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CYNGOR SIR
YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr Dylan Williams
Prif Weithredwr – Chief Executive

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RHYBUDD O GYFARFOD	NOTICE OF MEETING
PWYLLGOR GWAITH	THE EXECUTIVE
DYDD MAWRTH 26 MEDI 2023 10.00 o'r gloch	TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2023 10.00 am
CYFARFOD HYBRID – YN YSTAFELL BWYLLGOR 1 AC YN RHITHWIR	HYBRID MEETING – VIRTUAL AND IN COMMITTEE ROOM 1
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 Roberts, Dafydd Rhys Thomas

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 declarations of interest from a 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 - 16)

To submit for confirmation, the draft minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 18 July 2023.

4 THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 17 - 28)

To submit a report by the Head of Democracy.

5 SCORECARD MONITORING - QUARTER 1, 2023/24 (Pages 29 - 42)

To submit a report by the Head of Profession – HR and Transformation.

6 ANNUAL PERFORMANCE / WELLBEING REPORT 2022/23 (Pages 43 - 72)

To submit a report by the Head of Profession – HR and Transformation.

7 REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING - QUARTER 1, 2023/23 (Pages 73 - 92)

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

8 CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING - QUARTER 1, 2023/24 (Pages 93 - 108)

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

9 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET MONITORING - QUARTER 1, 2023/24 (Pages 109 - 116)

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

10 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2024/25 – 2025/26 (Pages 117 - 140)

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

11 ANNUAL LETTER FROM THE PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES FOR 2022/2023 (Pages 141 - 154)

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

12 **ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL RESPONSE TO THE NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE - EMERGENCY COVER REVIEW** (Pages 155 - 184)

To submit a report by the Chief Executive.

13 **APPROVAL OF THE ANGLESEY TOWN CENTRES IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY** (Pages 185 - 216)

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

14 **EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC** (Pages 217 - 218)

To consider adopting the following:-

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

15 **COMPULSORY LAND PURCHASE - EMPLOYMENT LAND IN LLANGEFNI** (Pages 219 - 228)

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

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THE EXECUTIVE

Minutes of the hybrid meeting held on 18 July, 2023

PRESENT: Councillor Llinos Medi (Leader) (Chair) (for items 1- 4, 14 and 15)
Councillor Robin Williams (Deputy Leader and Chair for items 5-13, 16 and 17)

Councillors Neville Evans, Carwyn Jones, Gary Pritchard, Dafydd Roberts, Alun Roberts, Nicola Roberts, Dafydd Rhys Thomas.

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive (present for items 1-4, 14 and 15)
Deputy Chief Executive
Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer
Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer
Director of Social Services
Director of Education, Skills, and Young People
Head of Regulation and Economic Development (for items 1-4, & 12- 15)
Head of Highways, Waste and Property
Head of Democracy
Economic Development Manager (THJ)
Scrutiny Manager (AGD)
Committee Officer (ATH)
Webcasting Officer (FT)

APOLOGIES: Mr Arwel Owen (Head of Adults' Services)

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Douglas Fowlie, Glyn Haynes, Trefor Ll. Hughes, MBE, R. Llewelyn Jones, Derek Owen, Dylan Rees, Ken Taylor

Prior to commencing the business of the meeting the Chair said that with the Executive's agreement she would be varying the order of business to bring forward for consideration items 12, 13, 14 and 15 on the agenda this being due to herself, the Chief Executive and the Head of Regulation and Economic Development needing to attend a mid-morning meeting with a Welsh Government Minister which had been called after the publication of the agenda.

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Councillor Carwyn Jones declared a personal interest only regarding item 9 on the agenda as an employee of Grwp Llandrillo Menai (the latter being one of the consultees on the Modernising Learning Communities and Developing the Welsh Language Strategy).

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 27 June, 2023 were presented for confirmation.

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Executive held on 27 June 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 July, 2023 to February 2024 was presented for confirmation.

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

- Item 31 (Corporate Scorecard Quarter 3 2023/24) as a new item for the Executive's 19 March 2024 meeting.
- Establishing a new Port Heath Authority as an additional item for the Executive's 26 September 2023 meeting following on from the report presented to the Executive in December 2021.

It was resolved to confirm the Executive's updated Forward Work Programme for the period September 2023 to April 2024 with the changes outlined at the meeting.

5. DRAFT FINAL ACCOUNTS 2022/23 AND USE OF BALANCES

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer incorporating the draft Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement for 2022/23 and the draft Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2023 was presented for the Executive's consideration. The report also provided more detailed information on the Council's general balances and earmarked reserves including the proposed use of reserves and balances in 2023/24 and subsequent years.

The report was presented by Councillor Robin Williams, Portfolio Member for Finance. It set out the level of general balances and earmarked reserves which in the professional opinion of the Council's Section 151 Officer, is the level required to cover any financial risks faced by the Council, to meet existing funding commitments made taking into account any specific restrictions on the use of funding. The level of risk faced by the Council can change and the level of general balances and earmarked reserves will be kept under review over the coming months.

Councillor Robin Williams referred to the financial difficulties which some councils in Wales are now experiencing and he highlighted that because it has been provident in the way it has managed its finances, the Council is in a better position financially. Although the Council like many others is still facing significant challenges in the next few years with the uncertainty around the 2024/25 financial settlement being one such challenge, the reserves it has built will provide security against the challenges and risks that are likely to come its way.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer confirmed that the draft financial statements for 2022/23 were signed by the Council's Responsible Financial Officer on 30 June 2023, and the audit of accounts will commence in August 2023 the intention being that it be completed over the summer and the final audited accounts approved by 30 November 2023. The statements are technical and complicated documents and they include the draft Comprehensive Income and Expenditure Statement (CIES at Appendix 2 to the report) which shows the cost of providing services in 2022/23 in accordance with statutory

accounting requirements and covers both the Council Fund and the Housing Revenue Account. The CIES includes statutory accounting costs such as depreciation and pension adjustments which are not charged against Council Tax and are therefore reversed out before determining the final position in respect of general balances, earmarked reserves, the HRA account balance and school balances. The CIES shows that the net cost of services was £179.599m with a deficit £16.237m on the provision of services. When adjustments are made for the revaluation of assets and for the remeasurement of the pension liability the final net surplus for the year is £132.79m. Adjustments are then made as shown in Table 1 of the report to determine the movement of reserves and balances with it being noted that the figure of £3.258m in the table should not appear in brackets as it represents a contribution from rather than to useable reserves and balances. Table 2 of the report provides a summary of the movements in Council reserves and balances as at 31 March, 2023 including the HRA and school reserves and shows that the Council's General Reserves stood at £13.967m on that date but with £3.78m of that total having been committed to balance the 2023/24 budget. The Council had total useable reserves of £54.742m as at 31 March, 2023.

The draft Balance sheet at Appendix 3 shows that the value of the Council's net assets increased by £132.769m from £272.233m in 2021/22 to £405.002m at 31 March, 2023. The significant change is due in large part to the accounting valuation of the Pension Fund. The Pension Fund was valued as a liability of £121.199m as at March, 2022. This has changed to an asset of £19.815m which is the first time in many years that the Fund has been valued as an asset rather than a liability. This has no impact on Council Fund balances as it is a statutory accounting adjustment. In the Council balance sheet this is not reported as an asset in accordance with accounting practices which does not allow reporting of the net pension assets on the balance sheet for most pension funds. This is a prudent approach and reflects the fact that the Council cannot close the fund and crystallise the notional value of the pension asset. The pension liability on the balance sheet is nil due to the net asset position. The balance sheet also shows that the Council's borrowings have reduced from £127m to £125m.

The Section 151 Officer thanked the Finance Service's staff for their work on the draft accounts and the sentiment was echoed by the Portfolio Member for Finance.

In response to a question about earmarked reserves specifically whether they are reviewed to ensure that the purpose for which they were set aside remains valid, the Section 151 Officer referred to Appendix 5 of the report which shows the transfers in and out of the various reserves held by the Council which demonstrate that those reserves have been reviewed and updated and he confirmed that this is an annual process. Where reserves are found to be no longer required for the purpose for which they were created then they are transferred back into the Council's General Reserves Fund. For 2022/23, £4.13m of earmarked reserves was transferred back into the Council Fund.

Councillor Robin Williams said that it is important to note that the Council has earmarked reserves to meet known or planned requirements as well as for unused grants allocated late in the financial year that will be carried forward and used the following year, and he emphasised that these are funds for which the Council has a clear purpose and use.

Councillor Alun Roberts, Portfolio Member for Adults' Services and Community Safety said that Council reserves and how they are used are often misunderstood. He referred to the significant pressures on expenditure in Adults' Services which are only going to intensify with the increase in the over 60s population and the challenge this creates in terms of providing services. Maintaining a sufficient level of reserves is therefore a matter of sensible financial planning ensuring that the Council remains financially resilient and is able to continue to deliver those services in future.

It was resolved –

- **To note the draft unaudited main financial statements for 2022/23. The full Draft Statement of Accounts 2022/23 is published at <https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/Council/Council-finances/Statement-of-Accounts.aspx>**
- **To note the position of general balances of £13.967m and to approve the creation of the new earmarked reserves set out in Table 3 of the report which amount to £4.320m.**
- **To approve the balance of £19.638m of total earmarked reserves for 2022/23 (£23.181m in 2021/22). This is £3.544m lower than 2021/22 and is made up of £4.320m of new reserves as recommended above and a £7.471m overall reduction to existing reserves though this is made up of increases and decreases to existing reserves.**
- **To note the school balances position of £6.716m.**
- **To note the HRA balance of £12.107m.**
- **To approve the new Capital Grants Unapplied Reserve with a balance of £0.407m as shown in the Movement in Reserve Statement in Appendix 4.**
- **To approve the transfer of £1.365m of service reserves back to the general reserve to increase flexibility and financial resilience of the Council.**

6. RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY AND STRATEGY

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer incorporating the Risk Management Policy and Strategy was presented for the Executive's consideration.

The report was presented by Councillor Robin Williams, Portfolio Member for Finance. The risk management policy, strategy and accompanying guidance set out the principles and approach of the Isle of Anglesey County Council to managing risk with the aim being to provide a consistent process that underpins the management of risk throughout the Council which reflects the size and nature of its various operations and uses skills and capabilities to the full. The policy and strategy apply to all Council employees and Members. Any partner organisations should be encouraged to embrace the principles contained in the documents. The risk management policy and strategy were reviewed by the Governance and Audit Committee at its meeting in April, 2023.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer advised that the report updates the Council's risk management policy and strategy and he confirmed that the Governance and Audit Committee had not recommended any changes to the policy or strategy following its review of the documents. Risk management is an integral part of the Council's operations and applies to all part of the Council's business. The Strategic Risk Register is regularly reviewed by the Leadership Team.

It was resolved to accept and approve the Risk Management Policy and Strategy.

7. EXTENDING THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE DEMOCRATIC SERVICES COMMITTEE

The report of the Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer which sought the Executive's views on a proposal to extend the terms of reference of the Democratic Services was presented for consideration.

The report was presented by Councillor Carwyn Jones, Portfolio Member for Corporate Business and Customer Experience. Some matters which may lead to constitutional changes being approved by the full Council require a detailed discussion of the options, benefits and disadvantages before a decision is made. The current arrangement does not offer an opportunity for such changes to be explored in detail and this level of granularity is not possible at full Council. It is proposed that in these circumstances the Democratic Services Committee undertakes the work on behalf of the Council and that it also formulates responses to consultations involving constitutional matters. Other options include setting up a separate task and finish group for each piece of work or establishing a standing sub-committee of the Council. However, given that the Democratic Services Committee is a statutory requirement and is already established, is a politically balanced committee and the proposal would sit well with its statutory role, it is considered that amending its terms of reference to incorporate the proposal is the most pragmatic and effective solution. Not all constitutional changes will require consideration or debate by the Democratic Services Committee; it will be limited to instances where a discussion or a local choice decision is needed or to agree a response to any consultation on matters affecting the Council's Constitution. The decision on whether the Committee will review a particular matter will be made by the Monitoring Officer in agreement with the Committee's Chair. The Democratic Services Committee will only have power to make recommendations to Council on these matters having no legal power itself to make such changes.

Councillor Carwyn Jones confirmed that the Democratic Services Committee had considered the report and had supported the proposed changes as had the Political Group Leaders and relevant officers who were also consulted.

It was resolved to recommend to Full Council that the terms of reference of the Democratic Services Committee be extended to include the proposal as set out in the report, and that subsequent amendments be made to the Council's Constitution as a result of the change.

8. ADOPTION OF DRAFT PETITIONS SCHEME

The report of the Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer which sought the Executives views on a draft Petitions Scheme was presented for consideration.

The report was presented by Councillor Carwyn Jones, Portfolio Member for Corporate Business and Customer Experience. Section 42 of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021 places a duty on principal councils to make and publish a Petitions Scheme. This scheme is in addition to, rather than a replacement for, the current arrangements in the Council Procedure Rules which enable elected members to submit petitions at Council meetings. The Scheme as set out in Enclosure 1 to the report meets the new statutory requirements but also includes elements which are a matter of local choice. Those were discussed with the Leadership Team, Heads of Services, and other relevant officers and with the Political Group Leaders. Valid petitions will be published on the Council's website but electronic petitions will also be populated on the Council's website using the Modern.Gov software which supports the committee system. The Scheme will not apply where a statutory consultation process is already being pursued e.g. planning, licensing, school modernisation. The scheme sets out the process for submitting petitions to the Council and how they will be dealt with and notes the circumstances in which petitions

will not be accepted. The scheme will be operated and managed by Democratic Services and with the agreement of the Council, will be reviewed by the Democratic Services Committee after it has been operational for 12 months.

It was resolved to recommend to the Full Council that the draft Petitions Scheme at Enclosure 1 to the report be adopted.

At this point (11.45 a.m.) the meeting adjourned for a short break, items 12, 13, 14 and 15 having been brought forward for consideration in the order of business.

9. MODERNISING LEARNING COMMUNITIES AND DEVELOPING THE WELSH LANGUAGE STRATEGY

The report of the Director of Education, Skills and Young People incorporating the Modernising Learning Communities and Developing the Welsh Language Strategy was presented for the Executive's consideration. The report also set out the outcome of the consultation on the strategy undertaken between 31 March and 18 May 2023.

The report was introduced by Councillor Dafydd Roberts, Portfolio Member for Education and the Welsh Language who highlighted ensuring an effective education provision for today and future generations as one of the strategic objectives of the Corporate Plan. A key workstream related to achieving this objective is the adoption and delivery of a new strategy for modernising learning communities and developing the Welsh Language.

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People presented the report and provided a summary of the responses to the consultation which totalled approximately 300 in number. The issues raised by stakeholders and interested parties and other respondents are outlined in the Consultation Report. Over 150 children and young people from 28 schools were consulted and a number of briefing sessions were held for Headteachers, school governors and elected members. In response to feedback received during the consultation process, Officers have considered the points raised and have made the changes noted in the report to the draft strategy. These relate to amending the implementation timetable with regard to Post 16 provision, the addition of a new section at the end of the strategy to recognise the sources of information used to populate the data within the strategy and updating the governance model and section to reflect governance changes. The data used in the strategy has also been updated to reflect the more current data which emerged during the consultation process.

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People thanked all those who had taken part in the consultation and responded to it.

Councillor Douglas Fowlie, Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee provided an overview of the issues discussed by the Committee when it was presented with the Modernising Learning Communities and Developing the Welsh Language Strategy at its meeting on 20 June, 2023. Those in summary included the robustness of the consultation process and comparison with previous consultations in terms of stakeholder engagement, how the output of the consultation has influenced the strategy, how the strategy helps the Council realise the strategic objectives of the Council Plan, the way in which the strategy seeks to address the aim of providing education and educational buildings of the highest standards for Anglesey learners, the challenges and risks in trying to realise the strategy and the means by which the implementation of the strategy would be monitored. A point was also raised about the extent to which the sufficiency of play areas across the Island was a factor. Having considered all the information presented the Corporate Scrutiny Committee had resolved to recommend the Strategy and the amendments proposed as a result of the feedback from the consultation to the Executive.

In considering the report, members of the Executive welcomed the feedback from children and young people and noted the maturity of those responses. The importance of obtaining the views of the Island's schoolchildren on the draft strategy could not be overstated as the strategy is all about their future in terms of delivering an education provision that will enable the Island's children and young people achieve their full potential whatever their background and circumstances. The strategy's significance in relation to developing the Welsh language was also noted particularly in light of the target set by Welsh Government of achieving a million Welsh speakers by 2050 and the importance of practising Welsh conversationally and on a day-to-day basis was emphasised as one of the best ways of developing Welsh skills and confidence in the language. The reference in the strategy to post-16 provision was acknowledged and the recognition that the learner entitlement and experience for post 16 learners needs to be strengthened was also welcomed.

In response to a question about the next steps, the Director of Education, Skills, and Young People advised that a steering and implementation group will be established; the strategy will provide the strategic direction and will form the basis for discussions on the ongoing modernisation of the school stock and educational provision.

It was resolved to approve and adopt the Modernising Learning Communities and Developing the Welsh Language Strategy.

10. MODERNISING SCHOOLS ON ANGLESEY – REVIEWING THE CATCHMENT AREAS OF YSGOL Y GRAIG AND YSGOL TALWRN

The report of the Director of Education, Skills and Young People incorporating a review of the catchment areas of Ysgol Talwrn and Ysgol y Graig was presented for the Executive's consideration.

The report was introduced by Councillor Dafydd Roberts, Portfolio Member for Education and the Welsh Language. The review of the catchment areas of Ysgol Talwrn and Ysgol y Graig formed part of the proposal agreed by the Executive in December, 2020 to increase the capacity of Ysgol Y Graig to take pupils from Ysgol Talwrn and to close Ysgol Talwrn.

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People outlined the two possible options the one involving the transfer of a northern and southern stretch of Ysgol Talwrn's existing catchment area to Ysgol Llanbedrgoch and Ysgol Pentraeth catchments respectively and combining the remainder with the Ysgol y Graig catchment (option 1), with the other option being to combine the whole of the existing Ysgol Talwrn catchment with the Ysgol y Graig catchment (option 2). Based on an analysis of the benefits and drawbacks of each option as detailed in the report, the preferred option is option 2 on the reasoning that Ysgol y Graig is in the same secondary catchment area as Ysgol Talwrn, pupils will transfer to the same secondary school as their friends and possibly older siblings. Option 2 is also more cost efficient for the Council and will reduce carbon emissions.

It was resolved to approve Option 2 namely to merge the existing Ysgol Talwrn catchment area with the Ysgol y Graig catchment area.

11. PROVISION OF FREE SCHOOL MEALS – YSGOL BODFFORDD

The report of the Director of Education, Skills and Young People seeking the Executive's approval for a plan to relocate a portacabin on the old Ysgol Corn Hir site to Ysgol Bodffordd was presented for consideration.

The report was introduced by Councillor Dafydd Roberts, Portfolio Member for Education and the Welsh Language. The plan for which the Executive's approval was sought would enable Ysgol Bodffordd to provide free school meals in line with Welsh Government's scheme to provide universal free school meals to primary school children.

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People advised that since the introduction of universal primary free school meals for Reception and Years 1 and 2 children, the uptake has increased as evidenced in the report and a similar increase in demand is anticipated as the scheme is extended to include provision for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6. The Authority is now planning to ensure that schools are ready to provide free school meals for all primary school children in Anglesey by 2024. Where necessary, more staff are being recruited and building adaptation work is being undertaken. The challenges in relation to facilitating viable provision in Ysgol Bodffordd are more substantial and are a risk to the Council's ability to fulfil the scheme. The current arrangements at the school as described in the report are not suitable for providing school meals in current demand and extending the arrangements to accommodate more children is not practical in the long-term especially as it is anticipated that by September 2023, 74 children will be attending the school and all will be offered free school meals thereby creating a potential increase of between 15 and 30 additional meals per day.

Joint visits to the school have been made by the Learning and Property Services and Chartwell Officers and discussions have been held with kitchen staff and the Head Teacher and it has been decided that due to the layout of the building the only viable option to overcome the food serving challenges is to convert one of the classrooms adjoining the kitchen into a canteen and to relocate the classroom. As there is no suitable space within the current building a new space will need to be created, and as the school's layout and ground levels mean that developing an extension would be challenging it is proposed that installing a portacabin on the school site which is separate to the main building for use as a classroom is the most appropriate solution. The availability of a portacabin in good condition on the site of the old Ysgol Corn Hir means that it can be repurposed thereby maximising value for money. The cabin placement works including securing planning consent as well as undertaking alterations to the kitchen on operational premises will be programmed over a period of a year as to manage risks and minimise disruption as per the outline plan and timetable set out in the report. Costs of up to £250,000 are foreseen which will be funded through the free school meals grant.

The Executive acknowledged the universal primary free school meals policy as a product of the Co-operation agreement between Welsh Government and Plaid Cymru which ensures that all primary school children in Wales will be provided with free school meals by 2024 without exception and notwithstanding the implementation challenges to be overcome in some instances, would bring benefit to all those children.

It was resolved that subject to securing planning consent, to approve the plan to relocate a portacabin on the old Ysgol Corn Hir site to Ysgol Bodffordd to ensure that Ysgol Bodffordd can provide free school meals in line with Welsh Government's scheme to provide universal free school meals to primary school children.

12. AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY MANAGEMENT PLAN (AONB)

The report of the Head of Regulation and Economic Development incorporating the final draft of the Area of Outstanding Beauty Management Plan was presented for the Executive's consideration.

The report was presented by Councillor Neville Evans, Portfolio Member for Leisure, Tourism and Maritime who outlined the background and statutory requirements on local

authorities which administer AONBs including the preparation, publication and review every five years of management plans for their areas. The draft AONB Management Plan has been subject to a six-week consultation process and a summary of the responses received and the subsequent changes to the final plan are outlined in the Consultation Report at Annex B. The AONB Management Plan is a cross cutting document and aligns fully with the new Council Plan and its six strategic objectives which it will help deliver. It is also integral to the people, communities and businesses within the AONB which as well as being an area of outstanding natural beauty and special qualities is also a dynamic and working landscape.

The Head of Regulation and Economic Development advised that the final draft AONB Management Plan if endorsed by the Executive will be submitted to the Full Council for approval and will also be presented to the AONB Joint Advisory Committee as the forum which oversees the AONB and delivery of the plan whose membership reflects the broad spectrum of interests involved with the AONB and its management. He thanked all those who had taken the time to respond to the public consultation confirming that all responses had received careful consideration.

Councillor Douglas Fowlie, Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee summarised the Committee's discussions with regard to the draft AONB Management Plan from its meeting held on 20 June, 2023. Points raised by the Committee included the robustness of the consultation process and the extent to which the responses had influenced the final plan. Questions were asked about the purpose of the AONB Management Plan and how it aligns with the new Council Plan. The risks and challenges to realising of the Plan's priorities were discussed as were the mechanisms for monitoring its delivery. Assurances were sought about the role of the Plan in the planning consent process and consideration was given to the partnership working necessary to the delivery of the plan. Communication was seen as essential in this regard. Having scrutinised the draft Plan and the further information provided at the meeting the Corporate Scrutiny Committee had resolved to recommend the draft AONB Management Plan to the Executive.

The Executive's members noted the response to the consultation and considered that although the volume of responses could have been greater those submitted were informative and constructive and had recognised the comprehensiveness of the plan. Members looked forward to the resulting action plan and its implementation.

It was resolved to recommend the new Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Management Plan (2023-2028) for the Full Council's approval.

13. DESTINATION MANAGEMENT PLAN 2023-2028

The report of the Head of Regulation and Economic Development incorporating the Destination Management Plan 2023-28 was presented for the Executive's consideration.

The report was presented by Councillor Neville Evans, Portfolio Member for Leisure, Tourism and Maritime. The Plan sets out the Council's ambitions for destination management over the next five years and takes account of both local and national strategies. It provides a strategy for managing all aspects of Anglesey as a destination which contribute to and influence the visitor experience and will ensure that the special qualities of the Island are at the heart of the tourism offer but will not be adversely impacted as a result. While Tourism is among the most important of Anglesey's industries and a significant contributor to the local economy its effects need to be managed. It is considered that the Plan achieves this balance in welcoming the fact that Anglesey is a popular tourist destination whilst also seeking to address the potentially negative effects that can result from high numbers of visitors to the Island. Delivery of the Plan will be supported by an action

plan and delivery group (the Destination Management Organisation) and the inclusion of local community stakeholders as well as the tourism industry and businesses in the delivery process is to be welcomed.

The Head of Regulation and Economic Development advised that although the Destination Management Plan is not a statutory document given the value of the tourism industry to the Island, it is a significant document for the Council. The pandemic brought additional pressures on the Island as a resource and sharpened the realisation that it must be managed more sustainably going forward which means maximising the benefits which tourism brings to the Island as a destination and place while minimising the impacts. Equally important is securing the buy-in of communities on the Island ensuring that they understand the value of the tourism sector locally and as the largest economic sector on Anglesey.

Councillor Dylan Rees, Chair of the Partnerships and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee provided a report back from the Committee's 21 June, 2023 meeting which considered the Destination Management Plan. Questions and been asked about the robustness of the consultation process and how its output had influenced the revised plan. The Committee had asked why a Destination Management Plan is prepared and the way in which it aligns with the Council Plan and other strategic documents such as the Anglesey Town Centres Improvement Strategy. Members considered the risks and challenges in fully realising the plan and how its implementation would be monitored via the proposed Destination Management Organisation. Members also asked how the Council proposes to work effectively across services to manage the impacts and opportunities of visitors to the Island with Newborough and Llanddwyn Beach being cited as a case in point. Having considered these matters and the responses to them the Committee had resolved to recommend the Destination Management Plan for the Executive's approval and had requested the Scrutiny Chairs and Vice-Chairs forum to consider the propriety of programming an item on the impact of tourism on local communities for a future meeting of the Committee.

The Executive thanked Scrutiny for its feedback and highlighted the guiding principles and priorities set out in the report as the basis and reasons for the Destination Management Plan. Executive Members whilst acknowledging the importance of tourism to Anglesey recognised that such a plan is essential in maintaining a balance between encouraging visitors to appreciate and enjoy the Island's special qualities and ensuring that those are not harmed as a result.

It was resolved to approve the new Destination Management Plan (2023-2028).

14. IMPROVING THE RELIABILITY AND RESILIENCE ACROSS THE MENAI STRAIT

The report of the Head of Regulation and Economic Development incorporating the detailed evidence base and key findings of a report commissioned by the Council in relation to improving the reliability and resilience across the Menai Strait was presented for the Executive's consideration. The detailed evidence base and key findings have been produced by Quod a specialist economics and planning consultancy on behalf of the Isle of Anglesey County Council to support the Council's submission to the North Wales Transport Commission on the need for an improved multi-modal crossing of the Menai Strait.

The report was presented by Councillor Dafydd Rhys Thomas, Portfolio Member for Highways, Waste and Property. The North Wales Transport Commission (NWTC) established by Welsh Government acknowledges in a Progress Statement in January 2023 that North Wales is reliant on private vehicles and that a lack of attractive or realistic transport alternatives is contributing towards the dependency on private vehicles and limiting social, economic, and cultural connections. For Anglesey the position is worse with congestion and lack of resilience for the Menai crossings severely limiting and negatively

impacting on social, economic, educational, health and cultural connections to and from the rest of the country. Further, it is hampering the Island's ability to attract the business and economic activity it needs to reduce a cycle of job losses, lower on-Island employment and increasing reliance on off-Island jobs. Repair works to the Menai Bridge coupled with the occurrence of accidents on the Britannia Bridge have in recent months caused severe disruption. An unreliable road network could also affect Anglesey's positioning as the optimal location for nuclear industry investment as well as the competitiveness of the Port of Holyhead recently designated a Freeport. There is a real risk that the Freeport cannot maximise its effectiveness because of the uncertainty and the lack of resilience of the transport network to and from the Island. The Welsh Government's decision as recommended by the Roads Review Panel to cancel the proposed Third Menai crossing will exacerbate the challenges faced by the Island's economy and hinder the successful implementation of key policies that seek to rebuild its employment base and reduce the need of its residents to leave the Island to work.

The NWTC released an interim report in June 2023 but is welcoming further evidence until 28 July 2023 before issuing its final recommendations. It is imperative that the Council inputs into and influences the outcome of the report. To that end the Council commissioned Quod to prepare a detailed evidence base to support its submission to the NWTC on the need for an improved multi-modal crossing of the Menai Strait. The evidence base and key findings arising from it are included as Annexes A and B to the report respectively and they confirm the concerns around the lack of reliability of the road network and bridges and its wider impact and that it extends beyond simple efficiency savings on journey times. The outcome of the NWTC's interim June report highlights several possible options for improving the situation as listed in the report. The Council has considered these options previously and is of the view that they will not sufficiently address the lack of resilience that exists. It is hoped that the submission of the evidence base will enable the NWTC to better understand the continuing issues of how a lack of a resilient transport network and sustainable transport options is affecting Anglesey and its residents across economic, health, education, social leisure, and investment legacy impacts.

The Head of Regulation and Economic Development referred to concerns about the reliability of the Menai crossings in relation to a wide range of activities and interests. The Regulation and Economic Development Service is now engaged in extensive work in connection with developing the Anglesey Freeport Programme and the risk to the success of the Freeport posed by the lack of resilience of the two crossings and the related issues of congestion, delays and disruption needs to be noted. The Head of Highways, Waste and Property confirmed that a lack of resilience rather than increasing capacity is the primary concern with accidents and bad weather leading at times to severe congestion. Additionally the existing provision does not offer any suitable opportunities for cycling or walking.

Members of the Executive acknowledged the seriousness and urgency of the situation and the resulting impacts if the issues of reliability and resilience are not addressed. They recognised the frequent challenges faced by Anglesey residents and visitors in trying to go about their day-to-day business when accidents, maintenance or bad weather cause disruption and delays on the Menai crossings and recounted examples of the same from their own experiences. They expressed particular concern about the impact the unreliability of the road connections across the Menai is having on emergency service vehicles and on care and health workers who need to attend to vulnerable clients, and they recognised also that it is problematic for trade and businesses on the Island, for schools and for potential investors as well as for tourism as a significant contributor to the Anglesey economy. Although the Executive did not disagree with Welsh Government's drive to reduce carbon emissions in response to climate change and environmental concerns and understood the consequent review of road building projects, Executive Members emphasised that the situation on Anglesey is exceptional in that the connection problems with the two ageing

bridges have far reaching impacts and are affecting lives and livelihoods as well as presenting a risk to the future economic prosperity of the Island and as such they require a more radical remedy than those proposed. In any case the traffic gridlock that incidents on the bridges cause is likely contributing to environmental damage and worsening carbon emissions.

The Chief Executive said that the current situation is unsatisfactory and that the Council is asking Welsh Government to reconsider its policy position and to not view the Menai connection as the same as any other road in the country. The Council has been engaging with other public bodies and organisations across the region on this matter and it is important to note that the evidence collected is a reflection of Anglesey's needs as an island and not the Council. If the Executive is minded to endorse the evidence, then it will be shared with those organisations for them to lend their support to the effort to persuade the Welsh Government to change its stance.

The Executive was supportive of the report and its findings and the recommendations were accepted with the addition of the Deputy Chief Executive to the second recommendation.

It was resolved –

- **To endorse the report and its conclusion that Welsh Government should not view the Menai Crossing as a simple road project and adopt a positive policy position which recognises the critical need to improve the reliability and resilience of the Menai Straits.**
- **To delegate authority to the Chief Executive or in his absence the Deputy Chief Executive to submit the Council's evidence base to the North Wales Transport Commission ahead of the July 28th 2023 deadline.**

15. ANGLESEY FREEPORT – UPDATE

The report of the Head of Regulation and Economic Development which provided a summary on progress and decision-making in relation to the Anglesey Freeport Programme was presented for the Executive's consideration.

The report was presented by Councillor Llinos Medi, Chair and Portfolio Member for Economic Development and the Economic Development Manager highlighted the main points for consideration. The report summarises the developments to date and outlines the process to be followed to submit an Outline Business Case in the next phase in the Anglesey Freeport Programme including the delegated authority sought by officers to contribute to this work.

Freeports are a partnership between active ports and their host local authorities. They include the designation of specific sites where businesses get these benefits within an outer boundary set at a maximum 45km from the port. The report identifies at the bid stage the sites that could benefit from different customs, tax and regulatory rules. The Anglesey Freeport is a public/private partnership between IoACC as the host authority and accountable body and Stena Line, the Holyhead Port operator. It is supported by a range of other stakeholders including landowners, Bangor University, M-Sparc, Grwp Llandrillo Menai, Ambition North Wales and other private sector business and potential investors. The Freeport presents an opportunity to attract significant new private sector investment in Anglesey after the recent loss of major employers.

The Anglesey Freeport Programme now moves on to the business case stage including the development and submission of an Outline Business Case (OBC) in the next six to nine

months followed by the production of a Full Business Case (FBC) which is likely to take up to twelve months. The UK and Welsh Governments have not yet published the specific guidance for the Welsh Freeport Programme but have indicated that the Anglesey Freeport should continue to progress using what has been published. When the Welsh guidance is published the Council will review whether any changes in approach are required. The immediate requirements of the process are outlined within the report. To support its input into the process of developing the OBC, the Council has appointed an interim Freeport Bid Director through the Regulation and Economic Development Service's Framework Agreement for economic issues. Funding for this role is being made available by the UK Government.

As the host authority IoACC is deemed to be the Accountable Body for the Anglesey Freeport and in that role, it will have responsibility for a range of governance and financial matters including the management of up to £26m of Government funding if the OBC and FBC are approved, as well as other duties as listed in the report. Additional capacity will be needed to support this role mainly in the Economic Development and in the financial and legal functions. There will also be a time commitment for senior officers required to participate in the governance structures. The report seeks authority to participate in the governance arrangements for the next phase of the project. To progress the proposals to the Outline Business Case stage, revised governance arrangements need to be established. These arrangements are set out in the Initial Collaboration Agreement (ICA) that will be signed by the two partners – IoACC and Stena Line. For Anglesey Freeport, IoACC and Stena Line are the only local authority and port operator which simplifies its governance structure compared with most other UK Freeports. Authorisation for the Chief Executive to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is a key decision required under item 17 on the agenda.

The Executive's members acknowledged the significant work that had gone into the preparation and submission of the successful Anglesey Freeport bid and the Economic Development team responsible for that work was congratulated on the achievement. A number of points were raised in the ensuing discussion to which the Head of Regulation and Economic Development and the Economic Development Manager responded as follows –

- By confirming that the protection of worker's rights and environmental standards, the contribution to achieving Net Zero and the aims of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act are core matters which will be addressed by the OBC but to what level of detail is dependent on the Welsh guidance when issued especially as a detailed Full Business Case will have to be prepared subsequently.
- By clarifying that the Council's responsibilities as the statutory body for planning is not affected by the Freeport designation and discussions with Stena Line to ensure that the use of sites is compliant are ongoing. The Freeport status also provides an opportunity for the local planning authority to create Local Development Orders which will give investors assurance regarding the expectations.
- By explaining that the Regulation and Economic Development Service is in the process of briefing other council services on what the Freeport designation means in practice and the possible implications for them and that this process of sharing information will continue.
- By confirming that discussion with the Learning Service and other partners with an interest in education and skills has begun and that this information and expertise will feed into the OBC to ensure that the OBC documentation is robust and achievable.
- By advising that with regard to managing expectations in relation to what the Freeport may generate in terms of employment, that Anglesey is starting from a low base having recently lost 750 jobs with the closure of the 2 Sisters plant and in the region of 3,000 jobs over the past 10 years. If the Freeport does lead to job creation on a projected scale of between 3,000 and 13,000 then many of these will be replacing those that have been lost

to the Island. Additionally, it is hoped that the Freeport may contribute towards enabling some of the 8,000 to 10,000 Anglesey residents who currently work off the Island to find employment locally on the Island.

- By confirming that the resources to carry out the next phase of preparing and completing the OBC are sufficient. The UK Government is providing up to £300,000 for the development of the OBC and Stena Line is covering the costs of some elements and has commissioned its own consultants to provide it with support in this regard.

The Chief Executive advised that although revenue funding is being provided initially by the Welsh and UK Governments the Anglesey Freeport has to be self-sustaining in the long term meaning that the business interests and partners that derive benefits from the Freeport in terms of tax breaks and investment will be expected to contribute in return to ensure the ongoing viability of the Freeport so that the cost burden does not fall entirely on the local authority and Stena Line. These are matters that will be discussed in the coming months as the governance arrangements evolve and expand ensuring that those who contribute to the Freeport have an input along with those who will benefit from it.

Councillor Llinos Medi, Chair and Portfolio Member for Economic Development referred to the importance of appreciating how complex and time consuming the work on the Freeport Programme is and of understanding that the benefits and returns will take time to be felt. There are also risks and challenges for the Council as the Accountable Body responsible for overseeing the Freeport's administrative and financial affairs. However, conferment of the Freeport status on Anglesey provides opportunities for economic growth and activity locally and within the region and is an exciting development for the Island. The Freeport can be developed in a way that is unique to the Island and in a way that also ensures the social benefits that can follow from economic prosperity. She proposed the recommendations of the report and these were agreed subject to removing recommendation (b) as this was relevant to item 17 on the agenda and including the Deputy Chief Executive in recommendation (c).

It was resolved –

- **To note the success of the Anglesey Freeport bid in achieving Freeport status.**
- **That delegated authority be granted to the Chief Executive or in his absence the Deputy Chief Executive (in consultation with the Leader and relevant Portfolio Member) to agree any necessary variations to the proposed Initial Collaboration Agreement that may be necessary.**
- **That the Chief Executive of Anglesey County Council be identified as a representative to the Freeport Governing Body and be granted delegated authority to make any decisions necessary to the objectives of the Anglesey Freeport as well as delegated authority to nominate an alternative to attend in his place who shall be entitled similarly to make any decisions necessary.**
- **To approve the entering into of any grant agreement between the Council and the UK/Welsh Government to receive public funds from the Government (up to £300,000 for the Outline Business for the OBC).**

16. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was resolved under Section 100 (A) (4) of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting during the discussion on the following item on the grounds that it involved the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 12 and 13 of Schedule 12A to the said Act and in the Public Interest Test presented.

17. ANGLESEY FREEPORT – GOVERNANCE AND SET UP

The report of the Head of Regulation and Economic Development which provided an update on the Anglesey Freeport Programme in relation to the legal and commercial arrangements with Stena Line was presented for the Executive's consideration. The report at Appendix 1 included an Initial Collaboration Agreement (ICA) between the Isle of Anglesey County Council (IoACC) and Stena Line.

The Economic Development Manager advised that the ICA is an interim agreement to establish the formal relationship between IoACC and Stena Line to allow them to oversee the work required to develop the Outline Business Case and the Full Business Case for the Anglesey Freeport. Under the ICA, the Council and Stena Line will develop their approach to the form and structure of the relationship for the operational phase of the Freeport. This will involve consideration by the Council of its role as local authority and governance arrangements. These will help determine the nature and content of the longer-term arrangements between the Council and Stena Line for the setting up and delivery of the Anglesey Freeport. Authority is sought to enter into the Initial Collaboration Agreement between IoACC and Stena Line.

The Economic Development Manager highlighted that some aspects of the arrangements are subject to the publication of the Welsh guidance and will be reviewed when that is issued.

In considering the report the Executive discussed the governance arrangements and how representation on the Freeport Governing Body would be determined, the sites that could benefit from the Freeport as designated tax and/or custom sites and the factors involved, and the limitations placed on current decision-making by the lack of guidance. The Executive was advised that the agreement for which authority is being sought is an initial agreement to enable matters to be progressed to the OBC and FBC stages and that the Executive would be provided with updates as other matters emerge and develop.

It was resolved to approve entering into the Initial Collaboration Agreement between IACC and Stena Line included at Appendix 1 to the report.

**Councillor Llinos Medi
(Chair for items 1-4, 14 and 15)
Councillor Robin Williams
(Chair for items 5-13, 16 and 17)**

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Isle of Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	The Executive
Date:	26 September 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 October 2023 – May 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: October 2023 – May 2024.

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

The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: October 2023 – May 2024

Updated 14 September 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.

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: October 2023 – May 2024

Updated 14 September 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)
October 2023						
1	Highways Asset Management Plan	Highways, Property and Waste Portfolio Holder		Huw Percy Head of Highways, Waste and Property Cllr Dafydd Rhys Thomas		Delegated decision October 2023
2	Fleet Vehicles Transformation Plan	Highways, Property and Waste Portfolio Holder		Huw Percy Head of Highways, Waste and Property Cllr Dafydd Rhys Thomas		Delegated decision October 2023
3	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
4	Treasury Management Annual Report 2022/23		Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function– Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Williams		The Executive 24 October 2023 Full Council 26 October 2023

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5	Public Participation Strategy 2023-28	Corporate Transformation	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation Cllr Carwyn Jones	Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee (date to be confirmed)	The Executive 24 October 2023	Full Council 26 October 2023
6	International dark sky application for the south west section of Anglesey's Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty [AONB]	Regulation and Economic Development	Christian Branch Head of Regulation and Economic Development Cllr Nicola Roberts		The Executive 24 October 2023	
November 2023						
7	The Executive's Forward Work Programme (S) Approval of monthly update.	Council Business	Dyfan Sion Head of Democracy Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 28 November 2023	
8	Corporate Scorecard – Quarter 2, 2023/24 (S) Quarterly performance monitoring report.	Corporate Transformation	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation Cllr Carwyn Jones	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 21.11.23	The Executive 28 November 2023	

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9	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	
10	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	
11	Housing Revenue Account 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	
12	Council Tax Base 2024/25		Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function– Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Williams		The Executive 28 November 2023	

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13	Empty Homes Strategy 2023-2028		Housing	Ned Michael Head of Housing Cllr Gary Pritchard	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 21.11.23	The Executive 28 November 2023	
14	Modernising Day Opportunities: Learning Disabilities (Holyhead area)		Adults' Services	Arwel Owen Head of Adults' Services Cllr Alun Roberts	Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee 22.11.23	The Executive 28 November 2023	
December 2023							
15	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 12 December 2023	
16	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	

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January 2024						
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 23 January 2024
18	Capital Strategy		Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function– Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Williams		The Executive 23 January 2024 (to be confirmed)
February 2024						
19	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 20 February 2024
20	Revenue Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 3, 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 15.02.24	The Executive 20 February 2024

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21	Capital Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 3, 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 15.02.24	The Executive 20 February 2024	
22	Housing Revenue Account Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 3, 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 15.02.24	The Executive 20 February 2024	
23	Tenants Participation Strategy		Housing	Ned Michael Head of Housing Cllr Gary Pritchard	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 18.01.24	The Executive 20 February 2024	
24	Asset Management Strategy (Housing Services)		Housing	Ned Michael Head of Housing Cllr Gary Pritchard	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 18.01.24	The Executive 20 February 2024	
25	Local Housing Market Assessment		Housing	Ned Michael Head of Housing Cllr Gary Pritchard	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 18.01.24	The Executive 20 February 2024	

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26	Modernising Day Opportunities: Disabilities	Adults Services	Arwel Owen Head of Adults' Services Cllr Alun Roberts	Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee 22.11.23	The Executive 20 February 2024	
March 2024						
27	The Executive's Forward Work Programme (S) Approval of monthly update.	Council Business	Dyfan Sion Head of Democracy Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 19 March 2024	
28	Corporate Scorecard – Quarter 3, 2023/24 (S) Quarterly performance monitoring report.	Corporate Transformation	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation Cllr Carwyn Jones	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 12.03.24	The Executive 19 March 2024	
29	Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2024 – 2054		Ned Michael Head of Housing Cllr Gary Pritchard	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 12.03.24	The Executive 19 March 2024	

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Period: October 2023 – May 2024

Updated 14 September 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)
April 2024						
30	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 23 April 2024
May 2024						
31	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 May 2024

* Key:
S = Strategic – key corporate plans or initiatives
O =Operational – service delivery
FI = For information

Isle of Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Date:	26 th SEPTEMBER 2023
Subject:	SCORECARD MONITORING REPORT - QUARTER 1 (2023/24)
Portfolio Holder(s):	COUNCILLOR CARWYN E JONES
Head of Service / Director:	CARYS EDWARDS
Report Author:	GETHIN MORGAN
Tel:	01248 752111
E-mail:	GethinMorgan@anglesey.gov.uk
Local Members:	n/a

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s	
1.1	This is the first scorecard report of 2023/24. It portrays the position of the Council against its wellbeing objectives.
1.2	<p>The report highlights some of the positive stories with respect to the quarter 1 performance. Some of these highlights include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The NERS indicators; • The number of empty homes brought back into use; • The Adult Services indicators all being above target for the quarter; • The homelessness indicators; • The disabled facilities grant installations; • The waste management indicators being above target; and • The planning indicators (34 and 36)
1.3	The Committee is requested to scrutinise the scorecard and note the areas of improvement together with the areas which the Leadership Team are exploring and investigating to manage and secure further improvements into the future.
1.4	<p>These are recommended as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1.4.1 Percentage of Freedom of Information (FOI) requests responded to within timescale 1.4.2 The average number of calendar days to let lettable units of accommodation (excluding DTLs) 1.4.3 Percentage of rent lost due to properties being empty 1.4.4 Percentage of planning appeals dismissed
1.5	The committee is asked to accept the mitigation measure outlined above

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

n/a

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

This matter is delegated to the Executive

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

Yes

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

Yes

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):

1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	<p>The Corporate Scorecard Report gives a snapshot of the KPI performance against the Council Plan's 3 wellbeing objectives at the end of each quarter.</p> <p>All 3 objectives, below, consider the long term needs of the Island</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that the people of Anglesey can thrive and realise their long term potential 2. Support vulnerable adults and families to keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible 3. Work in partnership with our communities to ensure that they can cope effectively with change and developments whilst protecting our natural environment <p>The measurement of the KPIs against each objective demonstrates how decisions are making an impact on our current performance.</p>
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	Performance of some KPIs could potentially have an impact on future costs however mitigation measures proposed looks to alleviate these pressures.
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.	Elements of the work monitored within the Scorecard is undertaken in a collaborative manner with other organisations such as Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Welsh Government, Keep Wales Tidy, Careers Wales, Sports Wales, GWE, amongst others.
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including	N/A

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):		
	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.	N/A
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	N/A
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

E – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	This was considered by the Leadership Team and their comments are reflected in the report
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	Comments reflected in the report
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	Comments reflected in the report
4	Human Resources (HR)	
5	Property	
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	
7	Procurement	
8	Scrutiny	Was considered by Corporate Scrutiny on the 19/9. The Committee Chairman will feedback in this meeting.
9	Local Members	

F - Appendices:
Appendix A - Scorecard Quarter 1

Ff - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022/23 Scorecard Monitoring Report - Quarter 4 (as presented to, and accepted by, the Executive Committee in June 2023). • Council Plan 2023-2028

SCORECARD MONITORING REPORT – QUARTER 1 (2023/24)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Isle of Anglesey County Council have arrangements in place which allow us to effectively understand local needs and priorities, and to make the best use of our resources and capacity to meet them and evaluate the impact of our actions.
- 1.2 Our new Council Plan for 2023-2028 identifies the local needs and wellbeing priorities and sets out our aims and objectives for the next five years.
- 1.3 This scorecard monitoring report is used to monitor the performance of our identified Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in delivering the Council's day to day activities. It provides the intelligence to enable the Council to take a proactive approach to performance management and as such, the report identifies any mitigating actions agreed by the Leadership Team to drive and secure improvements into the future.
- 1.4 The scorecard (appendix 1) portrays the current end of Q1 position and will (together with this report) be considered further by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee and the Executive during September.

2. CONTEXT

- 2.1 The performance monitoring KPIs are aligned to the Councils' current three wellbeing objectives:
 - Objective 1 - Ensure that the people of Anglesey can thrive and realise their long-term potential
 - Objective 2 - Support vulnerable adults and families to keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible
 - Objective 3 - Work in partnership with our communities to ensure that they can cope effectively with change and developments whilst protecting our natural environment
- 2.2 It will not be possible to publish information for all KPIs on the Scorecard on a quarterly basis due to the nature of data collection methods. When this is the case, a note will indicate how often the KPI is monitored and when the data will be available for collection, e.g. (annual) (Q4), (termly) (Q3).
- 2.3 Any targets within the report are reviewed annually and are agreed upon with each service, including differing quarterly targets where required.
- 2.4 The results within the scorecard are all cumulative and as such the trends column will inform the performance trends from quarter to quarter throughout the year. As such, the trends column is intentionally empty for Q1 and will be reported from the Q2 scorecard report.

2.5 The RAG status for each section of the scorecard, with the exception of financial management which is done from a professional opinion perspective, can be found below:

- Red - more than 10% below target and/or needing significant intervention
- Amber - between 5% & 10% below target and/or requiring some intervention
- Yellow - within 5% of target
- Green - on or above target

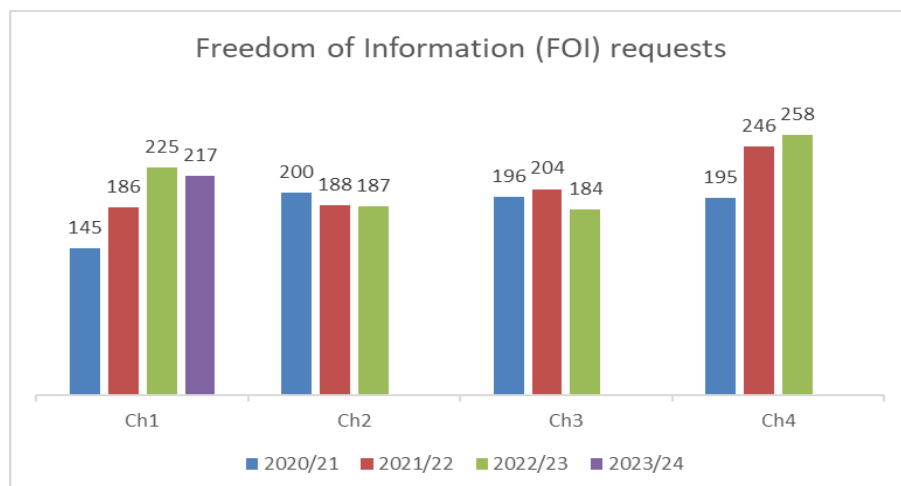
3. CORPORATE HEALTH PERFORMANCE

3.1 The majority (67%) of the indicators with targets monitored in this section are performing well against targets (Green or Yellow RAG). Some of the highlights are noted below.

3.2 At the end of Q1 the Council is GREEN against its target with 2.1 days lost to absence per FTE in the period against a target of 2.1 days lost to absence per FTE. This performance compares favourably against the same period for the last three years.

3.3 The indicators currently monitored within the Customer Service section do not highlight any major cause for concern as the indicators are performing well against targets overall. Whilst this is positive, we also acknowledge that further work is needed with regards to one indicator that is underperforming and is AMBER against target:

3.3.1 Indicator 09 – the % of FOI requests responded to within timescale – which demonstrates that 84% of the responses were within timescale against a target of 90%. This is an improvement on the performance of 67% seen at the end of Q1 2022/23. The change in target from 80% to 90% completed within timescale for this year has meant that the performance is however Amber for the quarter. This indicator underperformed throughout 2022/23 and it's positive to note that the improvements overseen by the Leadership Team appear to be having a positive impact on performance.

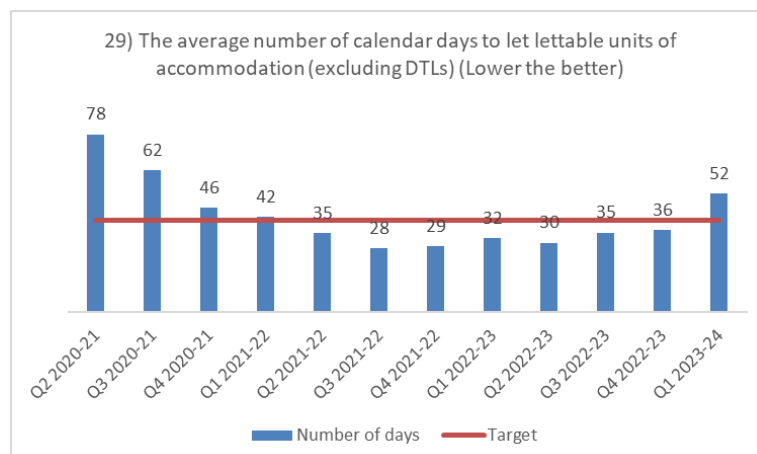


- 3.4 The financial management section currently forecasts at the end of the first quarter is that the budget will be overspent by £0.744m for the year ending 31 March 2024. However, there are a number of areas of concern which may not be apparent from this headline figure which weakens the Council's financial position going forward. The main areas of concern relate to:
- 3.4.1 The pay offer for 2023/24 has not been settled and could be significantly higher than allowed for in the budget. Whilst a contingency budget and an earmarked reserve is in place which will offset any settlement, this may not be sufficient to meet the additional cost.
 - 3.4.2 The position in respect to Social Care with a forecast overspend of £2.179m. However, the true position is masked by the fact that additional grants and reserves are being used to reduce the overspend. Without this additional funding the underlying overspend would be in the region of £3.5m.
 - 3.4.3 The cost of living crisis will ultimately result in an increase in the demand for Council services (Homelessness, Debt Advice, Mental Health Support, Children's Service) and may lead to a reduction in income in services such as leisure, culture, planning, parking fees, as people reduce their spending on non-essential items. These potential changes in demand for services may have a negative impact on the Council's financial position.
- 3.5 The financial position in 2023/24 will also influence the Council's financial strategy for 2024/25 and beyond, as it will highlight the need to realign budgets to reflect the increases in costs seen in 2023/24 and to reflect the changing demand for services. Any significant overspending will also result in an erosion of the Council's earmarked reserves and general balances, and this will reduce the ability to use reserves and balances to help to balance the revenue budget in 2024/25. Management will review the financial position closely during the remainder of the financial year and may need to implement cost saving measures in 2023/24, to maintain the current level of earmarked reserves and general balances.
- 3.6 The forecast underspend on the Capital Programme 2023/24 is £1.657m, with this being potential slippage into the 2024/25 Capital Programme. The funding for this slippage will also slip into 2024/25 and this has been factored into the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Capital Strategy and Capital Programme for 2024/25.
- 3.7 Further information on financial management can be seen in the 'Revenue Budget Monitoring Report for Q1', the 'Capital Budget Monitoring for Q1' and the 'Housing Revenue Account Budget Monitoring for Q1' reports which will be discussed in The Executive meeting on the 26th September.
- 3.8 The indicator results for this section provides reasonable assurance that the Council is managing its people, customers and finances in a manner that is expected from a well-run Council.

4. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 At the end of Q1 it is encouraging to note that the majority (89%) of the performance indicators are performing above target or within 5% tolerance of their targets. Three indicators have underperformed against their targets in Q1 and these are highlighted on the scorecard as being Red or Amber.
- 4.2 Performance for our wellbeing **Objective 1** where we are working to ensure that the people of Anglesey can thrive and realise their long-term potential, at the end of Q1 has been good with no indicators against this objective currently underperforming.
- 4.3 Some examples of the good performance within this objective seen during the quarter include:
- 4.3.1 The National Exercise Referral Scheme indicators (9 and 10) - where both indicators are green against targets. Indicator 10 specifically demonstrated that 92% of clients felt that their health had improved on the completion of the exercise programme.
- 4.3.2 Indicator 11 – Number of empty properties brought back into use – where 18 properties have been brought back into use against a target of 12. Once again, the use of the Council Tax Premium has proved fruitful here and it's positive that there are 18 less empty properties within our communities.
- 4.4 Two of the three underperforming indicators can be seen for wellbeing **Objective 2** where we are supporting vulnerable adults and families to keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible.
- 4.4.1 Indicator 29 – The average number of calendar days to let lettable units of accommodation (excluding DTLs) – is red with a performance of 52 days against a target of 40 days. This is a decline on the 32 days seen for the same period in 2022/23 and the 41 days seen in 2021/22.

Performance in relation to this indicator has declined due to the high number of properties returned during the quarter that needed significant work to bring them back up to WHQS standards. Of the 45 properties which were empty for over 40 days, 30 (66%) of those were classed as 'major works'. As the number of properties that require significant work increases, the harder it is to turnaround buy-backs and newbuilds due to the lack of available workers to complete the work required. There will be improvement for this indicator once major works properties have been reduced which in turn increases capacity to complete properties.



4.4.2 Indicator 23 - Indicator 36 - Landlord Services: Percentage of rent lost due to properties being empty is red on the scorecard with 1.97% lost against a target of 1.70%

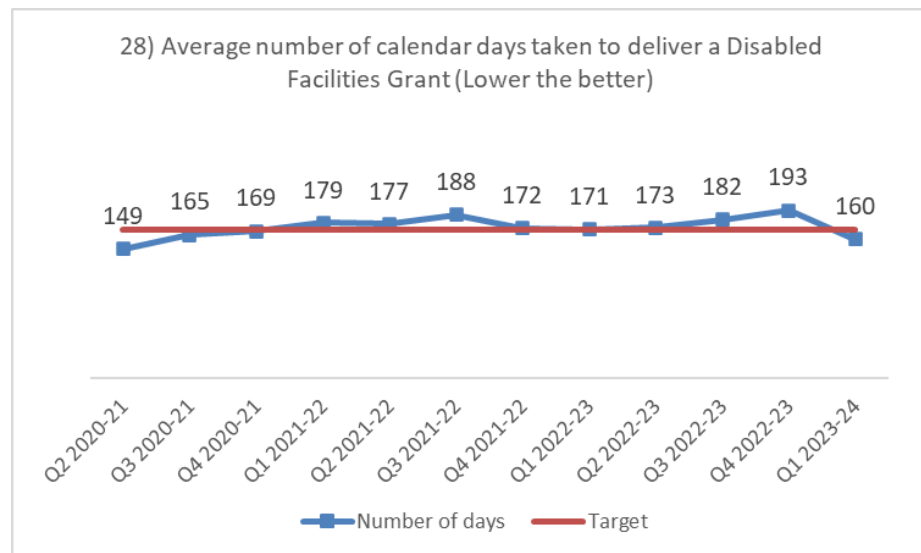
This indicator is directly linked with the indicator discussed above. As it has taken more time to let lettable units of accommodation then the rent lost is higher.

4.5 Whilst improvement under this objective are required and mitigation measures adopted, it is important to note examples of the good performance seen during the quarter include:

4.5.1 The Adult Services indicators (Indicators 16 to 19) are all Green against targets for the quarter. In a time where the Service continues to be under pressure because of an ageing population and difficulties in recruiting staff this is encouraging.

4.5.2 The Homelessness indicators (Indicators 26 + 27) for the Housing Service have also demonstrated good performance with both Green against targets for the quarter.

4.5.3 The Disabled Facilities Grant indicator (indicator 28) demonstrates a positive improvement for the first quarter of the year with a performance of 160 days on average. This compares favourably with the 193 days on average seen at the end of 2022/23 and demonstrates that the mitigating actions undertaken as a result of the poor performance during 2022/23 is beginning to have an impact.



4.6 The performance of indicators to monitor our wellbeing **Objective 3** where we work in partnership with our communities to ensure that they can cope effectively with change and developments whilst protecting our natural environment has also been good with 86% above target.

4.7 The indicators that have performed well in the year include:

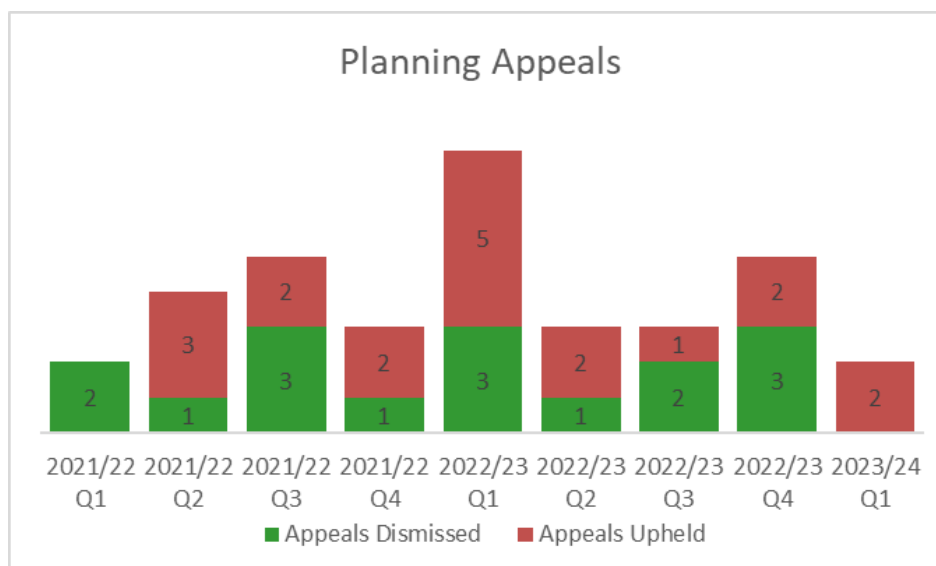
4.7.1 The waste management indicators (Indicator 31 - 34) are Green against targets for the first quarter. 95% of our streets surveyed in the quarter were clean of any waste and it's encouraging to note that fly tipping incidents continue to be cleared within a day. The percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted was high at 69.72% for the quarter and bodes well for the remainder of the year.

4.7.2 The performance of two of the three planning indicators (indicators 35 and 37) are Green against target and they are both above previous years performances. The planning applications determined within time (indicator 35) is performing particularly well with 97% of applications determined at the end of Q1. This compares to a performance of 91% at the end of 22/23 and 79% at the end of 2021/22 and 2020/21.

4.8 The only indicator underperforming during this quarter is:

4.8.1 Indicator 36 – the percentage of planning appeals dismissed – with a performance of 0% against a target of 65%. This is a decline on the same period during 2022/23 where 38% were dismissed.

This indicator deals with a very small number of cases. Of the two appeals for this quarter, none were dismissed. We will continue to monitor appeal decisions on similar applications to identify if a pattern is developing that would require a different interpretation of our policies.



5. CONCLUSION

- 5.1 It is encouraging to note that 83% of the performance indicators are performing above target or within 5% tolerance of their targets for the quarter.
- 5.2 The report highlights some of the positive stories with respect to the quarter 1 performance. Some of these highlights include:
- The NERS indicators;
 - The number of empty homes brought back into use;
 - The Adult Services indicators all being above target for the quarter;
 - The homelessness indicators;
 - The disabled facilities grant installations;
 - The waste management indicators being above target; and
 - The planning indicators (34 and 36)
- 5.3 The report also highlights certain areas that are underperforming against targets. These are highlighted in 6.1 below.

6. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 The Committee is requested to scrutinise the scorecard and note the areas of improvement together with the areas which the Leadership Team are exploring and investigating to manage and secure further improvements into the future.

These are recommended as follows:

- 6.1.1 Percentage of Freedom of Information (FOI) requests responded to within timescale
- 6.1.2 The average number of calendar days to let lettable units of accommodation (excluding DTLs)
- 6.1.3 Percentage of rent lost due to properties being empty
- 6.1.4 Percentage of planning appeals dismissed

7. GLOSSARY

- 7.1 Below is a list of acronyms used within the report and Scorecard

- 7.1.1 KPI – Key Performance Indicator
- 7.1.2 Q1 – Quarter 1
- 7.1.3 Q2 – Quarter 2
- 7.1.4 Q3 – Quarter 3
- 7.1.5 Q4 – Quarter 4
- 7.1.6 RAG Status - Red - more than 10% below target and/or needing significant intervention
Amber - between 5% & 10% below target and/or requiring some intervention
Yellow - within 5% of target
Green - on or above target

- 7.1.7 Trend - Trend arrows represent quarter on quarter performance
- 7.1.8 FTE – Full Time Equivalent
- 7.1.9 FOI – Freedom of information
- 7.1.10 HRA – Housing Revenue Account
- 7.1.11 NEET – Not in Education, Employment or Training
- 7.1.12 DTL – Difficult to Let
- 7.1.13 NERS – National Exercise Referral Scheme
- 7.1.14 CPR – Child Protection Register
- 7.1.15 IOACC – Isle of Anglesey County Council

Appendix A - Cerdyn Sgorio Corfforaethol - Corporate Scorecard Ch-Q1 2022/23

Rheoli Perfformiad / Performance Management	CAG / RAG	Tuedd / Trend	Canlyniad / Actual	Targed Ch / Q Target	Targed BI / Yr Target	Canlyniad 22/23 Result	Canlyniad 21/22 Result
Objective 1 - Ensure that the people of Anglesey can thrive and realise their long-term potential							
1) Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools (tymhorol) (Q3)						91.69%	-
2) Percentage of pupil attendance in secondary schools (termly) (Q3)						85.22%	-
3) Percentage of Year 11 leavers not in Education, Training or Employment [NEET] (annual) (Q4)						3.20%	2.60%
4) Percentage of pupils assessed in Welsh at the end of the Foundation Phase (annual) (Q3)						100%	-
5) Percentage of year 11 pupils studying Welsh [first language] (annual) (Q3)						68%	68%
6) Percentage of Quality Indicators (with targets) achieved by the library service (annual) (Q4)						-	-
7) Number of visits to leisure centres	Melyn / Yellow		114k	118k	546k	539k	388k
8) Percentage of food establishments that meet food hygiene standards	Gwyrdd / Green		98%	95%	95%	98%	98%
9) Percentage of NERS clients who completed the exercise programme	Gwyrdd / Green		53%	50%	50%	72%	47.5%
10) Percentage of NERS clients whose health had improved on completion of the exercise programme	Gwyrdd / Green		92%	80%	80%	78%	84%
11) Number of empty private properties brought back into use	Gwyrdd / Green		18	12	50	80	91
12) Number of new homes created as a result of bringing empty properties back into use			0	0	3	1	1
13) Landlord Services: Average number of days to complete repairs	Gwyrdd / Green		16	18	18	16.61	13.89
14) Percentage of tenants satisfied with responsive repairs (annual) (Q4)							-
Objective 2 - Support vulnerable adults and families to keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible							
15) Rate of people kept in hospital while waiting for social care per 1,000 population aged 75+ (Q4)							-
16) The percentage of adult protection enquiries completed within statutory timescales	Gwyrdd / Green		95.83%	90%	90%	91.69%	94.78%
17) The percentage of adults who completed a period of reablement and have no package of care and support 6 months later	Gwyrdd / Green		63.64%	62%	62%	64.71%	64.85%
18) The rate of older people (aged 65 or over) whom the authority supports in care homes per 1,000 population aged 65 or over at 31 March [Local Indicator]	Gwyrdd / Green		18.63	19	19	16.74	14.33
19) The percentage of carers of adults who requested an assessment or review that had an assessment or review in their own right during the year	Gwyrdd / Green		95.30%	93%	93%	98.10%	96.10%
20) Percentage of child assessments completed in time	Melyn / Yellow		85.82%	90%	90%	86.75%	87.15%
21) Percentage of children in care who had to move 3 or more times	Gwyrdd / Green		1.54%	2.50%	10%	6.15%	9.79%
22) The percentage of referrals of children that are re-referrals within 12 months [Local Indicator]	Melyn / Yellow		15.15%	15%	15%	14.35%	5.74%
23) The average length of time for all children who were on the CPR during the year, and who were de-registered during the year (days)	Gwyrdd / Green		248	270	270	306	318
24) The percentage of referrals during the year on which a decision was made within 1 working day	Gwyrdd / Green		98.95%	95%	95%	98.31%	99.10%
25) The percentage of statutory visits to looked after children due in the year that took place in accordance with regulations	Melyn / Yellow		89.15%	90%	90%	93.83%	85.99%
26) Percentage of households successfully prevented from becoming homeless	Gwyrdd / Green		88.46%	80%	80%	89.53%	80.95%
27) Percentage of households (with children) successfully prevented from becoming homeless	Gwyrdd / Green		96.60%	85%	85%	98.45%	92.00%
28) Average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant	Gwyrdd / Green		160	170	170	193	172.3
29) The average number of calendar days to let lettable units of accommodation (excluding DTLs)	Coch / Red		52	40	45	35.8	28.7
30) Landlord Services: Percentage of rent lost due to properties being empty	Coch / Red		1.97%	1.70%	1.80%	1.83%	1.66%
Objective 3 - Work in partnership with our communities to ensure that they can cope effectively with change and developments whilst protecting our natural environment							
31) Percentage of streets that are clean	Gwyrdd / Green		95%	95%	95%	96%	95.50%
32) Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted	Gwyrdd / Green		69.72%	66%	64%	63.47%	62.39%
33) Average number of working days taken to clear fly-tipping incidents	Gwyrdd / Green		0.12	1	1	1	0.25
34) Kilograms of residual waste generated per person	Gwyrdd / Green		53kg	55kg	220kg	207kg	223kg
35) Percentage of all planning applications determined in time	Gwyrdd / Green		97%	90%	90%	91%	79%
36) Percentage of planning appeals dismissed	Coch / Red		0%	65%	65%	47%	50%
37) Percentage of planning enforcement cases investigated within 84 days	Gwyrdd / Green		88%	80%	80%	87%	84%
38) Percentage of A roads in poor condition (annual)				3%	3%	2.6%	3%
39) Percentage of B roads in poor condition (annual)				4%	4%	2.6%	2.8%
40) Percentage of C roads in poor condition (annual)				9%	9%	7.6%	8.2%
41) Council fleet approx. consumption of fossil fuels (tCO2e)			120.17	127		515.07	486.85
42) The number of miles travelled by the Council fleet (miles)			433,992			1,728,920	1,524,961
43) The number of miles travelled by the Council Gray/Employee fleet (miles)						790,899	786,247
44) Net change in Greenhouse Gas Emissions (tCO2e) - Council fleet (Annual) (%)						+6%	+26%

Red - more than 10% below target and/or needing significant intervention Amber - between 5% & 10% below target and/or requiring some intervention
Yellow - within 5% of target Green - on or above target Trend arrows represent quarter on quarter performance

Appendix A - Cerdyn Sgorio Corfforaethol - Corporate Scorecard Ch-Q1 2023/24

Gofal Cwsmer / Customer Service	CAG / RAG	Tuedd / Trend	Canlyniad / Actual	Targed / Target	Canlyniad 22/23 Result	Canlyniad 21/22 Result	Canlyniad 20/21 Result
Siarter Gofal Cwsmer / Customer Service Charter							
01) No of Complaints received (excluding Social Services)	Gwyrdd / Green		13	13	40	55	43
02) No of Stage 2 Complaints received for Social Services			2	-	4	9	6
03) Total number of complaints upheld / partially upheld			2	-	13	20	8
04) Total % of written responses to complaints within 20 days (Corporate)	Gwyrdd / Green		83%	80%	82%	80%	88%
05) Total % of written responses to complaints within 15 days (Social Services)	Gwyrdd / Green		100%	80%	70%	66%	75%
06) Number of Stage 1 Complaints for Social Services			3	-	27	41	24
07) Number of concerns (excluding Social Services)			55	-	321	189	104
08) Number of Compliments			80	-	495	658	662
09) % of FOI requests responded to within timescale	Ambr / Amber		84%	90%	72%	79%	79.4%
Newid Cyfrwng Digidol / Digital Service Shift							
10) No of Registered Users on AppMôn / Website			7.7k	-	59.5k	51k	33.5k
11) No of reports received by AppMôn / Website			9k	-	36k	66k	58k
12) No of web payments			7k	-	26k	21k	18.5k
13) No of telephone payments			2.5k	-	9.5k	11k	7k
14) No of 'followers' of IOACC Social Media			100k	-	100k	92k	42k
15) No of visitors to the Council Website			96k	-	327k	-	-

Rheoli Pobl / People Management	CAG / RAG	Tuedd / Trend	Canlyniad / Actual	Targed / Target	Canlyniad 22/23 Result	Canlyniad 21/22 Result	Canlyniad 20/21 Result
01) Number of staff authority wide, including teachers and school based staff (FTE)			2382	-	2288	2202	2180
02) Sickness absence - average working days/shifts lost	Gwyrdd / Green		2.1	2.1	9.15	8.73	6.68
03) Short Term sickness - average working days/shifts lost per FTE			0.8	-	4.54	3.70	1.94
04) Long Term sickness - average working days/shifts lost per FTE			1.3	-	4.61	5.03	4.74
05) Local Authority employees leaving (%) (Turnover) (Annual) (Q4)			-	-	8%	10%	6%

Rheolaeth Ariannol / Financial Management	CAG / RAG	Tuedd / Trend	Cyllideb / Budget	Canlyniad / Actual	Amrywiad / Variance (%)	Rhagolygon o'r Gwariant / Forecasted Actual	Amrywiad a Ragwelir / Forecasted Variance (%)
01) Forecasted end of year outturn (Revenue)	Ambr / Amber		£170,789,000			£171,459,000	0.39%
02) Forecasted end of year outturn (Capital)			£38,847,000			£37,290,000	-4.01%
03) Income v Targets (excluding grants)	Gwyrdd / Green		-£3,423,412	-£3,618,465	5.70%		
04) Forecasted general balances at end of year						-£9,593,360	
05) Cost of borrowing - % of budgeted revenue expenditure	Gwyrdd / Green		2.34%			2.33%	-0.01%
06) No of Services forecast to overspend by over 5% of their budget						2	
07) % of Council Tax collected (for last 3 years)	Melyn / Yellow			97.80%			
08) % of Sundry Debtors collected (for last 3 years)	Coch / Red			90.70%			
09) % Housing Rent collected (for the last 3 years)	Melyn / Yellow			98.49%			
10) % Housing Rent collected excl benefit payments (for the last 3 years)	Melyn / Yellow			97.11%			

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ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to:	Executive Committee
Date:	26 th September 2023
Subject:	Annual Performance / Wellbeing Report 2022/23
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Carwyn E Jones
Head of Service / Director:	Carys Edwards
Report Author:	Gethin Morgan
Tel:	01248 752111
E-mail:	GethinMorgan@anglesey.gov.uk
Local Members:	n/a

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In accordance with the constitution, the Council is required to draw up and publish an Annual Performance / Wellbeing Report. This document is a document that analyzes performance over the previous financial year against the improvements and priorities outlined by the Council. 2. This paper outlines our Performance / Wellbeing Report which looks back over the Council's performance for 2022/23. 3. It is an update on the council's progress against the Transitional Plan 2022-23 4. The Committee is asked to recommend: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to agree the content of the 2022/23 Performance Report as a fair and complete reflection of the Authority's work over that period and to recommend to the County Council at its meeting on October 27th, 2023 that it should be adopted

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

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?
n/a

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

E – Impact on our Future Generations(if relevant)		
1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	<p>The Annual Performance Report gives a snapshot of the work undertaken by the Council over the last financial year as well as the KPI performance against the Council’s Transitional Plan 2022/23 and the Council Plan.</p> <p>All 3 wellbeing objectives listed in the Council Plan consider the long term needs of the Island</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure that the people of Anglesey can thrive and realise their longterm potential 2. Support vulnerable adults and families to keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible 3. Work in partnership with our communities to ensure that they can cope effectively with change and developments whilst protecting our natural environment
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	N/A as it’s a report on work that has been undertaken
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.	N/A
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.	Anglesey residents were consulted before the drafting of the Council Plan in 2017.

5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	N/A
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	N/A
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)	This was considered by the Leadership Team and their comments are reflected in the report
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	Comments are reflected in the report
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	Comments are reflected in the report
4	Human Resources (HR)	
5	Property	
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	
7	Procurement	
8	Scrutiny	Was considered by Corporate Scrutiny on the 19/9. The Committee Chairman will feedback in this meeting.
9	Local Members	

F - Appendices:
Annual Performance Report Draft 2022/23

FF - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transitional Plan 2022-23 • Council Plan 2017-22 • Annual Performance Report 2021/22



Annual Performance / Wellbeing Report 2022/23

Prepared by – Transformation Service

Publication date – September 2023

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

Introduction

Welcome to the Annual Performance Report for the year 2022/23, an overview of the work undertaken by the Council over the past year in collaboration with our resilient community. As Council Leader and Chief Executive, we are proud to present a year of notable achievements that have contributed to several improvements on our island.

Throughout the year, we've navigated challenges brought about by the cost of living crisis with a spirit of unity and support. Our community has illustrated the strength of togetherness, extending helping hands to neighbours and fellow residents alike in times of need.

This report captures the endeavours that have shaped our progress, from re-energising the local economy and embedding positive economic change to sustainable initiatives and maintained and modernised critical community services across the island. We also enabled the visitor and hospitality sector to capitalise on the Island's increased popularity whilst protecting our assets and communities. Our shared commitment to growth and development is evident in each project we've undertaken.

Looking forward the path ahead holds promise and potential. The newly launched Council Plan for 2023-2028 will provide a focal point for all our future decision-making; a framework to plan and drive forward priorities; shape annual spending; monitor performance and progress made. The plan was created with input from residents, businesses, stakeholders, and partners. At its core is our desire to continue to work with them to ensure the best possible services, improve the quality of life for all and create opportunities for future generations.

In conclusion, we extend our gratitude to our dedicated staff for their hard work and commitment over the past year. To our community, your resilience and compassion fuel our shared journey toward progress. This report stands as a testament to what Anglesey can achieve when we work hand in hand.



Llinos Medi
Council Leader

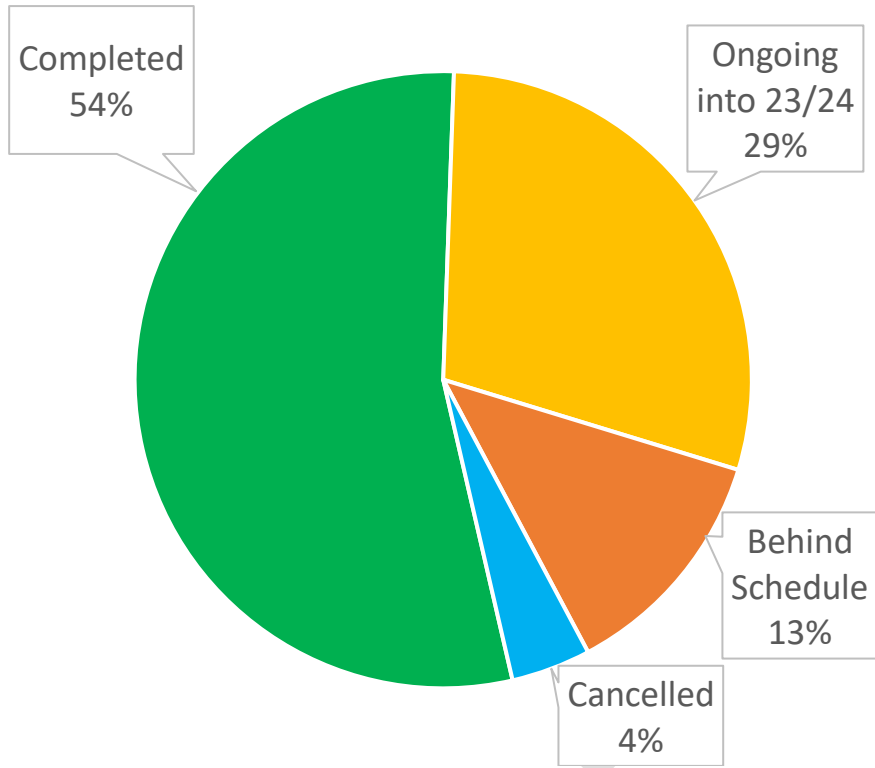


Dylan Williams
Chief Executive

Key Highlights

Some of the key highlights for this year's performance can be found below. For information on how we monitor performance visit www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/Council/Performance/Council-Plan/Performance-management.aspx

Progress against the Transitional Plan

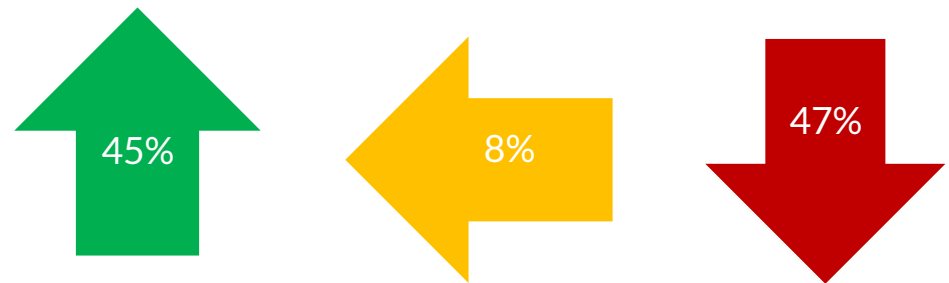


Key Performance Indicators Results 2022/23

Green Yellow Amber Red



Key Performance Indicators Year on Year Performance



Improved

Maintained Performance

Declined

Development against the work streams of the Transitional Plan

Updates against each key priority for the Transitional Plan activities that were completed are discussed in this next section of the report.

Progress reports against the key actions undertaken on our current work plan can be found below:

A. Re-energising the local economy and embedding positive economic change

Key Actions	What we did in 2022/23	RAG
<p>1. Construct 6 new business units on the Bryn Cefni Business Park (Tregarnedd), Llangefni and prepare an additional 6 plots for sale on the open market.</p> <p>Construct 7 new business units at Penrhos in Holyhead (in collaboration with the Welsh Government)</p>	<p>Constructed and let 6 new business units on the Bryn Cefni Business Park in Llangefni.</p> <p>Constructed additional 7 business units at Penrhos, Holyhead, but slight delay in completion due to changes in statutory safety obligations.</p>	
<p>2. Strengthen the role of Holyhead and the Port as a key International 'Gateway' by working with partners to deliver a range of projects, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Repair of the Breakwater b. Development of the Port including land reclamation c. Holyhead Hydrogen Hub d. Station improvements 	<p>We strengthened the role of Holyhead and the Port as a key International 'Gateway' by collaborating with partners to deliver a range of projects throughout the year. We influenced the process to secure £20m in funding March 2023 from the UK Government to repair the Holyhead Breakwater.</p> <p>Anglesey's initial Freeport bid has been successful. The bid was jointly developed through an equal partnership between the Isle of Anglesey County Council and Stena Line. Work is ongoing to prepare an Outline Business Case.</p> <p>Securing Freeport status for the Island has the potential to deliver real, transformational change in communities across Anglesey and North Wales.</p>	

Key Actions	What we did in 2022/23	RAG
	<p>Planning permission for the Holyhead Hydrogen Hub has been approved. The first of its kind in Wales, the Hub will be constructed by Menter Môn, working alongside the Council. The development is currently at construction phase and is expected to be in operation by 2025.</p> <p>The Council secured £2.9m from the European Union and Welsh Government, through Visit Wales, to deliver a package of tourism improvement schemes in Holyhead, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • improved visitor signage and wayfinding • Roman Fort area enhancement as a key heritage attraction • refurbishment of Swift Square visitor public conveniences • improvements to visitor facilities at Holyhead Breakwater Country Park • match-funding a number of Holy Island Landscape Partnership improvement schemes <p>See Point 8 also.</p>	
<p>3. Deliver projects identified in the North Anglesey Economic Regeneration Action Plan, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. North Anglesey Small Business and Community Grant fund b. Amlwch Port Signage Strategy c. Concept proposal for parkland on Cymdeithas (formerly Anglesey Charitable Trust Land at Amlwch Port) d. Continue to pursue opportunities for new business unit provision 	<p>The North Anglesey Economic Regeneration Action Plan has successfully delivered £50,000 in small funding grants to 12 organisations from North Anglesey.</p> <p>A Signage Strategy to improve the signage at Amlwch Port has been completed with a view to installing new infrastructure in 2023-24.</p> <p>£50,000 funding from the Anglesey Enterprise Zone was secured to develop plans for business units at Stryd Mona, Amlwch. Planning permission will be sought in 2023/24.</p> <p>A parkland proposal, in close collaboration with the Cymdeithas, has been prepared in preparation for public consultation in 2023</p>	

Key Actions	What we did in 2022/23	RAG
e. New MonCF North Anglesey hub in Amlwch town centre	Welsh Government Transforming Towns urban regeneration and NDA socio-economic grants were used to open a MônCF North Anglesey hub in Amlwch town centre in June 2022.	Yellow
4. Support the delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal (Covid recovery prospectus) to support the priority areas to help our economy to recover in the short term	The Council has supported the delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal (Covid recovery prospectus) to support the recovery of the local economy: Some of the projects undertaken include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holyhead Gateway • Cydnerth (Morlais), Holyhead • Low Carbon Energy Centre of Excellence (Egni), a Low Carbon Energy Centre of Excellence at Bangor University and M-Sparc • Glynllifon Rural Economy Hub, Gwynedd • Parc Bryn Cegin, Gwynedd • Trawsfynydd Small or Advanced Modular Reactors, Gwynedd 	Yellow
5. Establish a new Port Health Authority to undertake new border control responsibilities and checks	The Council's plans to establish a new Port Health Authority were delayed until 2023/24 following an announcement by the UK Government to delay the introduction of new border checks. The Council continued to engage with Welsh Government and other stakeholders to ensure local arrangements will be robust and affordable. Further discussions by the Cabinet Office to be held regarding the Border Targeted Operating Model (BTOM) with final publication earmarked towards the end of Summer 2023.	Blue
6. Continue to deliver on a green, sustainable recovery and enhancing the vitality and viability of Town Centres <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Undertake an audit of Anglesey town centres to identify potential improvements 	Public Wifi & footfall counters have been installed in Llangefni, Menai Bridge, Porth Amlwch, Rhosneigr, Traeth Bychan. The Council addressed empty and problematic buildings by securing £250,000 in the Processing and Marketing Grant Scheme (PMG) funding as well as applying for other funding opportunities from Cadw. PMG supported	Green



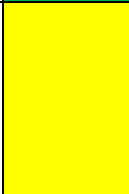

Key Actions	What we did in 2022/23	RAG
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> b. Address empty and problematic buildings c. Develop and deliver landscape and tree planting projects 	<p>facilities at Canolfan Glanhwfa and Hwb Mencap, Llangefni have been opened.</p> <p>The Council developed and delivered landscape and tree planting projects during the year, including work on 20 Ynys Cybi Landscape Partnership funded schemes. £25,000 was also secured from Welsh Government and used to support new allotments in Llanfairpwll and the upgrading of existing ones in Holyhead.</p>	
<p>7. Continue to progress the Energy Island Programme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Engage and influence the development of a potential new nuclear power station at Wylfa b. Work with major project developers to ensure their proposals deliver local benefits, and mitigate negative impact c. Review and update the programmes purpose and objectives to be more aligned with UK Government and Welsh Government’s climate and energy policy, requirements, and commitments 	<p>The Energy Island Programme (EIP) continued to engage with developers to advice and influence energy development proposals throughout the year. This is to ensure a sustainable form of development with impacts removed and benefits maximised.</p> <p>Effective engagement continued with all the developers and stakeholders to advise and influence on sustainable forms of development including fully participating in the statutory consenting process both where the Council is the Local Planning Authority and Local Host Authority. Engagement has included the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Potential new nuclear at Wylfa • Morlais Tidal Array Demonstration Zone • Fferm Solar Traffwll • Holyhead Hydrogen Hub • Fferm Solar Porth Wen • Awel y Mor Wind Farm • Mon Solar Farm • Carrog Battery Energy Storage System • Mona and Morgan Wind Farms • Decommissioning of the Wylfa Magnox Power Station • Alaw Mon Solar Farm 	

Key Actions	What we did in 2022/23	RAG
	<p>With regards to a potential new nuclear development at the allocated Wylfa site, the EIP has continued to engage with UK Government, Great British Nuclear (GBN) and Welsh Government.</p> <p>The EIP has continued to work with developers to ensure that their proposals deliver local benefits in alignment with the Councils adopted Community Benefit Contribution Strategy.</p> <p>A review of the EIP was undertaken towards the end of 2021. The review confirmed that a refreshed EIP has never been more important or relevant to enable projects and opportunities to be maximised, realign priorities, respect the uniqueness of the Island environment and to drive economic growth on the Island.</p> <p>The EIP has and is continuing to support with the successful Freeport status bid.</p>	
<p>8. Develop and pursue UK Government Levelling Up and Community Renewal Funding support</p>	<p>A major funding bid that will help reverse the decline of Holyhead town centre and spark its regeneration was approved by the UK Government.</p> <p>The 'Holyhead: A culture and heritage driven transformation' bid will help increase pride of place for residents. It will help transform the town by securing £22.5m of investment, including £17m from the Levelling Up Fund, and deliver more than £54m in benefits to the local community.</p> <p>The programme includes an exciting package of projects to -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase employment • improve the town centre offer and visitor experience; • increase footfall and spending; • provide modern floor space to meet business needs and increase access to the arts, culture and leisure. 	

Key Actions	What we did in 2022/23	RAG
9. Work with local businesses to empower and enable them to exploit opportunities provided by Council contracts through a revised procurement process	The Council worked and continues to work with local businesses to empower and enable them to exploit opportunities provided by Council contracts. The work is undertaken through Sell2Wales and Meet the Buyer notices of possibilities and opportunities on Anglesey are promoted.	
10. Continue to deliver Welsh Government grants to businesses	No new Welsh Government business grants were announced during the year. New grants are anticipated in 2023/24 including UK-SPF funded small business grants and new 'enterprising communities' grants under WG-funded Arfor 2 scheme.	

B. Enabling the visitor and hospitality sector to capitalise on the Island's increased popularity whilst protecting our assets and communities

Key Actions	What we did in 2022/23	RAG
1. Preparing new Destination and AONB (Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty) Management Plans	Drafts of the Destination Management Plan and AONB Management Plan were developed during the year. The final drafts will be presented to the Executive during 2023/24.	

<p>2. Investing to improve the quality and enjoyment of the Breakwater Country Park, Dingle and maritime infrastructure for the benefit of local residents and visitors</p>	<p>A new modern visitor centre was opened at Holyhead’s award-winning Breakwater Country Park as part of an all-Wales scheme to create and improve key visitor facilities. The new centre forms part of a wider investment programme to improve the visitor appeal and experience in Holyhead, which is seeing a record number of cruise ship visits in 2023 with more planned in 2024.</p> <p>Pupils at Ysgol Gyfun Llangefni planted 500 oak trees at the Dingle Local Nature reserve. to raise awareness of the importance of tree planting to combat the climate change emergency. It is also hoped that the pupils will develop a sense of ownership of the Dingle, ensuring that the trees and the nature reserve in general are respected in the future. Improvements have also been made to the Dingle boardwalks as well as further plans for improvement into 2023/24.</p>	
<p>3. Welcoming 40+ cruise ship visits to Anglesey / North Wales safely during Season 2022</p>	<p>42 Cruise Ships were welcomed during the 2022 season with visitors from all over the world visiting the island and the wider North West Wales region.</p>	
<p>4. Delivering small scale visitor infrastructure improvements at popular locations to improve local residents and visitors experiences, as well as positively influence visitor behaviour</p>	<p>The Capital funding secured for this project has been deferred to 2023/24, due to the need for a review and assessment of the current needs of the Service, in order to make full use of the funding.</p>	
<p>5. Establishing an Anglesey Leisure Cycling & Active Travel programme of works</p>	<p>Authorities in Wales are required to produce maps of walking and cycling networks in their local area, known as Active Travel Network Maps (ATNMs). These maps are designed to show two main things:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Existing routes – those current walking and cycling routes 2. Future routes – new routes that the local authority proposes to create in the future 	

	<p>Our ATNM was approved by the Welsh Government in August 2022 and it sets out the aspirations that the Council has in place for improving local active travel routes at the following eight settlements on the island:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Llangefni • Llanfairpwll • Valley • Benllech • Menai Bridge • Amlwch • Holyhead • Gaerwen 	
<p>6. Changing the way we work with residents and communities by raising awareness and buy in to Place Shaping as a means of enhancing community resilience</p>	<p>The Place Shaping Programme continues to be delivered by the Council in partnership with Medrwn Môn.</p> <p>The programme works with local communities to create comprehensive asset maps and to date has established 7 community-based Alliances to work with statutory bodies to prioritise where spending should be targeted to identified community needs.</p> <p>Alliances bring together community groups, individuals, volunteers, town and community councils, local businesses and anyone interested in working together to make the areas that they live and work in more independent and resilient.</p>	

C. Maintaining and modernising critical community services such as Care and Education across the island

Key Actions	What we did in 2022/23	RAG
<p>1. Ensure we reduce the requirement for emergency and temporary accommodation units by sourcing permanent homes for individuals who currently reside in temporary accommodation</p>	<p>The Council continues to be committed to ensuring that everybody has a place to call home.</p> <p>During 2022/23, around 130 people were moved into private or social housing from emergency and temporary accommodation units during the year.</p>	<p>Green</p>
<p>2. Prepare and adopt a Climate Change Plan to protect future generations and communities</p>	<p>The Isle of Anglesey County Council declared a climate emergency in September 2020 making a commitment to become carbon neutral by 2030.</p> <p>Consequently, the council have agreed a 'Towards Net Zero Plan 2022 to 2025' which outlines its commitment to the climate emergency and how it intends to transform to become a net zero organisation.</p> <p>The implementation of the plan during the year is overseen by the Corporate Programme Board.</p>	<p>Green</p>
<p>3. Building 83 new energy efficient homes with A energy performance ratings in line with our Low Carbon Strategy to meet local demand and ensure individuals within communities have opportunities to have affordable home across a wide range of tenures to meet their housing need</p>	<p>38 new energy efficient homes with A energy performance ratings have recently been built by the Council. The old school sites at Maes yr Ysgol, Holyhead, Ysgol Llaingoch, Holyhead and Ysgol Llanfachraeth have been transformed into new and modern social housing.</p> <p>The properties have been allocated to eligible tenants using the common housing policy and Tai Teg affordable housing register, both of which give priority to residents local to the area.</p> <p>Construction is also underway for 10 new properties at Lôn Lwyd in Pentraeth and 6 new properties on the old Beaumaris Social Club site.</p>	<p>Yellow</p>

Key Actions	What we did in 2022/23	RAG
	<p>Plans for new housing are in operation at the following locations –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The old Ysgol Niwbwrch site in Newborough (14 homes) • The old Ysgol Thomas Ellis site in Holyhead (15 homes), Kings Road in Holyhead (7 homes) • The old Plas Penlan site in Llangefni (12 homes) • Gwel y Llan in Llandegfan (25 homes). 	
<p>4. Further develop Cartrefi Clyd on Anglesey in Rhosybol, Holyhead and Llangristiolus with a view of offering respite and Day Care service for children with a disability</p>	<p>The Cartrefi Clyd initiative emphasises the importance of giving children individual time and attention. This helps to foster valuable relationships and ensure that the children receive positive life experiences that enable them to develop into emotionally healthy adults.</p> <p>These positive life experiences also helps the children to become part of their local community and ensures they can access services like any other child.</p> <p>The Cartrefi Clyd initiative has been awarded the 2022 Children in Care Award at the Children and Young People Now 2022 Awards for its success in providing looked after children with safe, caring and nurturing homes.</p> <p>The Children in Care Award recognises the contribution made by a local authority or care provider to improve outcomes for looked-after children or young people, whether in residential care, foster care or other types of placement.</p>	
<p>5. Progress a new Extra Care facility in the South of the island</p>	<p>A site on Council owned land near Tyddyn Mostyn, Menai Bridge has been identified as the best location to develop an extra care provision in the South of the Island.</p> <p>This scheme will help address the need for extra care facilities in the area by providing approx. 40 apartments with the potential to include 15 registered specialist residential care rooms, as well as space to locate a Community Resource Team which includes health and social care staff to serve the south of the Island.</p>	

Key Actions	What we did in 2022/23	RAG
	<p>During the year site investigations have been undertaken and the Council are currently preparing planning documents.</p> <p>A planning application is expected during 2023/24.</p>	Green
<p>6. Review and re-commission Day Care provision for Adults with Learning Disabilities</p>	<p>Work is underway to formalize the community provision through a consistent contractual approach and to strengthen community opportunities across the Island.</p> <p>We have developed and implemented some inhouse day opportunities within our communities and clients have been attending these new opportunities. Further work is planned for 2023/24.</p>	Amber
<p>7. Review and re-commission Supported Living provision for Adults with Learning Disabilities</p>	<p>A review of the supported living provision is currently being undertaken; however, it remains in the early stages of the project. Further work is planned for 2023/24.</p>	Amber
<p>8. Progressing new primary school facilities in Llangefni</p>	<p>A new site for Ysgol Corn Hir was opened in April 2023.</p> <p>The £10m project contracted to Wynne Construction features the latest facilities and resources in a modern design will well equipped classrooms and outdoor areas for play and learning.</p> <p>An official ground breaking ceremony was held in January 2023 to mark the start of work to build a new Net Zero Carbon extension at Ysgol y Graig, Llangefni.</p> <p>The cost of the new Foundation Phase unit will be in the region of £10.5 million.</p> <p>Both these projects will increase the capacity in the Llangefni area to meet the increased demand for primary education. The projects are part funded by the Welsh Government’s Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme.</p>	Green

Green = Completed, Yellow = On Track, Amber = Has fallen behind timescales, but identified mitigating actions mean that it could catch up, Red = Failure against schedule. Requires Programme Board or Leadership Team guidance regarding the way forward

Performance Monitoring Results

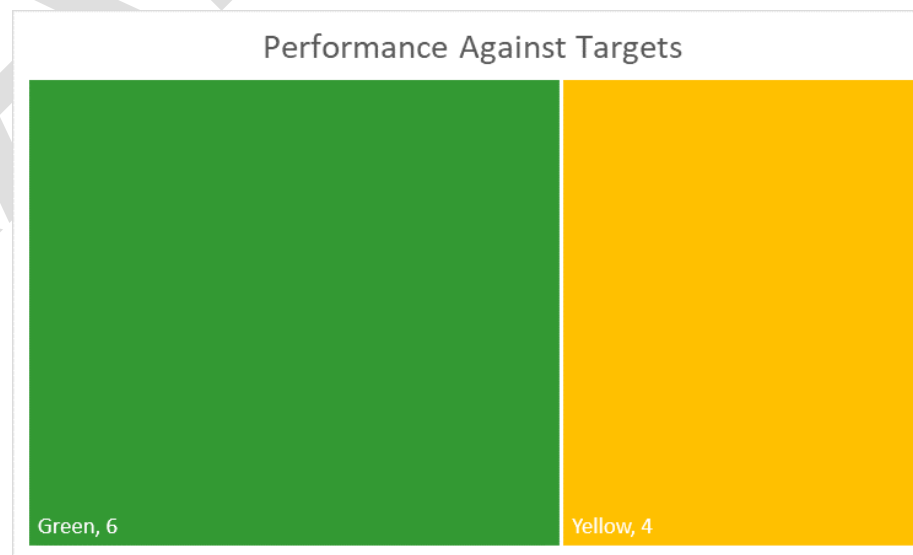
The performance monitoring of KPIs continue to be aligned to the Councils' three wellbeing strategic objectives as are the outputs of the work related above:

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

Analysis of the performance for each Wellbeing Objective can be viewed below –

Wellbeing Objective 1 - Ensure that the people of Anglesey can thrive and realise their long-term potential

Indicators related to our **Wellbeing Objective 1** where we are working to ensure that the people of Anglesey can thrive and realise their long-term potential, all performed well with all indicators being either green or yellow against their targets.



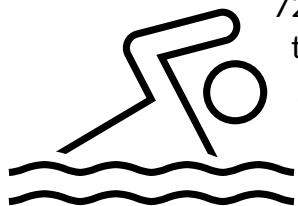
Some examples of the good performance seen during the year include:

100% of pupils have been assessed in Welsh at the end of the Foundation Phase (indicator 4). This is encouraging and meets the expectations from the council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan.



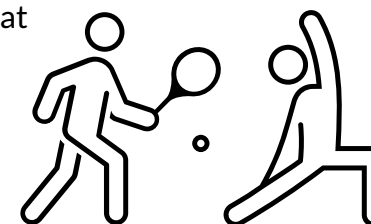
Number of empty homes brought back into use

80 properties have been brought back into use against a target of 50 (indicator 11). Once again, the use of the Council Tax Premium has proved fruitful here and it's positive that there are 80 less empty properties within our communities.



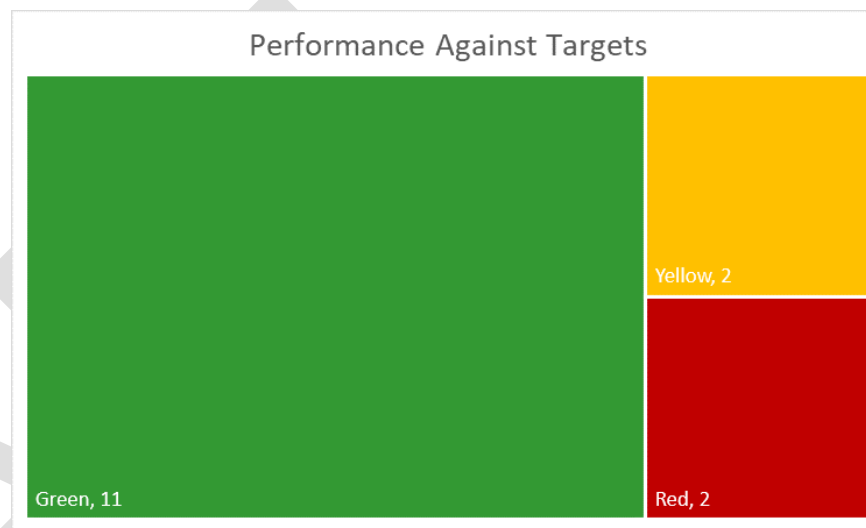
72% of clients attending the NERS programme completed the course and 78% believed that the programme has made a positive impact on their health.

There were 514k visits to Leisure Centres during the year, an increase of 151k on 2021/22 and the highest total since pre-Covid levels. This demonstrates that the improved facilities and activities available to residents are desirable in an ever-increasing competitive industry.



Wellbeing Objective 2 - Support vulnerable adults and families to keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible

Performance against the indicators for **Wellbeing Objective 2** demonstrate good performance once again. 11 indicators (73%) are Green whilst 2 indicators (13%) are Yellow against their targets for the year.

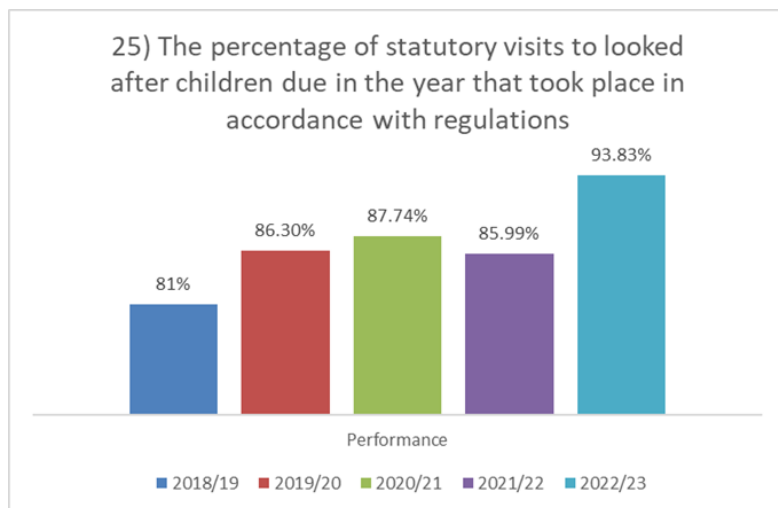


Some examples of the good performance seen during the year include:

The Adult Services indicators are all Green against targets.

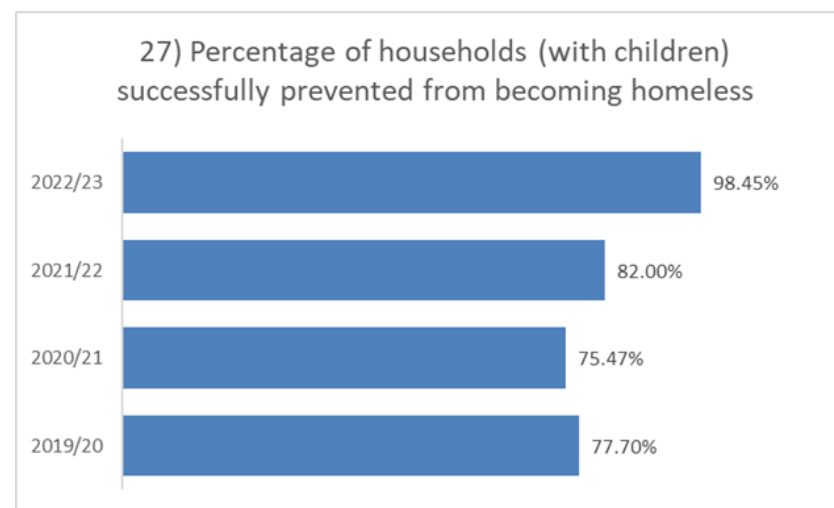


All but one of the Children and Families Service indicators (indicators 20 – 25) are above or within 5% of targets for the year. The number of statutory visits to looked after children was a particularly good performance at 93.83% compared to previous years

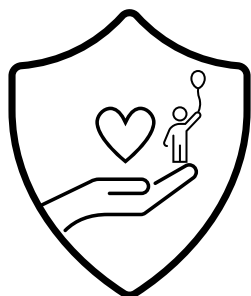


KPI	Performance	RAG
20) Percentage of child assessments completed in time	86.75%	Yellow
21) Percentage of children in care who had to move 3 or more times	6.15%	Green
22) The percentage of referrals of children that are re-referrals within 12 months	14.35%	Green
24) The percentage of referrals during the year on which a decision was made within 1 working day	98.31%	Green
25) The percentage of statutory visits to looked after children due in the year that took place in accordance with regulations	93.83%	Green

The Homelessness indicators (Indicators 26 + 27) for the Housing Service have also demonstrated good performance with both green against targets. The targeted funding for homelessness has made a great difference where 98.45% of households with children were prevented this year compared to previous performance



We do however note that two indicators have underperformed during the year against wellbeing objective 2, with both being red against targets.



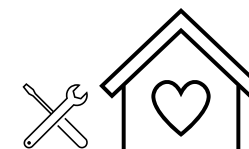
The average length of time for all children who were on the CPR during the year, and who were de-registered during the year – is Red with a performance of 303 days against a target of 270 days.

