

Public Document Pack



CYNGOR SIR
YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr Dylan Williams
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 MAWRTH 30 MAI 2023 10.00 o'r gloch	TUESDAY 30 MAY 2023 10.00 am
CYFARFOD HYBRID – YN SIAMBR Y CYNGOR AC YN RHITHWIR	HYBRID MEETING – VIRTUAL AND IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
Swyddog Pwyllgor	Ann Holmes 01248 752518 Committee Officer

AELODAU/MEMBERS

Plaid Cymru/The Party of Wales

Neville Evans, Carwyn E Jones, Llinos Medi, Gary Pritchard, Alun Roberts, Nicola Roberts,
Robin Wyn Williams

Y Grŵp Annibynnol/The Independent Group

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

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

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

3 MINUTES (Pages 1 - 6)

To submit for confirmation, the draft minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 25 April 2023.

4 THE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 7 - 18)

To submit a report by the Head of Democracy.

5 COST OF LIVING DISCRETIONARY SCHEME - FINAL REPORT (Pages 19 - 26)

To submit a report by the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer.

6 CHILDREN LOOKED AFTER AND LEAVING CARE STRATEGY 2023-2028 (Pages 27 - 42)

To submit a report by the Director of Social Services.

7 THE USE OF SECOND HOMES PREMIUM FUNDING (Pages 43 - 52)

To submit a report by the Head of Housing Services.

THE EXECUTIVE

Minutes of the hybrid meeting held on 25 April, 2023

- PRESENT:** Councillor Llinos Medi (Chair)
- Councillors Neville Evans, Carwyn E. Jones, Gary Pritchard, Nicola Roberts, Ieuan Williams.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive
Deputy Chief Executive
Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer
Director of Education, Skills and Young People
Head of Democracy
Head of Regulation and Economic Development
Regeneration Manager (DLI)
Visitor Economy and Coastal Area Manager (AG)
Legal Services Manager (RJ)
Scrutiny Manager (AGD)
Committee Officer (ATH)
- APOLOGIES:** Councillors Alun Roberts, Dafydd Rhys Thomas, Robin Williams, Mr Fôn Roberts (Director of Social Services)
- ALSO PRESENT:** Councillors Glyn Haynes, John I. Jones, R. Llewelyn Jones, Dylan Rees, Ken Taylor, Mr. Gethin Jones (Communications Officer)
-

Prior to the commencing with the business of the meeting, the Chair informed the meeting that she had received a request from Councillor Dylan Rees, Chair of the Partnerships and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee to vary the order of business so that item 5 on the agenda (Anglesey Town Centres Improvement Strategy) be taken last in order to allow him to provide Scrutiny's feedback on the item. Councillor Ieuan Williams proposed, seconded by Councillor Gary Pritchard, and agreed by the Executive, that the order of business be varied as requested.

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declaration of interest was received.

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

None to report.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Executive held on 21 March, 2023 were presented for confirmation.

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Executive held on 21 March, 2023 be confirmed as correct.

4. THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The report of the Head of Democracy incorporating the Executive's Forward Work Programme for the period from May to December, 2023 was presented for confirmation.

The Head of Democracy updated the Executive with regard to changes to the Forward Work Programme and the following were noted –

- Item 2 (Cost of Living Discretionary Scheme – update following the end of the scheme) as a new item scheduled for the Executive's 30 May, 2023 meeting
- Item 13 (Modernising Learning Communities and Developing the Welsh Language Strategy) as a new item scheduled for the Executive's 18 July, 2023 meeting.
- Item 19 (Anglesey Town Centres Improvement Strategy – final draft) as a new item scheduled for the Executive's 26 September meeting.
- Corporate Parenting Strategy as an additional item not on the published work programme to be scheduled for the Executive's 30 May, 2023 meeting
- The removal of the Social Services Progress Report from the work programme following agreement that it no longer needs to be presented to the Executive on a six monthly basis.

It was resolved to confirm the Executive's updated Forward Work Programme for the period May to December, 2023 with the changes outlined at the meeting.

5. ANGLESEY TOWN CENTRES IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY

The report of the Head of Regulation and Economic Development incorporating the draft Anglesey Town Centres Improvement Strategy was presented for the Executive's consideration.

The Chair and Portfolio Member for Economic Development presented the report as delivering on the new Council Plan objective of improving the vitality and viability of town centres and complying with relevant Welsh Government and Audit Wales recommendations to local authorities in respect of regenerating town centres. Subject to approval, a process of public and stakeholder consultation and engagement will take place to gather views and comments and to seek support for the proposed strategy following which it will be finalised and submitted to the Executive for adoption by the end of 2023. She stressed the importance of obtaining the public's views on their needs for town centres as well as those of existing businesses and also businesses that may have left town centres to understand their reasons for having done so and what might bring them back.

The Regeneration Manager informed the Executive that all local authorities in Wales have been requested to update Welsh Government's Public Accounts Committee on progress with town centre regeneration which is an issue of interest to many people. The strategy will also enable funding to be secured for regeneration purposes. Commonplace has been commissioned to help the Council design the consultation process which will be conducted online as well as locally within the community. The Design Commission for Wales is also providing advice and guidance to each local authority on the process after which the Council will be putting together the consultation documentation with Commonplace.

Councillor Dylan Rees, Chair of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee reported from the Committee's 19 April, 2023 meeting at which the Anglesey Town Centres Improvement Strategy had been discussed. The committee had sought clarification of the definition of town and town centre and any proposal to support and improve the island's villages. Members had enquired about alignment with place shaping work streams and plans to strengthen infrastructure at individual community level. The main benefits and risks of the

proposed strategy were also discussed as were measures to mitigate risks. The committee had also sought clarification of the opportunities and challenges in being dependent upon competitive grant funding to deliver significant strategies and work programmes. Members asked about the availability of private investment to fund Anglesey town centre regeneration programmes and the degree to which it would be possible to seek approval for spend to save funding initiatives in order to increase internal staffing capacity. It was noted by the committee that significant decisions by stakeholders were often a catalyst for town centre regeneration. The committee enquired about the public consultation process in particular the timescales, communications strategy and geographical areas to be included. The Committee had noted the content of the draft strategy and had recommended the strategy to the Executive for public consultation.

