

Public Document Pack



CYNGOR SIR
YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL

Mrs Annwen Morgan
Prif Weithredwr – Chief Executive

CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL
Swyddfeydd y Cyngor - Council Offices
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RHYBUDD O GYFARFOD	NOTICE OF MEETING
PWYLLGOR GWAITH	THE EXECUTIVE
DYDD LLUN 13 RHAGFYR 2021 10.00 o'r gloch	MONDAY 13 DECEMBER 2021 10.00 am
CYFARFOD RHITHWIR WEDI'I FFRYDIO'N FYW (AR HYN O BRYD NID OES MODD I'R CYHOEDD FYNYCHU)	VIRTUAL LIVE STREAMED MEETING (AT PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND)
Swyddog Pwyllgor	Ann Holmes 01248 752518 Committee Officer

AELODAU/MEMBERS

Plaid Cymru/Party of Wales

Llinos Medi Huws, Carwyn Jones, R Meirion Jones, Alun W Mummery, Robert G Parry, OBE, FRAGS, Robin Wyn Williams

Annibynnol/Independent

Richard Dew, Dafydd Rhys Thomas, Ieuan Williams

COPI ER GWYBODAETH / COPY FOR INFORMATION

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

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

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

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 from a Member or Officer in respect of any item of business.

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

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

3 THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 1 - 14)

To submit a report by the Head of Democratic Services.

4 ESTABLISHING A NEW PORT HEALTH AUTHORITY (Pages 15 - 22)

To submit a report by the Head of Regulation and Economic Development.

5 ESTABLISHING THE NORTH WALES REGION'S CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEE (CJC) (Pages 23 - 36)

To submit a report by the Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer.

6 ANGLESEY DIGITAL SCHOOLS STRATEGY (Pages 37 - 56)

To submit a report by the Deputy Chief Executive.

7 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC (Pages 57 - 58)

To consider adoption of the following:-

“Under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, to exclude the press and public from the meeting during discussion on the following item on the grounds that it may involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A (Paragraphs 14 and 16) of the said Act”.

8 ANGLESEY DIGITAL SCHOOLS STRATEGY AND CWMNI CYNNAL CYF. (Pages 59 - 66)

To submit a report by the Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer.

Isle of Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	The Executive
Date:	13 December 2021
Subject:	The Executive's Forward Work Programme
Portfolio Holder(s):	Cllr Llinos Medi
Head of Service / Director:	Director of Function – Council Business / Monitoring Officer
Report Author:	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation / Interim Head of Democratic Services
Local Members:	Not applicable

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s
<p>In accordance with its Constitution, the Council is required to publish a forward work programme and to update it regularly. The Executive Forward Work Programme is published each month to enable both members of the Council and the public to see what key decisions are likely to be taken over the coming months.</p> <p>The Executive is requested to:</p> <p>confirm the attached updated work programme which covers January – August 2022;</p> <p>identify any matters for specific input and consultation with the Council's Scrutiny Committees;</p> <p>note that the forward work programme is updated monthly and submitted as a standing monthly item to the Executive.</p>

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

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?
The approval of the Executive is sought before each update is published to strengthen accountability and forward planning arrangements.

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

Yes.

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

Not applicable.

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):

1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	Not relevant.
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.	
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.	
5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those 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.	

E – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	The forward work programme is discussed at Heads of Service meetings ('Penaethiaid') on a monthly basis (standing agenda item).
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	
4	Human Resources (HR)	
5	Property	
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	
7	Procurement	
8	Scrutiny	Under normal circumstances, monthly joint discussions take place on the work programmes of the Executive and the two Scrutiny Committees in order to ensure alignment.
9	Local Members	Not relevant

F - Appendices:

The Executive's Forward Work Programme: January – August 2022

The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: January – August 2022

Updated 1 December 2021



The Executive's forward work programme enables both Members of the Council and the public to see what key decisions are likely to be taken by the Executive over the coming months.

Executive decisions may be taken by the Executive acting as a collective body or by individual members of the Executive acting under delegated powers. The forward work programme includes information on the decisions sought, who will make the decisions and who the lead Officers and Portfolio Holders are for each item.

It should be noted, however, that the work programme is a flexible document as not all items requiring a decision will be known that far in advance and some timescales may need to be altered to reflect new priorities etc. The list of items included is therefore reviewed regularly and updates are published monthly.

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Reports will need to be submitted from time to time regarding specific property transactions, in accordance with the Asset Management Policy and Procedures. Due to the influence of the external market, it is not possible to determine the timing of reports in advance

The latest version of the Executive's Forward Work Programme – **which is a live document and subject to change** - is set out on the following pages.

Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg / This document is also available in Welsh.

* Key:

S = Strategic – key corporate plans or initiatives

O =Operational – service delivery

FI = For information

The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: January – August 2022

Updated 1 December 2021

Subject & *category and what decision is sought	Decision by which Portfolio Holder or, if a collective decision, why	Lead Service	Responsible Officer/ Lead Member & contact for representation	Pre-decision / Scrutiny (if applicable)	Date to Executive or, if delegated, date of publication	Date to Full Council (if applicable)
January 2022						
1	2022/23 Budget (S) To finalise the Executive's initial draft budget proposals for consultation.	Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Wyn Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel - Date to be confirmed Corporate Scrutiny Committee - Date to be confirmed	The Executive Date to be confirmed, subject to Welsh Government timescale.	
2	The Executive's Forward Work Programme (S) Approval of monthly update.	Council Business	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation (and Interim Head of Democratic Services) Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 24 January 2022	
3	Shared Equity Policy	Housing	Ned Michael Head of Housing Services Cllr Alun Wyn Mummery		The Executive 24 January 2022	
4	Lowering the Age of Admission at Ysgol Llandegfan	Learning	Rhys H Hughes Director of Education, Skills and Young People Cyng R Meirion Jones		The Executive 24 January 2022	

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Period: January – August 2022

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February 2022							
5	The Executive's Forward Work Programme (S) Approval of monthly update.	The approval of the full Executive is sought to strengthen forward planning and accountability.	Council Business	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation (and Interim Head of Democratic Services) Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 14 February 2022	
6	HRA Housing Rents and Housing Service Charges 2022/23		Housing	Ned Michael Head of Housing Services Cllr Alun W Mummery	Finance Scrutiny Panel	The Executive 14 February 2022	
7	Local Housing Strategy 2022-2027		Housing	Ned Michael Head of Housing Services Cllr Alun Wyn Mummery	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 20 January 2022	The Executive 14 February 2022	Full Council
8	Population Needs Assessment: Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014		Social Services	Fôn Roberts Director of Social Services Cllr Llinos Medi	Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee 8 February 2022	The Executive 14 February 2022	Full Council Date to be confirmed

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The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: January – August 2022

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9	AONB Management Plan 2021-2025	Regulation and Economic Development	Christian Branch Head of Regulation and Economic Development Cllr Carwyn Jones		The Executive 14 February 2021	Full Council
10	Road Maintenance and Highways Asset Management Policy	Highways, Waste and Property	Huw Percy Head of Highways, Waste and Property Cllr R G Parry OBE		The Executive 14 February 2022	
11	School Transport – Public Services Vehicles Accessibility Regulations	Learning / Highways, Waste and Property	Rhys H Hughes Director of Education, Skills and Young People / Huw Percy Head of Highways, Waste and Property Cllr Meirion Jones Cllr R G Parry OBE		The Executive 14 February 2022	
March 2022						
12	Annual Equality Report 2020/21	Social Services Portfolio Holder	Council Business Lynn Ball Director of Function – Council Business / Monitoring Officer Cllr Llinos Medi		Delegated decision March 2022	

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Updated 1 December 2021

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2022/23 Budget items						
13	Revenue Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 3, 2021/22 (S) Quarterly financial monitoring report.	This is a matter for the full Executive as it provides assurance of current financial position across the Council.	Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Wyn Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel	The Executive
14	Capital Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 3, 2021/22 (S) Quarterly financial monitoring report.	This is a matter for the full Executive as it provides assurance of current financial position across the Council.	Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Wyn Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel	The Executive
15	Housing Revenue Account Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 3, 2021/22 (S) Quarterly financial monitoring report.	This is a matter for the full Executive as it provides assurance of current financial position across the Council.	Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Wyn Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel	The Executive

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The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: January – August 2022

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16 Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2022/23 Adoption of strategy for the new financial year.		Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Wyn Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel	The Executive	Full Council
17 Community Based non-residential Social Care Services –2022/23 Fees and Charges		Adults Services	Arwel Owen Head of Adults Services Cllr Llinos Medi	Finance Scrutiny Panel	The Executive	
18 Local Authority Homes for Older People – Setting the Standard Charge 2022/23		Adults Services	Arwel Owen Head of Adults Services Cllr Llinos Medi	Finance Scrutiny Panel	The Executive	
19 Fees and Charges 2022/23		Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Wyn Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel	The Executive	

