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CYNGOR SIR
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ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr Dylan Williams
Prif Weithredwr – Chief Executive

CYNGOR SIR YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL
Swyddfeydd y Cyngor - Council Offices
LLANGEFNI
Ynys Môn - Anglesey
LL77 7TW

Ffôn / tel (01248) 752500
Ffacs / fax (01248) 750839

RHYBUDD O GYFARFOD	NOTICE OF MEETING
PWYLLGOR GWAITH	THE EXECUTIVE
DYDD MAWRTH 24 HYDREF 2023 10.00 o'r gloch yb	TUESDAY 24 OCTOBER 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

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

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

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

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

A G E N D A

1 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

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

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

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

3 MINUTES (Pages 1 - 12)

To submit for confirmation, the draft minutes of the meeting of the Executive held on 26 September 2023.

4 THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (Pages 13 - 26)

To submit a report by the Head of Democracy.

5 TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REVIEW 2022/23 (Pages 27 - 42)

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

6 TREASURY MANAGEMENT - QUARTER 1, 2023/24 (Pages 43 - 58)

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

7 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION STRATEGY 2023-2028 (Pages 59 - 84)

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

THE EXECUTIVE

Minutes of the hybrid meeting held on 26 September, 2023

PRESENT: Councillor Robin Williams (Deputy Leader) (Chair)

Councillors Neville Evans (for items 1 to 7 and 12) Carwyn Jones, Gary Pritchard, Dafydd Roberts, Nicola Roberts, Dafydd Rhys Thomas.

IN ATTENDANCE: Chief Executive (present for items 1 to 7 and 11 to 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
Head of Housing Services
Head of Adults' Services
Head of Democracy
Economic Development Manager (THJ) (for item 15)
Regeneration Manager (DLI) (for item 13)
Executive Manager (Leadership Team) (SOJ) (for item 12)
Committee Officer (ATH)
Webcasting Officer (FT)

APOLOGIES: Councillors Llinos Medi (Leader), Alun Roberts (Portfolio Member for Adults' Services and Community Safety), Mr Gethin Morgan (Programme, Business Planning and Performance Manager)

ALSO PRESENT: Scrutiny Manager (AGD), Councillors Douglas Fowlie, Glyn Haynes, Gwilym O. Jones, John Ifan Jones, Robert Ll. Jones, Pip O'Neill, Dylan Rees.

Prior to commencing the business of the meeting the Chair said that at the request of the Chief Executive and with the Executive's agreement he would be varying the order of business to bring forward for consideration item 12 on the agenda as the Chief Executive had to leave mid-morning to attend a meeting with a Welsh Government Minister which had been called at short notice. The Executive agreed to the change in the order of business.

1. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declaration of interest was received.

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

None to report.

3. MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Executive held on 18 July, 2023 were presented for confirmation.

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Executive held on 18 July 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 October, 2023 to May, 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 1 (Highways Asset Management Plan) and Item 2 (Fleet Vehicles Transformation Plan) which are delegated decisions the publication date of which has been re-scheduled from September to October 2023.
- Item 4 (Treasury Management Annual Report 2022/23) as a new item for the 24 October 2023 meeting of the Executive.
- Item 5 (Public Participation Strategy 2023-28) re-scheduled from the Executive's 26 September 2023 meeting to its 24 October 2023 meeting.
- Item 6 (International dark sky application for the southwest section of Anglesey's Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) as a new item for the Executive's 24 October meeting.
- Item 12 (Council Tax Base 2024/25) as a new item for the Executive's 28 November 2023 meeting.
- Item 14 (Modernising Day Opportunities: Learning Disabilities – Holyhead Area) as a new item for the Executive's 28 November 2023 meeting.
- Item 26 (Modernising Day Opportunities: Disabilities) as a new item for the Executive's 20 February 2024 meeting (*Confirmed by the Director of Social Services as an Island wide endeavour as opposed to item 14 which is specific to Holyhead*)
- Item 29 (Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2024-2054) as a new item for the Executive's 19 March 2024 meeting.

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

5. SCORECARD MONITORING – QUARTER 1 2023/24

The report of the Head of Profession (HR) and Transformation incorporating the Corporate Scorecard for Quarter 1 2023/24 was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Carwyn Jones, Portfolio Member for Corporate Business and Customer Experience presented the report which portrayed the position of the Council against its wellbeing objectives at the end of Quarter 1 2023/24. It was encouraging to note that 89% of the performance indicators are performing above or within 5% tolerance of their targets for the quarter. The report highlights a number of positive stories in relation to the NERS indicators, the number of empty homes brought back into use, Adults' Services, waste management, homelessness, disabled facilities grant installations and planning specifically indicators 35 and 37 (the percentage of planning applications determined within time and the percentage of enforcement cases investigated within 84 days respectively). The Corporate Health Performance indicators and Customer service indicators are also performing well, and at the end of the first quarter the Council is Green and on target with regard to attendance management with 2.1 days having been lost to absence per FTE in the period. A

few indicators are underachieving including Indicator 09 (the percentage of FOI requests responded to within timescale) where the performance against target is 84%. Although this is an improvement on the performance for the same quarter last year the target has been upscaled from 80% to 90% and so is ragged Amber for the first quarter of 2023/24. The performance for this and indicators 29 and 30 in relation to Housing Services (turnaround of lettable units and rent lost to properties being empty) and indicator 36 in relation to the Planning Service (the number of planning appeals dismissed) which are below target will continue to be monitored by the Leadership Team to secure improvements into the future. The financial management section of the scorecard forecasts a budget overspend for the year as some budgets come under increasing pressure due to the impacts of the cost-of-living crisis. The financial position will be kept under close review. It is hoped the data presented provides the Executive with assurance about the maturity of the discussions around performance in terms of acknowledging areas of good performance while identifying and mitigating areas that have performed less well. The focus remains on maintaining performance going forwards and ensuring that progress and improvements in the areas identified are made.

Councillor Douglas Fowlie, Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee provided feedback from the Committee's 19 September, 2023 meeting where the Quarter 1 2023/24 scorecard report had been scrutinised. The Committee's members in welcoming the positive performance overall had sought assurance that the underperforming indicators would improve. Noting that a budget overspend is projected for the 2023/24 financial year, the Committee had asked how budget pressures are being mitigated and monitored. Members also asked questions about the changes to be made to the scorecard to ensure its alignment with the new Council Plan and the timeframe for implementing them. Where performance had improved, the Committee sought further information about what had contributed to the positive performance and whether there were any lessons to be learnt and shared with other services. Councillor Fowlie confirmed that following its discussions the Committee had been agreed in recommending the Quarter 1 2023/24 scorecard report and the mitigating measures therein to the Executive.

Where indicators had not performed to target, the relevant Portfolio/Executive Members provided clarification of the measures being implemented to address issues and to ensure improvements are made for the following quarter. Assurances were provided about regular engagement and dialogue with Heads of Service regarding underperforming areas and remedial actions. A point was made about maintaining perspective with regard to areas ragged Red and the importance of considering the context was emphasised with the performance of indicator 36 – the percentage of planning appeals dismissed cited as an example. Although the performance for indicator 36 is shown as 0% against a target of 65%, the indicator deals with a very small number of cases; the two appeals for this quarter neither of which were dismissed should be considered in the context of the approximately 300 planning applications dealt with in the same period.

It was resolved to accept the Corporate Scorecard report for Q1 2023/24 and to note the areas which the Leadership Team are exploring and investigating to manage and secure further improvements into the future as outlined in the written report.

6. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE/WELLBEING REPORT 2022/23

The report of the Head of Profession (HR) and Transformation incorporating the Annual Performance/Wellbeing Report for 2022/23 was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Carwyn Jones, Portfolio Member for Corporate Business and Customer Experience presented the report which analyses performance over the previous financial year against the improvements and priorities outlined by the Council. The report shows that 54% of the priorities set out in the Transitional Plan which was the detailed work plan for 2022/23 have been completed, 29% are ongoing into 2023/24, 13% are behind schedule but

with mitigating measures are likely to be brought back on track and 4% have been cancelled. The report also outlines the actions supported by the Council during the year as part of its cost-of-living response. Overall, the Council has demonstrated good progress and commitment in various domains over the past year as reflected by the report and a number of notable achievements are highlighted. The Scorecard results for the year also demonstrated good performance with 71% of the indicators showing green against targets and an additional 20% showing within 5% of their targets. Further work will be undertaken to address those few indicators showing as Amber or Red as well as those exhibiting a year-on-year decline in performance. The Annual Delivery Document details the work that the Council will be undertaking during 2023/24 to achieve the aspirations of the Council Plan 2023-2028. The Council's staff must be congratulated not only for their hard work throughout the year but also for their commitment to delivering projects and work streams that are in addition to their day-to-day duties.

Councillor Douglas Fowlie outlined the points of discussion from the Corporate Scrutiny Committee when it considered the Annual Performance Report at its meeting on 19 September 2023. Those had included the arrangements for raising awareness of the Council's achievements; the measures that were put in place that had this positive impact on performance and whether any lessons could be learnt from that process for sharing across the organisation; the impact of the cost-of-living crisis on the Council's ability to serve the people of Anglesey, and the performance areas that need to be prioritised based on risk during 2023/24. Having considered these matters and the assurances provided by Officers and Portfolio Members, the Committee had resolved to recommend the Annual Performance and Wellbeing Report for 2022/23 to the Executive as a fair and complete reflection of the Authority's work over the period.

The Chief Executive said that there were many reasons to be proud of the Annual Performance Report for 2022/23 and that the report also demonstrates the Council's strong commitment to acting in accordance with the principles of the Wellbeing of Future Generation Act in having regard to the present and future wellbeing of the Island's residents when making decisions or taking a course of action. The Council's successes as documented in the report are all the more notable for having been achieved in a year full of challenges that was not reflective of business as usual and which saw the developing cost of living crisis and uncertainty around rising interest rates impacting on people and businesses. The context in which achievements occur is often as significant and illuminative as the achievements themselves. The aim will be to continue with the good work in 2023/24 with the support of the Council's staff, elected members, partners, and the community.

The Executive's members were agreed that 2022/23 was far from business as usual and that that had been the case over the past few years with the pandemic, financial pressures and ongoing cost of living crisis all posing significant challenges for the Council over and above its day-to-day operational activities. In referring to one specific achievement which had involved bringing 80 empty properties back into use against a target of 50, Councillor Gary Pritchard, Portfolio Member for Children, Youth and Housing Services highlighted that this success is all the more meaningful because those properties have become homes for local people and their families.

It was resolved 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 Full Council at its meeting on 26 October 2023 that it be adopted.

7. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING – QUARTER 1 2023/24

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer setting out the financial performance of the Council's services at the end of Quarter 1, 2023/24 was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Robin Williams, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Finance presented the report saying that 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 an agreed Council Tax increase of 5%. As for the previous year, the budget for 2023/24 does not include any requirements on services to make savings. Based on the end of Quarter 1 data, the overall projected financial position for 2023/24 including Corporate Finance and the Council Tax fund is a projected overspend of £0.744m which represents 0.43% of the Council's net budget for 2023/24. The Portfolio Member for Finance referred to a number of challenges facing the Council at present which are not immediately apparent from the headline figure, these include budget pressures in Children's Services and Adults' Social Care, uncertainty regarding the pay offer for 2023/24 which has yet to be settled and the ongoing cost of living crisis which is likely to result in increased demand for Council services. However, it is difficult to accurately project the end of year outturn based on one quarter's figures alone, and as the remainder of the financial year unfolds, the impact of the above will be factored into future monitoring reports as things become clearer.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer confirmed that much can happen in the nine months to the end of the financial year which will affect the budget. He advised that it is important that the Council reduce the overspend and try to remain within budget at year end in order to safeguard the current level of earmarked reserves and general balances. This will give the Council more options when it comes to setting the 2024/25 budget. Having had discussions at a high level about whether any corrective actions are required to reduce expenditure and whether any direction should be given to services to that effect, the conclusion is that that is not necessary at this point in time. However discussions are ongoing with the Director of Social Services and the Head of Adults' Services with regard to managing expenditure in those services as the services most under pressure which are driving the overall overspend. The options for reducing costs are limited because most of the Council's costs are linked to contracts and obligations which the Council is expected to honour and which would be difficult to change during the year. Management will continue to review the financial position closely during the remainder of the financial year and the Finance Service will be reporting monthly to Service Managers from now onwards.

The Executive's members acknowledged that the financial position is challenging at present and that further, more testing challenges are expected in setting the 2024/25 budget.

It was resolved to note the following –

- **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.**
- **The summary of contingency budgets for 2023/24 as detailed in Appendix C to the report.**
- **The monitoring of agency and consultancy costs for 2023/24 in Appendices CH and D.**

8. CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING – QUARTER 1 2023/24

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer setting out the financial performance of the Council's capital budget at the end of Quarter 1, 2023/24 was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Robin Williams, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Finance presented the report confirming that the total capital budget for 2023/24 was £58.141m which includes the HRA, slippage from 2022/23, grant funded additional schemes added onto the programme and some amending of funding. Whilst the profiled spend to the 30 June 2023 was £7.177m the actual expenditure is £6.255m or £7.016m when committed expenditure to the value of £761k is taken into account the reasons being that a number of capital schemes are weighted towards the latter part of the financial year. In cases where slippage occurs the funding will also slip into the next financial year and no funding will be lost.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer highlighted the number of capital schemes which are now grant funded as set out in Appendix C to the report. As core capital funding had reduced in real terms making investment in the Council's current assets ever more challenging, the Council has become increasingly dependent on grants to fund its capital activities.

The Executive's members while they acknowledged the value of grants to support the Council's capital projects, recognised that grants can also create their own challenges in terms of timing, in having conditions attached to them which tie expenditure to areas which may not be priorities for the Council and in often being allocated competitively. Councillor Dafydd Roberts, Portfolio Member for Education and the Welsh Language referred to recent issues with Raac concrete in schools which is a concern as regards capital expenditure and he asked whether any additional funding would be made available to help with the remedial work.

The Deputy Chief Executive advised that no official confirmation of additional funding has been received but that discussions with Welsh Government are ongoing.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer advised that the work to deal with the Raac concrete issue has arisen unexpectedly and as such was not programmed for meaning it is diverting staff resources from the Council's programmed schemes. The availability of internal capacity to deliver the capital programme is a factor in slippage especially when unforeseen issues arise and must be dealt with leading to delay on progressing approved capital projects.

Councillor Robin Williams took the opportunity to thank everyone who had been involved in responding to the emerging Raac concrete issue in two of the Island's schools and for adapting to ensure the continuation of education provision in difficult circumstances.

It was resolved –

- **To note the progress of expenditure and receipts against the capital budget 2023/24 at Quarter 1.**
- **To approve the additional schemes amounting to £5.442m to the capital programme and amendments to funding as per Appendix C of the report which will result in a revised capital budget of £58.141m for 2023/24.**

9. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET MONITORING – QUARTER 1 2023/24

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer setting out the financial performance of the Housing Revenue account for Quarter 1 2023/24 was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Robin Williams, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Finance presented the report which outlines both the revenue and capital budget performance of the Housing

Revenue Account for the period and the forecast outturn for the year ending 1 March 2024. The report shows the revenue budget with a budgeted surplus of £8,044k. The gross capital budget for 2023/24 is £19,988k. Grant and other funding of £6,898k reduced the net budget to £13,090k. The combination of both the revenue budget and the adjusted capital budget gave a planned budget deficit of £5,046k to be funded from the HRA reserve. The HRA revenue budget shows an overspend of £8k compared to the profiled budget as detailed in Appendix A to the report. Capital expenditure is £25k below the profiled budget. The forecast expenditure is £100k below budget as detailed in Appendix B to the report. This underspend 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. The forecast deficit combining both revenue and capital is now £4,278k, £768 less than the budget.

The opening balance of the HR reserve stood at £12,107k. The revised budget allowed for the use of £5,046k of this balance. However the revised forecast 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 only available to fund future HRA expenditure.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer advised that the surplus on the HRA revenue budget is reinvested in maintaining the existing housing stock to Welsh Housing Quality Standards and in developing new housing stock. Appendix C to the report provides an overview of the new development budget for 2023/24 and the new housing schemes across the Island which it is intended to fund.

The Executive was pleased to note the planned/active schemes listed in Appendix C which are a continuation of the Council's approach of increasing the housing stock on the Island year on year. Councillor Gary Pritchard, Portfolio Member for Children, Youth and Housing Services referred to the six additional units in Beaumaris on the list in Appendix C which had now been completed and allocated to local individuals and which he had recently visited. He praised the flats as being of high quality and a valuable acquisition to the town as well as being a marked improvement on the plot as it was previously.

It was resolved to note the following –

- **The position set out in respect of the financial performance of the Housing Revenue Account.**
- **The forecast outturn for 2023/24.**

10. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2024/25 TO 2025/26

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer incorporating the Medium-Term Financial Plan for 204/25 to 2025/26 was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Robin Williams introduced the report as setting out the Council's likely resources requirement for the next two financial years along with details of how the Council plans to balance the resource requirement with the funding available.

The Director of Function (Resources)/ Section 151 Officer drew attention to information in the report which included the Council's current financial position as regards the budget that was set in March 2023 and how it was funded, a comparison with previous years dating back to 2018/19 as regards the variation in the funding gap over the six year period, the wider context in relation to the national economic outlook and budget and changes in Welsh Government funding over the past decade. It was noted that pressures on the Welsh

Government budget at the present time mean that the scope to provide additional funding for local government in the next two years is limited and that for every 1% reduction in Welsh Government funding the Council Tax has to increase by 3 to 4% to make up the difference. The Welsh Government has announced an indicative all Wales local government funding settlement for 2024/25 of 3% with no indication given for 2025/26. This is based on the UK Government's spending review on 2021 which did not factor in the significant rise in inflation seen in 2022 and 2023.