Councillor Gary Pritchard, Portfolio Member for Children, Youth and Housing Services highlighted that although the strategy is a county-wide strategy a one size fits all approach to the five towns will not be appropriate given their different characteristics as the Towns/Urban Centres Overview in the appendix to the report illustrates. It is important therefore that people across the Island respond to the consultation so that it is reflective of the differing needs of the towns and ensures that the finalised strategy is meaningful and relevant to each town.

It was resolved to approve the draft Anglesey Town Centres Improvement Strategy as a basis for public consultation.

6. DRAFT AONB MANAGEMENT PLAN

The report of the Head of Regulation and Economic Development incorporating the draft Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan (2023-2028) was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Neville Evans, Portfolio Member for Leisure, Tourism and Maritime presented the report saying that all local authorities which administer AONBs are statutorily required to prepare and publish management plans for their area and to review these plans every five years with the process following set guidelines. The plan outlines the special qualities of the AONB which define its designation status and acknowledges the challenges which it faces particularly from over tourism and its impact on community resilience, declining biodiversity and climate change. The Plan identifies five key themes which address these challenges and which will also enable the Council's vision for the AONB to be realised; section 3 of the Plan describes how this vision along with the 5 key themes will be delivered. The AONB has a growing status within Welsh Designated Landscapes and it draws in considerable revenue for the Council. The AONB Management Plan is also linked to the Destination Management Plan which is the subject of a separate item on today's agenda. The Plan will be subject to consultation with stakeholders and the public for a period of six weeks after which it will be presented to Scrutiny.

The Head of Regulation and Economic Development said that whilst the new Plan has been delayed by the Covid-19 pandemic the additional time has allowed the Service to ensure that the contents and priorities are appropriate and reflect current themes and challenges. It is considered that there is a need to improve understanding of the AONB both internally within the Council and externally among the public in terms of its purpose and scope as well as the aims of the Plan in seeking to manage the designation. There is also a need to maximise the funding opportunities that are linked to the AONB designation in order to fulfil the priorities of the Service and the Council.

Councillor Gary Pritchard, Portfolio Member for Children, Youth and Housing Services speaking as one whose electoral ward was to a considerable extent contained within the AONB highlighted the importance of public and stakeholder feedback to the proposed consultation on the Plan and of engaging with as wide an audience as possible. The AONB is one of the main reasons why visitors come to the Island, and as one of its principal attractions it has to be protected from the pressures of increasing visitor numbers, ensuring that tourism on the Island remains vibrant, but sustainable.

The Chair agreed that it was important that the public respond to the consultation and she encouraged everyone to do so to inform future actions; also important is increasing awareness of the AONB and of the challenges involved in its management and protection ensuring that while it is accessible for the enjoyment of all, its character and special qualities are retained and conserved.

It was resolved to approve and support the draft Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan (2023-28) for public consultation.

7. DRAFT DESTINATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

The report of the Head of Regulation and Economic Development incorporating the draft Destination Management Plan 2023-2028 was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Neville Evans, Portfolio Member for Leisure, Tourism and Maritime presented the report which set out the Council's ambitions for destination management over the next 5 years taking account of the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Plan seeks to strike a balance between supporting the fundamental role which destination management plays in the economy of Anglesey and ensuring that the unique qualities of the Island are not adversely affected by unchecked tourism. It recognises that the tourism offer needs to deliver economic and social benefits for local people and their communities and that the Island's language, culture, environment and heritage are key qualities that underpin the offer. The Plan draws together all responsibilities and priorities of Destination and will act as a template for a more collaborative and holistically minded approach to destination management creating new partnerships across the sector and communities. A drive to improve infrastructure such as toilets, car parking and access provision forms a key part of the strategy and as part of the new approach, the Plan highlights opportunities to deliver social and wellbeing benefits to communities as well as leading to a better understanding of the special characteristics of the Island. The DMP links in with the AONB Management Plan and is fully aligned with new Council Plan; it will be the subject of consultation with key stakeholders and their views will be drawn upon to help shape and develop a resulting action plan.

The Visitor Economy and Coastal Area Manager confirmed that the consultation process will focus on key stakeholders including local communities via the town and community councils. Recognising how important the tourism industry is to the future of the Island and its communities, the aim is to take a different approach to that in the past enabling businesses to use the new model to ensure not only Anglesey economy for the future but also the fundamentally important aspects such as landscape, environment and communities thereby making tourism work for everybody. As well as posing challenges, the visitor economy offers opportunities to use Destination management work more expansively to link into other services such as Highways and Education so that it has greater and wider value than were it the preserve of a single service or discipline.

The Chief Executive also emphasised the importance of the Council as a whole taking ownership of the Plan meaning that internal procedures and co-operation are as important as those established externally and that delivery of the Destination Management Plan should

not be too narrowly focused on the Economic Development Service as the issues extend beyond that service alone. An internal group chaired by the Deputy Chief Executive reflects the significance ascribed to this matter and work needs to be done to strengthen processes both within and without the Council and to refresh partnerships and formalise governance arrangements to show how seriously the Council considers Destination management and sustainable tourism. The increase in tourist numbers has also raised complex issues within some communities which the Council is trying to resolve within the parameters of current legislation.

The Executive's members in acknowledging the many benefits which tourism brings to Anglesey and its communities and its importance to the local economy recognised that those benefits must increasingly be balanced against the needs of the environment and net zero in order to ensure tourism that is responsible and sustainable. Members thanked Councillor Carwyn Jones as the former Portfolio Holder for his work during that time with tourism and destination and they urged the sector as well as the Island's communities to engage with the consultation on the draft Destination Management Plan.

The Chair confirmed that as with the AONB Management Plan, the Destination Management Plan will be submitted to Scrutiny following the consultation period so that Scrutiny can make its recommendations in full knowledge of stakeholders' perspective on the Plan.

It was resolved to approve and support the draft Destination Management Plan (2023-28) for consultation with key stakeholders.

**Councillor Llinos Medi
Chair**

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Isle of Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	The Executive
Date:	30 May 2023
Subject:	The Executive's Forward Work Programme
Portfolio Holder(s):	Cllr Llinos Medi
Head of Service / Director:	Lynn Ball, Director of Function – Council Business / Monitoring Officer
Report Author:	Dyfan Sion, Head of Democracy
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's 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 June 2023 – January 2024;</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: June 2023 – January 2024.