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20	Independent Sector Care Home Fees 2022/23		Adults Services Arwel Owen Head of Adults Services Cllr Llinos Medi	Finance Scrutiny Panel	The Executive	
21	Medium Term Financial Strategy and Budget 2022/23 (S) Adoption of final proposals for recommendation to the County Council.	This is a matter for the Executive as it falls within the Council's Budget Framework.	Resources Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Wyn Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel Corporate Scrutiny Committee	The Executive	Full Council
22	Capital Strategy and Capital Programme		Resources Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Wyn Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel	The Executive	Full Council
23	Capital Budget 2022/23		Resources Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Wyn Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel Corporate Scrutiny Committee	The Executive	Full Council

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24	The Executive's Forward Work Programme (S) Approval of monthly update.	Council Business	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation (and Interim Head of Democratic Services) Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 21 March 2022	
25	Corporate Scorecard – Quarter 3, 2021/22 (S) Quarterly performance monitoring report.	Corporate Transformation	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation Cllr Dafydd Rhys Thomas	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 7 March 2022	The Executive 21 March 2022	
26	Homelessness Strategy and Housing Support Grant	Housing	Ned Michael Head of Housing Services Cllr Alun Wyn Mummery	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 7 March 2022	The Executive 21 March 2022 To be confirmed	
27	Social Services Improvement Programme Progress Report	Social Services	Fôn Roberts Director of Social Services Cllr Llinos Medi	Social Services Improvement Panel 15 February 2022 Corporate Scrutiny Committee 7 March 2022	The Executive 21 March 2022	

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The Executive's Forward Work Programme

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28	Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Business Plan	Housing	Ned Michael Head of Housing Services Cllr Alun W Mummy	Finance Scrutiny Panel	The Executive 21 March 2022	
April 2022						
29	The Executive's Forward Work Programme (S) Approval of monthly update.	Council Business	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation (and Interim Head of Democratic Services) Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 25 April 2022	
May 2022						
30	The Executive's Forward Work Programme (S) Approval of monthly update.	Council Business	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation (and Interim Head of Democratic Services)		The Executive May 2022	
June 2022						
31	Welsh Language Standards Annual Report 2021/22	Portfolio Holder with responsibility for the Welsh language.	Council Business	Annwen Morgan Chief Executive	Delegated decision June 2022	

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32 The Executive's Forward Work Programme (S) Approval of monthly update.	The approval of the full Executive is sought to strengthen forward planning and accountability.	Council Business	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation (and Interim Head of Democratic Services)		The Executive June 2022	
33 Corporate Scorecard – Quarter 4, 2021/22 (S) Quarterly performance monitoring report.	This is a matter for the full Executive as it provides assurance of current performance across the Council.	Corporate Transformation	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation	Corporate Scrutiny Committee	The Executive June 2022	
34 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 4, 2021/22 (S) Quarterly financial monitoring report.	This is a matter for the full Executive as it provides assurance of current financial position across the Council.	Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer	Finance Scrutiny Panel	The Executive June 2022	
35 Capital Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 4, 2021/22 (S) Quarterly financial monitoring report.	This is a matter for the full Executive as it provides assurance of current financial position across the Council.	Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer	Finance Scrutiny Panel	The Executive June 2022	

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36	Housing Revenue Account Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 4, 2021/22 (S) Quarterly financial monitoring report.	Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer	Finance Scrutiny Panel	The Executive June 2022	
July 2022						
37	The Executive's Forward Work Programme (S) Approval of monthly update.	Council Business	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation (and Interim Head of Democratic Services)		The Executive June 2022	

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Isle of Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	Executive Committee
Date:	13th December 2021
Subject:	Establishing a new Port Health Authority
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Richard Dew – Planning & Public Protection
Head of Service / Director:	Christian Branch – Head of Regulation and Economic Development Service
Report Author:	Christian Branch
Tel:	01248 752419
E-mail:	ChristianBranch@ynysmon.gov.uk
Local Members:	All Elected Members (in particular those in Holyhead)

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s
<p>The withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union (EU) has created a need to establish new border control arrangements and checks on imports. These new requirements have been placed on the Welsh Government as a consequence of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018.</p> <p>Two new facilities are currently being developed at Parc Cybi, Holyhead to carry out new customs and border control checks on good entering and leaving the United Kingdom through the international Port of Holyhead. HM Revenue & Customs are developing an Inland Border Facility (IBF), and the Welsh Government is currently establishing a Border Control Post (BCP). Further details on these two facilities is provided in Annex A.</p> <p>Whilst responsibility for the BCP sits with the Welsh Government (under devolved powers from the UK Government), the establishment of the BCP will result in additional duties being placed upon the County Council (as the BCP’s host authority). The main duties on the Council arise under the Public Health (Control of Diseases) Act 1984 and retained EU legislation on the inspection of imports.</p> <p>This report focusses on the requirements of the BCP on the Council – in particular the need to develop and establish a new, dedicated Port Health Authority (PHA). A PHA has responsibility for enforcing health controls at the UK border, aimed at protecting public, environmental and animal health. The purpose of a PHA is described in Annex B.</p> <p>The PHA must be established by July 2022 (when checks on products of animal origin are scheduled to be introduced) in order to discharge the Council’s statutory duties (which include a range of documentary, identity and physical checks).</p> <p>Regulation and the Economic Development Service officers have been engaging with the Welsh Government since August 2020 to better understand the anticipated changes to border checks. Despite the best endeavours of Officers, the lack of information and clarity has impacted on the Council’s ability to plan and prepare meaningfully for the anticipated changes to border controls.</p>

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

It should also be noted that the Council does not currently possess any port health expertise, capacity or capability.

Work on developing the PHA is currently being undertaken with one off grant support from Welsh Government, with no clarity or certainty in terms of future funding beyond the potential generation of income arising from documentary checks. There is no additional financial support in place beyond March 2022.

The Service believes that there are two potential options available to the Council to discharge its new port health duties. They are:

1. Establishing a new, arms-length PHA for Holyhead
2. Discharging the duties 'in-house' within the Council (without establishing a new PHA).

An arms-length PHA would be a defined and statutory distinct body, which should be easier to operate in terms of its duties, administration and charging/ income generation. However, the creation of a PHA will in result in additional obligations (and costs) being placed on the Council. The various statutory duties that apply to the Council, would also apply to the new PHA. The PHA should be incorporated and the roles of the Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and S151 Officers applied. The PHA should also be included in accounting and auditing processes. The Council's constitution and allocation of delegations would also need to be reviewed.

The in-house approach would be the quickest means to put the appropriate capacity and arrangements in place for July 2022. However, it is unlikely to be as administratively efficient as a separate PHA and will need the buy-in from the Council Senior Officers and Members that the functions are to remain in-house and will be operated as such.

Further detailed work is required (with external support) to review and assess the suitability, deliverability and affordability of the preferred option to ensure that is the most appropriate way forward for the Council. This work will include a review of issues such as corporate governance, risks, liabilities, costs and requirements for support from other Council Services. A PHA Operational Plan will also be prepared to ensure the Council will be able discharge its statutory responsibilities in a timely and compliant manner; that there is alignment with the operation of the BCP; and that there is effective engagement, collaboration and information sharing with WG, UK Government, DEFRA and the Food Standards Agency.

Despite best endeavours, there has been no progress in securing financial support for the development, establishment, and initial operational phases of a new PHA.

Given the ongoing relationship and dialogue between the Council and Welsh Government in relation to the BCP, it will be critical to continue to work closely with its officials to inform the Council's approach to discharging its new PHA duties.

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

Recommendations:

- 1. To recognise the statutory requirement to establish a new Port Health Authority.**
- 2. Delegate responsibility to the Head of Regulation & Economic Development Service, in consultation with the Senior Leadership Team and Portfolio Holder, to identify and develop a preferred option for establishing a new Port Health Authority.**
- 3. To recognise that further developmental work is carried out at risk to the County Council, and that resources will be provided to the Head of Service, Regulation & Economic Development (value and scope to be agreed with the Council's S151 Officer).**
- 4. To continue to press the Welsh Government to adequately and fairly finance the Council's new and additional responsibilities for the development, establishment and initial operation of a new PHA and to underwrite all additional costs incurred by the Council which are not recovered through income generated by the PHA.**
- 5. To authorise the release of £100,000 from the Council's general balances to complete the above (which the Council will seek to recover from the Welsh Government). Any additional funding above this sum will require a further decision from the Executive or Full Council in accordance with the limits set out in the Council's Constitution.**

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

Given the nature and scale of the Council's statutory port health duties, as well as the need to ensure sufficient capability and capacity is in place by July 2022, no other appropriate options have been identified.

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

The Executive's approval is required because the decision does not fall within the Council's existing Constitution.

