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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

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| RHYBUDD O GYFARFOD  | NOTICE OF MEETING   |
|---|---|
| PWYLLGOR GWAITH   | THE EXECUTIVE   |
| DYDD MAWRTH   | TUESDAY   |
| 25 MAWRTH 2025  | 25 MARCH 2025   |
| 10.00 o'r gloch   | 10.00 am  |
| YSTAFELL BWYLLGOR, SWYDDFEYDD<br>Y CYNGOR AC YN RHITHIOL DRWY<br>ZOOM | COMMITTEE ROOM, COUNCIL<br>OFFICES AND VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM |
| SWAAAAA PWAAIIAAr   | olmes 752518  Committee Officer                           |

#### **AELODAU/MEMBERS**

#### Plaid Cymru/The Party of Wales

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

#### Y Grŵp Annibynnol/The Independent Group

Dafydd Roberts, Dafydd Rhys Thomas

#### COPI ER GWYBODAETH / COPY FOR INFORMATION

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

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

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

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

#### AGENDA

#### 1. APOLOGIES

#### 2 <u>DECLARATION OF INTEREST</u>

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

#### 3 <u>URGENT MATTERS CERTIFIED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OR HIS</u> APPOINTED OFFICER

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

#### **4 MINUTES** (Pages 1 - 16)

To submit for confirmation, the draft minutes of the meetings of the Executive held on the following dates: -

- 18 February 2025
- · 27 February 2025 (Budget)

#### 5 <u>THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME</u> (Pages 17 - 24)

To submit the report of the Head of Democracy.

#### 6 CORPORATE SCORECARD – QUARTER 3, 2024/25 (Pages 25 - 40)

To submit the report of the Head of Profession, HR and Transformation.

#### 7 **FOSTER CARERS UPLIFT CORE OFFER** (Pages 41 - 48)

To submit the report of the Director of Social Services.

#### **8 FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC PLAN** (Pages 49 - 82)

To submit the report of the Head of Highways, Waste and Property.

#### 9 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUSINESS PLAN 2025-2055 (Pages 83 - 106)

To submit the report of the Head of Housing.

#### THE EXECUTIVE

#### Minutes of the hybrid meeting held on 18 February 2025

PRESENT: Councillor Gary Pritchard (Leader) (Chair)

Councillors Neville Evans, Carwyn Jones, Dyfed W Jones, Alun Roberts, Dafydd Roberts, Nicola Roberts, Dafydd Rhys Thomas,

Robin Williams

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive.

Deputy Chief Executive,

Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer, Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer,

Director of Social Services,

Director of Education, Skills and Young People, Head of Adults' Services (for item 11 only),

Head of Democracy,

Policy and Welsh Language Manager (FO) (for item 13 only),

Scrutiny Officer (EA) (for item 13 only),

Committee Officer (MEH),

Webcasting Committee Services Officer (FT).

**APOLOGIES:** None received

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillor Gwilym O Jones (Vice-Chair of the Partnership &

Regeneration Scrutiny Committee) (for item 13 only).

Councillors Glyn Haynes and T LI Hughes MBE

The Leader of the Council and Members of the Executive extended their best wishes to Mr Marc Berw Hughes, Director of Education, Skills and Young People who will be leaving his post at the end of the month.

#### 1 APOLOGIES

No apologies for absence were received.

#### 2 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

No declaration of interest was received.

# 3 URGENT MATTERS CERTIFIED BY THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OR HIS APPOINTED OFFICER

None to report.

#### 4 MINUTES

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Executive held on 21 January, 2025 were presented for confirmation.

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the previous meeting of the Executive held on 21 January, 2025 be confirmed as correct.

#### 5 THE EXECUTIVE'S FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The report of the Head of Democracy incorporating the Executive's Forward Work Programme for the period March – October, 2025 was presented for confirmation.

The Head of Democracy updated the Executive on items that were new to the Forward Work Programme.

It was RESOLVED to confirm the Executive's updated Forward Work Programme for the period March – October 2025 with additional changes outlined at the meeting.

#### 6 REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING - QUARTER 3, 2024/25

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer setting out the financial performance of the Council's revenue budget at the end of Quarter 3, of the 2024/2025 financial year was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Robin Williams, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Finance & Housing Services said that the overall forecasted position at the end of Quarter 3 indicates that the final position will result in an underspend on the revenue budget of £59k. He noted that the Adults' Services have been underspending and the provision has improved in the short term whilst having faced challenges of overspending in recent years. He noted that work has been ongoing in collection of Council Tax debts.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer reported that the revenue budget of the Council is positive for 2024/2025. He noted that the Adults' Services budget is still volatile as the service had cleared a backlog of financial assessments which had generated additional income in the third quarter which had contributed to the improved financial position for the service. He noted that there are still concerns as regards to Children Services overspending of over £2 million due to additional children coming into care and increased costs related to the placement of children outside the county. He said that additional resources have been reflected in the 2025/2026 budget for Children Services. He referred to Table 5 within the report highlights the change in demand for services within the Council; he noted that due to vacant posts within the Authority as it has been difficult to recruit this has created one-off savings in 2024/2025. He further said that the income fees have increased in the Highways and Leisure Services. Furthermore, several properties have reverted to the main Council Tax premium following Welsh Governments' changes to the criteria of holiday lets who qualifying for business rates in April 2023; as the properties are not the main dwellings of the owners, the

properties are subject to a 200% council tax charge, backdated to April 2023. It is anticipated that appeals will be submitted and some properties reverting to business rates having let the properties for the required 182 days. Around half of the additional income generated has been placed in an earmarked reserve and will be used to fund any refunds that result in 2025/2026.

The Portfolio Member for Children, Young People and Families said the overspend in Children's Services is concerning due to more children coming into care and the increasing costs of placing children in out of county provision. He referred to the success of the Cartrefi Clyd provision on the Island and the need to increase the provision with the purchase of additional properties to allow the children in care to be located on Anglesey. The Leader of the Council also agreed that the provision of Cartrefi Clyd has been a success to allow the children to live in their Welsh communities which also results in saving resources in out of country placement.

The Portfolio Member for Corporate and Customer Experience ascertained whether the variant of 10% within Economic Development and Information Technology will carry over into Quarter 4. The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer responded that the variance within Information Technology is mainly due to several vacant posts within the service, but these posts have now been filled and it is anticipated that the variance within their budget will not further increase. Economic Development includes the Leisure Service which has benefitted from the new energy contracts which came into effect on 1 October, 2024. As a large energy user, Leisure Service has benefitted greatly from the reduction in energy prices. The Leisure Service has also seen an increase in income with more people attending the leisure centres. The budget for the service has been reviewed for the 2025/2026 budget. Members of the Executive wishes to congratulate the staff of MônActif for their work within the leisure centres and within the communities.

#### It was RESOLVED:-

- To note the position set out in Appendices A, B and C in respect of the Authority's financial performance to date and expected outturn for 2024/2025;
- To note the summary of Contingency budgets for 2024/2025, detailed in Appendix CH;
- To note the monitoring of agency and consultancy costs for 2024/2025 in Appendices D and DD;
- To agree to the implementation of new, and amendments to, Fees and Charges for 2024/2025, detailed in Appendix E.

#### 7 CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING - QUARTER 3, 2024/2025

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer setting out the financial performance of the Capital Budget at the end of Quarter 3, of the 2024/2025 financial year was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Robin Williams, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Finance and Housing Services said that an annual capital budget for 2024/2025 was set at £75.173m. The actual expenditure up to quarter 3 is £38,603m, with committed

expenditure of £2.613m which totals £41.216m which has been financed by capital grants. It is projected that there will be underspend within the capital budget. He noted that any projects that have slipped from this year will be transferred to the next financial year.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer reported that grant funding is imperative to fund capital projects within the Council with a total of £46m out the £75m annal capital budget. He noted that it is predicted that there will be an underspend of £8.171m and specifically to the UK Governments' Levelling Up projects in Holyhead of an underspend of £3.4m which will be transferred to the next financial year. The Housing Revenue Account is also underspending £1.7m and £0.5m underspend within the school's projects due to grant funding received by Welsh Government. Flood Relief schemes are also anticipated to underspend against the budget, albeit will slip into the next financial year. Low Carbon energy projects are also underspending due to awaiting a response by Welsh Government to slip the projects into the next financial year. He further said that the Glanhwfa Community Hub project also underspending at present.

#### It was RESOLVED:-

- To note the progress of expenditure and receipts against the capital budget 2024/2025 at quarter 3;
- To approve the additional schemes within quarter 3, amounting to £2.696m, to the capital programme and amendments to funding, as per Appendix C, which will result in a revised capital budget of £75.173m for 2024/2025;
- To approve the carry forward of potential underspend, as noted in Section 4.2 of the report.

# 8 HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUDGET MONITORING - QUARTER 3, 2024/25

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer setting out the financial performance of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget for Quarter 3 2024/2025 was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Robin Williams, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Finance and Housing Services presented the report which sets out the financial performance of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2025 comprising of both the revenue and capital expenditure. He highlighted that the HRA is 'ring-fenced', and its reserves cannot be used for purposes other than to fund costs relating to the Council's housing stock including the development of new housing. The revenue budget was set with a budgeted surplus of £8,369k. The gross capital budget for 2024/2025 is £29,573k. Grant funding budget of £10,578k and £509k earmarked reserve balance reduces the net budget to £18,485k. The combination of both the revenue budget and adjusted capital budget gave a planned budget deficit of £10,116k, of which, £7,011k is to be funded from the HRA reserve, with the balance of £3,104k to be funded by external borrowing.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer reported that the revenue expenditure shows an overspend of £38k as the rental income is lower than set out within the budget as new development were foresaw to be becoming available sooner within the financial year. The maintenance element of the HRA is also dependent on demand for the service. He noted that there has been an underspend of £2.9m as regards to keeping the current housing stock to WHQS standards. The development of new houses and buying former social housing element has seen an overspend of £1.1m., as some projects have commenced earlier than planned.