The performance is a decline on the 287 days seen at the end of Q3, although it is a slight improvement on the 318 days reported at the end of 2021/22.

This indicator calculates those children who have been removed from the child protection register within the last twelve months on a rolling basis. An alternative indicator to measure the average length of time for all children spent on the child protection register (CPR) demonstrates a healthy performance of 166 days. The monitoring of this indicator will improve the performance against indicator 23 into the future and will ensure that the children on the

CPR are only on it for the necessary time to make a decision.

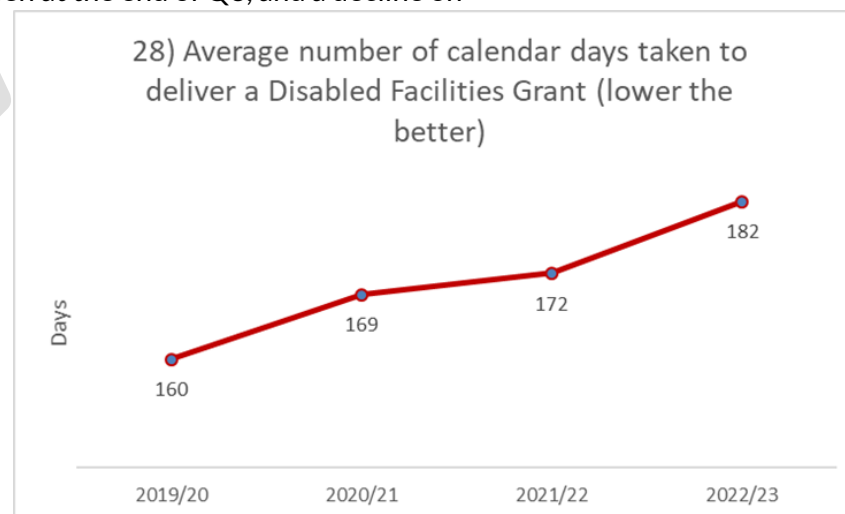
The average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Disabled Facilities Grant – is Red with a performance of 193 days against a target of 170 days. This performance is a decline on the 182 days seen at the end of Q3, and a decline on previous year’s performances.



The reasons for the decline in performance for this indicator include:

- Difficulties in gaining access to some properties due to client’s concerns and anxieties following the coronavirus pandemic.
- Difficulties finding contractors to undertake the work. Currently there are only 6 contractors on the Island that install the adaptations.

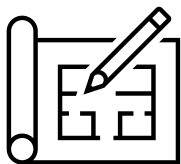
To mitigate this underperformance the DFG Policy is to be reviewed which will include drawing up a service level agreement and agreeing key performance indicators for the delivery of DFG adaptations into the future.



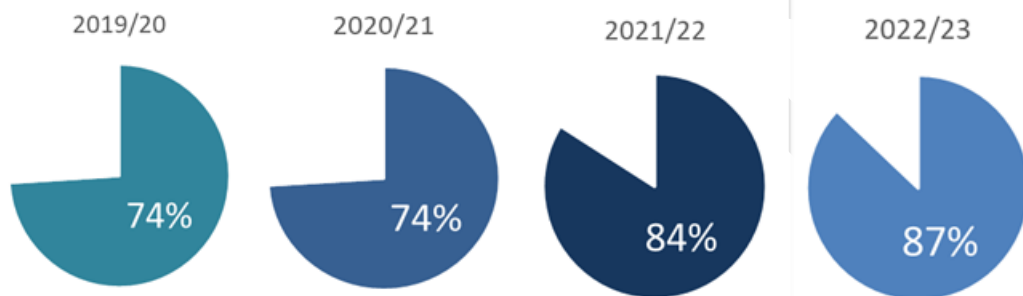
Wellbeing Objective 3 - Work in partnership with our communities to ensure that they can cope effectively with change and developments whilst protecting our natural environment

Performance against the indicators for **Wellbeing Objective 3** has also been good at 90% above or within 5% of their targets for the year.

The indicators that have performed well in the year include:



Planning applications determined within timescale which was Green against target at 91%. This is also the best performance for this indicator in the last four years (79% in 2021/22, 79% in 2020/21 and 90% in 2019/20).



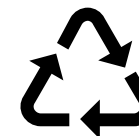
The percentage of planning enforcement cases investigated within 84 days



The percentage of planning enforcement cases investigated within 84 days has also demonstrated an improved performance (87%) compared to previous years (84% in 2021/22, 74% in 2020/21 and 74% in 2019/20). This is encouraging and demonstrates that improvements implemented by the Regulation and Economic Development service staff are making a difference to performance.

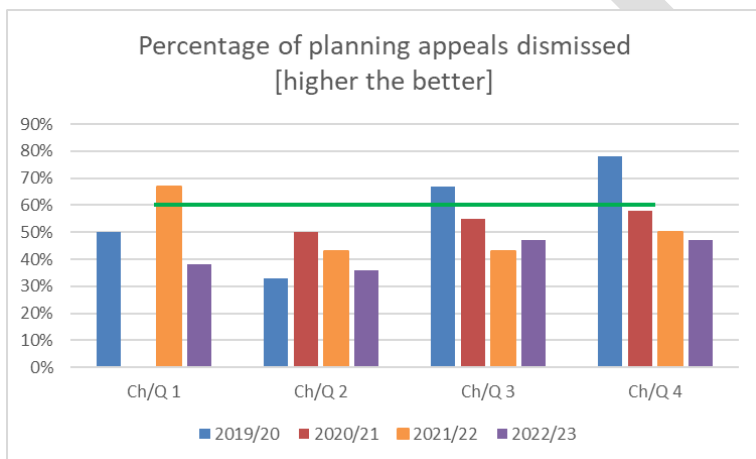
KPI	Performance	RAG
31) Percentage of streets that are clean	96%	Green
32) Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted	63.47%	Yellow
33) Average number of working days taken to clear fly-tipping incidents	1	Green
34) Kilograms of residual waste generated per person	207kg	Green

A number of waste management indicators (Indicator 31, 33 and 34) are Green against targets during the year. 96% of our streets surveyed in the year were clean of any waste and this was the best performance of the last four years (95.5% in 2021/22, 92% in 2020/21 and 93.79% in 2019/20).



The three highways indicators related to the Islands' A, B and C road condition surveys (indicators 38 – 40) are Green against targets and have improved compared to 2021/22. The largest improvement can be seen in the condition of our A roads where only 2.6% were of a poor condition in 2022/23 compared to 3% in 2020/21 and 4.6% in 2019/20. The additional funding received, a combination of both capital funding and a Welsh Government grant, was a contributing factor to the improvements.

KPI	Performance	RAG
38) Percentage of A roads in poor condition (annual)	2.6%	Green
39) Percentage of B roads in poor condition (annual)	2.6%	Green
40) Percentage of C roads in poor condition (annual)	7.6%	Green



The only indicator underperformed against target for the year was the percentage of planning appeals dismissed with a performance of 47% against a target of 65%. This is a slight decline on the performance demonstrated in 2021/22 (50%).

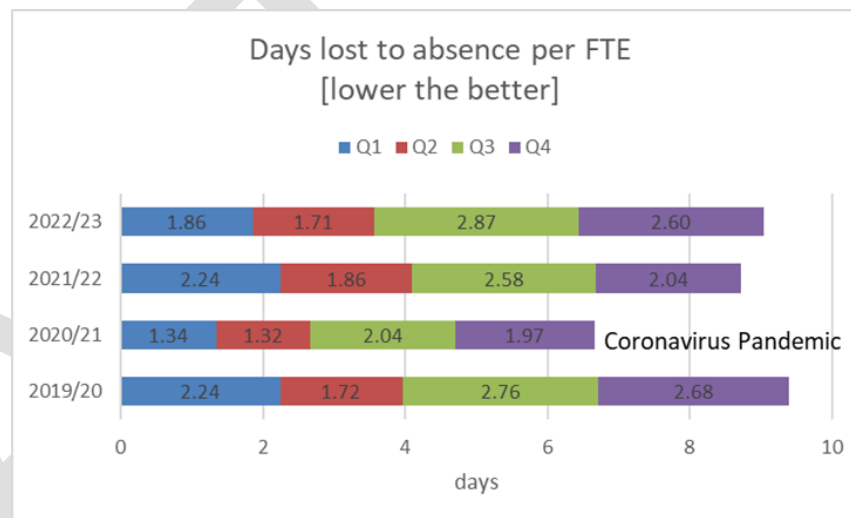
This indicator relates to a small number of planning appeals, the number of which can fluctuate greatly from one quarter to the next. Three of the five appeals during Q4 were dismissed resulting in a total of nine out of the nineteen appeals being dismissed for the year.

The Council continues to ensure that planning decisions are 'robust' and well-founded, however the Council has no influence over an appeal decision. We will continue to monitor appeal decisions on similar applications to identify if a pattern is developing that would require a different interpretation of our policies.

Corporate Health Indicators

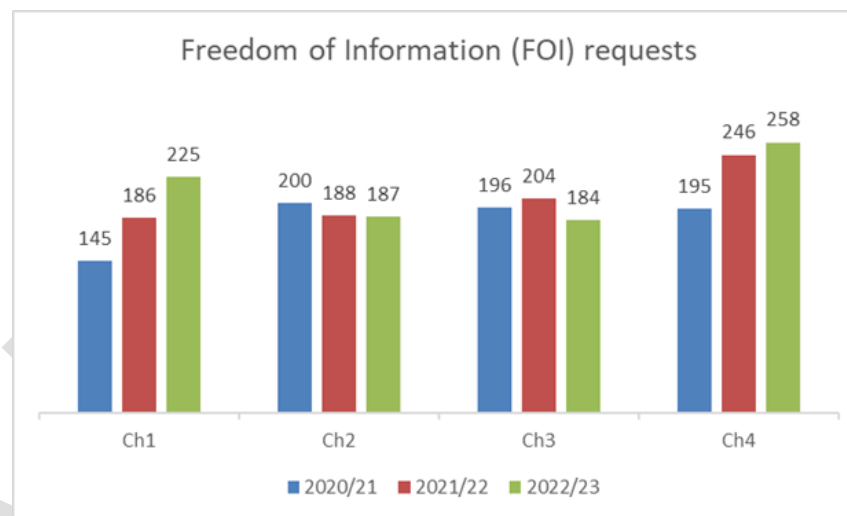
When analysing the corporate health indicators (People / Financial / Customer related) for the year, it is encouraging to note that the majority (80%) of the indicators monitored performed well against targets (Green or Yellow RAG). Some of the highlights are noted below.

- The Council is yellow against its **staff attendance** KPI with 9.15 days lost to absence per FTE against a target of 8.75 days lost to absence per FTE. This compares favourably against previous years monitored (except for 2020/21). This is encouraging and demonstrates the commitment of staff.
- The indicators monitored within the Customer Service section did not highlight any great cause for concern with the indicators performing well against targets on the whole.



- The total % of **written responses to complaints within 15 days (Social Services)** was Red with a performance of 70% against a target of 80%. This indicator is known and recognised to be challenging due to the complicated nature of the complaints and the multi-agency responses often required. 19 of the 27 complaints received were discussed with the complainant within 5 working days, and 6 of the 8 late written responses were agreed with the complainant in advance of being identified late as noted in the complaint protocol. The overall performance of 70% is however a slight improvement on the 66% as seen at the end of 2021/22.

- The % of FOI requests responded to within timescale demonstrates that 72% of the responses were within timescale against a target of 80%. The challenge from 2023/24 onwards is that the target is set to increase to at least 90%. Further work is required to identify the types of requests that are late, why there is an increase in requests and where responses can be improved so that the Council are in a better position to achieve the target.



- The financial management section forecasts an underspend of £1.212m for the year ending 31 March 2023. This result is welcomed and improves the Council’s financial position. The net underspend has contributed to an increase in the Council’s General Balances with an underlying available sum of £10.2m, which is £1.4m above the minimum recommended value moving forward (5% of the 202324 net revenue budget). The outturn financial position shows a continued demand for services however, particularly in Social Care and Homelessness. Given the current cost of living crisis it is anticipated that these pressures will remain in 2023/24.
- The forecast underspend on the Capital Programme 2022/23 is £13.477m, with this being slippage into the 2023/24 Capital Programme.
- The revenue and capital accounts are considered by the Finance Scrutiny Panel where any underspends are scrutinised thoroughly before a progress report is presented to the Corporate Scrutiny Committee on a quarterly basis.

The overall performance within this section demonstrates that reasonable assurance can be provided that the Council’s day to day activities in managing its people, finances and serving its customers are delivering against their expectation to a standard which is appropriate. It also provides the basis and the evidence of a good performance management ethos which is reflected in the fact that the indicators from that perspective are also demonstrating satisfactory performance.

Cost of Living response

When the Council agreed on the Transitional Plan back in December 2021, we were in a worldwide pandemic. The Transitional Plan provided the operational parameters for officers to deliver key strategic objectives during the island's immediate post-pandemic recovery period.

Little did we know that the cost of living for all would increase significantly and the annual rate of inflation reached 11% in October 2022. There are many reasons for the increases, however the result is that everyday essentials like food and household bills have increased more quickly than the average household income. This in turn has led to many families and individuals struggling to cope with the additional financial pressures and has resulted in an increased demand on Council services.

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. A sum of £585,000 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. This gave a total funding pot of £735,000.

Listed below are just some of the things that the Council supported during the year:

- **22,500 people** received additional funding of £150
- Armed Forces Veterans received additional funding through the SAAFA
- **290 Households** who were moving out of emergency accommodation were supported
- **327 residents and households** who were assessed as facing financial hardship by the Anglesey CAB and J.E.O'Toole Centre received additional funding
- **369 Energy efficiency packs** were distributed through the Warm Spaces programme to reduce energy consumption
- **3,500 people** attended one of the 420 Warm Spaces Sessions throughout our communities
- Anglesey Food Bank received additional funding to cover salary costs due to the increase in demand
- The Samaritans were provided additional funding to help people experiencing mental health issues
- **400 households** received Christmas food vouchers which they could spend at their local shops
- Financial support was provided to Kidney Care Wales and the MS Society for residents with severe medical conditions who faced increased heating / electricity costs
- Funding was provided to Ynys Môn Homelessness, Cynefin, Wallich Clifford and Medrwn Môn who provide essential services to residents as part of the Housing Support grant
- 2 local oil companies received funding to assist residents struggling to afford oil to heat their homes
- Funding was provided to Menter Môn to provide nutritious food made locally and made available in local community freezers – in total around **4150 meals** were distributed to 10 local community freezers during 2022/23
- Funding support was provided to foster parents towards fuel or food
- Anglesey Good Food project (Bwyd Da Môn) received funding to provide a subsidy to around **110 residents**

Overall Performance

The Council has demonstrated good progress and commitment in various domains over the past year. Notable achievements include:

- the successful construction and letting of business units at Bryn Cefni Business Park;
- the efforts to strengthen Holyhead and the Port as an international gateway;
- securing funding for the transformation of Holyhead town center through the Levelling Up Fund;
- a modern visitor centre at the Breakwater Country Park;
- tree planting initiatives at the Dingle Local Nature reserve which contributes to combatting climate change and fosters a sense of environmental stewardship among our youth;
- improving existing and future walking and cycling routes through the Active Travel Network Map (ATNM);
- the Place Shaping Programme's collaboration with Medrwn Môn showcases a community-driven approach to creating independent and resilient areas;
- the Cartrefi Clyd initiative was awarded the 2022 Children in Care Award at the Children and Young People Now 2022 Awards;
- around 130 people were moved into private or social housing from emergency and temporary accommodation units during the year;
- 38 new energy efficient homes with A energy performance ratings were built by the Council;
- the opening of the new Ysgol Corn Hir site and the development of a net zero carbon extension at Ysgol y Graig.

The Scorecard results also demonstrate good performance with 71% of the indicators being green against targets and an additional 20% being within 5% of their targets for the year. Despite this healthy performance we also acknowledge that further work is required and in particular with regards to the indicators that were Amber or Red for the year as well as the indicators that demonstrated a year on year decline (47%) on performance. There will be efforts made over the forthcoming year to improve the underperforming indicators as well as improving and maintaining the good performance. These efforts will continue to be monitored on a quarterly basis through the Corporate Scorecard Report that will be overseen by the Leadership Team and scrutinised by the Executive and Corporate Scrutiny Committees throughout the year.

Looking ahead, the new Council Plan for 2023-2028 will look to build upon the good work that was undertaken in the implementation of the previous Council and Transformation Plans. The new plan was developed using the views of local people, partners, political priorities and the Welsh Government's Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act.

The work has identified the following six strategic objectives that the Council will look to develop over the next 5 years -



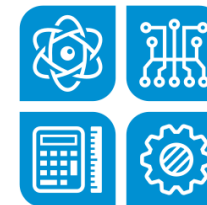
The Welsh Language

Increasing opportunities to learn and use the language



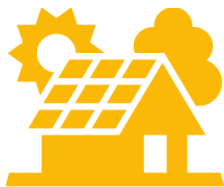
Social Care and Wellbeing

Providing the right support at the right time



Education

Ensuring an effective provision for today and for future generations



Housing

Ensuring that everyone has the right to call somewhere home



Economy

Promoting opportunities to develop the island's economy



Climate Change

Responding to the crisis, tackling change and working towards becoming a net zero organisation by 2030

The Annual Delivery Document details the work that the Council will be undertaking during 2023/24 to achieve the ambitious aspirations set in the Council Plan 2023-2028. This will be undertaken and delivered in a collaborative manner whilst also acknowledging that the Council's day-to-day activities will also be realised.

All front line and support staff will be integral to its successful delivery and will use the council's values to develop and guide the vision, strategic plans and services.



Parch / Respect

We are respectful and considerate towards others regardless of our differences



Gonestrwydd / Honesty

We are committed to high standards of conduct and integrity



Cydwethio / Collaborate

We work best as a team, with our communities and partners to deliver the best outcomes for the people of Anglesey.



Hyrwyddo'r Cyngor a'r Ynys / Champion the Council and the Island

We create a sense of pride in working for the council and present a positive image of the Council on the Island.

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Isle of Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	EXECUTIVE
Date:	26 SEPTEMBER 2023
Subject:	REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING, QUARTER 1 2023/24
Portfolio Holder(s):	COUNCILLOR ROBIN WYN WILLIAMS – DEPUTY LEADER AND FINANCE PORTFOLIO HOLDER
Head of Service / Director:	MARC JONES – DIRECTOR OF FUNCTION (RESOURCES) / SECTION 151 OFFICER
Report Author:	BETHAN HUGHES OWEN – ACCOUNTANCY SERVICES MANAGER
Tel:	01248 752663
E-mail:	BETHANOWEN2@YNYSMON.LLYW.CYMRU
Local Members:	N/A

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

1. On 9 March 2023, the Council set a net budget for 2023/24 with net service expenditure of £174.569m, to be funded from Council Tax income, NDR and general grants as well as £3.780m from general reserves. This includes a total for general and other contingencies amounting to £3.109m. The budget for the Council Tax Premium was increased by £0.943m, to £2.893m. A balanced budget was set with the agreed Council Tax rise of 5.00%.
2. As for the previous year, the budget for 2023/24 does not include any requirements on the services to make savings.

This report sets out the financial performance of the Council's services at the end of quarter 1, 30 June 2023. The projected position for the year as a whole is also summarised. It should be noted that predicting the final year-end position at the end of quarter 1 is difficult, and the position can change considerably as we move through the remainder of the financial year. For 2023/24, predicting the final year end position is even more difficult because of increasing inflation, the fact that the staff pay awards for 2023/24 have yet to be agreed and the impact the cost of living crisis will have on the demand for Council services. The estimated position at the end of the financial year does not take into account the proposed pay awards for teachers (from September 2023) and other staff (backdated to April 2023). Once these costs become known, they will be factored into future projections. The budget includes a contingency sum of £2m to fund the NJC pay award, above the sum included in the service budgets. In addition, earmarked reserve of £3.177m has been created to provide additional funding to meet these inflationary pressures, but it may not be sufficient to fund all of the additional costs that the Council will be required to pay over the coming months.

3. In addition, these figures do not take into consideration winter pressures. Historically, winter pressures can be seen within the Highways and Adult services and it can be hard to quantify the full extent of extra costs which could be incurred this early in the financial year. The full extent of the forecasts and costs will be noted in the quarter 3 and quarter 4 reports respectively.
4. The overall projected financial position for 2023/24, including Corporate Finance and the Council Tax fund, is a projected overspend of £0.744m. This is 0.43% of the Council's net budget for 2023/24.
5. It is recommended that:-
 - (i) To note the position set out in Appendices A and B in respect of the Authority's financial performance to date and expected outturn for 2023/24;
 - (ii) To note the summary of Contingency budgets for 2023/24, detailed in Appendix C;
 - (iii) To note the monitoring of agency and consultancy costs for 2023/24 in Appendices CH and D.

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?		
This matter is delegated to the Executive.		
Ch – Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?		
Yes		
D – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?		
Yes		
Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):		
1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	The report is for monitoring purposes only and is used along with other reports to set the medium term financial strategy and annual budget. In setting the annual budget, the impact on the long term needs of the Island will be assessed.
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	Not applicable
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.	Not applicable
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.	The citizens of Anglesey were consulted as part of the 2023/24 budget setting process and will be consulted on future budgets,
5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	Not applicable
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	Not applicable
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.	Not applicable
E – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Leadership Team (LT) (mandatory)	The report has been considered by the Leadership Team at its meeting on 4 September 2023 and the comments made incorporated into the report.
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	N/A – this is the Section 151 Officer's report.
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	The Monitoring Officer is a member of the Leadership Team
4	Human Resources (HR)	N/A
5	Property	N/A
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	N/A
7	Procurement	N/A
8	Scrutiny	The financial position at the end of quarter 1 was reviewed by the Finance Scrutiny Panel at its meeting on 7 September 2023.
9	Local Members	N/A

F - Appendices:

- Appendix A – Provisional Revenue Outturn Report for 2023/24
- Appendix B - Table of Provisional Outturn 2023/24
- Appendix C - Summary of Contingency Budgets position for 2023/24
- Appendix CH - Information regarding monitoring of Agency Staff 2023/24
- Appendix D - Information regarding monitoring of Consultants 2023/24

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

2023/24 Revenue Budget (as recommended by this Committee on 2 March 2023 and adopted by the County Council on 9 March 2023).

REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING – QUARTER 1

1. General Balance

The Council Fund held £19.637m of earmarked reserves and school reserves amounting to £6.716m at the start of the financial year. The draft outturn for 2022/23 resulted in a general balance at the start of the current financial year of £13.967m. This was an improvement on the opening balance for the previous year, 2021/22, where the general balance stood at £12.278m. The draft underspend of £1.212m contributed to this and movements in reserves, such as the return of earmarked reserves no longer needed. This may, however, be subject to change with any post-audit adjustments.

The position of general balances at the end of the quarter is as follows:-

Executive Meeting	Amount £m	Purpose
Draft opening balance	(13.967)	Draft audited general reserve at 31 March 2023
Budget Setting 2023/24 agreed March 2023	3.780	
Revised Council Fund General Balance	(10.187)	As mentioned above, this may change following any post-audit adjustments.

The current predicted outturn for 2023/24 is an estimated overspend of £0.744m. If this forecast is accurate, the Council General Balance would decrease to £9.593m by the year-end, this compares to the minimum level of £8.73m, which equates to 5% of the 2023/24 net revenue budget.

The 2023/24 budget was set prior to a settlement in the non teaching staff pay award for 2023/24. At the time of writing this report, the non teaching staff award for 2023/24 has yet to be agreed. In setting the budget, a contingency sum of £2m was included in the budget to cover the potential additional cost between the sum allowed for in the draft budget and the Employer's pay offer. In addition, an earmarked reserve of £3.177m was created to provide additional funding to meet the costs of any pay award settlement above what was set in the budget. This reserve can also be used to meet any rise in cost pressure due to high level of inflation.

If the reserve is insufficient, it is likely to result in the Council increasing its forecasted overspending in its net revenue budget in 2023/24, and any overspend will have to be funded from the Council's general balances. Based on the current forecast, the earmarked reserve will be sufficient to fund the forecasted overspend and the cost will not fall on the Council's general balances.

2. Financial Performance by Service

2.1 The details of the financial performance by service for the period and the projected outturn position for each is set out in Appendix B. An overspend of £0.902m on services is predicted as at 31 March 2024. An underspend of £0.082m is estimated on Corporate Finance. In addition, an under achievement of income of £0.273m is forecast on the standard Council Tax debit, with a further over achievement of income of £0.349m on the Council Tax premium. The current total revenue forecast for 2022/23 is an underspend of £0.744m, which equates to 0.43% of the Council's total net revenue budget.

2.2 Table 1 below summarises the significant variances (circa £100k or higher):-

Table 1

Service	(Under) / Overspend £'000	%
Central Education	(135)	(2.50)
Adults	1,531	4.37
Children's Service	648	5.01
Waste	(490)	(4.75)
Highways	(345)	(4.36)
Property	(100)	(6.46)
Planning and Public Protection	(155)	(5.79)
Corporate and Democratic Costs	(511)	(15.51)
Unbudgeted uncontrollable costs - insurance, capital pension costs and bad debt	400	0
Other (total of variances less than £100k)	(23)	(0.02)
Total Variance over / (under)spend (excluding funding)	(820)	(0.35)

3. Explanation of Significant Variances

3.1 Lifelong Learning

3.1.1 Delegated Schools Budget

Once the Council sets the budget for schools, responsibility for the budget is delegated to the schools and annual under or overspends are held in individual school reserves. The balances of the schools reserves now stands at £6.716m, compared to £7.827m at 31st March 2022. However, grants were received by schools in the previous financial years to deal with the impact of the pandemic. Over this financial year, schools are returning to business as normal and it is anticipated that school balances will fall significantly by the end of the 2023/24 financial year. Schools have estimated that £2.82m of balances will be used to balance the revenue budget in 2023/24.

Central Education

3.1.2 This service was underspent by £23k (1.86%) at the end of quarter 1. The forecast for the year-end is an underspend of £135k (2.50%). Many of these budgets are demand led.

3.1.3 There are a number of over and underspends across the Service. The most significant of which are listed below:-

- School Transport (Taxis and Buses) – forecast underspend of £76k. This is made up of £149k underspend on taxi contracts and a £73k overspend on school bus contracts. The main contributing factor to the underspend on the schools taxis is that the contracts underwent a tender exercise in the previous financial year, with some contracts coming back at a reduced price, while some routes were terminated. In addition, some school bus contracts were retendered in 2022/23, with additional routes added. This resulted in a higher overall cost than the previous contracts.
- The out-of-county placements budget saw reduced demand in 2022/23, and this has continued into 2023/24, with a forecasted underspend of £71k. As the financial year progresses and a new academic year commences, the number of children requiring out-of-county placements may begin to rise, which will impact the forecasted underspend, but an earmarked reserve of £500k is held to meet any additional costs incurred as a result of increased demand.

- The income target for Clwb Gofal Plant is forecasted to underachieve by £65k. This budget is, again, demand led and the numbers attending the clubs have not returned to pre-pandemic levels.
- The remainder of the Central Education budget is forecast to underspend by £85k. This, in part (£48k), is due to two vacant posts, one of which has subsequently been filled. It is also forecasted that the match required for the Education Improvement Grant (EIG) will be less than budgeted, creating an underspend of £37k.

3.1.4 Culture

3.1.4.1 This service was £11k (2.92%) underspent during the period, and the forecast outturn for the year is an overspend of £46k (3.39%). Oriol Môn is the main area of concern, with a projected overspend of £130k. The reduction in contribution from Y Gymdeithas to £32.5k per annum, shop sales not reaching the target and additional planned maintenance to the building, have all contributed to this forecast. The Libraries service is forecasting an underspend of £59k at outturn. This is, in the main, part the result of vacant posts and not utilising all of the casual staffing budgets. The outturn forecast on the Archives service is currently forecast to be £25k but this will change depending on when the planned restructure is implemented.

3.2 Adults Social Care

3.2.1 This service was £728k (10.42%) overspent for the period, and is forecast to overspend by £1.531m (4.37%) by the end of the financial year.

3.2.2 The elements within the outturn variance are shown in Table 2 below:-

**Table 2
Analysis of Adult Services Forecasted Year End Position 2023/24**

Service	Expenditure / Income Analysis								TOTAL
	Residential	Nursing	Home Care	Day Care	Supp. Accom	Staffing	Other	Grants Applied	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	
Elderly	454	(120)	113	0	0	52	(32)	0	467
Physical Disabilities	577	0	254	0	0	0	17	(332)	516
Learning Disabilities	249	0	36	120	904	0	(89)	(476)	744
Mental Health	389	0	44	0	93	(52)	7	(332)	149
Provider Unit – Staffing	352	0	(666)	(158)	(43)	0	(14)	0	(529)
Provider Unit - Income	216	0	0	82	0	0	0	0	298
Management & Support	0	0	0	0	0	(114)	0	0	(114)
TOTAL	2,237	(120)	(219)	44	954	(114)	(111)	(1,140)	1,531

3.2.3 The majority of the overspend is due to increased demand for both the high volume, low cost caseload (Elderly) and the high cost, low volume caseload (learning disabilities, physical disabilities and mental health). The number of cases can fluctuate significantly during the year and numbers are difficult to forecast and control.

3.2.4 The forecasted position is aided by the application of the Social Care Workforce Grant and the use of earmarked reserves. Without this additional funding, the forecasted overspend would be in the region of £2.5m to £3.0m. The Service is aware of the strain the financial position is placing on the Council, and is working to minimise care packages to the statutory minimum and is working to improve income collection processes in order that income is maximised. Further work is also planned to rationalise and modernise the provision of day care services and supported accommodation.

3.3 Children's Services

3.3.1 The service is overspent by £453k (11.87%) for the period, however, it is forecasted to be overspent by £648k (5.01%) at year end.

3.3.2 The Looked After Children's budget is overspent by £247k up to period 3, however, the forecast presently is at year end there will be an overspend of £680k. The £680k is made up of £482k Out of County placements. The Service currently has 14 FTE high cost low volume out of County Placements, with an average weekly cost of £4.61k per week (£240k per annum) net of third party income from Health and Education. This compares to 13.75 FTE in 2022/23, with an average weekly cost of £5.45k (£284k per annum). Foster Care placements are forecasted to overspend by £130k and Special Guardianship by £68k.

3.3.3 The Family Support service is expected to overspend by £124k, this is the result of the 'When I'm Ready' initiative.

3.3.4 Integrated Family support is forecasted to underspend to the sum of £87k, Youth services is also forecasting an underspend of £60k, and the Commissioning and Social Work team are also expecting to be underspent by £160k at outturn. These are mainly due to staffing vacancies.

3.3.5 The Children with Disabilities budget is forecasted to overspend by £76k, this mainly relates to Direct Payment clients.

3.3.6 The Other Children and Family service is forecasted to overspend by £59k, legal fees being the main pressure.

3.4 Housing (Council Fund)

3.4.1 This service is forecast to be overspent by £82k (5.16%) at outturn. There is a forecasted overspend of £123k on Housing Administration due to under achieved recharge income, which are offset by underspending on a number of other budgets. Homelessness is forecast to overspend by £80k, after allowing for the additional Welsh Government grant funding of £395k, but this overspend will be funded from the current budget and a specific earmarked reserve of £325k. The budget is demand led and providing an accurate forecast at this stage is difficult, but it is believed that the earmarked reserve will be sufficient to cover any increased demand between now and the end of the financial year.

3.4.2 Homelessness and homeless prevention is an area of concern not just for Anglesey, but for all Councils in Wales, with an unprecedented demand on the services. In 2022/23, the number of homelessness referrals increased by 205 (30%) and the level of referrals in the first quarter of 2023/24 is similar to the first quarter of 2022/23. The Service is working with Housing Associations and private landlords to increase the number of units available as accommodation. This would reduce the reliance on bed and breakfast accommodation and would reduce the daily accommodation cost by between 60% and 75%. 30 additional units have been identified and are available as accommodation in place of bed & breakfast establishments, and the use of these additional units has the potential to reduce costs by £400k, compared to using bed and breakfast accommodation.

3.5 Regulation and Economic Development

3.5.1 Economic and Community (includes Destination and Leisure)

- 3.5.1.1** The service, overall, was underspent by £118k (1.57%) for the period. The Service is forecasted to be overspent by £12k (5.19%) at year end.
- 3.5.1.2** The Economic Development element of the service is expected to be overspent by £27k at year end. This is, in part due to the income target of £72k for staffing to projects such as Wylfa Newydd and National Grid no longer being achievable. A number of vacant posts are forecast to result in an underspend of £92k. The other pressure points within the section are the centre facilities, graphic design and subscription budgets which, combined are likely for be overspent to the sum of £32k.
- 3.5.1.3** The Destination section is forecasted to be £67k underspent by year end. Visitor numbers, again, are expected to be lower than 2021 and 2022, and this will reduce income but not to a level which creates any significant financial concerns. The knock on effect of lower tourism levels is the need for seasonal staff early in the season and, at present, these are underspending. A full picture of the budgets will be clearer in the second quarter report when the main tourist season has ended.
- 3.5.1.4** The Leisure section is currently forecasting an overspend at year end of £52k. Leisure Centre members paying by direct debit have returned to pre-pandemic levels and has improved compared to this time last year, but it is unlikely to achieve the budget target. There are other minor compensating under and overspends within the department.

3.5.2 Planning and Public Protection

- 3.5.2.1** This service is £168k underspent (25.32%) for the period, and is forecasted to be underspent by £155k (5.79%) at outturn.
- 3.5.2.2** The Public Protection service has a forecast outturn of £75k underspend. This is made up, in most part, by three areas, Animal Health £13k, Environment Health £52k and Trading Standards £17k, these are the results of variances within staffing budgets.
- 3.5.2.3** The Planning Service is expected to be £80k underspent at the end of the financial year. Planning fee income is behind its target and is forecast to underachieve the budget by £40k. However, the Building Control Service's income is ahead of its income targets and, given this and a vacant post within the Service, results in a forecast underspend of £23k. The Planning Policy Unit is currently showing an underspend forecast of £53k. This is through a combination of 3 vacant posts in which there is a recruitment exercise being undertaken and £17k on general running costs. The Implementation and Conservation Team are forecasting an underspend of £33k, due to post being seconded to another section.

3.6 Highways, Waste and Property

3.6.1 Highways

3.6.1.1 This service was £16k (0.95%) underspent for the period. The forecasted position at year end is £345k underspent (4.36%). The majority of the sections within Highways are predicted to be underspent at year end. The most notable are Street Works £240k, which will have arisen from excess income. Public Transport is expected to have an underspend to the sum of £50k due to various small underspends. Môn Community Transport is also forecasting an underspend in the region of £45k due to lower staffing levels, work is going ahead with Social Service in how to deliver the service more efficiently. However, the works budget is expected to overspend to the sum of £90k by year end, part of this is the direct result of the economy where prices are increasing and suppliers passing those prices onto the Authority. This forecast excludes winter maintenance costs as it is too early in the year to predict the outturn on these costs. Any significant winter costs could worsen the outturn estimated this quarter, although an earmarked reserve is held to mitigate the risk if the costs rise significantly during the winter.

3.6.2 Waste

3.6.2.1 The Waste Service was £97k (6.20%) underspent for the period, and the service is predicted to have an outturn position of a £490k underspend (4.75%).

3.6.2.2 The forecast for the year end includes overspends and compensating underspends within different sections of the Service. The inflationary increases to the Waste Collection contract are based on industry inflation indices and, when the budget was set, these indices were provisional. The final indices were lower than the provisional and this has resulted in a downward revision of contract rates, and this will generate a forecasted underspend of £440k. Income from the green garden waste service, purchase of replacement black bins and income from the collection of bulky waste remains strong, and is expected to exceed the budget once again.

3.6.3 Property

3.6.3.1 The service's position for the period is a £23k (2.45%) underspend, with a forecast for the year end position being underspent by £100k (6.46%).

3.6.3.2 The position for a number of budget headings varies, with some showing an overspent position, whilst others are underspending. However, the main underspend relates to the departmental restructure within the Property Services Team, which resulted in posts being vacant during the first part of the financial year, thus generating an underspend of £60k. Vacancies within the Cleaning Service has also resulted in a forecasted underspend of £69k.

3.7 Transformation

3.7.1 The Transformation Service overspent its budget by £289k at the end of the period. However, the position over the remainder of the financial year should improve, and the Service is forecast to achieve an underspend of £53k by the end of the financial year.

3.7.1.1 The HR function was overspent by £49k (11.29%) for the period, and projected to be £21k (1.31%) overspent at year end. When staffing budgets are set, there is an expectation that staff will leave and posts will be vacant during the recruitment process. As a result, the staffing budget does not fund 100% of all the costs. In smaller services, where the turnover of staff is low, this can result in an overspend on staffing budgets, and this is the expectation for the HR function, although this can change over the remainder of the year if staff leave their current posts. This forecast overspend of £31k will be offset by a forecasted underspend of £10k on central training.

3.7.1.2 The ICT section was overspent by £260k (12.97%) for the period, however, the forecast for outturn is an underspend of £30k (0.71%). All software and hardware budgets across the Council, excluding schools, have been centralised and are now managed within the ICT section. Software costs tend to be paid at the beginning of the financial year, and any increase in costs above the budget will result in the overspend of £277k falling mainly in the first quarter. Posts remain vacant within the Service, and the savings from these vacancies will continue through the second quarter and beyond. These savings offset the increased software costs.

3.7.1.3 The Corporate Transformation Section was underspent by £20k (17.13%) for the period, and expected to be underspent at the year end by £44k (5.75%). This is the result of underspends on salary costs. It is not expected that all the budget for Performance Panel Wales will be utilised during the year, therefore, the current forecast is an underspend of £35k.

3.8 Resources (excluding Benefits Granted)

3.8.1 The Resources function budget is £229k (22.23%) overspent for the period, with the projection for the outturn being an underspend of £32k (0.85%).

3.8.2 The majority of the costs within the function are staff related and some vacancies (Internal Audit, Council Tax and Benefits) are being covered by agency staff, to ensure continued service and to deal with backlogs that have arisen from the increased workload (cost of living grants, free school meal payments). Staffing budgets are forecast to underspend by £94k, but £163k will be incurred on agency staff, although £86k of these costs are funded from external grants. The Procurement Section is expected to be £42k underspent due to initiatives in purchasing, i.e. centralised purchasing budgets and procurement card rebates and lower demand for certain expenditure which are covered by the central procurement budgets as a result of increased home working (paper, photocopiers, stationery, furniture).

3.9 Council Business

3.9.1 The function was £22k (4.39%) overspent for the period, with the forecast for the year end position being a £11k (0.55%) underspend.

3.9.2 Legal Services are expected to be overspent by £24k at year end, in large part due to legal agency staff employed to cover staff vacancies / absences and no budget for the trade union post. Democratic Services are forecasted to underspend by £35k, this is in large part due to vacant posts within the section.

3.10 Corporate and Democratic Costs

3.10.1 The function was breakeven for the period, and the forecast year end position is an underspend of £511k (15.51%).

3.10.2 Members Support & Expenses are forecasting an underspend of £14k.

3.10.3 The corporate budgets, overall, are showing a forecast underspend of £511k. The secondary LGPS employer pension contributions budget is held under the Corporate & Democratic budget initially, and released to Service budgets as contributions are paid. The current forecast is that the secondary employer contribution costs will be lower than the budget by £636k, but this will reduce once the pay award is settled and staff receive their increased pay back dated to April 2023.

3.10.4 Staff Counselling is forecasted to overspend by £32k, based upon current figures. This is a demand led budget, therefore, the figure will fluctuate based upon need. Audit Fees and Coroners fees are also expected to overspend by £43k and £55k respectively.

3.11 Corporate Management

3.11.1 The function was £11k (5.29%) overspent for the period, and it is forecasted to overspend by £15k (1.95%) at outturn. This is again due to the fact that the staff costs are not budgeted for 100% and, given the small number of staff funded from this budget, it is more likely that no vacancies will arise during the year and an overspend will result.

4. Corporate Finance (including Benefits Granted)

4.1 Corporate Finance, including Benefits Granted, is expected to underspend by £82k at year end.

4.2 The budget for 2023/24 included some items retained centrally as contingency budgets; these amounted to £4,265k. The majority of these budgets will be transferred into Service budgets during the year. Appendix C provides a summary of the contingencies budget, this shows that £214k has already been vired to approved budgets.

4.3 The capital financing budget is made up of 3 elements: the sum set aside to meet future repayments (Minimum Revenue Provision - MRP), interest payable on outstanding loans and interest received on cash balances held in the Council's bank accounts and other investments. Delays in capital projects, in particular the 21st Century Schools programme, lowered the Council's borrowing requirement which, in turn, has led to lower MRP and interest costs. The Council has benefitted from the rise in interest rates, with investments generating significant amounts of interest income, and it is anticipated that the total interest received will exceed the £1m budget. As a result, the Capital Financing budget is forecasted to underspend to the sum of £70k.

5. Collection of Council Tax

5.1 The Council Tax Fund budget is determined using the estimated collectable debt for the current year only, based on the tax base figure set in November 2022. It does not provide for arrears collected from previous years, adjustments to liabilities arising from previous years (exemptions, single person discounts, transfers to business rates etc.), changes to the current year's tax-base or the provision for bad and doubtful debts. These changes cannot be estimated and, invariably, lead to a difference between the final balance on the Council Tax Collection Fund and the original budget. Going forward, with the impending recession and costs of living increasing, this budget will need to be monitored closely. The current core Council Tax income is forecasted to be £273k below the budget, but this can change significantly during the year.

5.2 The Council Tax premium is designed to encourage owners of empty properties and second homes to return the property to general use and, as such, there is a risk that the number of properties paying the premium can reduce significantly during the year. In order to mitigate this risk, the tax base for premium properties is set at 80% and, if the numbers of properties paying the premium does not fall significantly, then the budget will generate a surplus. Again, the transfer of properties from the domestic to the Business Rates register has reduced the premium payable on second homes but, despite the transfer of properties, overall, the numbers of second home properties remained fairly constant and, as a result, the Council Tax premium budget is forecasting a surplus of £349k at the end of the financial year.

6. Budget Savings 2023/24

6.1 No Budget Savings were required by the services for the financial year 2023/24.

7. Agency and Consultancy Costs

7.1 During the year to date, £412k was spent on Agency staff. These were, in the main, part-funded from staffing budgets as they related to staff vacancies, while £279k related to staff cover for vacant posts. The Waste Service spent £62k for site agents at the recycling centres. The full details can be seen at Appendix CH.

7.2 A total of £147k was spent on Consultancy during the period April to June 2023, with £88k funded through grant or external sources. A full summary of expenditure per service, and additional details of the expenditure, can be seen at Appendix D.

8. Conclusion

8.1 The initial projection at the end of the first quarter is that the budget will be overspent by £0.744m for the year ending 31 March 2024. However, there are a number of areas of concern, which may not be apparent from this headline figure, which weakens the Council's financial position going forward.

8.2 The main areas of concern relate to:-

- i.** The fact that the pay offer for 2023/24 has not yet been settled and could be significantly higher than allowed for in the budget. Although a contingency budget and an earmarked reserve is in place which will offset a large part of the additional cost, it may still not be sufficient to meet the overall additional cost. The increased cost also has to be allowed for in the base budget for 2024/25, in addition to the pay award for 2024/25.
- ii.** The position in respect of Social Care is of particular concern, with a forecast overspend of £2.179m for Adults and Children's Services. However, the true position is masked by the fact that additional grants and reserves are being used to reduce the overspend. Without this additional funding, the underlying overspend would be in the region of £3.5m. The forecast is based on the current level of demand, but demand fluctuates during the year and can change significantly e.g. one placement for a high dependency client with specialised care needs can amount to between £250k and £500k. Any increase in the demand for services will only worsen the position.
- iii.** The cost of living crisis will ultimately result in an increase in the demand for Council services (Homelessness, Debt Advice, Mental Health Support, Children's Service), and may lead to a reduction in income in services such as leisure, culture, planning, parking fees, as people reduce their spending on non-essential items. These potential changes in demand for services may have a negative impact on the Council's financial position.

As we move through the remainder of the financial year, the impacts of the above will be factored into future monitoring reports as things become clearer.

8.3 The financial position in 2023/24 will also influence the Council's financial strategy for 2024/25 and beyond, as it will highlight the need to realign budgets to reflect the increases in costs seen in 2023/24 and to reflect the changing demand for services. Any significant overspending will also result in an erosion of the Council's earmarked reserves and general balances, and this will reduce the ability to use reserves and balances to help to balance the revenue budget in 2024/25. Management will review the financial position closely during the remainder of the financial year, and may need to implement cost saving measures in 2023/24 in order to maintain the current level of earmarked reserves and general balances.

Rhagamcan Alldro Refeniw am y Flwyddyn Ariannol yn gorffen 31 Mawrth 2024 – Chwarter 1
Projected Revenue Outturn for the Financial Year ending 31 March 2023- Quarter 1

Gwasanaeth /Swyddogaeth Service / Function	2023/24 Cyllideb Blynyddol Annual Budget	2023/24 Ch1 Cyllideb hyd yma Q1 Budget Year to Date	2023/24 Ch1 Gwir Wariant ac Ymrwymadau Q1 Actual & Committed spend	2023/24 Ch1 Amrywiad Q1 Variance	2023/24 Ch1 Gwir Wariant ac Ymrwymadau Q1 Actual & Committed Spend	Ch1 : Q1 Amcangyfrif Gwariant i 31 Mawrth 2024 Estimated Expenditure to 31 March 2024	Ch1 : Q1 Amcangyfrif o Alldro 31 Mawrth 2023 gor / (tan) wariant Estimated Outturn 31 March 2024 over / (under)	2023/24 Gor / (tan) wariant a ragwelir fel % o'r Gyllideb Gyfan Projected Over / (Under) spend as a % of Total Budget	2022/23 Gor / (Tan) Wariant Drafft Draft Over / (under)spend
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	£'000	£'000	%	£'000
<u>Dysgu Gydol Oes</u> <u>Lifelong Learning</u>									
Cyllideb Datganoledig Ysgolion <i>Delegated Schools Budget</i>	56,559	7,657	7,657	0	0.00%	56,559	0	0.00%	0
Addysg Canolog <i>Central Education</i>	5,411	1,229	1,206	(23)	(1.86%)	5,276	(135)	(2.50%)	(244)
Diwylliant <i>Culture</i>	1,357	362	351	(11)	(2.92%)	1,403	46	3.39%	38
<u>Gwasanaethau Oedolion</u> <u>Adult Services</u>	35,041	6,988	7,716	728	10.42%	36,572	1,531	4.37%	0
<u>Gwasanaethau Plant</u> <u>Children's Services</u>	12,927	3,819	4,272	453	11.87%	13,575	648	5.01%	965
<u>Tai</u> <u>Housing</u>	1,590	503	1,856	1,353	269.14%	1,672	82	5.16%	1
<u>Priffyrdd, Gwastraff ac Eiddo</u> <u>Highways, Waste & Property</u>									
Priffyrdd <i>Highways</i>	7,905	1,681	1,665	(16)	(0.95%)	7,560	(345)	(4.75%)	(1,046)
Eiddo <i>Property</i>	1,548	(942)	(965)	(23)	2.45%	1,448	(100)	(6.46%)	(557)
Gwastraff <i>Waste</i>	10,317	1,565	1,468	(97)	(6.20%)	9,827	(490)	-4.75%	(1,046)

Gwasanaeth / Swyddogaeth Service / Function	2023/24 Cyllideb Blynnyddol Annual Budget	2023/24 Ch1 Cyllideb hyd yma Q1 Budget Year to Date	2023/24 Ch1 Gwir Wariant ac Ymrwymadau Q1 Actual & Committed spend	2023/24 Ch1 Amrywiad Q1 Variance	2023/24 Ch1 Gwir Wariant ac Ymrwymadau Q1 Actual & Committed Spend	Ch1 : Q1 Amcangyfrif Gwariant i 31 Mawrth 2023 Estimated Expenditure to 31 March 2022	Ch1 : Q1 Amcangyfrif o Alldro 2024 Mawrth 2024 gor / (tan) wariant Estimated Outturn 31 March 2022 over / (under)	2022/23 Gor / (tan) wariant fel % o'r Gyllideb Gyfan Projected Over / (Under) spend as a % of Total Budget	2022/23 Gor / (Tan) Wariant Drafft Draft Over / (underspend)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	£'000	£'000	%	£'000
<u>Rheoleiddio a Datblygu Economaidd</u> <u>Regulation & Economic Development</u>									
Datblygu Economaidd <i>Economic Development</i>	3,154	914	795	(119)	(12.99%)	3,166	12	0.38%	50
Cynllunio a Gwarchod y Cyhoedd <i>Planning and Public Protection</i>	2,677	663	495	(168)	(25.32%)	2,522	(155)	(5.79%)	(181)
<u>Trawsnewid</u> <u>Transformation</u>									
Adnoddau Dynol <i>Human Resources</i>	1,601	438	487	49	(11.29%)	1,622	21	1.31%	(73)
TGCh <i>ICT</i>	4,216	2,008	2,268	260	12.97%	4,186	(30)	(0.71%)	(117)
Trawsnewid Corfforaethol <i>Corporate Transformation</i>	1,190	272	252	(20)	(7.22%)	1,146	(44)	(3.70%)	(151)
<u>Adnoddau</u> <u>Resources</u>									
	3,744	1,031	1,260	(229)	22.23%	3,712	(32)	(0.85%)	(140)
<u>Busnes y Cyngor</u> <u>Council Business</u>									
	2,014	492	514	(22)	4.39%	2,003	(11)	(0.55%)	(98)
<u>Costau Corfforaethol a Democraidd</u> <u>Corporate & Democratic costs</u>									
	3,294	1,079	829	(250)	(23.18%)	2,783	(511)	(15.51%)	1,119
<u>Rheolaeth Corfforaethol</u> <u>Corporate Management</u>									
	770	199	210	11	(5.29%)	785	15	1.95%	7
Costau heb gyllideb, na ellir eu rheoli: yswiriant, costau pensiwn a dileu drwg ddyledion / lwfansau amhariad ar incwm gwasanaethau <i>Unbudgeted, uncontrollable costs: insurances, pension costs and bad debt write offs / impairment allowances on services' income</i>						400	400	0.00%	490

Gwasanaeth / Swyddogaeth Service / Function	2023/24 Cyllideb Flynyddol Annual Budget	2023/24 Ch1 Cyllideb hyd yma Q1 Budget Year to Date	2023/24 Ch1 Gwir Wariant ac Ymrwymadau Q1 Actual & Committed spend	2023/24 Ch1 Amrywiad Q1 Variance	2023/24 Ch1 Gwir Wariant ac Ymrwymadau Q1 Actual & Committed Spend	Ch1 : Q1 Amcangyfrif Gwariant i 31 Mawrth 2024 Estimated Expenditure to 31 March 2024	Ch1 : Q1 Amcangyfrif o Alldro 31 Mawrth 2024 gor / (tan) wariant Estimated Outturn 31 March 2024 over / (under)	2023/24 Gor / (tan) wariant fel % o'r Gyllideb Gyfan Projected Over / (Under) spend as a % of Total Budget	2022/23 Gor / (Tan) Wariant Drafft Draft Over / (underspend)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	£'000	£'000	%	£'000
Cyfanswm Cyllidebau Gwasanaethau Total Service Budgets	155,315	29,957	32,337	2,379	7.94%	156,217	902	0.58%	(322)
Ardollau Levies	4,495	4,419	4,419	0	0.00%	4,495	0	0.00%	2
Rhyddhad Trethi Dewisol Discretionary Rate Relief	105	0	0	0	0.00%	105	0	0.00%	24
Cyllido Cyfalaf Capital Financing	4,329	740	1,216	476	0.00%	4,259	(70)	(1.61%)	(466)
Arian wrth Gefn Cyffredinol ac Eraill General & Other Contingencies	4,265	4,265	4,019	(246)	(5.77%)	4,252	(12)	(0.29%)	(775)
Arian wrth Gefn Cyffredinol Y Cyngor Council's General Reserves	(3,780)	0	0	0	0.00%	(3,780)	0	0.00%	0
Cyfraniad CRT y Gwasanaethau Cefnogol Support Services contribution HRA	(800)	0	0	0	0.00%	(800)	0	0.00%	59
Budd-daliadau a Roddwyd Benefits Granted	6,861	363	762	398	109.67%	6,661	0	0.00%	-76
Na ellir ei reoli Uncontrollable									
Cyfanswm Cyllid Corfforaethol Total Corporate Finance	15,475	9,787	10,415	628	6.42%	15,393	(82)	(0.53%)	(1,232)
Cyfanswm 2023/24 Total 2023/24	170,789	39,744	42,752	3,008	7.57%	171,609	820	0.48%	(1,554)
Cyllido Funding									
Trethi Annomestig NDR	(22,823)	(7,022)	(7,022)	0	0.01%	(22,823)	0	0.00%	0

Gwasanaeth /Swyddogaeth Service / Function	2023/24 Cyllideb Flynyddol Annual Budget	2023/24 Ch1 Cyllideb hyd yma Q1 Budget Year to Date	2023/24 Ch1 Gwir Wariant ac Ymrwymadau Q1 Actual & Committed spend	2023/24 Ch1 Amrywiad Q1 Variance	2023/24 Ch1 Gwir Wariant ac Ymrwymadau Q1 Actual & Committed Spend	Ch1 : Q1 Amcangyfrif Gwariant i 31 Mawrth 2024 Estimated Expenditure to 31 March 2024	Ch1 : Q1 Amcangyfrif o Alldro 31 Mawrth 2024 gor / (tan) wariant Estimated Outturn 31 March 2024 over / (under)	2023/24 Gor / (tan) wariant fel % o'r Gyllideb Gyfan Projected Over / (Under) spend as a % of Total Budget	2022/23 Gor / (Tan) Wariant Drafft Draft Over / (underspend)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	%	£'000	£'000	%	£'000
Y Dreth Gyngor Council Tax	(44,231)	0	0	0	0.00%	(43,959)	273	(0.62%)	434
Premiwm y Dreth Gyngor Council Tax Premium	(2,893)	0	0	0	0.00%	(3,242)	(349)	12.06%	(92)
Grant Cynnal Refeniw Revenue Support Grant	(100,842)	(31,028)	(31,028)	0	0.00%	(100,842)	0	0.00%	0
Cyfanswm Cyllid 2023/24 Total Funding 2023/24	(170,789)	(38,050)	(38,051)	(1)	0.00%	(170,866)	(76)	0.04%	342
Cyfanswm yr alldro, yn cynnwys effaith y cyllido Total outturn, including impact of funding	0	1,694	4,701	3,007	177.53%	744	744	0.44%	(1,212)

Summary of the Outturn Position on Contingency Budgets 2022/23

	Budget	Virements to Service Lines	Amended Budget YTD	Committed YTD	Currently Uncommitted Budgets	Budget Forecast
	£	£	£	£	£	£
General Contingency	400,737	- 111,552	289,185	92,000	197,185	-
Salary and Grading	100,000	-	100,000	63,324	36,676	-
Pay Inflation	2,000,000	-	2,000,000	2,000,000	-	-
Housing Help to Buy Scheme	1,501,907	-	1,501,907	1,501,907	-	-
Regional Growth – Economic Ambition Board	86,250	-	86,250	74,070	12,180	12,180
Trainee Scheme	340,000	-102,790	237,210	237,210	-	-
Climate Change	50,000	-	50,000	50,000	-	-
Total General and other Contingencies	4,478,894	-214,342	4,264,552	4,018,511	246,041	12,180

Agency costs April to June 2023

Service	Amount £	Source of Funding (Specific Core Budget / Un- utilised staffing budget / Grant / External Contribution)	Permanent / Temporary	Reason for Cover
Economic & Regeneration	5,257	Utilised Staff Budget	Temporary	Maternity Leave of postholder. Agency finished 12 May, 2023
	-630	Core Budget	Temporary	Housing Enforcement
	4,627			
Schools	14,007	Core Budget	Temporary	Supply teachers in specialist field
	14,007			
Waste	49,485	Specific Core Budget	Temporary	Additional tasks required short term
	12,042	Specific Core Budget / External Contribution		Specific Tasks on Site
	61,527			
Children's Services	89,962	Core Budget	Temporary	To cover vacant posts
	89,962			
Adult Services	168,457	Core Budget	Temporary	To cover vacant posts
	15,636	Grant Funded		To cover vacant posts
	184,093			
Resources	14,875	Un-utilised staffing budget	Temporary	Subsidy work
	11,040	Un-utilised staffing budget	Temporary	Volume of work
	31,379	Earmarked Reserve	Temporary	Volume of work
	57,294			
Total	411,511			

Summary Consultancy Expenditure Q1 2023/24

Service	Qtr 1 £	Total 2023/24 £
Central Education	4,525	4,525
Culture	-	-
Economic & Regeneration	101,463	101,463
Property	-	-
Highways	4,727	4,727
Schools	-	-
Waste	6,236	6,236
HRA	-	-
Housing	-	-
Corporate & Democratic	-	-
Adult Services	-	-
Children's Services	-	-
Corporate	-	-
Transformation	5,365	5,365
Council Business	14,995	14,995
Resources	9,970	9,970
Total	147,280	147,280
Funded by:		
Core Budget	44,046	44,046
Grant	5,227	5,227
External Contribution	82,524	82,524
Reserves	15,484	15,484
Total	147,280	147,280

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ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL		
Report to:	EXECUTIVE	
Date:	26 SEPTEMBER 2023	
Subject:	BUDGET MONITORING REPORT FIRST QUARTER 2023/24 - CAPITAL	
Portfolio Holder(s):	COUNCILLOR R WILLIAMS – DEPUTY LEADER & FINANCE PORTFOLIO HOLDER	
Head of Service / Director:	MARC JONES - DIRECTOR OF FUNCTION (RESOURCES) & SECTION 151 OFFICER (EXT. 2601)	
Report Author: E-mail:	JEMMA ROBINSON JemmaRobinson@ynysmon.llyw.cymru	
Local Members:	n/a	
A – Recommendation/s and reason/s		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is recommended that the Executive note the progress of expenditure and receipts against the capital budget 2023/24 at quarter 1. Approve the additional schemes amounting to £5.442m to the capital programme and amendments to funding as per Appendix C, which will result in a revised capital budget of £58.141m for 2023/24. 		
B – What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?		
n/a		
C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This report sets out the financial performance of the capital budget for the first quarter of the financial year. Budget monitoring is a designated Executive function. 		
CH – Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?		
Yes		
D – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?		
Setting of the annual Capital Budget.		
DD – Who did you consult? What did they say?		
1	Chief Executive / Leadership Team (LT) (mandatory)	Report has been reviewed by the Leadership Team and comments incorporated into the final report.
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	n/a – this is the Section 151 Officer’s report.
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	The Monitoring Officer is part of the LT and comments made have been considered.
4	Human Resources (HR)	
5	Property	
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	
7	Procurement	
8	Scrutiny	
9	Local Members	

E – Impact on our Future Generations(if relevant)		
1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island	The capital budget funds investments in assets and infrastructure which are required to allow the Council to meet the long term objectives which are set out in its Corporate Plan and Capital Strategy.
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority. If so, how:-	Some of the individual investments, e.g. flood prevention work, will prevent future costs, whilst others, e.g. ICF projects, will reduce the dependency on the Council to provide more expensive services.
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision, if so, please advise whom:	Funding of the projects has been agreed and planned with other organisations, notably Welsh Government.
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward? Please explain how:-	The Council's Corporate Plan and Capital Programme 2023/24 have been subject to a consultation process with Anglesey citizens.
5	Outline what impact does this decision have on the Equalities agenda and the Welsh language	Some of the projects funded by the capital programme do impact on the equalities agenda, e.g. disabled access in schools, disabled facilities grants. No impact on the Welsh language agenda.
F - Appendices:		
<p>Appendix A - Capital Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 1 2023/24</p> <p>Appendix B - Summary of the Capital Projects' Expenditure to date against the Capital Budget and the Projected Expenditure at Year-End</p> <p>Appendix C - Changes to budgets / additional schemes added since budget setting</p>		
FF - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2023/24 Capital Budget, as approved by the full Council on 9 March 2023; • 2023/24 Treasury Management Strategy Statement, approved by the full Council on 9 March 2023; and • 2022/23 Capital Outturn Report, presented to this Committee on 27 June 2023. 		