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

This decision aligns with the Council's commitment to ensure all statutory and legal obligations in relation to Public Protection are met.

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

The work to identify and develop (and subsequently implement) the Council's preferred option to discharge its port health duties is currently being undertaken at risk.

Additional resources will be required to undertake further detailed research and assessment - including the procurement of specialist external support.

The value and scope of any additional resources are to be agreed with the S151 officer following confirmation of the Executive Committee's support to establish a new PHA.

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):

1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	Given the socio- economic importance of the international Port of Holyhead, it is imperative that the Council has sufficient capacity and capability to undertake its statutory duties to support and facilitate the effective operation of the Port.
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	<p>The creation of a new PHA will result in additional obligations and costs being placed on the Council.</p> <p>The scale of these costs are as yet unclear and this will need to be established as part of the process to develop the preferred PHA model.</p> <p>The Welsh Government believes that the costs of the PHA could be recovered from the border checks that the PHA will undertake. This assumption will also need to be reviewed.</p>
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.	The Service has been working with the Welsh Government since August 2020 to better understand the anticipated changes to border control arrangements.
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.	The need to establish a PHA is an issue for the Council.
5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	No impacts on equalities are anticipated.
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the	No impacts on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage are

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):		
	decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	anticipated.
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 impacts anticipated on people using the Welsh language as a result of this decision. The new PHA would operate, and be managed, in full compliance with the Council's Welsh language policy.

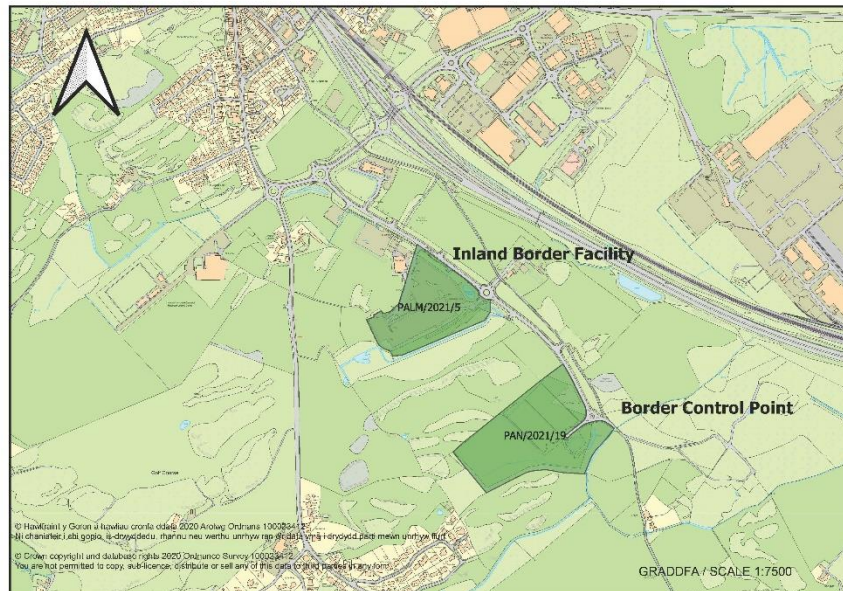
E – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	Recognise the statutory requirement to establish a Port Health Authority, but concerned about the additional financial obligations to the Council.
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	As above.
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	As above.
4	Human Resources (HR)	
5	Property	
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	
7	Procurement	
8	Scrutiny	
9	Local Members	

F - Appendices:
Annex A: Overview of new Customs and Border Control Facilities at Parc Cybi Annex B: Overview of a Port Health Authority

Ff - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):
N/A

Annex A: Overview of New Customs and Border Control Facilities at Parc Cybi

Two new facilities are being developed at Parc Cybi in order to carry out the necessary customs and border checks on goods entering and leaving the United Kingdom through the Port of Holyhead. HM Revenue & Customs are developing an Inland Border Facility (IBF), and the Welsh Government are developing a Border Control Post (BCP).



Inland Border Facility

An Inland Border Facility is a border facility which will provide customs and transit checks that will be required from 1 January 2021.

IBFs are Government sites, operated by Her Majesty's Customs & Revenue (HMRC), where customs and document checks can take place away from port locations.

Border Control Post

A Border Control Post is an approved facility to check animals and products of animal origin, plants and plant products, and high-risk food and feed of non-animal origin. These are collectively referred to as Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) checks. The responsibility for implementing, constructing and operating BCPs in Wales falls upon Welsh Government, in line with the Border Operating Model set out by the UK Government

The dates for the commencement of documentary checks can be summarised as:

- The requirement for pre-notification of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) goods, will be introduced on the 1st January 2022.
- The requirement for Export Health Certificates will be introduced on the 1st July 2022.
- Phytosanitary Certificates and physical checks on SPS goods at Border Control Posts will be introduced on the 1st July 2022.
- Safety and Security declarations on imports will be required as of the 1st July 2022.

Annex B – An Overview of a Port Health Authority

What is a Port Health Authority?

A Port Health Authority (“PHA”) is a specially constituted body which has responsibility for enforcing health controls at the UK border, aimed at protecting public, environmental and animal health.

PHAs are managed by the local authority where the relevant port is located. They will carry out checks on imported food, inspect ships for food safety and infectious disease control, and carry out general public and environmental health checks.

Establishing a Port Health Authority

A PHA is constituted under the Public Health (Control of Disease) Act 1984. Under the 1984 Act the Secretary of State or Welsh Ministers may, by order made by statutory instrument, constitute a ‘port health district’.

There is no formal process set out by Welsh Government to request the making of an Order.

What Powers can a Port Health Authority be given?

The 1984 Act states that an Order shall give the PHA jurisdiction over all waters and land within the PHD, and may assign to the PHA any of the functions, rights and liabilities of a local authority relating to public health, waste disposal or the control of pollution.

A PHA’s environmental responsibilities include:

- Environmental Health and the spread of diseases
- Environmental permitting
- Statutory nuisance

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Isle of Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	The Executive
Date:	13 December 2021
Subject:	<p>Establishing the North Wales Region’s Corporate Joint Committee (CJC)</p> <p>Further to Welsh Government legislation establishing the North Wales region’s CJC, the 6 local authorities must make appropriate arrangements before holding the CJC’s first meeting, and agree the CJC’s 2022/23 budget by 31 January 2022, before initial CJC functions ‘go live’ on 30 June 2022.</p>
Portfolio Holder(s):	Council Leader
Head of Service / Director:	The Chief Executive
Report Author: Tel: E-mail:	Lynn Ball, Director of Function (Council Business) / Monitoring Officer 01248 752586 lynnball@ynysmon.gov.uk
Local Members:	Applies equally to all Members

A – Recommendation/s and reason/s

RECOMMENDATION/S

Agree in principle that the functions of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board be transferred by way of a delegation agreement to the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee on condition:

- a) that the statutory framework that the Welsh Government are developing allows for the delegation of the relevant executive functions to a Corporate Joint Committee,
- b) that the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee agrees to establishment of a Sub-Committee, with membership to be agreed with the Councils, to undertake the functions of the Economic Ambition Board.

REASON/S

This transition is proposed in order to achieve a streamlined governance model, avoiding duplication. A further detailed report on the framework for implementation will be presented to a subsequent meeting of the Executive.

BACKGROUND

1. Regulations were made by the Welsh Government on 17 March 2021 creating four Corporate Joint Committees in Wales, and the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee (CJC) was established on 1 April 2021.
2. The four CJCs will exercise functions relating to strategic development planning and regional transport planning. They will also be able to do things to promote the economic well-being. In contrast to other joint committee arrangements, the CJC is a separate corporate body which can employ staff and hold assets.
3. Our region's CJC is already in existence as an independent corporate body, and its initial functions will come into force on 30 June 2022 ('go live' date for the North Wales CJC). In the past, reservations were expressed because CJCs might lead to "another layer of bureaucracy", but now we have no choice other than to make it work.
4. Further regulations will follow. The Welsh Government are consulting on draft statutory guidance. Pinsent Masons LLP, who are advising several Welsh regions, are liaising with Welsh Government in the development of this detail. This report's focus is on regional implementation and transition - the establishment of the North Wales CJC.
5. Welsh Government grant funding of £250,000 has been approved, to enhance project management capacity and commission professional assistance (including legal advice) to support implementation of, and transition to the region's CJC during 2021/22.
6. Establishing the CJC is a legal requirement, but the timetable remains challenging, including the 'immediate duties' prescribed in the legislation (viz. regional Strategic Development Plan, Regional Transport Plan, and the economic well-being function), the need to balance legacy issues with new statutory requirements, the scheduling of initial meetings, and budget-setting in January 2022.
7. This report is submitted simultaneously to Executive or Cabinet meetings at the 6 Councils: Anglesey, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd and Wrexham.