At the end of the 2022/23 financial year the Council reported a net underspend of £1.212m (2.37%) with all services except Adults 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. As £3.789m of these reserves have been allocated as funding for the 2023/24 budget, the level of reserves moving forwards 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%) which was approved by the Executive.

The Section 151 Officer guided the Executive through section 5 of the report which set out in detail the areas considered to be the main budget pressures facing the Council over the tenure of the Plan and their potential impact on the Council's budget going forwards. These include pay increases, energy costs, demand in Children and Adults' services, a rise in homelessness and general inflation as well as a number of other headings where there are pressures in the form of increasing costs, commitments and/or need for services. By taking account of all the issues described in section 5 and the Council's income position referred to in section 6 and using the assumptions set out in Appendix 2 to the report it is estimated that the Council's net revenue expenditure budget will increase by £13.072m in 2024/25 (to £187.641m) and by £5.368m in 2025/26 (to £193.082m), an increase of 10.6% over the two-year period.

Table 3 of the report shows the additional income that various changes in the Aggregate External Finance (AEF) from Welsh Government and increases in Council Tax would have on the Council's funding assuming no change in the Council Tax base and with any additional funding generated by the Council Tax premium being used to increase budgets on projects to help with the supply of affordable housing. In order to fund the estimated additional budget requirement of £13.072m for 2024/25 as well as replacing 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% as the indications suggest, it will require Council Tax to rise by around 30% in order to generate sufficient permanent funding to meet a net budget requirement of £187.64m. If the AEF was to rise by 3% and Council Tax by 5% the additional funding generated is £6.11m after adjusting for the increase in CTRS leaving a gap of £6.96m. However, the use of reserves in 2023/24 must be taken into account and, if no reserves are used in 2024/25 then the funding shortfall increases by £3.78m to £10.74m.

Section 10 of the report discusses potential ways of bridging the funding gap. Whilst the Council does have some capacity to use general balances and reserves to reduce the gap this option carries its own risks in that money held in reserve is not a recurring source of income and using reserves does not address the need to close the funding gap in the long-term. Using reserves also depletes the reserves held by the Council and weakens its financial position and resilience to respond to unexpected events. Given that the Council is required by law to set a balanced budget if the level of funding (from Welsh Government, Council Tax and reserves and balances) is insufficient to meet the cost of providing services in the year then the only option is to reduce the net expenditure budget to the level of funding available. Assuming that the funding gap is £10m then that equates to revenue savings of 5.7% of the 2023/24 net expenditure budget.

Paragraph 10.9 of the report looks ahead to 2025/26 where a budget shortfall of £11.51m is estimated of which £9.93m relates to the budget shortfall carried forward from 2024/25 plus an additional shortfall on the 2025/26 budget itself.

The Medium-Term Financial Plan highlights the fact therefore 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.

The Executive in noting the position as reported acknowledged the very real challenges that lie ahead recognising that there are some stark choices to be made and difficult decisions to be taken. Most councils are facing similar, or even greater challenges. The hope is that the Welsh Government settlement for 2024/25 will be better than that expected.

It was resolved to note the contents of the Medium-Term Financial Plan 2024/25 to 2025/26 and to approve the assumptions made.

11. ANNUAL LETTER FROM THE PUBLIC SERVICES OMBUDSMAN FOR WALES FOR 2022/23

The report of the Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer incorporating the Annual Letter from the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales (PSOW) for 2022/23 was presented for the Executive's consideration. The Letter summarises the performance of the Council in relation to the service complaints received and their outcomes during the year in question as well as cases involving the Ombudsman's intervention. A section on complaints made under the Code of Conduct for Members is also included.

The headline messages as conveyed by the Annual Letter were presented by the Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer. Those were that 25 service complaints against the Council were lodged with the PSOW, down from 29 the previous year. Of those, 20 did not require an investigation by the PSOW's Office. The remaining 5 were dealt with by way of early resolution. One Code of Conduct complaint was made against a member of the County Council but was not investigated, and one complaint was also made against a Town/Community Councillor during 2022/23 but was discontinued prior to its investigation. In her Annual Letter the PSOW asks that the Council takes action in respect of bringing the letter to the attention of the Governance and Audit Committee and the Executive, continuing to engage with the PSOW's complaints standards work, accessing training for staff, implementing the model policy and providing accurate and timely complaints data. The Monitoring Officer gave assurances that those actions are in hand and confirmed that the Council does provide quarterly complaints data in accordance with the timescale set by the Complaints Standards Agency. Confirmation of the above will be sent to the PSOW following this meeting.

It was resolved –

- **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 Executive has 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.**

12. ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL RESPONSE TO THE NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE – EMERGENCY REVIEW

The report of the Chief Executive incorporating the Council's response to the North Wales Fire and Rescue Services – Emergency Cover Review was presented for the Executive's consideration. Documentation published as part of the consultation was included at Appendix B to the report along with the Council's feedback to the options presented under Appendix A.

The Chief Executive presented the report and referred to the significance of the consultation given that its outcome could influence the nature of the service on the Island, specifically emergency response times. Most of the NW Fire and Rescue Service's funding is derived from a levy which is set annually and which is then apportioned between the six North Wales authorities on the basis of population. The Council's contribution to the levy comes from its net revenue budget but details of the levy is not included on the Council Tax statement. The Chief Executive referred to the financial pressures under which public services are operating at the present time and that the consultation may be an indication of things to come in terms of the squeeze on the Fire Service's budget and potential reconfiguration of the provision which may mean some areas paying more for less. The Council's position is that it wishes to receive the best possible service with no increased costs if possible, and that it opposes any reduction in the level of service on the Island. The Council is also keen to see that front line services are protected and that consideration is given to identifying efficiency savings in other areas within the operating structure and working practices of the NW Fire and Rescue Authority e.g. central and training costs.

The Executive Manager (Leadership Team) confirmed that the draft response document at Appendix A summarises the Council's perspective and the main concerns raised. The Chief Fire Officer has provided a response to several questions and the document has been amended accordingly.

Executive Members Councillors Carwyn Jones and Gary Pritchard spoke to endorse the Council's opposition to Option 3 which would see the closure of one of the Island's Retained Stations at Beaumaris. They expressed their concerns about the impact on the southeastern area of the Island which the implementation of this option would have as regards response times and consequently the safety of the communities in the area with the nearest response possibly having to come from off Anglesey with the added complication of the congestion on the Menai crossings. This represents a reduced service which increases the threat to life. Further points were made about the need for greater transparency in the reporting of the NW Fire and Rescue Service's costs including central costs and for information about the Service's levy to be included on Council Tax bills in the interests of public and ratepayer awareness. A suggestion was made that a local review of the service would be helpful to establish whether the Council is obtaining value for money for its contribution which was confirmed by the Chair and Portfolio Member for Finance as being over £4m per annum. The Chief Executive also referred to the provision at RAF Valley which although intended to serve the base could also be a source of support if required. It was agreed that those comments be added to the response.

Councillor Gwilym O. Jones, Vice-Chair of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee reported on Scrutiny's response to the consultation and draft response. He confirmed that the Committee at its meeting on 19 September 2023 had accepted the draft response and had recommended the response to the Executive as a basis for a final response subject to drawing the attention of the Leadership Team to the additional information provided by the Chief Fire Officer; the need for a review of the Service's central and administrative costs to include input by Section 151 Officers as a basis for setting the levy in future; inviting Welsh Government to consider the propriety of including details of the levy on Council Tax statements; the additional costs involved in all three of the proposed options and the implications of Option 3 in the context of weather impacts, the resilience of the bridges and an isolated population.

It was resolved to accept and approve the Council's draft response to the North Wales Fire and Rescue Service – Emergency Cover Review in Appendix A to the report and to include as additional comments a reference to the provision at RAF Valley and the need for a local review of the service provided.

13. APPROVAL OF THE ANGLESEY TOWN CENTRES IMPROVEMENT STRATEGY

The report of the Head of Regulation and Economic Development on the outcome of the consultation process on the strategic plan for improving Anglesey Town Centres was presented for the Executive's consideration along with the finalised Anglesey Town Centres Improvement Strategy.

The Head of Regulation and Economic Development presented the report saying that the draft strategy was approved for consultation by the Executive in April 2023. A process of public and other stakeholder consultation subsequently took place during June and July 2023 to gather views and to seek support for the proposed strategy. The finalised strategy is now presented for adoption as informed by the comments received in response to the consultation exercise. The importance of town centres economically, socially, and culturally is generally acknowledged and as such the strategy proposes actions to support town centres in becoming viable and thriving centres. These actions are considered appropriate and achievable and respond to local concerns mindful also that some issues are outside the Council's control. While realising the strategy in full will depend on the availability of external funding, the best way forward to achieving its objectives will be by working in partnership with local stakeholders and local people.

The Economic Development Manager provided an overview of the response to the consultation exercise which totalled 84 in number. Most responders identified themselves as individuals but there were several responses from town councils, county councillors and local organisations. The number of responses from local businesses was low but did include one from the Federation of Small Businesses. There was a good spread as regards geographic interest and a high level of agreement with the key proposals in the document was registered. 85% of the responses agreed that a strategic plan was needed and 85% agreed with the proposed overall strategic plan aim. The strategy if approved will form the basis for local plans which will be consulted upon in detail locally and some of the town specific suggestions presented as part of the consultation on the strategy will be fed into the local place making plan process. Funding from the UK Shared Prosperity Fund is being sought which would provide the resources to undertake that second stage of the process next year.

The Chief Executive advised that it is important to note that the strategy is a non-statutory document and given existing pressures it may be fair to suggest that the work of preparing reports is proportionate and that resources are used where they will make the greatest

difference i.e. by focusing on local collaboration and on making a real difference in the towns themselves.

The Executive acknowledge the need for a strategy to address the changing needs and character of town centres on Anglesey and to identify opportunities for improving and making the best use of them.

It was resolved to approve the new Town Centres Improvement Strategy.

14. 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 Paragraph 14, Schedule 12A of the said Act and in the attached Public Interest Test.”

15. COMPULSORY LAND PURCHASE – EMPLOYMENT LAND IN LLANGEFNI

The report of the Head of Regulation and Economic Development which sought the Executive’s approval for Officers to commence preparations to undertake the compulsory purchase of land under section 226 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 was presented for consideration.

The report set out the circumstances and current position in relation to the proposed compulsory land purchase and requested that delegated authority be granted to Officers in consultation with the Council Leader and relevant Executive member to commence preparatory works which would later enable the Council to undertake the Compulsory Purchase Order (CPO) process if the land in question cannot be obtained by agreement. Supporting information relating to the Council’s CPO powers was provided in Annex B to the report.

The Executive was advised of the CPO process, timescales, and the proposed funding arrangements and financial considerations in this case. The reasons why the Council was considering utilising its CPO powers in the circumstances described were outlined and justification provided. In response to questions raised by the Executive’s members about potential risks to the Council, Officers provided assurances regarding the measures being taken to protect and secure the Council’s position in this matter.

It was resolved to authorise Officers to commence preparations to undertake the compulsory land purchase under Section 226 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 as detailed within the report (to include the carrying out of formal land referencing under the Acquisition of Land Act 1981 and/or any relevant or associated statutes across the area required to deliver the proposed development) and to proceed in accordance with the recommendations set out therein.

**Councillor Robin Williams
Chair**

Isle of Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	The Executive
Date:	24 October 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

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.

The Executive is requested to:

confirm the attached updated work programme which covers **November 2023 – June 2024**;

identify any matters for specific input and consultation with the Council's Scrutiny Committees;

note that the forward work programme is updated monthly and submitted as a standing monthly item to the Executive.

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: November 2023 – June 2024.

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

The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: November 2023 – June 2024

Updated 12 October 2023



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

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

Page 16 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.

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

The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: November 2023 – June 2024

Updated 12 October 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)
November 2023							
1	The Executive's Forward Work Programme (S) Approval of monthly update.	The approval of the full Executive is sought to strengthen forward planning and accountability.	Council Business	Dyfan Sion Head of Democracy Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 28 November 2023	
2	Corporate Scorecard – Quarter 2, 2023/24 (S) Quarterly performance monitoring report.	This is a matter for the full Executive as it provides assurance of current performance across the Council.	Corporate Transformation	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation Cllr Carwyn Jones	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 21.11.23	The Executive 28 November 2023	
3	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	
4	Capital Budget Monitoring Report – Quarter 2, 2023/24 (S) Quarterly financial monitoring report.	This is a matter for the full Executive as it provides assurance of current financial position across the Council.	Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function– Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel 08.11.23	The Executive 28 November 2023	

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The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: November 2023 – June 2024

Updated 12 October 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)
5	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	
6	Council Tax Base 2024/25		Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function– Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel 08.11.23	The Executive 28 November 2023	
7	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	
8	Freeport – Update		Regulation and Economic Development	Christian Branch Head of Regulation and Economic Development Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 28 November 2023	
9	Freeport – Approval of Outline Business Case		Regulation and Economic Development	Christian Branch Head of Regulation and Economic Development Cllr Llinos Medi		The Executive 28 November 2023	

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The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: November 2023 – June 2024

Updated 12 October 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)
December 2023						
10 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	
11 Biodiversity Plan – Annual Progress Report		Regulation and Economic Development	Christian Branch Head of Regulation and Economic Development Cllr Nicola Roberts		The Executive 12 December 2023	
January 2024						
12 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	
13 Treasury Management 2023/24 – 6-month review		Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function– Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Williams		The Executive 23 January 2024	Full Council 7 March 2024

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The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: November 2023 – June 2024

Updated 12 October 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)
14	Draft Revenue Budget 2024/25 (S) To finalise the Executive's initial draft budget proposals for consultation.	This is a matter for the Executive as it falls within the Council's Budget Framework.	Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Williams	Finance Scutiny Panel 06.12.23 & 11.01.24 Corporate Scrutiny Committee 18.01.24	The Executive 23 January 2024	
15	Community Based non-residential Social Care Services –2024/25 Fees and Charges .		Adults Services	Arwel Owen Head of Adults Services Cllr Alun Roberts		The Executive 23 January 2024	
16	Independent Sector Care Home Fees 2024/25		Adults Services	Arwel Owen Head of Adults Services Cllr Alun Roberts		The Executive 23 January 2024	
17	Fees and Charges 2024/25		Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function– Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Williams		The Executive 23 January 2024	

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The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: November 2023 – June 2024

Updated 12 October 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)
18	HRA Housing Rents and Housing Service Charges 2024/25		Housing	Ned Michael Head of Housing Services Cllr Gary Pritchard		The Executive 23 January 2024	
19	Capital Strategy		Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function– Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Williams	Finance Scrutiny Committee 11.01.24	The Executive 23 January 2024 (to be confirmed)	
20	Modernising Day Opportunities: Learning Disabilities (Holyhead area)		Adults' Services	Arwel Owen Head of Adults' Services Cllr Alun Roberts	Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee 16.01.24	The Executive 23 January 2024	
February 2024							
21	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	
22	Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2024/25		Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function– Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Williams		The Executive 20 February 2024	Full Council 7 March 2024

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

The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: November 2023 – June 2024

Updated 12 October 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)
23	Local Authority Homes for Older People – Setting the Standard Charge 2024/25		Adults Services	Arwel Owen Head of Adults Services Cllr Alun Roberts		The Executive 20 February 2024	
24	Tenants Participation Strategy		Housing	Ned Michael Head of Housing Cllr Gary Pritchard	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 18.01.24	The Executive 20 February 2024	
25	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	
26	Local Housing Market Assessment		Housing	Ned Michael Head of Housing Cllr Gary Pritchard	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 18.01.24	The Executive 20 February 2024	
27	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	

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The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: November 2023 – June 2024

Updated 12 October 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)
March 2024							
Extraordinary meeting (Budget) – date to be agreed							
28	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	
29	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	
30	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	
31	Revenue Budget 2024/25 (S) Adoption of final proposals for recommendation to the County Council.	This is a matter for the Executive as it falls within the Council's Budget Framework.	Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel 15.02.24 Corporate Scrutiny Committee 27.02.24	The Executive	Full Council 7 March 2024

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

The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: November 2023 – June 2024

Updated 12 October 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)
32 Capital Budget 2024/25 (S) Adoption of final proposals for recommendation to the County Council.	This is a matter for the Executive as it falls within the Council's Budget Framework.	Resources	Marc Jones Director of Function – Resources / Section 151 Officer Cllr Robin Williams	Finance Scrutiny Panel 15.02.24 Corporate Scrutiny Committee 27.02.24	The Executive	Full Council 7 March 2024
33 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 19 March 2024	
34 Corporate Scorecard – Quarter 3, 2023/24 (S) Quarterly performance monitoring report.	This is a matter for the full Executive as it provides assurance of current performance across the Council.	Corporate Transformation	Carys Edwards Head of Profession – HR and Transformation Cllr Carwyn Jones	Corporate Scrutiny Committee 12.03.24	The Executive 19 March 2024	
35 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	

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

The Executive's Forward Work Programme

Period: November 2023 – June 2024

Updated 12 October 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							
36	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							
37	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	
June 2024							
38	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 June 2024	

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

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ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL		
Report to:	EXECUTIVE	
Date:	24 OCTOBER 2023	
Subject:	ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT REVIEW FOR 2022/23	
Portfolio Holder(s):	COUNCILLOR R WILLIAMS – DEPUTY LEADER & FINANCE PORTFOLIO HOLDER	
Head of Service / Director:	R MARC JONES	
Report Author:	JEMMA ROBINSON	
Tel:	01248 752675	
E-mail:	JemmaRobinson@anglesey.gov.wales	
Local Members:	n/a	
A –Recommendation/s and reason/s		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note that the outturn figures in the report will remain provisional until the audit of the 2022/23 Statement of Accounts is completed and signed off; any resulting significant adjustments to the figures included in the report will be reported as appropriate. To note the provisional 2022/23 prudential and treasury indicators in the report. Consider the Annual Treasury Management Report for 2022/23 and pass on to the next meeting of the full Council with any comments. 		
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"> To comply with regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 and with the Council's Treasury Management Scheme of Delegation for 2022/23 (Appendix 8 of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2022/23). In accordance with the Scheme of Delegation, this report was scrutinised by the Governance & Audit Committee on 21 September 2023. The report will be presented to the full Council once it has been accepted by this Committee. 		
CH – Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?		
Yes		
D – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?		
N/A		
DD – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Leadership Team (SLT)(mandatory)	
2	Finance / Section 151(mandatory)	n/a – this is the Section 151 Officer's report
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	
4	Human Resources (HR)	
5	Property	
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	

7	Procurement	
8	Scrutiny	
9	Local Members	
10	Other	<p>The Governance & Audit Committee resolved to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note that the outturn figures in the report will remain provisional until the audit of the 2022/23 Statement of Accounts is completed and signed off; any resulting significant adjustments to the figures included in the report will be reported as appropriate. • To note the provisional 2022/23 prudential and treasury indicators in the report. • To consider the Treasury Management Annual Review report for 2022/23, and to recommend it to the full Council without comment.
E – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant)		
1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island	
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? 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.	