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This is the capital budget monitoring report for the first quarter of the financial year and allows Members to note the progress of capital expenditure and capital receipts against the capital budget.
- 1.2 In March 2023, the Council approved a capital programme for non-housing services of £24.405m for 2023/24, and a capital programme of £13.557m for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA). In addition, in June 2023, the Executive approved capital slippage of £13.477m to be brought forward from 2022/23, bringing the capital programme for non-housing services to £33.532m, and £17.907m for the HRA. Since the budget setting process, there have been additional schemes added onto the programme, most of which are grant funded, and some amending of funding, which amounted to £5.442m. There has also been Executive approval of additional £1.26m for an HRA scheme. This brings the total capital budget for 2023/24 to £58.141m. This is illustrated in the table below:

Funded By:	Original 2023/24 budget as approved by full Council £'000	Slippage as approved in Q4 2022/23 outturn £'000	HRA increase as approved by the Executive June 2023 £'000	Additional schemes / amendments since budget setting £'000	TOTAL £'000
Grant	22,367	2,909		5,048	30,324
Supported Borrowing	3,077	3,294		854	7,225
Unsupported Borrowing	2,797	38		0	2,835
Revenue Contribution	9,221	3,936	1,260	(1,102)	13,315
Capital Receipts	500	443		(500)	443
Reserves		2,780		1,142	3,922
Loan		77			77
TOTAL	37,962	13,477	1,260	5,442	58,141

Please refer to Appendix C for details of changes to budgets / additional schemes added since the budget setting process.

2. PROGRESS ON EXPENDITURE 2023/24

- 2.1 Below is a summary table of the capital expenditure to 30 June 2023, the profiled budget to 30 June 2023 and the proposed funding of the capital programme for 2023/24:-

Service	Annual Budget £'000	Profiled Budget £'000	Actual Expenditure £'000	Committed Expenditure £'000	Total Expenditure £'000	Profiled Budget Spend %	Annual Budget Spent %
Housing - General Fund	1,877	150	113	0	113	75	6
Housing - HRA	19,988	2,504	2,479	0	2,479	99	12
Lifelong Learning	11,241	1,212	1,101	60	1,161	96	10
Economic and Regeneration	14,237	2,358	1,914	397	2,311	98	16
Highways	8,532	647	415	253	668	103	8
Waste Management	182	5	0	5	5	100	3
Property	1,475	174	153	0	153	88	10
Transformation	432	57	16	46	62	109	14
Adult Services	177	70	64	0	64	91	36
Total	58,141	7,177	6,255	761	7,016	98	12
Funded By:							
Capital Grant	30,324						
Capital Receipts	443						
Supported Borrowing	7,225						
Unsupported Borrowing	2,835						
Revenue Contribution	13,315						
Reserves	3,922						
Loan	77						
Total Funding	58,141						

2.2 The profiled budget spent to the end of the first quarter for the general fund is 97%, however, only 12% of the annual budget has been spent to date. The reason for this is that a number of the capital schemes are weighted towards the latter part of the financial year. Some capital schemes are underway, with the majority of the profiled budget for quarter 1 being spent, and some capital schemes have yet to commence, but their budget is profiled in the next quarter or towards the latter part of the financial year, such as Visitor Infrastructure, Mon Coastal Gateway and Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern pitches. These schemes and their profiles can be seen in Appendix B. There are a number of Capital Grants schemes in 2023/24 and an update on these is provided in Section 3.1 of this report.

2.3 The HRA has spent 99% of its profiled budget and 12% of the annual budget. When setting the 2023/24 budget and associated funding, there were grants available for funding that were not known at the time of producing the budget. The funding of the budget has now been amended, as can be seen in Appendix C. Also, the acquisition of existing properties and development of new properties budget has been reviewed and, in light of further information, it is requested that that particular budget is increased by £0.821m, bringing the total budget to £10.288m. There is no further funding requested as the amendment of funding from the additional grants available covers the increase. It is currently estimated that the overall HRA budget will not be spent in its entirety come the end of the financial year. For further information on the HRA capital expenditure and projected spend, please refer to the HRA quarter 1 budget monitoring report, presented to this Committee on 26 September 2023.

3. FUNDING

3.1 Capital Grants

3.1.1 There are a number of Capital Grant schemes in the Capital Programme for 2023/24, most of which are underway and progressing, with a brief update on the schemes provided below:-

- **Sustainable Communities for Learning** - The new Ysgol Corn Hir building is complete. Contractor is on site over the summer attending to some minor defects and additional works to the Child Care Unit. New Foundation Phase Unit at Ysgol y Graig – all substructure works and laying of the concrete floor slab have now been completed. Works have commenced to erect the timber wall panels for the first section of the school building. Some associated works on the existing school site will be carried out over the summer.
- **Holyhead Townscape Transformation (Phase II Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI))** - Completion of the works to the Swift Square Public Conveniences and new viewing platform were achieved in April, with operation handed to Holyhead Town Council. Other projects remain in various development stages, with the first set of tenders to be released from quarter 2 onwards. Liaison is ongoing with property owners, stakeholders and relevant services to progress development and work to ensure key projects are underway and expenditure achieved this financial year.
- **The Holy Island Landscape Partnership** – The Landscape Partnership has secured funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund (NLHF) to deliver a range of projects which focus on the natural environment of Holy Island. Additional funding has been secured through the Shared Prosperity Fund and the Levelling Up Fund. Further amounts have been secured through the Sustainable Development Fund and Community Renewal Fund. Progress on projects which are jointly funded through the ERDF include:-
 - Conserving our Heritage – The works on Ffynnon y Wrach, Tŵr Ellin and the Lookout above South Stack have now been completed. Works on Ynys Peibio have commenced and are nearly complete. The focus will then be the Pillbox in Trearddur Bay. The works on the Skinners Monument Pillbox and the Battery at Penrhos will then follow. These works should be completed by the end of November 2023.

- **Tourism Gateway** – The Breakwater Country Park visitor centre: Works are now complete and the Visitor Centre was opened in June 2023. An extension to the ERDF grant was sought and awarded to ensure maximum draw down of the grant. The funding was extended to 30 May 2023 and the final claim has been submitted.
- **Levelling Up** - Bid for 'Holyhead - a culture and heritage driven transformation' was approved in January 2023, providing £17.47m capital funding to March 2025. The programme consists of a number of different projects which will see investment in the Ucheldre Centre, St Cybi's Church and environment, the Empire Centre and key vacant buildings in the town centre. It will also provide improved public realm and visitor facilities. Whilst the Authority is the Lead Body for the funding, the programme relies on Môn CF, Ucheldre Centre, Holyhead Town Council and the Diocese of Bangor as delivery partners. Funding agreements have been put in place with all delivery partners and delivery is now ongoing. All funding must be defrayed by March 2025, which will be challenging. During quarter 1, projects have been working on finalising designs and securing planning permission with a view to going out to tender for most of the construction contracts in quarter 2 and 3. The old HSBC building has been purchased by Môn CF. The quarter 1 expenditure has been claimed from UK Government, totalling £0.933m, with total to date claimed of £2.587m. The first grant payment of £2.915m was received in May, with a further payment due in July.
- **Safer Streets** – Funding, provided through the Home Office via the North Wales Police and Crime Commissioner, is aimed at reducing neighbourhood crime and anti-social behaviour in Holyhead. It has provided funding for Highways to improve street lighting, provide additional CCTV for Holyhead Town Council and undertake improvement works on the Celtic Bridge. The majority of these works took place in 2022/23, with some further installation of lighting columns and connections for the CCTV being undertaken in quarter 1. The funding will run until September 2023.
- **Penrhos Phase 2 project** - The aim of this scheme is to construct seven new business units on the Penrhos Industrial Estate. Works on the units have now been completed with only installation of the substation and commissioning required to be undertaken. External delays linked to the new substation has impacted on commissioning these units. It is now anticipated that works associated to the substation will be completed during quarter 2 of 2023/24.
- **Penrhos Phase 3 project** – £3.1m funding initially secured from ERDF, with a further £0.399m awarded. Works have continued on-site with the challenges of the adverse ground conditions now resolved. The steel structure, cladding and roof has now been completed, with internal blockwork expected to commence shortly. Due to the funding restrictions, the project is required to be completed by end of quarter 2 of 2023/24.
- **Llangefni Gateway Project** - The Llangefni Gateway Site (Tregarnedd Industrial Park) is an area in Llangefni which will eventually have 7 plots developed.
 - **Gateway Units (ERDF)** – All units have now been let out, with five now occupied. The final unit has been let but is subject to legal agreement, which is yet to be completed.
 - **Gateway Joint Venture** – The aim of the Gateway Joint Venture is to undertake enabling works on the remaining plots of the Tregarnedd Business Park (Gateway Site). Archaeological and ecological works have been completed and further issues arising. The number of plots to be available to sell will be 3, rather than 6, due to archaeological constraints. All enabling works have now been completed. Marketing for sale of available plots to commence in liaison with property services.
- **Holyhead and Amlwch Drainage schemes** - These studies are currently ongoing. In Holyhead, work is ongoing modelling the shortlist of options. In Amlwch, the long list of options has been developed. Both these studies will continue throughout 2023/24.
- **Small Scale Grants Work** - 7 construction schemes have been approved for 2023/24. Construction work has been programmed to commence on the schemes in quarters 2 and 3.

- **Llanfair PG, Menai Bridge (FBC)** – Menai Bridge FBC is progressing well. However, work on Llanfair PG business case is delayed due to resourcing issues.
- **Mill Lane Structure** – The revised sensor system has now been implemented and will be monitored over the winter period.
- **Active Travel** - £2.253m of Welsh Government (WG) grant has been secured to increase levels of active travel, improve health & well-being, improve air quality, reduce carbon emissions, connect communities and improve active travel access to employment, education and key services, destinations and public transport.
 - £0.500m is for core works covering a number of scheme proposals, broken down to pre-scheme development, minor works and monitoring and evaluation activities.
 - **Pre scheme development**
 - Benllech (two routes that adjoin the A5025 and improvements to Square (A5025)) – quarter 1 continued progression in developing the principles of the design work and preparation work ahead of public consultation.
 - Menai Bridge - Pentraeth Road & A5025 to Llanfairpwll Park and Share – quarter 1 - following submission of the General Arrangement drawings to the Council, a workshop was held with local Councillors to discuss the merits of the scheme and the comments received were generally not in favour of reducing carriageway width along Pentraeth Road, given its strategic importance in connecting Anglesey to the mainland, and the resilience that it provides when the A55 crossing is closed. Awaiting a response from WG regarding the principle of narrowing a strategic diversionary route before deciding on next steps in relation to continuation of the scheme.
 - Gaerwen (& Llanddaniel) – quarter 1 – draft brief prepared.
 - Valley - quarter 1- draft brief prepared.
 - Amlwch Secondary School and Leisure Centre to Porth Amlwch (incorporating link to access employment) - quarter 1 activities include a review of WeITAG 3C design work and received revised set of drawings following further comments by the Council.
 - **Minor Works (Core Package)**
 - Activities in quarter 1 include agreeing the scope of critical fail programme for 2023/24 and issuing reports for design stage.
 - **Active Travel Network Map Development & Monitoring and Evaluation Related Activities**
 - Quarter 1 activities include producing promotional and consultation materials.
 - £0.250m in relation to Active Travel Main Scheme Malltraeth – Newborough (A4080) – during quarter 1, discussions held with Natural Resource Wales in regards to minor works element and next step is to formalise designs. In respect of the wider assessment of the whole corridor from Pont Marquis to Newborough, discussions have been held internally and are awaiting further steer from Transport for Wales on requirements.
 - £0.158m in relation to Active Travel Main Scheme Llanfairpwll – during quarter 1, designs received on the minor works element along the A5 for consideration. In respect of the route from Lôn Graig to Lôn Refail, an assessment is required on the opposite side of the carriageway due to an objection received from a landowner as part of the original design. Therefore, are currently in discussion with MoD to access the land.
 - £1.345m in relation Active Travel Main Scheme Holyhead – Trearddur Bay (North Wales Metro) - continued progression in quarter 1 to finalise designs.

- **Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) Transformation Fund (2022/23)** – £0.114m was awarded in December 2022 to undertake enabling works and project development activities to facilitate electric vehicle charging points on the Island, in alignment with the WG’s EV Charging Strategy. WG agreed a time-extension until end of June 2023 (based on all orders raised by end of March 2023). All activities associated with the funding from 2022/23 has been completed. The Council secured grant funding from the WG ULEV fund for 2023/24 to continue for completion (as per below).
- **Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) Transformation Fund (2023/24)** - £0.377m has been awarded to aid in the completion of activities awarded in 2022/23 and charging at Benllech, Amlwch Leisure Centre and Valley village. Progress in quarter 1 includes continued assessment of procurement and tender documentation, continuation of 2022/23 activities towards completion, including design / planning activities related to the EV Hub at Plas Arthur, and engagement with SPEN in relation to installing EV chargers at Benllech, Amlwch and Valley.
- **Local Transport Fund – infrastructure enhancements** - £0.750m was awarded in 2021/22 to facilitate Infrastructure Enhancements on Anglesey to support bus network delivery work (North Wales Metro) on behalf of Transport for Wales. Time extension was secured and agreement obtained from WG to claim the grant in full. All hardware infrastructure has been installed and all civils works have been completed. An agreement with WG that the remaining nominal funding for installation can be rolled into 2023/24 (as the infrastructure related to 2022/23 locations) and a site acceptance visit has been arranged for August 2023 in order to be in position to issue final capital payment. The remaining funds as part of this project have been transferred for revenue purposes for the ongoing annual maintenance and servicing.
- **Local Transport Fund** - £0.630m was awarded in 2022/23 in relation to bus infrastructure enhancements, which relate to re-developing the bus stop environment at key bus interchange sites (i.e. new bus shelters / introducing public realm improvements etc.). A revised offer letter was then accepted for £0.493m to deliver the above activities at 4 sites (rather than 6). Agreement for a time-extension until end of June 2023 was obtained (based on orders raised by end of March 2023). The project activities have been completed.
- **Low Carbon Heat Grant (Council Offices)** – Following initial delays due to contractor going in to liquidation, ground surveys determined that the new plant room would need to be raised to a level significantly higher than originally anticipated in order to mitigate flood risks, this would have looked unsightly and presented a significant engineering challenge, so it was decided that relocation of the plant room from the proposed location to the rear of the building to the upper car park was the only viable option. Due to the changes needed, planning permission is again required and work is currently progressing towards this. Work on site has continued, however, with the installation of an air source heat pump on the roof of the building, which is now providing hot water for the Council offices. It is now expected that the project will be completed in quarter 3, once planning permission has been granted.
- **Plas Arthur Floodlights** - £0.051m grant funding has been secured from Cymru Football Foundation (CFF) towards the delivery of the upgrading of existing floodlights to LED floodlights at Plas Arthur. The total project cost is now estimated at £0.081m, with the remainder of the budget being funded from the leisure improvements capital budget. The project has been slightly delayed due to an inspection that found two columns need to be re-built and therefore, awaiting planning permission that will be considered in September. Once planning permission is granted, work will begin first week of October and will last up to 4 weeks. The CFF board has considered the later timescales and granted permission for the project to continue.
- **Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern – 3G pitch** - £0.300m of grant funding has been secured from Sport Wales for the opportunity to resurface an old synthetic football pitch into a new 3G pitch with fencing at Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern, as well as resurfacing an existing sand-dressed pitch. The total project cost is estimated at £0.330m, with the Council providing £0.030m match funding. The work is due to start mid-September, with completion estimated by October 2023.

- **Môn Coastal Gateway** – The Council was successful in securing Brilliant Basics funding, and £0.313m has been earmarked to support a toilet improvement scheme on the Island. This specific budget is 80% of the full cost of toilet improvements by way of grant funding (£0.250m), with £0.063m contributed from the County Council's capital budget for toilet improvements. The scheme is to support the delivery of refurbished toilets at Beaumaris, Rhosneigr, Traeth Bychan & Moelfre, including shower facilities, bike storage & Solar PV points where applicable. The offer of funding was secured at the end of quarter 1, with the tender for works going out in quarter 2. The majority of spend is, therefore, profiled for quarters 3 and 4.
- **Community Focused Schools (CFS) grant (2022/23)** - £0.476m of grant funding was awarded by WG in 2022/23 to support small and medium scale practical projects to open schools outside the traditional hours, specifically to safely adapt and effectively open schools outside traditional hours, to enable community use of the existing facilities. There was minimal expenditure in 2022/23 and, due to the timing of the funding, the scheme was expected to underspend in 2022/23. It was agreed to displace any unused funding, therefore, the grant funding was used to fund locally determined capital schemes in 2022/23, replacing funding from the Authority's own resources. The funding saved by the Authority from this grant will now be used to fund CFS projects in 2023/24. The Property Department has gone out to tender regarding the works required under this grant, in which tenders were split between the kind of work and equipment needed. All tender bids were received for the numerous works, in which most of the work has already been completed. It is anticipated that all remaining works will have been completed by the end of Summer 2023 and, therefore, full expenditure of the funding is expected.
- **Community Focused Schools (CFS) grant (2023/24)** - £0.200m has been awarded in 2023/24 to support small and medium scale practical projects to open schools outside the traditional hours, specifically to safely adapt and effectively open schools outside traditional hours, to enable community use of the existing facilities. The awarded sum relates to three specific schools. There has been no expenditure on this scheme to quarter 1, with discussions being held internally regarding the plans for work to commence.
- **Additional Learning Needs (ALN) grant (2022/23)** - £0.476m of grant funding was awarded by WG in 2022/23 to support learners with ALN. The aim of the grant is to optimise pre-16 learning environments for those with ALN and increase accessibility to promote inclusive practice, support learning and pupil wellbeing. This will support the implementation of the ALN and Education Tribunal Act Wales 2018 and Curriculum for Wales. There was minimal expenditure in 2022/23 and, due to the timing of the funding, the scheme was expected to underspend in 2022/23. It was agreed to displace any unused funding, therefore, the grant funding was used to fund locally determined capital schemes in 2022/23, replacing funding from the Authority's own resources. The funding saved by the Authority from this grant will now be used to fund ALN projects in 2023/24. Most work under this scheme has been completed, with further works due over the Summer 2023 holiday period. Costs have been allocated against works, with Building Surveyor awaiting quotations. It is expected these works will happen during term time between September – November 2023, and full expenditure of the funding is expected.
- Social care funding has been awarded from the Regional Partnership Board from a number of different funding streams, as follows:-
 - **Integrated Care Fund (ICF)** - £0.694m was claimed through the ICF in prior years and through displaced funding, for the projects to slip into 2023/24 to be completed. There are 4 projects included in the programme managed monies, which are:-
 - Specialist small group homes
 - Extra Care south of the Island
 - Disabled Friendly Investment
 - Learning Disability Enabling Accessibility

It is currently envisaged that the remaining funds will be spent in full this financial year, which will be used as a contribution to the above expenditure schemes that sit within the HRA budget.

- **Integrated and rebalancing community fund (IRCF)** – £0.244m of capital funding has been granted through IRCF to fund:-
 - Amlwch wellbeing HUB (£0.128m) – The funding will be utilised to support accessibility for individuals accessing activities. Some of the funding will also invest in a well-being space and touch down base for local authority and third sector staff to hold meetings or events with individuals, families, and carers. £104k was used in 2022/23 and the remainder (£25k) utilised in 2023/24 to complete the project. The project was complete by the end of June 2023.
 - Dementia Friendly Care Homes (£0.115m) – The funding will be used to create a 3rd secure unit at Garreglwyd care home to support an increased specialised local dementia support. The project commenced in June 2023 and is hoped to complete by the end of the summer period.
- **Housing with Care Fund (HCF)** – £1.1m of capital funding has been granted through HCF for 2022/23 and 2023/24 to support the Small Group Homes project and fund the renovations of two homes and potentially invest in a night respite unit on one site. £0.445m was drawn down in 2022/23, with the remaining £0.655m available 2023/24. One of the properties has been fully renovated and the second property is still in progress, with an aim to complete by the end of August 2023. The third property will be a purpose-built unit and the pre planning process is currently being undertaken. It is currently expected that £0.300m will be drawn down in 2023/24, with the remaining requested to be carried forward for completion of the above activities in financial year 2024/25.

3.2 Capital Receipts

3.2.1 The capital receipts for this year to date and the budgeted capital receipts are:-

	Budget 2023/24 £'000	Received to 30-Jun-23 £'000	Projection to 31-Mar-24 £'000
Council Fund:			
Smallholdings	0	0	0
General	584	129	548
Industrial	0	0	0
Schools	480	0	480
Total	1,064	129	1,028

3.2.2 The projected capital receipts at 31 March 2024 is £1.028m, with £0.129m being received at 30 June 2023 (13%).

3.2.3 Although the projected capital receipts is £1.028m, there is £2.932m of capital receipts available to fund the capital programme, as £1.904m of capital receipts were brought forward from 2022/23 in the capital receipt reserve. Not all of this figure will be available to fund the general fund capital programme as there will be funding earmarked to fund the Sustainable Communities for Learning programme, as part of the Isle of Anglesey County Council's match funding, as well as Leisure earmarked reserve to fund leisure improvements, as well as funding earmarked for slippage schemes from previous year.

4. PROJECTED ACTUAL EXPENDITURE 2023/24

4.1 Below is a table with projected Expenditure at 31 March 2024 and the revised funding:-

Service	Annual Budget £'000	Projected Expenditure £'000	Projected (Under) / Over Expenditure £'000	Variance %
Housing General Fund	1,877	1,386	(491)	(26)
Housing HRA	19,988	19,888	(100)	(1)
Lifelong Learning	11,241	11,118	(123)	(1)
Economic and Regeneration	14,237	14,237	0	0
Highways	8,532	8,050	(482)	(6)
Waste Management	182	19	(163)	(90)
Property	1,475	1,177	(298)	(20)
Transformation	432	432	0	0
Adult Services	177	177	0	0
Total	58,141	56,484	(1,657)	(3)
Funded By:	Annual Budget £'000	Projected Funding £'000	Variance £'000	Variance %
Capital Grant	30,324	29,841	(483)	(2)
Capital Receipts	443	244	(199)	(45)
Supported Borrowing	7,225	6,612	(613)	(8)
Unsupported Borrowing	2,835	2,835	0	0
Revenue Contribution	13,315	13,215	(100)	(1)
Reserves	3,922	3,660	(262)	(7)
Loan	77	77	0	0
Total Funding	58,141	56,484	(1,657)	(3)

4.2 As can be seen from Table 4.1 (above), the forecast underspend on the capital programme for 2023/24 is £1.657m, with this being potential slippage into the 2024/25 capital programme. The funding for this slippage will also slip into 2024/25 and will be factored in when producing the Treasury Management Strategy Statement, Capital Strategy and Capital Programme for 2024/25.

There is a forecast underspend of £0.100m in Housing HRA, further detail as explained in the HRA quarter 1 budget monitoring report, presented to this Committee on 26 September 2023.

The significant underspend forecast in the general fund capital programme is summarised below:-

Lifelong Learning

There is an underspend forecast for disabled adaptations in education buildings. The availability of the Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Grant means that many works that would have ordinarily been financed from this budget are now grant funded. It has been requested that this budget be carried over to 2024/25, as school buildings surveys are underway and are likely to reveal necessary work and there is no certainty as to the availability of ALN grants going forward.

There is also an underspend forecast in relation to the School Safety Scheme. Due to the scope of the works for the remaining budget and the planning process required, it is estimated that the required works cannot take place until Summer 2024 and it is, therefore requested at this stage that any underspend on this budget be carried forward to 2024/25 to carry out the necessary works.

Highways

The underspend forecast in the Highways schemes are in relation to various flood schemes, mainly due to projects straddling two financial years and some overlapping into financial year 2024/25 for completion. Funding will also slip into the next financial year, as described above, and no funding will be lost.

Property

The Upgrade of Public Conveniences scheme budget will not be spent in full, and it is estimated that there will be no spend from the budget this financial year, apart from providing match funding to the Môn Coastal Gateway scheme, as mentioned above. The service is in the process of developing a public conveniences improvement plan, which will give a better idea of the capital requirements in the next financial years. It is also envisaged that further grant funding for capital works to public conveniences may be forthcoming in the next financial year, and part of this budget could again be used as match funding if the opportunity arises.

Waste Management

The budget for the Recycling Equipment will not be spent in its entirety and an underspend is anticipated. The service is currently reviewing and prioritising its capital spend, in line with its strategy and 5-year financial plan, and this committee will be updated with further developments in the quarter 2 report.

- 4.3** The Capital Finance Requirement forecasted at 31 March 2024 is £152.097m, which is the underlying need for the Authority to borrow to be able to fund its Capital Programme. The external borrowing currently stands at £123.608m, meaning the Authority essentially needs to borrow £28.489m to fund the current Capital Programme. If this borrowing is undertaken externally, the Authority will still be within its authorised borrowing limits, as per the 2023/24 Treasury Management Strategy Statement (Appendix 11).

5. FUTURE YEARS

- 5.1** The Capital Strategy recommended that the 2023/24 Capital Programme funding will be limited to the total of the general capital grant and supported borrowing (as determined by WG) and estimated value of any capital receipts that will be received. It is expected that the 2024/25 capital programme will follow the same principles, with the general capital grant and supported borrowing used to fund the annual replacement of vehicles, investment in ICT, refurbishing existing assets and an annual allocation to meet the cost of statutory Disabled Facilities Grants. There will also be funding available for the resurfacing of roads and capital projects that attract external grants, and these will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

Once the above projects have been funded, any surplus funding available will be used to fund new capital schemes, with priority given to projects which contribute to the Council's objectives, as set out in the Council Plan 2022– 2027, and any schemes which can generate future revenue savings or generate additional income.

6. CONCLUSION

- 6.1** The results at the end of quarter 1, and the associated projected expenditure, shows that the majority of projects are on target to be completed within budget. While some schemes are expected to underspend at this stage, it must be noted that the budgets are committed and required, and slippage will be requested for these schemes to complete next financial year in the outturn report for 2023/24, which will be presented to the Executive in June 2024. The Council is also expecting to receive £1.028m of Capital Receipts in 2023/24 to contribute towards the funding of the Capital Programme.

Summary of the Capital Projects' Expenditure to date against the Capital Budget and the Projected Expenditure at Year-End

Service	Annual Budget (£)	Profiled Budget (£)	Actual Expenditure (£)	Committed Expenditure (£)	Total Expenditure (£)	Variance to profile (£)	Profiled Budget Spent (%)	Annual Budget Spent (%)	Projected Expenditure (£)	Projected Under / Over (£)	Variance (%)
Housing General Fund											
Disabled Facilities Grants	1,215,948	150,000	113,284	0	113,284	(36,716)	76	9	1,215,948	0	0
Enable Grant	139,786	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	139,786	0	0
Residential Site for Gypsies and Travellers	490,841	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	(490,841)	(100)
Affordable Housing	30,650	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	30,650	0	0
TOTAL	1,877,225	150,000	113,284	0	113,284	(36,716)	76	6	1,386,384	(490,841)	(26)
Housing HRA											
Central Heating Contract	1,250,000	10,000	9,975	0	9,975	(25)	100	1	1,250,000	0	0
Planned Maintenance Contract	4,450,000	399,000	398,872	0	398,872	(128)	100	9	4,450,000	0	0
Energy Performance Improvement	600,000	25,000	0	0	0	(25,000)	0	0	500,000	(100,000)	(17)
Environmental Works	700,000	5,000	5,150	0	5,150	150	103	1	700,000	0	0
Acquisition of Existing Properties and Development of new properties	10,288,000	1,630,000	1,629,799	0	1,629,799	(201)	100	16	10,288,000	0	0
Public Sector Adaptations	400,000	97,000	96,418	0	96,418	(582)	99	24	400,000	0	0
Fire Risk	400,000	1,000	1,400	0	1,400	400	140	0	400,000	0	0
WHQS	1,900,000	337,000	337,252	0	337,252	252	100	18	1,900,000	0	0
TOTAL	19,988,000	2,504,000	2,478,866	0	2,478,866	(25,134)	99	12	19,888,000	(100,000)	(1)
Life Long Learning											
Disabled Access in Education Building	144,512	20,000	21,410	0	21,410	1,410	107	15	85,640	(58,872)	(41)
Refurbish Education Building	2,186,208	20,000	21,981	0	21,981	1,981	110	1	2,186,208	0	0
School Safety	107,648	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	44,000	(63,648)	(59)
Free School Meals Grant	600,205	110,000	102,914	0	102,914	(7,086)	94	17	600,205	0	0
External Canopies	22,420	22,420	10,543	8,800	19,343	(3,077)	86	86	22,420	0	0
Additional Learning Needs	435,677	50,000	30,455	0	30,455	(19,545)	61	7	435,677	0	0
Community Focused Schools	450,993	25,000	22,415	0	22,415	(2,586)	90	5	450,993	0	0
Community Focused Schools 2023/24	200,000	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	200,000	0	0
Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern - pitches	330,000	15,000	13,620	0	13,620	(1,380)	91	4	330,000	0	0
Increasing Capacity for Childcare Grant (grant scheme)	380,000	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	380,000	0	0
Increasing Capacity for Childcare Grant (Childcare provisions)	49,481	49,481	39,337	0	39,337	(10,144)	79	79	49,481	0	0
Completion of Band A Programme	370,000	200,000	160,498	47,942	208,440	8,440	104	56	370,000	0	0
Commencement of Band B Programme	5,964,000	700,000	677,467	3,502	680,969	(19,031)	97	11	5,964,000	0	0
TOTAL	11,241,144	1,211,901	1,100,640	60,244	1,160,884	(51,018)	96	10	11,118,624	(122,520)	(1)

ATODIAD B

Service	Annual Budget (£)	Profiled Budget (£)	Actual Expenditure (£)	Committed Expenditure (£)	Total Expenditure (£)	Variance to profile (£)	Profiled Budget Spent (%)	Annual Budget Spent (%)	Projected Expenditure (£)	Projected Under / Over / (£)	Variance (%)
Economic and Regeneration											
Leisure Improvements	30,394	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	30,394	0	0
Amlwch Fitness Suite	1,468	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	1,468	0	0
Amlwch Leisure Centre - Flooring	75,635	75,635	0	75,635	75,635	0	100	100	75,635	0	0
Plas Arthur 3G Floodlights	81,069	80,000	3,165	77,904	81,069	1,069	101	100	81,069	0	0
Tourism Gateway	50,000	12,500	3,605	0	3,605	(8,895)	29	7	50,000	0	0
Holyhead Landscape Partnership	50,000	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	50,000	0	0
Holyhead Regeneration (THI Phase II)	762,000	150,000	32,875	101,015	133,889	(16,111)	89	18	762,000	0	0
Breakwater Park	110,000	60,000	58,960	0	58,960	(1,040)	98	54	110,000	0	0
Penrhos Phase 3	2,820,804	1,200,000	1,082,916	111,167	1,194,083	(5,917)	100	42	2,820,804	0	0
Economic Development & Environmental Wellbeing	145,888	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	145,888	0	0
Porth Wrach Slipway – Enforcement Cameras	30,000	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	30,000	0	0
Newry Community Centre	52,289	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	52,289	0	0
Gateway Site JV	21,514	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	21,514	0	0
Maritime Infrastructure	177,514	30,000	0	28,573	28,573	(1,427)	95	16	177,514	0	0
Visitor Infrastructure	198,930	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	198,930	0	0
Melin Llynonn	70,397	50,000	43,896	3,925	47,821	(2,179)	96	68	70,397	0	0
Transforming Towns Covid Grant	10,064	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	10,064	0	0
Môn Coastal Gateway	313,000	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	313,000	0	0
Levelling Up Fund	9,236,000	700,000	688,279	0	688,279	(11,721)	98	7	9,236,000	0	0
TOTAL	14,236,966	2,358,136	1,913,694	398,218	2,311,912	(46,223)	98	16	14,236,966	0	0
Highways											
Upgrade Pay and Display Machines in Car Parks	4,533	4,533	0	5,469	5,469	936	121	121	5,469	936	21
Vehicles	800,408	200,102	44,894	215,834	260,728	60,626	130	33	800,408	0	0
Gritters	250,000	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	250,000	0	0
Highways Resurfacing	2,500,000	250,000	233,737	0	233,737	(16,263)	93	9	2,500,000	0	0
Llanfair Flood Scheme	391,646	3,000	2,058	0	2,058	(942)	69	1	10,000	(381,646)	(97)
FBC Menai Flood Scheme	150,771	30,000	15,775	12,000	27,775	(2,225)	93	18	50,000	(100,771)	(67)
Valley Construction	13,248	20,000	207	13,476	13,684	(6,316)	68	103	13,248	0	0
Flood Relief Schemes (Match Funding)	346,800	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	346,800	0	0
Mill Lane - NFM	30,888	3,000	3,228	0	3,228	228	108	10	30,888	0	0
Invest to Save - Vehicles	5,068	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	5,068	0	0
Small scale grants work	728,834	20,000	16,637	0	16,637	(3,363)	83	2	728,834	0	0
Active Travel	2,253,103	20,000	14,622	0	14,622	(5,378)	73	1	2,253,103	0	0
Local Transport Fund - Bus Infrastructure enhancements 2021/22	28,014	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	28,014	0	0
Local Transport Fund - Bus Infrastructure enhancements 2022/23	387,852	50,000	41,996	6,761	48,758	(1,242)	98	13	387,852	0	0
Vehicle Transformation Fund - Electric Vehicle Charge Points	57,334	40,000	37,473	0	37,473	(2,527)	94	65	57,334	0	0
Safer Streets	18,000	5,000	4,456	0	4,456	(544)	89	25	18,000	0	0
Vehicle Transformation Fund - Electric Vehicle Charge Points 2023/24	376,550	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	376,550	0	0
Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure	189,152	1,000	947	0	947	(53)	95	1	189,152	0	0
TOTAL	8,532,201	646,635	416,030	253,540	669,570	22,935	104	8	8,050,720	(481,481)	(6)

ATODIAD B

Service	Annual Budget (£)	Profiled Budget (£)	Actual Expenditure (£)	Committed Expenditure (£)	Total Expenditure (£)	Variance to profile (£)	Profiled Budget Spent (%)	Annual Budget Spent (%)	Projected Expenditure (£)	Projected Under / Over (£)	Variance (%)
Waste Management											
IVC Works	13,595	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	13,595	0	0
Recycling Equipment	168,681	5,000	0	4,900	4,900	(100)	98	3	5,000	(163,681)	(97)
TOTAL	182,276	5,000	0	4,900	4,900	(100)	98	3	18,595	(163,681)	(90)
Property											
Refurbish Existing Assets	1,075,546	150,000	152,768	0	152,768	2,768	102	14	1,075,546	0	0
Invest To Save Property	77,068	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	77,068	0	0
Low Carbon Heat Grant - Council Offices	23,900	23,900	0	0	0	(23,900)	0	0	23,900	0	0
Upgrade Public Conveniences	298,839	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	0	(298,839)	(100)
TOTAL	1,475,353	173,900	152,768	0	152,768	(21,133)	88	10	1,176,514	(298,839)	(20)
Transformation											
ICT- Core Infrastructure	149,456	37,364	15,669	17,140	32,809	(4,555)	88	22	149,456	0	0
ICT - Desktop Refresh	99,456	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	99,456	0	0
ICT - Anglesey Connected (AC) to PSBA transition	43,088	20,000	0	28,718	28,718	8,718	144	67	43,088	0	0
Hwb IT	138,514	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	138,514	0	0
TOTAL	430,514	57,364	15,669	45,858	61,527	4,163	107	14	430,514	0	0
Adult Services											
Integration and Rebalancing Capital Fund (IRCF)	140,066	60,000	54,946	0	54,946	(5,054)	92	39	140,066	0	0
Bayn Hwfa Community Hub	13,155	0	0	0	0	(0)	0	0	13,155	0	0
Flas Mona Refurbishment	24,104	10,000	8,886	0	8,886	(1,114)	89	37	24,104	0	0
TOTAL	177,325	70,000	63,833	0	63,833	(6,167)	91	36	177,325	0	0
TOTAL	58,141,004	7,176,937	6,254,784	762,760	7,017,544	(159,393)	98	12	56,483,642	(1,657,362)	(3)

Changes to budgets / additional schemes added since budget setting.

Scheme	Budget £	FUNDING					Supported borrowing £	Other Reserve £
		Grant £	Revenue Contribution £	Capital Receipts Reserve £	Capital Reserve £			
Highways Resurfacing*	0	(1,701,000)				591,000	1,110,000	
Community Focused Schools	200,000	200,000						
Enable	139,786	139,786						
Active Travel	2,253,103	2,253,103						
Mill Lane NFM	(241,640)	(241,640)						
ULEV	376,550	376,550						
Brilliant Basics	250,400	250,400						
Small Grants Childcare	380,000	380,000						
Plas Arthur Floodlights	51,305	51,305						
Bodedern pitches	330,000	300,000					30,000	
Breakwater Park	110,000	110,000						
Safer Streets	18,000	18,000						
Phase 3	22,187	22,187						
Phase 3	398,617	398,617						
Llangefni JV	21,514	21,514						
Small Scale Grants	606,446	606,446						
Small Scale Grants	47,388						47,388	
HRA***	821,000	1,229,000	(875,945)			467,945		
ICF	(693,966)		(226,021)			(467,945)		
Corn Hir	370,000	107,328				262,672		
Vehicles**	0	58,000		(58,000)				
Gritters**	0	150,000		(150,000)				
IT budget**	0	292,000		(292,000)				
Mill Lane Structure	30,888	26,255			4,633			
Waste Recycling	(50,000)				(50,000)			
TOTAL	5,441,578	5,047,851	(1,101,966)	(500,000)	(45,367)	853,672	1,187,388	

*Included in the 2023/24 budget was £1.701m of funding from extra general capital grant. Upon reviewing the restrictions of the grant conditions, it had to be utilised in 2022/23 and, therefore, the grant was used to fund capital expenditure in 2022/23, replacing funding from the Authority's own resources. The funding saved by the Authority from this grant will now be used to fund capital expenditure in 2023/24.

** Reallocation of funding from what was originally funded by capital receipts in the 2023/24 programme, to now be funded by general capital grant.

***Included in the 2023/24 budget for HRA was an underestimation of grant funding and along with the required increase in budget, the funding has now been amended.

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Isle of Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Date:	26TH SEPTEMBER 2023
Subject:	HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET MONITORING, QUARTER 1 2023/24
Portfolio Holder(s):	COUNCILLOR R WILLIAMS – DEPUTY LEADER & FINANCE PORTFOLIO HOLDER
Head of Service / Director:	MARC JONES – DIRECTOR OF FUNCTION (RESOURCES) & SECTION 151 OFFICER
Report Author: Tel: E-mail:	CARWYN EDWARDS 01248 752699 CarwynEdwards@ynysmon.llyw.cymru
Local Members:	N/A
A –Recommendation/s and reason/s	
<p>1. The Executive is requested to note the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The position set out in respect of the financial performance of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for quarter 1 2023/24. (ii) The forecast outturn for 2023/24. <p>2. Background</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) The report here shows the revenue budget with a budgeted surplus of £8,044k. (ii) The gross capital budget for 2023/24 is £19,988k. Grant, and other funding of £6,898k, reduces the net budget to £13,090k. (iii) The combination of both the revenue budget and adjusted capital budget gave a planned budget deficit of £5,046k, which would be funded from the HRA reserve. (iv) The HRA is ‘ringfenced’, and its reserves cannot be transferred to the General Fund, nor can General Fund reserves be used to fund the HRA. <p>3. This report sets out the financial performance of the HRA for the period from 1st April 2023 to 31st March 2024.</p> <p>4. Overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.1 The HRA revenue surplus / deficit at the end of Quarter 1 shows an overspend of £8k compared to the profiled budget. More detail is shown in appendix A. 4.2 The Capital expenditure is £25k below the profiled budget. The forecast expenditure is £100k below budget, as explained below. More detail is shown in appendix B. 4.3 The forecast deficit (combining both revenue and capital) is now £4,278k, £768k less than the budget. 	

5. Income

- 5.1** At the end of the first quarter, the level of income received was £43k below the profiled budget as noted below.
- 5.2** Rental income was £25k below the profiled budget at the end of quarter 1. We are forecasting to overachieve by £23k at year end, as new properties become available to let.
- 5.3** Provision for bad debt has been calculated at 1.5% of rent income, similar to last year. Given the uncertainty surrounding the rate of inflation and the long-term effect it will have on the cost-of-living crisis, the forecast is unchanged at present, but will be kept under review and revised during the year, if the level of arrears suggests that there is an increased risk of a greater level of arrears not being collected and, ultimately, written off.

6. Non-Repairs and Maintenance Expenditure

- 6.1** At the end of the first quarter, non-repairs and maintenance expenditure was £129k below the profiled budget.
- 6.2** Other revenue expenditure shows an underspend of £45k against the profiled budget, but is expected to be £43k underspent at year end.
- 6.3** The Tenant Participation heading shows an underspend of £23k at the end of quarter 1. However, we are expecting a higher level of activity during the summer months, therefore, the year end forecast is £19k underspent, due to staff vacancies.
- 6.4** The rent administration heading shows an underspend of £21k at the end of quarter 1. We are forecasting an underspend of £44k at year end, as a vacant post is expected to be filled.

7. Repairs and Maintenance

- 7.1** The Housing Maintenance Unit (HMU) shows an overspend of £170k at the end of quarter 1, this mainly relates to commitments raised in advance of works being completed. Significant work has been undertaken to review budgetary requirements and a more realistic budget has been set for 2023/24
- 7.2** Expenditure on non HMU building maintenance staff is £50k below the profiled budget at the end of quarter 1, it is expected that this service area will underspend by £19k at year end.

8. Year End Adjustments

- 8.1** This heading covers items of expenditure (capital financing costs and recharges from the General Fund) that form part of the year end accounting process. It is forecasted that we will underspend by £131k on Capital Financing Costs and overachieve by £124k on interest receivable.

9. Capital Expenditure

- 9.1** The gross capital budget for 2023/24 is £19,988k. Grant funding of £6,205k is made up of:-

Source	£
Housing with Care Fund (HCF)	300,000
Transforming Towns Grant	250,000
Social Housing Grant (SHG)	1,452,000
Major Repairs Allowance (MRA)	2,690,000
Optimised Retrofit Programme 2023/24	873,000
Optimised Retrofit Programme 2022/23 – carried forward	371,000
Fire Safety Grant	269,000
Total Grant Funding	6,205,000

- 9.2** After taking into account funding for disabled facilities grants of £693k, this gives a net capital budget of £13,089k. A further breakdown is provided in Appendices B & C.
- 9.3** WHQS expenditure – The £1,900k budget is split between planned kitchen replacements involving approximately 80 properties and demand led capital works undertaken on the change of tenancy. A contract was awarded for the planned works during quarter 4 of 2022/23 to the value of £484k, and the Housing Service estimates that the majority of the expenditure will occur during quarters 2 and 3 of 2023/24. A sum of £1,400k has been earmarked for capital works undertaken by the Housing Maintenance Unit, predominantly at change of tenancy. Change of tenancy works are progressing well, with expenditure in quarter 1 amounting to £337k.
- 9.4** Fire Risk expenditure – The £400k budget will be spent on completing retrospective installations of fire suppression systems at Maes y Coed, Menai Bridge, and Glan Cefni, Llangefni, as well as fire compartmentation improvements at all four medium rise blocks of flats which form part of the housing stock. In addition, capital works involves upgrades to fire alarm systems and replacement of fire doors. It is forecast that the budget will be utilised in full during 2023/24.
- 9.5** Public Sector Adaptations expenditure – During quarter 1, demand for medium or large scale adaptations remained high and expenditure up to the end of quarter 1 indicates that the £400k budget will be utilised in full during 2023/24. Expenditure on Adaptations is demand led and typically involves the installation of stairlifts, level access showers and alterations to existing access arrangements.
- 9.6** Energy Performance expenditure – We are currently in consultation with the District Network Operator (DNO) prior to installing Solar PV panels to generate renewable electricity. The Energy Performance budget was reduced from £1,000k to £600k due to the delays. Unfortunately, gaining DNO approval to undertake large scale Solar PV work has, and continues to be, difficult due to a requirement to reinforce the network prior to installing Solar PV. The DNO has commenced the process of arranging network upgrades at certain locations but, unfortunately, timescales for completion of the upgrades are currently unknown. The current forecast is that £500k will be spent in 2023/24, with an underspend of £100k on this project in 2023/24.
- 9.7** Planned Maintenance expenditure – Following the award of a contract for Phase 2 of works at Cemaes Bay during quarter 1, the planned maintenance budget is fully committed. Phase 2 was awarded in quarter 1 to the value of £3,495k, work commenced on site at the end of June. This contract, together with committed expenditure carried forward from 2022/23, is expected to utilise the £4,450k budget in full.

9.8 Environmental Works Expenditure – The £700k budget will focus on the continued demolition of garages at Llangefni and proposed improvements to sewage disposal at Carreglefn, to comply with National Resources Wales directions. At the end of quarter 1, we had committed to spend £352k on one large scheme involving demolition of 30 garages at Bro Tudur. This contract was awarded during June, to the value of £313k. The Highway Services term contractor is currently working on detailed designs for alternative sewage arrangements, which Housing Services expect to be completed by the end of quarter 2. We are forecasting that the budget of £700k will be utilised in full during 2023/24.

9.9 Central Heating Contract Expenditure - During 2023/24, Housing Services aim to replace approximately 500 boilers. A contract was awarded for this year’s boiler replacement programme during quarter 1 and we expect significant contract expenditure during quarters 2 and 3, therefore, we are forecasting that the budget of £1.25m will be fully utilised during the current financial year.

9.10 The forecasted underspend of £100k on capital expenditure means that the amount funded from the HRA revenue account is reduced by the same amount. The balance is then available to fund projects that have been deferred into next year.

10. HRA Balance

10.1 The opening balance of the HRA reserve stood at £12,107k. The revised budget allowed for the use of £5,046k of this balance. However, the revised forecasts highlighted above will only use £4,278k. This will give a reserve balance of £7,829k by the end of the financial year. This balance is ringfenced and is, therefore, only available to fund future HRA expenditure.