#### It was RESOLVED:-

- To note the position set out in respect of the financial performance of the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) for quarter 3, 2024/2025;
- To note the forecast outturn for 2024/2025.

#### 9 TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REVIEW 2024/25

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer incorporating a mid-year review of the treasury management position on 30 September 2024 was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Robin Williams, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Finance and Housing Services presented the report and referred to the reporting requirements for treasury management under the Local Government Act 2003 and the CIPFA Prudential Code 2021 which includes the production of a mid-year review of treasury management activities. He confirmed that the Governance and Audit Committee had scrutinised the report at its 11 February, 2025 meeting and had forwarded it to the Executive without further comments.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer advised that there had been no change in the Council's borrowing and investment approach in the reporting period. Cash balances have been used to fund capital expenditure to avoid external borrowing at higher interest rates. It is foreseen that interest rates will decrease during the year and borrowing will have to made during the next financial year over a short-term loan period. He noted the Councils' balances to invest stands at under £30m compared to £53m in April 2022 which results in the interest of the investment considerably lower which thereafter influences the revenue budget. The Council's Treasury Management position has remained stable, and all prudential indicators have remained within the boundaries and targets set in the Treasury Management Strategy Statement. He further noted that the Treasury Management Consultants have recently changed to MUFG, formerly Link Asset Services.

It was RESOLVED to note the Treasury Management Mid-Year Review report 2024/2025 and to forward the same to the Full Council without additional comments.

#### 10 FEES AND CHARGES 2025/26

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer incorporating a schedule of proposed fees and charges for 2025/2026 was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Robin Williams, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Finance and Housing Services reported that the Executive has set an objective that all non-statutory fees and charges are increased by an average of 3% across each individual service. This has allowed Heads of Service to increase individual fees by more or less than 3% but, overall, the increase across the services equates to a 3% increase. All statutory fees have been increased by the sum set by the approving body, where the increase has been published. Where the revised charge is not known, the fee is shown as to be confirmed and will be updated once the notification of the new is received. Social Care fee increases are reported separately to the Executive.

It was RESOLVED to approve the schedule of Fees and Charges for 2025/2026 as outlined in the booklet attached to the report.

#### 11 INDEPENDENT SECTOR CARE HOME FEES FOR 2025/26

The report of the Head of Adults' Services seeking the Executive's approval to set the rate for independent sector care home fees for 2025/2026 was presented in accordance with the requirements of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014.

Councillor Alun Roberts, Portfolio Member for Adult's Services, Community Safety and Equalities presented the report which sets out the proposed fee levels for Residential, Residential EMI, Nursing and Nursing EMI Care for the 2025/2026 financial year. The Local Authority is required to review independent sector care home fees annually to coincide with Central Government's changes to benefits and pensions levels. The proposal is to increase the fees by 7%.

The Head of Adults' Services reported that in setting fee levels for independent sector care homes, the Council needs to show that it has fully considered the cost of the provision in determining its standards care fees. The increase is in recognition of the financial pressures faced by the providers due to increase in national insurance contributions and the real living wage increase. When reviewing the fee levels, consideration is given to local circumstances, demand pressures and availability of provision, in addition to the regional formula. Individual fees can be discussed with providers when special circumstances arise.

The Executive Members ascertained whether the Government takes into consideration the census and the change in the population with the elderly in each local authority. Further questions raised as to the threshold where people can afford to pay for their care and whether the EMI Nursing Care has increased. The Head of Adults' Services responded that the level of fees is set by the financial contribution the Authority receives. He noted that the when the income of an individual falls below the £50k threshold the Authority will contribute to the care. He further said the EMI Nursing Care is continuing to increase, and the provision is limited across the sector. This Authority has continued to adapt the provision with

the Authority's Care Homes sector with additional places, but as the authority is only providing residential care, EMI Nursing Care needs to be acquired the from the independent sector.

#### It was RESOLVED:-

• To approve the recommendation to increase the fee levels as follows:-

Residential Care (Adults) - £832.56 per week
Residential (EMI) - £930.37 per week
Nursing Care (Social Care Element) - £906.70 per week
Nursing Care (EMI) (Social Care Element) - £1,071.41 per week

 To authorise Social Services and the Finance Service to respond to any requests from individual homes to explore their specific accounts and to utilise the exercise as a basis to consider any exceptions to the agreed fees. Any exceptions to be agreed with the Adults' Services Portfolio Member, the Director of Function (Resources)/ Section 151 Officer and the Head of Adults' Services from within current budgets.

#### 12 CAPITAL STRATEGY 2025 – 2030

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer incorporating the Capital Strategy for 2025-20230 was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Robin Williams, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Finance and Housing Services said that the revised CIPFA Prudential Code (September 2017) introduced the requirement that all authorities must produce a capital strategy. This must set out the long-term context in which capital expenditure and investment decisions are made. The requirement is aimed at ensuring that authorities take capital and investment decisions in line with the service objectives, and properly consider stewardship, value for money, prudence, sustainability and affordability. The capital strategy is linked to several other plans and strategies. He noted that the strategy is dependent on grant funding, resources from Welsh Government and revenue budget available to spend on capital projects.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer reported that the strategy is a summary of the capital investments. He noted that the Capital Strategy is a key document to ensure that capital investment decisions are taken in a planned way, that allows the Council to achieve its key objectives whilst ensuring that the long-term viability of the Council is not put at risk. He referred to the capital expenditure summary for 2025- 20230 as noted within page 26 of the report. The revenue implications of the capital expenditure were set out in Page 29 of the report, and it was noted that the MRP is calculated based on the Council's current MRP Policy. The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer further said that moving from the 'Base Case' scenario into the 'Ideal' scenario on projects is dependent on the revenue position of the Council.

The Chief Executive said that it is imperative that the Council's assets are safe for public use. The Authority's assets are ageing and there will be a need for integrated multi-use of these buildings and there will be a need to be working in partnership with third-party organisations. He further said that attracting grants is paramount to allow assets to be develop and especially within the towns to bring more people to integrate into these areas.

The Leader of the Council said that having capital strategy enables the Council to make mature decisions to invest in projects and buildings for future generations within local communities.

It was RESOLVED to endorse and to recommend the Capital Strategy 2025 – 2030 to the Full Council.

#### 13 REVIEW OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL'S WELSH LANGUAGE POLICY

The report of the Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer incorporating the review of the Council's Welsh Language Policy was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Dafydd Roberts, Portfolio Member for Education and the Welsh Language said that the Council's current Welsh language policy was adopted in 2016 when statutory Welsh language standards came into force, since then, the understanding of the standards has matured, and the Authority's practices in relation to the language have developed significantly. The Welsh language policy affects all those who deal with the Council and the draft policy is designed to meet the statutory requirements of the Welsh language standards. He further said that the draft policy contributes to the aims of the Council Plan and the Welsh language promotion strategy.

Councillor Gwilym O Jones, Vice-Chair of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee outlined the issues raised when the Committee was presented with the Review of the Council's Welsh Language Policy at its meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2025. Having considered the review of the Welsh Language Policy and the Officer's and Portfolio Member's responses to the points raised at the meeting, the Committee had resolved to recommend the policy for the Executive's approval for adoption by the full Council and noting that a letter be sent to Welsh Government to request and emphasis the need for new legislation to protect Welsh historic place names and the request the Leader of the Council to raise the issue with the WLGA.

The Executive Members welcomed the draft review of the Welsh Language Policy which shows the commitment of the Authority towards the Welsh language.

#### It was RESOLVED :-

- to recommend to the full Council that it adopts the revised Welsh language policy:
- to support the recommendations of the Partnership and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee held on 12 February, 2025 that:-

- a letter be sent to Welsh Government to request and emphasise the need for new legislation to protect Welsh historic place names;
- the Leader of the Council be requested to raise the issue with the WLGA.

#### 14 TERMINATING THE GWE PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

The report of the Director of Education, Skills and Young People incorporating the terminating of the GwE Partnership Agreement was presented for the Executive's consideration.

Councillor Dafydd Roberts, Portfolio Member for Education, Skills and Young People said that following a review of the responsibilities of the education partners in Wales, there is an expectation from Welsh Government to move from a wider regional way of working to a more local model. The Transition Board has been established to oversee the arrangements for transferring GwE services back to the local authorities in North Wales. In order to formalise the change to the partnership arrangement, all six authorities must agree to end the current arrangement, GwE services, as well as abolishing the GwE Joint Committee in order to bring GwE to an end.

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People reported that considerable work has been undertaken to bringing the current arrangement with GwE to an end by 1<sup>st</sup> June, 2025. He noted that a consultation period is currently undertaken to change the structure and to work to a more local model of working.

Members of the Executive ascertained whether assurances can be given that the schools will not be affected by the change of ending the current arrangement with GwE during the transitional period.

The Director of Education, Skills and Young People responded that up to the period 31<sup>st</sup> May, 2025 the support from GwE staff to schools will continue. In the meantime, the transfer of staff from GwE into the local authorities will be undertaken.

The Chief Executive said that this is a significant change and the full costs of the moving from the regional way of working to a more local model is yet to be confirmed. He noted that there is a commitment, in principle, by Welsh Government to contribute to the costs.