F - Appendices:

Appendix A – Annual Treasury Management Review for 2022/23

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

- Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2022/23
- Prudential and Treasury Indicators 2022/23
- Treasury Management Mid-Year Review Report 2022/23
- Capital Outturn Report 2022/23

1. Introduction

The Council is required by regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 to produce an annual treasury management review of activities and the actual prudential and treasury indicators for 2022/23. This report meets the requirements of both the CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management (the Code) and the CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).

During 2022/23, the minimum reporting requirements were that the full Council should receive the following reports:-

- an annual treasury strategy in advance of the year (received on 10 March 2022);
- a mid-year treasury update report (received on 09 March 2023);
- an annual review following the year describing the activity compared to the strategy (this report).

The regulatory environment places responsibility on Members for the review and scrutiny of treasury management policy and activities. This report is, therefore, important in that respect as it provides details of the outturn position for treasury activities and highlights compliance with the Council's policies previously approved by Members.

This Council confirms that it has complied with the requirement under the Code to give prior scrutiny to all of the above treasury management reports by the Governance & Audit Committee before they were reported to the full Council. Member training on treasury management issues was undertaken on 14 September 2022 in order to support members' scrutiny role.

The Section 151 Officer confirms that borrowing was only taken out for capital purposes and the statutory borrowing limit (the authorised limit) was not breached.

Furthermore, the report sets out to the following outcomes in the financial year 2022/23:-

- External factors – including a review on the economy, the interest rate performance during the year and the impact of Covid 19;
- Internal factors – including the performance of capital expenditure, the impact on the reserves and cash balances, risk appetite to investments, the borrowing taken by the Council and the impact on the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR);
- The Treasury Management Strategy in 2022/23 – including the debt management of the council, the implementation on the new MRP policy, and the councils borrowing and investments during the year;
- Controlling Treasury Management – What are the Prudential Indicators and how are they measured;
- Comparison in Prudential Indicators – A comparison on the actual Prudential Indicators compared to the forecast at the beginning of the year;
- Looking forward to 2023/24 and beyond; and
- Conclusion.

2. A Review of the Year – External Factors

2.1 Interest Rates – By March 2022, Bank Rate had finished at 0.75%. Bank Rate increased steadily throughout 2022/23, starting at 0.75% and finishing at 4.25%.

2.2 The Economy – United Kingdom - Against a backdrop of stubborn inflationary pressures, the easing of Covid restrictions in most developed economies, the Russian invasion of Ukraine, and a range of different UK Government policies, it is no surprise that UK interest rates have been volatile right across the curve, from Bank Rate through to 50-year gilt yields, for all of 2022/23.

Q2 of 2022 saw UK GDP deliver growth of +0.1% q/q, but this was quickly reversed in the third quarter, albeit some of the fall in GDP can be placed at the foot of the extra Bank Holiday in the wake of the Queen's passing. Q4 GDP was positive at 0.1% q/q. Most recently, January saw a 0.3% m/m increase in GDP as the number of strikes reduced compared to December. In addition, the resilience in activity at the end of 2022 was, in part, due to a 1.3% q/q rise in real household disposable incomes. A big part of that reflected the £5.7bn payments received by households from the government under the Energy Bills Support Scheme.

Nevertheless, CPI inflation picked up to what should be a peak reading of 11.1% in October, although hopes for significant falls from this level will very much rest on the movements in the gas and electricity markets, as well as the supply-side factors impacting food prices. On balance, most commentators expect the CPI measure of inflation to drop back towards 4% by the end of 2023. As of February 2023, CPI was 10.4%.

The UK unemployment rate fell through 2022 to a 48-year low of 3.6%, and this despite a net migration increase of c500k. The fact remains, however, that with many economic participants registered as long-term sick, the UK labour force shrunk by c500k in the year to June. Without an increase in the labour force participation rate, it is hard to see how the UK economy will be able to grow its way to prosperity, and with average wage increases running at over 6% the MPC will be concerned that wage inflation will prove just as sticky as major supply-side shocks to food (up 18.3% y/y in February 2023) and energy that have endured since Russia's invasion of Ukraine on 22 February 2022.

In the interim, following a Conservative Party leadership contest, Liz Truss became Prime Minister for a tumultuous seven weeks that ran through September and October. Put simply, the markets did not like the unfunded tax-cutting and heavy spending policies put forward by her Chancellor, Kwasi Kwarteng, and their reign lasted barely seven weeks before being replaced by Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and Chancellor Jeremy Hunt. Their Autumn Statement of the 17th of November gave rise to a net £55bn fiscal tightening, although much of the "heavy lifting" has been left for the next Parliament to deliver. However, the markets liked what they heard, and UK gilt yields have reversed the increases seen under the previous tenants of No10/11 Downing Street, although they remain elevated in line with developed economies generally.

As noted above, GDP has been tepid throughout 2022/23, although the most recent composite Purchasing Manager Indices for the UK, US, EZ and China have all surprised to the upside, registering survey scores just above 50 (below suggests economies are contracting, and above suggests expansion). Whether that means a shallow recession, or worse, will be avoided is still unclear. Ultimately, the MPC will want to see material evidence of a reduction in inflationary pressures and a loosening in labour markets. Realistically, that is an unlikely outcome without unemployment rising and wage settlements falling from their current levels. At present, the bigger rise in employment kept the ILO unemployment rate unchanged at 3.7% in January. Also, while the number of job vacancies fell for the ninth consecutive month in February, they remained around 40% above pre-pandemic levels.

Our economic analysts, Capital Economics, expect real GDP to contract by around 0.2% q/q in Q1 and forecast a recession this year involving a 1.0% peak-to-trough fall in real GDP. The £ has remained resilient of late, recovering from a record low of \$1.035, on the Monday following the Truss government's "fiscal event", to \$1.23. Notwithstanding the £'s better run of late, 2023 is likely to see a housing correction of some magnitude as fixed-rate mortgages have moved above 4.5% and affordability has been squeezed despite proposed Stamp Duty cuts remaining in place.

3. A Review of the Year – Internal Factors

3.1 Capital Expenditure and financing 2022/23 - The Council undertakes capital expenditure on long-term assets. These activities may either be:-

- Financed immediately through the application of capital or revenue resources (capital receipts, capital grants, revenue contributions etc.), which has no resultant impact on the Council's borrowing need; or
- Financed from borrowing: If insufficient financing is available, or a decision is taken not to apply resources, the capital expenditure will give rise to a borrowing need.

The actual capital expenditure forms one of the required prudential indicators. The table below shows the actual capital expenditure and how this was financed.

	2022/23 Estimate (£'m)	2022/23 Actual (£'m)
General Fund capital expenditure	40	30
HRA capital expenditure	15	11
Total capital expenditure	55	41
General Fund financed in year by Grants & Contributions	19	19
HRA financed in year by Grants & Contributions	3	4
General Fund financed in year by Council Resources	8	3
HRA financed in year by Council Resources	10	7
General Fund capital expenditure financed by borrowing	13	8
HRA capital expenditure financed by borrowing	2	0

The main reason for the underspend was the large underspend against the projects listed below.

Scheme	Underspend £'m	Comment
Refurbishment of school buildings	1.186	In the latter part of 2022/23, the Authority was awarded £1.189m of additional grant funding for school capital maintenance works. The grant funding was used to fund capital expenditure on education buildings 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 school capital works in 2023/24.
Free School Meals	0.600	In the latter part of 2022/23, the Authority was awarded £0.832m of additional grant funding for schools in relation to the preparation of the free school meals roll out. The grant funding was used to fund locally determined capital schemes in 2022/23, replacing funding from the Authority's own resources. There was also £0.013m of expenditure that the Authority deemed to be revenue in nature, although eligible as per the terms of the grant, therefore £0.013m of this funding was transferred to revenue, leaving the capital budget to be £0.819m. The funding saved by the Authority from this grant will now be used to fund free school meals preparation works in 2023/24

Scheme	Underspend £'m	Comment
Community Focussed Schools (CFS) Grant	0.451	<p>In 2022/23, the Authority was awarded £0.476m of grant funding 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 as per previous monitoring reports.</p> <p>The grant funding was used to fund locally determined capital schemes in 2022/23, replacing funding from the Authority's own resources. There was also £0.025m of expenditure that the Authority deemed to be revenue in nature, although eligible as per the terms of the grant, therefore £0.025m of this funding was transferred to revenue, leaving the capital budget to be £0.451m. The funding saved by the Authority from this grant will now be used to fund CFS projects in 2023/24.</p>
Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Grant	0.436	<p>In 2022/23, the Authority was awarded £0.476m of grant funding to support learners with ALN. There was minimal expenditure in 2022/23 and due to the timing of the funding, the scheme was expected to underspend as per previous monitoring reports.</p> <p>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.</p>
Disabled Access Education Building	0.145	<p>This is due to disabled adaptations being completed in all secondary schools except one. The remaining secondary school is on hold pending the outcome of feasibility studies. Works to primary schools are completed as and when required.</p> <p>Though substantial investment has been undertaken, further work maybe required in the future to address the needs of individuals not yet known to us and therefore the underspend is required to be slipped to 2023/24.</p>
Various Flood schemes	1.198	Some schemes are ongoing and span across different financial years. Others have seen delays and time extensions for completion agreed by Welsh Government to carry forward the funding and other schemes have completed.
Local Transport Fund – Infrastructure enhancements	0.416	Due to the nature of the works and lead time on delivery of infrastructure, time extension has been secured until June 2023.
Maritime Infrastructure	0.178	Work in Amlwch is being prioritised and, while background work has begun and consultants have been appointed, the full budget is still required, and the majority of the work will take place in 2023/24.

Scheme	Underspend £'m	Comment
Visitor Infrastructure	0.199	As per previous monitoring reports, this scheme was expected to slip, with the majority of the works anticipated to take place in 2023/24.
Sustainable Communities for Learning – Band B	1.191	Experienced a delay of 18 weeks due to extremely wet ground conditions. Additional drainage works have had to be carried out. Trench excavations and concrete foundations have commenced. Awaiting confirmation of cost increases due to delay, drainage works, poor ground conditions and deeper concrete foundations.
Disabled Facilities Grant	0.466	There has been a slowing down of referrals coming through from Social Services, as a hangover from the pandemic, coupled with a lack of contractors. There were more approvals but with a smaller pool of contractors, the jobs are not being turned around as quickly. This issue is being addressed in the forthcoming financial year.
Residential Site for Gypsies & Travellers	0.491	The initial tender prices received exceeded the funding available. Work is ongoing to redesign the scheme to reduce the costs to match the available funding.
Capital works to existing assets	0.476	The remaining budget has been committed to works that span 22/23 and 23/24. Works include substantial investment at Holyhead and Amlwch Leisure Centres
Upgrade Public Conveniences	0.361	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 year. 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.
Vehicles	0.510	A plan is being put in place to deliver electric vehicle charging points in the compound, however, they have not yet been finalised and, until finalisation is achieved, orders for electric vehicles have been postponed. Other vehicles have been ordered before year end, however, due to the lead time in delivery, they will be received post year end and so the budget will be required to slip to financial year 2023/24.
Integrated Care Fund (ICF)	0.694	£0.852m was claimed through the ICF in the prior year and through displaced funding, for the projects to slip into 2022/23 to be completed. Some of the projects will continue in 2023/24 and it has been agreed with the regional team that the funding can be carried forward to fund completion in 2023/24.

3.2 Reserves and Cash balances - the Council's cash balances comprise revenue and capital resources and cash flow monies. The Council's core cash resources comprised as follows:-

Usable Reserves and Provisions	Draft 31-Mar-23 £'m	Final 31-Mar-22 £'m
Council fund general reserve	13.967	12.278
Earmarked reserves	19.637	23.181
Housing Revenue Account (HRA) reserve	12.107	12.333
School reserves	6.716	7.827
Capital receipts Reserves	1.908	2.381
Capital Grant Unapplied	0.407	0.000
Total Usable Reserves	54.742	58.000
Provisions	5.037	4.915
Total Usable Reserves and Provisions	59.779	62.915

3.3 Externalisation of borrowing – The Council's underlying need to borrow for capital expenditure is termed the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). This figure is a gauge of the Council's debt position. The CFR results from the capital activity of the Council and the resources utilised to pay for the capital spend. It represents the 2022/23 capital expenditure financed by borrowing, and prior years' capital expenditure funded by borrowing which has not yet been paid for by revenue or other resources. Part of the Council's treasury activities is to address the funding requirements for this borrowing need. Depending on the capital expenditure programme, the Treasury Service organises the Council's cash position to ensure sufficient cash is available to meet the capital plans and cash flow requirements. This may be sourced through borrowing from external bodies (such as the Government, through the Public Works Loan Board (PWLb) or the money markets) or utilising temporary cash resources within the Council. There was no externalisation of borrowing in 2022/23 financial year.

3.3.1 Gross borrowing and the CFR - In order to ensure that borrowing levels are prudent over the medium term and only for a capital purpose, the Council should ensure that its gross external borrowing does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of the capital financing requirement in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional capital financing requirement for the current and next two financial years. This essentially means that the Council is not borrowing to support revenue expenditure.

The internal borrowing strategy has now been implemented over the last few years. The gross borrowing of £123.8m at 31 March 2023 is less than the forecast CFR for the following two years.

	Actual 2022/23 £'m	Estimated 2023/24 £'m	Estimated 2024/25 £'m
Capital Financing Requirement	144.1	173.9	202.7

3.3.2 Internal borrowing - is when over the medium term, the investment rates are expected to continue to be below long-term borrowing rates. This means that value for money considerations would indicate that value could best be obtained by avoiding new external borrowing and by using internal cash balances to finance new capital expenditure, or to replace maturing external debt. This would maximise short term savings. The Internal borrowing figure is the difference between the CFR and the Gross Borrowing Position. As can be seen in the table below, at the beginning of the year the internal borrowing position was £12.5m. There were no new PWLB loans in the year and £2.285m principal repayments, with an interest free loan of £1.123m received in the year (as per 3.4 and 3.5 below). This has resulted in the Internal borrowing position at 31 March 2023 now being £20.3m:

	31 March 2022 Actual £'m	31 March 2023 Actual £'m
Gross borrowing position	125.3	123.8
CFR	137.8	144.1
(Underfunding) / overfunding of CFR	(12.5)	(20.3)

3.4 Other Borrowing- During the year, the Council did not enter into any other short-term borrowings. An interest free loan of £1.123m was received during 2022/23 to fund capital expenditure on energy saving projects and will be repaid in annual instalments.

3.5 Debt Repayments – There were three PWLB loans that matured during the year. £1m matured 19 August 2022. The loan was originally taken in July 2007 at an interest rate of 5.35%. £1.0m matured 16 January 2023. The loan was originally taken in May 1995 at an interest rate of 8.5%. £0.285m matured 31 March 2023. The loan was originally taken in May 1995 at an interest rate of 8.5%. There are no short term borrowings outstanding.

3.6 Investments – The expected investment strategy was to keep to shorter term deposits (up to 364 days) although the ability to invest out to longer periods was retained. Cash balances were expected to be up to £65m, ranging between £38m and £65m. The interest budget of £5k that was set for 2022/23 was based on the previous year's interest received, taking into account the low interest rates, limited investments in other Local Authorities and the fact investment returns remained at close to zero at the time of producing the interest receivable budget for 2022/23. However, with interest rates rising to above what was anticipated at the time of producing the 2022/23 budget and hence providing more opportunities for investment of surplus cash, average balances of £55.8m returned £0.863m at an average interest rate of 1.55%.

Investment returns picked up throughout the course of 2022/23 as central banks, including the Bank of England, realised that inflationary pressures were not transitory, and that tighter monetary policy was called for. Starting April at 0.75%, Bank Rate moved up in stepped increases of either 0.25% or 0.5%, reaching 4.25% by the end of the financial year, with the potential for a further one or two increases in 2023/24.

Part of the Council's deposits were held in no notice deposit accounts which pay interest at rates near the prevailing base rate, £11.521m at 1.25% on 31 March 2023 (31 March 2022 £38.616m at 0.05%). There were four other short-term investments as at 31 March 2023 - £30.0m at an interest rate of 3.96% (£7.5m at 0.77% as at 31 March 2022). All investments were for under 1 year.