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

The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: June 2023 – January 2024

Updated 22 May 2023



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.

Page 10 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.

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: June 2023 – January 2024

Updated 22 May 2023

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)
June 2023						
1	Welsh Language Standards Annual Report 2022/23 Approval of report.	Portfolio holder with responsibility for the Welsh language.	Council Business Dylan Williams Chief Executive Cyng Ieuan Williams	Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee 21.06.23	Delegated decision June 2023	
2	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 Dyfan Sion Head of Democracy Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 27 June 2023	
3	Corporate Scorecard – Quarter 4, 2022/23 (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 Cllr Carwyn Jones	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 20.06.23	The Executive 27 June 2023	
4	Revenue Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 4, 2022/23 (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 Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel 08.06.23	The Executive 27 June 2023	

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5 Capital Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 4, 2022/23 (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 Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel 08.06.23	The Executive 27 June 2023	
6 Housing Revenue Account Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 4, 2022/23 (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 Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel 08.06.23	The Executive 27 June 2023	
7 Responding to the local housing challenge - Development of 10 or more housing units – Stad Parc y Coed, Llangefni (Phase 4)		Housing	Ned Michael Head of Housing Cllr Gary Pritchard		The Executive 27 June 2023	
July 2023						
8 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	Dyfan Sion Head of Democracy Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 18 July 2023	

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9	Draft Final Accounts 2022/23 and use of Balances and Reserves		Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function– Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Williams		The Executive 18 July 2023	
10	Petition Scheme		Council Business	Lynn Ball Director of Function – Council Business and Monitoring Officer Cllr Carwyn Jones		The Executive 18 July 2023	Full Council 12 September 2023
11	Changes to the Constitution – Extending the terms of reference of the Democratic Services Committee		Council Business	Lynn Ball Director of Function – Council Business and Monitoring Officer Cllr Carwyn Jones		The Executive 18 July 2023	Full Council 12 September 2023
12	Annual Delivery Document 2023/24		Corporate Transformation	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation Cllr Carwyn Jones	Corporate Scrutiny Committee – date to be confirmed	The Executive 18 July 2023	Full Council 12 September 2023

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The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: June 2023 – January 2024

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13	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan (AONB) – Final Draft		Regulation and Economic Development	Christian Branch Head of Regulation and Economic Development Cllr Nicola Roberts	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 20.06.23	The Executive 18 July 2023	Full Council September 2023
14	Destination Management Plan – Final Draft		Regulation and Economic Development	Christian Branch Head of Regulation and Economic Development Cllr Neville Evans	Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee 21.06.23	The Executive 18 July 2023	
15	Consultation Report - Modernising Learning Communities and Developing the Welsh Language Strategy		Learning	Marc Berw Hughes Director of Learning, Skills and Young People Cllr Ieuan Williams	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 20.06.23	The Executive 18 July 2023	
16	Review of Ysgol y Graig and Ysgol Talwrn Catchment Areas		Learning	Marc Berw Hughes Director of Learning, Skills and Young People Cllr Ieuan Williams		The Executive 18 July 2023	

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The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: June 2023 – January 2024

Updated 22 May 2023

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September 2023						
17	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	Dyfan Sion Head of Democracy Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 26 September 2023
18	Corporate Scorecard – Quarter 1, 2023/24 (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 Cllr Carwyn Jones	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 19.09.23	The Executive 26 September 2023
19	Revenue Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 1, 2023/24 (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 Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel 07.09.23	The Executive 26 September 2023
20	Capital Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 1, 2023/24 (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 Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel 07.09.23	The Executive 26 September 2023

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The Executive's Forward Work Programme

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21 Housing Revenue Account Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 1, 2023/24 (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 Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel 07.09.23	The Executive 26 September 2023	
22 Annual Performance Report 2022/23		Corporate Transformation	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation Cllr Carwyn Jones	Corporate Scrutiny Committee – date to be confirmed	The Executive 26 September 2023	Full Council 26 October 2023
23 Anglesey Town Centres Improvement Strategy- final draft		Regulation and Economic Development	Christian Branch Head of Regulation and Economic Development Cllr Llinos Medi	Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee 19.04.23 19.09.23	The Executive 26 September 2023	
October 2023						
24 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	Dyfan Sion Head of Democracy Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 24 October 2023	

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November 2023						
25	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	Dyfan Sion Head of Democracy Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 28 November 2023
26	Corporate Scorecard – Quarter 2, 2023/24 (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 Cllr Carwyn Jones	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 21.11.23	The Executive 28 November 2023
27	Revenue Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 2, 2023/24 (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 Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel 08.11.23	The Executive 28 November 2023
28	Capital Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 2, 2023/24 (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 Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel 08.11.23	The Executive 28 November 2023

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The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: June 2023 – January 2024

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29	Housing Revenue Account Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 2, 2023/24 (S) Quarterly financial monitoring report.	Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function– Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel 08.11.23	The Executive 28 November 2023	
December 2023						
30	The Executive's Forward Work Programme (S) Approval of monthly update.	Council Business	Dyfan Sion Head of Democracy Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 12 December 2023	
31	Biodiversity Plan – Annual Progress Report	Regulation and Economic Development	Christian Branch Head of Regulation and Economic Development Cllr Nicola Roberts		The Executive 12 December 2023	
January 2024						
32	The Executive's Forward Work Programme (S) Approval of monthly update.	Council Business	Dyfan Sion Head of Democracy Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 23 January 2024	

* Key:

S = Strategic – key corporate plans or initiatives

O =Operational – service delivery

FI = For information

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Date:	30 MAY 2023
Subject:	COST OF LIVING DISCRETIONARY SCHEME – FINAL REPORT
Portfolio Holder(s):	COUNCILLOR ROBIN WYN WILLIAMS – PORTFOLIO HOLDER – FINANCE, COUNCILLOR GARY PRITCHARD – PORTFOLIO HOLDER – CHILDREN, YOUTH AND HOUSING SERVICE
Head of Service / Director:	MARC JONES – DIRECTOR OF FUNCTION (RESOURCES) / SECTION 151 OFFICER
Report Author:	MARC JONES
Tel:	01248 752601
E-mail:	marc.jones@ynysmon.gov.wales
Local Members:	
A –Recommendation/s and reason/s	
<p>Background Information</p> <p>The cost of living crisis continues but the funding detailed in this report was provided by Welsh Government and had to be spent by 31 March 2023. There is no indication at this point that any further funding from Welsh Government will be forthcoming and there is no provision in the Council's 2023/24 revenue budget to provide financial support to residents who continue to face financial hardship.</p> <p>The Welsh Government provided grant funding to allow the Council to provide help to local residents experiencing difficulties arising from the cost of living crisis. The fund could be used to provide direct grant support to local residents, to fund the purchase of equipment which would lower costs faced by residents over the winter period or to provide funding to local organisations who were also providing support to local residents.</p> <p>A sum of £585,163 was provided by Welsh Government and, in addition, any underspend from the Cost of Living national scheme could be added to the grant funding received. Under the national scheme, 21,906 residents received a payment of £150. 999 failed to cash the voucher sent to them and, as a result, £149,780 was transferred to the discretionary scheme. This gave a total funding pot of £734,943.</p> <p>The Executive approved 2 phases to the discretionary scheme (28 June 2022 and 24 January 2023).</p> <p>The Welsh Government was clear that any funding that had not been spent by 31 March 2023 would have to be returned, although it was acceptable to transfer funding to third party organisations who could continue to use the funding to provide support after 31 March 2023, provided that the funding had been transferred from the Council's bank account.</p> <p>Phase 1 of the Scheme</p> <p>Under Phase 1 of the scheme, the following support was provided:-</p>	

Scheme	Budget £	Actual Spend £	Number of People Supported	Comment
Ratepayers who were not eligible under the main scheme.	160,000	85,800	505	
Armed Forces Veterans.	10,000	10,000	17 as @ 24/04/23 Spending to date £2,400	The grants were administered through SAAFA. Any unused funding will be retained by SAAFA to provide continued support to veterans after March 2023.
Residents who are moving out of emergency accommodation or who are defined as being in housing need.	50,000	82,207	290 households supported	
Residents who are assessed as facing financial hardship. Anglesey CAB	50,000	50,000	107	The CAB will retain any underspending and continue to make payments to individuals assessed as facing financial hardship after March 2023.
Residents who are assessed as facing financial hardship. J.E.O'Toole Centre	50,000	59,936	222 households supported	Budget was fully spent by 31 March 2023.
TOTAL	320,000	284,943		

Phase 2 of the Scheme

Under Phase 1 of the scheme, the following support was provided:-

Scheme	Budget £	Actual Spend £	Number of People Supported	Comment
Energy Efficiency Packs distributed through the Warm Spaces.	30,000	27,026	369 Energy Packs 315 Air Fryers 269 Slow Cookers	Energy efficiency packs to reduce a household's energy consumption. Reporting to date shows that over 3,500 attendances were recorded at over 420 Warm Space Sessions.
Funding to Anglesey Food Bank to cover salary costs to deal with the incoming demand and continue with rural deliveries.	12,200	12,100	-	Provided funding to extend 2 employees contracts for a period of 3 months. The Council has supported Anglesey Food Bank to secure £100,000 Lottery bid in order to sustain two employees for a period of 2 years.
Samaritans – to help those experiencing mental health issues as a result of the cost-of-living crisis.	10,000	10,000		To cover central costs, volunteers.

Scheme	Budget £	Actual Spend £	Number of People Supported	Comment
<p>Christmas Food Project</p> <p>Each year, the Council and various partners undertake a Christmas food project. In previous years, we have distributed food hampers and gifts. Due to current demands on our services, it was decided that the festive food project for 2022 would be voucher-led. Recipients chose from their supermarkets of choice or local businesses, such as butchers. Residents were referred through professionals which includes health workers, social services, housing, Housing Support Grant providers, North Wales Police, 3rd sector partners and many more.</p>	27,000	19,511	400 households received support	Funding was used to provide Christmas food vouchers.
<p>To provide support to residents with severe medical conditions who face increased heating / electricity costs as a result.</p>	25,000	38,500	<p>17 applications processed</p> <p>Kidney Care Wales – To date, 35 grants have been paid into the chosen energy company of the patients that the health care practitioners have applied on behalf of</p>	<p>£20k was transferred to Kidney Care Wales and £10k to the MS Society. Help was also provided to individuals referred to the Council by the Health Board and Social Services.</p> <p>This funding provided additional support to households having to use electricity in order to either stay alive or maintain a good quality of life. For example, life support machines from home. The Council's Adults and Childrens' Services, Housing Services and BCUHB referred households for this support totalling x 17 applications @ £500 each, which was paid as a fuel voucher.</p>
<p>Funding to providers who provide services funded from the Housing Support grant.</p>	50,000	62,400		<p>Funding was provided to Ynys Môn Homelessness, Cynefin, Wallich Clifford and Medrwn Môn.</p>

Scheme	Budget £	Actual Spend £	Number of People Supported	Comment
Residents using alternative fuel sources. Households who use oil to heat their homes have not received any support from the Government despite a significant rise in the cost of domestic heating oil during 2022.	50,000	30,000	0 requests received to date	Accounts were set up with 2 local oil companies and the funding transferred to the companies. Financial Inclusion Officers ordered heating oil on behalf of residents using the funds deposited.
TOTAL	204,200	199,537		

Additional Projects Funded

In order to ensure that all the funding was used before 31 March 2023, the Director of Function (Resources), in consultation with the Head of Service – Housing and the relevant portfolio holders, authorised the release of funding for the following projects:-

Scheme	Budget £	Actual Spend £	Number of People Supported	Comment
Food Poverty project run by Menter Môn to provide nutritious food that is made here on the Island.	210,743	110,000	As @ 27/4/23 4,141 meals distributed among the 10 freezers (300 Children have benefited from the service thus far)	To purchase community freezers. This project is ongoing and food supplies will last into July 2023.
Community Hubs / Warm Spaces set up by Medrwn Môn.		80,000		To fund the additional costs incurred by local communities in opening up community hubs and warm spaces during the winter
Funding support for foster parents, £300 towards fuel or food.		20,400	68	The Isle of Anglesey County Council is thankful to the 68 foster families that provide both short and long term support to children in care.
Anglesey Good Food project (Bwyd Da Môn).		27,000	This project will occur during 2023-24 and will provide a subsidy to 110 residents that are being supported by either CAB Ynys Môn, our O'Toole team or Financial Inclusion team	The scheme provides a membership approach whereby members pay £5 per week for £20 worth of food in return. The subsidy scheme will provide 110 households to be provided with the first 12 weeks of the scheme for free. The ideal aim is that, week 13 onwards, subsidised recipients becoming paying members @ £5 per week.

