council's Well-being Objectives

All the above strategic objectives have been produced to support the Council's duty to meet our well-being objectives for the benefit of current and future generations. Our well-being objectives:

- The people of Anglesey are educated to reach and fulfil their long-term potential
- The people of Anglesey are safe, healthy and as independent as possible
- The people of Anglesey and its communities enjoy, protect and enhance their built and natural environment for future generations

The table below shows how our well-being objectives align with the Welsh Government's national well-being objectives:

Linkages to the Council Well-being Objectives & National Well-being Goals		Prosperous	Resilient	Healthier	More Equal	Cohesive Communities	Vibrant Culture and Thriving Welsh Language	Globally Responsive
	Wellbeing Objective 1 - Ensure that the people of Anglesey can thrive and realise their long-term potential	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
	Wellbeing Objective 2 - Support vulnerable adults and families to keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
	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	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

- A prosperous Wales - An innovative, productive and low carbon society which recognises the limits of the global environment and therefore uses resources efficiently and proportionately (including acting on climate change)
- A resilient Wales - A nation which maintains and enhances a biodiverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change (for example climate change)
- A healthier Wales - a society in which people's physical and mental well-being is maximised and in which choices and behaviours that benefit future health are understood
- A more equal Wales – a society that enables people to fulfil their potential no matter what their background or circumstances (including their socio economic background and circumstances).
- A Wales of cohesive communities - Attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities

- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language - a society that promotes and protects culture, heritage and the Welsh language, and which encourages people to participate in the arts, and sports and recreation
- A globally responsible Wales - a nation which, when doing anything to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, takes account of whether doing such a thing may make a positive contribution to global well-being

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## Corporate Support Services

The corporate support services within the Isle of Anglesey County Council are integral to the success of front line services. Resources, people, and technology are essential as the Council strives to modernise and improve performance. Being a public sector organisations, there are also legislative processes which must be complied with fully. Some of the key responsibilities of these services include:

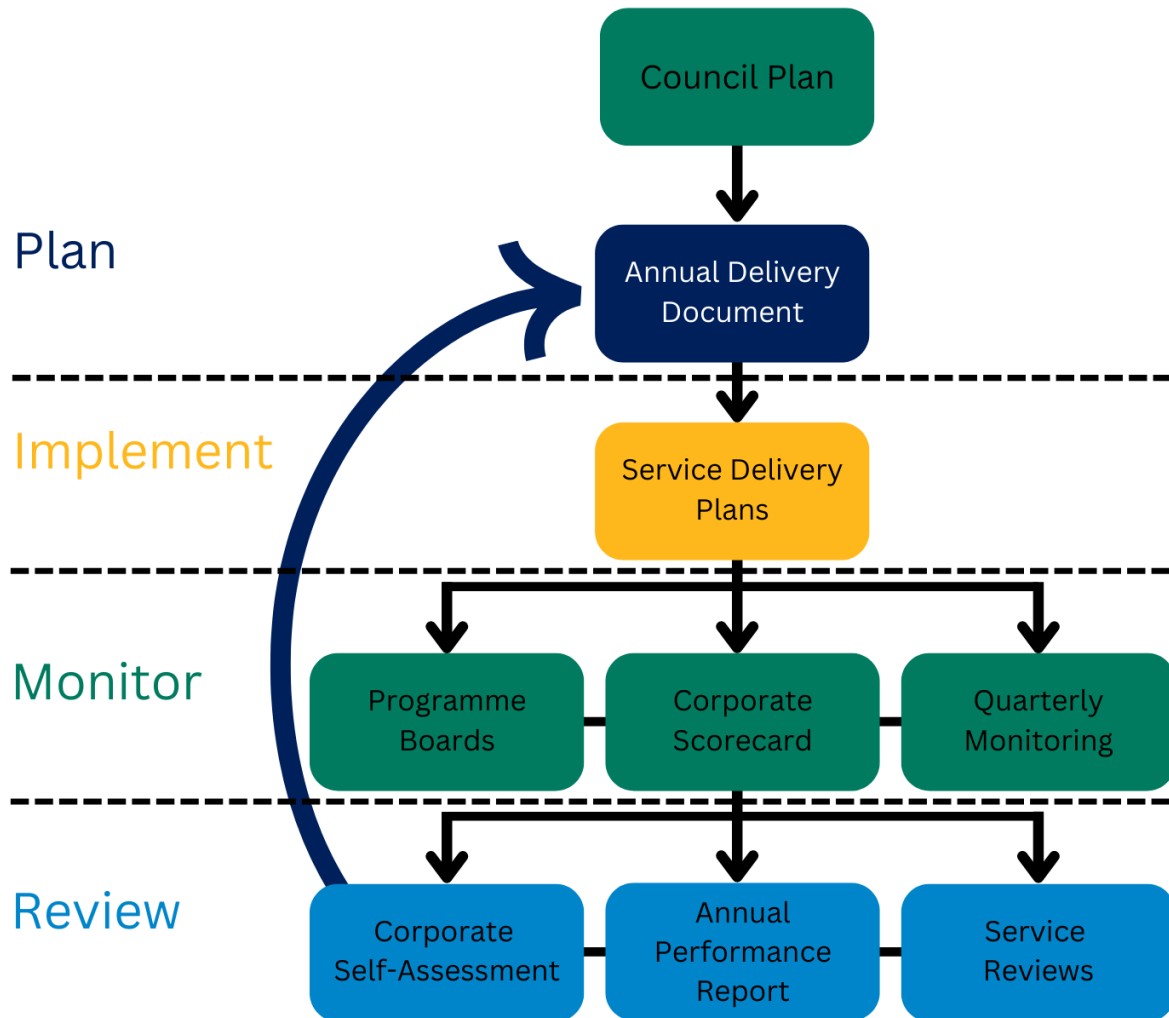
- HR: responsible for collaborating with front line services to attract, retain and develop the council's workforce.
- Corporate Performance: provides an independent view of performance, advising on improvement opportunities and promoting a culture of continuous improvement.
- Corporate Programme and Project Management: ensures that council projects are delivered effectively and efficiently, delivering value for money.
- IT: provides reliable and secure digital systems and services to support the council's work.
- Resources (Finance): provides financial management and support, ensuring that the council's finances are effectively managed and controlled.
- Legal: provides legal advice and support to the council, ensuring that it is complying with relevant laws and regulations.
- Democratic Services: manage the council's democratic processes, including the holding of elections.
- Complaints and Information Governance: responsible for managing and resolving complaints, ensuring that the council is transparent and open, whilst complying with data management and privacy expectations.
- Procurement: responsible for advising and supporting the procurement of goods and services, ensuring that the Council complies with regulations and achieves best value for money.
- Internal Audit: provides an independent view of the Council's financial and operational systems, identifying risks and making recommendations for improvement.
- Communications: responsible for the council's internal and external communication, information sharing, and engagement activities.
- Health and Safety: responsible for ensuring the council's compliance with health and safety regulations, managing risk, and promoting a safe working environment.
- Policy, equality, translation and Welsh language: responsible for ensuring the council's compliance with associated legislation and standards.
- Chief Executive's Office: The Office supports and drives forward the overarching strategic direction, coordination and organisational leadership of the Council.

## How we measure and analyse our performance

### What is Performance Management?

Performance Management is a process in which the council and its staff work together to plan, monitor and review our corporate priorities through corporate objectives, service objectives and individual objectives, within allocated resources.

The figure below demonstrates this process:



Further information can be found in appendix 2.



## Appendix 1

### **SUPPORTING STRATEGIES / PLANS**

- Digital strategy for Schools
- Welsh in Education Strategic Plan
- Oriol Môn Forward Plan
- North Wales Skills Strategy
- Welsh Language Promotion Strategy 2021-26
- Strategic Equality Plan
- Market Stability Report 2022
- Population Needs Assessment 2022

### **Capital and Treasury Management Strategy**

- Destination Management Plan
  - Public Toilets Management Plan
  - AONB Management Plan
  - British Energy Security Strategy
  - Levelling Up the United Kingdom
  - SoNaRR: The State of Natural Resources Report (2016)
  - Future Wales: The National Plan 2040
  - Planning Policy Wales – Edition 11 February 2021
  - National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management in Wales
- 
- Housing Strategy 2022-2027
  - Ynys Môn Housing Support Programme Strategy 2022-2026
- 
- Joint Local Development Plan
  - Highways Asset Management Plan
  - Towards Net Zero
  - Electric Vehicle Charging Plan
  - Asset Management Strategy / Plan
  - Llwybr Newydd: the Wales transport strategy

## **Council Plan – National and Regional Strategic Context**

### **National Strategies / Plans**

- *Programme for Government*
- *The Co-operation Agreement*
- *Energy Efficiency Strategy for Wales 2016-2026*
- *North Wales Growth Strategy (Dec 2020)*
- *North Wales Ambition Board – Covid Recovery Prospectus (Feb 2021)*
- *Gwynedd & Anglesey Public Services Board Well-being Plan*
- *Welcome to Wales: priorities for the visitor economy 2020-2025*
- *Prosperity for All - Economic Action Plan*
- *Low Carbon Delivery Plan 2*
- *Social House Building Strategy 2021*