#### It was RESOLVED:-

- To approve the termination of the agreement to work in partnership with other North Wales Local Authorities in the context of the regional School Effectiveness and Improvement Service (GwE) on the 31 May, 2025 and subsequently dissolve the requirement for the GwE Joint Committee;
- It there is slippage in the timetable, the Executive Committee gives the right to the Director of Education, Skills and Young People, in

- collaboration with the Education Portfolio Member, to decide on a suitable date to terminate the agreement;
- To confirm the contractual commitment in relation to ending the arrangement.

The meeting concluded at 11.30 am

COUNCILLOR GARY PRITCHARD CHAIR

#### THE EXECUTIVE

# Minutes of the meeting held in the Committee Room and on Zoom on 27 February, 2025

PRESENT: Councillor Gary Pritchard (Leader) (Chair)

Councillors Neville Evans, Dyfed Wyn Jones, Carwyn Jones, Alun Roberts, Dafydd Roberts, Nicola Roberts, Dafydd Rhys

Thomas, Robin Williams.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Chief Executive

**Deputy Chief Executive** 

Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer Director of Function (Council Business)/Monitoring Officer

**Director of Social Services** 

Director of Education, Skills, and Young People

Head of Democracy Committee Officer (ATH) Webcasting Officer (FT)

APOLOGIES: None received

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors Douglas Fowlie (Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny

Committee) Glyn Haynes, R. Llewelyn Jones, Derek Owen,

Liz Wood, Scrutiny Manager (AGD).

The Chair welcomed Mr Aaron Evans to his first meeting of the Executive in his new role as Director of Education, Skills and Young People.

#### 1. APOLOGIES

There were no apologies for absence.

#### 2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

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

None were reported.

#### 4. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT 2025/26

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer incorporating the Treasury Management Strategy Statement for 2025/26 was presented for the Executive's consideration.

The report was introduced by Councillor Robin Williams, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Finance and Housing who explained that the Council is required to produce and publish an annual Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS) before the start of each financial year and in doing so has to have regard to the requirements of the CIPFA

Prudential Code and the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice. The TMSS outlines the Council's approach to managing borrowing, investment and cash flow in the forthcoming year and sets out the proposed prudential and treasury indicators which ensure that the Council's borrowing and investments are managed responsibly. Councillor Robin Williams confirmed that the TMSS for 2025/26 was scrutinised and subsequently recommended by the Governance and Audit Committee at its meeting on 11 February, 2025.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer advised that the Council's investment strategy remains unchanged for 2025/26 in prioritising the security and liquidity of deposits over yield. In terms of borrowing the Council has for some years been using its cash reserves to finance capital expenditure instead of taking out external loans because with interest rates relatively high it has been more cost effective to do so. However, it is envisaged that over the lifetime of the strategy the continued use of reserves to balance the revenue budget and the use of the HRA to fund capital expenditure will reduce the Council's cash balances significantly meaning there will be less scope both to borrow internally and to invest and an increased level of external borrowing will have to be undertaken in order to fund the Council's capital programme. This is reflected in Table 7 of the strategy which shows the anticipated levels of internal and external borrowing in the years to 2028/29. The Prudential Indicators at Appendix 11 ensure that the Council's borrowing is affordable and remains within the set boundaries.

The Executive acknowledged the report and the work associated with it and also recognised the importance of the strategy in ensuring that the Council's resources are handled sensibly and sustainably and that the Council does not overextend itself in meeting its capital expenditure needs.

It was resolved to note the Treasury Management Strategy for 2025/26 and to recommend its approval by the Full Council.

#### 5. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY AND REVENUE BUDGET 2025/26

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer setting out the detailed revenue budget proposals for 2025/26 for the Executive's final review and agreement along with the updated Medium Term Financial Strategy were presented.

The report was presented by Councillor Robin Williams, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Finance and Housing who recapped on the background saying that based on an initial settlement which provided a 3.6% increase for Anglesey the Executive proposed an initial draft budget for 2025/26 of £195.234m which included the use of £2m of the Council's general balances, budget reductions of £699m and a 9.5% increase in Council Tax. Due to time limitations, a short public consultation on the proposal was held the outcome of which is summarised in Appendix 3 to the report. The final Welsh Government settlement announced on 20 February 2025 has included a floor of 3.8% which has resulted in an additional £277k for Anglesey. The Council will also receive a share of a further grant to help councils in Wales meet adult service social care costs. Councillor Robin Williams said that in light of the additional funding and taking into account the responses from the public consultation the Executive is proposing to amend its initial budget proposals by not implementing the proposal to introduce service charges for industrial and business units, not implementing the proposal to reduce the number of days the Council's recycling centres are open, reducing the increase in Council Tax by 1% to 8.5% (including the Fire Service Levy) and by allocating £217k to meet future costs of replacing IT equipment in schools. Councillor Robin Williams clarified that as the Executive had already made provision for Adult Services in the initial budget proposal, the grant funding can be applied elsewhere and is being utilised to help bring down the increase in Council Tax to 8.5% making Anglesey's increase the second lowest of the North Wales councils. With the amendments, the Executive is proposing a net revenue budget of £195.443m.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer explained the changes in the interim between Welsh Government's initial and final budget settlements which included a change in the data which informs the funding allocation which although it resulted in a £34k reduction in Anglesey's grant is offset by the additional £277k provided by the 3.8% funding floor. Subject to confirmation, Anglesey's share of the additional grant for adult social care costs is expected to be in the region of £700k. The Section 151 Officer referred to the responses to the public consultation on the initial budget proposals some of which had favoured using the Council's reserves over increasing Council Tax in order to meet the budget gap and some of which had commented that the Council should be managed more as a business. Using reserves to balance the budget provides a temporary solution but as reserves can only be spent once this approach is not sustainable in the long-term and does not address the fundamental funding pressures faced by the Council, and while there are advantages in managing the Council on business like principles, it is not a business and does not have the freedom to tackle financial challenges in the same way a business can which is by cutting costs, increasing charges and not delivering services. The Section 151 Officer referred to the services for which the Council does not charge any fee, to the fees which are set externally over which the Council has no control e.g. home care fees which have long been capped at £100 per week by Welsh Government despite the rising costs to the Council of providing the care, and fees which the Council subsidises to ensure they remain affordable to service users e.g. school meals and leisure centre fees. The Council also has statutory duties where it is required by law to deliver a range of essential services. The Council must therefore balance its budget through the Welsh Government's Revenue Support Grant, use of reserves and Council Tax.

Councillor Douglas Fowlie, Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee provided a report from the committee's 19 February 2025 meeting when it had considered the Executive's final revenue budget proposals for 2025/26 prior to the final settlement being known. Councillor Douglas Fowlie confirmed that the committee in noting that no additional information was available to the meeting, had supported the proposals as presented at the time which were unchanged from the initial draft proposals presented in January. The committee had also recommended that the Council Leader write to the Welsh and Westminster Governments to press for three year funding settlements for councils instead of annual settlements which would provide councils with more certainty and help them better plan their budgets.

The Chair, Councillor Gary Pritchard, in thanking Scrutiny for its input confirmed that he would be writing to the Welsh and Westminster Governments on the matter of multi-year funding settlements and that this issue has been discussed and is supported by the WLGA. He further highlighted concerns regarding the timing of the settlement with the final settlement not having been announced until after Scrutiny's meeting on 19 February leaving the Council with a tight window in which to finalise its budget and set the Council Tax before the beginning of the new financial year in April. He also referred to concerns about the adequacy of the settlement to meet the financial pressures on councils in Wales with the WLGA having lobbied for the funding floor to be set higher than 3.8%. An added complication has been the late announcement of additional grant funding which has had to be incorporated into the Council's financial plans at a late stage in the budget setting process. Because the Executive had already earmarked resources in the initial draft budget to cover costs in Social Services, it is able to use the additional funding to reduce the increase in Council Tax and while the Executive appreciates that raising Council Tax is not popular and is difficult for many people it is one of the few levers the Council has to balance the budget.

In reviewing the final budget proposal, the Executive's members welcomed the additional funding but emphasised that this and other councils in Wales need the certainty and stability that longer term settlements would bring as well as improved settlements overall that fully address the financial challenges which councils face. Members referred to the rising costs of services particularly in children's social care and to the innovative solutions the Council has sought to introduce to mitigate the cost impacts such as the Cartrefi Clyd provision. The important role which social services play in supporting the Health Service was highlighted as was the need for that role to be financially recognised in a more appropriate and sustainable way than through one off grants. Likewise, Executive members acknowledged the value of preventive services most of which are non-statutory but which are vital to the wellbeing of communities and in reducing the pressures on social care and health services especially in Anglesey which has a predominantly older population. The Executive further highlighted that in formulating its budget proposals it had sought to protect essential services such as education and social care and services for vulnerable people and had sought to find the right balance between service reductions, use of reserves and increasing Council Tax. The Executive thanked everyone who had been involved in developing the budget which had been a long and challenging process.

#### It was resolved -

- To utilise the additional funding resulting from Welsh Government's final settlement to amend the initial budget proposal as follows –
  - Not to implement the service charges for industrial and business units in 2025/26
  - Not to implement the reduction in opening days for the recycling centres in 2025/26
  - To reduce the increase in Council Tax by 1% to 8.5% (7.85% for Council Services and 0.65% for the Fire Levy)
  - To allocate £217k to meet future costs of replacing IT equipment in schools
- To note the Section 151 Officer's recommendation that the Council should maintain a minimum of £9.75m general balances.
- To note the comments made by the Section 151 Officer on the robustness of the estimates made as set out in Section 5 of Appendix 1 of the report.
- To recommend a final net budget for the County Council of £195.443m and resulting increase in the level of Council Tax of 8.5% (7.85% for Council Services and 0.65% for the Fire Levy) noting that a formal resolution, including the North Wales Police and Town/Community Council precepts will be presented to the Council on 6 March 2025.
- To authorise the Section 151 Officer to make such changes as may be necessary before the submission of the final proposals to the Council.
- To agree that any unforeseen pressures on demand led budgets during the financial year will be able to draw upon funding from the general contingencies budget.
- To request the Council to authorise the Executive to release up to £250k from general balances if the general contingencies budget is fully committed during the year.
- To delegate to the Section 151 Officer the power to release funding from the general contingency up to £50k for any single item. Any item in excess of £50k not to be approved without the prior consent of the Executive.