PRINCIPLES

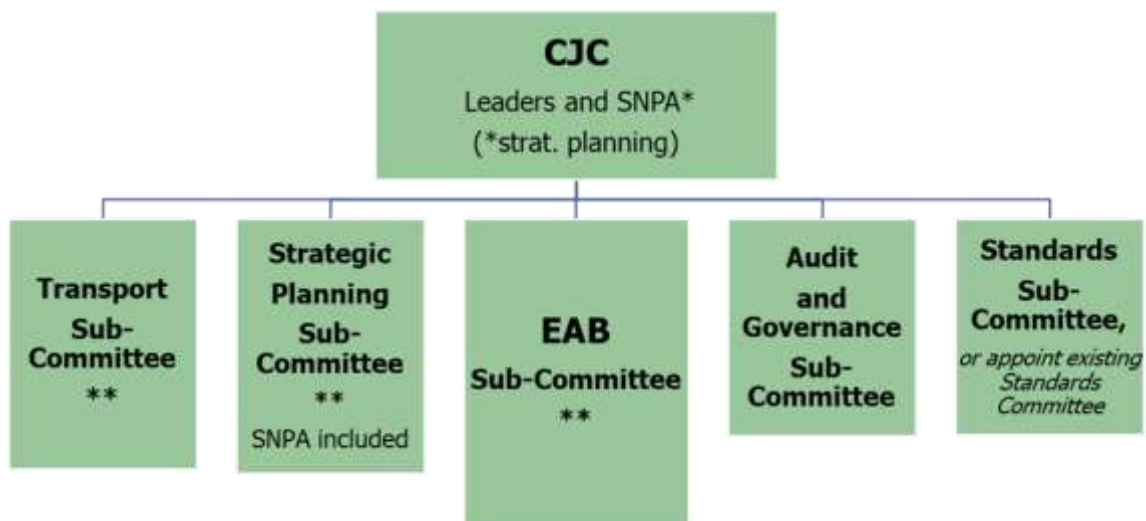
8. There is a consensus that the CJC should continue in the direction established by the North Wales Economic Ambition Board (EAB), albeit possibly better supported in due course by the structures, powers and levers provided by the CJC legislation. Further, the 6 Council Leaders and Chief Executives are agreed that our CJC should be 'built' on the following aims and principles:
 - i. Clarity / simplicity
 - ii. Avoiding new bureaucracy and excessive cost
 - iii. Adding value to, not disrupting, existing regional governance
 - iv. Major Growth Deal decisions being protected by the 'reserved matters' rule
 - v. Subsidiarity (individual LAs make decisions on issues that affect them)
 - vi. Allowing new powers and opportunities to be devolved to the region
 - vii. Being 'future proof'
9. Faced with the challenging timescale, there is cross-border agreement that we should initially aim to establish a streamlined governance model, avoiding duplication while having due regard to subsidiarity. The first priority is to move the EAB to an empowered sub-committee of the CJC, noting that our local authority Leaders will be in control of this corporate body. Given approval to establish this governance model, we would ensure that we keep our options open with a high degree of flexibility to subsequently consider transition details (e.g. staff issues) on a 'case by case' basis.

STRUCTURE FOR THE EAB IN THE CJC

10. Pinsent Masons have considered operational structures available to the EAB going forward, in light of the establishment of the CJC, Welsh Government policy direction and the regionally agreed principles noted under paragraph 5 above.
11. Doing nothing, or 'co-existence' is insufficient, contrary to Welsh Government policy, and doesn't address how the Economic Ambition Board's functions are to be discharged by the CJC.
12. At first glance, a partial transfer to a 'hybrid' model retaining a host authority as accountable body, co-existing with the CJC, may appear to be attractive

in terms of avoiding change from the current Economic Ambition Board model (despite the benefits of a CJC). However, this would require convoluted back-to-back agreements in respect of transactions entered into by project sponsors on behalf of the EAB. It lacks clarity, and provides no real advantage. Further, our region would still require a functioning CJC to undertake the Transport and Planning roles, which are vested directly in the CJC.

13. The most efficient and viable operational structure, which satisfies the requirement to transition to a CJC, is to transfer the Economic Ambition Board functions to an empowered sub-committee of the CJC. Consequently, transferring the functions to a sub-committee will retain core elements of the EAB, but provide a more robust and efficient delivery model directly via the CJC corporate vehicle. Crucially, the framework should allow a sub-committee governance model agreed with the CJC to confirm / continue the role of the Councils and Partners in relation to the “Reserved Matters”.
14. Pinsent Masons have advised officers in detail on the advantages and some key issues, before we concluded that the transferring the EAB functions to a sub-committee provides the optimal structure for the CJC. As a separate corporate body, the CJC may naturally evolve over time and deliver wider initiatives, while building upon recent years of regional public investment under the EAB and continuing the trajectory established by Growth Deal.
15. The proposed CJC committee structure is shown in the following chart, including establishment of a subsidiary EAB delivery vehicle (sub-committee). This limits the extent of change and satisfies the ‘immediate duties’ in a consensual way –



** Delegation to statutory sub-committees, which are also subject to the transparency requirements which apply to executive function bodies.

DECISION-MAKING

16. Pinsent Masons advise that decision-making, after transferring functions under the CJC, could operate to a large degree how decision-making currently occurs within the Economic Ambition Board, with local authorities retaining overall control over Growth Deal decision-making through robust delegation or novation arrangements. This will require amending legislation to allow for executive or Cabinet functions to be delegated to the CJC, as they are currently delegated to the EAB. It is understood from Pinsent Masons, further to their discussions with the Welsh Government, that this will be addressed in the forthcoming set of regulations.
17. The scheme of delegation from the local authorities to the CJC will clarify which matters remain decisions that are reserved for the local authorities as is currently set out in 'GA2'.
18. Snowdonia National Park Authority is an additional voting member of the CJC, but only on matters relating to the strategic planning function and its budget.
19. The 'Advisors' (college principals) are not original CJC members, but can be co-opted to the subcommittee and may be given voting rights if CJC so determines (and, if so, the current EAB model would continue).

MERITS OF TRANSFERRING THE ECONOMIC AMBITION BOARD FUNCTIONS INTO THE CJC FORMING A SINGLE CORPORATE ENTITY

20. Having considered the approach to and implications of transferring the north Wales region's EAB and current Growth Deal arrangements (and where applicable, Growth Vision delivery) into the CJC, legal advice received from Pinsent Masons shows that simplicity and avoiding bureaucracy (two key principles identified under paragraph 5 above) may be achieved by fully utilising the potential of the CJC via direct contractual arrangements.
21. This view is strongly supported by the Cardiff Capital Region's experience, analysis and decision to 'lift and shift' their city deal (growth deal) operations to their CJC, forming a single corporate entity. Cardiff's 'go live' date for commencement of functions is 28 February 2022, four months before our CJC's 'go live' date, allowing us to be informed by precedents there.
22. Transferring the Economic Ambition Board functions to a single corporate entity will mean not using a host authority as the accountable body.

However, individual local authorities could continue to provide officers and support services to the CJC / EAB by agreement, or individual local authorities could agree to 'lead' on one of the specific 'immediate duties'. Also, individual partners could continue to lead on individual projects, of course.

23. The north Wales region's CJC must appoint statutory officers, i.e. a Chief Executive, a Monitoring Officer, and a Chief Finance Officer (CJCs have the same financial reporting and disclosure requirements as local authorities). However, the CJC could choose either to employ these directly, or enter into arrangements with constituent authorities for their officers to be placed at the disposal of the CJC.
24. Staff directly employed by the CJC may be minimised. Before the 30 June 2022 'go live' date, we will need to carefully consider transfer of Economic Ambition Board staff to be employed by the CJC, rather than the host authority. At the outset, any other employment shift could be limited by use of service level agreements with local authorities for services, or secondment of staff from local authorities. Subsequently, the CJC may make 'delivery' decisions with each individual function.

ADDED VALUE FOR THE EAB WITHIN THE CJC AS A SINGLE CORPORATE ENTITY

25. Using a host authority as the accountable body has been successful in establishing the EAB. However, continuing with this contractual agency / services agreement approach ("co-existing" with the CJC henceforth) would eventually mean both the EAB and the host authority being mired in "back to back agreements" which will be required on individual projects.
26. Over circa 6 years, this has put increasing strain on Cardiff Council as the accountable body for their region's city deal. As we have grant funding to support such transition now, Gwynedd and north Wales should take cognizance of our opportunity to take the benefit of Cardiff's experiences now, in order to avoid the time and cost of changing later. We have a timely opportunity now to learn from the Capital Region's experience. Many more loan and contract agreements would need to be novated or retained by the accountable body (depending on the nature and complexity of the individual projects) if north Wales switched our EAB model to a corporate entity further on down the road.