### **Legislation**

- Local Government & Elections (Wales) Act 2021
- Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015
- Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
- Environment (Wales) Act 2016
- Sustainable Communities for Learning (Dec 2021)
- Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011
- Equality Act 2010

## Appendix 2

### How we measure and analyse our performance

#### **What is Performance Management?**

Performance Management is a process in which the council and its staff work together to plan, monitor and review our corporate priorities through corporate objectives, service objectives and individual objectives, within allocated resources.

#### **The Council Plan**

The Council Plan has set out the Council's strategic Aims and Objectives for the electoral term. It informs the decision-making process at all levels in the Council and:

- sets the framework we use to plan, drive and deliver our services
- influences how we shape our budget annually, and
- helps to monitor progress and assess what we achieve annually.

#### **How and when is it monitored?**

The Plan will be delivered by realising the annual delivery document (April – March). It is created at the beginning of each financial year and sets out the Council's specific plans for the next 12 months against the Council Plan. At the end of the financial year, we will prepare an annual performance report to report on progress against the annual delivery document over the last 12 months.

The Council Plan is monitored through a variety of different channels, including:

- quarterly transformation programme boards;
- quarterly corporate scorecard report; and
- annual service reviews;

Reports produced using information from these sources are then considered by our corporate scrutiny committee followed by the Executive. This ensures that all members are aware of our progress against our priorities.

#### **Transformation Programme Boards**

The Programme Boards have a remit to engender and enable strategic discussions related to specific themes. They provide councillors and senior leaders with the assurance and confidence that anticipated benefits to the Council and communities are being delivered.

#### **Service Reviews**

Each Service is expected to conduct two Service Reviews per year, which are conducted and managed corporately:

1. Financial Service Review

Undertaken to forecast service savings and transformation work, which can be used to assist the process of setting the annual Council budget.

2. Service Performance and Risk Review

Services are requested to complete a service self-assessment to identify how they are performing against key objectives. It is used to provide assurance to the Senior

Leadership Team and The Executive that service direction is aligned to that of the wider Council direction and that resources are used effectively.

### **Corporate Scorecard Reports**

The scorecard was developed to identify and inform Council leaders of progress against indicators which demonstrates the successful implementation of the Council's day-to-day activities. It assists in providing the evidential indicator base from which the annual performance report is drafted. It portrays the position of the Council against its operational objectives.

The quarterly scorecard monitoring report outlines mitigating actions the Leadership Team have identified to drive and secure improvements.

### **Corporate Self-Assessment**

The corporate self-assessment reflects the output of the corporate planning and performance management framework and provides an evidential basis of how the Council has performed using its available resources whilst managing and mitigating associated risks.

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<b>ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL Scrutiny Report Template</b>	
<b>Committee:</b>	Corporate Scrutiny Committee
<b>Date:</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> February, 2023
<b>Subject:</b>	Corporate Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme
<b>Purpose of Report:</b>	Assist the Scrutiny Committee in considering, agreeing and reviewing its forward work programme for 2022/23
<b>Scrutiny Chair:</b>	Cllr Robert Llewelyn Jones
<b>Portfolio Holder(s):</b>	Not applicable
<b>Head of Service:</b>	Lynn Ball, Director of Function (Council Business) / Monitoring 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 Scrutiny Members

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<b>1 - Recommendation/s</b>
<p>The Committee is requested to:</p> <p><b>R1</b> agree the current version of the forward work programme for 2022/23</p> <p><b>R2</b> note progress thus far in implementing the forward work programme.</p>

<b>2 – Link to Council Plan / Other Corporate Priorities</b>
<p>Effective work programming is the foundation of effective local government scrutiny. Our Scrutiny rolling forward work programmes are aligned with the corporate priorities of the Council and corporate transformation programmes – ensuring the role of Member scrutiny makes a tangible contribution to the Council’s improvement priorities.</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> <p><b>3.5</b> Looking at plans and proposals from a perspective of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long term</li> <li>• Prevention</li> <li>• Integration</li> <li>• Collaboration</li> <li>• Involvement</li> </ul> <p>[focus on wellbeing]</p>

**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

### 5 – Background / Context

#### 1. Background

1.1 Effective work programming is the bedrock of an effective local government scrutiny function<sup>1</sup>. Done well, work programming can help lay the foundations for targeted and timely work on issues of local importance demonstrating where Member scrutiny can add value. Good practice advocates two key issues at the heart of the scrutiny forward work programme:

- i. Challenge around prioritising work streams
- ii. Need for a member-led approach and interface with officers.