On 22 July 2022 a £7.5m investment with Goldman Sachs (that was outstanding as at 31 March 2022) matured, and was reinvested on the same date. Details of all new investments in the year with their respective interest rates, are detailed in the table below:

Counter Party	Start Date	End Date	Interest Rate %	Amount £
National Westminster Bank	11/04/2022	11/10/2022	1.30	10,000,000
Santander	10/05/2022	10/11/2022	1.47	7,500,000
Nationwide Building Society	17/05/2022	17/08/2022	0.97	7,500,000
Goldman Sachs	22/07/2022	22/12/2022	2.18	7,500,000
Nationwide Building Society	17/08/2022	17/11/2022	1.87	7,500,000
National Westminster Bank	11/10/2022	11/01/2023	2.70	10,000,000
Wrexham County Borough Council	25/10/2022	25/04/2023	3.80	5,000,000
Santander	10/11/2022	10/02/2023	3.24	7,500,000
Nationwide Building Society	17/11/2022	17/02/2023	3.03	7,500,000
Cornwall Council	25/11/2022	27/02/2023	3.06	5,000,000
Goldman Sachs	22/12/2022	22/06/2023	3.83	7,500,000
National Westminster Bank	11/01/2023	11/07/2023	4.10	10,000,000
Santander	10/02/2023	10/05/2023	4.00	7,500,000
Cornwall Council	27/02/2023	24/03/2023	3.90	5,000,000

3.7 Treasury Position at 31 March 2023 – The Council's debt and investment position is organised by the Treasury Management Service in order to ensure adequate liquidity for revenue and capital activities, security for investments and to manage risks within all treasury management activities. Procedures and controls to achieve these objectives are well established both through Member reporting detailed in the summary, and through officer activity in accordance with the Treasury Management Strategy 2022/23. The upper limits for fixed rate and variable rate exposures were not breached during the year. The borrowing and investment figures for the Council as at the end of the 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial years are as follows: -

	31 MARCH 2022			31 MARCH 2023		
	£'m	Average Rate (%)	Average Maturity (years)	£'m	Average Rate (%)	Average Maturity (years)
Debt PWLB	121.9	4.58	29.58	119.6	4.54	29.15
Debt Non-PWLB	3.4	0	4.03	4.2	0	3.73
Total	125.3			123.8		
CFR	137.8			144.1		
Over / (under) borrowed	(12.5)			(20.3)		
Fixed term investments (all < 1 year, managed in house and fixed rate)	7.500	0.765		30.000	3.96	
No notice investments (all managed in house)	38.616	0.05		11.521	1.25	
Total Investments	46.116	0.17		41.521	3.21	

Borrowing is further broken down by maturity as:-

	31 MARCH 2022		31 MARCH 2023	
	£'m	% of total	£'m	% of total
Total borrowing	125.3	100	123.8	100
Under 12 months	2.7	2.2	2.3	1.9
1 – 3 years	3.4	2.7	3.3	2.7
4 – 6 years	4.5	3.6	5.6	4.5
7 – 10 years	4.9	3.9	3.8	3.1
10 years and above	109.8	87.6	108.8	87.8

There have been no new borrowings taken out in the year (long or short term), with an interest free loan being received in the year as per 3.4 above. Debt repayments have been as described in point 3.5 above. Therefore, the movement in the categories above are simply as per the loan maturity dates.

4. The Council's Treasury Management Strategy in 2022/23

- 4.1 Debt rescheduling** - No rescheduling was done during the year as the average 1% differential between PWLB new borrowing rates and premature repayment rates made rescheduling unviable.
- 4.2 Borrowing in advance of need** – During the year, the Council did not borrow more than, or in advance of its needs, purely to profit from the investment of the extra sums borrowed.
- 4.3 Investment Policy** – the Council's investment policy is governed by Welsh Government investment guidance, which has been implemented in the annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement approved by the Council on 10 March 2022. This policy sets out the approach for choosing investment counterparties and is based on credit ratings provided by the three main credit rating agencies, supplemented by additional market data (such as rating outlooks, credit default swaps, bank share prices etc.). The investment activity during the year conformed to the approved strategy and the Council had no liquidity difficulties. When the Council invests its surplus cash, the most important aspect of the investment is security, followed by liquidity and then the yield. This essentially means that the main priority is the safety of the cash, followed by how readily available the cash is should the Council require it followed by the percentage interest rate return that the Council will receive for the investment. The strategy on investing surplus cash would be to borrow short term with other Local Authorities to maximize returns in a secure way.
- 4.4 Borrowing strategy and control of interest rate risk** - During 2022/23, the Council maintained an under-borrowed position. This meant that the capital borrowing need, (the Capital Financing Requirement), was not fully funded with loan debt, as cash supporting the Council's reserves, balances and cash flow was used as an interim measure. This strategy was prudent as investment returns were very low and minimising counterparty risk on placing investments also needed to be considered.
- 4.5 MRP Policy** – In 2022/23 the Council implemented its new MRP policy after seeking advice from its Treasury advisor. The new policy is a more prudent measure with the MRP charge reflecting more closely the change in asset values. The new policy can be seen in Appendix 6 of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2023/24 that was approved by full Council on 09 March 2023.

5. Controlling Treasury Management

The following Prudential indicators are contained in Appendix 11 of the Treasury Management Strategy Statement. See below a brief explanation of what the indicators are and how they are calculated. Section 6 of this report analyses the differences between the Actual and the forecast Prudential Indicators for 2022/23.

- **Capital expenditure – Estimates of Capital Expenditure** - This is the forecast Capital Expenditure from 2022/23 to 2025/26 and is based on the Capital Programme for 2022/23 and the Capital Strategy for 2023/24.
- **The Council's borrowing need (the Capital Financing Requirement)** - Another prudential indicator is the Council's Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). The CFR is simply the total historic outstanding capital expenditure which has not yet been paid for from either revenue or capital resources. It is essentially a measure of the Council's underlying borrowing need. Any capital expenditure above, which has not immediately been paid for through a revenue or capital resource, will increase the CFR. The CFR does not increase indefinitely, as the minimum revenue provision (MRP) is a statutory annual revenue charge which broadly reduces the borrowing need in line with each asset's life, and so charges the economic consumption of capital assets as they are used.
- **Prudence - Gross Debt and the CFR** - The Council needs to ensure that its gross debt does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of the CFR in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional CFR for 2022/23 and the following two financial years. This allows some flexibility for limited early borrowing for future years but ensures that borrowing is not undertaken for revenue purposes.
- **External Debt - The authorised limit for external debt** - A further key prudential indicator represents a control on the maximum level of borrowing. This represents a limit beyond which external debt is prohibited, and this limit needs to be set or revised by the full Council. It reflects the level of external debt which, while not desired, could be afforded in the short term, but is not sustainable in the longer term. This is the statutory limit determined under section 3 (1) of the Local Government Act 2003. The Government retains an option to control either the total of all councils' plans, or those of a specific council, although this power has not yet been exercised. The S151 Officer reports that the Council complied with this prudential indicator in the current year and does not envisage difficulties for the future. This view takes into account current commitments, existing plans, and the proposals in the budget report. The Authorised Limit is set annually in the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and is approved by full Council.
- **The operational boundary** - This is the limit beyond which external debt is not normally expected to exceed. In most cases, this would be a similar figure to the CFR, but may be lower or higher depending on the levels of actual debt and the ability to fund under-borrowing by other cash resources. Periods where the actual position is either below or over the boundary are acceptable subject to the authorised limit not being breached. The Operational Limit is set annually in the Treasury Management Strategy Statement and is approved by full Council.
- **Affordability - Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream** - This indicator identifies the trend in the cost of capital (borrowing and other long term obligation costs net of investment income) against the net revenue stream.

6. Prudential Indicators Actual vs Expected

- 6.1 During 2022/23, the Council complied with its legislative and regulatory requirements. The key data for actual prudential and treasury indicators detailing the impact of capital expenditure activities during the year, with comparators, are as follows:-

Data for actual prudential and treasury indicators	2021/22 Actual £'m	2022/23 Original £'m	2022/23 Actual £'m
Capital Expenditure			
• Non-HRA	23.734	17.177	29.510
• HRA	9.723	18.784	11.180
• Total	33.457	35.961	40.690
Total Capital Financing Requirement:			
• Non-HRA	99.387	107.867	105.824
• HRA	38.415	43.646	38.287
• Total	137.802	151.513	144.111
Gross Borrowing	124.348	144.335	123.800
External Debt	124.348	144.335	123.800
Investments			
• Longer than 1 year	0	0	0
• Under 1 year	46.116	15.000	41.522
• Total	46.116	15.000	41.522
Financing costs as a proportion of net revenue stream – CF	4.50%	4.40%	2.78%
Financing costs as a proportion of net revenue stream – HRA	9.12%	13.40%	7.18%

6.2 The first Prudential Indicator in the above table is the Capital Expenditure. The forecast Capital Expenditure at the time of producing the Prudential indicators for 2022/23 was £35.961m. However, the actual expenditure was £40.690m. The prudential indicator was based on the capital budget approved for 2022/23 (£35.961m). However, this budget does not include any slippage amounts from the previous year and also that fact that throughout the year, additional schemes are added to the capital programme, hence why the non-HRA capital expenditure is higher than was what originally budgeted for. Please refer to paragraph 3.1 in this report for the final non-HRA capital budget compared with the actual expenditure and the reasons for the actual underspend against budget. The HRA capital expenditure is significantly underspent, mainly due to unforeseen works, planning delays, tender issues and/or difficulties in obtaining external agency approval for certain aspects of a scheme.

6.3 The second Prudential indicator in the above table is the Capital Financing Requirement. The Council's underlying borrowing need (CFR) is not allowed to rise indefinitely. Statutory controls are in place to ensure that capital assets are broadly charged to revenue over the life of the asset. The Council is required to make an annual revenue charge called the Minimum Revenue Provision, MRP, to reduce the CFR. This is, effectively, a repayment of the borrowing need. This differs from the treasury management arrangements which ensure that cash is available to meet capital commitments. External debt can also be borrowed or repaid at any time, but this does not change the CFR. The total CFR can also be reduced by: -

- the application of additional capital financing resources (such as unapplied capital receipts); or
- charging more than the statutory revenue charge (MRP) each year through a Voluntary Revenue Provision (VRP).

The forecast CFR at the time of producing the Prudential indicators for 2022/23 was £151.513m. However, the actual CFR was significantly lower at £144.111m. The reduction in the HRA CFR is due to the underspend against the HRA budget, meaning there was no borrowing in 2022/23 for HRA. One of the reasons for the reduced Non-HRA CFR was the reduced amount of Unsupported Borrowing needed in relation to the Sustainable Communities for Learning programme in 2022/23. The expenditure was mainly funded by grant, hence reducing the need for borrowing. Another reason was that additional grants were awarded during the year to subsidise other funding sources such as Supported Borrowing. This meant less Supported Borrowing was needed and therefore reducing the CFR figure. However, in future years, this subsidised funding source will be used to fund the Capital Expenditure in 2023/24 and will increase the CFR.

- 6.4** The Authorised Borrowing Limit (£185m) and the Operational Boundary (£180m) were not breached during the year, with the amount of External debt peaking at £125.273m only.
- 6.5** The Financing costs as a proportion of net revenue stream for the General Fund (2.78%) was below the anticipated total (4.40%) which is due to financing costs being lower, attributed to both the change in MRP calculation, resulting in a lower MRP charge and additional interest earned being higher than expected than when the prudential indicator for 22/23 was produced. The Financing costs as a proportion of net revenue stream for the HRA (7.18%) was lower than the anticipated total (13.40%) which is due to the financing costs being significantly lower than expected at the time of producing the proposed indicator for 2022/23 (attributed to both the change in MRP calculation, resulting in a lower MRP charge and reduced borrowing requirements). The underspend on HRA reduced the amount of Revenue contributions needed to fund the capital programme in 2022/23 from £10.1m to £7.4m.

7. Looking forward to 2023/24 and beyond

- 7.1** On 09 March 2023 the full Council approved the Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2023/24. The Strategy Statement was based on the Capital Strategy, and it is forecast that the Council will need to borrow an additional £26.1m in 2023/24 for the General Fund and HRA, a total of £30.7m in 2024/25 and a further total of £21.4m in 2025/26 to fund its Capital Programme, noting that the majority of the borrowing is forecast to fund the HRA capital programme. This additional borrowing will affect the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) being charged to fund the capital financing costs. In 2023/24 the forecast MRP is £1.6m, in 2024/25 £2.0m and £2.1m in 2025/26.
- 7.2** On 06 April 2023 the Isle of Anglesey County Council invested £5m with Nationwide Building Society with an interest rate of 4.17%. The investment matured on 06 July 2023 and was rolled over for a further 6 months with an interest rate of 5.47%.
- 7.3** On 25 April 2023 a £5m investment with Wrexham County Borough Council matured and was rolled over for a further 6 months with an interest rate of 4.3%.
- 7.4** On 10 May 2023 a £7.5m investment with Santander matured and was rolled over for a further 6 months with an interest rate of 4.76%.
- 7.5** On 22 June 2023 a £7.5m investment with Goldman Sachs matured and was rolled over for a further 6 months with an interest rate of 5.52%.
- 7.6** On 11 July 2023 a £10m investment with NatWest matured and was rolled over for a further 6 months with an interest rate of 5.88%.
- 7.7** To date, there have been no principal repayments of PWLB borrowing by the Isle of Anglesey County Council. There is £1.854m due to be repaid later in the 2023/24 financial year.

- 7.8** The interest receivable budget of £1.424m that was set for 2023/24 was based on the increase in interest rates, hence providing more opportunities for investment of surplus cash. Interest received to quarter 1 of 2023/24 was £379k and is anticipated that the interest receivable budget can be met in 2023/24.
- 7.9** The latest interest rate forecast from Link Group (as at 18 July 2023) can be seen in the table below.

Bank Rate	Interest Rate Forecasts							
	Sep-23	Dec-23	Mar-24	Jun-24	Sep-24	Dec-24	Mar-25	Jun-25
Link	5.50%	5.50%	5.50%	5.25%	4.75%	4.25%	3.75%	3.25%

8. Conclusion

The Council's Treasury Management performance during the year was in line with the strategy of low risk, low return investments and a planned approach to borrowing designed to minimise interest charges.

The performance against the Prudential Indicators set by the Council show that the Council's Treasury Management activities are being undertaken in a controlled way which ensure the financial security of the Council and do not place the Council at any significant financial risk in terms of unaffordable or excessive borrowing.

The Council's Treasury Management Strategy and its performance against the strategy take into account the external economic factors and it is constantly reviewed to ensure that it is the most appropriate strategy moving forward.

R MARC JONES
DIRECTOR OF FUNCTION (RESOURCES) & SECTION 151 OFFICER

ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL		
Report to:	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	
Date:	24 OCTOBER 2023	
Subject:	TREASURY MANAGEMENT QUARTER 1 UPDATE 2023/24	
Portfolio Holder(s):	COUNCILLOR R WILLIAMS – DEPUTY LEADER & FINANCE PORTFOLIO HOLDER	
Head of Service / Director:	R MARC JONES, DIRECTOR OF FUNCTION (RESOURCES) & SECTION 151 OFFICER	
Report Author:	CLAIRE KLIMASZEWSKI / SIAN A JONES / JEMMA ROBINSON	
Tel:	01248 752133	
E-mail:	claire.klimaszewski@ynysmon.llyw.cymru	
Local Members:	n/a	
A –Recommendation/s and reason/s		
<p>To recommend that the Executive:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Note the report, the treasury activity and the prudential indicators as at 30 June 2023. That all future Quarter 1 and Quarter 3 Treasury Management reports are reviewed and accepted by the Portfolio Holder for Finance and reported to the Governance and Audit Committee for information only. The half yearly and annual review reports will continue to follow the same process i.e. reported to the Governance & Audit Committee, the Executive and full Council. 		
B – What other options did you consider and why did you reject them and/or opt for this option?		
<p>Report is for information and the consideration of options is not applicable.</p>		
C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?		
<p>To comply with regulations issued under the Local Government Act 2003 and the CIPFA Prudential Code 2021.</p>		
CH – Is this decision consistent with policy approved by the full Council?		
<p>The report gives an update on the treasury management position whereby borrowing and investments decisions have been taken in accordance with the Treasury Management Strategy that was approved by the Council in March 2023.</p>		
D – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council?		
<p>No decision required in respect of this report which will impact on the budgetary position of the Council.</p>		
DD – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Leadership Team (LT)(mandatory)	No additional comments.
2	Finance / Section 151(mandatory)	This is the Section 151 Officer's report.
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	No additional comments.
4	Human Resources (HR)	Not applicable
5	Property	Not applicable
6	Information Communication Technology (ICT)	Not applicable
7	Procurement	Not applicable

8	Scrutiny	The annual and half yearly report are subject to scrutiny by the Governance & Audit Committee. The Code does not require the first and third quarter reports to be subject to any additional scrutiny.
9	Local Members	Not applicable.
10	Other	None
E – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):		
1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island	Treasury management is key to facilitating sustainability for the long-term needs of the Island as borrowing plans help to fund capital expenditure to ensure assets are available now and into the future. Treasury plans must also be affordable to ensure that future generations are not disadvantaged by Treasury Management decisions taken in the short and medium term.
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority. If so, how:-	The Treasury Management strategy and activity must be affordable to mitigate the impact on the future. Some capital expenditure funded by borrowing, such as Sustainable Communities for Learning, and other invest to save schemes funded by borrowing may help to reduce future costs.
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision, if so, please advise whom:	Treasury management activities often fund capital projects in partnership with other organisations, such as Welsh Government.
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward? Please explain how:-	Anglesey Citizens are consulted each year about the annual capital programme some of which is dependent on Treasury Management activities.
5	Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.	Newly built assets funded by borrowing will comply with the Equality Act and related regulations and guidance. Annual refurbishments and replacement programmes also help to increase accessibility and enable diversity.
6	If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.	This is statutory monitoring of Treasury Management activities, not a strategic decision.