SUB-COMMITTEES FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING AND STRATEGIC TRANSPORT

27. There is clear consensus (from recent discussions between the 6 Council Leaders and Chief Executives) that we need a governance structure with

sub-committees for Strategic Planning and Strategic Transport, both being sub-committees of the CJC alongside, and not underneath, the EAB as a sub-committee in its own right.

28. These sub-committees could be inclusive of relevant portfolio holders from the constituent authorities, alongside their leaders on the CJC. The CJC could appoint other members with voting rights from partner organisations, as required. This delegated governance model could enable us to have a lighter CJC meeting agenda, with sub-committees doing the heavy lifting. There are certain matters which cannot be delegated by the CJC in this context, particularly around governance structure, budget decisions, and certain key decisions in relation to the adoption of the statutory plans.
29. It has been suggested that there should be 'host authority' for strategic planning and a 'host authority' for strategic transport. There could be seconding-in of some existing capacity to do the strategic work on the 'immediate duties' which must be delivered for the CJC. While individual local authorities could be prepared to lead on planning or transport functions, they would not be an 'accountable body' as Gwynedd are for the EAB. The CJC, as a corporate entity, would make agreements with third parties as required. However, in principle, it may be practical for individual authorities to lead and deliver the planning and transport functions, with the CJC funding these authorities' increased capacity / regional responsibility.

TRANSITION FROM GROWTH DEAL ARRANGEMENTS

30. Several regulatory issues remain to be resolved with regards transition from current arrangements to the CJC – some of these need to be addressed through expected CJC regulations, etc. Clarification required includes possible novation of the Growth Deal funding agreement to the CJC (alternatively, subject to legislative changes to reflect Welsh Government's direction of travel, local authorities could delegate or novate to the CJC). Clarification is also required regarding the scope of the CJC's ability to borrow, invest and act commercially, tax and VAT status. The Welsh Government have stated that their policy intention is that CJsCs should be subject to the same powers and duties as principal LAs in the way that they operate (including essentially the ability to borrow and reclaim VAT like unitary local authorities). Solutions to some issues are still a 'work in progress'.
31. Legal advice is being received from Pinsent Masons on the approach to and implications of transferring the north Wales region's EAB and current Growth Deal arrangements into the CJC. Initial legal advice and the challenging timescales means that the Welsh Government's aim to transfer these arrangements into the CJC is more challenging and complex than anticipated. We will also need to consider the governance of our region's

CJC and potential sub-committees, which will require specialist input from the local authorities' lawyers.

32. The Welsh Government's stated policy direction is that the CJC should be afforded the requisite powers to be able to deliver the Growth Deal for the local authorities. Accordingly, following review of the current legislation and discussion with the Welsh Government, Pinsent Masons' specialist lawyers conclude that there is not intended to be a material disparity in the manner in which the NWEAB currently operates and how the CJC could operate in respect of the Growth Deal / Growth Vision. It is anticipated that complexities regarding delegation to the CJC may be solved by further Regulations, allowing us to tailor operations to reflect the needs of the region, in line with the Economic Ambition Board and 'GA2'.

GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE

33. Transition of the Economic Ambition Board (with no material change to how it currently operates) to the CJC would require a formal decision by each of the local authorities, and in practice the consent of the other partners to GA2. The Welsh Government's Corporate Joint Committees General Regulations have not yet addressed the issue of the role of scrutiny committees. The current scrutiny arrangements for the Economic Ambition Board are within the statutory framework for scrutinising executive decision making. GA2 includes a protocol for managing the relationship. Thus far, there is no statutory arrangement for scrutiny of the Corporate Joint Committees. However, the draft statutory guidance on CJsCs emphasises the role of local authorities' overview and scrutiny arrangements, as part of the governance and democratic accountability framework which needs to be established. There are further regulations to follow and we will need to develop a scrutiny framework and understand the basis for the arrangements.
34. In respect of the 'initial functions' (see below), the CJC will need to agree the budget and allocate contributions across the local authorities. Each local authority's representative on the CJC will be mindful of the guiding principles under the NWEAB's GA2 but, as the budget setting relates to the 'initial functions', the budget contributions will be determined and levied by the CJC itself.
35. There will be significant ongoing resource requirements on local authorities' capacity in administering and delivering CJC functions. These administrative burdens and professional resource requirements for the establishment of and servicing of the CJC are yet to be fully identified.
36. As part of the scheme of delegation to the CJC, the local authorities will be passporting the Growth Deal funding, which will be allocated and invested in strict accordance with the terms of the 'Outline Business Plan' (which was

adopted when 'GA2' was signed). Any change impacting on the financial position of a local authority may be reserved for the local authorities to determine (rather than the CJC), thus ensuring this aspect operates as per the EAB.

37. Some additional statutory obligations are broadly in keeping with how the EAB functions, including:

- the CJC to prepare a 12-month business plan setting out activities to be undertaken and the CJC's budget requirements;
- the CJC to agree the CJC's budget requirements for its first financial year at a meeting of the CJC by 31 January 2022, and how this will be met (levied);
- the CJC to appoint the chairperson and vice-chairperson at its first meeting; and
- the CJC to establish a Governance and Audit Sub-Committee.

THE 'INITIAL FUNCTIONS'

38. There are three initial functions prescribed to be discharged by the CJC, two are which are not currently carried out by the NWEAB:

- preparing, monitoring, reviewing and revising of a Strategic Development Plan;
- developing a Regional Transport Plan – policies for transport; and
- economic well-being function – anything likely to promote economic wellbeing.

39. Planning policy managers in north Wales have looked at delivery options and cost implications for producing the north Wales region's Strategic Development Plan (SDP) (in addition to Local Development Plans).

40. Transport professionals are currently considering how a compliant and suitably robust Regional Transport Plan (RTP) could be developed.

41. Both the Councils and the CJC have concurrent powers in relation to promoting economic wellbeing - this one of the powers, amongst many, that the parties currently rely upon to deliver the Growth Deal. In due course additionally the co delivery of this function may be considered based on the currently envisaged Growth Vision role of the Economic Ambition Board.

42. The regionally agreed principles noted under paragraph 5 above are consistent with a shared view that the proposals here are made on a 'no threat' basis to the local authorities. Thus, the CJC will set the direction and priorities, and is likely to need some concurrent functions, while its SDP and

RTP will set a policy framework which the local authorities must have regard to. However, the individual local authorities will remain best placed to undertake local activity around economic development, planning, transport and other functions, with the CJC empowering and supporting local, regional and national delivery.

RECOMMENDATION

43. The Executive are asked, subject to the Welsh Government putting the appropriate statutory framework in place, to adopt a streamlined governance model, avoiding duplication, by approving in principle the transition of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board to be established as a sub-committee of the north Wales region's Corporate Joint Committee (CJC).

NEXT STEPS

44. The following key tasks (this is not an exhaustive list) will require attention during late 2021, or during first quarter of 2022:
- i. Regarding CJC membership, Snowdonia National Park Authority to nominate their representative.
 - ii. Set the date of the first CJC meeting.
 - iii. Agree the CJC's budget requirements for its first financial year at a meeting of the CJC by 31 January 2022
 - iv. Agree how the CJC's budget requirements will be met, i.e. authorities' contributions to be levied.
 - v. The CJC to adopt a sub-committee structure, and form a view on co-option, who, where, scope of participation, and whether voting or non-voting.
 - vi. Establish meeting governance and support arrangements for the CJC.
 - vii. Develop and establish a Scrutiny framework, when the Welsh Government's regulations on CJCs provides the relevant basis for the arrangements.
 - viii. Establish the Governance and Audit Committee and Standards Committee, and appoint members.

- ix. Formal decision by the local authorities, together with the consent of the other partners in GA2, to transition the NWEAB to the CJC.
- x. Establish the Governance Agreement with the CJC in relation to the Economic Ambition Board functions, and any other “host authority” agreements, with the CJC required to implement the proposed arrangement.
- xi. Appoint statutory officers.
- xii. Prepare a 12-month business plan.
- xiii. Agree how the CJC’s business transactions are established / hosted.
- xiv. Prepare and adopt CJC Standing Orders and basic governance documentation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

45. Approving the decision sought here regarding the governance model would not add any financial implication for the Council. However, there will be an unavoidable ongoing cost (administrative burdens servicing the CJC and professional resource requirements) for local authorities to be able to administer and deliver the CJC’s statutory functions. These costs are yet to be fully identified, but the direction set by this report is to make the CJC work effectively while minimising the financial burden on the Council.