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?

This matter is delegated to the Executive.

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

Yes

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

Yes

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):

1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	The report is for monitoring purposes only and is used, along with other reports, to set the HRA business plan and annual budget. In setting the annual budget, the impact on the long term needs of the Island will be assessed.
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2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	Not applicable
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.	Not applicable
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.	The Housing Services regularly consult with their tenants and the results of those consultations are fed into the business planning process and then on to the annual budget process.
5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	Not applicable
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	Not applicable
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.	Not applicable
E – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Leadership Team (LT) (mandatory)	The report was considered by the Leadership Team on 5 September 2023, and any comments made have been incorporated into the report.
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	N/A – this is the Section 151 Officer's report.
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	The Monitoring Officer is a member of the Leadership Team.
4	Human Resources (HR)	N/A
5	Property	N/A
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	N/A
7	Procurement	N/A
8	Scrutiny	The results of the HRA quarterly monitoring reports are reported to the Finance Scrutiny Panel.
9	Local Members	N/A
F - Appendices:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix A – Revenue expenditure and forecasts to end of Quarter 1 2023/24 Appendix B – Capital expenditure and forecast to end of Quarter 1 2023/24. Appendix C – New Build capital schemes and forecast to end of Quarter 1 2023/24 		
Ff - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> HRA 30 Year Business Plan 2023/53 (as approved by this Committee in May 2023). 		

HRA ACCOUNT 2023 /24

	Annual Budget 2023/24	Profiled Budget to Month 3	Actual to Month 3	Variance to Month 3	Year end Forecast	Year End Variance
REVENUE ACCOUNT	£		£	£		
Income						
Dwellings	(20,693,000)	(5,274,686)	(5,249,437)	25,249	(20,715,525)	(22,525)
Garages	(247,000)	(61,751)	(63,195)	(1,444)	(247,919)	(919)
Service Charges	(213,070)	(53,268)	(50,955)	2,313	(199,898)	13,172
Other	(262,100)	(36,550)	(19,223)	17,327	(257,482)	4,618
Bad Debt Provision	316,000	0	0	0	316,000	0
TOTAL INCOME	(21,099,170)	(5,426,255)	(5,382,810)	43,446	(21,104,824)	(5,654)
Non Repairs & Maintenance Expenditure						
Tenant Participation	241,070	60,287	37,067	(23,220)	222,270	(18,800)
Rent Administration	580,410	145,112	124,228	(20,884)	536,040	(44,370)
Estate Management	644,500	161,148	121,209	(39,939)	607,701	(36,799)
Other Revenue Expenditure	1,726,560	348,334	303,521	(44,813)	1,683,474	(43,086)
Total Non R & M Expenditure	3,192,540	714,881	586,024	(128,857)	3,049,485	(143,055)
Repairs and Maintenance						
Housing Maintenance Unit (HMU)	5,470,600	1,410,008	1,580,449	170,442	5,222,447	(248,153)
Building Maintenance Staff (non HMU)	1,211,860	302,975	253,460	(49,515)	1,192,936	(18,924)
Other Repairs and Maintenance	752,320	188,172	160,692	(27,480)	755,256	2,936
Total Repairs & Maintenance	7,434,780	1,901,155	1,994,602	93,447	7,170,639	(264,141)
Year End Adjustments						
Capital Financing Charges	1,742,430	0	0	0	1,611,600	(130,830)
Interest Receivable	(200,000)	0	0	0	(324,000)	(124,000)
Recharge from Housing Services	100,090	0	0	0	100,090	0
Recharge from Central Services	785,550	0	0	0	785,550	0
Total Year End Adjustments	2,428,070	0	0	0	2,173,240	(254,830)
TOTAL REVENUE EXPENDITURE	13,055,390	2,616,036	2,580,626	(35,409)	12,393,364	(662,026)
TOTAL REVENUE (SURPLUS) / DEFICIT	(8,043,780)	(2,810,220)	(2,802,183)	8,036	(8,711,460)	(667,680)
CAPITAL EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT						
2023/24 Expenditure	19,988,000	2,504,000	2,479,000	(25,000)	19,888,000	(100,000)
Major Repairs Allowance/ Social Housing Grant	(6,205,000)	0	0	0	(6,205,000)	0
Other Grants/ Borrowing	(693,460)	0	0	0	(693,460)	0
TOTAL CAPITAL (SURPLUS) / DEFICIT	13,089,540	2,504,000	2,479,000	(25,000)	12,989,540	(100,000)
NET (INCREASE) / DECREASE IN HRA RESERVE	5,045,760	(306,220)	(323,183)	(16,964)	4,278,080	(767,680)
Opening HRA Balance	(12,107,000)				(12,107,000)	
Net (Increase) / Decrease in HRA Reserve	5,045,760				4,278,080	
Closing HRA Balance	(7,061,240)	0	0	0	(7,828,920)	0

APPENDIX B

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT CAPITAL BUDGET 2023/24

Service	Annual Budget 2023/24 £	Profiled Budget to Month 3 £	Actuals to Month 3 £	Variance to Month 3 £	Year End Forecast £	Year End Variance £
Housing HRA						
Central Heating Contract	1,250,000	10,000	10,000	0	1,250,000	0
Planned Maintenance Contract	4,450,000	399,000	399,000	0	4,450,000	0
Energy Performance Improvement	600,000	25,000	0	(25,000)	500,000	(100,000)
Environmental Works	700,000	5,000	5,000	0	700,000	0
Acquisition of Existing Properties and Development of new properties	10,288,000	1,630,000	1,630,000	0	10,288,000	0
Public Sector Adaptations	400,000	97,000	97,000	0	400,000	0
Fire Risk	400,000	1,000	1,000	0	400,000	0
WHQS	1,900,000	337,000	337,000	0	1,900,000	0
TOTAL CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	19,988,000	2,504,000	2,479,000	(25,000)	19,888,000	(100,000)

NEW DEVELOPMENT BUDGET 2023/24

Scheme	Number of Additional Units	2023-24 Budget	Total Forecasted Expenditure 2023-24	Forecasted Variance at Month 3
		£	£	£
Pentraeth (Clwyd Alyn)	10	2,250,000	2,250,000	0
Extra Care Menai Bridge	55	250,000	250,000	0
Plas Alltran, Caergybi	4	1,200,000	1,200,000	0
Ysgol Llaingoch, Caergybi	26	4,000	4,000	0
Cae Braenar, Caergybi	23	500,000	500,000	0
Parc y Coed, Llangefni Phase 1	10	990,000	990,000	0
Clwb Cymdeithasol Biwmares	6	408,000	408,000	0
Renovation 10 Units	0	750,000	750,000	0
Buyback 10 Units	10	1,100,000	1,100,000	0
Niwbwrch Old School Site	14	500,000	500,000	0
Ysgol Thomas Ellis Old School, Site	43	50,000	50,000	0
Parc y Coed, Llangefni Phase 2	10	1,400,000	1,400,000	0
Haulfryn Renovation and Phase 2	1	365,000	365,000	0
Pen y Coed, Rhostrehwfa	1	482,000	482,000	0
Schemes in pre planning stage		39,000	39,000	0
Total 2023/24	213	10,288,000	10,288,000	0

Isle of Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	Executive
Date:	26 September 2023
Subject:	Medium Term Financial Plan 2024/25 – 2025/26
Portfolio Holder(s):	Cllr Robin W. Williams – Deputy Leader and Finance Portfolio Holder
Head of Service / Director:	Marc Jones – Director of Function (Resources) / Section 151 Officer
Report Author: Tel: E-mail:	Marc Jones 01248 752601 rmjfi@ynysmon.llyw.Cymru
Local Members:	Not applicable
A – Recommendation/s and reason/s	
<p>Recommendations</p> <p>The Council is required to put in place a robust system to monitor and control its revenue budget, and a key element of that system is a Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP). The plan sets out the Council’s budget strategy over the next two year period and sets out the assumptions which will be taken forward to the annual budget setting process.</p> <p>The Executive is requested to note the contents of the plan, to approve the assumptions made and to consider how to bridge the funding gap identified in the report as part of the process to set the 2024/25 revenue budget.</p> <p>The detailed report is attached as Appendix 1.</p>	
B – What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?	
<p>The Medium Term Financial Plan is based on a number of assumptions, which are based on the best available information. Therefore, no other options are considered.</p>	
C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?	
<p>Paragraph 4.3.2.2.1 of the Council’s Constitution requires the Executive to publish a pre-budget statement before 30 September each year.</p>	
Ch – Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?	
<p>Yes, as per paragraph 4.3.2.2.1 of the Council’s Constitution.</p>	
D – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?	
<p>The decision, although impacting on the budget for 2024/25, will not result in the incurring of any additional costs or generate any additional income in the 2023/24 financial year. As a result, the decision will not impact on the budget approved by the Council for 2023/24.</p>	

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):		
1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	The MTFP sets out the financial position for the Council over the next 2 financial years. This impacts on the level of services which the Council can provide to meet the needs of the Island and its residents.
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	Setting out and agreeing the medium term financial position allows the Council to plan for the cost of future services. Good financial planning will allow for the avoidance of unnecessary future costs.
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.	The Council, along with the other 21 Welsh Local Authorities and the Welsh Local Government Association have set out the financial position across Wales to Welsh Government. The Council also works closely with the other 5 North Wales authorities on the detailed assumptions used in the plan.
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.	The annual revenue and capital budgets are subject to a public consultation process. The outcome of the Consultation is considered by the Executive before it makes its final budget proposal to the full Council in March each year.
5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	The MTFP makes no spending decisions. Any spending decisions would form part of the annual budget and individual proposals would be assessed on their impact on groups protected by the Equality Act 2010 at that point.
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	The MTFP makes no spending decisions. Any spending decisions would form part of the annual budget and individual proposals would be assessed on their impact on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage at that point.
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
E – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Leadership Team (LT) (mandatory)	The report was considered by the Leadership Team at its meeting on 5 September 2023. Comments from the Chief Executive and the other members of the LT were incorporated into the final draft.
2	Finance / Section 151(mandatory)	The Section 151 Officer is the report author.
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	The Monitoring Officer is a member of the Leadership Team .
4	Human Resources (HR)	Not applicable
5	Property	Not applicable
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	Not applicable
7	Procurement	Not applicable
8	Scrutiny	
9	Local Members	

F - Appendices

Appendix 1 - Detailed Report on the Medium Term Financial Plan
Appendix 2 - MTFP Assumptions
Appendix 3 - Estimated Net Revenue Budget 2024/25 – 2025/26

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

1. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 1.1. The Medium Term Financial Plan sets out the Council's likely resource requirement for the next two financial years and details how the Council plans to balance the resource requirement with the funding available.
- 1.2. The Medium Term Financial Plan has been drawn up during a continued period of economic uncertainty. Despite the fact that the Covid lockdown period is over 2 years away and the UK has left the EU since January 2020, the impact on the UK economy is still significant, with problems with supply chains having an inflationary effect. Other global issues, including the continuing war in Ukraine, are also contributing to increased energy costs and supply chain difficulties which, again, are having an impact on inflation.
- 1.3. The impact of the previous Prime Minister and Chancellor's mini budget in September 2022 is now diminishing, but the new Prime Minister's change in economic policy is taking time to have a significant impact, with inflation still high, interest rates increasing and growth very low, with the possibility of a recession in the near future. All of these factors continue to influence the public finances and the amount of funding that will be available for the Welsh Government and local government in Wales. All the indications are that the next two financial years will be extremely challenging and setting a balanced budget will require difficult choices regarding the level of services provided by the Council and the level of Council Tax increase.
- 1.4. The situation is further complicated by the forthcoming general election, which must take place before January 2025. This may result in a change in the UK Government's spending plans prior to the election, and any new Government may have a different economic strategy following the election. Again, this will influence the level of public spending and the funding available to Local Government in Wales.
- 1.5. The Medium Term Financial Plan takes account of all known changes that are required to be built into the 2024/25 base budget, and makes assumptions on the main factors that impact on the Council's revenue budget (pay costs, pensions, general inflation, Welsh Government funding, demographic and demand pressures).

2. THE COUNCIL'S CURRENT FINANCIAL POSITION

- 2.1. In March 2023, the Council set the following budget:-

Table 1
2023/24 Revenue Budget

	£'m
2022/23 Final Net Revenue Budget	158.367
Pay Inflation and Other Staff Related Costs	7.378
Non Pay Inflation	12.569
Budget Pressures and Service Investments	0.766
Capital Financing Charges	(3.190)
Additional Income – above inflationary increase	(0.569)
Budget Savings	(0.753)
2023/24 Final Net Revenue Budget	174.568
Funded By:	
Aggregate External Finance (AEF)	123.663
Council Tax (including Premium)	47.125
Reserves	3.780
Total Funding 2023/24	174.568

- 2.2.** The final net revenue budget for 2023/24 increased by £16.201m, which is equivalent to a rise of 10.23%. The Aggregate External Finance (AEF) increased by 7.9% (after adjusting for the change in the taxbase and grants transferred into the settlement). The Council Tax debit increased by 7.6%. The Band D charge increased by 5.0%, with the remainder of the increase in Council Tax debit as a result of the change in the taxbase and an increase in the second homes premium from 50% to 75%.
- 2.3.** The 2022/23 financial year was still a transitional year for the Council, with all services returning to normal following the Covid lockdowns in 2020 and 2021. Services experienced increasing demand for services, whilst the financial position was helped by addition non-recurring Welsh Government funding, increased income, particularly from Waste and Highway services, and a high level of staff vacancies.
- 2.4.** At the end of the 2022/23 financial year, the Council reported a net underspend of £1.212m (2.37%), with all Services, apart from Adult and Children's Social Care and Housing, reporting an underspend against their budget. This resulted in an increase in the Council's general balances to £13.966m. However, £3.780m of these reserves have been allocated as funding for the 2023/24 budget. As a result, the level of reserves moving forward stands at £10.186m, which is equivalent to 5.83% of the net revenue budget for 2023/24. This compares to the target figure of £8.7m (5.0%) which was approved by the Executive.
- 2.5.** Earmarked reserves, which are maintained by the Council to fund one off committed projects, to fund anticipated future costs (e.g. uninsured losses) and unutilised grant funding, stood at £19.637m at 31 March 2023, a decrease of £3.544m during the year. A review of reserves was undertaken during the year, with £4.13m of reserves being unearmarked and transferred back to the Council's general balances.
- 2.6.** School Balances also fell slightly during 2022/23, falling from £7.827m to £6.716m. As inflationary pressures have increased during 2022/23, more schools used their reserves to balance the 2022/23 budget, and this trend will continue to 2023/24, with schools estimating that £2.82m of school balances will be used in 2023/24 to balance the revenue budget.
- 2.7.** The Council received a significant increase in the level of Aggregate External Finance (AEF) from Welsh Government, up £9.067m (7.9%) from the previous year. However, the funding increase covered the inflationary pressures faced by the Council and was, therefore, not a real terms increase in funding. Council Tax rose by 5% and this increase, along with the increase in the AEF, was insufficient to fund the required rise in the Council's net revenue budget. As a result, £3.78m of reserves were used to balance the budget. The use of reserves is viable in the short term and allows the Council time to ensure that long term expenditure matches the funding available, but the use of reserves cannot continue in the long term and their use does weaken the financial resilience of the Council.
- 2.8.** CIPFA recommend the use of 4 financial resilience indicators to assess the Council's financial position, which are as follows:-
- Funding Gap as a percentage of the Net Revenue Expenditure, prior to any increase in Council Tax;
 - Over / Underspending relative to net revenue expenditure;
 - Useable reserves as a percentage of the net revenue budget;
 - Capital Financing Costs as a percentage of net revenue expenditure.

2.9. The current position in respect of each indicator is as follows:-

2.9.1. Funding Gap as a Percentage of Net Revenue Expenditure

Year	Standstill Budget £'m	AEF £'m	Previous Year Council Tax (note 1) £'m	Total Funding Prior to Council Tax Increase £'m	Estimated Funding Gap £'m	% Gap
2018/19	132.337	94.924	33.644	128.568	3.769	2.85%
2019/20	134.702	95.159	35.087	130.246	7.156	5.21%
2020/21	142.203	101.005	39.370	140.375	1.828	1.29%
2021/22	147.076	104.825	41.161	145.986	1.090	0.74%
2022/23	155.501	114.549	42.957	157.506	(2.005)	(1.29%)
2023/24	173.830	123.555	44.879	168.434	5.396	3.10%

Note 1 – The Previous Year Council Tax figures is adjusted to take account of changes to the taxbase

The table shows that in 2018/19 and 2019/20 the period of austerity continued, and the funding gap required savings to be implemented and higher than inflation rises in Council Tax. The position then improved in 2020/21 and 2021/22, and the funding gap was able to be filled with a council tax rise on or below inflation. In 2022/23, the situation was significantly better, and it allowed additional investment in services, but the position worsened again in 2023/24, where the funding gap was mainly filled by the use of reserves to balance the budget.

How the position for 2024/25 and 2025/26 compares to this historical data will be discussed later in this report.

2.9.2. Over / Underspending Relative to Net Revenue Expenditure

Year	Net Revenue Budget £'m	Actual Net Revenue Expenditure £'m	Over / (Under) Spend £'m	% Over / (Under) Spend
2018/19 Actual	130.900	131.533	0.633	0.48%
2019/20 Actual	135.210	134.902	(0.308)	(0.23%)
2020/21 Actual	142.146	137.942	(4.204)	(2.96%)
2021/22 Actual	147.120	142.323	(4.797)	(3.26%)
2022/23 Actual (pending Audit)	158.367	157.420	(1.212)	(0.76%)
2023/24 (Forecast at Q1)	174.569	175.313	0.744	0.43%

The table highlights that, in 2018/19 and 2019/20, the final position was close to the budget, with a small overspend in 2018/19 and a small underspend in 2019/20. Covid then had a significant impact on the demand for services and the level of funding received from Welsh Government, which resulted in 2 years of significant underspends. The position began to normalise in 2022/23 but, again, additional Welsh Government funding improved the position and allowed the Council to underspend once again. The initial forecast for 2023/24 shows a worsening position, with the demand for social care services putting a significant pressure on the Council's budget, with an overspend of 0.43% currently forecast, but the forecast will continue to change over the remainder of 2023/24.

2.9.3. Useable Reserves as a Percentage of the Net Revenue Budget (NRE)

Year	Net Revenue Budget £'m	General Balances £'m	Earmarked Reserves £'m	School Balances £'m	Total Useable Reserves £'m	% Useable Reserves to NRE
2018/19	130.900	5.912	9.914	0.631	16.457	12.57%
2019/20	135.210	7.060	10.090	0.197	17.437	12.83%
2020/21	142.146	11.437	14.846	3.974	30.257	21.29%
2021/22	147.120	12.050	25.562	7.827	45.439	30.89%
2022/23	158.367	13.967	21.952	6.716	42.635	26.92%
2023/24 (forecast)	174.569	9.443	21.952	3.900	35.295	20.22%

The table highlights that the Council's financial position has strengthened significantly since 2018/19 as a result of the underspending in 2020/21, 2021/22 and 2022/23. Although it also indicates that the position is starting to weaken with the use of £3.78m of general balances and £2.8m of school balances to balance the 2023/24 budget, reducing the forecasted percentage to the pre-Covid levels.

2.9.4. Capital Financing Costs as a Percentage of Net Revenue Expenditure Minimum Refeniw Position

Year	Net Revenue Budget £'m	MRP £'m	Interest Payable £'m	Interest Receivable £'m	Total Capital Financing Costs £'m	% of Capital Financing Costs to NRE
2018/19	130.900	2.463	4.041	(0.062)	6.442	4.92%
2019/20	135.210	2.655	4.261	(0.127)	6.789	5.02%
2020/21	142.146	2.696	4.159	(0.045)	6.810	4.79%
2021/22	147.120	2.752	3.988	(0.016)	6.724	4.57%
2022/23	158.367	1.325	4.233	(0.800)	4.758	3.00%
2023/24 (budget)	174.569	1.369	3.997	(1.036)	4.330	2.48%

The fall in the percentage is due to 2 factors. Firstly, we have not made any additional borrowing since February 2020 and have used our own cash balances to fund capital expenditure funded from supported or unsupported borrowing. Secondly, the change in the MRP policy in 2022/23 halved the annual MRP charge in the early years, although the charge will increase in future years.

This indicator is a good indicator of financial health as it shows how much of the Council's annual net revenue budget is used to fund borrowing. The lower the figure, the more funding is available to fund Council services.

3. THE UK ECONOMIC OUTLOOK AND BUDGET

- 3.1. Although the Council's central funding comes from the Welsh Government, the UK Government provides the Welsh Government with its entire funding, and what is happening with the UK economy and budget impacts directly on the Welsh Government and local government funding. An assessment of the UK situation is an important element of the Medium Term Financial Plan.

- 3.2.** The global pandemic, the war in Ukraine and the impact of Brexit have been significant shocks to the UK economy, and has resulted in the UK Government providing unprecedented levels of support to individuals and businesses in the form of Covid grants, energy support grants and cost of living support grants. The UK Government's gross debt (as reported by the ONS) stood at £2.57 trillion, which is 100.5% of the country's GDP. This compares to £2.4 trillion (as at July 2022), which was 102.1% of GDP.
- 3.3.** During 2022/23, the Government borrowed £132bn, compared to £122bn in the previous financial year, and have already borrowed a further £54.4bn in the first quarter of 2023/24. Although the level of borrowing in July 2023 was lower than anticipated, it is not expected that there will be a significant reduction in borrowing in 2024/25 and 2025/26, although borrowing is expected to fall in 2026/27 and 2027/28. If the economy grows and borrowing falls, this should allow the UK Government to meet its target of reducing debt as a share of GDP.
- 3.4.** A number of events has caused inflationary pressures in the UK economy. The rise was mainly caused by the sudden increase in energy prices, following the start of the Ukraine war, but shortages in the UK labour market following Brexit, post covid global supply chain problems and increased import costs have also contributed to the inflationary pressures. Consumer Price Inflation peaked at 11.1% in October 2022, but has now begun to fall, reaching 6.8% by July 2023. The UK Government has committed to bringing down inflation to 5% by the end of 2023, and it is forecast to fall to around the 2% target by the end of 2024/25. However, the more pessimistic forecasts suggest that the fall in the inflation rate may not be as rapid during 2024 and that it could remain at around 5% for all of 2024/25 and into 2025/26.
- 3.5.** The Bank of England base rate was cut to 0.1% in March 2020, and has remained at this very low level until the beginning of 2022. As inflation began to rise, the Bank of England's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) have made small incremental increases in the base rate of 0.25% or 0.5% at each review, and the current rate is 5.25%. The Bank of England is committed to get inflation under control, with interest rates being the main lever to achieve this goal. As interest rates rise, consumers have less disposable income to spend and this, in turn, reduces economic demand which, in turn, reduces inflation. Whether interest rates continue to rise or begin to fall is dependant on how quickly inflation falls, but the forecast is that rates will remain around 5% for the foreseeable future.
- 3.6.** Rising interest rates, generally, reduces economic demand and investment, which reduces growth. A recession is defined as 2 successive quarters of negative growth. In 2022, the economy grew by 0.6% and by 0.3% in the first two quarters of 2023, and the forecast level of growth over the next two years is also very low. Low growth does not generate significant increases in tax revenues, and this has a significant impact on the funding available for public services.
- 3.7.** The UK Government has increased the level of both direct and indirect taxes to its highest level since the Second World War, with tax revenues now equivalent to 40% of GDP. The freezing of income tax thresholds and the increase in corporation tax have contributed to the increase. The high tax burdern severely limits the Government's ability to increase public spending by increasing direct or indirect taxes. Some elements of the Conservative party are pushing for a reduction in tax, in order to stimulate growth. The growth in the economy would then create more tax revenue as businesses would generate more profits and the population would have more disposable income.
- 3.8.** The UK Government is under increasing pressure to increase spending on high priority areas, such as the NHS, but also to increase spending on defence, given the rising risks following the Ukrainian war. With borrowing at an all time high and the tax burden also high, the Government's options in respect of public spending are limited.

- 3.9. High borrowing costs result in more of the Government's funding being used to service existing debt, but interest rates need to remain high, in order to reduce inflation. Although the Government's overall aim is to reduce inflation it can only be done by maintaining high interest rates and running the risk that the economy will fall into recession. High inflation increases the Government's costs, e.g. higher public sector pay awards, but getting inflation under control may result in a recession and rising unemployment.
- 3.10. The potential for significant real term increases in public sector budgets in the medium term are very low, unless external factors change significantly, which would include an end to the Ukraine war and resolving some of the outstanding post Brexit issues.

4. FUNDING FROM WELSH GOVERNMENT

- 4.1. Funding of Local Government in Wales has changed significantly over the past decade. After taking account of grants transferring into and out of the settlement and additional funding for new responsibilities, the local government settlement fell each year, in cash terms, between 2013/14 and 2019/20. It began to rise in 2020/21, but only exceeded the 2013/14 level in 2022/23, when the settlement increased by 9.4%. The increase of 7.9% in 2023/24 continued to reduce the gap between the actual level of the settlement and where it would have been if the inflationary increase had been applied each year. Therefore, in real terms the funding is still over 10% less than the 2013/14 level.
- 4.2. As the Welsh Government had been given indicative levels of funding following the Comprehensive Spending Review, they were able to announce the indicative all Wales local government funding settlements for 2024/25 of 3%, with no indication given for 2025/26. The funding is based on the UK Government's spending review in 2021, which did not factor in the significant rise in inflation seen in 2022 and 2023. The Welsh Government estimate that, in real terms, the value of the 2023/24 budget is now £900m lower than when the budget was set. The November 2022 budget statement did result in the Welsh Government receiving an additional £140m in the form of consequential funding, and it will be for the Welsh Government to decide how to use this additional funding.
- 4.3. There may be some increased revenue generated through devolved taxes, which may be greater than the adjustment in the Welsh block grant.
- 4.4. There have been a number of public sector pay settlements in Wales, with Teachers pay rising by 6.5% from September 2022, plus a one off payment of 1.5%, and then a 5% rise from September 2023. NHS pay awards resulted in an increase of 15.7% (with 11.2% consolidated) for the 2 years 2022/23 and 2023/24. Both these pay awards have significantly increased the public sector pay bill in Wales, with no additional funding received by the Welsh Government from the UK Government, unless the UK Government provide additional funding in England.
- 4.5. It is, therefore, likely that the Welsh Government will only receive an increase of funding which will be on, or around, the level of inflation for 2024/25 and, as a result, the additional inflationary costs faced in 2022/23 and 2023/24 will have to be absorbed into the 2024/25 budget without any additional funding.
- 4.6. Around 50% of the Welsh Government's budget funds the NHS in Wales, and the Welsh Government is under pressure to address the increased waiting lists and increased demand for services. Local Government accounts for around 25% of the Welsh Government budget. Given that both areas are experiencing both demand and cost pressures, it will be very difficult to set budgets which funds in full both inflationary and demand pressures in both the NHS and Local Government.

- 4.7. Analysis by Wales Fiscal Analysis in April 2023 has modelled a scenario where funding for Local Government in Wales could fall by 1.6% from 2024/25 to 2027/28, although there is huge uncertainty and will be influenced by the UK economy's performance, the UK Government's economic strategy and the outcome of the next general election.

5. NATIONAL AND LOCAL BUDGET PRESSURES

- 5.1. Local Government generally is facing a number of budget pressures, particularly in Social Care and Homelessness. The BBC reported that the budget pressures faced by local authorities in Wales is around £390m over the next 2 years (only 15 from 22 responded). The WLGA estimate that, if councils cannot generate sustainable service reductions to cover the level of reserves used to balance the 2023/24 budget, this along with the additional inflationary and demand pressures may result in a budget pressure of £750m in 2024/25. Based on the indicative levels of increases in the Welsh local government settlement and an annual increase of 4% in Council Tax, this still leaves a shortfall of £500m in 2024/25.

- 5.2. The following areas are considered the main budget pressures facing the Council over the term of this plan:-

i. Pay Increases – Non Teaching Pay

The non teaching pay award is set across England and Wales based on an agreement between the Employers and the Unions. For 2023/24, the current offer is a flat rate increase of £1,925 for all employees up to point 43, with a 3.8% increase for all pay points above this level. In setting the 2023/24 budget, initially 3.5% was allowed for as the pay award but, prior to finalising the budget, an additional £2m from general reserves was released, taking the net increase in pay to 7%. The pay offer for 2023/24 has yet to be accepted by the Unions and, if the final agreed pay award exceeds the sum allowed for in the budget, then this will place additional pressure on the 2024/25 pay award, with each 1% adding an additional £600k to the pay budget.

No information is available on the pay offer for 2024/25 but, as inflation continues to fall, it is anticipated that the pay claim made by the Unions and the pay offer made by the employers will fall. However, there is an additional complication, in that the increase in the national living wage (currently £10.42 per hour) is forecast to rise to between £10.82 and £11.35 per hour in April 2024 (3.8% to 8.9%). The 2023/24 pay offer takes the lowest point of the pay scale to £10.60 (as at April 2023). Therefore, the pay award would have to range between 2% and 7% simply to maintain the lowest point above the national minimum wage level. This range has been used for the purposes of the Medium Term Financial Plan

ii. Pay Increases – Teachers Pay

Teachers pay is set by the Welsh Government, with the pay award being effective from September each year. For the period September 2022 to August 2023, the Teachers' pay award was settled with teachers receiving a 5% rise with an additional one-off payment equivalent to 1.5%. These additional costs have been funded by Welsh Government through grant funding. A 5% rise has been agreed for the academic year 2023/24.

For the purposes of the plan, a range of pay awards between 1% and 3% has been modelled for the academic year 2024/25 and 2025/26.

After factoring in the agreed pay awards and the estimated future pay awards and the need to correct the sum allowed for in the 2023/24 budget, it is estimated that the teacher's pay budget will rise between 3.5% and 7.2%, with the most likely estimate being 5.6%.

iii. Local Government and Teachers' Pension Contributions

The LGPS pension scheme was re-valued in 2022, with the new employer contribution rates being fixed for three years, and so no change is expected in contribution rates for the length of this plan.

The Teachers Pension Scheme was due for revaluation with the new rates applicable from April 2023. The UK Government needs to resolve a number of issues in respect of the Teacher's Pension Fund, and this has delayed the completion of the new valuation and implementation of new employer contribution rates. There is significant speculation that it will be necessary to increase contribution rates significantly, with some forecasting an increase in the contribution rate to 30% or above, from its current value of 23.6%. Each 1% rise in the contribution rate increases the costs by approximately £230k.

iv. Major Service Contracts

A number of the Council's Services are outsourced, including refuse collection and disposal, highway maintenance, school meals, school transport and public service bus contracts. The majority of the contracts are long term agreements which will end after the end of the period covered by this plan. The price of each contract is uplifted annually using a set of pre-determined inflation indices which are defined in each contract. The budget for these contracts is in the region of £25m, and the increase is normally dependant on inflation indices in the preceding autumn. This may result in a high inflation uplift once again in 2024/25, with an estimate of around £1.5m with a smaller uplift of around £0.5m in 2025/26.

v. Energy Costs

The current budget for energy (electricity and gas) in 2022/23 was £4.37m (£2.34m for electricity and £2.03m for gas), with the highest costs incurred in secondary schools, leisure centres and the main Council offices. Much work has been done to reduce the consumption of energy in Council buildings, including installing solar panels and a new boiler at the Council Offices. These changes will reduce costs, but an increase is expected in the corporate energy contracts when they are renewed later this year. The Council is currently tied into a framework agreement until September 2024 for both electricity and gas, with prices updated each October. Energy prices are more stable and price increases should be much lower than 2023 but much will depend on demand through the winter months and the outcome of the continuing war in Ukraine. It will be necessary to correct the 2022/23, budget and allow for the price increases in 2023/24, including any further price increase in October 2023. Therefore, there is a potential for energy costs to increase by over £2m in 2023/24, with a similar rise in 2024/25. Much will depend on the outcome of the war in Ukraine and whether energy prices begin to fall, if and when the war ends.

vi. Elderly Nursing, EMI and Residential Care Home Fees

For a number of years, the annual fee increase for nursing, EMI and residential care home fees have been determined using a standard toolkit which all 6 North Wales authorities use as the basis for their fee increase. In 2022, authorities began to move away from the toolkit but are still committed to try and maintain a regional position.

Representatives of Care Forum Wales continue to make the case that the fees paid by the Councils do not fully fund the costs the home operators face and that, generally, the fees paid by North Wales councils are lower than those paid by councils in the South.

Homes are now invariably using top up charges which, if they are unaffordable to the client or their family, are then paid by the Council. This is creating an added cost pressure in addition to increasing client numbers, which is reflected in the fact that Elderly nursing and residential care fee budgets are forecast to overspend by £30k in 2023/24.

Simply allowing for inflation in 2024/25 will add over £400k to the annual costs.

vii. Domicilliary Care Contract

The domicilliary care contracts were re-tendered during 2023, but providers are finding it difficult to retain sufficient number of carers. The Welsh Government has previously made additional funding available to fund an increase in the hourly rates paid to carers.

The Council also maintains an in-house care team which supplements the external providers, but the Council is also experiencing recruitment and retention problems.

Although domicilliary care is not a clear financial risk at this point, it is an emerging risk which may require additional funding in the future in order to allow the Council to meet the increasing demand for services.

viii. Children's Services

The Council has made significant progress in recent years to bring the cost of its Children's Services within its budget. However, 2022/23 saw an increase in the number of children being placed and increases in the fees charged by providers for out of county residential placements, and this continues to be the case in 2023/24. It is currently forecasted that Children's Services will overspend its budget by £0.7m. There is a need to correct this position in setting the 2024/25 budget, unless the Service can reduce the average placement cost or that the number of children in care begins to fall.

ix. Adult Social Care Services

As with Children's Services, there is a significant risk that the demand for Adult Social Care services (elderly, mental health, learning disability etc.) will increase. This is in addition to the inflationary pressures on pay and private sector provider costs. The budget is forecast to overspend £1.5m in 2023/24, but this is after allocating grants and the use of reserves. The true figure is probably closer to between £2.5m and £3m, even after a 16.7% rise in the budget in 2023/24.

x. Homelessness

Since the pandemic, the number of cases being dealt with by the Service has increased and, in the 2022/23 settlement, the Welsh Government included additional funding to meet the cost of the additional demand. As a result, the Council included an additional £350k in the budget, increasing the budget to around £700k. In addition, the Welsh Government provided an additional £180k in grant funding. However, since the budget was set, the situation has worsened with demand continuing to increase. Additional grant funding from Welsh Government has reduced the forecasted overspend down to £85k, but the level of grant funding beyond 2023/24 has yet to be confirmed. This situation is not unique to Anglesey, all councils across Wales are dealing with the same pressures. It is likely the cost-of-living crisis will add to the problem as tenants find it harder to pay rent as well as increasing energy and food costs. The Service is looking at all options to increase the supply of social and private sector rented accommodation and to reduce the number of cases.

xi. Public Transport

Since the pandemic, the number of passengers using public transport has fallen and has not recovered to pre-pandemic levels. Welsh Government has provided additional funding through the Bus Emergency Scheme (BES). This scheme ends in 2023/24 and, without this additional funding, there is a significant risk that the commercial routes will no longer be viable and the subsidised routes will require additional subsidy. It is estimated that the maximum additional funding that would be required to make up for the loss in the BES funding would be £300k, but a lot is dependant on how passenger numbers recover and whether operators can absorb the loss of income without having to increase their rates.

xii. Council Tax Reduction Scheme

Since the funding for the Council Tax Reduction scheme transferred into the local government settlement, the sum included in the Standard Spending Assessment by Welsh Government has remained largely unchanged. As the levels of Council Tax increase, the cost falls on the taxpayers of Anglesey. The economic forecasts suggest a gradual increase in unemployment, which will lead to an increasing caseload. It is unclear whether the cost of living crisis results in a level of lower consumer demand, which impacts on the retail and service industries. This may lead to increased unemployment in these areas. Each 1% increase in the caseload increases the cost by approximately £70k, in addition to the increase as a result of increasing Council Tax.

xiii. Capital Financing Charges

In addition to interest payments on existing and new loans, the Council is required to make a provision in respect of future loan repayments (known as Minimum Revenue Provision or MRP). MRP is determined in line with the MRP Policy, which has been approved by the Council. Normally, capital expenditure requires some level of additional borrowing and, as the level of borrowing increases, the provision required under the MRP policy and associated interest also increases. This has been factored into the MTFP to take into account the level of supported borrowing which is allowed for in the funding settlement and the Council's planned expenditure on Ysgol Y Graig.

However, it should be noted that the cost of building works has increased since the easing of the lockdown, with a shortage of materials and labour forcing up prices. Although increases appear to have levelled off, there is no indication that prices will return to pre-covid levels. This increases the costs of capital projects which may result in additional borrowing, which will then result in an increase in the capital financing costs. Given the current uncertainty, no allowance has been made for this potential risk in the current plan.

High cash balances and the sharp rise in interest rates allowed the interest receivable budgets to increase by approximately £1m in 2023/24. However, cash balances in 2024/25 will be significantly lower as cash backed reserves begin to run down and it is anticipated that, even though interest rates are expected to remain at the current levels for the majority of 2024/25, the interest received will fall by at least 40% in 2024/25, and a further 10% in 2025/26.

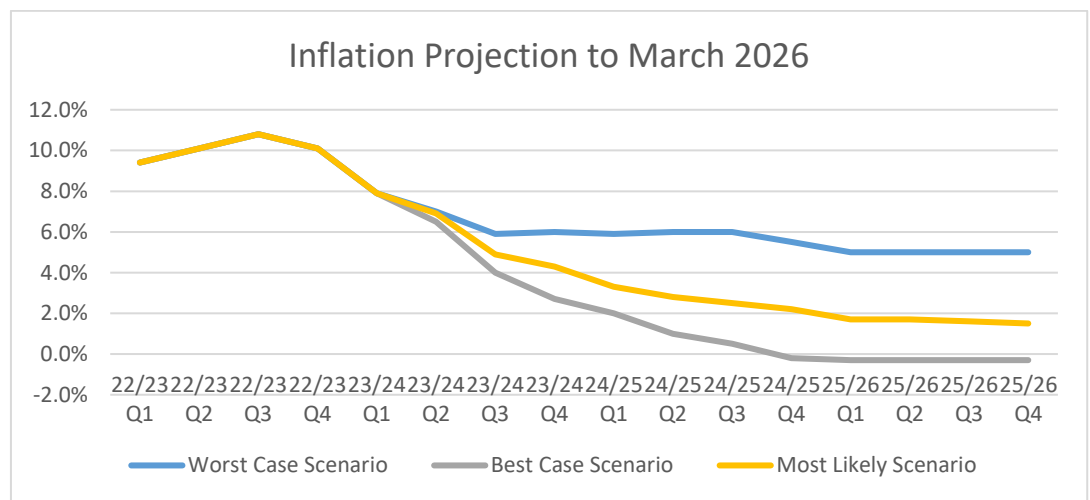
xiv. Fire Service Levy

Unlike the North Wales Police & Crime Commissioner, the North Wales Fire & Rescue service sets a levy each year, which is apportioned between the 6 North Wales authorities on the basis of population, with Anglesey contributing around 10%. The levy is then funded from the Council's net revenue budget and an amount in respect of the fire service is included into the Welsh Government's Standard Spending Assessment.

Similar to Councils, the Fire Service has faced a significant increase in costs due to pay awards, general price inflation and increased pension contributions. The Fire Authority are currently consulting on options which would change how the service is delivered across North Wales, with the cost of the options ranging from an increase of between 8% and 13.5%. The central option would increase costs by 11% and, if all of this increase was funded from the levy, it would increase the Council's contribution by £490k in 2024/25.

xv. General Price Inflation

Annual non pay budgets are inflated each year to take account of general or specific inflation. Where contracts do not specify a specific price index that should be applied, or where a specific expenditure heading is not seeing a significantly higher or lower inflation rate, then the Consumer Prices Index (CPI) is used as the inflation factor. For a number of years, CPI has remained low and has not been a significant factor when determining the budget. However, the inflation rate rose significantly in 2022 and has remained high for the first part of 2023. The graph below shows the Bank of England's current forecast:-



Approximately £37m of the Council's budget will be impacted by a general increase in the level of inflation. It will be necessary to correct the under provision in the 2023/24 budget and also allow for inflation in 2024/25. Based on the most likely scenario shown above, it will require an increase of 5% in these budgets to cover the inflationary pressure. This equates to an increase in the budget requirement of approximately £2.0m.

6. INCOME

- 6.1. The Council's current income budget (excluding AEF, Council Tax and specific grant funding) amounts to £49m. This is made up of grants and reimbursements from public bodies (£22.8m), fees and charges set by statute or regulated by the Government (£6.8m), fees and charges set by the Council (£5.7m), long-term rental agreements (£1.5m) and recharges within the Council to other Council services (£12.2m).
- 6.2. It has been the Council's policy to increase the discretionary fees and charges by 3% per annum, although, in some services, increasing the fees and charges by more than inflation has resulted in the Council's fees getting significantly closer to the fees charged by the private sector e.g leisure services. For the purposes of this plan, it has been assumed that the discretionary fees and charges will continue to rise by 3% per annum over the life of the plan.

- 6.3. When inflation has been low, the statutory or regulated fees tended to increase by the rate of inflation, however given that inflation is significantly higher, this normal rise in these fees may not be implemented and a lower increase may result.
- 6.4. In addition to income from fees and charges, a significant amount of grant income is received. The grants received can be to fund specific projects or services, but others are more general in nature and support core services. Given the uncertain position regarding public sector funding, there is a risk that grants are targeted and reduced in order to reduce public spending, rather than a reduction in the general financial settlement the Council receives from Welsh Government. Where grants fund specific projects, then it is possible to bring the project to an end if the grant ends, but this is more difficult where services are provided through a mix of core budget and grants.

7. PROJECTED BUDGET FOR 2024/25 – 2025/26

- 7.1. By taking into account all of the issues detailed in paragraphs 5 and 6, and using the assumptions set out in Appendix 2, it is possible to estimate the revenue budget for the following 2 years, and this is set out in Table 2 below:-

Table 2
Projected Net Revenue Expenditure Budget 2024/25 to 2025/26

	2024/25 £'m	2025/26 £'m
Previous Year Final Budget	174.569	187.714
Non Teaching Pay Award	2.207	1.283
Teaching Pay Award	2.211	0.983
Major Service Contracts	1.007	0.438
Energy Inflation	0.437	0.361
Other Non Pay Inflation	1.548	0.800
Income	(1.461)	(1.193)
Social Care Providers Inflation	1.442	0.710
Children's Services Demand	0.680	0.122
Adult Services Demand	2.101	0.481
School Transport	0.204	0.103
Public Transport	0.190	0.021
Homelessness	0.504	0.108
Council Tax Reduction Scheme Caseload	0.473	0.499
Fire Service Levy	0.496	0.150
Capital Financing	0.863	0.310
Other Budget Pressures	0.169	0.192
Estimated Net Revenue Budget	187.641	193.082
Annual Increase	13.072	5.368
Annual Increase Percentage	7.48%	2.86%

- 7.2. The estimated Net Revenue Budget represents an increase of 10.6% over the 2 year period.
- 7.3. More detail on the estimated Net Revenue Budget and the assumptions that support the plan are attached as Appendix 2 and 3.

7.4. The figures shown above are based on the most likely scenario for all the assumptions. A best case and worse case scenarios have also been modelled, which show an increase in the net revenue budget of £3.86m (2.2%) in 2024/25 and £1.16m (0.7%) in 2025/26 under the best-case scenario, and an increase of £23.2m (13.3%) in 2024/25 and £14.27m (7.2%) in 2025/26 under the worst case scenario. The 3 scenarios give a wide range of estimates for the required net revenue budget for the forthcoming two years, and it demonstrates the significant level of uncertainty that exists around inflation and the future demand for services. This makes financial planning extremely difficult.

8. AGGREGATE EXTERNAL FINANCE AND COUNCIL TAX

8.1. The estimated standstill budget is funded from the level of Aggregate External Finance (AEF) received from the Welsh Government (Revenue Support Grant and NDR Pool Funding) and from the Council Tax raised locally.

8.2. As stated in paragraph 4 above, the Welsh Government has provided indicative increase of 3% in the overall local government budget for 2024/25, however, the figure was based on the position prior to the sharp increase in inflation. No indication has been provided as yet for 2025/26, but the expectation is for a low increase in 2025/26.

8.3. In 2023/24, Anglesey received £123.665m in Aggregate External Finance from the Welsh Government, with the remaining funding coming from Council Tax, £47.124m and the Council's own financial reserves, £3.78m.

8.4. Table 3 below shows the additional income that various changes in AEF and increases in Council Tax would have on the Council's funding (assuming no change in the Council Tax base) and that any additional funding generated by increase in the Council Tax premium would be used to increase budgets on projects to help with the supply of affordable housing on the Island i.e. have a nil effect on the budget.

Table 3

**Impact on Council Funding for Changes in AEF and Council Tax
(net of CTRS) 2024/25**

		Change in AEF Cash Sum							
		+0%	+1%	+2%	+3%	+4%	+5%	+6%	+7%
		£'m							
Council Tax Rise (net of rise in CTRS)	3%	1.21	2.45	3.68	4.92	6.16	7.39	8.63	9.87
	4%	1.61	2.85	4.09	5.32	6.56	7.80	9.03	10.27
	5%	2.02	3.26	4.49	5.73	6.97	8.20	9.44	10.47
	6%	2.42	3.66	4.90	6.13	7.37	8.61	9.84	10.68
	7%	2.83	4.06	5.30	6.54	7.77	9.01	10.25	11.08
	8%	3.23	4.47	5.70	6.94	8.18	9.41	10.65	11.89
	9%	3.63	4.87	6.11	7.34	8.58	9.82	11.05	12.29
	10%	4.04	5.27	6.51	7.75	8.98	10.22	11.46	12.69
	11%	4.44	5.48	6.91	8.15	9.39	10.62	11.86	13.10
	12%	4.84	6.08	7.32	8.55	9.79	11.03	12.26	13.50
	13%	5.25	6.28	7.72	8.96	10.20	11.43	12.67	13.90
	14%	5.65	6.89	8.13	9.36	10.60	11.84	13.07	14.11
	15%	6.06	7.29	8.53	9.77	11.00	12.24	13.48	14.71
	16%	6.46	7.70	8.93	10.17	11.41	12.64	13.88	15.12
	17%	6.86	8.10	9.34	10.57	11.81	13.05	14.28	15.52
	18%	7.27	8.50	9.74	10.98	12.21	13.45	14.69	15.92
	19%	7.67	8.91	10.14	11.38	12.62	13.85	15.09	16.33
20%	8.07	9.31	10.55	11.78	13.02	14.26	15.49	16.53	

9. GENERAL BALANCES AND RESERVES

9.1 In order to fund the estimated additional budget requirement of £13.07m, plus to replace the £3.78m of reserves used to balance the budget in 2023/24 with permanent funding, it would require the AEF to rise by 7% and Council Tax to increase by over 20% to generate sufficient funding. If the AEF only rises by 3%, it would require Council Tax to rise by around 30% in order to generate sufficient permanent funding to meet a net budget requirement of £187.64m.

9.2 The Council holds general balances to have sufficient funding to meet any unexpected expenditure which may arise during the year, which cannot be funded from existing revenue or capital budgets. In addition, the Council holds earmarked reserves which are held to cover the cost of potential risks, the cost of future planned projects and to hold unused grant funding or any other restricted funds which the Council holds.

- 9.3** As at 31 March 2023, the Council held £13.97m as general balances and £19.64m as earmarked reserves. The Council's agreed strategy for general balances is to hold a minimum of 5% of the net revenue budget for the year. Therefore, in 2023/24, the minimum amount of general balances should be £8.73m. In setting the 2023/24 budget, £3.78m of the general balances were used to balance the budget, which reduces the level of general balances to £10.19m, which is £1.46m above the minimum required balance. However, it should be noted that any overspend on the 2023/24 revenue budget would be funded from general balances. The forecast at the end of quarter 1 of 2023/24, estimates that the revenue budget will overspend by £0.744m, which would reduce the level of general balances down to £9.45m, which is only £0.72m above the minimum threshold.
- 9.4** A review of the earmarked reserves was undertaken in 2022/23, and £4.13m of earmarked reserves were transferred back into the Council's general balances. Included in the earmarked reserves are £6.37m of reserves which cover specific identified risks, such as inflation, uninsured losses and the increase in demand for specific services. These reserves could be released back into the general balances, but this would weaken the Council's financial position, because if the risks materialised the financial cost would have to be funded from the general balances.

10. BRIDGING THE FUNDING GAP

- 10.1.** If the financial modelling is correct, then an additional £13.14m will be required to meet the inflationary pressures of providing the current service and to meet the demand pressures in 2024/25, although it should be noted that this figure is based on assumptions, which will need revising as the budget process progresses.
- 10.2.** It can be seen from Table 3 if AEF was to rise by 3% and Council Tax rises by 5%, the additional funding will only generate an additional £6.11m (after adjusting for the increase in CTRS), leaving a gap of £6.96m. However, the use of reserves in 2023/24 must also be taken into account and, if no reserves are used in 2024/25, then the funding shortfall increases by £3.78m to £10.74m.
- 10.3.** The Executive has already stated its intention to raise the second home premium from 75% to 100%, and this will generate an additional £0.85m. If this funding was used to support Council services which are impacted by rising numbers of second homeowners (homelessness prevention, financial and debt management advice, tourism), then this would reduce the estimated funding gap down to £9.93m.
- 10.4.** As shown in paragraph 9, the Council does have some capacity to use general balances and reserves to help reduce the funding gap, but using reserves does come with risks in so far as they are not a recurring source of income and using reserves does not eliminate the need to bridge the funding gap long term. In addition, using reserves reduces the financial reserves of the Council, and weakens its financial position. Care must be taken to ensure that the level of reserves used does not leave the Council in a position where it has insufficient funding to meet any unexpected expenditure or to address potential risks if they crystallise into something that requires action and funding.
- 10.5.** The Council is legally obliged to set a balanced budget each year, where the budget is a fair and reasonable estimation of the costs faced to provide the services in the year to which the budget relates, and that the estimated cost can be funded from Welsh Government funding, Council Tax and reserves and balances. If the level of funding is insufficient, that only leaves the option of reducing the net expenditure budget to the level of funding available.
- 10.6.** Again, assuming that the funding gap is £10.0m, that equates to revenue savings of 5.7% of the 2023/24 net expenditure budget. However, the net revenue budget includes a number of budgets which are outside the control of the Council and must be funded, these include:-

- Fire Authority Levy – £4.5m in 2023/24
- Capital Financing Costs – £5.36m in 2023/24
- Council Tax Reduction Scheme – £6.97m in 2023/24
- Historic Pension Costs – £0.94m in 2023/24
- Members Allowances – £1.03m in 2023/24
- Audit & Inspection Fees - £0.38m in 2023/24
- Coroners Costs - £0.23m in 2023/24
- Joint Services with Other Local Authorities - £2.73m in 2023/24

10.7. Therefore, any savings have to come from the remaining budgets (£152.4m in 2023/24) and this equates to savings of 6.6% from the budgets where it is possible to implement savings.

10.8. Work has commenced to identify any efficiency savings that can be applied but, given the previous austerity cuts and the rising demand for services, Services have not identified any significant efficiency savings that can be generated. Any savings that can be generated can only be done so through reduction in services or ceasing to undertake services.

10.9. Looking ahead to 2025/26, the AEF and Council Tax would generate an additional £3.79m (based on a rise of 2.0% in AEF and 5% in Council Tax), which would take the available resources up to £181.50m, when the estimated net revenue budget to fund the current level of service and demand pressures would be £193.01m, leaving shortfall of £11.51m. £9.93m of this figure relates to the budget shortfall carried forward from 2024/25, leaving an additional £1.58m shortfall in the 2025/26 budget.

10.10. Based on this forecast, the financial resilience indicator which determines the financial funding gap as a percentage of the net revenue expenditure.

Year	Standstill Budget £'m	AEF £'m	Previous Year Council Tax (note 1) £'m	Total Funding Prior to Council Tax Increase £'m	Estimated Funding Gap £'m	% Gap
2018/19	132.337	94.924	33.644	128.568	3.769	2.85%
2019/20	134.702	95.159	35.087	130.246	7.156	5.21%
2020/21	142.203	101.005	39.370	140.375	1.828	1.29%
2021/22	147.076	104.825	41.161	145.986	1.090	0.74%
2022/23	155.501	114.549	42.957	157.506	(2.005)	(1.29%)
2023/24	173.830	123.665	44.879	168.544	5.286	3.04%
2024/25 forecast	187.641	127.375	47.124	174.499	13.142	7.00%
2025/26 forecast – note 2	183.078	128.649	50.335	178.984	4.094	2.23%
Note 1 – The Previous Year Council Tax figures is adjusted to take account of changes to the taxbase						
Note 2 – The standstill budget for 2025/26 assumes that the final budget for 2024/25 is revised down to match the funding available						

It can be seen that the position for 2024/25 is the worst position the Council has been for a number of years at this stage of the budget setting process.