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.	Some of the projects funded by borrowing have a positive impact on the development and increase of the Welsh Language, such as the Welsh medium schools built as part of the 21 Century Schools Programme / Sustainable Communities for Learning Programme.
F - Appendices:		
Appendix A –Treasury Management Quarter 1 Report 2023/24 Appendix B – Economic Update Appendix C – Prudential and Treasury Indicators for 2023/24 as at 30 June 2023.		
FF - Background papers (please contact the author of the Report for any further information):		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2023/24 – see link below • Treasury Management Outturn Report 2022/23 – see link below https://democracy.anglesey.gov.uk 		

1. Background

- 1.1** This report has been written in accordance with the requirements of CIPFA's Code of Practice for Treasury Management 2021 and CIPFA Prudential Code 2021 (The Code). The Code requires that Members be updated on forward-looking prudential indicators at least quarterly. This is a new requirement for the years 2023/24 and beyond. Previously, a mid-year report and outturn report was produced and reported to the Governance and Audit Committee, the Executive and full Council. The Code states that the quarterly reports are not required to be taken to full Council but should be part of the Authority's regular revenue and capital budget monitoring reports.
- 1.2** The Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2023/24 (TMSS) sets out all the Council's Treasury Management plans and strategies for the financial year 2023/24. There were no policy changes to the TMSS nor any breaches of TMSS requirements during quarter 1. The quarterly reports aim to outline the progress made on treasury management activities in accordance with the TMSS 2023/24.

2. Introduction

- 2.1** Treasury management involves tasks which ensure that there is enough cash in the Council general account to pay day-to-day bills and organising the investment of surplus cash, over what is needed in the general account, in highly secure accounts, such as UK banks with high credit ratings. The Council prioritises security of its funds in line with the Code and ensuring that enough cash is instantly accessible so that the Council remains liquid. The last consideration is yield, the Council invests to get the highest interest rate possible within the pool of organisations that are secure and meet the criteria in the TMSS 2023/24. The final element of Treasury Management is managing the Council's loan portfolio to ensure that the Council's borrowing is not too high and that the revenue costs of borrowing are affordable.
- 2.2** The Council operates a balanced budget, which broadly means cash raised during the year will meet its cash expenditure. Part of the treasury management operations ensure this cash flow is adequately planned, with surplus monies being invested in low-risk counterparties, providing adequate liquidity initially, before considering optimising investment return.
- 2.3** The second main function of the treasury management service is the funding of the Council's capital plans. These capital plans provide a guide to the borrowing need of the Council, essentially, the longer-term cash flow planning to ensure the Council can meet its capital spending operations. This management of longer-term cash may involve arranging long or short-term loans, or using longer-term cash flow surpluses and, on occasion, any debt previously drawn may be restructured to meet Council risk or cost objectives. The Capital Strategy 2023/24, Capital Programme 2023/24 and quarterly capital budget monitoring reports are closely linked to the Council's treasury management activity because a large part of treasury management is borrowing to fund capital expenditure. In accordance with legislation, the Council is only able to borrow for capital expenditure, not revenue costs, with the exception of when Welsh Government provides a capitalisation directive for specific exceptional revenue expenditure, such as the capitalisation of equal pay back pay. The capital strategy and the annual capital programme and TMSS all support the Council's key priorities in the Council Plan 2023/28.

3. Economic Update

- 3.1** The Council's external treasury management advisers, Link Group, sends several updates such as economic and credit reports each week, to help Council officers and Members to make the best decisions on treasury management activities. Link Group provided an economic update for the first quarter, which can be found in Appendix B. Economic issues have since moved on, which will be reported in the mid-year report. Link Group has also recently provided the following interest rate forecast as at 5 October 2023:-

Table 1 – Forecast Bank Base Rate and PWLB Rates December 2023 to September 2025

	Dec 2023	Mar 2024	Jun 2024	Sep 2024	Dec 2024	Mar 2025	Jun 2025	Sep 2025
Bank Rate (%)	5.25%	5.25%	5.25%	5.00%	4.50%	4.00%	3.50%	3.00%
5yr PWLB rate (%)	5.10%	5.00%	4.90%	4.70%	4.40%	4.20%	4.00%	3.90%
10yr PWLB rate (%)	5.00%	4.90%	4.80%	4.60%	4.40%	4.20%	4.00%	3.80%
25yr PWLB rate (%)	5.40%	5.20%	5.10%	4.90%	4.70%	4.40%	4.30%	4.10%
50yr PWLB rate (%)	5.20%	5.00%	4.90%	4.70%	4.50%	4.20%	4.10%	3.90%

- 3.2** In the TMSS 2023/24 in March 2023, the bank base rate was expected to peak at 4.5% in the summer and that rates would reduce slowly in 2024 and 2025. Inflation, including core inflation has remained higher than the Bank of England expected, and for longer. The Bank of England base rate is currently forecast to peak at 5.25%, however, if there is an increase in inflation this is likely to peak at a higher rate. In the TMSS, the forecasts of the base rate in 2024 and 2025 were lower than those shown above, although these are reducing, they are projected to be higher than the estimates reported in the TMSS. This is due to inflation not reducing quickly enough.
- 3.3** The Council benefits from a higher base rate for investment of surplus cash, which has helped the Council earn more than £1m in interest receivable. However, loans to the Council are more expensive since the Bank of England started raising interest rates to try to control inflation. External borrowing is, therefore, delayed until cash balances can no longer sustain the use of Council balances to fund capital expenditure (internal borrowing).

4. The Council's Position 30 June 2023

- 4.1** Borrowing PWLB – the Council's PWLB external borrowing remains the same as that presented in the TMSS in March 2023, with the exception of repayment of £5k of principal on annuity loans. This is due to the need to avoid borrowing while interest rates are increasing. Instead, Council cash balances have been used to fund capital expenditure. This is in line with Link Group's advice on borrowing in the current economic climate. The opportunity cost of this is that there are less balances to invest, however, borrowing costs are higher than investment yields. To ensure the Council has enough cash to pay creditors and salaries, sufficient cash has to remain in instant call accounts. Typically, the interest rates on these are much lower so the Council is still able to make reasonable savings on interest payable while using cash balances.

Table 2 - PWLB Loans Outstanding 30 June 2023

PWLB Loans at 30 June 2023			
	PWLB / PWLB Maturity £'000	PWLB EIP/ Annuity £	Total PWLB Loans at 30 June 2023 £'000
Loan Outstanding	119,400	173	119,573
Average life (years)	30.82	4.06	35
Average rate (%)	4.53	9.42	14

- 4.2** Borrowing Salix – Salix is a Welsh Government organisation which provides interest free loans and, more recently, grants for projects which support the environment and to help public sector bodies in Wales to work towards achieving their net zero target by 2030. The TMSS 2023 showed that in February 2023, the Council had £3.099m of interest free loans outstanding with Salix. Since this time, the Council has received more of the borrowing approved by Salix due to more progress with the projects the loans from Salix fund. The Council held £5.261m of Salix loans at 30 June 2023. These loans are repaid over a period of 8 or 10 years, depending on the agreement, with 2 repayments made per year, per loan. These loans have funded LED street lighting, LED lighting in schools and leisure centres and various other sustainable projects.

Table 3 – Other Loans Outstanding at 30 June 2023

Other Loans at 30 June 2023							
	Salix Loan 1 £'000	Salix Loan 2 £'000	Salix Loan 3 £'000	Salix Loan 4 £'000	Salix Loan 5 £'000	Salix Loan 6 £'000	TOTAL £'000
Outstanding Balance	16.5	114.0	350	158.4	1,873.7	2,748.7	5,261.1
Repayment Date	2024/25	2025/26	2027/28	2029/30	2031/32	2035/36	
Interest rate (%)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

5. Annual Investment Strategy

- 5.1** The Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) for 2023/24, which includes the Annual Investment Strategy, was approved by the Council on 9 March 2023. In accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice, it sets out the Council's investment priorities as being:-

- Security of capital
- Liquidity
- Yield

5.2 The Council continues to achieve the optimum return (yield) on its investments, commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity, aligned with the Council's risk appetite.

5.3 Investment rates have continued to increase during the first quarter of 2023/24, which the Council has benefited from by investing in fixed term secure investments. However, unless inflation increases, the rates are expected to peak at the current rate of 5.25%.

5.4 Creditworthiness – There have been few changes to credit ratings over the quarter under review. However, officers continue to closely monitor these, and other measures of creditworthiness to ensure that only appropriate counterparties are considered for investment purposes.

5.5 Investment Counterparty Criteria – The current investment counterparty criteria selection approved in the TMSS is meeting the requirement of the treasury management function.

5.6 Investment Balance – The total balance of investments at 30 June 2023 was £53.097m. The yield from these investments from 1 April 2023 to 30 June 2023, was £0.457m, with the total interest receivable on the below listed investments expected to be £1.287m for 2023/24. This figure is likely to be higher as new investments are made when these mature. However, cash balances are reducing as the financial year progresses, so not all these investments will be viable to renew on maturity.

Counterparty	Start Date	End Date	Interest Rate %	Principal at 30 June 2023 £	Estimated Interest earned for the period £	Estimated Total Interest 2023/24 on these investments £
Natwest Call Account	01/04/2023	Not applicable	1.25%	10,597,265	36,971	165,062
Bank of Scotland Call Account	18/04/2023	Not applicable	4.90%	7,500,000	73,500	350,384
National Westminster Bank Fixed Term	11/01/2023	11/07/2023	4.10%	10,000,000	101,096	113,452
Santander	10/02/2023	10/05/2023	4.00%	-	32,055	32,055
Santander	10/05/2023	10/11/2023	4.76%	7,500,000	49,882	180,945
Nationwide Building Society	06/04/2023	06/07/2023	4.17%	5,000,000	48,555	51,982
Goldman Sachs	22/12/2022	22/06/2023	3.83%	-	64,533	64,533

Counterparty	Start Date	End Date	Interest Rate %	Principal at 30 June 2023 £	Estimated Interest earned for the period £	Estimated Total Interest 2023/24 on these investments £
Goldman Sachs	22/06/2023	22/12/2023	5.52%	7,500,000	9,074	208,701
Wrexham County Borough Council	25/10/2022	25/04/2023	3.80%	-	12,493	12,493
Wrexham County Borough Council	25/04/2023	25/10/2023	4.30%	5,000,000	38,877	107,795
Total				53,097,265	467,035	1,287,402

5.7 The following is a summary of investment activity during quarter 1:-

- On 6 April 2023, the Isle of Anglesey County Council invested £5m with Nationwide Building Society with an interest rate of 4.17%. The investment matured on 06 July 2023 and was rolled over for a further 6 months with an interest rate of 5.47%.
- On 25 April 2023, a £5m investment with Wrexham County Borough Council matured and was rolled over for a further 6 months with an interest rate of 4.3%
- On 10 May 2023, a £7.5m investment with Santander matured and was rolled over for a further 6 months with an interest rate of 4.76%.
- On 22 June 2023, a £7.5m investment with Goldman Sachs matured and was rolled over for a further 6 months with an interest rate of 5.52%.
- The interest receivable budget of £1.424m that was set for 2023/24 was based on the increase in interest rates, hence providing more opportunities for investment of surplus cash. It is anticipated that the interest receivable budget can be met in 2023/24.

5.8 Approved Limits – Officers can confirm that the approved limits within the Annual Investment Strategy were not breached during the quarter ended 30 June 2023.

6. Debt Rescheduling

Debt rescheduling opportunities have increased significantly in the current quarter where gilt yields, which underpin PWLB rates and market loans, have risen materially. An exercise was completed in June 2023, which demonstrated that replacing existing loans with new loans would attract discounts but, due to higher interest rates, total interest payable until the loans mature would be significantly higher and would, therefore, not be affordable as revenue capital financing costs would increase.

7. Compliance with Treasury and Prudential Limits

It is a statutory duty for the Council to determine and keep under review the affordable borrowing limits. During the quarter ended 30 June 2023, the Council has operated within the treasury and prudential indicators set out in the Council's Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2023/24. Appendix C provides an update of the prudential indicators as at 30 June 2023. The Director of Function (Resources) reports that no difficulties are envisaged for the current or future years in complying with these indicators.

All treasury management operations have also been conducted in full compliance with the Council's Treasury Management Practices.

MARC JONES
DIRECTOR OF FUNCTION (RESOURCES) & SECTION 151 OFFICER

Economic Update & Forecasts

- The first quarter of 2023/24 saw:-
 - A 0.2% m/m rise in real GDP in April, partly due to fewer strikes;
 - CPI inflation falling from 10.1% to 8.7% in April, before remaining at 8.7% in May. This was the highest reading in the G7;
 - Core CPI inflation rise in both April and May, reaching a new 31-year high of 7.1%;
 - A tighter labour market in April, as the 3 month average of annual rate (3myy) growth of average earnings rose from 6.1% to 6.5%;
 - Interest rates rise by a further 75bps over the quarter, taking Bank Rate from 4.25% to 5.00%;
 - 10-year gilt yields nearing the “mini-Budget” peaks, as inflation surprised to the upside.
- The economy has weathered the drag from higher inflation better than was widely expected. The 0.2% m/m rise in real GDP in April, following March’s 0.3% m/m contraction will further raise hopes that the economy will escape a recession this year. Some of the strength in April was due to fewer strikes by train workers and teachers in that month. Moreover, some of the falls in activity in other areas in April were probably temporary too. Strikes by junior doctors and civil servants contributed to the fall in health output (0.9% m/m) and the meagre 0.1% m/m increase in public administration.
- The fall in the composite Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) from 54.0 in May to a three-month low of 52.8 in June (>50 points to expansion in the economy, <50 points to contraction) was worse than the consensus forecast of 53.6. Both the services and manufacturing PMIs fell. The decline in the services PMI was bigger (from 55.2 to 53.7), but it remains consistent with services activity expanding by an annualised 2%. The fall in the manufacturing PMI was smaller (from 47.1 to 46.2), but it is consistent with the annual rate of manufacturing output falling from -0.8% in April to around -5.0%. At face value, the composite PMI points to the 0.1% q/q rise in GDP in Q1 2023, being followed by a 0.2% q/q gain in Q2 2023.
- Meanwhile, the 0.3% m/m rise in retail sales volumes in May was far better than the consensus forecast of a 0.2% m/m decline and followed the robust 0.5% m/m rise in April. Some of the rise was due to the warmer weather. Indeed, the largest move was a 2.7% m/m jump in non-store sales, due to people stocking up on outdoor-related goods. But department stores also managed to squeeze out a 0.6% m/m rise in sales and the household goods sub-sector enjoyed a reasonable performance too. Overall, the figures were far better than analysts had expected. In addition, the GfK measure of consumer confidence rebounded from -27 to a 17-month high of -24 in June.
- The recent resilience of the economy has been due to a confluence of factors, including the continued rebound in activity after the pandemic, households spending some of their pandemic savings, and the tight labour market and government handouts, both supporting household incomes. That said, as government support fades, real household incomes are unlikely to grow rapidly. Furthermore, higher interest rates will mean GDP is likely to contract later this year. Our central assumption is that inflation will drop to the 2.0% target only if the Bank triggers a recession by raising rates from 5.00% now to at least 5.5% and keeps rates there until at least mid-2024. Our colleagues at Capital Economics estimate that around 60% of the drag on real activity from the rise in rates has yet to bite, and the drag on the quarterly rate of real GDP growth over the next year may be about 0.2ppts bigger than over the past year.

- The labour market became tighter over the quarter and wage growth reaccelerated. Labour demand was stronger than the consensus had expected. The three-month change in employment rose from +182,000 in March to +250,000 in April. Meanwhile, labour supply continued to recover as the size of the labour force grew by 303,000 in the three months to April. That was supported by a further 140,000 decline in inactivity as people returned to work from retirement and caring responsibilities (while inactivity due to long-term sick continued to rise). But it was not enough to offset the big rise in employment, which meant the unemployment rate fell from 3.9% to 3.8%.
- The tighter labour market supported wage growth in April, although the 9.7% rise in the National Living Wage on 1st April (compared to the 6.6% increase in April last year) probably had a lot to do with it too. The 3myy rate of average earnings growth reaccelerated from 6.1% to 6.5% (consensus 6.1%) and UK wage growth remains much faster than in the US and the Euro-zone. In addition, regular private sector wage growth increased from 7.1% 3myy to 7.6%, which left it well above the Bank's forecast for it to fall below 7.0%. Overall, the loosening in the labour market appears to have stalled in April and regular private sector wage growth was well above the Bank's forecast.
- CPI inflation stayed at 8.7% in May (consensus 8.4%) and, perhaps more worryingly, core CPI inflation rose again, from 6.8% to a new 31-year high of 7.1%. The rise in core inflation built on the leap from 6.2% in March to 6.8% and means it is accelerating in the UK while it is slowing in the US and the Euro-zone (both fell to 5.3%). A further decline in fuel inflation, from -8.9% to -13.1%, and the second fall in food inflation in as many months, from 19.3% to 18.7%, explained why overall CPI inflation didn't rise. And the scheduled fall in the average annual utility price, from £2,500 to £2,074 on 1st July, means overall CPI inflation will probably ease in the coming months. But the problem is that the recent surge in core inflation and the reacceleration in wage growth shows that domestic inflationary pressures are still strengthening.
- This suggests the Bank may have more work to do than the Fed or ECB. Indeed, the Bank of England sounded somewhat hawkish in the June meeting. This came through most in the MPC's decision to step up the pace of hiking from the 25bps at the previous two meetings. The 7-2 vote, with only two members voting to leave rates unchanged at 4.50%, revealed support for stepping up the fight against high inflation.
- That said, the Bank has not committed to raising rates again or suggested that 50bps rises are now the norm. What it did say was that "the scale of the recent upside surprises in official estimates of wage growth and services CPI inflation suggested a 0.5 percentage point increase in interest rates was required at this particular meeting". Moreover, the Committee did not strengthen its forward guidance that any further rate hikes would be conditional on the data. However, it looks highly probable, given the on-going strength of inflation and employment data, that the Bank will need to raise rates to at least 5.5% and to keep rates at their peak until the mid-point of 2024. We still think it is only a matter of time before the rise in rates weakens the economy sufficiently to push it into recession. That is why, instead of rising to between 6.00%-6.25%, as is currently priced in by markets, we think rates are more likely to peak between 5.50-6.00%. Our forecast is also for rates to be cut in the second half of 2024, and we expect rates to then fall further than markets are pricing in.