• To confirm that the level of Council Tax Premium for second homes and empty homes is maintained at 100%.

#### 6. CAPITAL BUDGET 2025/26

The report of the Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer setting out the proposed capital budget and programme for 2025/26 was presented for the Executive to review prior to submission to the Full Council.

The report was presented by Councillor Robin Williams, Deputy Leader and Portfolio Member for Finance and Housing who reported that a capital budget of £44.294m is proposed with the programme and funding as set out in the table on the opening page of the report. The capital budget can change in the course of the year as additional grants are allocated and applied for and the budget is adjusted accordingly.

The Director of Function (Resources)/Section 151 Officer referred to the link between the capital strategy, the capital budget and the treasury management strategy in providing a framework for supporting and managing the Council's capital objectives and expenditure. The capital budget position has long been challenging and although the General Capital Funding from Welsh Government for 2025/26 is £401k higher than the 2024/25 allocation which is the first significant increase that the Council has received for a number of years, it does not make up for the erosion in the value of the funding that has taken place due to inflation. Table 1 of the report shows the anticipated capital funding available as £32.378m against a proposed programme valued at £44m. The shortfall of £11.91m is being met through unsupported borrowing, £10.623m of which is HRA expenditure and £1.293m General Fund expenditure. While this represents a shift in strategy with the Council not previously undertaking unsupported borrowing unless the schemes invested in generate savings to cover the borrowing costs, a prudent approach is being maintained to ensure that the borrowing proposed is manageable from a revenue perspective. The borrowing is necessary to enable investment in the Council's assets many of which need upgrading with the Welsh Government capital funding allocation not sufficient to meet those costs. Additional supported borrowing may be made available by Welsh Government for highways purposes but details are yet to be confirmed.

Councillor Douglas Fowlie, Chair of the Corporate Scrutiny Committee reported from the committee's 19 February 2025 meeting which also considered the proposed Capital Programme and Budget for 2025/26 to confirm that having noted that there are no sources of significant capital funding available to the Council to fund any large scale projects apart from the HRA which is earmarked for HRA projects alone and cannot be used for any other purpose, the committee had supported the capital budget proposals as presented.

The Executive acknowledged the potential value of capital projects to the local workforce and companies and noted the importance of local companies tendering for capital contracts to the benefit of the local economy. The Executive also acknowledged the innovation and initiative shown by Officers in securing capital grants.

It was resolved to recommend to the Full Council the following capital programme for 2025/26 –

|  | £'000 |
|--|-------|
| 2024/25 Schemes Brought Forward – General Fund | 6,439 |
| Refurbishment/Replacement of Assets            | 6,304 |
| Heating System upgrades Low Carbon Heat grant  |       |
| funding  | 4,463 |
| Communities for Learning                       | 152   |

| Flood Relief Scheme                                   | 330    |
|---|--------|
| Holyhead: A Culture and Heritage Driven               |        |
| Transformation  | 4,367  |
| <b>Economic Development Sites and Premises</b>        | 200    |
| Waste Infrastructure                                  | 1,445  |
| Housing Revenue Account                               | 20,594 |
| Total Recommended Capital Programme 2025/26           | 44,294 |
| Funded By:  |        |
| General Capital Grant                                 | 2,661  |
| Supported Borrowing General                           | 3,118  |
| <b>Communities for Learning Unsupported Borrowing</b> | 152    |
| Capital Receipts Reserve                              | 500    |
| Earmarked Reserves                                    | 1,160  |
| Welsh & UK Government Grants                          | 14,816 |
| Unsupported Borrowing – General Fund                  | 1,293  |
| HRA Revenue Account Surplus                           | 5,488  |
| HRA External Grants                                   | 4,483  |
| HRA Unsupported Borrowing                             | 10,623 |
| 2025/26 Total Capital Funding                         | 44.294 |

Councillor Gary Pritchard Chair

#### Isle of Anglesey County Council

| Report to:                  | The Executive   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Date:                       | 25 March 2025   |
| Subject:                    | The Executive's Forward Work Programme                                  |
| Portfolio Holder(s):        | Cllr Gary Pritchard   |
| Head of Service / Director: | Lynn Ball, Director of Function – Council Business / Monitoring Officer |
| Report Author:              | Dyfan Sion, Head of Democratic Services                                 |
| 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 April - November 2025;

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.

1

| D – Is this decision within the budget approved by the Council? |  |
|---|--|
| Not applicable.   |  |
|   |  |

Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):

| <u> </u> | 7.336331119 the potential impact (ii rele  | varity. |
|----------|--|---------|
| 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, 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. |         |

| Е | Who did you consult?                     | What did they say?                      |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | Chief Executive / Senior Leadership Team | The forward work programme is discussed |
|   | (SLT) (mandatory)                        | monthly at Leadership Team meetings.    |
| 2 | Finance / Section 151                    | See above.                              |
|   | (mandatory)                              |   |
| 3 | Legal / Monitoring Officer               | See above.                              |
|   | (mandatory)                              |   |
| 4 | Human Resources (HR)                     |   |
| 5 | Property                                 |   |
| 6 | Information Communication Technology     |   |
|   | (ICT)                                    |   |
| 7 | Procurement                              |   |

| E | Who did you consult? | What did they say?  |
|---|----------------------|---|
| 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: April – November 2025. |

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

### The Executive's Forward Work Programme

#### Isle of Anglesey County Council

Period: April – November 2025

This forward work programme lists all the decisions that the Executive intends to take and what business the scrutiny committees will be considering as well as when those matters will be discussed. It also lists any recommendations the Executive intends to make regarding decisions which must be made by the full Council.

Executive decisions may be taken by the Executive as a collective body or by individual members of the Executive acting under delegated powers.

The forward work programme is reviewed on a regular basis and monthly updates are published. The fact that a decision has not been included in the forward work programme does not prevent urgent or unforeseen matters being considered.

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

Last updated on 13 March 2025

### April 2025

| Date of meeting or, if the decision is delegated, publication date | The matter to be considered                                | Portfolio Member                           | Date to scrutiny and / or full Council (if relevant) |
|--|--|--|--|
| 29 April 2025 meeting  | The Executive's forward work programme                     | Cllr Gary Pritchard                        |  |
|  | Further Education Trust Annual Report and Accounts 2023/24 | Cllr Dafydd Roberts<br>Cllr Robin Williams |  |
|  | Freeport – update and approval of Agreement                | Cllr Gary Pritchard                        |  |
| Delegated decision – April<br>2025                                 | North Wales Regional Transport Plan                        | Cllr Dafydd Rhys<br>Thomas                 | Corporate Scrutiny Committee<br>10.4.25              |

| Page | May 2025   |  |                     |  |
|------|--|--|---------------------|--|
| 9 21 | Date of meeting or, if the decision is delegated, publication date | The matter to be considered            | Portfolio Member    | Date to scrutiny and / or full Council (if relevant) |
|      | 22 May 2025 meeting  | The Executive's forward work programme | Cllr Gary Pritchard |  |

### June 2025

| Date of meeting or, if the decision is delegated, publication date | The matter to be considered                                       | Portfolio Member    | Date to scrutiny and / or full Council (if relevant)         |
|--|---|---------------------|--|
| 24 June 2025 meeting   | The Executive's forward work programme                            | Cllr Gary Pritchard |  |
|  | Corporate Scorecard – Quarter 4, 2024/25                          | Cllr Carwyn Jones   | Corporate Scrutiny Committee 17.6.25                         |
|  | Revenue Budget Monitoring – Quarter 4, 2024/25                    | Cllr Robin Williams | Finance Scrutiny Panel -                                     |
|  | Capital Budget Monitoring – Quarter 4, 2024/25                    | Cllr Robin Williams | Finance Scrutiny Panel -                                     |
|  | Housing Revenue Account Budget<br>Monitoring – Quarter 4, 2024/25 | Cllr Robin Williams | Finance Scrutiny Panel -                                     |
| Delegated decision – June 2025                                     | Welsh Language Standards Annual<br>Report 2024/25                 | Cllr Dafydd Roberts | Partnership and Regeneration<br>Scrutiny Committee – 18.6.25 |

### July 2025

| Date of meeting or, if the decision is delegated, publication date | The matter to be considered            | Portfolio Member    | Date to scrutiny and / or full Council (if relevant) |
|--|--|---------------------|--|
| 17 July 2025 meeting   | The Executive's forward work programme | Cllr Gary Pritchard |  |

### September 2025

| Date of meeting or, if the decision is delegated, publication date | The matter to be considered                                       | Portfolio Member                         | Date to scrutiny and / or full Council (if relevant) |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|
| 23 September 2025 meeting  | The Executive's forward work programme                            | Cllr Gary Pritchard                      |  |  |
|  | Corporate Scorecard – Quarter 1, 2025/26                          | Cllr Carwyn Jones                        | Corporate Scrutiny Committee – 17.9.25               |  |
|  | Revenue Budget Monitoring – Quarter 1, 2025/26                    |  | Resources Scrutiny Panel<br>11.9.25                  |  |
|  | Capital Budget Monitoring – Quarter 1, 2025/26                    | Cllr Robin Williams                      | Resources Scrutiny Panel<br>11.9.25                  |  |
|  | Housing Revenue Account Budget<br>Monitoring – Quarter 1, 2025/26 | Cllr Robin Williams                      | Resources Scrutiny Panel<br>11.9.25                  |  |
|  | Menai Bridge Extra Care Housing                                   | Cllr Alun Roberts<br>Cllr Robin Williams |  |  |