Scheme	Budget £	Actual Spend £	Number of People Supported	Comment
Age Cymru Cooking Project.		8,000		To cover salary costs.
Cost of Living (COL) crisis information leaflets.		16,384		35,100 households were provided with the COL leaflet. This meant that digitally excluded residents had access to this information to ensure full support throughout the COL crisis.
TOTAL	210,743	261,784		

Administration Costs

In order to fund any costs incurred by each Council in running the main scheme and the discretionary scheme, an administration grant of £129,890 was provided by Welsh Government. A total of £118,570 was incurred as administrative costs, which covered additional staffing costs within the Council's Benefits Team and Housing Team, postage costs and management fees charged by the third party organisations who assessed applications on behalf of the Council.

Summary

The table below provides a summary of the funding available and how it was used:-

Scheme	Budget £	Actual Spend £	Variance
Phase 1 Discretionary Scheme	320,000	284,943	(35,057)
Phase 2 Discretionary Scheme	204,200	199,537	(4,663)
Additional Projects	210,743	261,784	51,041
Administration Costs	129,890	118,570	(11,320)
TOTAL	864,833	864,833	

Although the Council's use of the discretionary funding was slower than other Welsh Authorities, who decided to simply use the grant funding to award additional grants to specific groups of residents, it provided a more targeted approach which directed the funding to areas which gave a greater benefit to those most in need of support during the cost of living crisis.

All funding has been distributed by the Council in accordance with the Welsh Government's grant conditions, although some organisations have not distributed all the funds they received by 31 March 2023. The organisations will retain any unused funding and can still provide financial assistance to any new applicants who come forward, provided that they meet the requirements relating to the funding provided.

Governance

In August 2022, The Councils' Leadership Team requested a full review of the prevention, early intervention and poverty activities that at the time were undertaken by various officers within various departments. The review enabled the Council to take stock and agree on recommendations for future structures and programmes.

<p>Since the review, a dedicated Programme Manager has been appointed who is leading on the early intervention, prevention and poverty agendas. The Programme Manager has developed an action plan and implemented a formal governance and decision-making structure.</p> <p><u>Recommendation</u></p> <p>The Executive is requested to note the contents of the report which confirms that all the funding provided by Welsh Government was utilised in accordance with the terms and conditions of the grant.</p>		
<p>B – What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?</p>		
<p>A number of options were considered on how best to use the grant, but the options chosen were considered to provide the greatest benefit to those residents on Anglesey who were most in need.</p>		
<p>C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?</p>		
<p>Apart from noting the contents of the report, no formal decision is required at this point.</p>		
<p>CH – Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?</p>		
<p>Not applicable</p>		
<p>D – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?</p>		
<p>Funding was provided by means of a Welsh Government grant and the expenditure incurred complied with the terms and conditions of the grant and all of the available funding was utilised in accordance with the timetable set by Welsh Government.</p>		
<p>Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):</p>		
1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	The grant funding provided short term support to those most in need, but it does not resolve the long term issue residents of Anglesey who continue to suffer from the ongoing cost of living crisis.
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	The anti-poverty strategy will require future funding.
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom	A number of third sector organisations worked with the Council to deliver the support to Anglesey residents.
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.	Given the short timescale to utilise the funding, there was insufficient time to consult with citizens on how best to use the funding.
5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	Some protected groups received additional support from this funding
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	The purpose of the grant was to help those facing financial hardship as a result of the cost of living crisis, which tended to be groups that were 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, the language choice of the resident played no part in the allocation of funding.
E - Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Leadership Team (LT) (mandatory)	The report was accepted with only minor amendments requested which did not impact on the recommendation set out in the report.
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	Author of the report
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	Was part of the LT and had no specific comments in addition to those made by the LT.
4	Human Resources (HR)	Not applicable
5	Property	Not applicable
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	Not applicable
7	Scrutiny	The report was not considered by the Scrutiny Committee.
8	Local Members	The scheme was an Anglesey wide scheme and all Members were kept informed of progress through Members' Briefings.
9	Any external bodies / other/s	Not applicable
F - Appendices:		
None		
FF - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):		
Executive – 28 June 2022 – Item 9 Executive – 24 January 2023 – Item 8		

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Isle of Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	Executive Committee
Date:	30th May 2023
Subject:	Children Looked After and Leaving Care Strategy 2023-2028
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Gary Pritchard- Children & Families Services
Head of Service / Director:	Fôn Roberts, Director of Social Services & Head of Children and Families Services
Report Author:	Saul Ainsworth & Emma Edwards
Tel:	01248 751887
E-mail:	Emmaedwards@ynysmon.gov.uk
Local Members:	

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

The following recommendations are put to the Committee for consideration:

Recommendation

1. That the Committee consider the Children Looked After and Leaving Care Strategy 2023-2028 and make comments on its content.

2. That the Committee accept and approve the Strategy.

B – What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?
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C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?
--

This strategy sets out Ynys Mon County Council’s commitment; explaining how we shall be an effective and trustworthy corporate parent for any child or young person who is in our care, irrespective of their age, gender, sexuality, ethnicity, faith or disability. We shall also ensure our young people receive good-quality advice and support when they leave care. The offer of support to care leavers will be transparent and shared with all young people before they leave care as part of their care planning.

The Strategy is shared with the Executive for approval.

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

NA

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

NA.