11. CONCLUSIONS

- 11.1.** The Medium Term Financial Plan sets out the estimated net revenue budget for the next 2 years using a number of assumptions, some of which are more certain than others. The plan allows the Council to determine its future funding strategy, but there are a number of issues which increase the uncertainty surrounding the plan. These include estimating the future costs at a time of rapidly increasing inflation, estimating the demand for services, the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on the demand for Council services and the future funding of Local Government in Wales post the UK general election. The level of support from Welsh Government is a key element of the Medium Term Financial Plan, and the lack of accurate future forecasts on the level of funding does reduce the level of assurance that the plan can give.
- 11.2.** The demand for services and the pressure to increase the pay of certain parts of the Council's workforce (both for the Council's own employees and employees working in contracted services) will drive up costs significantly, particularly in 2024/25. If these additional cost pressures are not reflected in the funding settlement from Welsh Government, then the Council will have to implement further cuts to services and / or higher than inflation increases in Council Tax in order to set a balanced budget, which allows the Council to meet its statutory obligations and accurately reflects the costs of providing those services.
- 11.3.** The Council does have some reserves that can be used in 2024/25 to help reduce the potential funding gap, but the funding that can be released is limited and will not bridge all of the gap and the use of reserves does weaken the Council's financial resilience and only postpones the need to implement budget savings or increase Council Tax.
- 11.4.** This Medium Term Financial Plan highlights the fact that the Council is currently facing its most challenging and uncertain financial position, and difficult decisions will have to be taken in order to set a balanced budget in 2024/25 and 2025/26.

MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN ASSUMPTIONS

MOST LIKELY SCENARIO		
	2024/25	2025/26
Pay and Price Inflation		
Pay, NI and Pension Costs – Non Teaching	3.5%	2.0%
Pay, NI and Pension Costs - Teachers	5.6%	2.0%
LGPS Contribution Rate	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers Pension Contribution Rate	4.9%	3.5%
Electricity	10.0%	10.0%
Gas	10.0%	10.0%
CPI (including any correction from previous year)	3.7%	1.6%
Main Service Contracts	6.9%	2.8%
Social Care Provider Contracts	4.3%	1.5%
Fees & Charges	3.0%	3.0%
Council Tax	5.0%	5.0%
Aggregate External Finance	3.0%	1.0%
Government Grants	3.0%	2.0%
Levies	11.0%	3.0%
Capital Financing Costs	8.2%	4.3%
Demand Pressures		
Children's Placements	12.5%	2.0%
Adult Social Care Placements	7.2%	2.0%
School Transport	0.0%	2.0%
Homelessness	40.0%	5.0%
Council Tax Reduction Scheme Caseload	2.0%	2.0%

SUMMARY ESTIMATED NET REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24 – 2025/26

	2023/24 £'m	2024/25 £'m	2025/26 £'m
Pay – Non Teaching incl Pension & NI	63.067	65.275	66.558
Pay – Teaching incl Pension & NI	34.500	36.712	37.694
Other Employee Costs	3.781	3.855	3.901
Premises Costs	8.846	9.175	9.326
Energy	4.372	4.809	5.170
Transport	1.236	1.282	1.303
Supplies & Services	23.221	24.168	24.657
School Transport	4.159	4.363	4.465
School Meals	3.019	3.167	3.218
Education Out of County Placements	0.903	0.942	0.974
Education Joint Arrangements	2.639	2.741	2.796
Adult Social Care	27.443	30.724	31.666
Children's Care Placements	7.347	8.288	8.660
Refuse Collection & Disposal	9.097	9.649	9.903
Highway Maintenance & Street Lighting	4.957	5.300	5.448
Public Service Bus Transport	1.236	1.426	1.318
Help for 1 st Time Buyers	1.501	1.502	1.502
Homelessness	1.152	1.656	1.764
Members Allowances & Expenses	1.031	1.072	1.104
Coroners	0.234	0.241	0.248
Audit & Inspection Fees	0.382	0.382	0.382
Fire Service & Other Levies	4.503	4.999	5.149
Council Tax Reduction Scheme & Other Benefits	6.966	7.439	7.938
Capital Financing Charges & Interest Receivable	4.329	5.192	5.501
Contingencies	0.977	1.072	1.219
TOTAL GROSS EXPENDITURE	220.898	235.431	241.864
Grants	(22.894)	(23.581)	(24.053)
Fees & Charges	(12.470)	(12.848)	(13.170)
Recharges	(9.464)	(9.815)	(10.054)
Rents	(1.501)	(1.546)	(1.577)
TOTAL GROSS INCOME	(46.329)	(47.790)	(48.854)
NET REVENUE EXPENDITURE	174.569	187.641	193.010
Increase in Net Revenue Budget		+ 13.072	+5.369
% Increase in Net Revenue Budget		+ 7.48%	+2.86%

SUMMARY ESTIMATED NET REVENUE BUDGET BY SERVICE 2023/24 – 2025/26

	2023/24 £'m		2024/25 £'m		2025/26 £'m	
Economic Development	1.022		1.059		1.079	
Destination	0.819		0.853		0.868	
Leisure	1.243		1.346		1.397	
Planning	1.013		1.052		1.072	
Public Protection	1.657		1.719		1.752	
Regulation		5.754		6.029		6.168
Highways	7.891		8.498		8.553	
Property	1.548		1.640		1.690	
Waste	10.317		10.940		11.217	
Highways, Waste & Property		19.756		21.078		21.460
Adult Services		34.973		38.596		39.711
Children's Services		12.966		14.127		14.615
Schools	49.261		52.120		53.486	
Central Education	12.709		13.235		13.471	
Culture	1.350		1.415		1.450	
Education & Culture		63.320		66.770		68.407
Human Resources	1.587		1.644		1.675	
ICT	4.216		4.593		4.774	
Transformation	1.190		1.228		1.251	
Transformation		6.993		7.465		7.700
Housing		1.590		2.113		2.228
Resources		3.723		3.857		3.932
Council Business		2.013		2.086		2.126
Corporate Management		0.760		0.787		0.802
Capital Financing	4.329		5.192		5.504	
CTRS / Benefits	6.966		7.439		7.937	
Levies	4.504		4.999		5.149	
Help for 1 st Time Buyers	1.502		1.502		1.502	
Other Non Service Budgets	2.443		2.459		2.439	
Contingencies	2.977		3.142		3.330	
Non Service		22.721		24.733		25.861
TOTAL NET EXPENDITURE		174.569		187.641		193.010

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL	
Report to:	The Governance & Audit Committee / The Executive
Date:	21 September 2023/ 26 September 2023
Subject:	Annual Letter from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales 2022/2023
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Carwyn Elias Jones
Head of Service / Director:	Lynn Ball, Director of Function (Council Business) / Monitoring Officer
Report Author: Tel: E-mail:	Corporate Information and Complaints Officer 01248 752588 dylanowen3@ynysmon.llyw.cymru
Local Members:	Relevant to all Members

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

1. Recommendations

The Committee and the Executive to:

- note and accept the Annual Letter from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales (PSOW) 2022/23;
- to support the implementation of the PSOW's Model Policy;
- to support the development of a training strategy;
- to support the development of a training needs assessment and the rollout of suitable training as required;
- to authorise the Director of Function (Council Business) / Monitoring Officer to write to the PSOW to confirm that the Committee and the Executive have given formal consideration to her Annual Letter; and agreed to the implementation of elements referred to in her Annual Letter;
- to provide assurance that the Council will continue to monitor complaints thereby providing Members with the information required to scrutinise the Council's performance.

2. Background

Since 2006 the PSOW has published an annual report on the work undertaken by her office over the previous 12 months.

The PSOW recently published her [Annual Report](#) for 2022/23.

The PSOW also publishes a separate annual summary of the performance of each council; called the Annual Letter.

The Annual Letter 2022/23, for the Isle of Anglesey County Council (IOACC), is attached as **Appendix 1**.

3. The Annual Letter

The Letter largely relates to service complaints but also includes a section on complaints made under the Code of Conduct for members.

The Headline Messages:-

- 25 Service complaints were lodged with the PSOW, against IOACC; down from 29 complaints during 2021/2022. It was concluded that 20 did not require an investigation by the PSOW's office.
- 5 of the complaints lodged were dealt with by way of early resolution

In addition to the complaints lodged with the PSOW against IOACC Services, the Letter also refers to complaints made against County, Town and Community Councillors

- 1 Code of Conduct complaint was made against a member of the County Council but this was not investigated
- 1 complaint was made against a Town/Community Councillor during 2022/23, but the investigation was discontinued prior to its investigation.
- The PSOW have stated that the Town/Community Councils listed in Appendix F are included as they had a complaint closed during 2022/23 (referenced with the number of complaints) or that there were historical complaints against them in 2021/22 (referenced with a 0).

The performance for IOACC is to be found in the tables provided in the Annual Letter.

In her letter, the PSOW requests the following:-

- *“Present my Annual Letter to the Cabinet and to the Governance and Audit Committee at the next available opportunity and notify me of when these meetings will take place.”*

This report satisfies the above request and, in addition, is published to all Members and to the public. The Corporate Information and Complaints Officer has notified the Ombudsman of the dates of these meetings.

- *“Continue to engage with our Complaints Standards work, accessing training for your staff, fully implementing the model policy, and providing accurate and timely complaints data.”*

The Complaints Standards Agency (CSA) [Guidance for Public Service Providers on Implementing the Concerns and Complaints Policy](#) contains advice about training and refers to the need to develop a training strategy.

A training strategy will be developed and an assessment of the training needs of staff and Elected Members will be identified and addressed.

The Council will adopt the current version of the PSOW's Model Policy and ensure that its complaints management process complies with the CSA Guidance.

The Council provides quarterly complaints data in accordance with the timescale set by the CSA. Please see below a table confirming the submission date by the CSA and the date the information was submitted by the Council.

Submission Date	Date Data Sent by IOACC
22.07.2022	19.07.2022
21.10.2022	20.10.2022
03.02.2023	02.02.2023
21.05.2023	16.05.2023

- *“Inform me of the outcome of the Council’s considerations and proposed actions on the above matters at the earliest opportunity.”*

This will be completed following the meetings of the Governance and Audit Committee and the Executive.

4. Additional information.

In addition to the Annual Letter, information on concerns, complaints and compliments are published quarterly on the Council’s website at <https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/Get-involved/Official-complaints/Council-complaints-statistics.aspx>

Quarterly reports are also provided to the Leadership Team

[The Governance & Audit Committee](#) receive an annual report on complaints, in September of each year. The report for 2022/23 has been reported to the Committee on 21st September 2023.

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

There were no alternative options

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

This is a matter for both the Governance and Audit Committee and the Executive; at the request of the PSOW.

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

Not relevant

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

Not relevant

F – Impact on our Future Generations(if relevant)

1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island	The purpose of the Corporate Complaints Policy is to learn lessons when things go wrong and make changes to service delivery as required and where possible.
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:	The facts presented contribute to building better services for the future
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward? Please explain how:-	
5	Outline what impact does this decision have on the Equalities agenda and the Welsh language	Welsh language complaints are contained within the Corporate Concerns & Complaints Policy and are dealt with if received. If complaints are received from the Welsh Language Commissioner, they will be reported in the Welsh Language Standards Report 2022-23

G – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Leadership Team (LT) (mandatory)	Endorse the report and its recommendations.
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	Endorse the report and its recommendations.
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	Endorse the report and its recommendations.
4	Human Resources (HR)	N/A
5	Property	N/A
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	N/A
7	Procurement	N/A
8	Scrutiny	N/A
9	Local Members	This report is published to all elected members

H - Appendices:
Copy of the Annual Letter 2022/23

I - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):
None



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Communications

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Date: 17 August 2023

Cllr. Llinos Medi
Isle of Anglesey County Council
By Email only: llinosmedihuws@anglesey.gov.uk

Annual Letter 2022/23

Dear Councillor Medi

I am pleased to provide you with the Annual letter (2022/23) for Isle of Anglesey County Council which deals with complaints relating to maladministration and service failure, complaints relating to alleged breaches of the Code of Conduct for Councillors and the actions being taken to improve public services.

This letter coincides with my Annual Report – “[A year of change – a year of challenge](#)” – a sentiment which will no doubt resonate with public bodies across Wales. My office has seen another increase in the number of people asking for our help – up 3% overall compared to the previous year, and my office now receives double the number of cases we received a decade ago.

In the last year, I have met with public bodies across Wales – speaking about our casework, our recommendations, and our proactive powers. The current climate will continue to provide challenges for public services, but I am grateful for the positive and productive way in which local authorities continue to engage with my office.

1,020 complaints were referred to us regarding local authorities last year - a reduction of 11% compared to the previous year. During this period, we intervened in (upheld, settled or resolved at an early stage) 13% of local authority complaints.

We received fewer Code of Conduct complaints in 22/23 compared to the previous year, relating to both Principal Councils and Town and Community Councils. My role is such that I do not make final findings about breaches of the Code of Conduct. Instead, where investigations find the most serious concerns, these are referred to the Standards Committee of the relevant local authority, or the

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Adjudication Panel for Wales. In 2022/23, the Ombudsman made 12 such referrals – a welcome reduction from 20 last year.

Supporting improvement of public services

Despite the challenges of last year, we have pushed forward with our proactive improvement work and launched a new Service Quality process to ensure we deliver the standards we expect.

Last year, we began work on our second wider Own Initiative investigation – this time looking into carers assessments within local authorities. This investigation will take place throughout the coming year, and we look forward to sharing our findings with all local authorities – not just those involved in the investigation.

The Complaints Standards Authority (CSA) continued its work with public bodies in Wales last year, with more than 50 public bodies now operating our model policy. We've also now provided more than 400 training sessions since we started, with local authorities, in September 2020.

We continued our work to publish complaints statistics into a second year, with data now published twice a year. This data allows us to see information with greater context – for example, last year 14% of Isle of Anglesey County Council's complaints were referred to PSOW.

I would encourage Isle of Anglesey County Council, and specifically your Audit and Governance Committee, to use this data to better understand your performance on complaints and consider how well good complaints handling is embedded throughout the Authority.

Further to this letter can I ask that your Council takes the following actions:

- Present my Annual Letter to the Cabinet and to the Governance and Audit Committee at the next available opportunity and notify me of when these meetings will take place.
- Continue to engage with our Complaints Standards work, accessing training for your staff, fully implementing the model policy, and providing accurate and timely complaints data.
- Inform me of the outcome of the Council's considerations and proposed actions on the above matters at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely,



Michelle Morris
Public Services Ombudsman

cc. Dylan Williams, Chief Executive, Isle of Anglesey County Council.
By Email only: dylanwilliams@ynysmon.gov.uk



Factsheet

Appendix A - Complaints Received

Local Authority	Complaints Received	Received per 1000 residents
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council	16	0.24
Bridgend County Borough Council	55	0.38
Caerphilly County Borough Council	49	0.28
Cardiff Council*	142	0.39
Carmarthenshire County Council	53	0.28
Ceredigion County Council	35	0.49
Conwy County Borough Council	31	0.27
Denbighshire County Council	32	0.33
Flintshire County Council	65	0.42
Cyngor Gwynedd	36	0.31
Isle of Anglesey County Council	25	0.36
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council	17	0.29
Monmouthshire County Council	23	0.25
Neath Port Talbot Council	39	0.27
Newport City Council	42	0.26
Pembrokeshire County Council	44	0.36
Powys County Council	38	0.29
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council**	54	0.23
Swansea Council	94	0.39
Torfaen County Borough Council	16	0.17
Vale of Glamorgan Council	49	0.37
Wrexham County Borough Council	65	0.48
Total	1020	0.33
* inc 9 Rent Smart Wales		
** inc 2 South Wales Parking Group		



Appendix B - Received by Subject

Isle of Anglesey County Council	Complaints Received	% share
Adult Social Services	1	4%
Benefits Administration	0	0%
Children's Social Services	3	12%
Community Facilities, Recreation and Leisure	0	0%
Complaints Handling	6	24%
Covid19	0	0%
Education	1	4%
Environment and Environmental Health	1	4%
Finance and Taxation	2	8%
Housing	4	16%
Licensing	0	0%
Planning and Building Control	5	20%
Roads and Transport	0	0%
Various Other	2	8%
Total	25	



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Appendix C - Complaint Outcomes (* denotes intervention)

Isle of Anglesey County Council		% Share
Out of Jurisdiction	5	20%
Premature	4	16%
Other cases closed after initial consideration	11	44%
Early Resolution/ voluntary settlement*	5	20%
Discontinued	0	0%
Other Reports - Not Upheld	0	0%
Other Reports Upheld*	0	0%
Public Interest Reports*	0	0%
Special Interest Reports*	0	0%
Total	25	

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Appendix D - Cases with PSOW Intervention

	No. of interventions	No. of closures	% of interventions
Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council	0	16	0%
Bridgend County Borough Council	5	57	9%
Caerphilly County Borough Council	6	52	12%
Cardiff Council	25	145	17%
Cardiff Council - Rent Smart Wales	1	9	11%
Carmarthenshire County Council	7	60	12%
Ceredigion County Council	13	44	30%
Conwy County Borough Council	5	35	14%
Denbighshire County Council	2	33	6%
Flintshire County Council	5	70	7%
Cyngor Gwynedd	5	33	15%
Isle of Anglesey County Council	5	25	20%
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council	1	18	6%
Monmouthshire County Council	1	22	5%
Neath Port Talbot Council	7	38	18%
Newport City Council	8	48	17%
Pembrokeshire County Council	3	45	7%
Powys County Council	8	44	18%
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council	2	54	4%
Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council - South Wales Parking Group	0	2	0%
Swansea Council	10	99	10%
Torfaen County Borough Council	1	17	6%
Vale of Glamorgan Council	15	53	28%
Wrexham County Borough Council	6	67	9%
Total	141	1086	13%



Appendix E - Code of Conduct Complaints

**Isle of Anglesey County
Council**

Decision not to investigate	0
Discontinued	1
No evidence of breach	0
No action necessary	0
Refer to Adjudication Panel	0
Refer to Standards Committee	0
Total	1

Investigations

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Appendix F - Town/Community Council Code of Complaints

Town/Community Council	Decision not to investigate	Investigations				Total	
		Discontinued	No evidence of breach	No action necessary	Refer to Adjudication Panel		Refer to Standards Committee
Amlwch Town Council	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Llandona Community Council	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Llanddyfnan Community Council	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rhosybol Community Council	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



Information Sheet

Appendix A shows the number of complaints received by PSOW for all Local Authorities in 2022/23. These complaints are contextualised by the population of each authority.

Appendix B shows the categorisation of each complaint received, and what proportion of received complaints represents for the Local Authority.

Appendix C shows outcomes of the complaints which PSOW closed for the Local Authority in 2022/23. This table shows both the volume, and the proportion that each outcome represents for the Local Authority.

Appendix D shows Intervention Rates for all Local Authorities in 2022/23. An intervention is categorised by either an upheld complaint (either public interest or non-public interest), an early resolution, or a voluntary settlement.

Appendix E shows the outcomes of Code Of Conduct complaints closed by PSOW related to Local Authority in 2022/23. This table shows both the volume, and the proportion that each outcome represents for the Local Authority.

Appendix F shows the outcomes of Code of Conduct complaints closed by PSOW related to Town and Community Councils in the Local Authority's area in 2022/23. This table shows both the volume, and the proportion that each outcome represents for each Town or Community Council.

ombwdsmon.cymru
holwch@ombwdsmon.cymru
0300 790 0203
1 Ffordd yr Hen Gae, CF 35 5LJ
Rydym yn hapus i dderbyn ac
ymateb i ohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg.

ombudsman.wales
ask@ombudsman.wales
0300 790 0203
1 Ffordd yr Hen Gae, CF 35 5LJ
We are happy to accept and respond
to correspondence in Welsh.

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Isle of Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	Executive Committee
Date:	26 September 2023
Subject:	The Isle of Anglesey County Council's response to the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service – Emergency Cover Review
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Llinos Medi
Head of Service / Director:	Dylan J. Williams Chief Executive
Report Author: E-mail:	Susan Owen Jones Susanjones4@anglesey.gov.wales
Local Members:	Relevant to all elected members.

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

The Committee is requested to:

1. Consider and provide comments on the Council's draft response to the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service – Emergency Cover Review.
2. To accept and approve the Council's draft response to the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service – Emergency Cover Review.

The Council is a category 1 responder and has responsibility for planning and responding to emergencies under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004, the Radioactive Emergencies (Preparedness and Public Information) Regulations 2002, and the Pipeline Safety Regulations 1996.

The Council plays a crucial role in civil resilience and works alongside the emergency services and other category 1 responders including the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service.

North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority is undertaking a public consultation to gather feedback on the options offered in relation to the future delivery of its emergency services. The Council has been invited to respond to that consultation.

Please see the documentation published as part of the consultation in Appendix B. As a result of internal discussions, the response in Appendix A has been formulated as Council's feedback to the options under consideration by the Fire and Rescue Authority.

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

N/A

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

Securing the formal support and approval of the Executive Committee is important considering the subject in question, as well as the high level of interest in the issue from the perspective of local stakeholders.

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

N/A

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

The North Wales Fire and Rescue Service is mainly funded through a levy from the region's Unitary Authorities. The Council contributes towards this fund and contributions are based on population. Any change to the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service budget will affect the levy with additional pressure placed on the Council's budget.

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):

1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	The feedback from the consultation will shape the future of how the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service provide emergency services in North Wales and as a result will impact on the needs of the Island.
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.	No
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.	N/A
5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	N/A

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):		
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	N/A
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

E – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Leadership Team (LT) (mandatory)	The comments have been incorporated in the report.
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	The comments have been incorporated in the report.
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	The comments have been incorporated in the report.
4	Human Resources (HR)	
5	Property	
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	
7	Procurement	
8	Scrutiny	The Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee (19 September 2023) accepted the initial draft response of the Council subject to a number of further considerations.
9	Local Members	

F - Appendices:
Appendix A – The Isle of Anglesey County Council’s response to the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service – Emergency Cover Review
Appendix B – Consultation document

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

North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority – Emergency Cover Review

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority Emergency Cover Review consultation. Senior Officers and Elected Members have reviewed the consultation document and considered the proposed options. These were formally considered and endorsed by the **xx on xx.**

As a local authority in North Wales and as a category 1 responder, the Council plays a crucial role in civil resilience and must ensure adequate preparedness for emergencies. We work alongside the emergency services and other category 1 responders and fully appreciate and understand the importance of the service and the challenges faced. We value our continued commitments and endeavours to collaborate effectively, whilst recognizing that the current financial challenges are both uncertain and demanding. We also recognise the difficulties in planning for, delivering, and maintaining core statutory services in a period of financial constraints.

The Isle of Anglesey County Council is one of the 6 constituent authorities of the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority. Membership of the Fire and Rescue Authority includes county councillors from the six local authorities and this Council has 3 members on the Authority.

The majority of funding for the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service is received by way of levy from the Unitary Authorities within the area. The Council pays into this combined fund and the contribution is based on population. Any change in the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service budget would consequently impact on the levy contributions and would result in added pressure to the Council's budget. This would either result in the Council having to reduce other service budgets in order to maintain the budget at the level of funding available or to increase the funding by passing on the additional cost to the Island's residents through increased Council Tax.

Please see below detailed comments:

General comments

1. The purpose and objective of the consultation is clearly set out in the document. The information within and the general presentation of the document is clear and easy to understand.
2. Although, the document does not give detail on the reason / need for change, we have been advised that the review seeks to improve guaranteed day time emergency cover across the whole of North Wales.
3. There are differing needs and challenges across the region, primarily driven by geography, and having a dispersed rural community. We are eager to ensure that rural communities are not at a disadvantage in terms of service provision as a result of any changes.
4. We recognise that North Wales as a region has continued to evolve and so have the risks faced by the public who live, work and visit. We also welcome the evolution of the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority to become a preventative service along with special service calls emerging as a result of climate change and advances in technology.
5. We agree with the criteria used in developing the options and the key themes arising from the initial engagement. They are appropriate and suitable.

Options

6. The document suggests that on a regional basis, the impact of the 3 different options varies.
7. Specifically for Anglesey, there will be no impact or effect from maintaining the current arrangements or changing to options 1 and 2.
8. Although options 1 and 2 would see no impact on the Island they would cost more. To maintain the existing level of service, if financially achievable, would be a desirable outcome.
9. The maps showing the location of the emergency calls clearly show that the majority of calls around the coast are in the North and on Anglesey. However, the 3 options proposed increase the full-time staff in South Meirionnydd and Denbigh. As a result, the Service will have more full-time staff in the areas with fewer calls.
10. The consultation document does not show the number of calls per full-time staff before and after implementing any changes. This comparison would help to show the impact of the changes under each of the options. Ideally the change should create a situation where the call to staff figure be consistent across the region.

Option 3

11. Option 3 includes the closure of one of the Island's Retained Stations in Beaumaris.
12. Our view is that the closure or non-availability of a resource would result in taking longer for the next nearest resource to attend an emergency. The next nearest response would not necessarily be coming from neighbouring stations as they may not be available due to crewing deficiencies or being required elsewhere. In the case of Beaumaris, the next station to respond is Menai Bridge which has only been available 26% of the time.
13. Option 3 is the only option detailing a reduction (2,087) in the number of households that would receive a response within 20 minutes. Both options 1 and 2 note an increase (2,148 and 321 respectively). Information received specifies that the closure of the Beaumaris Station would reduce the number of households in Anglesey receiving a response in 20 minutes by 670 households (a reduction from 78.4% to 76%). The location of these households has not been shared; we assume that these would be in the South East of the Island.
14. As previously noted, the next nearest response would not necessarily be coming from neighbouring stations, therefore suggesting the response may come from off Anglesey. With the nearest day crewed station to Beaumaris being over the Menai in Bangor, Gwynedd, it is in our view a reduced service which enhances threat to life.
15. The congestion and lack of resilience for the Menai crossings is of significant concern and dependency on the Bangor Fire Station therefore raises serious concerns. Detailed evidence of these concerns were presented and endorsed by the Council's Executive on the 18th of July 2023 ([Improving the Reliability and Resilience across the Menai Straits.pdf \(anglesey.gov.uk\)](#)).
 - a. The Britannia Bridge is the only point on the UK trunk road network hosting the Trans-European Road Network route E22, where the carriageway narrows from 4 lanes to two - one in each direction.
 - b. Restrictions on the type of vehicles that can access the Menai Suspension bridge (only up to 7.5 tonnes), and speed restrictions of 30mph along with the lack of enhanced safety facilities, such as hard shoulders contribute to poor resilience with regards to emergency vehicles.
 - c. The Britannia Bridge is vulnerable to closures due to wind, incidents and accidents.
 - d. During particularly high winds (gusts above 70mph) the bridge is fully closed – with no possible diversion route for vehicles over 7.5 tonnes.

16. The lack of resilience of the existing Menai crossings has consequential effects on the emergency services and the safety of our communities. We therefore oppose the closure of the Beaumaris Fire Station as included in option 3.

Central costs and operating structure

17. The consultation does not discuss, consider or propose any change to the central costs of running the service. The 3 options presented raise the costs between 8.1% and 13.5%. It will then be a question for the Fire Service how to fund the increase in costs, i.e. will all the costs be funded by the levy or will the service offer savings including reducing the central costs.
18. The focus must be on protecting front line services and the omission of any detail or consideration surrounding the central costs does not provide any assurance that this is the case.

In summary, I confirm the Council's position that the focus of the review must be on protecting front line services during the current economic climate and that consideration needs to be given to implementing efficiency savings in other areas within the operating structure and working practices of the North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority, i.e. central costs, training costs etc. Further detail, consideration and discussions are required regarding the wider operating structure and opportunities for efficiencies.

The Council requests that the North Wales Fire & Rescue Service conduct a review of their administrative and central costs as a basis for setting the levy contribution incorporating the input of the Section 151 Officers in North Wales.

The Isle of Anglesey County Council is against the closure of Beaumaris Station as stated in Option 3.

As stated previously, we value our continued commitments and endeavours to collaboration, whilst also recognising that the current financial challenges are both uncertain and demanding. We would welcome further discussion regarding our response.

YOUR FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

**RIGHT PLACE
RIGHT TIME
RIGHT SKILLS**



Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub
Fire and Rescue Service

Emergency Cover Review
Have your say

21 July 2023 – 22 September 2023

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What this document is about



North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority is running a public consultation to gather feedback from those who live, work and travel in the region about the future of how we provide our emergency cover services in North Wales.

Emergency cover is the way we manage our resources to keep people safe - no matter where you live or who you are, we aim to be there for you when you need us.

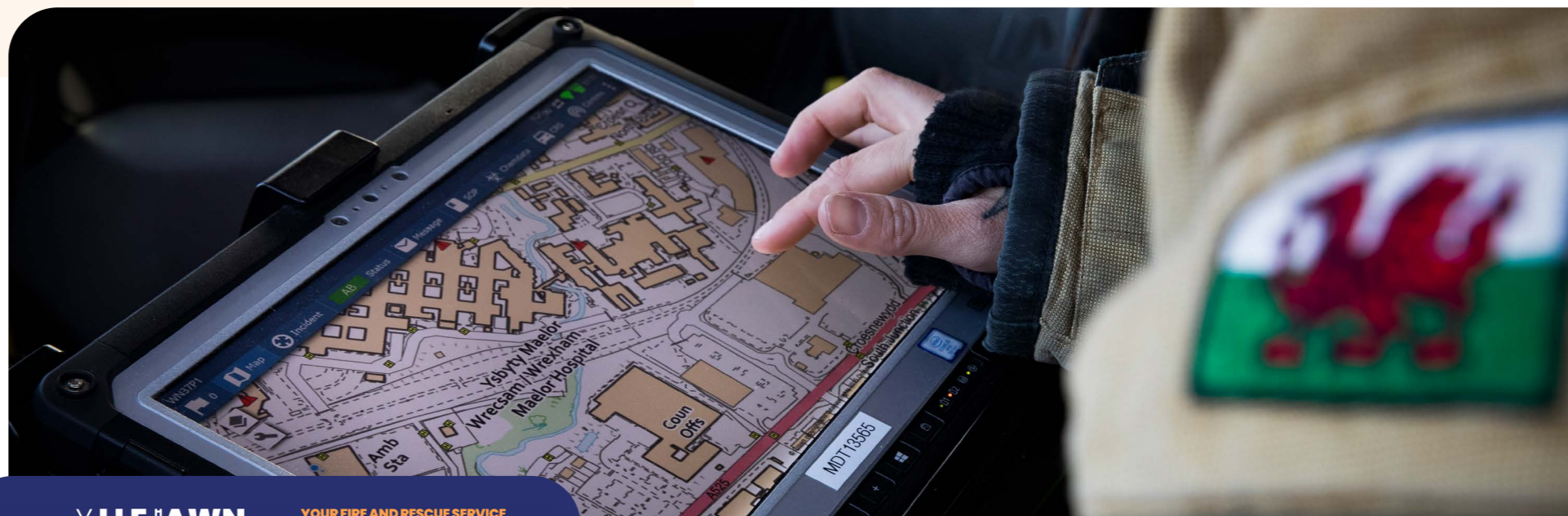
To help us develop our future options, we have been working with our staff and representative bodies, members of the public, council representatives, local vulnerable groups and members of our Fire and Rescue Authority to understand what really matters should you, or someone you care for or represent, require our services in an emergency.

All the feedback has been used to develop our options for the future of emergency cover services across North Wales - we want to know what you think. We explain the options on pages 36-37.

Between 21 July 2023 and 22 September 2023, you can tell us what you think by completing our questionnaire and returning it to us - it is available on paper or online at www.northwalesfire.gov.wales.

We explain the range of ways you can get involved and share your views with us on pages 38-40.

YOUR FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
RIGHT PLACE
RIGHT TIME
RIGHT SKILLS



Who we are?

North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority was established as part of the reorganisation of local government on 1 April 1996. It comprises 28 councillors from the six unitary authorities of North Wales.

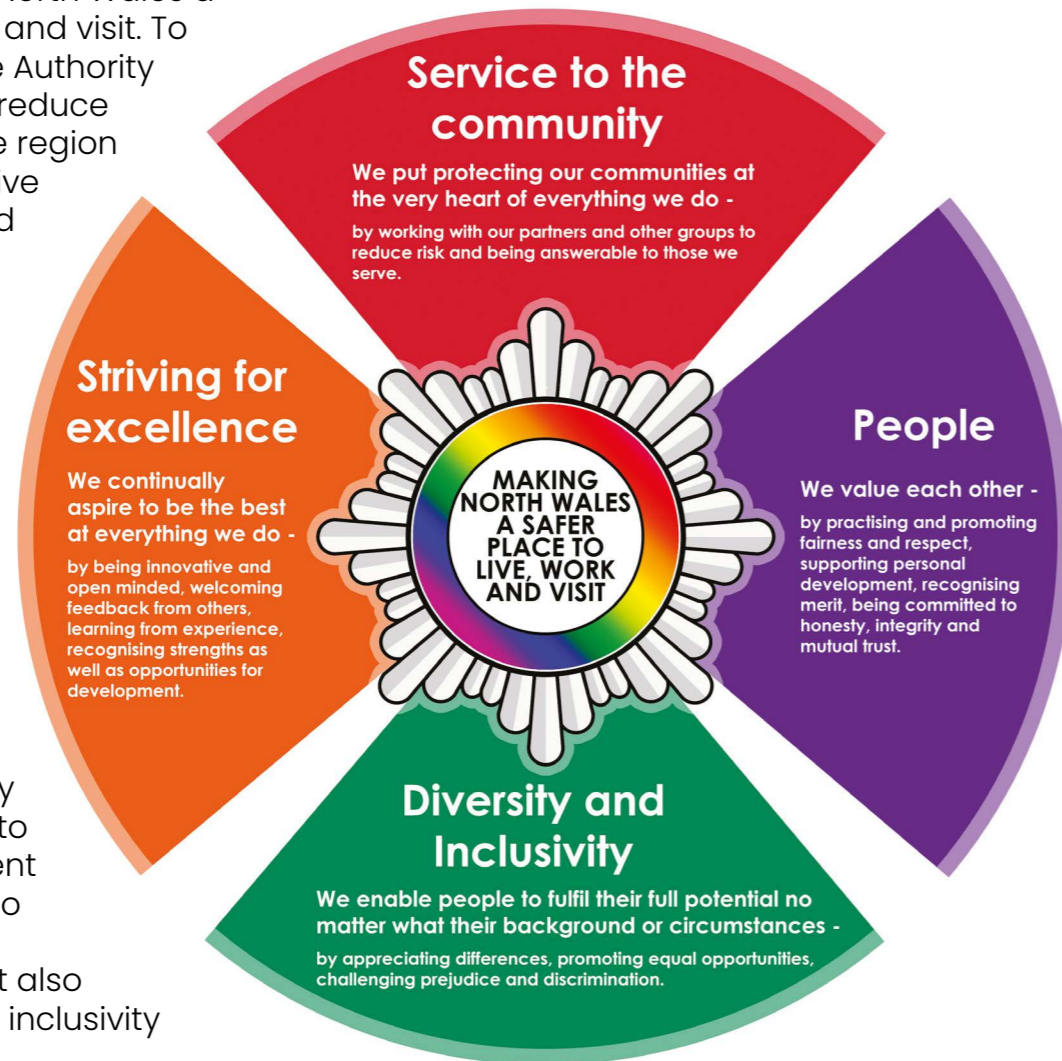


The Authority is the publicly accountable body that is responsible for providing a fire and rescue service for the communities of North Wales.

Our mission is to make North Wales a safer place to live, work and visit. To support this mission the Authority will continue to work to reduce dwelling fires across the region through a comprehensive prevention strategy, and will investigate and analyse information to reduce the risks associated with all types of fire and other hazards.

We will also continue to promote education and collaboration with people living and working in North Wales. Equality of opportunity is a fundamental priority and the Authority aims to increase the employment prospects of people who might find it difficult to gain employment whilst also promoting fairness and inclusivity in the workplace.

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Our aims

In March 2021 the Authority published a Corporate Plan 2021-24 which sets out our seven long-term improvement and wellbeing objectives. In October 2021 the Authority confirmed its intention to continue to pursue those same objectives in 2022/23 and in March 2023 the plan was revised.

The Corporate Plan explains our vision for the future, and how we propose to achieve this through seven long term objectives. Supporting the delivery of the seven objectives are more detailed, shorter term, steps that have been linked to the seven well-being goals outlined in the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015: www.futuregenerations.wales

More information about the Service and the Authority can be found by visiting the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service website: www.northwalesfire.gov.wales

Our core values are displayed in the diagram below.



Introduction

We want to provide the fairest possible service to the public of North Wales.

No matter where you live or who you are, we aim to be there for you when you need us.

This means being able to provide an equitable service across our diverse communities – diverse in terms of location and geography, in terms of the types of incidents we respond to, and also in terms of the people we serve.

From the mountains of Eryri to the newly crowned city of Wrexham, from the Welsh heartlands to the borders of Shropshire and Cheshire, from wildfires to flooding incidents, house fires to road traffic collisions – whatever your ethnicity, gender or sexual orientation and regardless of any disability.

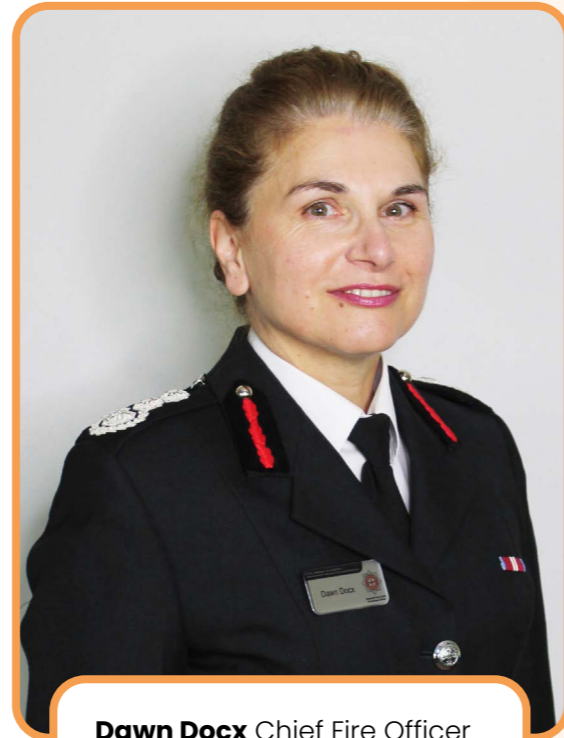
We aim to achieve this by managing our resources, our budget and our people as effectively as possible.

Understanding your views and the views of all those who live, work and travel in our region is key to this.

Balancing this against the current challenges to providing our services is also key – especially when our part time or on-call firefighters are not as available as they have been traditionally, when the risks faced by our communities are changing with climate change and when the financial challenges are greater than ever.

And it's not just about responding to incidents – preventing them from happening in the first place is far better for everyone involved.

Not only does our prevention work help to keep you safe but it also means we can better manage how we operate – and importantly, for some communities such as those in more rural areas, it is a vital part of protecting our residents.



Dawn Docx Chief Fire Officer and Chief Executive

How we currently operate

North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority was created in 1996 bringing together the County of Clwyd Fire Service and Gwasanaeth Tân Gwynedd. However, the model of emergency cover and the locations and crewing arrangements of the 44 fire stations in North Wales have remained relatively unchanged since the post war era.

North Wales as a region has continued to evolve and so have the risks faced by the public who live, work and visit our beautiful area. In 2008 in addition to being a responding service, North Wales Fire and Rescue Service positioned itself as a preventative service. Since then we have worked hard to bring down the number of fires and resulting deaths and injuries.

Importantly, 2022/23 was a milestone year for us – for the first time since we have kept records, there were zero deaths due to accidental fires in dwellings in North Wales.

This is great news, but we must not become complacent. We need to work harder still to maintain this level of safety.



Dylan Rees Chair of the Authority and Executive Panel



The challenges ahead

In the meantime, other risks have emerged with climate change increasing the frequency and severity of wildfires and flooding.

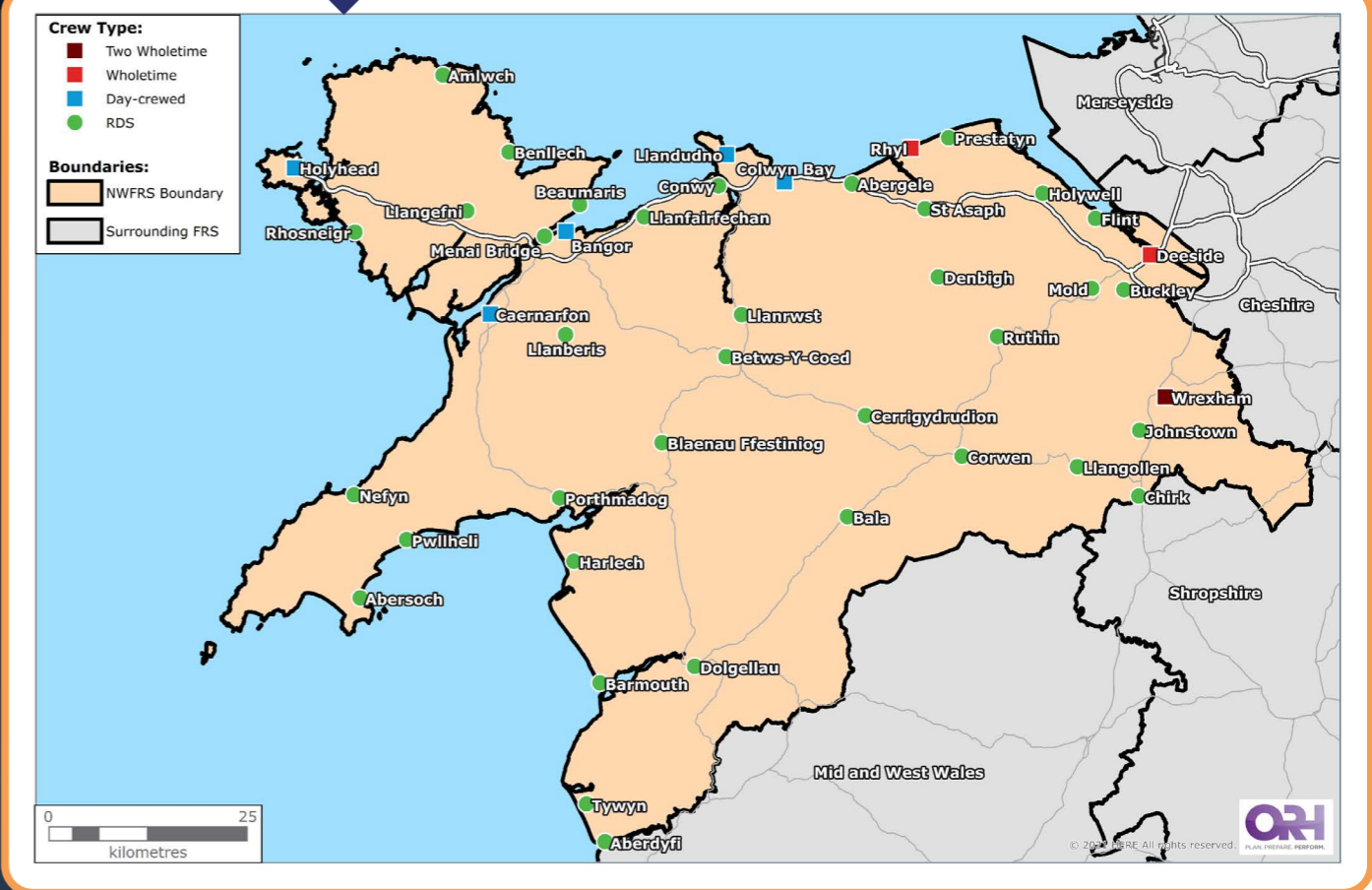
Advances in technology such as solar panels and electric vehicles as well as modern methods of construction and new building materials pose new risks to the public and to firefighters.

Having started to support other emergency sector colleagues we have seen an increase in what we know as special service calls.

As a result, we are becoming more of a Rescue Service than a Fire and Rescue Service.

In the future, the Welsh Government's aspiration is that we explore being able to assist our ambulance colleagues further by responding to cardiac arrests. To do all this we would need to be **in the right place**.

Why are we consulting?



Currently we have guaranteed emergency cover at only eight of our fire stations located predominantly along the A55 dual carriageway corridor in our region.

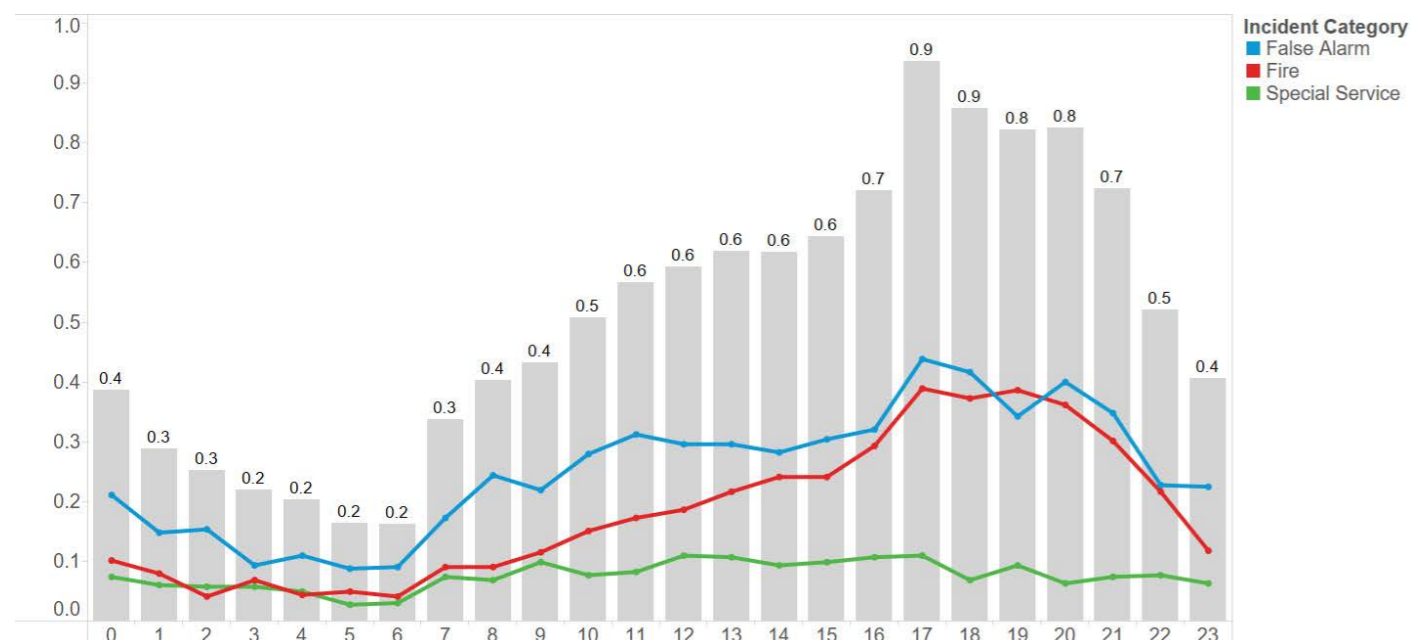
Elsewhere in North Wales we rely on part time or on-call firefighters (who operate the retained duty system) – and their availability during the day time is challenging (see page 11).

We are working hard to recruit and retain these firefighters but we need to have guaranteed emergency cover in inland areas, to ensure that we can be certain of being able to provide a response crew within the optimum response times across the whole of North Wales. In an emergency, time is of the essence.

We have therefore been exploring scenarios for providing emergency cover in the future – with a view to improving existing cover whilst also recognising the current financial challenges. Working with independent specialists we have been modelling exactly how we could optimise our resources and respond in the most effective and efficient way.



We know that the number of incidents we attend increases throughout the day, peaking in early evening and then dropping at night. We could therefore look at matching this demand by changing the way some of our crews work in certain areas.



Average hourly incidents 01/04/2017 - 31/03/2022

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Whilst we can work to improve how our average cover and performance could look, there will still be areas, especially in rural locations, where we would continue to work harder to improve our protection and prevention services and continue to focus on the recruitment of on-call staff and their availability.

This would enable us to respond more effectively to all the emergencies we are called upon to attend, including road traffic collisions and events as a result of extreme weather, and crucially **at the right time.**

Along with the new risks, the technology that firefighters use has become more sophisticated. Training is therefore critical, and because the number of fires has decreased significantly in recent years thanks to our prevention work, it makes the need for realistic and immersive training in all of the emergencies we are likely to attend even more crucial.

We also need to be mindful of our need to train firefighters to keep themselves and the public safe and provide the highest quality of response.

We are therefore developing a business case to build a state-of-the-art Training Centre. It would be more centrally located, so less time would be spent travelling and more time could be spent training. It could also prepare our firefighters for dealing with new and existing risks and we could share it with our emergency service partners and others we may attend emergencies alongside, for joint emergency service training and collaboration activities to ensure our people **have the right skills.**

Where does our money come from?

We are committed to delivering value for money across all the services we provide with funding levied from the six local authorities we serve: Anglesey, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd, and Wrexham.

Our Fire Authority is made up of representatives of the six local authorities and has the power to raise a Council Tax levy for funding.

Each year, each constituent local authority pays a contribution into a combined fire service fund which is equal to its proportion of our Fire Authority's expenses.

Our current budget for 2022/23 is £44.4 million - which equates to £63.07 a year per head of population in North Wales, or £150.66 a year per household.

Information on the cost of each option being consulted on is included in the table on pages 36-37.

What are our current shift patterns?

- Our retained duty or on-call (part-time) firefighters are mainly based in rural fire stations located across our region. They are required to be within five minutes of their fire station and carry an alerter to be able to respond to emergencies as well as attend drill nights once a week for training sessions and other pre-arranged duties.
- Our day crewed firefighters are full-time firefighters located at Colwyn Bay, Llandudno, Bangor, Caernarfon and Holyhead. The day crewing shift system requires our crews to work a combination of hours on station during the day and on-call from a base location overnight, to provide a 24-hour response. There are also on-call firefighters based at these fire stations.
- Our wholtime or full-time firefighters are located at Wrexham, Deeside and Rhyl. Crews at these stations work shifts from the station at night and during the day to provide a 24-hour response. There are also on-call firefighters based at these fire stations.
- Wholtime rural firefighters also work full-time and work 12-hour day shifts covering the region on a dynamic basis depending on need.



What are the challenges of the different incidents we attend?

All too often we see the catastrophic effects of accidental fires in the home. Preventing fires from happening in the first place is key to keeping people safe which is why we have worked hard to bring down the number of fires and resulting deaths and injuries – and conducting safe and well checks to provide fire safety in the home advice and installing smoke alarms is integral to this work.

Most fires start accidentally – and the effects can be devastating. Over 40% of all fires in the home start in the kitchen and being distracted is the biggest human factor responsible – resulting in a smoke logged kitchen, damaged equipment or in the worst cases, serious injury or harm.

We campaign throughout the year to promote ways you can stay safe – you can follow our tips on cooking safely, e-cigarette safety, electrical safety, smoking safety and much more on our website: www.northwalesfire.gov.wales.

Since 2013, all new and converted homes in Wales are fitted with a fire sprinkler system – which is like having a firefighter in your home and proven to save lives and prevent injuries.

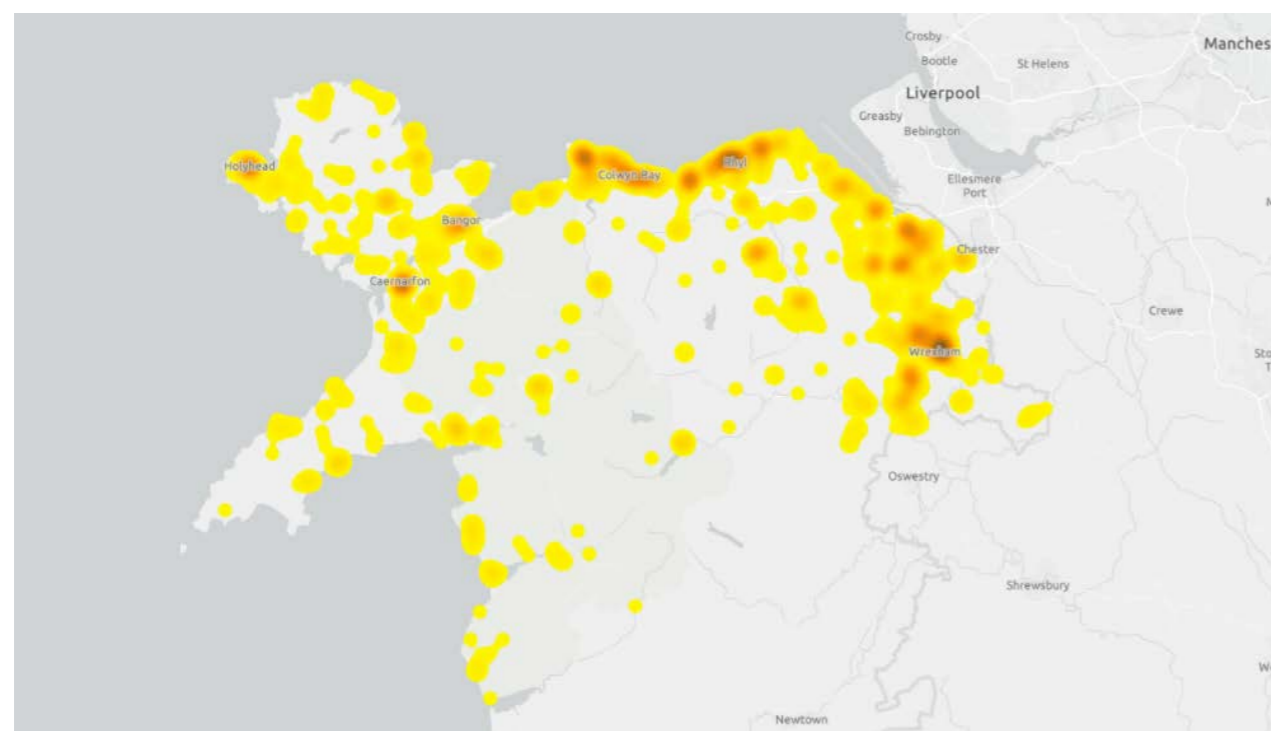
Monitored alarm systems offer a valuable support system for elderly or vulnerable residents – and for all of us, working smoke alarms can give an early warning signal which can buy valuable time to get out, stay out and dial 999.