### October 2025

| Date of meeting or, if the decision is delegated, publication date | The matter to be considered            | Portfolio Member    | Date to scrutiny and / or full Council (if relevant) |
|--|--|---------------------|--|
| 21 October 2025 meeting  | The Executive's forward work programme | Cllr Gary Pritchard |  |

### November 2025

| Date of meeting or, if the decision is delegated, publication date | The matter to be considered                                       | Portfolio Member    | Date to scrutiny and / or full Council (if relevant) |  |
|--|---|---------------------|--|--|
| 25 November 2025 meeting   | The Executive's forward work programme                            | Cllr Gary Pritchard |  |  |
| Corporate Scorecard – Quarter 2, 2025/26                           |   | Cllr Carwyn Jones   | Corporate Scrutiny Committee – 18.11.25              |  |
|  | Revenue Budget Monitoring – Quarter 2, 2025/26                    | Cllr Robin Williams | Resources Scrutiny Panel 6.11.25                     |  |
|  | Capital Budget Monitoring – Quarter 2, 2025/26                    | Cllr Robin Williams | Resources Scrutiny Panel 6.11.25                     |  |
|  | Housing Revenue Account Budget<br>Monitoring – Quarter 2, 2025/26 | Cllr Robin Williams | Resources Scrutiny Panel 6.11.25                     |  |

| Isle of Anglesey County Council |  |  |  |  |  |
|---------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Report to:                      | Executive Committee  |  |  |  |  |
| Date:                           | 25 March 2025  |  |  |  |  |
| Subject:                        | Scorecard Monitoring Report - Quarter 3 (2024/25)              |  |  |  |  |
| Portfolio Holder(s):            | Councillor Carwyn E Jones, Portfolio holder for Transformation |  |  |  |  |
| Head of Service / Director:     | Carys Edwards  |  |  |  |  |
| Report Author:                  | Gwyndaf Parry  |  |  |  |  |
| Tel:                            | 01248 752111   |  |  |  |  |
| E-mail:                         | GwyndafParry@ynysmon.llyw.cymru                                |  |  |  |  |
| Local Members:                  | n/a  |  |  |  |  |

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

- 1.1 This is the third scorecard for the 2024/25 financial year. It portrays the Council's performance against the strategic objectives outlined in the Council Plan.
- **1.2** The report highlights some of the positive stories with respect to the quarter 2 performance. Some of these highlights include:
  - 34% of all jobs advertised by the Council asked for a Welsh level of 4 and above, which was a slight increase (2%) compared to the previous quarter.
  - All the Adult Services and Children & Families Service indicators continue to be Green against targets.
  - No schools are in the Estyn follow up / statutory categories.
  - On average, it took 15 days to complete responsive maintenance repairs, an improvement of 3 days in the quarter.
  - 93.8% of council business units are currently being let.
  - The road condition surveys for A, B and C roads have all improved with 1.8% of A roads (2.7% in 2023/24), 1.6% of B roads (2.3% in 2023/24) and 7.3% of C roads (7.5% in 2023/24) in poor condition.
- 1.3 The Committee is requested to review the scorecard and note the areas which the Leadership Team are exploring and investigating to manage and secure further improvements into the future.
- **1.4** These are recommended as follows:
  - **1.4.1** Education 07) Môn Actif Average number of children undertaking swimming lessons throughout the year
  - **1.4.2** Housing 03) The average number of calendar days to let lettable units of accommodation (excluding DTLs)
  - 1.4.3 Housing 05) Average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Major Disabled Facilities Grant
  - **1.4.4** Economy 03) Total number of customers with annual mooring contract

#### A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

- **1.4.5** Climate Change 02) Percentage of domestic waste reused, recycled, or composted
- **1.4.6** Whole Council Health 12) % of FOI requests responded to within timescale

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

n/a

#### C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

This matter is delegated to the Executive

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

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

Yes

| Dd | - Assessing the potential impact (if releva   | ant):  |
|----|---|--|
| 1  | How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?  | The Corporate Scorecard Report gives a snapshot of the Key Performance Indicator (KPI) performance against the Council Plan's strategic objectives at the end of each quarter.   |
| 2  | Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how?                           | Performance of some KPIs could potentially have an impact on future costs however mitigation measures proposed looks to alleviate these pressures.   |
| 3  | Have we been working collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.                        | Elements of the work monitored within the Scorecard is undertaken in a collaborative manner with other organisations such as Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Welsh Government, Keep Wales Tidy, Careers Wales, Sports Wales, GWE, amongst others. |
| 4  | Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how. | N/A  |
| 5  | Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.                              | N/A  |
| 6  | If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socioeconomic disadvantage. | N/A  |

| Dd | Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant): |     |  |  |  |  |
|----|--|-----|--|--|--|--|
| 7  | Note any potential impact that this                | N/A |  |  |  |  |
|    | 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 | This was considered by the Leadership    |
|     | Team (SLT)                          | Team and their comments are reflected in |
|     | (mandatory)                         | the report                               |
| 2   | Finance / Section 151               | Comments reflected in the report         |
|     | (mandatory)                         |  |
| 3   | Legal / Monitoring Officer          | Comments reflected in the report         |
|     | (mandatory)                         |  |
| 4   | Human Resources (HR)                | Comments reflected in the report         |
| 5   | Property                            |  |
| 6   | Information Communication           |  |
|     | Technology (ICT)                    |  |
| 7   | Procurement                         |  |
| 8   | Scrutiny                            | Was considered by Corporate Scrutiny on  |
|     |                                     | the 11/03. The Committee Chairman will   |
|     |                                     | feedback in this meeting.                |
| 9   | Local Members                       |  |

| F - Appendices:                  |
|----------------------------------|
| Appendix A - Scorecard Quarter 3 |
|                                  |

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

- Council Plan 2023-2028
- Scorecard Report Quarter 2



# **Corporate Scorecard 2024/25**

Quarter 3 report

**Prepared by -** Transformation Service

Publication date: March 2025

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

#### 1. Introduction

1.1 The Council Plan 2023-28 identifies six strategic objectives and sets out the key actions and commitments for the next five years.













Welsh Language

Social Care and Wellbeing

Housing

**Economy** 

**Climate Change** 



#### Council Plan 2023 to 2028

- 1.2 This scorecard monitoring report for 2024/25 is used to monitor the performance of our Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) in delivering the council's day to day activities that underpin the delivery of the Council Plan.
- 1.3 A number of KPIs are new and many currently do not have targets. They are there to set a baseline, with some data not available until the end of the year. Trends are monitored during 2024/25 with the aim of setting targets in 2025/26.
- 1.4 It provides the evidence to enable the Council to monitor its performance and to be data informed when identifying any mitigating actions agreed by the Leadership Team to drive and secure performance improvements into the future.
- 1.5 The results within the scorecard are all cumulative and as such a trend column has been made available from Q2 to inform the performance trends from guarter to guarter.
- 1.6 The RAG status for each section of the scorecard, with the exception of financial management which is done from a professional opinion perspective, can be found below:
  - Red more than 10% below target and/or needing significant intervention
  - Amber between 5% & 10% below target and/or requiring some intervention
  - Yellow within 5% of target
  - Green on or above target

#### 2. Overview

- 2.1 The majority (87%) of the indicators with targets monitored during the quarter performed well against those targets (Green or Yellow RAG).
- 2.2 Six indicators are currently Red or Amber against targets. They are:
  - 2.2.1 Education 07) Môn Actif Average number of children undertaking swimming lessons throughout the year AMBER 1,773 against a target of 1,900

The current number of Anglesey children on the Nofio Môn Swimming programme is 1,695. There was a short pool closure at Plas Arthur Leisure Centre as well as refurbishment works which may have impacted upon the number of learners, however the figure is below where we want to be. Demand for places has decreased and there is currently only one centre with a waiting list. The reasons for the decline in demand are unknown, however some customer feedback state that learners are progressing through waves too quickly in some circumstances, that their techniques could be further improved, as well as financial difficulties due to the cost of living.

The service have arranged for some staff members to undertake enhanced training with Swim Wales at the end of March which will further improve the quality of the swimming lessons. We will work with leisure centres to increase demand for places by promoting the availability of places on the swimming programme.

2.2.2 Housing - 03) The average number of calendar days to let lettable units of accommodation (excluding DTLs) – RED – 47 days, Target – 35 days

This indicator demonstrated a similar picture to what was reported in the Q2 report. Whilst the availability of contractors has improved, leading to a slight improvement (2 days on average), the changes introduced during Q3 need time to embed. Further improvement is expected in Q4 and leading into 2025/26.

2.2.3 Housing - 05) Average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Major Disabled Facilities Grant – Adaptions (>£10k) – AMBER – 229 Days, Target 211 Days

Vulnerable clients needing support, general and hospital care has resulted in delays around completing the required

adaptations. There has also been difficulties in accessing contractors for some jobs which are more specialised than originally thought. No improvement expected to the figure in Q4 due to budgetary constraints.

2.2.4 Economy - 03) Total number of customers with annual mooring contract – AMBER – 191, Target 210

The number of annual mooring contracts sold is below initial expectations. There are many reasons for missing the target including improvements at other moorings, the cost of living and ambitious targets.

The service is currently reviewing its arrangement for moorings with a new online system going live in the near future. A new vessel is being used to check on moorings and ensure compliance and payment if a vessel is on its mooring. A harbour master has recently been appointed to audit mooring arrangements and remove any vessels that are unused and in danger of sinking.