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):		
1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	The Children Looked After and Leaving Care Strategy 2023-2028 sets out the commitment, vision and direction for our Corporate Parenting.
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	As above.
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.	Yes, the Strategy has been developed by the Corporate Parenting Panel, which consists of multi-agency representatives.
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)	N/A. Panel is Chaired by the Chief Executive
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	As above
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	As above
4	Human Resources (HR)	N/A
5	Property	N/A
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	N/A
7	Procurement	N/A
8	Scrutiny	18 th April 2023
9	Local Members	N/A

F - Appendices:

Children Looked After and Leaving Care Strategy 2023-2028

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

None.

Children Looked After
and Leaving Care
Strategy 2023-2028





Welcome to Ynys Môn's Children Looked After and Care Leavers Strategy (2023 – 2028). Coming into care is usually a traumatic experience and a great majority of children who become looked after do so because of abuse, neglect or family difficulties.

Ynys Môn's Looked After Children and Care Leavers are incredibly important to us. We are ambitious for our most vulnerable group of children and young people and continually seek to ensure every child and young person who is looked after has the opportunity to thrive; be safe and protected from harm and exploitation; reach their potential; be emotionally and physically healthy and be supported and prepared for adulthood.

Fôn Roberts

Head of Children & Families & Director of Social Services



Every child and young person on Ynys Môn should have the best possible start in life and be given every opportunity to thrive.

As corporate parents, our vision is to ensure that children and young people receiving care are no different and are given the same support, the same encouragement, and the same opportunities to achieve the best outcomes in all aspects of their lives.

We have a moral and social responsibility to work together as public services and local communities to work together to offer our children and young people with the opportunities they require to succeed and thrive.

Councillor Gary Pritchard

Portfolio Holder – Children (Social Services) & Youth Services

Why do we need a Children Looked After and Leaving Care Strategy?

Corporate parenting refers to the shared responsibility across the Council to ensure that children and young people in our care or leaving care are supported to thrive; they are 'our children'.

The role the Council plays in looking after children & young people is one of the most important things we do. The Local Authority has a unique responsibility to the children & young people we care for, as well as those leaving our care.

A good corporate parent should have the same aspirations for a child/young person in care, as a good parent would have for their own child. It means providing them with the stability and support they need to make progress; and helping them to set ambitious goals for themselves. It means celebrating their successes, but also recognising they will sometimes make mistakes and need help to get back on track. It also means supporting them to gain the skills and confidence to live independently, whilst letting them know they have someone to call on for help if the going gets tough.

Our strategy is produced to set out how we intend to challenge ourselves as corporate parents over the next five years. It provides the legal and local context in which we operate, our vision for children & young people in care, as well as those leaving our care and how we intend to deliver on the priorities which are set out in legislation.

Who is the strategy for?

Rate of Care: 95/10000

150 children and young people looked after

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63 Care leavers



10 Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers

75% children & young People living on Ynys Mon

Legislative Framework

We aim to support most of our children and young people within their own families and communities; however, for a small number, this is not possible, and they require alternative care arrangements (either in the short term or long term).

Children and young people are in our care either by virtue of a court order or with the agreement of their parent(s) or guardian(s). A child or a young person may come into care as a result of temporary or long-term difficulties faced by their parents, as a result of abuse, neglect or a range of difficulties. The delivery of our children is underpinned by a number of key pieces of legislation:

- Social Services & Wellbeing (Wales) Act (2014)
- Children Act (1989)
- Leaving Care Act (2000)
- Children Act (2004)
- Children & Families Act (2014)

Our Vision, Our Commitment

Our Vision

The children and young people of Ynys Mon who are looked after or leaving care are, 'Our Children'. This fundamentally shapes our vision and aspiration for them. Ultimately, we want all our children to receive support to develop into adults who contribute and who demonstrate positive principles and values.

Our commitment

We will be an effective and trustworthy corporate parent for any child or young person who is in our care, irrespective of their age, gender, sexuality, ethnicity, faith or disability. We shall also ensure our young people receive good-quality advice and support when they leave care.

The offer of support to care leavers will be transparent and shared with all young people before they leave care.

We will listen to our children & young people in order to help them make the most of their lives and in addition in how services are shaped to make the most of our resources.

How are we going to do this?

The Corporate Parenting Panel will meet quarterly to:

- ✓ Challenge and scrutinise in order to continually improve standards to help our children & young people achieve the best they can
- ✓ Ensure we are meeting our statutory duties and responsibilities to a high standard
- ✓ Ensure effective partnership working to meet the needs of our children & young people
- ✓ Elicit the views of our children & young people to effectively shape the development of services.

Maslow's Pyramid: Hierarchy of Need



Maslow's 'hierarchy of need' pictorially demonstrates a five-tier model of human need. Needs lower down the hierarchy must be met before people can attend to the needs identified in the higher tiers. As corporate parents, we want to provide the foundations to enable our children and young people to be able to meet their basic needs independently as they grow towards adulthood, which in turn will enable them to attend to their higher needs.

As Corporate Parents we will:

1. Protect our children and young people from risk and vulnerability
2. Know our children and young people their needs, talents and aspirations, and promote their interests
3. Hold high aspirations for their present and their future and expect the best for and from them
4. Take an interest in their successes/challenges and celebrate their achievements
5. Listen to their views and ensure these views influence practice, service and policy changes
6. Recognise, support and respect their identity in all aspects
7. Support high academic and vocational achievement. Support their enterprise and creative contributions
8. Support their health, emotional wellbeing and resilience through access to the right services at the right time
9. Support them to be ethically informed citizens
10. Support their transition to adulthood by preparing them to become responsible citizens
11. Learn from compliments and complaints from children and young people

Strategic Priority: Elected members' challenge

Why is this important?

In order to support our children and young people, in addition to those leaving our care, it is important that elected members and officers across the Council have an understanding of the issues faced by our young people as they grow, develop and prepare/enter adulthood.

What are we going to do?

We will ensure that elected members possess the key knowledge and skills to both challenge and scrutinise the service's ability to collectively and effectively meet the needs of our children and young people.

How are we going to do this?

We will:

- ✓ Arrange a workshop for elected members and officers to develop their understanding of this strategy in the context of the type of issues our young children face
- ✓ Ensure the Corporate Parenting Panel meets quarterly with an opportunity to challenge and scrutinise data and reports presented by officers across the partnership
- ✓ Ensure members of the panel have an opportunity to meet with some of our children & young people to gain first hand understandings of their experiences

Strategic Priority: Accommodation

Why is this important?