- Growing evidence that UK price pressures are becoming increasingly domestically generated has driven up market interest rate expectations and, at one point, pushed the 10-year gilt yield up to 4.49% in late June, very close to its peak seen after the “mini-budget”. Yields have since fallen slightly back to 4.38%. But growing expectations that rates in the UK will remain higher for longer than in the US mean they are still more than 70 bps above US yields. While higher interest rates are priced into the markets, the likely dent to the real economy from the high level of interest rates is not. That’s why we think there is scope for market rate expectations to fall back in 2024 and why we expect the 10-year PWLB Certainty Rate to drop back from c5.20% to 5.00% by the end of this year and to 4.20% by the end of 2024.
- The pound strengthened from \$1.24 at the start of April to a one-year high at \$1.26 in early May, which was partly due to the risks from the global banking issues being seen as a bigger problem for the US than the UK. The pound then fell back to \$1.23 at the end of May, before rising again to \$1.28 in the middle of June as the strong core CPI inflation data released in June suggested the Bank of England was going to have to raise rates more than the Fed or ECB in order to tame domestic inflation. However, sterling’s strong run may falter because more hikes in the near term to combat high inflation are likely to weaken growth (and, hopefully, at some point inflation too) to such a degree that the policy rate will probably be brought back down, potentially quite quickly, as the economic cycle trends downwards decisively. This suggests that additional rate hikes are unlikely to do much to boost the pound.
- In early April, investors turned more optimistic about global GDP growth, pushing up UK equity prices. But this period of optimism appears to have been short-lived. The FTSE 100 has fallen by 4.8% since 21st April, from around 7,914 to 7,553, reversing part of the 7.9% rise since 17th March. Despite the recent resilience of economic activity, expectations for equity earnings have become a bit more downbeat. Nonetheless, further down the track, more rate cuts than markets anticipate should help the FTSE 100 rally.

Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meetings 11 May and 22 June 2023

- On 11th May, the Bank of England’s MPC increased Bank Rate by 25 basis points to 4.50%, and on 22nd June moved rates up a further 50 basis points to 5.00%. Both increases reflected a split vote – seven members voting for an increase and two for none.
- Nonetheless, with UK inflation significantly higher than in other G7 countries, the MPC will have a difficult task in convincing investors that they will be able to dampen inflation pressures anytime soon. Talk of the Bank’s inflation models being “broken” is perhaps another reason why gilt investors are demanding a premium relative to US and Euro-zone bonds, for example.
- Of course, what happens outside of the UK is also critical to movement in gilt yields. The US FOMC has already hiked short-term rates to a range of 5.00%-5.25%, but a further increase is pencilled in for July, whilst the ECB looks likely to raise its Deposit rate at least once more to a peak of 3.75%, with upside risk of higher to come.

An extract from advice received from: Link Asset Services

APPENDIX C

Prudential and Treasury Indicators for 2023/24 as of 30 June 2023

		2022/23 out-turn	2023/24 estimate	2024/25 proposal	2025/26 proposal
Affordability					
1,2	Estimates of [or actual] ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream:				
	Council Fund	2.78%	2.29%	2.73%	2.86%
	Housing Revenue Account (inclusive of settlement)	7.18%	21.14%	26.12%	29.36%
	Total	3.27%	4.30%	5.26%	5.85%
Prudence					
3	Gross debt and the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)	✓	✓	✓	✓
	<i>Is the gross external debt < the CFR for the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional CFR for the current and the next two financial years?</i>		✓	✓	✓
Capital Expenditure					
4,5	Estimates of [or actual] capital expenditure	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	Council Fund	29,510	36,596	8,450	4,959
	Housing Revenue Account	11,180	19,888	34,351	27,659
	Total	40,690	56,484	42,801	32,618
6,7	Estimates of [or actual] Capital Financing Requirement	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	Council Fund	105,824	113,940	117,679	118,377
	Housing Revenue Account	38,287	38,158	63,324	82,183
	Total	144,111	152,098	181,003	200,560
8	Authorised Limit	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	: General Borrowing	175,000	182,000	210,000	230,000
	: Other long term liabilities	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
	: Total	180,000	187,000	215,000	235,000

9	Operational Boundary	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	: General Borrowing	170,000	177,000	205,000	225,000
	: Other long term liabilities	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000
	: Total	175,000	182,000	210,000	230,000
10	Actual External Debt	123,800			
Treasury Management		2022/23 out-turn	2023/24 estimate	2024/25 proposal	2025/26 proposal
11	The limit for total principal sums invested for periods longer than 364 days	15,000	15,000	15,000	15,000

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Anglesey County Council	
Report to:	The Executive
Date:	24 October 2023
Subject:	Participation Strategy
Portfolio Holder(s):	Councillor Carwyn Jones
Director / Head of Service:	Carys Edwards
Report Author:	Gethin Morgan
Tel:	01248 752111
Email:	GethinMorgan@ynysmon.llyw.cymru
Local Member:	Not applicable

A – Recommendation / Recommendations and Reason / Reasons
<p>1.1 Under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, local authorities in Wales must release a Participation Strategy which notes how local people will be encouraged to take part in the Council's decision-making process.</p> <p>1.2 This Strategy outlines Anglesey County Council's aim to encourage people to take part in the Council's business and decision-making process, and to build on the success that the Council has achieved in engaging with residents as recognised by Audit Wales in their review of governance in determining changes where they note – "The Council has clear procedures that encourage stakeholders to be involved in decision-making processes and is actively reinforcing its engagement arrangements"</p> <p>1.3 In this strategy, we have sought to explain how our participation objectives will make a real difference to how we engage with the people of Anglesey.</p> <p>1.4 This strategy is a living document and will be regularly reviewed and updated and will build on our successes to date entrenching the expectation of the above act together with the expectation of the well-being and future generations act further. It is expected that the strategy will change over time as good practice continues to be developed and further technological advances are made.</p> <p>1.5 The report describes the consultation exercise that was held with Council officers from 31 July until 27 August, which is a four-week period.</p> <p>1.6 Its purpose was to collect stakeholders' opinions on the Public Participation Strategy so that the feedback would contribute to the Strategy.</p> <p>1.7 See the conclusions from the consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were 84 responses to the online consultation of which 28 were complete. • 65% of respondents responded through the medium of English, while 35% responded through the medium of Welsh. • The survey results were as follows – • 96.4% of respondents agreed with the ways of participating recognised in the strategy. • 92.9% of respondents agreed with the different ways individuals can participate..

- 92.9% of respondents agreed with the intention of providing feedback to those taking part in any participation.
- A very high percentage of respondents agreed with the content of the Strategy which shows support for the Strategy and the intention to review it regularly.

1.8 It is recommended that the Committee:

1.8.1 Notes the Public Participation Strategy

1.8.2 Agrees to recommend that the full Council adopts the Public Participation Strategy, that it is a live document, and it will be reviewed and updated regularly and will continue to build on our success thus far.

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?

The Public Participation Strategy will be part of the Council's Constitution, and therefore the approval of the strategy will be a matter for the full Council. It is asked that the draft Public Participation Strategy is presented to the Executive for its opinion before being presented to the full Council on 26 October 2023.

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 possible effects (if relevant):

1	How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?	The Public Participation Strategy outlines the response to the Council's consultation process which shows the opinions of stakeholders on the draft Strategy.
2	Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority. If so, how:-	The draft Strategy includes a number of ways in which Anglesey residents currently participate in the Council's decisions.
3	Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision, if so, please advise whom?	Yes. The Council has worked with external organisations as noted in the Public Participation Strategy. Note some of them below: Medrwn Môn, Tenants Forum, Older

		People's Forum, Leisure Users Forum, School Councils, local radio.
4	Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those citizens that would be directly affected by the decision? Explain how.	The participation that Anglesey residents have in the Council's decisions is noted in the Public Participation Strategy.
5	Note any possible effects this decision will have on the groups that are protected under the 2010 Equalities Act.	The Public Participation Strategy encourages residents from all backgrounds on Anglesey to contribute to the Council's decisions. Therefore, it will not have a negative effect on the groups protected under the 2010 Equalities Act.
6	Is this a strategic decision, note any possible effects that the decision would have on those who experience socio-economic disadvantage.	Putting the Strategy in place would lead to including more people on Anglesey in the Council's decisions, including those that cannot afford to be online and the benefits that come with that.
7	Note any possible effects that this decision would have on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language, and not to treat the Welsh language less favourably than English.	The Public Participation Strategy encourages Anglesey residents, whatever their linguistic background, to contribute to the Council's decisions. Therefore, it will not have a negative effect on opportunities for people to use the Welsh language and not to treat the Welsh language less favourably than English.

E – Who did you consult?		What did they say?
1	Chief Executive / Senior Leadership Team (SLT) (mandatory)	Their comments have been incorporated in the report
2	Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)	Their comments have been incorporated in the report
3	Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)	Their comments have been incorporated in the report
4	Human Resources (HR)	Their comments have been incorporated in the report
5	Property	Not applicable
6	Information Technology (IT)	Not applicable
7	Procurement	Not applicable
8	Scrutiny	To be reviewed by the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on October 17, 2023.
9	Local Members	Not applicable as this Strategy is for Anglesey

F - Appendices:
A. Public Participation Strategy

Ff – Background papers (contact the author of the Report for more information):
Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021



CYNGOR SIR
YNYS MÔN
ISLE OF ANGLESEY
COUNTY COUNCIL

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION STRATEGY 2023 – 2028

Version 0.8

DRAFT

Foreword



As the re-elected Council Leader, I am proud to introduce Anglesey Council's public participation strategy. The strategy outlines our diverse approaches to public participation and focuses on how our communities get involved in the decision-making processes to work alongside us in shaping our communities.

As a Council, we are here to serve our residents and stakeholders. We know that policies and changes have an impact on our residents' lives, and the lives of their friends and family. We actively encourage you and will support you to get involved and have your say because everyone deserves the opportunity to contribute and be empowered to take part in the decision-making journey.

Councillor Llinos Medi

Leader - Isle of Anglesey County Council

Introduction

The Isle of Anglesey County Council is committed to working with its residents, communities, organisations, trade unions and stakeholders, to encourage active participation in the Local Government decision-making processes.

Under the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021, local authorities in Wales must publish a Participation Strategy which notes the ways that local people are encouraged to participate in the Council's decision-making process.

This Strategy outlines the Isle of Anglesey County Council's aim of encouraging people to participate in the Council's business and decision-making process and to build on the success the Council has had in participating with residents. In this strategy, we have attempted to explain how our objectives in terms of participation will make a genuine difference to the way we engage with people of Ynys Môn. This strategy is a live document and will be reviewed and updated regularly and will build on our successes to date.

It is expected that the strategy will change over time as good practices continue to be developed and as further technological advances are made.

The Council Plan 2023-2028 was adopted by the full Council in March 2023 and this Strategy reflects the Values contained in the Plan. The Public Participation Strategy outlines the many ways in which the Council engages and **collaborates** with stakeholders treating them with **respect** and being **honest** with them. This will help **promote the Council and the island**.

1. Participation

1.1 What is public participation and why is it important?

Public participation describes any form of communication or involvement with our communities and stakeholders in problem solving or decision-making processes.

The National Principles of Public Engagement in Wales, produced in 2011 under the guidance of the Participation Cymru Advisory Panel and reviewed and republished in 2022, uses the following working definitions:

Engagement

An active and participative process by which people can influence and shape policy and services that includes a wide range of different methods and techniques (including consultation, participation, and co-production and involvement).

An example of this is how we engage in communities through our Place Shaping agenda. The Council in partnership with Medrwn Môn continues to drive to create community led alliances. These 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.

Consultation

A formal process by which policy makers and service providers ask for the views of interested groups and individuals on specific policies, actions, or interventions.

An example of this is the consultation on the Modernising Learning Communities and Welsh Development Strategy. Meetings with pupils in the County's primary, secondary and special schools were held to seek the pupils' view which will be included in the report on the Strategy. This in turn could affect the decisions made regarding Learning matters in the future.

Participation

People being actively involved with policy makers and service planners from an early stage of policy and service planning and review, to shape and influence the outcomes and decisions. For example, a survey was conducted between 29th July to the 26th of August 2022 regarding making improvements to the 2023/24 Green Waste Subscription service by asking questions about customers experience when subscribing. The survey received **3,246** responses

Co-production

When people who provide and deliver services, and people who access and receive services, share power and responsibility, and work together for mutual benefit in equal, reciprocal, and caring relationships. It enables people to access relevant and meaningful support when they need it, services to be effective and make a positive difference in people's lives, and people, services, and communities to become more effective agents of change.

Involvement

This requires organisations to be open to influence from citizens and stakeholders, moving to a culture of 'working with' rather than 'doing to'. In contrast to consultation, involvement approaches work with people at earlier stages, such as helping to identify issues and potential solutions, and being supported to remain involved right throughout design, implementation, and evaluation processes.

These may be issues that interest or impact on our communities or their friends and family and in turn, this involvement helps us make decisions based off their thoughts and feelings.

For the Council to make the best decisions possible for current and future generations, and for our policies and decisions to positively influence our communities and stakeholders lives or the lives of their friends and family we need to:

- Inform and involve through engagement activities
- Listen and consult by asking the relevant questions at the most opportune time
- Empower and delegate by supporting stakeholders to take responsibility
- Co-produce and deliver services by sharing decision making and maintaining relations

To be pragmatic in our approach, we propose to involve and engage everybody to the point where they can be involved to show that we are listening to feedback. The Council may not always go forward with the public's preferred option but when we don't, we need to be clear and transparent, and explain why not. Engagement and / or consultation does not mean that we agree with every comment expressed. The Council must always act within restrictions such as the law and financial restrictions.

This will provide the methodology so that residents can tell us what they think and have an opportunity to influence how decisions are made. Information provided will be analysed and brought to the attention of our decision-making committees where relevant.

We don't want to stop there though, we want to actively engage with people on matters that we and you feel are important, this will help us gather as much information as possible to shape our ideas and plans so that our citizens and stakeholders are at the forefront of any decision we make, empowering us all to make decisions together.

1.2 Statutory and non-statutory differentiation

The difference between a statutory and non-statutory consultation is that statutory means it must be done by statute or by law. Non-statutory does not have to be done by law and so is voluntary and the Council can choose to undertake voluntary consultations as well.

As a Council, and as noted above, we follow the National Principles for Public Participation¹ which provide guidance to encourage good quality, consistent engagement activity with service users and the general public.

The benefits of involving our communities are clear and **we believe that decisions made with community involvement are more durable and last longer if there is real citizen buy-in.**

2. Decisions

2.1 Current way of working

The Isle of Anglesey County Council operates a joint Engagement and Consultation Board with third sector representatives. The Board aims to establish a consistent, fit for purpose and effective approach to engagement and public consultations across the Council's services so that the public's needs are met in the most efficient and effective manner as possible.

The Board sets out the processes the Council has put in place to ensure we meet the requirements to 'embed and deliver a culture of partnership with the public and third sector organisations. To build this culture of partnership and for the public to have confidence in the Council's commitment to encourage and act on their views'.

The Board aims to support staff and senior officers to ensure that we are achieving maximum participation across all activities, which help us make better and fully informed decisions. The Board members work to realise the above through a collective commitment to:

- improve the quality of services,
- make better use of resources and
- meet the needs of communities more effectively.

The Council currently allows for public participation in many ways – these are outlined in Table 1.

2.2 How the Council works

The Council's various committees are outlined in Diagram 1

The Council is composed of 35 elected Councillors who represent 14 electoral divisions. Councillors are democratically accountable to residents of their electoral division. The overriding duty of Councillors is to the whole community, but they have a special duty to their constituents, including those who did not vote for them. All Councillors meet as the Council. Meetings of the Council are normally open to the public. Here Councillors decide the Council's overall policies and set the budget each year.

The Executive is the part of the Council which is responsible for taking most of the major decisions. The Executive is made up of a Leader, who is appointed by the Council, and up to 8 other Councillors appointed by the Leader. The business to be considered by the Executive, Scrutiny Committees and the Council is published in the forward work programme. Meetings of the Executive, Scrutiny Committees, the Council and other Committees are open for the public to attend except where personal or confidential matters are being discussed, as defined by the law. The Executive must make decisions which are in line with the Council's overall policies and budget. If it wishes to decide on a matter which is outside the budget or policy framework, this must be referred to the Council as a whole.