2.2.5 Climate Change - 02) Percentage of domestic waste reused, recycled, or composted - RED - 66.05%, Target 70%

62% of waste reused, recycled or composted during Q3. This is the same as in 2023/34 and therefore an overall total of 66% for the year. The results over the year, and based on previous performance trends, demonstrates that it will not be possible to achieve the statutory target of 70% by the end of 24/25.

To mitigate and to try and improve the rate, the council will continue its aim of reducing general waste and increasing recycling by working with the local communities to educate residents. This is a long-term strategy, and results will not change overnight as it requires a behaviour change by the residents.

As mentioned in the Q2 report, the council has established a programme board to discuss what further mitigations can be put in place. Any significant changes identified by the board will be discussed by the Executive and Scrutiny Committees before any changes are made.

2.2.6 Whole Council Health - 12) % of FOI requests responded to within timescale – RED – 78%, Target – 90%

There were 155 FOI requests during Q3 with 106 of them responded to within timescale (68%). This brings the total for the period April to December to 436 FOI responded to within timescale out of the 558 FOI requests (78%).

The performance of 78% is slightly less than 79% achieved in Q3 2023/24 although it is higher than the 72% achieved in 2022/23. The Council remain committed to increasing the response rate for FOIs, however due to the need to make savings, some reduction in capacity to deal with tasks within the services ensures that the target of 90% remains a difficult one and will be missed for 2024/25.

- 2.3 Some examples of the good performance seen during the quarter include:
  - 2.3.1 34% of all jobs advertised by the Council asked for a Welsh level of 4 and above, which was a slight increase (2%) compared to the previous quarter.
  - 2.3.2 All the Adult Services and Children & Families Service indicators continue to be Green against targets.
  - 2.3.3 No schools are in the Estyn follow up / statutory categories.
  - 2.3.4 On average, it took 15 days to complete responsive maintenance repairs, an improvement of 3 days in the quarter.
  - 2.3.5 93.8% of council business units are currently being let.
  - 2.3.6 The road condition surveys for A, B and C roads have all improved with 1.8% of A roads (2.7% in 2023/24), 1.6% of B roads (2.3% in 2023/24) and 7.3% of C roads (7.5% in 2023/24) in poor condition.

### 3. Welsh Language



|  | Q1     | Q2  | Q3  | Q3<br>Target | Q3<br>RAG | Qtr Trend | Q3<br>2023/24 | Q3 Comments   |
|--|--------|-----|-----|--------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|---|
| 01) The percentage of jobs advertised by the Council as Welsh level 4 or 5                                     |        | 32% | 34% |              |           | <b>↑</b>  |               | 112 of the 332 vacancies advertised   |
| 02) The number of officers receiving Welsh language training   | 43     | 62  | 66  |              |           | <b>1</b>  |               |   |
| 03) The number of complaints suggesting a failure to comply with the Welsh Language Standards                  | 2      | 4   | 6   |              |           | <b>→</b>  |               |   |
| 04) The number of complaints that were subject to a statutory investigation by the Welsh Language Commissioner | 0      | 0   | 0   |              |           | <b>→</b>  |               |   |
| 05) The percentage of visits to Welsh language interface of our main website                                   | 8%     | 7%  | 8%  |              |           | <b>↑</b>  |               |   |
| 06) The percentage of Welsh language responses to official consultations                                       | 15%    | 10% | 9%  |              |           | Ψ         |               |   |
| 07) The percentage of followers following the Welsh side of the Council's main social media accounts           | 23%    | 23% | 23% |              |           | <b>→</b>  |               | 3% increase in Facebook followers and a 2% decrease in X followers              |
| 08) The number of businesses receiving support as part of the ARFOR programme                                  | 15     | 31  | 30  |              |           | 4         |               | One business project pulled out of<br>the ARFOR programme during the<br>quarter |
| 09) The percentage of year 11 pupils studying Welsh [first language]   | 68.46% |     |     |              |           |           | 70.4%         | Data available in Q4  |

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### 4. Social Care and Wellbeing



|   | Q1     | Q2     | Q3     | Q3<br>Target | Q3<br>RAG | Qtr<br>Trend | Q3<br>2023/24 | Q3 Comments          |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------|-----------|--------------|---------------|----------------------|
| 01) Number of adults in receipt of Direct Payments  | 212    | 226    | 231    | 224          | G         | <b>^</b>     |               |                      |
| 02) The percentage of adult protection enquiries completed within statutory timescales  | 89.36% | 90%    | 91.51% | 90%          | G         | <b>^</b>     | 95%           |                      |
| 03) The percentage of adults who have received advice and assistance from the information, advice and assistance service and have not contacted the service in the following 6 months | 94.95% | 92.96% | 91.17% | 85%          | G         | <b>\</b>     | 63%           |                      |
| 04) Number of older people (aged 65 or over) whom the authority supports in care homes  | 289    | 320    | 291    | 352          | G         | <b>↑</b>     |               |                      |
| 05) The percentage of carers of adults who received an assessment or review in their own right during the year following a request  | 94.30% | 95.20% | 96.40% | 93%          | G         | <b>↑</b>     | 97%           |                      |
| 06) The average length of time for all children who remain on the Child Protection Register as at end of quarter  | 142    | 128    | 129    | 270          | G         | <b>\</b>     |               |                      |
| 07) Children Re-Registered on the Child Protection<br>Register within 12 Months of previous removal from<br>the register  | 0%     | 0%     | 0%     | 15%          | G         | <b>→</b>     |               |                      |
| 08) The percentage of referrals of children that are re-<br>referrals within 12 months  | 7.50%  | 10.09% | 13.04% | 15%          | G         | <b>→</b>     | 10%           |                      |
| 09) The percentage of statutory visits to children on<br>the Child Protection Register due in the year that took<br>place in accordance to regulations                                | 94.12% | 92.13% | 90.72% | 90%          | G         | <b>→</b>     |               |                      |
| 10) The percentage of Initial Pathway Plans due in the year that took place within timescales   | 100%   | 100%   | 100%   | 85%          | G         | <b>→</b>     |               |                      |
| 11) Number of visits to leisure centres   | 130704 | 252090 | 396113 | 401000       | Υ         | <b>→</b>     | 380k          |                      |
| 12) Percentage of NERS clients who completed the exercise programme   |        |        |        |              |           |              | 65%           | Data available in Q4 |

### 5. Education



|   |        |        |        | Q3     | Q3  | Qtr      | Q3      |   |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----|----------|---------|---|
|   | Q1     | Q2     | Q3     | Target | RAG | Trend    | 2023/24 | Q3 Comments   |
| 01) Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools (termly)                              | 91.98% | 93.13% | 93.06% | 95%    | Y   | 4        | 93.04%  | Data for Q3 is for Autumn Term<br>2024/25   |
| O2) Percentage of pupil attendance in secondary schools (termly)                            | 87.10% | 89.23% | 88.28% | 90.00% | Υ   | Ψ        | 87.27%  |   |
| 03) Percentage of Year 11 leavers not in Education, Training or Employment [NEET]           |        |        |        |        |     |          |         | Data available in Q4  |
| 04) Percentage of Quality Indicators (with targets) achieved by the library service         |        |        |        |        |     |          |         | Data available in Q4  |
| 05) Number of schools in Estyn Follow up / Statutory Category                               | 1      | 0      | 0      |        |     | <b>→</b> |         |   |
| 06) Number of schools with the Eco-schools status   | 29     | 29     | 29     |        |     | <b>→</b> |         |   |
| 07) Môn Actif - Average number of children undertaking swimming lessons throughout the year | 1847   | 1806   | 1773   | 1900   | Α   | <b>4</b> |         | There was a short pool closure at Plas<br>Arthur Leisure Centre however we<br>realise that the figure is below where we<br>want to be and we will work with<br>centres and look to increase the figure in<br>Q4 |
| 08) Number of children and young people excluded permanently from school                    | 14     | 4      | 13     |        |     | Ψ        |         | 13 pupils excluded permanently from<br>Primary and Secondary Schools during<br>this academic year 24/25   |
| 09) Number / proportion of schools with a financial recovery plan                           | 6      | 6      | 6      |        |     | <b>→</b> |         |   |

### 6. Housing



|       |  | Q1    | Q2    | Q3     | Q3<br>Target | Q3<br>RAG | Qtr<br>Trend | Q3<br>2023/24 | Q3 Comments  |
|-------|--|-------|-------|--------|--------------|-----------|--------------|---------------|--|
|       | 01) Landlord Services: Average number of days to complete Responsive Maintenance repairs   |       | 18    | 15     | 18           | G         | <b>^</b>     | 18            |  |
|       | 02) Percentage of tenants satisfied with Responsive Maintenance repairs  | 88%   | 88%   | 87%    | 85%          | Υ         | <b>+</b>     | 80%           |  |
|       | 03) The average number of calendar days to let lettable units of accommodation (excluding DTLs)  | 26    | 49    | 47     | 35           | R         | <b>↑</b>     |               | The availability of contractors has improved, leading to a slight improvement (2 days on average). The changes introduced in Q3 need time to embed and therefore further improvement is expected in Q4 and leading into 2025/26. |
| Page  | 04) Average number of calendar days taken to deliver<br>a Small and Medium Disabled Facilities Grant –<br>Adaptions (<£10k)                | 185   | 184   | 190    | 185          | Υ         | <b>4</b>     |               |  |
| je 36 | 05) Average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Major Disabled Facilities Grant – Adaptions (>£10k)                                 | -     | 222   | 229    | 211          | Α         | +            |               |  |
| 0,    | 06) Number of new Council homes developed, and former Council Homes purchased and brought back into Council rented homes.                  | 22    | 36    | 50     | 33           | G         | <b>↑</b>     |               | Annual target of 45 has already been surpassed   |
|       | 07) The total amount of rent arrears owed by current tenants as a percentage of the total rent collectable for the permanent accommodation | 3.02% | 3.55% | 2.91%  | 3.10%        | G         | <b>↑</b>     |               |  |
|       | 08) Number of empty private properties brought back into use through our Empty Homes interventions   | 16    | 34    | 43     | 38           | G         | <b>^</b>     | 52            |  |
|       | 09) Percentage of households successfully prevented from becoming homeless   | 83%   | 90%   | 95.35% | 85%          | G         | <b>^</b>     | 95%           |  |
|       | 10) Number of homelessness applications for assistance (section 62 assessments)  | 185   | 294   | 452    |              |           |              |               |  |
|       | 11) Number of Households currently placed in<br>Emergency and Temporary Accommodation  | 85    | 101   | 100    |              |           |              |               |  |