It is essential that the service has placement choice in order to best meet children & young people with placements in accordance with their identified needs. This is likely to lead to increased stability for our children & young people, which is the bedrock for the potential for improved life chances and opportunities.

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What are we going to do?

Ensure we have enough of the right type of placements to accommodate the children & young people we care for.

How are we going to do this?

We will:

- ✓ Continue to work with Foster Wales nationally and regionally to increase the numbers of foster carers to meet the diverse needs of our children
- ✓ Continue to build on the successful Catref Clyd small group home programme to enable more of our young people whose needs are best met by residential care to remain living on the island within their communities
- ✓ Continue to offer prospective foster carers enhanced benefits to encourage fostering for the Council
- ✓ Continue to take advantage of new technologies in supporting our foster carers and small group homes.

Strategic Priority: Care Leaver Accommodation

Why is this important?

It is essential that the service has placement choice in order to best meet children & young people with placements in accordance with their identified needs. This is likely to lead to increased stability for our children & young people, which is the bedrock for the potential for improved life chances and opportunities.

What are we going to do?

Ensure we have enough of the right type of placements and living arrangements for our young people leaving our care.

How are we going to do this?

We will:

- ✓ Contribute to the Support People tendering process relating to accommodation for vulnerable young people, ensuring our young people's voices are heard
- ✓ Continue expansion and development of 'When I'm Ready' to enable more of our young people to remain in their foster placements post 18, if this is their desire
- ✓ Further develop 'pathway' partnership meetings between Social Services (Adults and Children & Families) and Housing Provider Services to ensure individual young people's accommodation needs are met, with a view to reducing homelessness

Strategic Priority: Emotional Health & Resilience

Why is this important?

Looked after children and care leavers are over-represented in mental health services in comparison with the general population. We want to address this trend for our children.

What are we going to do?

We will promote the emotional health and resilience of our children in order that they are better equipped emotionally as they move into adulthood

How are we going to do this?

We will:

- ✓ Continue on our journey to becoming a trauma informed island, ensuring that those who care for our children (foster carers/residential workers), those who teach our children and those who support our children.
- ✓ Continue our training package for the island's workforce so that the Trauma Recovery Approach is embedded enabling professionals/carers are informed and skilled
- ✓ Review the impact of the Trauma Recovery Strategy via the key performance indicators established within that strategy
- ✓ Co-locate CAMHS practitioners with Social Care staff to facilitate and enhance effective joint working for individual children

Strategic Priority: Education, Employment & Training

Why is this important?

Care leavers are over-represented in unemployment figures, which often contributes to over-representation across a range of poverty indices. We want to equip our young people with the skills, knowledge and abilities which will enable them to gain employment, develop their independence and contribute positively to society and their local communities

What are we going to do?

Increase the number of care leavers in education, employment and training.

How are we going to do this?

We will:

- ✓ Measure the impact of the Basic Income Pilot (BIP) upon education, employment and training, which provides care leavers reaching the age of eighteen years between July 2022 and June 2023 with a basic guaranteed income
- ✓ Evaluate the impact of the independent living skills accredited diploma, which is available to ten care leavers during 2023-24
- ✓ Evaluate the impact of the 16+ Youth Engagement & Progression Panel, which focuses upon the needs of young people leaving care whom are not in education, employment or training.

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to:	Executive Committee
Date:	30 May 2023
Subject:	The use of Second Homes Premium Funding
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Gary Pritchard
Head of Service / Director:	Ned Michael
Report Author: Tel: E-mail:	Elliw Llyr ElliwLlyr@ynysmon.llyw.cymru
Local Members:	All Members

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s
<p>It is recommended that the Executive:-</p> <p>A1. Approves using the funding generated through the Second Homes Premium for the schemes highlighted in paragraph number 10.0 below for 2023/24.</p> <p>A2. Increase the maximum grant for bringing back empty properties back into use to £25,000.</p> <p>1.0 Background</p> <p>1.1 Since 2017 the Council has adopted a Policy aimed at supporting local people to convert empty properties into homes as well as providing equity loans for first time buyers. £170k was allocated at the start of the scheme which had increased to £696k by 2022-23. The scheme has been successful with this year's budget committed to grants that have been approved or are in the process of being approved</p> <p>1.2 For 2023/24 we have £1.502m of Council Tax Premium finance available to be allocated, the table in paragraph 10.0 shows our proposals for the use of the funds.</p> <p>1.3 Use of the funds for getting empty houses into use has been very successful since the inception of the project and we trust that we will continue to be able to provide support for up to 32 such cases next year as well. As noted below in paragraph 5, in light of the significant increases that have been seen in construction goods costs we ask that the maximum grant be increased from the current £20,000.</p> <p>1.4 Since October 2022 we have launched the Anglesey Homebuyer Scheme to help buyers with an equity scheme for houses for sale on the open market. This scheme has been slow to come to fruition due to the economic climate that has prevailed since September last year and the</p>

difficulties for applicants to access mortgage loans. However we are now seeing things starting to move with the hope that the first purchase will complete very soon. Please see a table below for information on the status of applications for this scheme.

Application Status	Number of applications	Comments
Approved applications	1	Loan of £30,000 (20%)
Assessment almost complete	1	
Applications withdrawn	4	2 applications failed to secure a deposit and were therefore unable to proceed
Active applications	8	

1.5 Applicants range in age from 21 – 44 years old with preferred locations across the Island:

Valley	Holyhead	Caergeiliog
Llanedwen	Bryn Du	Llangefni
Gaerwen	Rhostrehwfa	Pentraeth
Penysarn	Llanfechell	Trearddur Bay
Four Mile Bridge	Llanfairpwll	Gwalchmai
Llannerchymedd	Rhosybol	Coedana
Bryngwran	Rhosneigr	Llanfaelog
Llangaffo		

1.6 During 2022/23 we approved 18 applications for the **First Time Buyers Scheme** to bring empty homes back into use with an approval value of £331,409 to date. 4 of these were in Holyhead, 2 in Llanfairpwll , 2 in Gwalchmai, 2 in Rhosybol and 1 in Amlwch, Llangefni, Four Mile Bridge, Llandegfan, Aberffraw, Llangoed a Pentraeth.