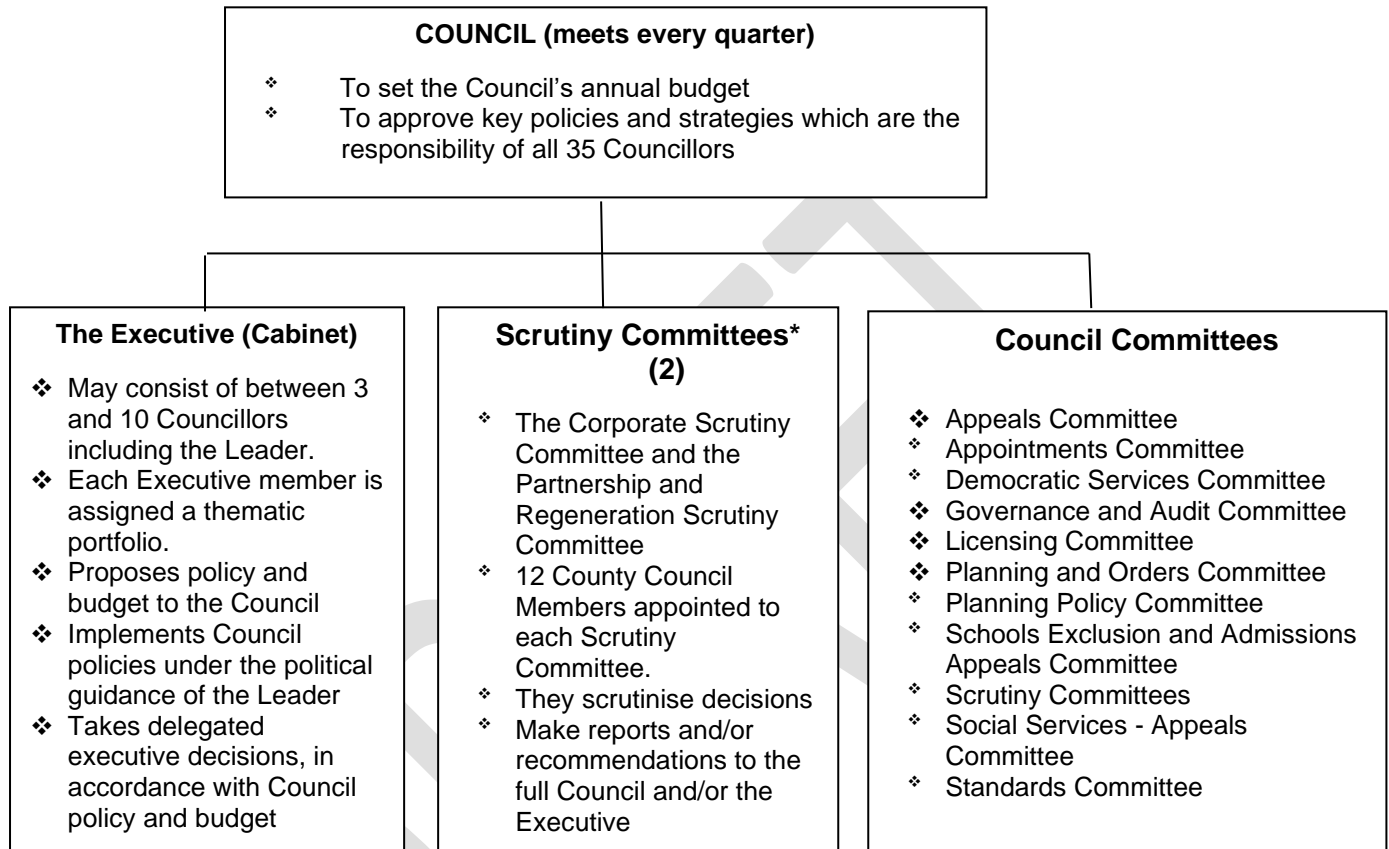
¹ <https://wcva.cymru/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/National-Principles-for-Public-Engagement-Egwyddorion-Cenedlaethol-ar-gyfer-Ymgysylltu-ar-Cyhoedd.pdf>

The Council's Constitution² explains how the Council makes decisions and who is responsible for those decisions. The Constitution is at the heart of the local authority's business as it identifies the responsibilities within the local authority, and where the Council works with others.

The Council provides numerous services for Anglesey residents e.g. education, social care, libraries and leisure facilities to name only a few. Further information on the services the Isle of Anglesey County Council provides can be found at:

<https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/Residents/Residents.aspx>

Diagram 1 – The Council's decision making structure



*Parent Governor and Church representatives are invited to attend Scrutiny Committee meetings where the Authority's education functions are to be discussed and shall be entitled to speak and vote on such matters only.

Additionally, the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee shall not discuss or consider any person with the exception of an Executive Member, in respect of its crime and disorder functions.

*Each Scrutiny Committee may recommend that the Council appoint additional non-voting co-optees to each Scrutiny Committee.

Within their terms of reference, Scrutiny Committees will:

- review and/or scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's functions;
- make reports and/or recommendations to the full Council and/or the Executive and/or any Joint or Area Committee in connection with the discharge of any functions;
- consider any matter affecting the area or its inhabitants;
- exercise the right to call-in, for reconsideration, decisions (within its remit) made but not yet implemented by the Executive and/or any Area Committees; and
- carry out reviews of the functions within its area of activity and report via the Executive to the Council.

For more information on the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Constitution, please follow this link <https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/Council/The-Constitution/Isle-of-Anglesey-County-Council-Constitution.aspx>

² For more information on the Isle of Anglesey County Council's Constitution, please follow this link <https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/Council/The-Constitution/Isle-of-Anglesey-County-Council-Constitution.aspx>

2.3 Performance

As shown in Diagram 1, the Council has two Scrutiny Committees namely:

- Corporate Scrutiny Committee and the
- Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee

The work of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee will focus on providing assurance about the performance/provision of all services, ensuring that the Council achieves its corporate objectives and service objectives (as outlined in its Corporate Business Plan, Annual Budget, Budget and Policy Framework, Performance Management Framework, Corporate Policies or successor plans and policies) and to support and make recommendations for permanent improvement. In addition, it will scrutinise the performance of services under the needs of the Wales Programme for Improvement.

The Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee will scrutinise service performance under the needs of the Wales Programme for Improvement.

In accordance with Part 2 of the Council Constitution, the Council Scrutiny Committees:

- review and scrutinise the decisions and the performance of the Executive and/or Council's Committees and Officers in relation to individual decisions and over a period of time;
- review the Council's performance scrutiny in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or special service areas;
- to question members of the Executive and/or Committees and Chief Officers about their decisions and performance, whether generally relative to service plans and targets over a period of time, or in relation to particular decisions, plans or projects;
- make recommendations to the Executive and/or an appropriate Committee and/or Council arising from the results of the scrutiny process;
- review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area and invite reports from them by asking them to address the Scrutiny Committee and local people to talk about their activities and performance; and
- question and collect evidence from any other person (with their consent).

In addition, when Service Reviews are undertaken the Services are expected to solicit public opinion on the performance of the relevant service.

The Executive

The Council's Executive at its public meetings, gives Anglesey residents the opportunity to have their say on and challenge the Corporate Scoreboard, the Council's Plan for the year and on the Council's Performance Report. This will happen on a quarterly basis.

3. Methods

3.1 How and when you can get involved

The Council offers many ways to get involved in our engagement and consultation activities that it runs in partnership either with third sector organisations or solely community organised.

You can contact us through the formal engagement and consultation processes. Consultations generally only last a specific period. However, we welcome feedback in any format at any time through committees, group activities or independently via email, through petitions or through your local Elected Council Member or a community council.

Listed below is the work that has been done to establish a baseline of ways in which Anglesey residents participate in the Council's decisions. Table 1 below lists several formal and informal ways residents participate in Council decisions:

Table 1

Category	Comment	Link
Elected Members (Councillors)	Anglesey has 14 wards with 35 Elected Members (Councillors) that are there to represent their constituents. To find your local Elected Member to raise a concern/ comment visit:	https://democracy.anglesey.gov.wales/mgMemberIndex.aspx?LLL=0
Town and Community Councils	Town and Community Councils act in the interest of the whole community by making decisions and recommendations, consulting, and listening to the residents to understand their needs, their wishes and their concerns. They usually meet once a month. To contact your local town and community council to raise concerns /comments visit:	https://democracy.anglesey.gov.wales/mgParishCouncilDetailsList.aspx?LLL=0
Committees	People can look through the Council committee structure and see agendas, minutes and reports for committee and sub-committee meetings by visiting;	https://democracy.anglesey.gov.wales/ieDochHome.aspx?Categories=-13004&bcr=1&LLL=0
Scrutiny Committees	The Local Authority structure includes two Scrutiny Committees, and their role is to provide positive challenge to services to maintain high service delivery standards and to ensure improved efficiency and effectiveness. Meetings of the Committees are held regularly throughout the municipal year and there are several ways in which the public can get involved in Scrutiny: suggesting a topic for review attending meetings of the Scrutiny Committees as observers making a request to speak on a particular subject at one of the Committee meetings – please refer to the Public Speaking at Scrutiny Committee Meetings Protocol for further information and guidance:	https://democracy.anglesey.gov.wales/mgCommitteeDetails.aspx?ID=153&LLL=0

	Public speaking at Scrutiny Committees (gov.wales) taking part in scrutiny investigations upon invitation by a scrutiny review panel submitting written evidence relevant to a scrutiny inquiry when invited to do so. To find out more and view our current committees and an archive of previous ones visit;	
Consultations	Consultations are undertaken to gather people's feedback on specific topics. To give views on current consultations people can participate by visiting here;	https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/browse/Get-involved/Consultations/Current-consultations/
Engagements	People's views and priorities are gathered and collected by services via a tiered approach. To give views on current engagements people can participate by visiting here;	https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/browse/Get-involved/Consultations/Current-consultations/
Voting and Elections	People can participate and vote in the Elections through postal vote, proxy vote and in person in the nearest polling station. This is in keeping with legal expectations. For information on elections and how to register, please access the following page:	https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/Council/Council.aspx#as?folderIds=2864,3416
Compliments, comments and complaints	The Council has an online form and a paper form that enables people to raise a compliment, comment or complaint formally or informally. Access to such form can be gained from:	https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/Get-involved/Get-involved.aspx
Tenants forum	<p>The Council actively encourage tenant's participation. The four different ways tenants can get involved are listed below:</p> <p>The Sheltered Housing Forums are twice a year – June and December normally. The aim of this forum is to increase the knowledge of Housing and Housing related information for Sheltered Housing tenants. The Council provide free transport, food and refreshments for the day.</p> <p>Targeted Task & Finish Groups used to gather tenants' views to improve future services.</p> <p>The Environmental Group is made up of tenants and supported by the Tenant Participation Team. The group will assess each application form received and decide whether they are eligible for the Environmental and Community improvement Fund. Meeting months; between April – October (around 3 – 4 informal meetings)</p> <p>The Publications Group is made up of tenants and supported by the Tenant Participation Team. The</p>	<p>To get involved, contact the Tenant Participation Team via telephone 01248 752983 email, tenants@anglesey.gov.wales or Facebook message on the Tai Môn Housing page.</p>

	aim of the group is to ensure that all documents produced by Housing Services are in a format that is easily understood and tenant friendly	
Social enterprises	<p>In partnership with the Council, Medrwn Môn offer several ways to actively participate, the two main ways to engage at the moment are:</p> <p>Third Sector Network: This is a forum for community groups and third sector organisations. Network meetings are held every quarter (normally theme or topic based) and groups and organisations are encouraged to have discussions, provide comments and feedback on the topic/theme and plan future sessions. Information and feedback from the sessions are collated and sent in as responses to consultations, to other forums and to policy makers.</p> <p>Generally, as an Organisation, Medrwn Môn invites people to interact by social media, by email or phone, through its information bus, at events & meetings, or face to face.</p>	<p>For more information contact Lyndsey Campbell-Williams Lyndsey@medrwnmon.org</p>
Place Shaping	<p>Place Shaping: this is a community-based forum and invites people to tell us how they live and work in their communities. The evidence is used to identify wellbeing priorities for each area and to identify themes that are common across the Island.</p> <p>There are two elements to the programme:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community mapping: communities are invited to engage with us in any way they feel comfortable (through face-to-face conversations, focus groups, voting boxes, visual methods and pictures, surveys (online and paper) etc) 2. Community Alliances: Alliances are set up in each area and meet periodically to discuss their chosen priorities. Alliances invite people to take part either by attending their meetings, joining task and finish groups, through surveys, on social media or by talking to members of the Alliance face to face. 	<p>Susan Jones Executive Manager (Leadership Team) Susanjones4@ynysmon.gov.wales</p>
Anglesey's Older People Council and Forums	<p>The purpose of the Older People Council is to represent the views of older people in Ynys Môn on issues affecting their health, social care and wellbeing. Working with Welsh Local Government Association, local authorities, the voluntary and private sectors and older people, to further develop policies. The Older People's Council aims;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be a voice for Older People on Anglesey To appreciate Older People To work with Older People 	<p>Seiriol Edwards, Strategy Co-ordinator for Older People and Carers seirioledwards@ynysmon.gov.wales</p>

	<p>To listen to Older People</p> <p>To support Older People</p> <p>To provide opportunities for Older People</p> <p>4 meetings per year to take place at an appropriate date following the Anglesey Forum for Older People.</p>	
Anglesey Older People's Forum	<p>The Older People's Forums strengthen the voices of older people and strengthen older people's rights at the same time. Forums create the spaces where older women and men can meet, share and discuss their experiences and bring their voices together, as well as creating an interface where older people can engage directly with decision-makers. Such spaces also enable older people to learn how to communicate and amplify their voices; access information and guidance related to their rights and entitlements. Older People forum takes place quarterly and are open for members of the public to attend.</p>	<p>Seiriol Edwards, Strategy Co-ordinator for Older People and Carers seirioledwards@ynysmon.gov.wales</p>
Leisure Users Forum	<p>The Leisure Users Forum is held twice a year to share experience of using the centre and present any proposed changes. Participants are encouraged to actively attend to give their views.</p>	<p>MairEluned@ynysmon.gov.wales</p>
Leisure customer Survey	<p>Two surveys a year are sent out to collect feedback from customers to gather information from customers to improve services in the future.</p>	<p>OwainJones@ynysmon.gov.wales</p>
Youth Forum	<p>The plan is to develop an authority wide children and young people's participation strategy, with a clear action plan that includes the re-establishment of a Children & Young People's Multi-Agency group and specific groups of young people.</p>	<p>GeralltRoberts@ynysmon.gov.wales</p>
Mon Actif	<p>Mon Actif's social media and email is the most common method of customer feedback. Customers can leave feedback and ask questions on these platforms.</p>	<p>monactif@ynysmon.gov.wales</p>
Local Nature Partnership	<p>The Ynys Môn Local Nature Partnership (LNP) / Partneriaeth Natur Leol Ynys Môn is an independent network of individuals, groups, and organisations who live or work on the Island who are interested in nature. The LNP is open to anyone who would like to be more involved in nature conservation on Anglesey and who would like to stay up-to-date on relevant projects, events, and funding opportunities. Members participate through a newsletter, giving advice as an expert in a conservation field, get a project funded, and/or attend partnership meetings (currently bi-yearly). Soon, we also hope to have social media accounts for members to interact with further.</p>	<p>AuroraHood@ynysmon.gov.wales</p>

Anglesey Tourism Association (ATA)	Tourism businesses related to the ATA are able to contribute their views in the quarterly meetings	Michael Thomas MichaelThomas@ynysmon.gov.wales
Joint Advisory Committee (JAC)	The Joint Advisory Committee usually meet twice a year and will advise the local authority, and other bodies, on the appropriate steps in order to support the management of the AONB.	Alun M Owen AlunOwen@anglesey.gov.wales
Amlwch Port User Group	The Amlwch Port User Group participate through twice a year meetings for advisory perspective only in order to facilitate a two-way communication between the Harbour Authority (IACC) and users/other stakeholders which have an interest in the port.	For further details contact Iwan Huws Iwanhuws@anglesey.gov.wales
Beaumaris and Menai Bridge Port Users Group	The Beaumaris and Menai Bridge Port User Group participate through twice a year meetings for advisory perspective only in order to facilitate a two-way communication between the Harbour Authority (IACC) and users/other stakeholders which have an interest in the port.	For further details contact Iwan Huws Iwanhuws@anglesey.gov.wales
Cruise Wales	Cruise Wales is a partnership between Welsh Government create an excellent cruise offer for cruise passengers visiting Wales. Anglesey Council continue to attract new cruise lines and we are working on improving the infrastructure at Holyhead port. Anglesey tourism team have recently organized and created the Holyhead Sailing Partnership, which has met once, and will meet again at the end of October they are able to contribute their views.	Michael Thomas MichaelThomas@ynysmon.gov.wales Elaine Thomas Elaine.Thomas4@gov.wales and Suzanne Thomas Suzanne.Thomas@gov.wales
Energy Island Strategic Forum	Key Stakeholders and energy developers showing interest to develop the island attend the forum and pass comments in the quarterly meetings. It should be noted that attendance is by invitation only.	AngharadCrump@ynysmon.llyw.cymru
School Councils	Each school on Anglesey has a school council that are organised within the schools. The Council use school councils in order to engage on the Council's plan and other important matters. In addition to school councils, each Secondary schools have two pupils that sit on the governing bodies.	
Local radio	Môn FM Council news and information is shared with the public through Môn FM	www.monfm.co.uk
Social media platforms	Facebook / Twitter / Instagram etc Items on the Newsroom page of the Council's website are usually placed on social media platforms that the Council uses	Link to Newsroom page: Newsroom (gov.wales)

The Executive's Forward Work Programme	<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p>	https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/documents/Docs-en/Council/Democracy/Executive-Forward-Work-Programme/Executive-Forward-Work-Programme.pdf
Records of decisions	<p>Recent decisions taken by the following can be seen by the public:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council's decision-making bodies • Council Leaders using delegated powers • The Planning and Orders Committee • Portfolio Holders, officers and the Council Leader 	https://democracy.anglesey.gov.wales/mgDelegatedDecisions.aspx?&DR=18%2f05%2f2023-01%2f06%2f2023&RP=0&K=0&DM=0&HD=0&DS=2&Next=true&META=mgdelegateddecisions&V=0&LLL=0

3.2 Tools and Digital Access

Many participants can be contacted and can easily participate through online tools such as targeted interactions via topic related databases together with social media. However, the way we endeavour to cater for hard to reach and digitally excluded participants is outlined below in the Non-Digital Communication section. Each activity will be reviewed to ensure that the correct tools are in place to ensure as many people as possible are able to take part and participate if they wish to do so.

3.3 Who can get involved

Public participation is open to all our residents/communities and stakeholders (those that have an interest or stake in an issue). This includes all those who live, work, play in or visit the area and covers all age groups from young children to older adults and does not differentiate against any of our protected groups.

You can take part as individuals, within groups, such as community groups, town and community councils or government and professional bodies and on behalf of or with 3rd sector organisations and trade unions.