#### 1.2 Basic principles of good work programming<sup>2</sup>

- Work programming should not be a “start-stop” process
- Complementary work programmes for separate scrutiny committees
- Balance between different methods of work
- An effective process for reporting / escalating issues to the Executive
- Input and views of internal stakeholders
- Close working with the Executive
- Links with the Annual Scrutiny Report (evaluation and improvement tool).

#### 2. Local context

2.1 There is now a well-established practice of forward work programming which are now rolling programmes focusing on the quality of scrutiny with fewer items, to add value. They are an important tool to assist Members in prioritising their work and are discussed with the Strategic Leadership Team and Heads of Service. Both committees review the content of their work programmes on a regular basis, to ensure that they remain relevant and keep abreast with local priorities. Our local forward planning arrangements now ensure greater focus on:

- Strategic aspects
- Citizen / other stakeholder engagement and outcomes
- Priorities of the Council Plan and transformation projects
- Risks and the work of inspection and regulation
- Matters on the forward work programme of the Executive.

<sup>1</sup> A Cuning Plan? Devising a scrutiny work programme, Centre for Public Scrutiny (March, 2011)

<sup>2</sup> A Cuning Plan? Devising a scrutiny work programme, Centre for Public Scrutiny (March, 2011)

**Outcome:** rolling work programmes for scrutiny committees which are aligned with corporate priorities.

2.2 Committee chairs lead on developing the forward work programmes and are submitted to the monthly Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-chairs Forum and for approval at each ordinary meeting of the scrutiny committees. The Forum is considered an important vehicle to oversee these programmes and jointly negotiate priorities.

2.3 **“Whole council” approach to Scrutiny:** our work programmes provide a strong foundation for our improvement programme, ensuring the role that Scrutiny plays in the Authority’s governance arrangements:

- i. Supports robust and effective decision-making
- ii. Makes a tangible contribution to the Council’s improvement priorities
- iii. Continues to evolve.

### 3. Issues for consideration

3.1 The Scrutiny Committee receives regular update reports on the implementation of its forward work programme. A copy of the current 2022/23 work programme is attached as **APPENDIX 1** to this report for reference and includes changes made to the work programme since the Committee last considered the document.<sup>3</sup>

3.2 Where appropriate, items may be added to the Committee’s forward work programme during the municipal year. Requests for additional matters to be considered for inclusion on the work programme can be submitted via the Members Request Form for an item to be considered for Scrutiny. Requests are initially considered by the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-chairs Forum, using the following criteria:

- the Council’s strategic objectives and priorities (as outlined in the Council Plan)
- the ability of the Committee to have influence and/or add value on the subject (A Scrutiny Test of Significance Form will be completed).

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

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

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

### 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

Not applicable for this overarching issue but will be considered as an integral part of preparing for specific proposals to be submitted for consideration by the Committee.

## 7 – Financial Implications

Not applicable.

## 8 – Appendices:

<sup>3</sup> Meeting of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee convened on 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2023

Corporate Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme 2022/23

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

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



**ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR SCRUTINY → MAY, 2022 – APRIL, 2023**  
**[Version dated 17/02/23]**

**Note for Stakeholders and the Public:**

A [Protocol for Public Speaking at Scrutiny Committees](#) has been published by the Council.

Should you wish to speak on any specific item at a Scrutiny Committee then you should register your interest by submitting a written request using the form available as soon as possible and at least 3 clear working days prior to the specific Committee meeting. You can access information about the meeting and which items being discussed by reading this Forward Work Programme. Contact the Scrutiny Manager if you have any queries

[\[AnwenDavies@ynysmon.gov.uk\]](mailto:AnwenDavies@ynysmon.gov.uk)