1.7 We currently have 11 enquiries where properties have been assessed and where applicants are expected to complete/submit an application. The budget for this year has now been

committed, with the Council still receiving enquiries. The enquiries include the following areas – Holyhead, Rhostrehwfa, Pentraeth, Bodedern, Llanddeusant, Llanfairpwll, Pensarn, Amlwch and Tregele.

2.0 Additional Benefits of the First Time Buyer Grant Scheme

- 2.1** 41 small / medium sized businesses or contractors have benefited from the scheme by taking on work through the First Time Buyers Grant scheme. It is worth noting that some contractors and businesses are used a number of times and produce more work.
- 2.2** Builders Merchants play a key part in the scheme selling products and materials that contribute towards the renovation works. Local merchants employ much of the local economy offering services through the medium of Welsh with numerous shops across the Island.

3.0 Improving Energy Efficiency

- 3.1** Upon completion it is estimated that measures to improve energy efficiency levels as part of the renovation works, e.g. effective boiler, insulation and windows and doors (with an EPC rating of D or higher) will have been installed in 100% of the properties leading to a reduction in energy bills for the owners. Also, all properties are improved and modernised to keep maintenance costs to a minimum for owners and to increase the value of the property. This could benefit those who might want to move to a more suitable home in the future should their circumstances change. (The grant would have to be repaid in full should the property be sold within five years of the completion date of the work supported by the grant).

4.0 Feedback from people who have received the grant

“Here are some pictures of my finished home, I am so happy and pleased to move into a lovely home for me & me 6 year old son! So so happy. Thank you so much for the grant it has helped me tremendously and I can’t thank you enough”

Here are some before and after photos:





5.0 Reviewing the maximum grant level

We recognise that it now costs more to bring old buildings back into use, and therefore due to the increasing costs of labour and goods we recommend increasing the grant to £25,000.

6.0 WG Empty Homes Scheme

6.1 The [WG Empty Homes Scheme < https://www.gov.wales/written-statement-national-empty-homes-grant-scheme>](https://www.gov.wales/written-statement-national-empty-homes-grant-scheme) was launched in January 2023 and all LAs were encouraged to sign up to bring more empty homes back into use. Anglesey is expected to contribute £38k towards the scheme with a recommendation that this amount comes from the Council Tax Premium.

7.0 Subsidising Open Market Rents

7.1 Open market rents on the Island are beyond the reach of many of the Island's residents with the current average annual salary on the Island being (£27.5k).

7.2 The current Local Housing Allowance is substantially lower (£120 a week for a one bedroom house) than open market rental levels for properties on the Island (£190 a week for a 3 bedroom house). According to a report by the Bevan foundation *Understanding the Local Housing Allowance - What can be done?*, March 2022 research conducted by them shows that only 3.8% of the market can be paid in full with the LHA, and that only 2.1% of the market is available to low income tenants because the demands of landlords are too strict (e.g. high deposit, minimum income requirements etc).

7.3 Recently the number of landlords operating on the island fell and this has had an impact on open market rents.

7.4 A scheme needs to be developed to subsidise open market rents for local individuals with funding obtained through the Council Tax Premium.

7.5 A scheme bridging the gap between intermediate rents and open market rents according to property size could be looked at which would be available for a period of up to 5 years to individuals commencing with 100% of the difference between LHA and Market rents in year 1 reducing to 20% of the difference in year 5.

8.0 Purchasing Homes For Sale on the Open Market to be Let on Intermediate Rent terms

8.1 Due to the lack of privately rented properties on the Island consideration should be given to buying homes on the open market with funding generated through the Council Tax Premium with the intention of offering them to local people as intermediate rental properties.

8.2 It would also be possible to look at a Rent First option so that the individuals renting these property could have the option of buying an equity share in the property in the future

9.0 Allocation to the Planning Service (Article 4)

9.1 Additional capacity and resources are needed to enable the Council to develop and implement its response to the challenges associated with second homes and holiday accommodation on the Island.

9.2 The money is used to:

- a) Analyse the new legislation and regulations to understand the implications and potential options for Anglesey and the Council.
- b) Identify, review and analyse areas on the Island where second homes and holiday accommodation affect residents' access to a home.
- c) Create and maintain robust evidence and a data base to influence the Council's response and priorities, as well as influence engagement with Welsh Government, other Local Authorities and other key local, regional and national stakeholders.
- d) Conduct strategic scenario planning activities to identify the Council's response and interventions.
- e) Commission and manage expert external support to strengthen the Council's understanding of the challenges and potential implications.

10.0 Housing Service use of the Council Tax Premium 2023/24

Type of Support	Number of Cases	Allocation 2023/24
Empty Homes Grants of up to £25,000 to bring empty homes back into use	32	£675,000
Shared Equity Loans for first time buyers to purchase properties on the open market	10	£390,000
WG Empty Homes Scheme	16	£38,000*
Subsidy scheme so that open market rents are affordable to local people	10	£50,000
A scheme to purchase homes on		To be developed during 2024/25

the open market to be let as intermediate or Rent First properties		
Funding for the role of Empty Homes Assistant		£49,000
Allocation to the Planning Service (Article 4)		£300,000
Total		£1,502,000

**Remainder to be financed by the owner and WG*

We will constantly review spending on the schemes throughout the year to ensure that the funds are available for the schemes where demand lies.

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

Not utilising the allocation for the various schemes which promotes affordable housing as would go against the purpose of raising the premium.

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

To agree the schemes and expenditure for 2023-24

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

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

yes

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E – Impact on our Future Generations(if relevant)		
1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island	It provides assistance in accessing the housing market
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority. If so, how:-	Assists with helping people access affordable housing
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision, if so, please advise whom:	Yes, with Tai Teg
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward? Please explain how:-	Housing Survey carried out in 2021
5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	Non identified
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	Assists with accessing affordable housing
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.	n/a

DD – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	Supportive of the recommendation
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	Supportive of the recommendation
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer	Supportive of the recommendation

	(mandatory)	
4	Human Resources (HR)	n/a
5	Property	n/a/
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	n/a
7	Procurement	n/a
8	Scrutiny	
9	Local Members	

F - Appendices:

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

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