In 2022/23, for the first time since our records began, there were no deaths due to accidental fires in dwellings in North Wales.

However, we cannot be complacent and know we need to work harder still to maintain this level of safety.

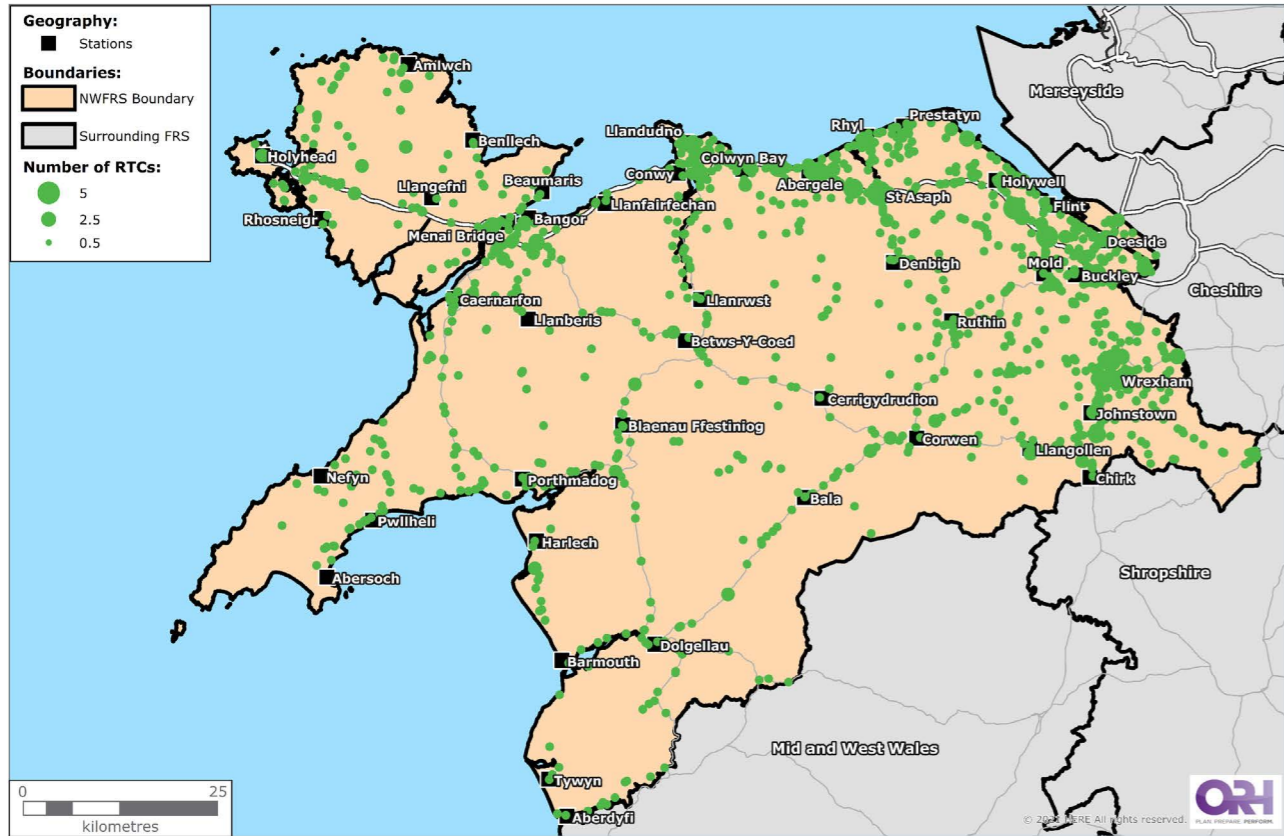


Right place, right time, right skills to help prevent or respond to **house fires**



Accidental Dwelling Fires attended 01/04/2017 – 31/03/2022

Right place, right time, right skills to help prevent or respond to **road traffic collisions**



Road traffic collision locations 01/04/2017 - 31/03/2022



North Wales Fire and Rescue Service works in partnership with other organisations including other fire and rescue services in Wales to promote road safety and raise awareness of the main causes of fatal road traffic collisions. The 'Fatal Five' message focuses on 'Don't drink and drive, Kill your speed, Don't get careless, Belt up, and Switch off your mobile phone'.

Our work as a fire and rescue service does not just involve tackling house fires - we attend a high number of road traffic collisions and work tirelessly with partner agencies to help educate drivers about the potentially fatal consequences of speeding or not paying attention while driving.

This is particularly important for younger drivers - it is well documented that drivers aged 16-24 are disproportionately likely to be casualties in road traffic collisions. In Wales, this age group makes up 11 per cent of the population but 22 per cent of all casualties.

Working together to help raise awareness of the importance of road safety is part of our commitment to reducing road traffic incidents which can occur anywhere across our region.





Climate change has seen an increase in the demand to respond to wildfires in our region.

Every year in Wales, fire is responsible for damaging thousands of hectares of countryside, open space and wildlife habitats.

Wildfires tie up our resources which could be needed at another emergency – and due to the rural and rural-urban interface environments in which they tend to occur we've seen how wildfires put lives at risk, the lives of our communities as well as those of our firefighters.

In 2022 we saw a dramatic increase in the number and severity of wildfires attended in North Wales, rising from 4 in March and April 2021 to 20 in March and April 2022. The picture was similar across the whole of Wales.

That's why working together to prevent these fires is more important than ever – and we work

with a range of organisations, along with other fire and rescue services across Wales, to raise awareness of the damage that wildfires can cause to some of our most iconic upland landscapes.

We're also working with local landowners and farmers – many of the upland wildfires we saw in March 2022 were as a result of land management techniques such as prescribed moor burning getting out of control.

The summer of 2022 also saw record-breaking high temperatures, such that wildfire is now officially recognised as a major UK hazard in the National Risk Register of Civil Emergencies, and in the UK Health Effects of Climate Change report 2023.

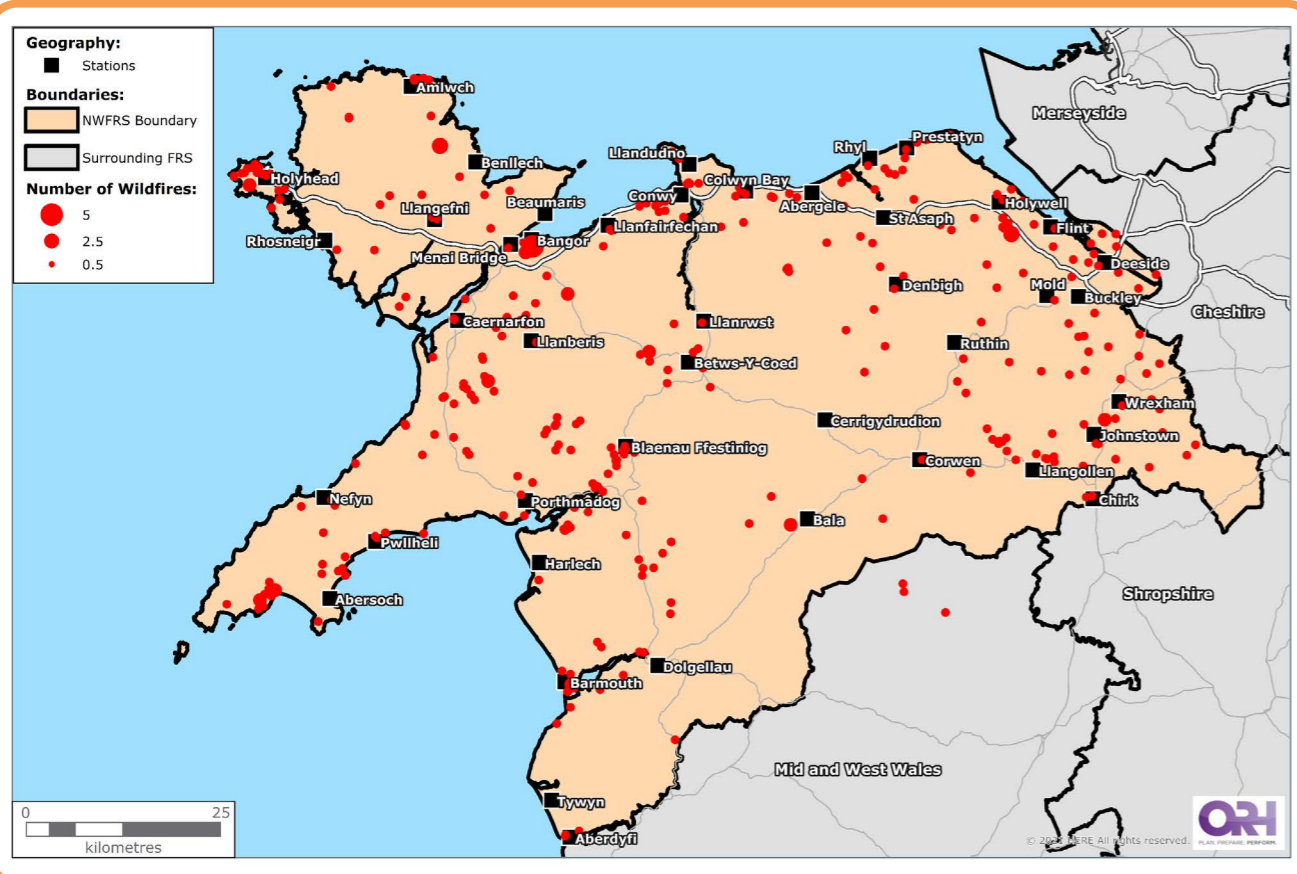
The impact of wildfires can be devastating – damaging land and property, harming our wildlife and our environment, releasing carbon dioxide and pollutants into the atmosphere and water courses, affecting local communities and businesses.

Extinguishing a wildfire is very difficult and costly, requiring specialist equipment as our firefighters often face working in dangerous and difficult conditions.

The costs following a wildfire including restoration, land lost to farmers and businesses and disruption to communities is immense.

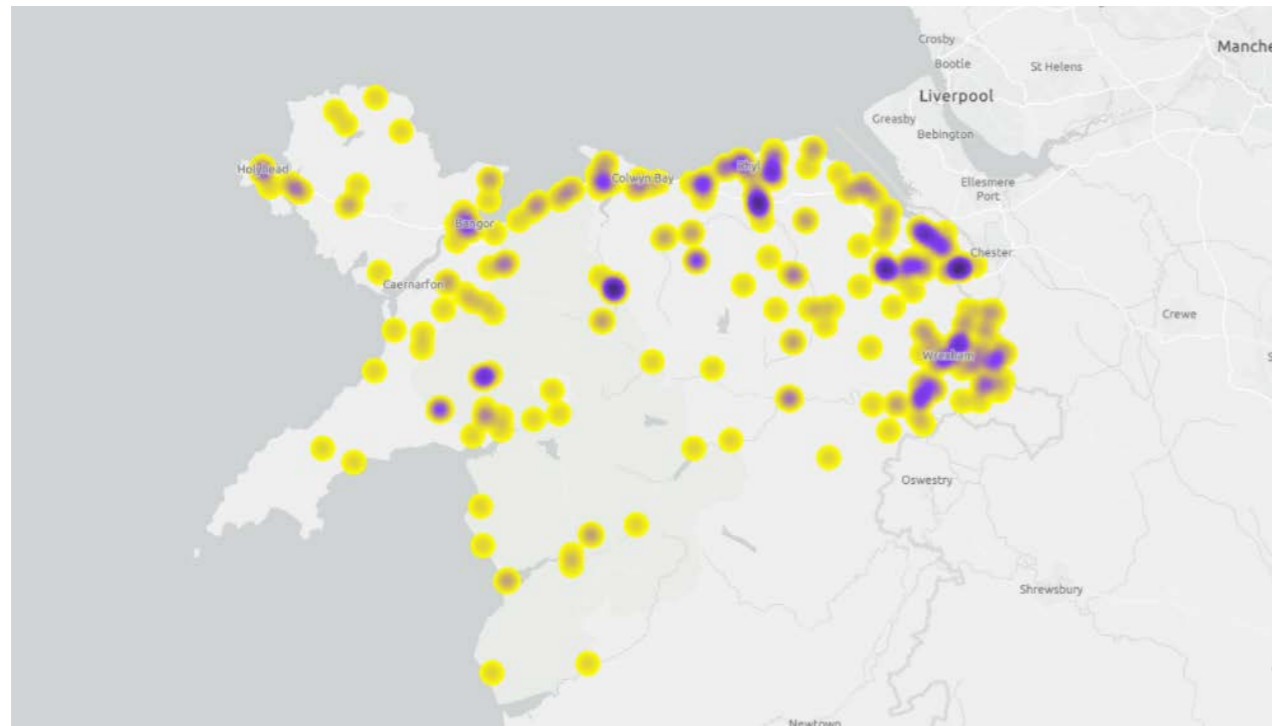
Through effective partnership working, we are focused on reducing the number of wildfires and the impact these have on our communities, landscape and wildlife.

Right place, right time, right skills to tackle **wildfires**



Wildfire Locations 01/04/2017 – 31/03/2022

Right place, right time, right skills to respond to flooding



Flooding incidents attended 01/04/2017 - 31/03/2022



Officers worked closely with partners from other emergency services and local authorities in the planning and preparation for this widespread flooding.

The worst areas affected were Ruthin and Bangor-on-Dee where residents from the local community were evacuated from their homes, and rest centres were opened whilst flood warnings and flood alerts were in place across North Wales.

We want to continue helping the communities we serve to be safe whatever the weather – and the effects of climate change mean we need to be able to adapt to respond to the challenges our communities face.

Climate change has also seen an increase in the demand to respond to flooding incidents in North Wales.

Significant storms are becoming more frequent across the UK, requiring a multi-agency emergency response.

In January 2021, Storm Cristoph brought one of the wettest three-day periods on record across North Wales and North West England.

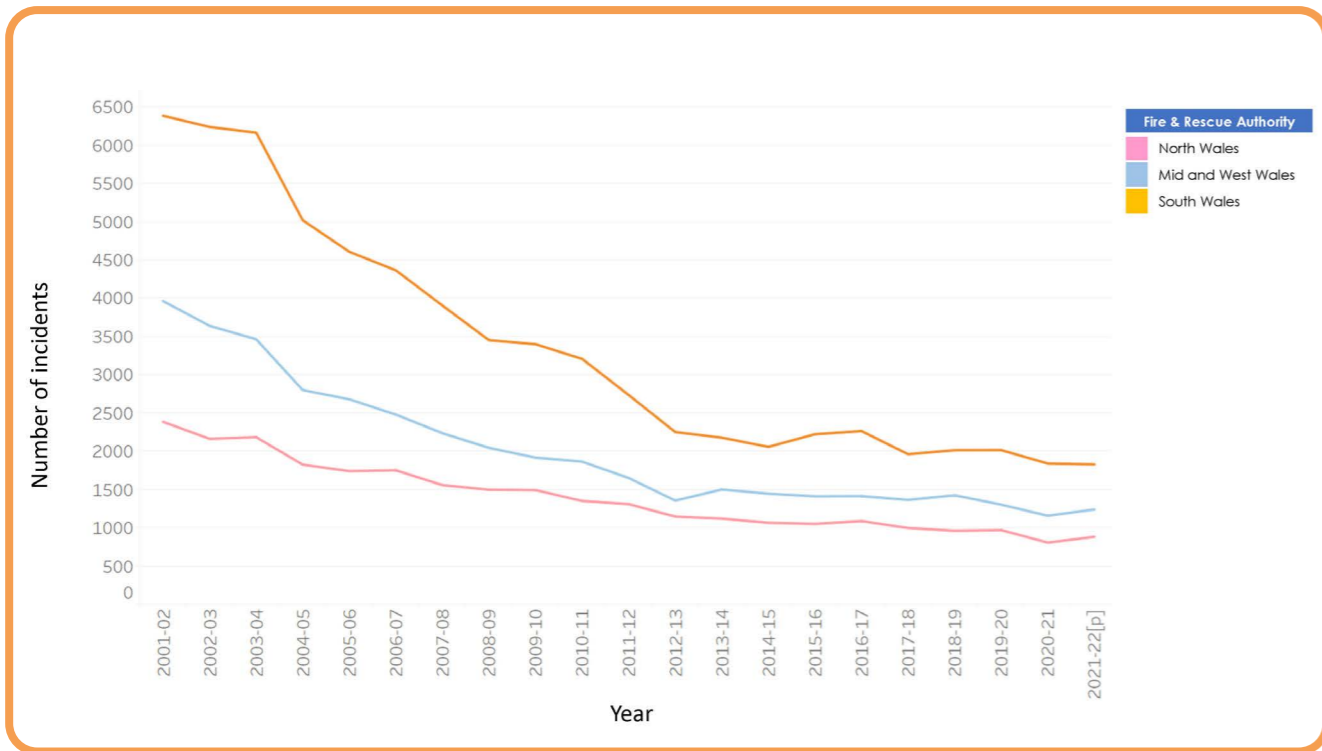
North Wales fire crews attended flooding incidents across the region as the storm Cristoph hit the UK, bringing with it significant rain and multiple severe flood warnings.

Our control room was busy with over 200 calls received at the height of the storm, with crews or officers attending 56 calls. Operational staff assisted at 48 properties and 28 casualties were rescued over two days of severe weather.





Right place, right time, right skills to help to strengthen prevention and protection

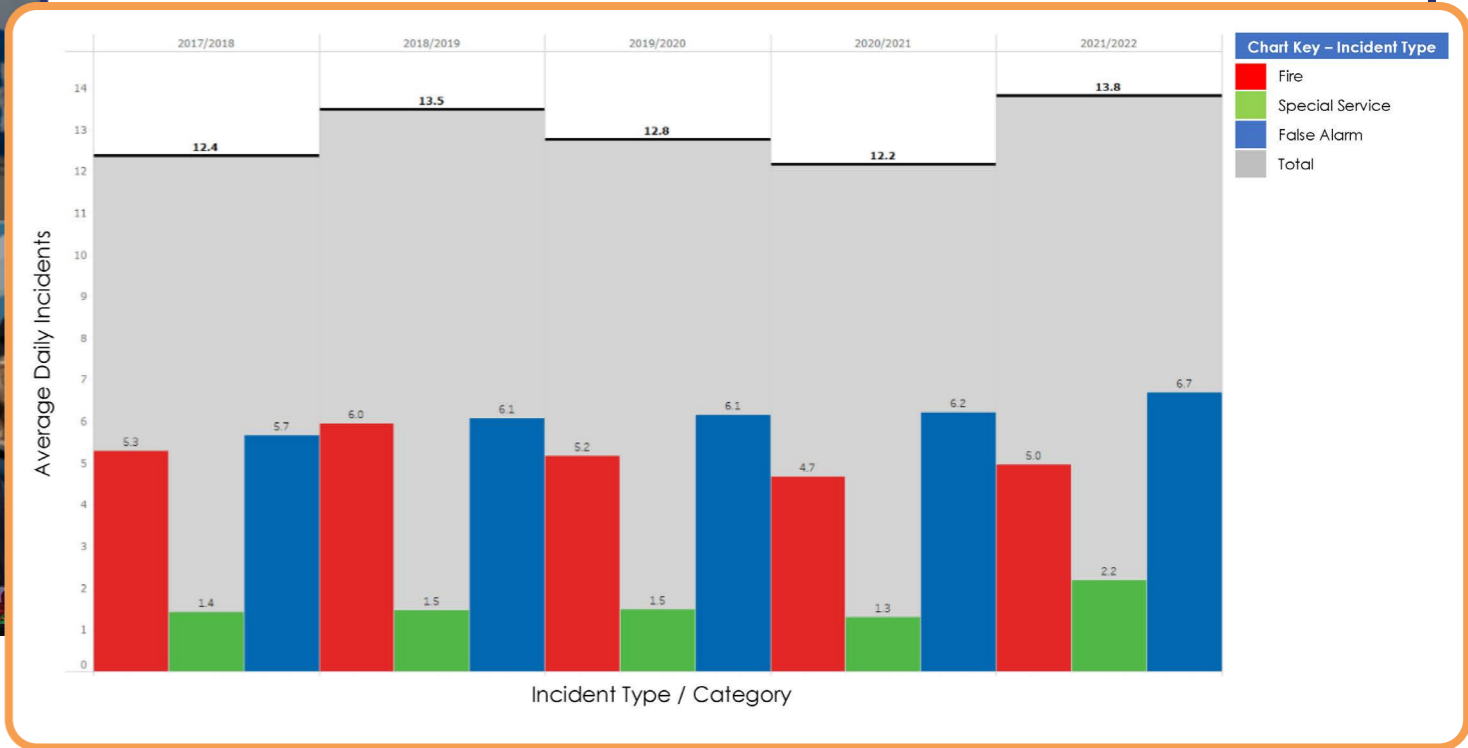


Number of primary fires by Welsh Fire and Rescue Authorities

North Wales Fire and Rescue Service focuses on prevention as the cornerstone of protecting our communities.

Preventing incidents from happening in the first place is better for everyone and we work hard to prevent fires and other incidents.

The number of primary fires – those that are potentially more serious fires that harm people or cause damage to property – have decreased significantly across the whole of Wales over the last ten years thanks to our focus on prevention, and have remained static over the last five years.



Average Daily Incident Volumes 01/04/2017 - 31/03/2022

In 2022/23, our staff completed 18,052 safe and well checks to help prevent fires in the home, by encouraging smoke alarm ownership to provide an early warning in the event of a fire and by delivering essential fire safety advice to residents.

You can register for a free safe and well check by texting details to 07507303678, filling in the online enquiry form at www.northwalesfire.gov.wales or by calling 0800 169 1234 between 9am and 5pm, Monday to Friday.



Developing our options for the future

We have been working together to develop the best way of providing our emergency cover in the future, ensuring we can be in the right place, at the right time, with the right skills.

Based on our modelling work and on our own professional experience, we have explored a variety of different scenarios and through a series of pre-consultation workshops, seminars and focus groups we have gathered insights and feedback from a wide range of people, including staff and representative bodies, members of the public, council representatives, local vulnerable groups and members of our Fire and Rescue Authority.

These sessions were used to look at exactly what was important to consider in improving our emergency cover services across North Wales.

We then carried out further stakeholder sessions comprising a wide cross section of people to help us develop a refined list of potential options for the future, all of which are viable and which reflect what is most important to everyone.

These options were developed on the basis of the following criteria:

- **Emergency cover** – how our fire appliances respond to emergency calls.
- **Protection and prevention services** – how we keep your homes and businesses safe.
- **Affordability** – keeping our services as affordable as possible, providing best value for money.
- **Workforce** – impact of changes on our teams.
- **Fair and equitable service** – having our staff at the right place, at the right time and with the right skills.
- **Social value** – recognising the impact of any changes we make on our communities.

Key themes arising from this engagement included:

- **Finance** – understanding the budgetary pressures. Is the review of emergency cover financially driven?
- **Future risks** – climate change and new technology may place more demand on resources.
- **Prevention and protection** – how our engagement with the public and businesses are affected.
- **Communication** – key to aid understanding of the challenges faced and impacts of any proposals.

We are committed to ensuring that our review of emergency cover and this consultation process do not inadvertently disadvantage anyone and, wherever possible, that we are proactive in ensuring equality, diversity and inclusion. Our Equality Impact Assessment can be viewed on our website: www.northwalesfire.gov.wales

Some of what stakeholders had to say

Staff

"Extremes of weather may dictate a necessity for greater wildfire response."

"Negative impact on staff of changing duty systems or station location - staff losses."

"Be more bold and communicate our value for money and don't accept budget restrictions."

Staff representative bodies

"Opinion of employees is important."

"Can staff be transferred or redeployed to other fire and rescue services?"

Future Risks

"Cuts to fire and rescue services would be seen as the fault of local Council."

"Increased fires with increased populations."

Local and national external senior leaders

"Are other funding streams available from Welsh Government?"

"Understanding on if the Emergency Cover review is driven by financial pressures?"

"Take out inefficiencies."

"5-year medium term budget plan requested."

"Formally designate that on a daily basis coverage would be located according to risk."

"A reduction in Wrexham's appliances has previously been controversial and has the potential to be controversial again."

Focus groups held online

"Do you consult with strategic planning in regards to increase in population and houses within the community?"

"Who will the consultation be aimed at, how it will take place and what it will look like?"

"Being open and transparent throughout the process and not the final design will be key during the consultation."

"What are the potential risks and effect on preventative work?"

"The Service needs to be looking at prevention work with current landlords and people within the communities."

"Regarding the volume of incoming African people to the area, especially in Wrexham - can prevention work for these people be considered within the emergency cover review?"

Further stakeholder cross section session

What is important to you when we are making decisions regarding the services we offer?



**Availability/
Partnership**

Services

**Rural
cover**

Community

**Wildfire
response**

**Prevention
services**

**Correct
resources**

Cover

**Areas -
response**

**Response
times**

**Appropriate
cover**

**Agency
partnerships**

**Partnership
approach**

**Level of
cover**

**Working in
partnership**

**Partnership
with other
agencies**

Service

**Available
pumps**

**Resources
and Response**

Are there any other areas of feedback or considerations in relation to our pre-consultation on the Emergency Cover Review you wish us to consider?

**Wales
provision**

**Sets of
firefighters**

**Grounds
or other
types**

Location

Risk

Need

**Appliance
cover**

**Incidents
of wildfires**

**Rural
Areas**

**Skill
sets**

Wildfires

**Remote
wildfires**

**Account
of fires**

Cover

**Special
Appliances**

**Rural
availability**

**Staff
relocation**

Staff

**Wholetime
rural firefighter
personel**

**Best
suited**

Discounting one of the options following our pre-consultation work

One of the options involved no change, staying as we are and accepting the availability risk.

However, on the basis that this option does not meet the criteria of the Emergency Cover Review for a fair, sustainable and equitable emergency response across the communities of North Wales, this option is not being taken forward for public consultation.

What options are you consulting on: what do they mean for our communities and our staff?

Three options were chosen for public consultation and these have different implications for helping to ensure we can be there for you **at the right place, right time and with the right skills.**

Option 1

- Maintain a 24-hour response model at our existing wholetime stations, with Rhyl and Deeside fire stations changing to a day crewing duty system.
- The addition of three day staffed stations located at Corwen, Porthmadog and Dolgellau utilising the reallocation of wholetime firefighters following changes at Rhyl, Deeside and the Rural Wholetime Duty System.

Option 2

- A response model where Rhyl and Deeside fire stations change to a day staffing duty system.
- Wrexham's third fire appliance is removed, maintaining one fire appliance staffed by wholetime firefighters and one appliance staffed by on-call firefighters.
- The redistribution of staff from Wrexham, Rhyl, Deeside and the Rural Wholetime Duty System enables the addition of three day staffed stations, located at Corwen, Porthmadog and Dolgellau and a reduction in wholetime firefighter numbers by 22.

Option 3

- A response model where Rhyl and Deeside fire stations change to a day staffing duty system.
- Wrexham's third fire appliance is removed, maintaining one fire appliance staffed by wholetime firefighters and one appliance staffed by on-call firefighters.
- The redistribution of staff from Wrexham, Rhyl, Deeside and the Rural Wholetime Duty System enables the addition of two day staffed stations, located at Porthmadog and Dolgellau and a natural reduction in wholetime firefighter numbers by 36.
- The closure of five on-call fire stations at Abersoch, Beaumaris, Cerrigydrudion, Conwy and Llanberis, resulting in the reduction of on-call firefighter numbers by 38.

The table presented on pages 36–37 includes more detailed comparisons of the options and more information is also available on our website: www.northwalesfire.gov.wales

What would be the impact on our emergency response?

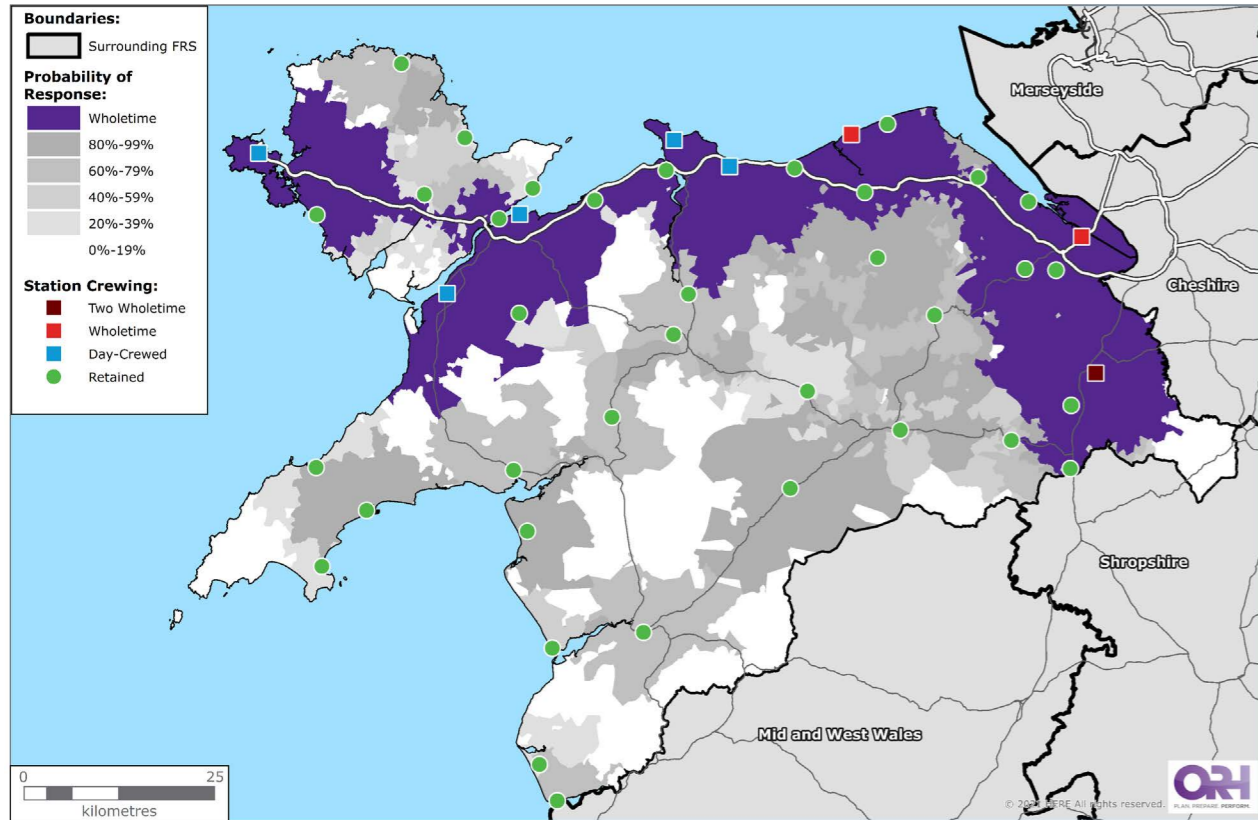
We looked at the average probability of a location receiving a response in 20 minutes during the day for all the different options under consideration – to be able to compare our emergency response.

We know the availability of on-call staff is challenging during the day time, whilst being more robust during the evening which is a credit to the dedication of our staff.

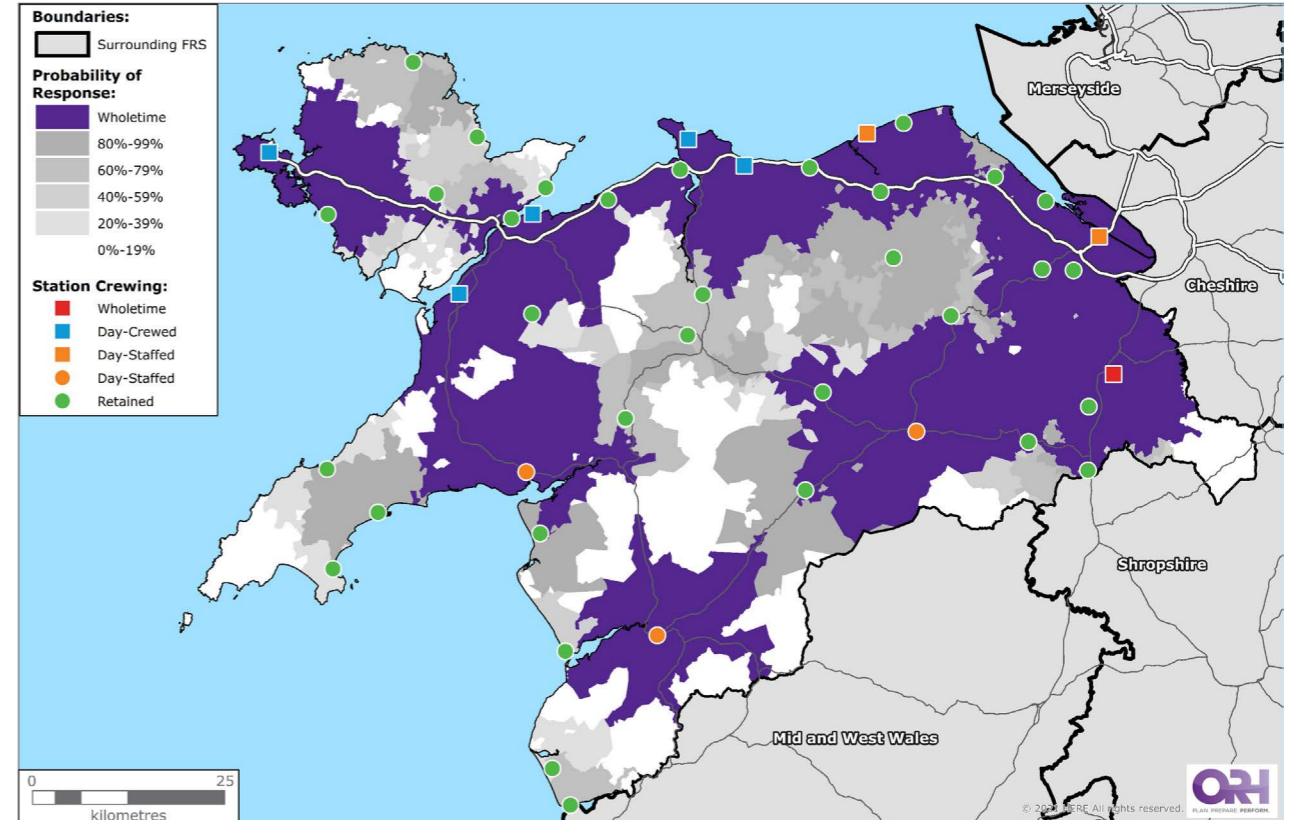
Therefore, to best illustrate the differences between the options, the maps on the next page show 100% wholetime availability in purple and on-call availability in shades of grey, depending on average availability (over five years).



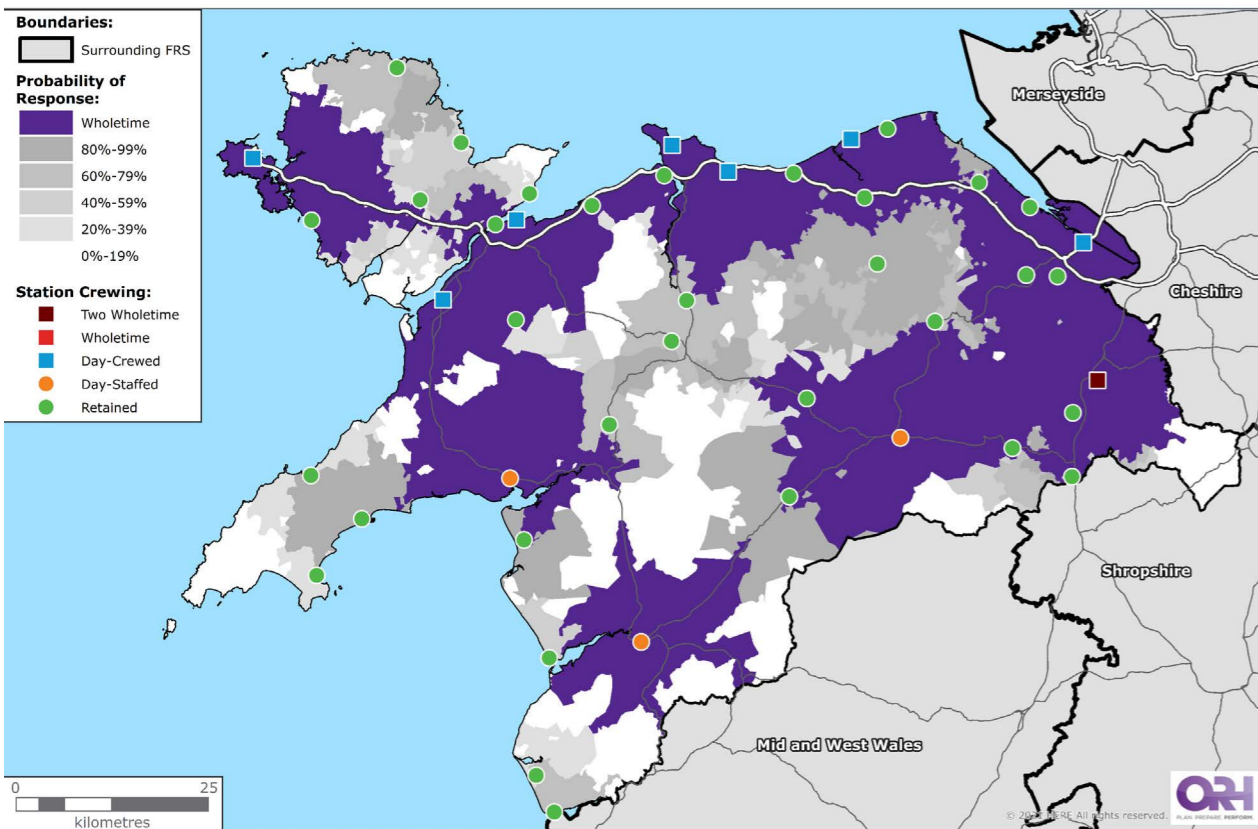
Current arrangements



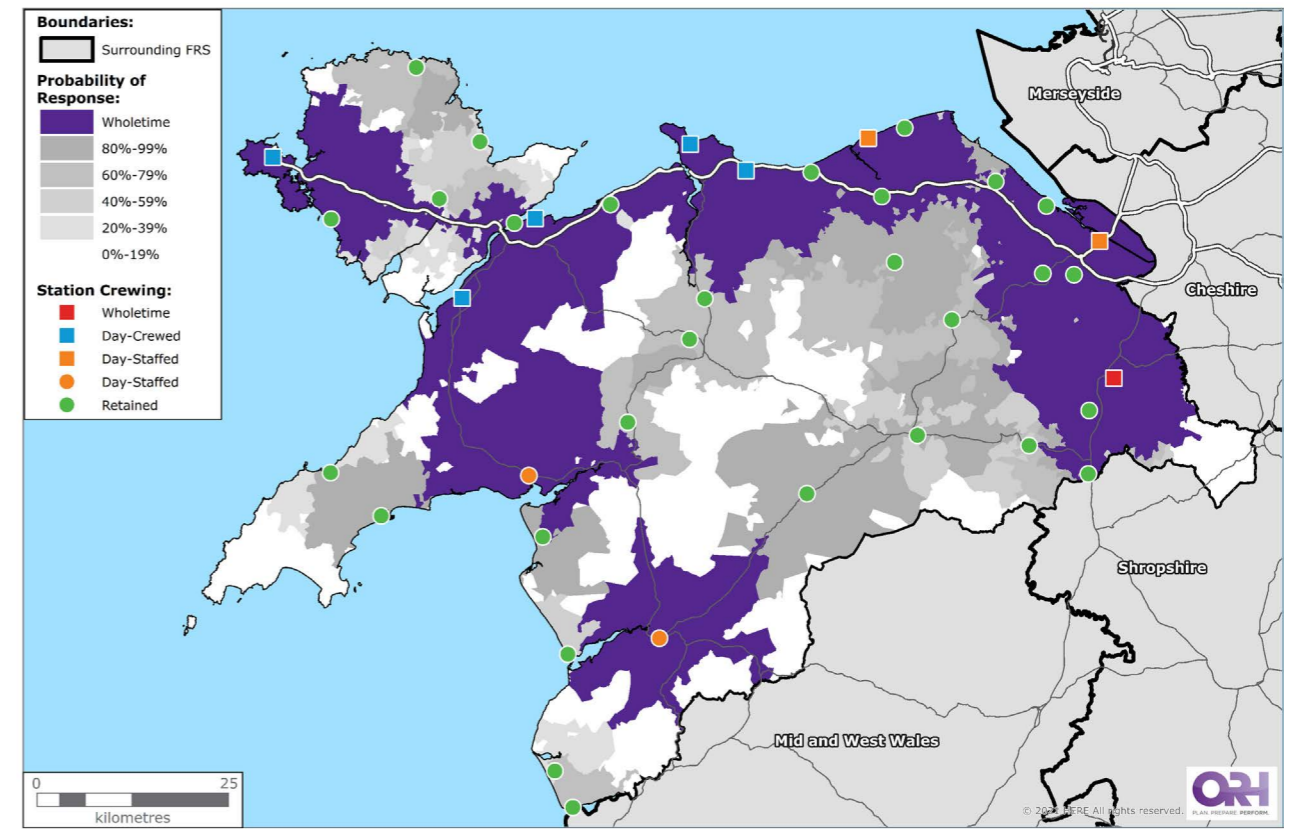
Option 2



Option 1



Option 3





Why have additional day staffed fire stations?

The three options under consideration all involve changing the way we staff some of our fire stations during day time hours, from a retained duty system crewed by on-call firefighters to a day staffed duty system crewed by wholtime firefighters, which would be a new duty system for North Wales.

Day staffing means that fire stations would be crewed by full-time firefighters during 12 hours of the day (e.g. 8am until 8pm), supplemented by on-call firefighters, and reverting to being fully on-call fire stations overnight.

Day staffing would need to be agreed locally with staff if this was decided as a way forward. Other fire and rescue services in the UK already operate this type of staffing model.

What do we mean by aiming to provide the fairest possible service?

Page 177

There are a whole range of factors that come into play when considering how we can provide the fairest possible service across all communities in North Wales and the challenge for us as a Service is finding the right balance in meeting all our objectives.

Firstly, we need to be able to respond to a variety of different incidents including flooding, wildfires, house fires, road traffic collisions, industrial incidents, water safety challenges and so on.

We also need to ensure that we respond in a timely manner to be able to provide the most effective response possible to you, the public - whoever you are, wherever you live in North Wales and whatever your needs. We know our population is aging and as a result we expect people may require more of our assistance in the future.

We still need to work to protect businesses and keep members of the public as safe as possible by preventing incidents from happening in the first place.

And equally importantly, we have the highest commitment and duty of care to our staff, their safety and their wellbeing.

The locations proposed for day staffing, and some of the reasoning for this, are as follows:

Porthmadog: Greater improvement in response compared to other local stations. Availability support from neighbouring on-call stations. Station facilities will support a change with minimum investment (Options 1, 2 and 3).

Dolgellau: Strategic location in South Gwynedd with better transport networks for a greater response impact. Availability support from neighbouring on-call stations. Station facilities will support a change with minimum investment (Options 1, 2 and 3)

Corwen: Strategic location covering South Denbighshire with networks into other on-call areas across several local unitary authorities. Availability support from neighbouring on-call stations. Station facilities will support a change with minimum investment (Options 1 and 2).



Why change from wholetime to day staffing at Rhyl and Deeside?

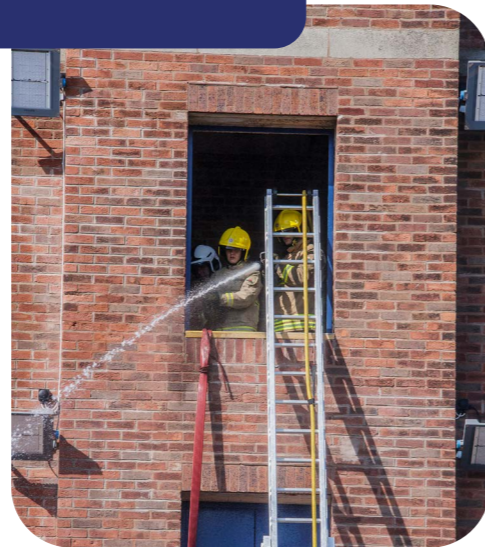
Option 1 proposes changing Rhyl and Deeside fire stations to the established day crewing duty system, as described earlier.

Under Options 2 and 3 we are proposing to change two of our wholetime fire stations – Rhyl and Deeside – to a ‘day staffing’ model.

We considered the volume of incidents across the day time and night time, the level of risk across the affected areas, and the availability support from neighbouring on-call stations.

We also considered the current incident volume at these stations which is more comparable with our existing day crewed fire stations.

This would also help to create the firefighter capacity required in order to implement day staffing in all three options and enhance our response in more rural areas.



Why remove Wrexham fire station's third appliance?

Removing Wrexham's third appliance as part of Options 2 and 3, together with the proposed change at Rhyl and Deeside fire stations, would enable us to redistribute staff and enhance our response in more rural areas.

Again, we considered the volume of incidents across the day time and night time, the level of risk across the affected areas, and the availability support from neighbouring on-call stations.

We know that over five years across North Wales, our average attendance time with one fire appliance is under 11 minutes and we currently attend 93.6% of all incidents within 20 minutes. The demand placed on us by industry is low, with Wrexham attending on average 25 non-residential primary fires a year. Work done to reduce incidents at HMP Berwyn has also resulted in far fewer fire and rescue service attendances than when it first opened.

There would be no change to the 24/7 response of our first appliance from Wrexham with these proposals.



Why consider closing five on-call fire stations?

Option 3 is not taken lightly as it involves considering the permanent closure of five on-call fire stations.

It also means fewer firefighters and therefore a reduction in local job opportunities, impacting the social value in those communities.

In all, it is envisaged that 74 fewer firefighters (wholetime and on-call) would be required if this option was adopted – which equates to 11.5% of our total number of firefighters in the Service.

It would therefore reduce our operational response and result in greater risk to our communities.

This option does however help to reduce budget pressures at a time when financial challenges are greater than ever.










All the options will result in asking North Wales households to pay more for our services in future in order to meet these challenges – but Option 3 would mean households would be asked to pay less than the other options (£4.41 a year less per household than Option 2, and £8.14 a year less per household than Option 1).

Whilst Option 3 would clearly impact staff and our communities in certain locations, we would work hard to keep this to an absolute minimum and would be committed to working closely to support any staff who may be affected by these changes.

Factors for identifying on-call fire stations considered for closure with Option 3

- Incident numbers.
- Modelled impact on average response times if the station was removed.
- Modelled impact on average response times if the station was 100% available.
- Capacity of neighbouring stations to absorb call volume.
- Appliance utilisation rates.
- Current establishment – financial savings.
- Longer term financial savings – rates, utilities, equipment and training costs.

Please refer the table on the next page which summarises the options.

	Option 1	Option 2	Option 3
Station and/or Duty System Changes	Rhyl and Deeside move to Day Crewing	Rhyl and Deeside move to Day Staffing and Wrexham's 3rd appliance is removed	Rhyl and Deeside move to Day Staffing and Wrexham's 3rd appliance is removed
Wholetime Stations Introduced	Day Staffing at Corwen, Porthmadog and Dolgellau	Day Staffing at Corwen, Porthmadog and Dolgellau	Day Staffing at Porthmadog and Dolgellau
Station Closures	None	None	Abersoch, Beaumaris, Llanberis, Cerrigydrudion and Conwy
Wholetime Staff Numbers	No Change	22 Fewer Wholetime Firefighters 12% Reduction	36 Fewer Wholetime Firefighters 19% Reduction
On-Call Staff Numbers	No Change	No Change	38 Fewer On-Call Firefighters 8% Reduction
Percentage of North Wales households receiving a 1st response within 20 minutes	Increased to 92.7% 	Increased to 92.2% 	Decreased to 91.5% 
Difference with current response model	2,148 more households receive a response within 20 minutes 	321 more households receive a response within 20 minutes 	2,087 less households receive a response within 20 minutes 
Change in Prevention and Protection Activity per annum	1740 extra residential safe and well checks.  Increased industry and business engagement in rural areas	1740 extra residential safe and well checks.  Increased industry and business engagement in rural areas	1160 extra residential safe and well checks.  Increased industry and business engagement in rural areas
Social Value	Increased community engagement in rural areas e.g. school visits, safety campaigns, partnership events. Increased potential for future wholetime employment opportunities in South Denbighshire and Gwynedd	Increased community engagement in rural areas e.g. school visits, safety campaigns, partnership events. Increased potential for future wholetime employment opportunities in South Denbighshire and Gwynedd	Reduced community engagement and reduced employment opportunities in the 5 areas where on-call stations would be closed. Increased potential for future wholetime employment opportunities in South Gwynedd
Estimated cost per household per annum	£171.02	£167.29	£162.88
Difference with 22/23 cost per household per annum	£20.36 increase	£16.63 increase	£12.22 increase

 negative change

 positive change

How to respond



Your views are important to us and we would like to hear from you.

We want to know what you think about our options for providing emergency cover services in North Wales before we make any final decisions about the future of our services.

This document provides you with the information you need in order to respond to the questions about our proposed options for our future emergency cover services.

The questions are set out in our questionnaire which is available on paper or online at www.northwalesfire.gov.wales.

Before completing our questionnaire, you may wish to look at the detailed supporting information also available on our website.

If you don't have access to the internet, you can call us on 07787 578 386 and we can send you paper copies of supporting information.

The public consultation takes place between Friday 21 July and midnight on Friday 22 September 2023.

You can follow us on social media for updates on our consultation:



@NorthWalesFire
#RightPlaceRightTimeRightSkills



@Northwalesfireservice



/north-wales-fire-and-rescue-service



There are several different ways you can get involved and tell us what you think

Attend an in-person event or virtual meeting

During the public consultation, we are holding a series of community engagement events to gather consultation feedback and hear what people think. You can find details of all events on our website:

www.northwalesfire.gov.wales

If you cannot access the internet, please call or text us for details of events on 07787 578 386.

Invite us to your group

We can also visit local support groups to gather feedback. If you're a member of a community group and you would like us to come and talk to your group, call or text us 07787 578 386 or email us on:

EmergencyCoverReview@northwalesfire.gov.wales

Formally respond to our consultation

You can share your views with us up until midnight on **Friday 22 September 2023.**

To let us know what you think you can:

Return a completed paper questionnaire – post free of charge to:
Freepost ADOLYGIAD TAN/FIRE REVIEW.

Complete the questionnaire online at
www.northwalesfire.gov.wales.

Or scan this QR code which will take you straight to our online questionnaire.

If you cannot complete the questionnaire:

Send an email to: EmergencyCoverReview@northwalesfire.gov.wales or a letter to: **Freepost ADOLYGIAD TAN/FIRE REVIEW.**

Or call / text us to share your views on 07787 578 386.

Our website offers information in English and in Welsh and provides a user-friendly assistive toolbar so that you can read and understand everything in ways that work best for you. This includes a read aloud functionality, larger text and the ability to view the information in a wide range of additional languages.

This information is also available in an easy read format which you can request by emailing us at EmergencyCoverReview@northwalesfire.gov.wales or calling or texting us on 07787 578 386.



What happens next?

We have not made any decisions yet and we will remain open-minded about the solution until after all the feedback, evidence and information has been gathered and considered.

After the consultation closes on Friday 22 September 2023, all the feedback gathered will be analysed to produce a report setting out what people have said about our proposed options.

North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority will consider the feedback, along with a wide range of other information and evidence, such as incident data, workforce data and financial data. The Authority will use all the feedback, evidence and information to decide how to proceed.

We will continue to share information and updates about this programme of work. We will publish the consultation findings report and key papers that will inform decision making on our website.

The final decision-making meeting of the Fire and Rescue Authority will be recorded and made available on our website to allow those interested to hear the discussion about how the decision is made.

We will publish details of this Fire and Rescue Authority meeting on our website: www.northwalesfire.gov.wales.

After the final decision has been made, any changes to our emergency cover would take place in a phased approach, as part of our 2024/28 Community Risk Management Plan.

We are committed to continuing to engage with a range of people as changes are made. Details about progress will also be shared on our website.



YOUR FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE
RIGHT PLACE
RIGHT TIME
RIGHT SKILLS



DO YOU TEST YOUR SMOKE ALARMS WEEKLY?