Whilst we aim to open all public participation to all stakeholders, sometimes this is not practicable due to the varying yet sometime quiet specific topics being discussed. e.g., voting in local and general elections for example have an age limit of 16 years and over, which legally must be adhered to.

When planning for public participation, we aim to ensure that we are reaching the right people. This is done through stakeholder mapping to make sure we get to all the groups we need to. This can often be dependent on topic, location, and age group or demographic. However, this doesn't always mean that these consultations and engagements will be closed off to other groups or individuals.

We aim to make it clear who can participate and aim to listen to all views and opinions.

3.4 How we will promote awareness

Building and maintaining close relationships with 3rd sector organisations is a priority for the Council. We aim to promote awareness of our consultation and engagement activities through active involvement with our 3rd sector groups and their partnerships within community groups, with individuals and active members of our community.

We have a section dedicated to current and previous engagement activities on our website www.anglesey.gov.wales/consultations and aim to promote wider via social media and through our partnerships when activities are live.

Technology has advanced significantly recently, and the Covid-19 pandemic has enabled more people to become digitally active/connected. We aim to explore and further develop new digital tools and ways of working e.g. hybrid / virtual meetings to reach a greater audience and encourage wider accessibility

3.5 Communication without digital resources

Not everyone has access to a computer or the internet. All our engagement exercises must consider how to engage with non-digital users as a matter of priority. Examples of this are in-person discussions, telephone discussions and provision of paper copies of relevant documents. Paper copies of engagement / consultation documents can be made available to stakeholders through Cyswllt Môn.

3.6 Accessibility

We are committed to ensuring that all residents in Ynys Môn can access information and have an equal opportunity to share their views. As such we need to specifically consider the following demographics and how best to engage with them. Some examples are set out below:

3.7 People with Disabilities

When we publish information or create a piece of online engagement, we need to consider how people can access it. People with visual impairments may require documents in large print or use a screen reader to access information and engage. We need to consider how documents, web pages, surveys etc will be read out on a screen reader. An example of this is using a correct hierarchical heading structure or providing alternative text to images. People with hearing impairments may need subtitles on any video content. Some people may also require information in an easy read format. An easy read document uses plain language and simple sentences to accurately portray what may be in a full document.

3.8 Children and Young People

We have a duty to children and young people to ensure that we are reaching out to them in a way that encourages their participation and as outlined in the Statutory Guidance for the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 – Annex B. Recognising the Children and Young People's National Participation Standards as a framework for participation; we will continue to facilitate opportunities for participation with younger people and ensure that we educate and advocate for their right under Article 12 of the UNCRC.

Children's Rights - Children's Commissioner for Wales (childcomwales.org.uk)

Once re-started after the Covid lockdown, IoACC's Youth Forum will act as a platform for children and young people's views across Ynys Môn. We will represent those views to local and national decision-making bodies. We will ensure that appropriate feedback is provided through a range of channels that will include reports, presentations and on social media outlets. We will continue to develop and embed children and young people's participation into all aspects of planning, delivering, and reviewing services that directly have an impact on children and young people.

3.9 Improvement opportunity 1

Improve the ways children and young people participate in and influence our decisions

3.10 Efficiency

It is important to avoid consultation and engagement overload. Often people give up their free time and travel distances to attend engagement events. We, or our public services partners may already have relevant data from previous engagement or surveys. We may also be able to utilise data and information collected from continuous engagement.

3.11 Methods of Engagement

Continuous Engagement

We will continuously engage with residents in Ynys Môn through meeting with stakeholder groups and having direct conversations with those who use our services. We are developing a digital engagement platform to assist with the continuation and collection of these conversations.

It is important that the public are aware of how the Council works and the decisions that are being taken at any given time.

The Communication team promotes awareness of Council activities via social media and press releases which are shared with news outlets. All press releases are also available on the Council website.

The Council's website is reviewed regularly with an aim to improve sections relevant to information for members of the public.

Details of forthcoming Council meetings are publicised via social media, and forward work plans are published in a timely manner to ensure that members of the public are aware of items for consideration at forthcoming meetings. Members of the public can attend Council meetings online. Council and Cabinet meetings are broadcasted, and available electronically

for 6 months after the meeting. There is a mechanism for local people to feed into the Scrutiny process, this is published on the Council's website. Details of forthcoming agenda items are also published on the Council's website.

Ynys Môn County Council's Executive is notified of all petitions received by Council Members of the public can present their application or objection to a Council Member, details of which are available on the Council's website.

3.12 Specific Engagement

We want people to have a strong voice and be able to effectively influence our decision making, especially when we make changes to services or develop new policies. We frequently consult with the people of Ynys Môn. Current examples can be seen on the consultations page of our website:

<http://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/browse/Get-involved/Consultations/Current-consultations/>

We also use other various means as detailed below:

- Online surveys
- Engagement Events
- Roadshows
- Focus Groups
- Forums

During Covid-19 some forms of engagement were more challenging. We will investigate the feasibility of setting up in-person focus groups across the county with an emphasis on utilising existing groups that are known and utilised by residents.

3.13 Impact Assessments

When we make plans to create a new policy or change the way we do things we must consider the impact this will have on our citizens, including those who have protected characteristics. An Impact Assessment (IA) brings together the relevant legislations and sets out how we will take due regard, (give appropriate weight), to making decisions.

When we conduct an IA:

- We are considering relevant evidence to understand the likely or actual effects of policies or practices on those who are vulnerable within our communities, including those who are experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.
- We are thinking about where we might be able to reduce negative impacts.
- We are identifying missed opportunities and capitalising on positive impacts.
- We are considering the rights of the child.

As mentioned above, the Council's engagement with its residents is good. However, IoACC continuously needs to explore and further develop ways to improve engagement with its residents, either by traditional or digital means.

3.14 Improvement opportunity 2

Improve ways of receiving and incorporating feedback using traditional and digital tools available

3.15 Contact your local Councillor

You can find your local councillor to discuss issues within your ward from the following list of all the County Councillors. Their contact details are available on the Council website here:

<https://democracy.anglesey.gov.wales/mgMemberIndex.aspx?bcr=1&LLL=0>

You can also use the above link if you're not sure who your councillor is, you can search online using the above link or contact the Council who can provide this information to you.

3.16 Getting involved with Scrutiny

The Council's Scrutiny Committees are interested to hear the views of the island's population and find out what causes concern to the people that we serve.

There are several ways in which you, as a member of the public, can get involved in Scrutiny:

- by suggesting a topic for review
- by attending meetings as observers
- by making an application to speak on a particular subject at one of the Committee meetings – see the [Public Speaking at Scrutiny Committee Meetings Protocol](#)
- by taking part in scrutiny investigations upon invitation by a scrutiny review panel
- by submitting written evidence relevant to a scrutiny inquiry when invited to do so

If you wish to suggest a topic for review, then download a Word or PDF copy of the suggestion form and send it back to the Scrutiny Team via post:

Scrutiny, Council Business, Isle of Anglesey County Council, Llangefni LL77 7TW.

or fill in our [online form](#)

Contact Scrutiny

Scrutiny
Council Business
Isle of Anglesey County Council
Council Offices
Llangefni
Anglesey
LL77 7TW

Email: Scrutiny@anglesey.gov.wales

3.17 Attend and take part in a meeting

Any resident of Isle of Anglesey can attend any meeting of the Council and observe the proceedings and debate taking place. Meetings are held in the Council Chamber at the Council Buildings in Llangefni which has a public viewing gallery. Recently, remote attendance at

Council meetings has been introduced so even if you are unable to attend the meeting in person, there may be opportunity for you to participate remotely.

The location, date and start time of meetings are available on the agenda produced for the meeting which is available to download from the Council website.

Any person attending the meeting may be excluded from proceedings where an agenda item has been classified as exempt. Exempt items are usually where sensitive or confidential information may be discussed and is only available to those able to vote on the matter.

3.18 Add an item to an agenda for discussion

There are two ways that a member of the public can encourage a committee to consider an item and have it added to the agenda of a future meeting.

- Any member of the public can contact the chair of a committee and request that they add an item to the forward work programme for future discussion
- Attend a meeting of the relevant committee and request at the meeting under the item forward work programmes that an item is added for future consideration.

3.19 Submit a question to Council

Members of the public are entitled to ask a question of any Member of the Executive at a meeting of full Council. Questions are limited to one question per individual or organisation and will be asked in the order notice of them was received unless the chairman of the Council wishes to group certain questions together. The total time allotted to public questions at a Council meeting should be limited to 15 minutes.

A question may only be asked if notice has been given by delivering it in writing or by email to the Head of Democratic Services no later than midday three working days before the day of the meeting. Each person submitting a question must provide their name and address.

A question may be rejected if:

- The question is not about a matter for which the Council has responsibility, or which affects the County
- Is defamatory, frivolous or offensive
- Is substantially the same as a question which has been put at a meeting of the Council in the past six months
- Requires the disclosure of confidential or exempt information

The Chairman will invite the questioner to put the question to the relevant Councillor. If a questioner who has submitted a written question is unable to be present, they may ask the chair to put the question to the councillor on their behalf. The chairman may ask the question, indicate that a written reply will be provided by the councillor, or as the questioner is not present decide that the question will not be dealt with.

A questioner may ask one supplementary question without notice to the Councillor which may arise directly out of the original question or the reply.

Any question which cannot be dealt with during the meeting, either due to lack of time or non-attendance of the relevant councillor, will be dealt with by a written response.

3.20 Submit views to select committees

Under the Local Government Act (Wales) 2011, any member of the public can attend one of the 2 Scrutiny Committees held by the Council and submit their views on a particular item on the agenda. The Committee must give full consideration to the views submitted by a member of the public under these arrangements. Further information on scrutiny is available on the Council website here.

3.21 How to become a Councillor

The next Local Government Elections will be held in May 2027. This section provides you with information on how to stand for election and what is expected of you should you be elected as a Councillor for the Isle of Anglesey County Council.

3.22 Standing as a candidate

A candidate for election must complete a set of nomination papers that must be signed by the candidate in the presence of a witness who must attest the signature. You then need to win a majority of the votes cast at the ballot box if there is a contest for the seat. The number of votes you need to win depends on the electoral division in which you choose to stand for election. Some electoral divisions are two or three member divisions.

Nomination packs will be available early in 2027. If you would like to register your interest, please contact Electoral Services on 01248 750057.

If you are thinking of standing as a candidate for a particular political party, then you should first get in touch with that party's local organisation. If you plan to stand for election as an independent Councillor, contact us and we will be pleased to give you more information.

Councillors receive a salary which is determined annually by the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales and can also claim travel and subsistence costs (subsistence is paid for 'out of county' meals and accommodation only) when undertaking official duties. Councillors can also claim towards the costs of care and personal assistance in order for them to carry out their approved duties.

The Welsh Government has approved funding for a pilot scheme to fund reasonable adjustments and support for disabled candidates seeking election to the Local Government elections. Further information can be found here.

Further information on allowances can be viewed by clicking on the following link:

[Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales | GOV.WALES](#)

3.23 What happens if elected?

The Council is composed of 35 Councillors who are elected every five years. Councillors are democratically accountable to residents of their electoral division. The overriding duty of councillors is to the whole community, but they have a special duty to their constituents, including those who did not vote for them.

Councillors are entitled to a basic salary. Further information on payments can be obtained from the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW, link above). A copy of the determinations for 2022-23 can also be found on the IRPW website.

Councillors are also entitled to travel allowances and those with caring responsibilities can also receive reimbursement of costs of care.

Once elected Councillors are expected to attend various training and development sessions during their term of office. An induction session is provided for all new and returning Councillors during the first 12 months in office with further training provided on an ongoing basis through member development events.

Councillors are expected to attend meetings and committees and are bound to observe the provisions of the Councillor's Code of Conduct.

As local representatives, councillors have responsibilities towards their constituents and local organisations. These responsibilities and duties often depend on what the councillor wants to achieve and how much time is available and may include: attending governing body meetings of schools within their ward, attending meetings of local organisations such as tenants' associations, bodies affecting the wider community, raising issues on behalf of members of the public, holding surgeries for residents to raise issues and meeting with individual residents in their own homes.

3.24 How much time does it take up?

If you are in employment and intend to stand as a candidate, you may wish to ask your employer what provisions they may have in place to allow you to attend to Council business. It is estimated that on average, councillors spend the equivalent of three to four days a week on council business. Obviously, there are some councillors who spend more time than this - and some less.

There is a link to the Welsh Local Government Association which has been produced in association with local authorities and is a useful guide for prospective candidates:

[BE A COUNCILLOR. BE THE CHANGE.](#)

3.25 Councillor facilities and support

The Democratic Services Unit administers meetings of the Council and provides a dedicated support service, providing advice on the law and practice of meetings to Councillors, officers and the public and assistance to all Councillors with queries and admin related requests.

Councillors, once elected, will be provided with a tablet device, laptop and an @anglesey.gov.wales email address which must be used when conducting Council business. All Council meetings are paperless and it is recommended that all candidates are able to use IT confidently or are willing to undertake training.

The Council is a bilingual Authority and, as a Councillor, you will be able to operate in your chosen language, be that Welsh or English, and interpretation facilities are available at all Council meetings to facilitate this. Welsh language training is also available for any Councillors wishing to learn the language.

3.26 The benefits to Councillors of using social media to communicate with local people

Social media has become a powerful tool for Councillors, helping them to engage with communities, raise awareness of community issues, events, or Council initiatives and to seek views and receive feedback.

Social media has changed how politics works, it makes politicians and public institutions more accessible, allows individuals to have their voices heard and helps share ideas or promote campaigns.

By using social media Councillors can:-

- Learn about local issues, and concerns within their ward.
- Find the latest news and publications from the County Council, other local authorities, the Welsh Government and organisations such as the Welsh Local Government Association.
- Promote their role and what you do on a day-to-day basis.
- Social media is instant, you can share information quickly and gain opinions of your constituents.

Many Councillors already use social media. However as a Councillor, there are additional things to consider when using it, including the Code of Conduct and managing expectation.

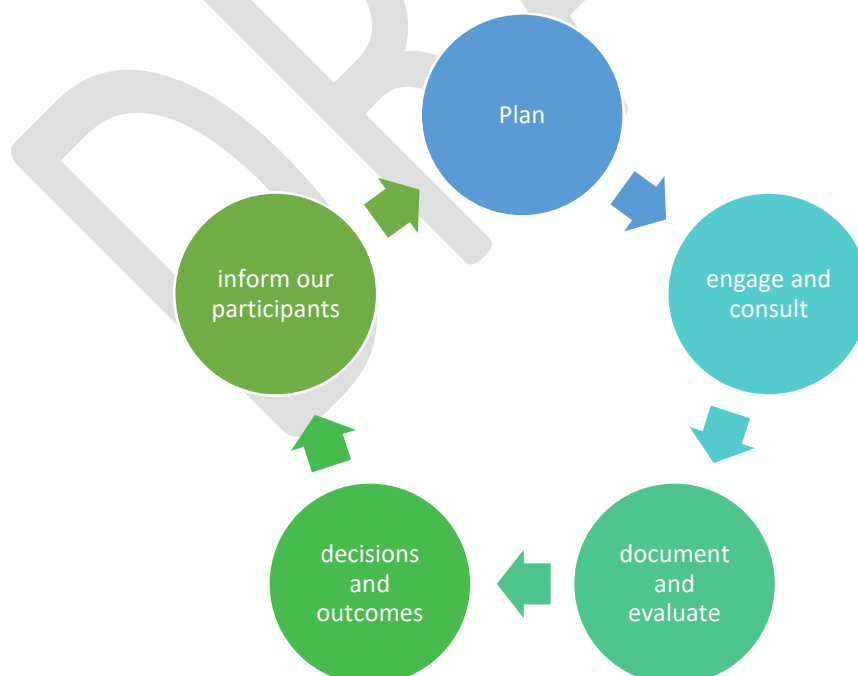
Once elected, Councillors are invited to attend an induction session on using social media and the Council also has an e-learning module available. Each Councillor will be personally responsible for the content they publish and they must abide by the Code of Conduct when posting information as the Code of Conduct applies to online and social media content, and by referring online to their role as Councillor, they will be deemed to be acting in their 'official capacity' and the Code will apply.

The Welsh Local Government Association has provided free guidance for Councillors along with some tips and advice in terms of handling on-line abuse.

[WLGA Information on Social Media and Online Abuse](#)

4. Evaluation

4.1 Analysis and feedback



For any public participation to be successful, it is essential that we feedback to those who took part. We recognise that this can be challenging and are looking at options to develop this

further and ensure we can make this process easier for both Council staff and communities to access and receive feedback.

Once the participation activities are over, we will keep you informed and involved through letting you know the outcomes or to involve you, either by e-mail, letter, face to face discussion or other means, in further participation on the same subject area, if you choose to be kept involved.

We value your input and knowledge, so it is important to ensure that we take every voice and comment into consideration. This will be done by reference to your input in summary documents or reports on the participation.

Every engagement and consultation is different, therefore timelines will vary. However, we are dedicated to providing feedback to all of our participants following public participation activities, either individually or collectively. This will be done in a way determined by the lead officer, such as:

- Informing participants verbally / via email / telephone
- Reports of the responses and decisions circulated to participants
- Analysis summary on corporate website within our consultation pages
- Exploring the opportunities of using online tools.

4.2 Your privacy

Information on how we use information, retention periods and your rights can be found within our privacy notice on our website, <https://www.anglesey.gov.wales/en/Council/Data-protection-and-FOI/Data-Protection-Policy-and-privacy-notice.aspx>

4.3 Work that will need to be prioritised over the forthcoming period:

1. Improve the ways children and young people participate in and influence our decisions
2. Improve ways of receiving and incorporating feedback using traditional and digital tools available

Consider ways of measuring success or lack of success of participation or developing a participation dashboard.