### 7. Economy



| _     |  |       | _     |       |              |           |              |               |   |
|-------|--|-------|-------|-------|--------------|-----------|--------------|---------------|---|
|       |  | Q1    | Q2    | Q3    | Q3<br>Target | Q3<br>RAG | Qtr<br>Trend | Q3<br>2023/24 | Q3 Comments   |
|       | 01) % of economic and development / regeneration grant funding received and implemented  | 38%   | 41%   | 53%   |              |           | <b>1</b>     |               |   |
|       | 02) Percentage of council business units let   | 86%   | 90%   | 93.8% | 70%          | G         | <b>↑</b>     |               |   |
|       | 03) Total number of customers with annual mooring contract   | 179   | 190   | 191   | 210          | A         | <b>↑</b>     |               | The number of annual mooring contracts sold is below initial expectations. There are many reasons for this including improvements at other moorings and the cost of living. |
| Page  | 04) Percentage of all planning applications determined in time   | 96.5% | 97.4% | 97.5% | 90%          | G         | <b>^</b>     | 95.6%         |   |
| de 37 | 05) Percentage of planning enforcement cases investigated within 84 days   | 96.9% | 91.7% | 92.2% | 80%          | G         | <b>^</b>     | 86.1%         |   |
| Ì     | 06) Planning appeals allowed as a percentage of all planning applications determined   | 1%    | 0.86% | 0.58% |              |           | <b>^</b>     |               |   |
|       | 07) Percentage of high-risk businesses subject to planned inspections that were inspected to ensure compliance with Food Hygiene Legislation | 71%   | 83%   | 85.3% | 90%          | Υ         | <b>↑</b>     |               |   |
|       | 08) Percentage of food establishments that meet food hygiene standards   | 98%   | 98%   | 98.5% | 95%          | G         | <b>^</b>     | 98.6%         |   |

### 8. Climate Change



|   | Q1     | Q2     | Q3     | Q3<br>Target | Q3<br>RAG | Qtr<br>Trend | Q3<br>2023/24 | Q3 Comments  |
|---|--------|--------|--------|--------------|-----------|--------------|---------------|--|
| 01) Total carbon emissions from council buildings (tC02e)                     |        |        |        |              |           |              |               |  |
| 02) Percentage of domestic waste reused, recycled, or composted               | 67.52% | 67.46% | 66.05% | 70%          | R         | <b>4</b>     | 66.1%         | 62% of waste reused, recycled or composted between October and December. This is the same as in 2023/34 and therefore an overall total of 66% for the year to date. Unfortunately the target will be missed. |
| 03) Percentage of waste reused, recycled, or composted from Council buildings | 48%    | 48%    | 48%    |              |           | <b>→</b>     |               |  |
| 04) Percentage of streets that are clean                                      | 96.6%  | 97.5%  | 97.90% | 96%          | G         | <b>^</b>     | 98%           |  |
| 05) Average number of working days taken to clear fly-tipping incidents       | 0.04   | 0.04   | 0.09   | 1            | G         | ¥            | 0.29          |  |
| 06) Percentage of A roads in poor condition (annual)                          |        |        | 1.8%   | 2.7%         | G         | <b>^</b>     | 2.7%          |  |
| 07) Percentage of B roads in poor condition (annual)                          |        |        | 1.6%   | 2.3%         | G         | <b>1</b>     | 2.3%          |  |
| 08) Percentage of C roads in poor condition (annual)                          |        |        | 7.3%   | 7.5%         | G         | <b>1</b>     | 7.5%          |  |
| 09) Total carbon emissions from council fleet (tC02e)                         | 162    | 320    | 451    |              |           | 4            |               |  |
| 10) Proportion of low carbon (electric) vehicles within the council fleet     | 12%    | 17%    | 17%    |              |           | <b>→</b>     |               |  |
| 11) Number of Council operated electric vehicle chargers                      | 49     | 49     | 49     |              |           | <b>→</b>     |               |  |

### 9. Whole Council Health

|   | RAG | Trend    | Budget       | Actual       | Variance<br>(%) | Forcasted<br>Actual | Forcasted<br>Variance (%) |
|---|-----|----------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 01) Forecasted end of year outturn (Revenue)                        | G   | <b>↑</b> | £179,739,000 |              |                 | £179,681,000        | 0.03%                     |
| 02) Forecasted end of year outturn (Capital)                        |     | <b>↑</b> | £45,600,000  |              |                 | £39,162,000         | -14.12%                   |
| 03) Income v Targets (excluding grants)                             | G   | <b>^</b> | -£10,900,539 | -£12,972,339 | 19.01%          |                     |                           |
| 04) Forecasted general balances at end of year                      |     | <b>^</b> |              |              |                 | -£13,223,070        |                           |
| 05) Cost of borrowing - % of budgeted revenue expenditure           | G   | <b>^</b> | 2.62%        |              |                 | 2.13%               | -0.49%                    |
| 06) No of Services forecast to overspend by over 5% of their budget |     | <b>→</b> |              |              | 2               |                     |                           |
| 07) % of Council Tax collected (for last 3 years)                   | Y   | Ψ        |              | 97.8%        |                 |                     |                           |
| 08) % of Sundry Debtors collected (for last 3 years)                | Y   | <b>^</b> |              | 94.0%        |                 |                     |                           |

|  | Q1   | Q2   | Q3   | Q3<br>Target | Q3<br>RAG | Qtr<br>Trend | Q3 Comments   |
|--|------|------|------|--------------|-----------|--------------|---|
| 09) Total number of complaints upheld / partially upheld                                   | 1    | 3    | 4    | 8            | G         | <b>^</b>     | 3 Corporate and 1 Social Services. Total of 22                      |
| 10) Total % of written responses to complaints within 20 days (Corporate)                  | 83%  | 83%  | 86%  | 80%          | G         | <b>^</b>     |   |
| 11) Total % of written responses to complaints within 15 days (Social Services)            | 100% | 100% | 100% | 80%          | G         | <b>→</b>     |   |
| 12) % of FOI requests responded to within timescale  | 83%  | 82%  | 78%  | 90%          | R         | <b>→</b>     | 436 of the 558 requests received were responded to within timescale |
| 13) Proportion of queries dealt with and closed by Cyswllt Môn (not forwarded to Services) | 50%  | 51%  | 48%  |              |           | •            |   |
| 14) Number of staff authority wide staff, including teachers and school based staff (FTE)  | 2406 | 2397 | 2388 |              |           | Ψ            |   |
| 15) Sickness absence - average working days/shifts lost                                    | 2.09 | 3.93 | 6.53 | 6.84         | G         | Ψ            |   |
| 16) Short Term sickness - average working days/shifts lost per FTE                         | 0.93 | 1.63 | 2.80 |              |           | •            |   |
| 17) Long Term sickness - average working days/shifts lost per FTE                          | 1.16 | 2.3  | 3.73 |              |           | ¥            |   |
| 18) Local Authority employees leaving (%) (Turnover)                                       |      |      |      |              |           |              | Data available in Q4  |
| 19) % of posts advertised and filled during first round of advertising                     |      | 75%  | 74%  |              |           | •            |   |

### 10. Conclusion and Recommendations

- 10.1 The performance of 87% of the performance indicators performing above target or within 5% tolerance of their targets for the quarter is positive.
- 10.2 It demonstrates that services are operating in line with the values and general principles of the Council.
- 10.3 Recommendation that the Leadership Team manage, investigate and secure improvements into the future for the following KPIs:
  - 10.3.1 Education 07) Môn Actif Average number of children undertaking swimming lessons throughout the year
  - 10.3.2 Housing 03) The average number of calendar days to let lettable units of accommodation (excluding DTLs)
  - 10.3.3 Housing 05) Average number of calendar days taken to deliver a Major Disabled Facilities Grant
  - 10.3.4 Economy 03) Total number of customers with annual mooring contract
  - 10.3.5 Climate Change 02) Percentage of domestic waste reused, recycled, or composted
  - 10.3.6 Whole Council Health 12) % of FOI requests responded to within timescale

| Is                          | Isle of Anglesey County Council    |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|
| Report to:                  | The Executive                      |  |  |  |  |  |
| Date:                       | 25.03.25                           |  |  |  |  |  |
| Subject:                    | Foster Carers Uplift to Core Offer |  |  |  |  |  |
| Portfolio Holder(s):        |                                    |  |  |  |  |  |
| Head of Service / Director: | Fôn Roberts                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| Report Author:              | Keith Walters                      |  |  |  |  |  |
| Tel:                        | 07920547560                        |  |  |  |  |  |
| E-mail:                     | KeithWalters@ynysmon.llyw.cymru    |  |  |  |  |  |
| Local Members:              | All                                |  |  |  |  |  |