WIDER DUTIES

46. In developing the proposals regard should be had, amongst other matters, to:
 - the Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 and the Welsh Language Standards,
 - Public sector duties under the Equalities Act 2010 (including specific Welsh public sector duties). Pursuant to these legal duties Councils must in making decisions have due regard to the need to (1) eliminate unlawful discrimination, (2) advance equality of opportunity and (3) foster good relations on the basis of protected characteristics and the Socio-Economic Duty.
 - The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (‘the Act’) is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act places a ‘well-being duty’ on public bodies aimed at achieving 7 national well-being goals for Wales - a Wales that

is prosperous, resilient, healthier, more equal, has cohesive communities, a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language and is globally responsible .

47. Under the Welsh Government's Regulations, the CJC is subject to the Equalities Act, Future Generations Act, and other legislation, in the same way as local authorities.

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

The options and their merits are discussed in detail in the body of this report.

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

Not a reserved matter for full Council in the Constitution nor under the GA2 (the agreement amongst the parties)

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

Yes.

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

Yes.

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):

1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	This is part of development of the EAB and CJC
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	At the moment this decision does not change the financial contribution to the Economic Ambition Board
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.	With the other Local Authorities in North Wales
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward,	Not relevant to this decision

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):		
	including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.	
5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	As the recommendation relates to agreeing in principle to the transfer of functions to the North Wales CJC no new potential impact is anticipated.
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	As the recommendation relates to agreeing in principle to the transfer of functions to the North Wales CJC no new potential impact is anticipated.
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.	<p>Amendments to the relevant legislation laid out in The Welsh Language Standards (No. 1) Regulations 2015 (Amendment) Regulations 2021 subject CJs to the same Welsh language standards as local authorities, national parks and Welsh Ministers. Thus ensuring that Welsh language users can expect the same standard of service from CJs.</p> <p>However, it remains unclear precisely which standards will be imposed upon the North Wales CJC.</p> <p>We have already called for clarity on this point from the Welsh Government in order to better assess the potential impact of transferring responsibilities from the authority to the North Wales CJC on the Welsh language.</p>

E – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	The SLT supports the recommendations
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	The current financial contribution to the Ambition Board is sufficient
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	The Monitoring Officer is joint author of the report.
4	Human Resources (HR)	Irrelevant
5	Property	Irrelevant
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	Irrelevant
7	Procurement	Irrelevant
8	Scrutiny	

E – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
9	Local Members	

F - Appendices:

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

Isle of Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	The Executive
Date:	13 December 2021
Subject:	Anglesey Digital Schools Strategy
Portfolio Holder(s):	Cllr Llinos Medi Huws
Head of Service / Director:	Dylan Williams Deputy Chief Executive
Report Author: E-mail:	Susan Owen Jones, Executive Manager (SLT) SusanJones4@ynysmon.gov.uk Owen T. Davies, Senior Manager (Primary) OwenDavies@ynysmon.gov.uk Mathew Henshaw, IT Team Manager MathewHenshaw@ynysmon.gov.uk
Local Members:	All elected Members

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

The report presents the first Digital Schools Strategy for Anglesey that sets out our vision; underpinned by overarching principles and key priority areas for the provision of ICT Services to Schools.

It is recommended:

- R1. That the Executive approve the draft Digital Schools Strategy.**
- R2. That the Executive authorises the additional funding requirement of £135,439 in order to implement the strategy.**

Reasons:

Context

Digital has many meanings in today's society and is enabling new approaches to be taken in every part of our daily lives. Nowhere is this more evident than in our schools. The ability to change and adapt quickly and effectively, whilst working in partnership was evident during the COVID 19 response, which must now be harnessed into the future.

In light of the Curriculum for Wales, digital competence (alongside literacy and numeracy) will become a mandatory cross-curricular skill which must be embedded in any adopted curriculum. Digital competence focuses on ensuring that learners have the ability to learn, understand and use technology confidently, creatively and critically.

As the cyber threat to educational establishments continues to evolve, it is imperative that a collaborative approach is in place to ensure the security of this critical data.

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

As a result of the above, we need to ensure that digital technology is embedded securely in all areas of curriculum delivery.

Purpose

The overall vision of the strategy is to support digitally enabled schools to ensure learners thrive and realise their long-term potential.

Achieving the vision, which supported by overarching principles and key priority areas sets a clear and ambitious mandate.

The key priority areas are:

- Effective Networks
- Data Protection & Digital Resilience
- Hardware
- Hwb & Cloud First

The strategy also sets out the role of the local authority & schools in delivering this vision.

The strategy is for all school learners, teachers, support staff, governors, parents & members of the whole Anglesey school community & their experiences will be consistent across the sectors.

Delivery of the strategy cannot be achieved by working in isolation. Many of the activities within the strategy are dependent on partnership working to be delivered successfully. We will continue to work together with our schools to ensure the best possible outcomes for our learners.

Monitoring

To ensure the strategy is realised, we will establish robust governance arrangements. The arrangements will ensure clarity, accountability, coordination and the structure to monitor progress effectively.

Progress will be reviewed quarterly which will provide a summary report on the actions, outcomes / impact and highlight successes and issues. An annual progress report and review of the strategy will be completed.

As part of the process in developing the strategy, the Deputy Chief Executive and the Director of Education, Skills & Young People engaged with a member of the Ynys Môn Schools ICT Forum (a representative of the Primary Schools Headteachers) to clarify the current situation, discuss the rationale & the content of the draft strategy. The representative subsequently held a meeting with a subgroup of Primary Headteachers to further engage and seek the views of stakeholders.

Similarly, the Deputy Chief Executive and the Director of Education, Skills & Young People engaged with the Island's Secondary Headteachers and with the

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

Headteacher of CAYB at their recent strategic meeting. Below is a summary of the responses:

- The need for a specific post to work with schools & to manage the Schools ICT Team.
- Flexibility in provision is identified as essential to allow schools to innovate, experiment and develop with IT.
- Concern is noted that the strategy is dependent solely on Hwb and that there is a need to ensure that other / contingency arrangements are in place.
- Secondary Schools note the importance of the role of technicians in schools.
- The role of the IT Forum was identified as very important to refine the strategy.

The points raised will be considered during the development of the operating model.

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

Not applicable.

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

In order to receive approval of the strategy.

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

Yes.

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

The decision will not impact on the budget approved by the Council for 2021/22. It will need be included as part of the normal budget setting process for 2022/23.

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):

1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	This strategy aims to improve the current provision of digital technology within the Island's schools, thereby
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Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):		
		ensuring that digital technology is embedded securely in all areas of curriculum delivery and that learners thrive and realise their long-term potential.
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	No.
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.	The Strategy is aligned to the Welsh Government priorities set out within the new Curriculum for Wales.
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.	Engagement with schools has taken place during the development of the strategy.
5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed & confirms no impact.
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	The strategy is for all school learners, teachers, governors, support staff, parents and members of the whole Anglesey school community. It will ensure that all groups have the required access & experience.
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.	A Welsh Language Impact Assessment has been completed & no impact identified.

E – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	The Strategy has been considered by the Chief Executive and SLT prior to it being presented to the Committee. The comments of SLT members have been incorporated into the Strategy.
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	The Section 151 Officer is a member of the SLT and any comments made have been considered along with all comments made by SLT members. The Section 151 Officer was responsible for drafting the Finance & Structure appendix.

E – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	The Monitoring Officer is a member of the SLT and any comments made have been considered along with all comments made by SLT members.
4	Human Resources (HR)	The strategy has been considered by the Head of Service and the comments have been incorporated into the strategy.
5	Property	N/A
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	This is a joint service strategy of which the ICT service were joint authors of the strategy.
7	Procurement	N/A
8	Scrutiny	
9	Local Members	

F - Appendices:

Appendix 1: The draft Anglesey Digital Schools Strategy:
Appendix 2: Funding the Schools Digital Strategy

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

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Ynys Môn
THE ISLE OF
Anglesey

DIGITAL SCHOOLS STRATEGY

2022-2024



www.ynysmon.gov.uk

Foreword



Councillor
Llinos Medi Huws
Council Leader

Digital has many meanings in today's society and is enabling new approaches to be taken in every part of our daily lives. Nowhere is this more evident than in our schools. The ability to change and adapt quickly and effectively, whilst working in partnership was evident during the COVID 19 response, which must now be harnessed into the future.

Full participation in modern society, the workplace, and educational settings already demands increasingly high levels of digital competence. As this demand continues to evolve, it is imperative that we adapt and continue to modernise to prepare our children for the future.

This strategy aims to improve the current provision of digital technology within the Island's schools to ensure learners thrive and realise their long-term potential.

The strategy outlines the vision, which supported by overarching principles and key priority areas sets a clear and ambitious mandate. We want to ensure that digital technology is embedded securely in all areas of curriculum delivery.

Delivery of the strategy cannot be achieved by working in isolation. Many of the activities within the strategy are dependent on partnership working to be delivered successfully. We will continue to work together with our schools to ensure the best possible outcomes for our learners.

Why do we need a Digital Schools Strategy?