<b>CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>May, 2022 (31/05/22)</b>	<b>May, 2022 (31/05/22)</b>
Election of Chair: 2022/23	Election of Chair: 2022/23
Election of Vice-chair: 2022/23	Election of Vice-chair: 2022/23
<b>June, 2022 (20/06/22)</b>	<b>June, 2022 (21/06/22)</b>
Performance Monitoring: Corporate Scorecard Qtr4: 2021/22	Annual Report on the Welsh Standards: 2021/22
Nomination of Scrutiny Members to Serve on Panels and Boards	Nomination of Scrutiny Members to Serve on Panels and Boards
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23	North Wales Economic Ambition Board Qtr 4: 2021/22 Progress Report
	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23
<b>September, 2022 (26/09/22) – Q1</b>	<b>September, 2022 (26/09/22)</b>
Performance Monitoring: Corporate Scorecard Q1: 2022/23	Market Stability Report (Social Care)
Progress Monitoring: Social Services Improvement Plan / Social Services Scrutiny Panel Progress Report	Education Scrutiny Panel Progress Report
Finance Scrutiny Panel Progress Report	Gwynedd & Ynys Môn Public Services Board Annual Report: 2021/22
Nomination of Committee Member on the Waste Steering Group with WRAP Cymru	
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23
<b>October, 2022 (19/10/22)</b>	<b>October, 2022 (18/10/22)</b>
Poverty and Cost of Living Challenges	Estyn Inspection of the Local Education Authority <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post Inspection Action Plan</li> <li>• Feedback from the Education Scrutiny Panel</li> </ul>
Annual Performance Report: 2021/22	Arfor Programme
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23	Regional Emergency Planning Service Annual Report: 2021/22
	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23

<b>CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>November, 2022 (22/11/22) - Q2</b>	<b>November, 2022 (23/11/22) – Crime and Disorder</b>
Monitoring Performance: Corporate Scorecard Q2: 2022/23	Gwynedd & Ynys Môn Community Safety Partnership Annual Report: 2021/22
Population Data: Census 2021	Annual Report North Wales Regional Partnership Board (Part 9): 2021/22
Isle of Anglesey Local Authority Report on the 2022 School Sport Survey: Sport Wales	North Wales Economic Ambition Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Wales Economic Ambition Board Annual Report: 2021/22</li> <li>• North Wales Economic Ambition Board Qtr 1: 2022/23 Progress Reports</li> </ul>
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23
<b>January, 2023 (19/01/23) – 2023/24 Budget (morning)</b>	<b>January, 2023 (17/01/23)</b>
2023/24 Budget Setting (Revenue Budget) – initial budget proposals	Corporate Safeguarding
Finance Scrutiny Panel Progress Report	Gwynedd & Ynys Môn Wellbeing Plan: 2023/28 – statutory consultee
Council Plan: 2023-2028	North Wales Economic Ambition Board Qtr 2: 2022/23 Progress Reports
	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23
<b>January, 2023 (19/01/23) (afternoon)</b>	
CIW Inspection: Post Performance Evaluation Inspection Action Plan (October, 2022)	
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23	
<b>February, 2023 (28/02/23) – 2023/24 Budget</b>	<b>February, 2023 (07/02/23) - Education</b>
Final Draft Budget Proposals for 2023/24 – revenue & capital	GwE Annual Report for the Isle of Anglesey: 2021/22
Finance Scrutiny Panel Progress Report	Education Scrutiny Panel Progress Report
Council Plan 2023/2028	
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23
<b>March, 2023 (14/03/23) - Q3</b>	<b>March, 2023 (15/03/23)</b>
Monitoring Performance: Corporate Scorecard Q3: 2022/23	Annual Report on Equalities: 2021/22
Progress Monitoring: Social Services Improvement Plan / Social Services Scrutiny Panel Progress Report	Update – for information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• North Wales Economic Ambition Board Qtr 3: 2022/23 Progress Report</li> </ul>
Housing Revenue Account Business Plan: 2023/24	Ynys Môn Levelling Up Programme
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23

<b>CORPORATE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>PARTNERSHIP AND REGENERATION SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>
<b>April, 2023 (19/04/23)</b>	<b>April, 2023 (19/04/23)</b>
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan	Public Services Board – governance arrangements / scrutiny of delivery of the Wellbeing Plan (to be confirmed)
	Anglesey Town Centres Improvement Strategy
	Destination Plan
Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23	Committee Forward Work Programme for 2022/23

**Items to be scheduled:**

<b>Corporate Scrutiny Committee</b>	<b>Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee</b>
Service Asset Management Policy 2021/31 – Smallholdings Estate	Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board – Clinical Services Strategy
Highways Asset Management Plan	North Wales Police & Crime Commissioner
Corporate Asset Management Polisi 2021/26	North Wales Fire & Rescue Service
Census 2021	Welsh Ambulance Services NHS Trust
	Medrwn Môn
	Scrutiny of Partnerships
	Transformation of Learning Disabilities Day Opportunities
	Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment
	North Wales Economic Ambition Board Annual Report: 2021/22
	Gwynedd & Ynys Môn Public Services Board – Annual Report 2022/23

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