Weekly testing of your smoke alarms is the best way to ensure you can escape your property as quickly as possible in the event of a fire.

Working smoke alarms provide an early warning, allowing you to call the fire and rescue service immediately.

You can now get a weekly reminder to test your alarm via email by sending your email address to: press@northwalesfire.gov.wales



**Gwasanaeth Tân ac Achub
Fire and Rescue Service**



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Isle of Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Date:	26th September 2023
Subject:	Approval of the Anglesey Town Centre Improvement Strategy
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Llinos Medi: Leader and Economic Development
Head of Service / Director:	Christian Branch, Head of Regulation & Economic Development
Report Author:	Dewi G Lloyd, Regeneration Manager
Tel:	01248 752483
E-mail:	dewilloyd@ynysmon.llyw.cymru
Local Members:	Relevant to all members

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

A1 The Executive Committee is asked to approve the new Town Centres Improvement Strategy

REASONS

To deliver on the new Council Plan objective of improving the vitality and viability of town centres, and to comply with relevant Audit Wales recommendations to local authorities in respect of regenerating town centres, and requirements set by the Welsh Government in order to receive Transforming Towns funding.

1. OVERVIEW OF CONSULTATION PROCESS

1.1 A report on this matter was made to the Executive Committee of the 25th April 2023 who resolved to approve the draft strategy prepared by officers as a basis for public consultation. A process of public and other stakeholder consultation has taken place during June and July 2023 to gather views, comments, and seek support for the proposed strategy. The following reports on the comments received, and the finalisation of the Strategy and its adoption by the Executive.

1.2 An online public survey was created with support from the IT team. This was placed on the Council’s website and publicised by the Communications Team. Information about the survey and a link to it was also emailed to County Council members, Town Councils, and other relevant stakeholders. The survey was open for over six weeks, closing on the 28th July 2023. A presentation about the strategy was made to a meeting of the ‘Trefi Mon’ Town Councils Group, and to two individual town councils following their invitations.

A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

2.0 SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION RESPONSES

2.1 Number of Responses - a total of 84 written responses were received to the consultation. This is considered acceptable for the initial strategic policy consultation. A much larger number of responses is expected in the later detailed local consultation phase.

2.2 Respondent Types – most responders identified themselves as Individuals, but some of these noted they were also involved in other capacities. There were several responses by town councils, county councillors, and local organisations. The number of responses from ‘businesses’ was limited, but included one from the Federation of Small Businesses who represent a wide membership, and some other category responses were from the private sector.

2.3 Interest by Respondents in Specific Towns - there was a good spread in terms of geographic interest, with significant numbers interested in each of the five towns, with the numbers broadly reflecting town sizes. Some 9% indicated an interest in other areas ie villages and rural areas. The strategy has now been revised to more clearly refers to village / rural needs and related strategies / plans

2.4 Need for a Strategic Plan – a large majority (85%) of respondents strongly agreed this plan was needed. Common comments on this included : lack of clear overall strategy, county-wide approach needed, town centres in decline / struggling, need new ideas and approaches, concerns about Holyhead and Amlwch, all towns need some support, shopping has moved out-of-town.

2.5 Strategy Aim – a large majority (85%) of responses agreed with the proposed overall aim.

2.6 Strategy Objectives – there was clear (80%+) support for all five proposed objectives. The highest agreement level (88%) was on ‘Intervention’ and the highest ‘strong agreement’ level was for ‘Resources’.

2.7 Responsibility for Town Centres – the majority (75%) of responses agreed that improving town centres should be a shared responsibility for the public and private sectors. Several questioned the reference to a role for the UK and Welsh Governments, and many emphasized the need for local people to lead / decide, and need to specifically refer to role of local volunteers, societies, education sector, local fora. The final strategy has been revised to reflect these comments, and more clearly emphasise local business & community involvement in and ownership of the place making plan process for their local town.

2.8 Suggested Successful Approaches to Adopt

Several examples / ideas of successful town centres and initiatives elsewhere were noted, and locally the success of Menai Bridge in becoming a place for eating out was referred to.

A – Recommendation/s and reason/s

2.9 Other Comments

A wide range of suggestions / ideas/ needs were submitted, some relevant to all towns, but many are town-specific, and these will be fed into the local Place Making Plan Process.

2.10 Other Responses

NRW submitted written comments which included requesting more specific reference in the Strategy to green infrastructure and climate change, and this has been included in the final version for approval. Amlwch Town Council provided a list of needs / ideas for Amlwch Town Centre generated from a local public consultation and a note of a meeting they held.

3.0 TOWN CENTRE PLACE PLANS – NEXT STEPS

3.1 The adoption of the county-wide framework supports the process of preparing individual town centre place making plans to move forward, Potential funding for this from the Welsh Government and UK Shared Prosperity Fund is already under consideration.

3.2 Comments have been made about the need to integrate / co-ordinate the Town Centre Place Making Plans process with the county-wide Place Shaping programme process, and the emerging Place Planning process that is being promoted across Wales. It is therefore proposed to discuss this with relevant officers within the County Council and in other relevant stakeholders.

3.3 Several comments were made regarding the need to also support villages and rural areas. It is therefore proposed to discuss this with relevant officers within the County Council and in other relevant agencies, including Menter Mon who have been leading on the delivery of the Rural Development Programme and LEADER schemes on Anglesey.

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

Not preparing this document is an option, but this was rejected as it would conflict with recommendations by Audit Wales to local authorities in Wales, and requirements set by the Welsh Government in order to receive their funding.

C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

The decision is sought from the Executive as approval is needed for the adoption of the final version of the strategy to give the document status, and comply with the Committee resolution in April 2023

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

The decision would support the following policies :-
Council Plan (2023-28) – the Economic aims include supporting the vitality and viability of town centres and the Well-being aims include improving the built environment
JLDP – policies identify and support town centres (notably Strategic Policy PS15)

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

Having a Strategy should assist in attracting additional external capital grant funding from Welsh Government and potentially other funders, which could save on Council core capital funding.

The Welsh Government has indicated it may be able to provide a 70% revenue grant towards the cost of preparing town place plans but counties need to find the remaining 30% match funding. It is not yet clear if the recent announcement of Welsh Government budget reductions will impact on this.

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):

1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	Supporting the vitality and viability of town centres and built environment are specific sub-objective in the New Council plan
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?	The strategy will assist in generating external funding that will contribute to achieving the Council's objectives
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.	The Strategy reflects collaboration with the Welsh Government and the other five North Wales Councils
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.	Feedback from the public and other stakeholders has been taken into account when creating the final Strategy
5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	Negative impact not anticipated
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those	The Strategy is expected to improve the vitality, viability and built environment of

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):		
	experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	town centres, thus contributing to social and economic improvement
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.	The Council's Welsh language policies will be applied to the delivery of the Strategy

E – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	Increase visible reference to Council Plan and its strategic objectives Clear document. Need to manage expectations given the limitations on capacity and resources. Emphasise purpose to attract external funds
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	Issues/risks due to reliance on resources Clear and easy to read.
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	Included within No1
4	Human Resources (HR)	-
5	Property	-
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	-
7	Procurement	-
8	Scrutiny	Reported to Regeneration & Partnerships Scrutiny Committee on 19.04.2024
9	Local Members	Members briefing session was held on 02.03.2023

F - Appendices:
Town Centres Improvement Strategy 2023-28 : Final version for approval
Town Centres Improvement Strategy 2023-28 : Report on Responses to Public Consultation Process in June & July 2023

Ff - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):
Executive Committee - 25 th April 2023 – Anglesey Town Centres Improvement Strategy – see pages 21-41 (Public Pack) Agenda Document for The Executive, 25/04/2023 10:00 (anglesey.gov.uk)
Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee - 19 th April 2023 - Anglesey Town Centres Improvement Strategy – see pages 11-28 (Public Pack) Agenda Document for Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee, 19/04/2023 09:30 (anglesey.gov.uk)



Strategic Plan for Improving Anglesey Town Centres Report on Responses to Consultation Process held in June & July 2023

Status: Official

Prepared by:

Original Author	Version	Amendments Made	Dated
Dewi G Lloyd, Regeneration Manager	1	First Working Draft	08.08.2023 @2pm
DGL	2	Second Working Draft	09.08.2023
DGL	3	Final	18.9.23

1. Overview

The consultation period started on the 15th June and concluded on the 28th of July.

The online consultation was advertised through the media and on social media platforms, and emails publicizing the consultation and providing a link to it were sent to key stakeholders, including the five Town Councils, all County Councillors, and several partner agencies.

84 responses have been received and assessed to form the basis of this report. This includes 82 online responses and 2 emailed bespoke detailed responses.

Most responders identified themselves as Individuals, but some of these noted they were also involved in other capacities. There were several responses by town councils, county councillors, and local organisations.

The number of responses from 'businesses' was low, but included one from the Federation of Small Businesses, and some other category responses were from the private sector.

There was a good spread in terms of geographic interest, with significant numbers interested in each of the five towns, with the numbers broadly reflecting town sizes.

There was a high level of agreement with the key proposals in the document.

85% of responses agreed with the need for the strategic plan.

85% agreed with the proposed overall strategic plan aim.

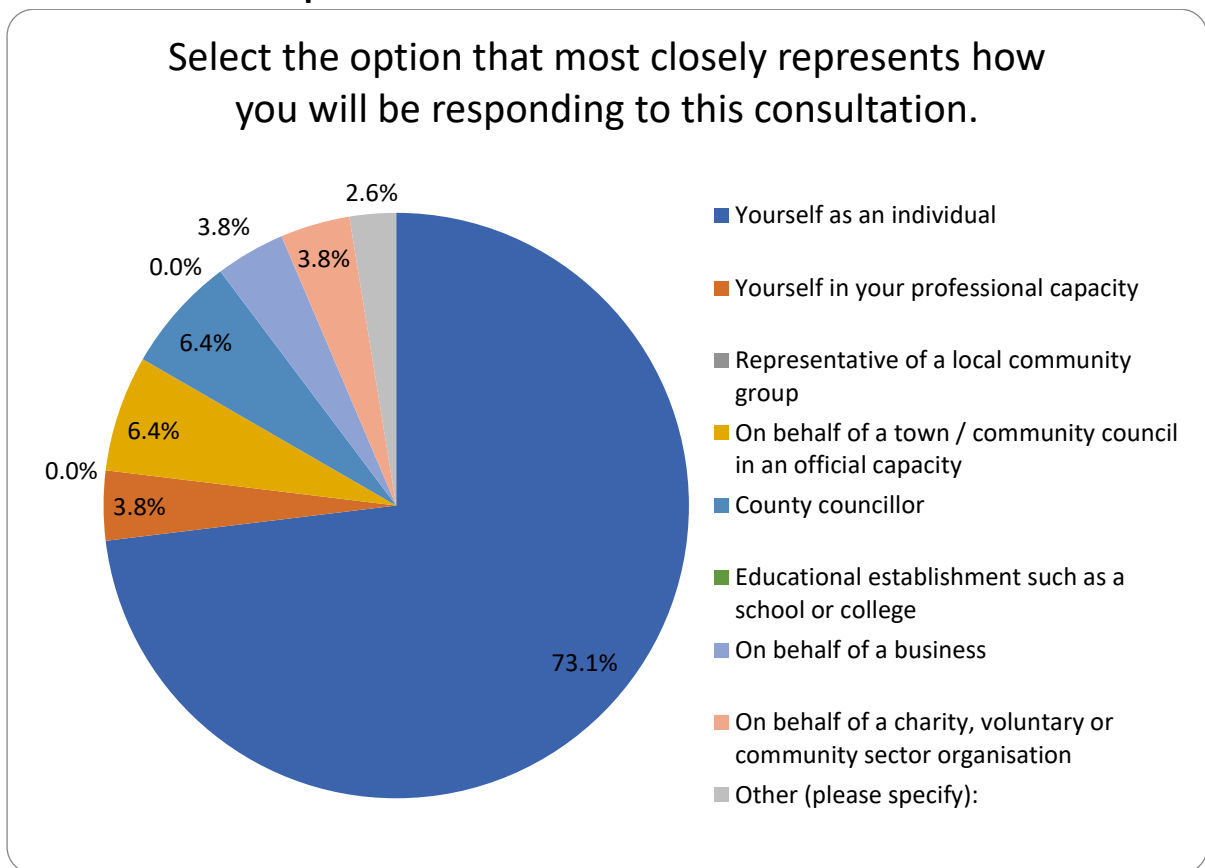
Over 80% agreed with each of the five proposed objectives / principles, with the highest agreement level of 88% being for 'Intervention', and the highest 'agree strongly' level being for 'Resources'.

79% of responses agreed that improving and managing town centres should be a shared responsibility, but several commented that this should be led / decided on by local people.

Several examples were given of successful approaches elsewhere that Anglesey could adopt.

A wide variety of other comments and suggestions were received, most of which are suitable for consideration at the more detailed individual town centre place making plan preparation stage.

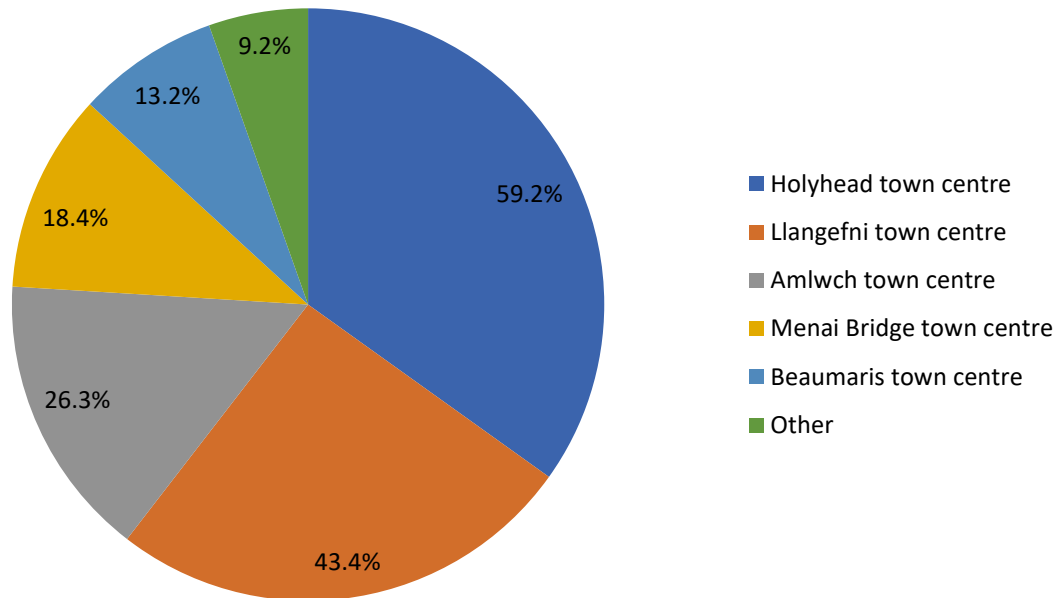
2. Status of Respondents



Comments	See above - several 'Individuals' noted they were also involved with organisations
Officer Response	Generally broad range of responses - the business response was limited but did include the FSB – businesses and other local stakeholders are more likely to be interested in the town-level plans
Proposed Modifications	None to strategic plan Ensure future detailed / local consultations target responses from businesses and other local stakeholders

3. Geographic Distribution of Interest

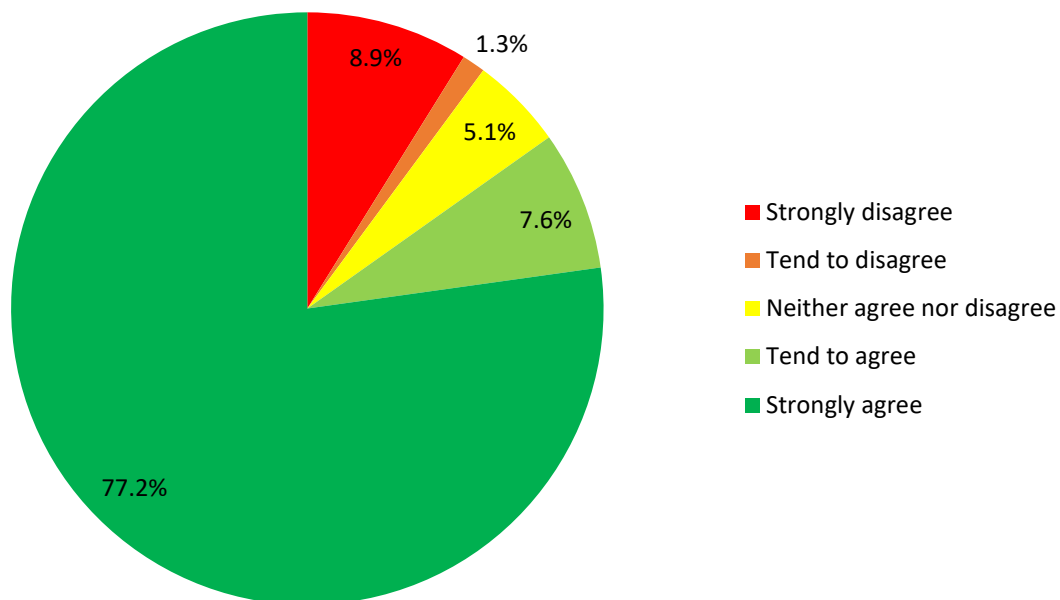
Please identify which town centre(s) you are specifically interested in.



Comments Summary	See above 'Other' indicates interest in villages / rural areas, and several comments indicate feeling of their being left out
Officer Response	Covers all five 'towns' and variation broadly reflects populations Need to consider how concerns about village improvements & rural needs are best addressed in strategy / policy terms in the future
Proposed Modifications	Revise strategic plan to more clearly refer to village / rural needs and related strategies / plans Consider need for updated / better publicised rural development plan (which has been led by Menter Mon)

4. Need for a Strategy

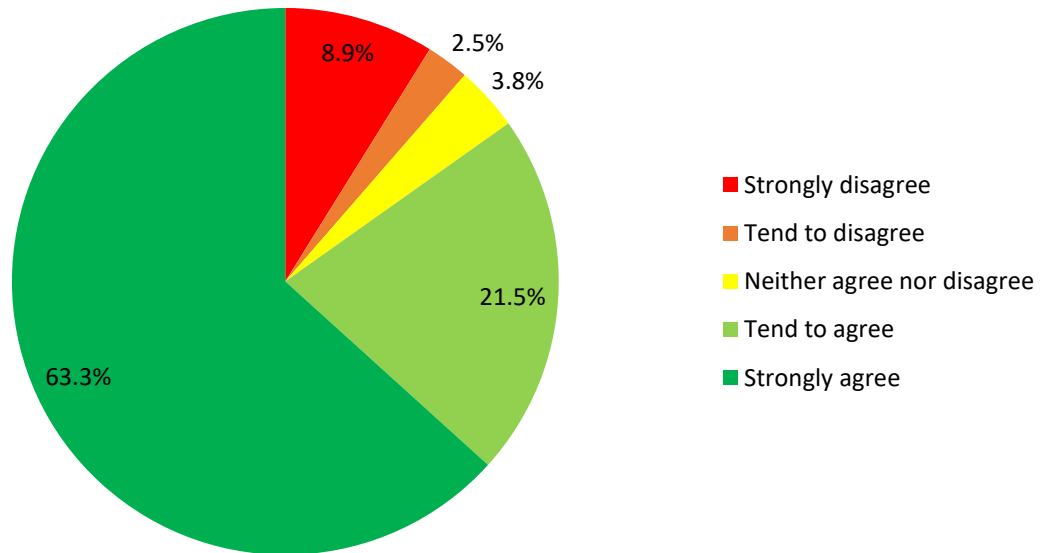
Do you think that Anglesey needs a town centre improvement strategy?



Comments Summary	Large majority (c85%) agree Disagreement linked to comments on: rural needs, scepticism, view town centres are no longer viable, need for community lead
Officer Response	Strong support, including from FSB
Proposed Modifications	None to strategic plan

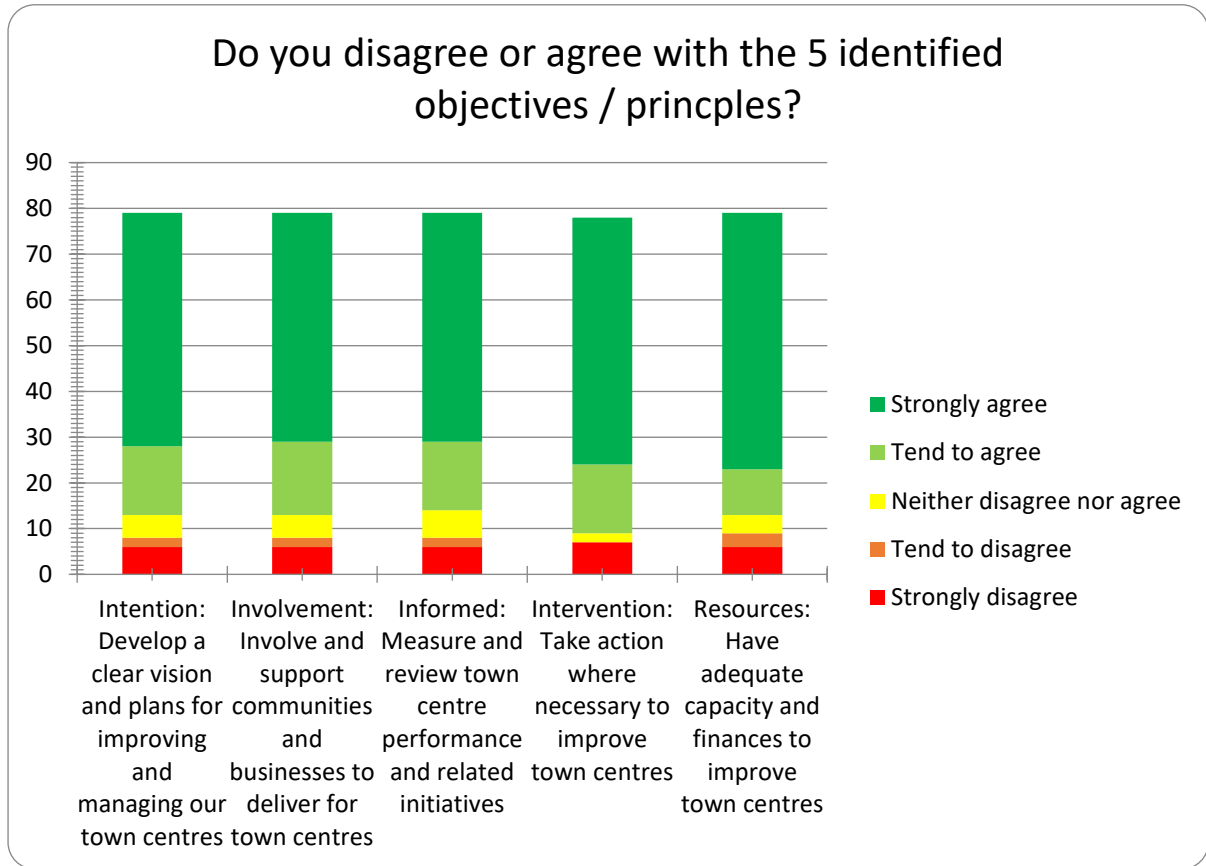
5. Strategic Plan Overall Aim

How do you feel about the strategy aim to ‘*support our town centres to be attractive and successful places*’?



Comments Summary	Large majority (c85%) agree Disagreement linked to comments on: rural needs, scepticism of public sector, view town centres are no longer viable, need for community lead
Officer Response	Strong support, including from FSB
Proposed Modifications	None to strategic plan

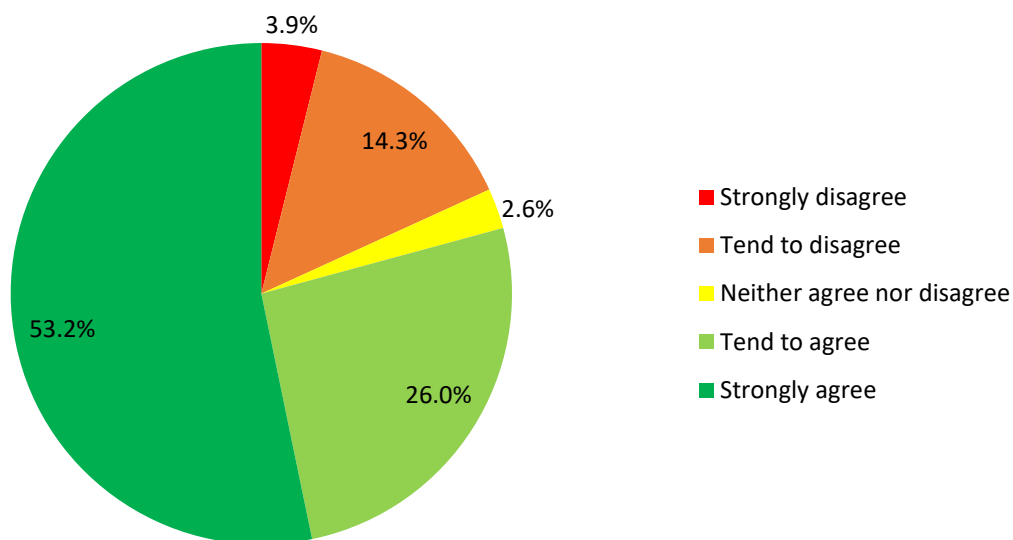
6. Strategy Objectives & Principles



Comments Summary	Large majority (over 80%) agree all 5 with highest agreement level on 'Intervention' and highest strong agreement on 'Resources'. Some detailed comments on individual priorities / principles
Officer Response	Majority of responses are in broad agreement with all five priorities
Proposed Modifications	No change to strategic plan's 5 headline objectives/ principles Minor wording revisions to some sub-objectives

7. Responsibility for Town Centres

Do you agree that improving and managing town centres is a shared responsibility between private businesses, town / community councils, the county council, Welsh Government, UK government?



Comments Summary	Over 75% in agreement, but several questioned reference to role for non-local governments, many emphasized the need for local people to lead / decide, and need to specifically refer to role of local volunteers, societies, education sector, local fora etc
Officer Response	Agree with need to clarify wording on this matter, and more clearly convey the local ownership of the proposed local place making plans
Proposed Modifications	Revise strategic plan wording to :- a) Also refer to role of others including volunteers, clubs & societies, social enterprises, local fora, education sector b) emphasise local business & community involvement in and ownership of the process for their local town

8. Examples of successful town centre improvement approaches that Anglesey could learn from or implement

Comments Summary	Several examples / ideas of successful town centres and initiatives were noted
Officer Response	Potentially useful information requiring time / resources to research, largely relevant to Place Making Plan stage
Proposed Modifications	No change required to strategic plan Seek to use of ideas/ suggestions to inform future / place making plans

9. Other comments on the proposed strategy or place making plans

Comments Summary	A number of useful suggestions / ideas/ needs have been noted Some relevant to all towns, but many are town-specific
Officer Response	Useful information, largely relevant to Place Making Plan stage
Proposed Modifications	No change required to Strategic Plan Seek to make use of ideas/ suggestions to inform future / place making plans

10. Responses outside of Questionnaire

Natural Resources Wales

Comments Summary	Link to Gwynedd & Mon Well-being plan, NRW Corporate Plan & Area Statement Reference to rural & village needs, integrated approach, reduced reliance on cars, importance of visitors, Aires Request for more specific references to green infrastructure & climate change
Officer Response	Agree with request
Proposed Modifications	Amend strategic plan to make more specific reference to green infrastructure & climate change

Amlwch Town Council

Comments Summary	ATC have provided a list of needs / ideas for Amlwch Town Centre generated from a local public consultation ATC also provided a note of a meeting they held specifically to consider the document and Place Making Plan process for the town
Officer Response	Both documents will be very useful in progressing a Place Making Plan for Amlwch town centre
Proposed Modifications	No change required to Strategic Plan Make use of these comments/ suggestions to inform the proposed place making plan for the area

Town Centres Improvement Strategy 2023–28

Final Version for Approval – September 2023

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



Introduction

Anglesey's towns and town centres are focal points for the Island's economic, social and cultural activities. They are key areas for the local economy, with over 500 businesses in our town centres employing thousands of local people. Our town centres are also important in many other ways – as hubs for services and facilities, as places to visit for leisure, hospitality or events, as focal points for culture and heritage, and as places to live.

Town centres across Wales and the UK have seen very significant changes, including the growth in edge or out-of-town retail, the loss of several traditional town centre services such as banks, and a large growth in online shopping which rapidly increased during the recent pandemic. Some town centres have been able to adjust and remain vibrant, but others are clearly struggling, and they need to develop different roles if they are to thrive, and new ideas and approaches are needed.

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This strategy provides a framework for achieving the aim set out in our new **Council Plan** of '**improving the vitality and viability of our town centres**'. It also supports our well-being objective '**that the people of Anglesey and its communities enjoy, protect and enhance their built and natural environment for future generations**'. The Council Plan also recognises the needs of villages and rural areas.

The focus of this document is the centres of the settlements legally designated as towns and having town councils, namely Holyhead, Llangefni, Amlwch, Menai Bridge and Beaumaris. Many of our villages are also very important to the Island's economy, with several being popular visitor destinations, and they may require similar improvements and projects to be considered under relevant plans / programmes/ strategies.

Improving our town centres will require considerable effort by the County Council and other town centre improvement stakeholders in the public, private and third sectors. This will not be easy given the current and potential substantial future financial challenges we face. Effective collaboration is therefore vital to developing a shared vision, and realistic ways of progressively improving and effectively managing our town centres.

Cllr. Llinos Medi, Council Leader & Economic Development Portfolio

Why do we need a Town Centre Improvement Strategy?

1. To set out how the County Council and its partners will work together to address the challenges faced by the Island's town centres, and maximise opportunities for their improvement
2. To deliver on the Council Plan aim of improving the vitality and viability of our town centres, and contribute to delivering its six strategic objectives within town centres
3. Inform the preparation of Placemaking Plans for our towns and help to access funds for their delivery
4. To enable the Council to meet its statutory obligations under the Well-Being Act

4-Page 202

Relevant strategic documents are listed here – further details are provided in the Appendix

KEY UKG & WG FUNDING PROGRAMMES

United Kingdom Levelling-Up Fund & Shared Prosperity Fund
Transforming Towns Programme for Wales (2022-25)
Other Public Sector Funding Programmes

LEGISLATION, GOALS & POLICIES

Well-Being of Future Generations Act
Future Wales 2040 – The National Plan
Planning Policy Wales & Building Better Places

KEY LOCAL AUTHORITY PLANS

Anglesey Council Plan 2023-2028
Joint Local Development Plan for Gwynedd & Anglesey
Destination Management Plan
Other Local Authority Strategies and Policies

NATIONAL AUDITS & EXTERNAL REVIEWS

Regenerating Town Centres in Wales – Audit Wales
Small Towns – Big Issues Report
Placemaking Wales Charter
FSB Vision for Welsh Towns

'Create an Anglesey that is healthy and prosperous where people can thrive.'



Strategic Context

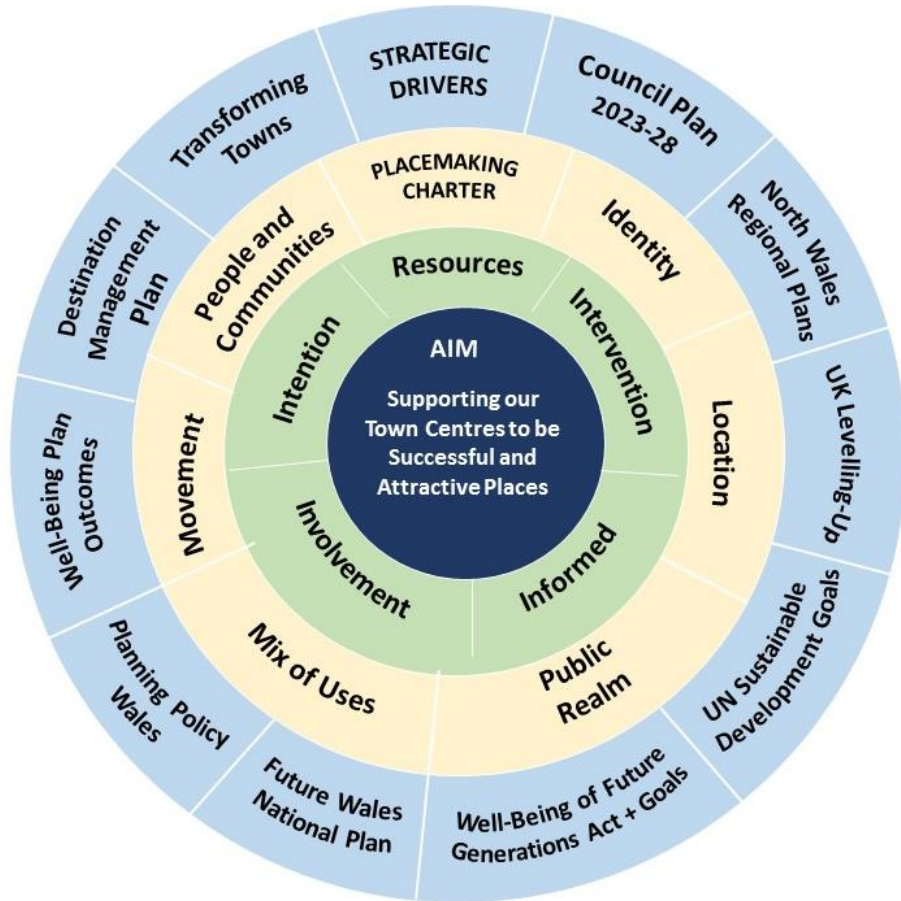
This Strategic Circle sets out the proposed Strategy Aim and five Priorities which reflect the Audit Wales recommendations to local authorities in Wales. It also shows these in the context of wider Strategic Policy Drivers and the Wales Placemaking Charter principles.

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Placemaking, Place Plans and Place Shaping

Guidance on Placemaking, Place Plans, and Town Centre Place Making Plans is provided by the Welsh Government, Planning Aid Wales, and Design Commission for Wales - see the Appendices.

'Place Shaping' is a different key strategic approach, delivered via a partnership between Medrwn Mon and the County Council through area community Alliances, with the following vision : *'The development of place, connecting the public, private and community sectors to create an Anglesey that is healthy and prosperous, where people can thrive.'*



Town Centres Improvement Strategy Aim and Objectives

AIM : Support our Town Centres to be Attractive and Successful Places

OBJECTIVES



1 - INTENTION : Develop a Clear Vision and Plans for Improving and Managing our Town Centres



2 - INVOLVEMENT : Involve and Support Communities and Businesses to Deliver for Town Centres



3 - INFORMED : Measure and Review Town Centre Performance and Related Initiatives



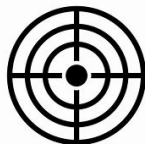
4 - INTERVENTION : Take Necessary Actions to Improve our Town Centres



5 - RESOURCES : Consider the Capacity and Finances needed to Improve and Manage Town Centres

DISCLAIMER : Budgetary constraints may impact on the County Council's ability to deliver these Objectives

Objective 1 – Intention



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1 INTENTION – Develop a Clear Vision and Plans for Improving and Managing our Town Centres			
	Why is this important?	What are we going to do?	How are we going to do this?
1.1	To deliver relevant Council Plan aims and Audit Wales recommendations	Develop a Vision and Strategy to Improve our Town Centres	Establish a shared Vision and Strategy for Improving our Town Centres by finalising and adopting this document
1.2		Ensure an Integrated Cross-Council Approach to Town Centres	Develop and apply an integrated approach to improving and managing town centres and applying the ‘town centre first’ principle through joint working across services
1.3	To satisfy the WG requirement for plans to receive regeneration funding	Engage stakeholders and consult the public	Seek and establish public and other stakeholder comments and suggestions for improving town centres
1.4		Create Place Plans	Work with Town/Community Councils and other stakeholders to develop individual town / town centre Place Making Plans

DISCLAIMER : Budgetary constraints may impact on the County Council's ability to deliver these Objectives

Objective 2 – Involvement



2 INVOLVEMENT – Involve and Support Communities and Businesses to Deliver for Town Centres			
	Why is this important?	What are we going to do?	How are we going to do this?
2.1	Businesses are the key occupiers of town centres	Enable and Involve Businesses	Encourage and enable the private sector to invest and operate successful businesses in town centres and be involved
2.2	They are the local elected public bodies	Encourage Town / Community Councils to deliver locally	Encourage and enable Town/Community Councils to use their powers to help improve, support and manage their town centres
2.3	There are many other important bodies	Enable Other Organisations to deliver	Encourage and enable other organisations to carry out activities and projects that improve or support town centres
2.4	Involvement is a key Well-being Act requirement	Involve key Stakeholders	Involve key stakeholders, businesses and communities in the planning, improvement and management of town centres

Objective 3 – Informed



3 INFORMED – Measure and Review Town Centre Performance and Related Initiatives			
	Why is this important?	What are we going to do?	How are we going to do this?
3.1	To modernise and be effective	Create ‘Smart Towns’	Enable the creation of ‘Smart Towns’ digital systems and maximise their use and benefits, including measuring footfall and customer /visitor profiles, and other digital platforms
3.2	To identify town centre physical needs and changes	Survey Town Centres	Carry out periodic town centre surveys and analyse / report on these, including property occupancy and eyesores
3.3	To ensure effectiveness, efficiency and value-for-money	Evaluate and Improve	Review the impact and effectiveness of town centre initiatives, apply lessons learned to future plans, and highlight/ share good practice
3.4	This is a Well-being Act requirement	Inform and communicate with Stakeholders	Inform and communicate with key stakeholders about important town centre plans, issues, events and opportunities

Objective 4 – Intervention



4 INTERVENTION – Take Necessary Actions to Improve our Town Centres			
	Why is this important?	What are we going to do?	How are we going to do this?
4.1	To address WG expectations and local stakeholder concerns	Tackle Problematic Buildings	Encourage property owners, or take enforcement action if that does not work, deliver or support agreed projects, and monitor / update the Action Plan, subject to resources powers
4.2		Reduce Commercial Property Vacancy	Encourage / support the re-occupation of empty commercial units, or their conversion to homes or other uses if appropriate, subject to resources and powers
4.3	To address 'built environment' improvement needs	Encourage building facelifts and improvements	Encourage & guide owners, and where necessary provide targeted town centre property improvement loans and/or grants, subject to resources and powers
4.4	To deliver Council Plan priorities	Deliver or Support Important Projects or Programmes	Deliver or support agreed town centre projects and programmes that reflect this strategy and related Place Making Plans, subject to resources
4.5		Support 'Green' & 'Green Infrastructure' projects	Deliver or support suitable Green Infrastructure, Climate Change Management and Zero Carbon projects in town centres, subject to resources

Objective 5 – Resources



5 RESOURCES – Consider the Capacity & Finances needed to Improve Town Centres			
	Why is this important?	What are we going to do?	How are we going to do this?
5.1	The need for town centre investment and activity significantly exceeds the County Council's own resource levels	Enable private & commercial investment	Encourage and enable private sector and commercial investment and activity in our town centres, and suitable financially viable uses
5.2		Maximise external public / grant funding	Make or support relevant bids for UK Government, Welsh Government, Lottery or other relevant grant funds, including trusts; inform and influence government / funder policies to reflect the needs of Anglesey's towns
5.3		Encourage and enable towns and communities to help themselves	Encourage and enable Town /Community Councils and other public and third sector bodies to deliver, support and provide services in town centres
5.4	To address Audit Wales concerns about insufficient staff capacity in LA's	Seek to employ sufficient staff to support town centres	Seek to ensure that the County Council has adequate staff capacity to deliver the strategy and place making framework and related workloads, if resources permit

Strategy Consultation, Approval, Delivery and Governance

A draft version of this document was subject to public consultation during 2023 which drew 84 responses. A large majority of these were supportive of the need for a strategy, its aim and five priorities. Revisions have been made to reflect the comments received, and the many detailed specific and/or local comments will be used to inform the process of preparing individual town Place Plans.

The Town Councils and several other organisations (eg business groups, volunteers, societies, education sector, local fora) have a key role to play in improving and managing town centres, and will need to be closely involved.

Effective integration and co-ordination will be needed within the County Council, and relevant structures and reporting arrangements will need to be operated. The approved strategy will need to be subject to regular progress reviews and reporting to relevant County Council officer groups and scrutiny processes.

The roles and responsibilities of the County Council, Town Councils, and other important partners will be set out in the individual town centre plans. It is important that the local community and local businesses are involved in and take ownership of the place making plan process for their local town.

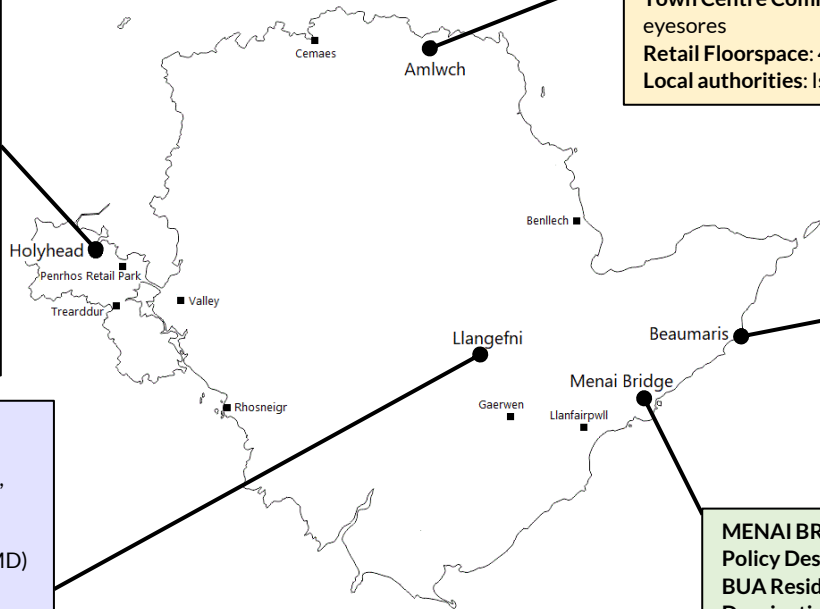
It's expected that individual Place Plans will be prepared by locally based partnerships including the County and Town Councils, and be subject to local governance arrangements, with county-level strategic monitoring.



APPENDIX – Towns / Urban Centres Overview

HOLYHEAD Town Centre
Policy Designations: Regional Growth Area, Urban Service Centre, Main Shopping Centre, Employment Centre, LUF programme, Conservation Areas, close to EZ & Freeport bid sites
BUA Resident Population: 11,981
Deprivation: **VERY HIGH** (7/8 in top 20% WIMD)
Town Centre Commercial Premises: 170 occupied, 54 vacant (24%), 13 eyesores
Retail Floorspace: 51,440 sqm (20,749 sqm in supermarkets)
Local authorities: Isle of Anglesey County Council & Holyhead Town Council

LLANGEFNI Town Centre
Policy Designations: Urban Service Centre, Main Shopping Centre, Employment Centre, Conservation Area, close to EZ
BUA Resident Population: 5,226
Deprivation: **MEDIUM** (1/3 in top 20% WIMD)
Town Centre Commercial Premises: 122 occupied, 19 vacant (13%), 3 eyesores
Retail Floorspace: 18,950 sqm (8,245 sqm in supermarkets)
Local authorities: Isle of Anglesey County Council & Llangefni Town Council



KEY	
●	Towns / Town Centres
■	Other Important Centres

AMLWCH Town Centre
Policy Designations: Urban Service Centre, Employment Centre, Conservation Areas, North Anglesey Plan main settlement, close to EZ
BUA Resident Population: 3,265
Deprivation: **MEDIUM** (1/2 in top 30% WIMD)
Town Centre Commercial Premises: 73 occupied, 18 vacant (20%), 6 eyesores
Retail Floorspace: 4,900 sqm (1,084 sqm in supermarkets)
Local authorities: Isle of Anglesey County Council & Amlwch Town Council

BEAUMARIS Town Centre
Policy Designations: Local Service Centre, World Heritage Site, Conservation Area, Article 4 Planning Control Area, in AONB
Town Resident Population: 1,804
Deprivation: **LOW** (0/1 in top 50% WIMD) but has poverty pockets
Town Centre Commercial Premises: 95 occupied, 4 vacant (4%), 3 eyesores
Retail Floorspace: 5,280 sqm (0 sqm in supermarkets)
Local authorities: Isle of Anglesey County Council & Beaumaris Town Council

MENAI BRIDGE Town Centre
Policy Designations: Local Service Centre, Conservation Area
BUA Resident Population: 3,376
Deprivation: **LOW** (0/2 in top 50% WIMD) but has poverty pockets
Town Centre Commercial Premises: 91 occupied, 8 vacant (8%), 2 eyesores
Retail Floorspace: 6,890 sqm (1,938 sqm in supermarkets)
Local authorities: Isle of Anglesey County Council & Menai Bridge Town Council

APPENDIX – Documents Referred to in the Strategy

United Nations Sustainable Development Goals : goal 11 for ‘Sustainable Cities and Communities’ is to make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

United Kingdom Levelling-Up : The UK Government’s Levelling-Up strategy specifically refers to investing in ‘...regenerating town centres and high streets..’.

Well-Being of Future Generations Act : requires local authorities to address the economic, social, environmental, and cultural well-being of their areas, and apply seven well-being goals.

Future Wales 2040 – The National Plan : supports the ‘Town Centre First’ principle that ‘significant new commercial, retail, education, health, leisure and public service facilities must be located within town and city centres’ and designates Holyhead as a *Regional Growth Area*.

Planning Policy Wales (PPW11) : sets out national land use planning policies, supplemented by technical advice notes, including TAN4 for retail and commercial development.

Building Better Places (2020) : sets out Welsh Government commitments for the planning system to achieve better places, placemaking, quality outcomes and good design. This document identifies a number of National Sustainable Placemaking Outcomes.

Transforming Towns (2022-25) : a Welsh Government programme to improve town centres, including grants and loans, enforcement, research and data, policies, and other initiatives. Some of this funding is now conditional on having Place Making Plans in place for relevant settlements.

Small Towns – Big Issues (2021) - emphasises the importance of a shared vision, investments plans that align policy with market needs, capable stakeholders, and focused regeneration teams.

A Vision for Welsh Towns – a report prepared for the FSB setting out the major challenges and realistic opportunities for town centres

Placemaking Wales Charter : outlines six principles for creating and maintaining good places

Regenerating Town Centres in Wales (2021) : an Audit Wales review of town centre needs with recommendations for the Welsh Government and local authorities, including a self-assessment tool listing key principles and 38 actions / activities they consider counties should undertake, categorised under the 4 ‘I’s of Intention, Involvement, Informed and Intervention.

North Wales Regeneration Plan (2019) : a framework prepared jointly by the six local authorities.

Joint Local Development Plan for Gwynedd & Anglesey : identifies a clear retail and settlement hierarchy, and the need to promote the vitality and viability of town centres.

Anglesey Council Plan 2023-2028 : includes specific reference to ‘Improving the vitality and viability of town centres’ on Anglesey. The Plan also aims to see ‘Anglesey’s people and communities, enjoying, protecting and improving their built and natural environment for future generations’ and of having ‘attractive, viable and safe communities’.

APPENDIX – Welsh Government Guidance on Preparing Place Plans for Town Centres

A pre-requisite of funding place making activity through Welsh Government Transforming Towns is that appropriate place plans are in place or being developed. These plans should be designed in line with the 6 principles of the Placemaking charter: Design Commission for Wales <https://dcfw.org/placemaking/placemaking-charter/> : People & Community, Movement, Public realm, Location, Mix of uses, Identity. Further clarity on the Placemaking Plan requirements should be discussed with your respective Regeneration Manager

Place plans should consider a holistic view of the requirements of towns and cities and therefore should include all of the current and planned funding interventions from Local Authorities, differing Welsh Government portfolio areas and key private and public sector developments. Place making plans should not focus solely on WG Regeneration funding and should include all sources of funding such as housing, tourism and health as examples in order to show totality of investment in settlements. Place Plans as a minimum should include:-

- A map with a red line boundary identifying the settlement area. This will be required for each settlement. The intervention area should be restricted to the core town centre with sufficient detail to include streets & landmark buildings/features. A second map showing the area on the periphery of the town, identifying the wider development activity and opportunities.
- Detail of the groups, such as BIDs and/or Town & Community Councils are currently operating in the area. Please keep a record of the consultation with these groups and also consultation with other parties such as local members.
- Evidence of engagement and consultation with town centre identified user groups such as young people, older people, ethnic minority groups or disability Groups;
- Alignment with wider economic recovery plans, regional strategies and other WG investment plans such as transport and active travel;
- Identification of the issues to be addressed which limit the full potential of the town centres and/or opportunities to be explored such as green infrastructure, housing, health, public realm, vacant shops, and commercial improvements. The outcome of this work will be shared across Welsh Government portfolios areas and key partners such as NRW;
- Development of a community Engagement Strategy as part of the plan;
- Consideration of the wider threats posed by out of town shopping, changing consumer habits, TAN15, phosphates in water impacting Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and wider Climate Change considerations.
- A shared vision for the town centre developed through consideration of the identified issues and feedback from the consultation process; with an agreed Action Plan.
- Local Authorities plans will establish a baseline for the defined town centre using available digital technologies in order to establish as a minimum footfall and dwell time metrics at the beginning of the three year funding period;
- Regular review and evaluate deliverability and identified actions of the action plan with the WG and partners, through ongoing consultation.
- Ongoing regional and all-Wales feedback and learning;

Evaluation will be a key element of the Transforming Towns delivery. In order to demonstrate the impact of Place Making funding Local Authorities will be expected to produce an annual update report (including project case studies) to show the projects delivered and their impact on prioritized town centres. At the end of the three year funding cycle all Local Authorities in receipt of funding will be expected to commission an independent evaluation of Transforming Towns delivery covering all Placemaking and Strategic projects. Where Transforming Towns has been deployed over a grouping or clustering of smaller towns a single independent review may be commissioned to cover multiple town centres

Council Plan 2023-2028

The Council Plan is the key document serving as a focal point for decision-making at all levels; providing a framework to plan and drive forward priorities; shape annual spending; monitor performance and progress.

At its core is our desire to work with Anglesey residents, communities and partners to ensure the best possible services, improve the quality of life for all and create opportunities for future generations. Its six main objectives reflect the key areas the Council should be focusing its efforts on.

The Council Plan's vision is to:

Page 21
'Create an Anglesey that is healthy and prosperous where people can thrive.'

Our six strategic objectives



The Welsh Language

Increasing opportunities to learn and use the language.



Social Care and Wellbeing

Providing the right support at the right time.



Education

Ensuring an effective provision for today and for future generations.



Housing

Ensuring that everyone has the right to call somewhere home.



Economy

Promoting opportunities to develop the Island's economy.



Climate Change

Responding to the crisis, tackling change and working towards becoming a net zero organisation by 2030.



[Council Plan 2023-2028](#)

Council Plan 2023-2028

The Council Plan 2023-28 is underpinned by the organisation's core values, which are used to develop and guide the vision, strategic plans and services.

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[Council Plan 2023-2028](#)

Values



Respect

We are respectful and considerate towards others regardless of our differences.



Honesty

We are committed to high standards of conduct and integrity.



Collaborate

We work best as a team, with our communities and partners to deliver the best outcomes for the people of Anglesey.



Champion the council and the island

We create a sense of pride in working for the council and present a positive image of the council on the council and the island.

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DDIM I'W GYHOEDDI NOT FOR PUBLICATION

**Adroddiad Pwyllgor Gwaith: GPG tir Llangefni
Executive Report: Llangefni land CPO**

PRAWF BUDD Y CYHOEDD PUBLIC INTEREST TEST

<p>Paragraff(au) 14, Atodlen 12A Deddf Llywodraeth Leol 1972 Paragraph(s) 14, of Schedule 12A Local Government Act 1972</p>	
<p>Y PRAWF / THE TEST</p>	
<p>Mae yna fudd i'r cyhoedd o ddatgelu sef:-</p> <p>Bydd gan y cyhoedd ddiddordeb mewn pam mae'r Cyngor yn defnyddio ei bwerau GPG ar ran trydydd parti:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adolygu atebolrwydd a thryloywder • Herio penderfyniadau a wneir • Deall a chymryd rhan mewn penderfyniadau ynghylch dyrannu arian y Cyngor <p>There is a public interest in disclosure as:-</p> <p>The public will be interested in why the Council is using its CPO powers on behalf of a third party:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review accountability and transparency • Challenge decisions made • Understand and participate in decisions regarding the allocation of Council funds 	<p>Y budd i'r cyhoedd o beidio datgelu yw:</p> <p>Gallai datgelu gael effaith ar fuddiannau masnachol partner datblygu neu'r sawl sy'n prynu'r eiddo, gan gynnwys y Cyngor.</p> <p>Gallai datgelu gael effaith andwyol ar drafodaethau'r Cyngor.</p> <p>The public interest in not disclosing is:-</p> <p>Disclosure could impact on the commercial interests of a development partner or purchaser of any assets, including the Council.</p> <p>Disclosure may prejudice the Council's negotiation position.</p>
<p>Mae'r budd i'r cyhoedd o gadw'r eithriad o bwys mwy na'r budd i'r cyhoedd wrth ddatgelu'r wybodaeth</p> <p>The public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.</p>	

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