Our overall aim is to create an Anglesey that is healthy and prosperous where families can thrive. This includes ensuring that the people of Anglesey realise their long-term potential.

This is the first Digital Schools Strategy for Anglesey that sets out our vision; underpinned by overarching principles and key priority areas for the provision of ICT Services to Schools.

With the introduction of the Curriculum for Wales, digital competence (alongside literacy and numeracy), will be a mandatory cross-curricular skill and must be embedded in any adopted curriculum.

Digital competence focuses on ensuring that learners have the ability to learn, understand and use technology confidently, creatively and critically.

As the cyber threat to educational establishments continues to evolve, it is imperative that a collaborative approach is in place to ensure the security of this critical data.

Together with the Welsh Government's multi-million pound programme to transform technology in Welsh Schools, this is a golden opportunity to equip our schools with the appropriate & secure technology to enable learners to thrive and realise their long-term potential.

Who is the strategy for?



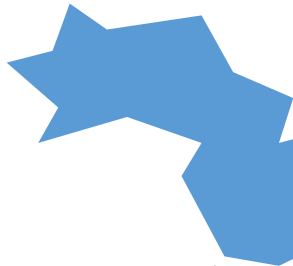
Canolfan Addysg
y Bont



39 Primary
Schools



5 Secondary
Schools



The strategy is for all school learners, teachers, governors, support staff, parents and members of the whole Anglesey school community.



2 Language
Immersion Centres



103 ALN Learners

247

Secondary
Teachers



32

Specialist ALN Teachers

384 Primary Teachers



4 Language Immersion
Specialist Teachers



3712

Secondary Learners



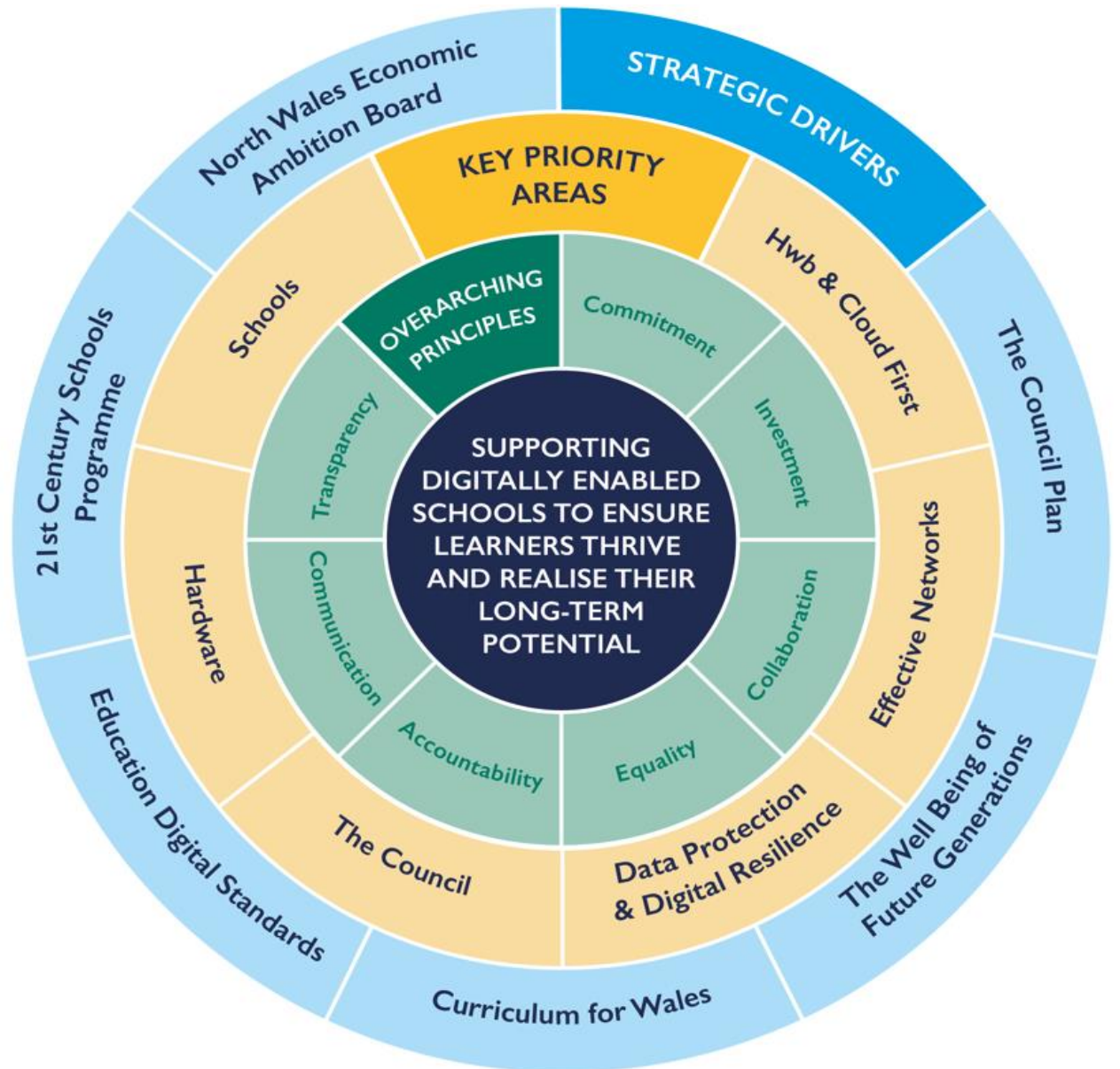
5871

Primary Learners

Strategic Circle

Achieving the vision, which supported by overarching principles and key priority areas sets a clear and ambitious mandate. We want to ensure that digital technology is embedded securely in all areas of curriculum delivery.

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Hwb and Cloud First

Why is this important?

Schools data should be stored in the most secure, resilient, efficient, cost effective and appropriate place.

[Hwb](#) is the Welsh Government's digital platform for teaching and learning in Wales. Hwb provides its users with access to a range of centrally funded, bilingual, digital tools and resources and is the strategic channel to support the delivery of the curriculum in Wales.

The benefits of Hwb include:

- supporting improvements in learner attainment
- improvements in the use of digital technology
- financial benefits
- unified, consistent approach
- greater collaboration at all levels
- safeguarding, governance and compliance.

What are we going to do?

We will adopt a Hwb and Cloud First approach thereby capitalising on the technology that is already in place for schools free of charge. We will also implement a standardised series of core packages across our schools with secure access for staff & learners to systems & data 24/7/365.

Further capitalisation will be developed by broadening the use to School Governors and raising the awareness of Hwb to parents.

Hwb also provides free access to: Google for Education; Microsoft Office 365; a professional networking environment.

How are we going to do this?

- ✓ Fully migrate to and make full use of Hwb.
- ✓ Hwb logins for all teachers and learners which gives 24/7/365 access.
- ✓ Hwb cloud architecture is adopted instead of on site servers.
- ✓ Hwb emails are recognised as the primary professional email provider for and between all schools.
- ✓ Lead the adoption of Hwb services and software Microsoft / Google/ Adobe and provide quality training for all educators.
- ✓ Implement a managed device security solution through InTune and create an environment for professional networks to thrive.



Effective Networks

Why is this important?

Schools need to have quick, easy, resilient and dependable access to resources and data.

The demand on networks has grown rapidly and as it continues to do so, it is vitally important to meet current digital education needs but also safeguard for future needs.

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What are we going to do?

We will provide sufficient network infrastructure for all schools. This will ensure that provision is effective, transformational, sustainable and thus underpin teaching and learning in all schools.

How are we going to do this?

We will:

- ✓ Follow an annual plan to rationalise wireless SSIDs, cabinets and refurbish data cables.
- ✓ Use management systems to standardise the experience for all.
- ✓ Take advantage of new technologies.
- ✓ Upgrade the public wireless systems.
- ✓ Use the national Smoothwall service to ensure digital access to the web.
- ✓ There is a commitment to undertake continuous improvements to the network.
- ✓ Develop safe areas to house network infrastructure.
- ✓ Using technology to protect and make our buildings more efficient.
- ✓ Purchasing following suitable procurement processes.

Hardware

Why is this important?

Our schools and classrooms need to be appropriately equipped to enable access to innovative technologies that will support learners on the journey to reach their full potential.

What are we going to do?

The Council will deploy technologies that facilitate an agile approach to learning, enabling teachers and learners to connect, communication and access resources from the most appropriate location in relation to their needs.

How are we going to do this?

The Council will / provide:

- ✓ Refurbish / renew school ICT equipment to Welsh Government digital standards.
- ✓ Increase device parity for all schools.
- ✓ Ensure disadvantage is addressed through combination or re-purposed devices and school device lending.
- ✓ Chromebooks for learners aiming for the highest possible learner to device ratio.
- ✓ A computer in every class and office.
- ✓ For special software, refresh 'Lab' computer rooms where Chromebook cannot be used.

The Council

Why is this important?

Schools will require access to an effective service that will ensure that core devices and the network are supported.

What are we going to do?

The Council will work collaboratively to ensure schools receive the support and guidance they require.

The Council will deploy technologies that facilitate an agile approach to learning, enabling teachers and learners to connect, communication and access resources from the most appropriate location in relation to their needs.

How are we going to do this?

The Council will provide:

- ✓ A service that responds promptly to ensure the availability of equipment.
- ✓ A service that complies with the Digital Standards.
- ✓ A service that delivers resilient and sustainable developments.
- ✓ A service that receives & responds to feedback.
- ✓ A service that ensures the appropriate due diligence is completed & changes are introduced in a controlled & effective manner.

Schools

Why is this important?

To ensure development and continuous improvement in outcomes, schools must evolve and keep pace with technological advancements.

What are we going to do?

Schools will be proactive & develop their own school digital learning strategy.

We will build upon the existing network of collaboration to formally develop the role of the Cluster Digital Learning Facilitators.

There will be open communication along with the willingness of schools to contribute, participate and share best practice.

How are we going to do this?

- ✓ Schools will assist the support service to ensure that the computer-equipped network & data is secure.
- ✓ Schools working sectorally following an effective process of research, piloting, adoption before ordering IT equipment.
- ✓ Schools contributing to the digital in education agenda at relevant meetings & forums.
- ✓ Cluster Digital Learning Facilitators will:
 - Strengthen strategic leadership in digital learning across the region through **360digl_{ymmu}**
 - Ensure that Digital Competence is incorporated as one of the three cross-curricular skills
 - To collaborate at a cluster level to help all schools to develop, ensuring that professional learning opportunities are accessible to all
 - Establish a new digital learning self-evaluation tool as a basis for school improvement planning
 - Provide support and guidance on how practitioners can broaden learning via synchronous and asynchronous learning
- ✓ Schools that show interest and take responsibility for the quality and effectiveness of IT.
- ✓ Schools continuously revisit to respond to the changes in technology and the availability of new and exciting solutions.
- ✓ Schools to share best practice and provide feedback via the IT Forum.
- ✓ Schools to make effective use of the Digital Champion Network.

Data Protection & Digital Resilience

Why is this important?

To keep learners, teachers and staff safe online. To ensure schools' data, systems and services are secure. To manage and protect the integrity of devices and appliances.

Schools are required under the *UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)* and the *Data Protection Act 2018*, to have **appropriate technical and security measures**.

Schools need to ensure that they have adopted and fully complying with data protection policies, in particular, with the *Schools Data Protection Policy* and *Schools Information Security Policy*.

What are we going to do?

We are further developing and enhancing our data protection accordingly.

The Council will provide support and guidance to schools (as the Data Controller) with meeting the expectations placed upon them by data protection legislation. This includes data protection guidance from the Schools Data Protection Officer.

All policies, templates and guidance, including [cyber security guidance](#), can be found on the Data Protection Page on the Learning Service Microsite.

How are we going to do this?



User Experience



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Learner

- Experience of using different technologies.
- Access to a device to allow quick access to the cloud via the school's wifi network
- The ability to study and learn from home
- A Hwb email & account that will allow access to a wide range of learning resources
- Remote access to learning resources
- Enhanced parental engagement



Teacher

- The use of regularly refreshed & suitable devices in the classroom.
- Hwb email & account that will allow access to a wide range of learning resources
- Access to the Anglesey Schools Teachers & TA's Support Hub
- Access to school systems at the school & home
- Access to professional learning



Teaching Assistant

- The ability to use the school's devices to access learning resources & professional learning
- Hwb email & account that will allow access to a wide range of learning resources
- Access to the Anglesey Schools Teachers & TA's Support Hub



School Administrator

- A device to allow quick access to learners' information management systems
- On-line payment systems that are consistent and effective
- Filing and storage systems on the cloud
- School finance management systems



Governor

- Hwb account that will allow access to training and key documentation
- Access to the Anglesey Schools Governors Support Hub

The experiences of learners, teachers, assistants and the whole school community will be consistent across the sectors.

Governance: Monitoring & Evaluation

To ensure the strategy is realised, we will establish robust governance arrangements.

The arrangements will ensure clarity, accountability, coordination and the structure to monitor progress effectively.

Progress will be reviewed quarterly which will provide a summary report on the actions, outcomes / impact and highlight successes and issues.

An annual progress report and review of the strategy will be completed.

APPENDIX B: FUNDING THE DIGITAL SCHOOLS STRATEGY

CURRENT FUNDING

The current support provided by Cynnal is funded from the School's Delegated budget with the allocation to each school determined by the funding formula. The charge made to each school then matches the funding allocated to each school. In addition an element of the service provided by Cynnal is funded from a central Education budget. The total funding by sector for 2021/22 is as follows:

Table 1
Current Funding

Sector	£
Primary	62,873
Secondary	131,939
Special	1,048
Central Education	55,904
Total	251,764

As part of the 2021/22 revenue budget, the Executive supported the proposal to fund additional support and provided £100,000 to fund additional staffing within the Council's IT Service.

This brings the total funding available to £351,764.

PROPOSED STAFFING STRUCTURE

As stated above additional staff have already been appointed within the IT Service to provide additional support. The costs are shown below:

Table 2
Current Staffing

Staff Grade	No.Staff in Post	Cost at 20/21 pay rates	Additional Pay Award for 21/22 (Assume 1.75%)	Total Estimated Cost for 21/22
		£	£	£
6	1	42,604	746	43,350
5	1	36,964	647	37,611
4	1	31,370	579	31,949
TOTAL	3	110,938	1,972	112,910

The additional pay award will be funded from the inflationary uplift in the 2022/23 budget which is undertaken for all staffing budgets.

In order to provide the service set out in the strategy, the following additional posts are required.

Table 3
Additional Staffing Requirement

Staff Grade	No.Staff in Post	Cost at 20/21 pay rates £	Additional Pay Award for 21/22 (Assume 1.75%) £	Total Estimated Cost for 21/22 £
6	4	170,416	2,982	173,398
5	4	147,856	2,588	150,444
4	1	31,370	579	31,949
3	1	26,623	466	27,089
TOTAL	10	376,265	6,615	382,880

THE ADDITIONAL FUNDING REQUIREMENT

The additional funding requirement required in order to implement the strategy is as follows:-

Table 4
Additional Funding Requirement

	£	£
Staff Costs		
Current Staffing Structure as per Table 2	112,910	
Additional Staffing Requirement as per Table 3	382,880	
Total Staffing Structure Cost		495,790
Funded By		
Current Budgets as per Table 1	251,764	
Additional Funding provided in 2021/22 Budget	100,000	
2021/22 Pay Award to be funded as part of normal budget process as per Table 2 & 3	8,587	
Total Funding Currently Available		360,351
Additional Funding Requirement		135,439

PRAWF BUDD Y CYHOEDD PUBLIC INTEREST TEST

Strategaeth Digidol ar gyfer Ysgolion Ynys Môn a Cwmni Cynnal Cyf.
Anglesey Digital Schools Strategy and Cwmni Cynnal Cyf.

<p>Paragraff(au) 14 Paragraph(s) 14 [un neu fwy o/one or more of 12,13,14,15,16,17,18,18A,18B,18C]</p>	<p>Atodlen 12A Deddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972 Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972</p>
<p>Y PRAWF – THE TEST</p>	
<p>Mae yna fudd i'r cyhoedd wrth ddatgelu oherwydd disgwylir tryloywder mewn perthynas â materion yn ymwneud â phroses gwneud penderfyniadau'r Cyngor Sir</p> <p>There is a public interest in disclosure as there is an expectation of transparency in respect of matters relating to the decision making processes of the County Council.</p>	<p>Mae budd cryf i'r cyhoedd wrth beidio â datgelu gwybodaeth sydd yn ymwneud â materion ariannol neu fusnes unigolion, yn enwedig dan yr amgylchiadau hynny lle mae dyletswydd hyder yn ddyledus neu'n ddisgwylidig. Mae'r budd i'r cyhoedd hefyd yn berthnasol i faterion ariannol a busnes y Cyngor mewn perthynas â gwybodaeth yn yr adroddiad.</p> <p>There exists a strong public interest in not disclosing information that relates to the financial or business affairs of individuals, particularly in circumstances where a duty of confidence is owed or expected. The public interest also applies to the financial and business affairs of the Council in respect of information in the report.</p>
<p>Argymhelliad - Mae'r budd i'r cyhoedd wrth gadw'r eithriad o bwys yn fwy na'r budd i'r cyhoedd wrth ddatgelu'r wybodaeth. Recommendation - The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.</p>	

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