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

We are proposing to increase the fostering allowances for 2025-26 in line with Welsh Governments recommended increase to NMA, we have yet to receive the NMA from Welsh Government, but we have modelled a 5% inflationary uplift, and the budget for 2025-26 accounts for this. To be competitive with private sector providers, we are proposing to restructure the skills payments to 3 tiers as opposed to 5 tiers and increase the council tax discount from 50% to 100%. We currently await confirmation of the NMA from Welsh Government

#### **Fostering Allowances trends**

| Age                    | 0-4          | 5-10   | 11-15  | 16+    |
|------------------------|--------------|--------|--------|--------|
| 2024-25                | 222.74       | 202.79 | 216.86 | 270.76 |
| % Increase             | 3%           | 3%     | 5%     | 5%     |
| 2023-24                | 216.24       | 196.86 | 206.51 | 257.87 |
| % Increase             | 8%           | 8%     | 0%     | 3%     |
| 2022-23                | 200.28       | 181.97 | 205.75 | 249.68 |
| % Increase             | 2%           | 2%     | 2%     | 2%     |
| 2021-22                | 196.35       | 178.4  | 201.72 | 244.78 |
| Skills Allowances tree | <b>nds</b> 2 | 3      | 4      | 5      |
| 2024-25                | 78.81        | 131.36 | 157.63 | 210.18 |
| % increase             | 0%           | 0%     | 0%     | 0%     |
| 2023-24                | 78.81        | 131.36 | 157.63 | 210.18 |
| % increase             | 0%           | 0%     | 0%     | 0%     |
| 2022-23                | 78.81        | 131.36 | 157.63 | 210.18 |
| % increase             | 2%           | 2%     | 2%     | 2%     |
| 2021-22                | 77.26        | 128.78 | 154.54 | 206.06 |
|                        |              |        |        |        |

1

| A D    |       |      |         | _ / _ | I   |        |     |
|--------|-------|------|---------|-------|-----|--------|-----|
| I A –R | recom | ımer | ndatioi | n/s   | and | reason | 1/5 |

| Level 1 | 140.00 |
|---------|--------|
|         |        |

**Proposed new Skills Allowances** 

Level 2 180.00 Level 3 220.00

|                                  | (                | Old Rate | Annual Cost | New Rate | Annual Cost | Variance   |
|----------------------------------|------------------|----------|-------------|----------|-------------|------------|
| Total Old level 1/ New Level 1   | 1                | -        | -           | 140.00   | 7,300.01    | 7,300.01   |
| Total Old Level 2/ New Level 1   | 22               | 78.81    | 90,406.40   | 140.00   | 160,600.13  | 70,193.73  |
| Total Old Level 3/ New Level 2   | 18               | 131.36   | 123,290.84  | 180.00   | 168,943.00  | 45,652.15  |
| Total Old Level 4/ New Level 2   | 12               | 157.63   | 98,631.42   | 180.00   | 112,628.66  | 13,997.24  |
| Total Old Level 5/ New Level 3   | 4                | 210.18   | 43,837.58   | 220.00   | 45,885.75   | 2,048.17   |
|                                  | 57               |          | 356,166.25  | _        | 495,357.55  | 139,191.30 |
| Additional Cost for skills       |                  |          | 139,191.30  |          |             |            |
| Additional Cost for additional c | ouncil tax reduc | ction    | 52,472.80   |          |             |            |
| Total Additional Cost            |                  |          | 191,664.10  |          |             |            |
| Less Inflation applied to skills |                  |          | 20,382.59   |          |             |            |
| Net additional cost              |                  |          | 171,281.51  |          |             |            |

This additional cost equates to 7 new Independent Fostering Placements transferring in house. As a service, we believe that this is an achievable target.

Please see appendix A for more detail.

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

We considered only applying inflationary uplifts to the fostering allowances; however, this would be uncompetitive and we would risk losing internal foster carers to the private sector.

### C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

Although we are not seeking any additional funding, we require executive approval as the proposed restructure of the skills payments and the increase in council tax reduction is over and above the statutory minimum allowances expected to be set out by Welsh Government.

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

Yes – invest to save

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

Yes

| D | d – Assess   | sing the potential impact (if relevant):  |
|---|--|---|
| 1 | How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?   | <ol> <li>The demand for Foster Carers is growing. The Fostering Service is more often having to face searching externally for Fostering Placements. To add to this, the ageing demographic of our current Foster Carers will mean that we will likely have Foster Carers leaving Meathu Cymru Môn in the next few years.</li> <li>Maethu Cymru (co-hort of all Wales 22 Local Authority Fostering Services) are trying to harmonise fostering allowances and fees, yet all regions have different priorities in terms of placement searches. For example, North Wales is very different in terms of Cardiff area in terms of the competition it faces from other Independent Fostering Agencies (IFA's) and third sector agencies. The 'Eliminate Profit' legislation and regulations are due to come into force in Wales in April 2026 for new providers, and in April 2027 for current providers.</li> <li>The ever-increasing competition from Independent Fostering Agencies (IFA's), and the pay packages that they now offer. Also talks of substantial 'golden handshakes' to new Foster Carers.</li> <li>The cost-of-living crisis is very real and people do not feel confident that they can afford to be Foster Carers for the Local Authority.</li> </ol> |
| 2 | Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / | Yes – recruiting more foster carers results in less reliance on private market.   |

#### Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant): dependen cies on the Authority? If so, how? 3 We have been working with the other 5 North Wales Local authority's. Have we Guidance is issued by the Fostering Network in terms of the allowances and been payments annually – a UK wide fostering charity. working collaborati Comparably all six North Wales Local Authority's pay the Fostering Allowances vely with and additional fees separately. other organisati **Fostering** Ynys Gwyned Conw Denbighshir Flintshir Wrexha ons to Allowance Môn e m У come to this 0-4 222.7 222 220 212 188 215 decision? If so, 5-10 202.7 216 193 202 230 171 please advise 11-15 216.8 216 216 171 202 245 whom. 16+ 270.7 253 241 213 251 255 6 The additional fees are worked out differently in each Local authority i.e. either per child, or per skill level, or both (as in Ynys Môn). Below are the figures and brief explanation regarding what other NW LA's pay their Foster Carers:-**Additional Fees / Skills Payments:-**Conwy 1 Child – £250.08 per week 2 Children – £375.12 per week 3 Children – £625.20 per week \*\*\*\*Conwy are very soon moving to a flat rate of £250 per child. Denbighshire Tier system – based on skills and experience, and No of children placement -Tier 1 Tier 2 Tier 3 1 Child £90.35 £150.59 £210.82 2 Children £120.46 £210.82 £301.17 3 Children £150.59 £271.05 £391.52 4 Children £180.70 £331.28 £481.87 Wrecsam QCF Skills payment 1 child - £128 QCF Skills payment 2 children - £192 QCF Skills payment 3+ children - £256 Gwynedd Immediately upon approval - £107

2 children - £214

After foster for 1 year with 1 child in placement - £161

| D | Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):   |   |  |                                    |                                      |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|
|   |  |   | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·  | ren - £321                         | /                                    |   |  |
|   |  |   | <ul> <li>Except</li> </ul>             | ions with 4 in pl                  | acement - £429                       | )                                       |  |
|   |  | Flintshire  |  |                                    |                                      |   |  |
|   |  |   | Level 2                                | - £65                              |                                      |   |  |
|   |  |   | Level 3                                | - £125                             |                                      |   |  |
|   |  |   | • Level 4                              | - £230                             |                                      |   |  |
|   |  | Ynys Môn  | Level 1                                | £0                                 |                                      |   |  |
|   |  |   | Level 2                                | - £78.81                           |                                      |   |  |
|   |  |   | • Level 3                              | - £131.36                          |                                      |   |  |
|   |  |   | • Level 4                              | - £157.63                          |                                      |   |  |
|   |  |   | • Level 5                              | - £210.18                          |                                      |   |  |
|   |  | Copied directly   | from Fostering                         | g Network web                      | osite:-                              |   |  |
|   |  |   | 0-4 years                              | 5-10 years                         | 11-15 years                          | 16-17 years                             |  |
|   |  | Wales   | £212                                   | £193                               | £193                                 | £241                                    |  |
|   |  |   |  |                                    |                                      |   |  |
| 5 | Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how. | been involved in allowances and   | n both formal an<br>fees. It is a regu | d informal cons<br>lar agenda item | ultations regard<br>at the Fostering |   |  |
| 5 | Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.                         | Children and young people are often having to be matched with foster carers who may not always meet every need that they have — this is not an intentional disregard to their intentional needs, but to do with the fact that there is a real shortage of Foster Carers that offer different things that could meet a child/young persons needs. An example of this on the island is that there is a shortage of Welsh speaking Foster Carers that can be matched with our Welsh speaking children/young people. It is seen that recruiting more Welsh speaking Foster Carers would re-dress this issue.  It is also fair to say that in terms of having to match with what is available to the children and young people matching can be compromised in terms of finding a better match for children/young persons in terms of Age, Disability, gender re-assignment, pregnancy and maternity, Race, Religion or belief, Sex (gender) and sexual orientation (protected characteristics of the Act). |  |                                    |                                      |   |  |
| 6 | If this is a strategic   |   |  |                                    |                                      | especially Foster<br>rers for the Local |  |

Based on skills, paid per child.

Based on skills, paid per child.

| D | Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):  |   |  |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|--|
|   | decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experienci ng socio- economic disadvant age.  | Authority. This coupled with the fact that Independent Fostering Agencies (IFA's) are offering handsome financial packages equate to not only difficulties in recruiting Local Authority Foster Carers but also retaining them.   |  |  |  |
| 7 | Note any potential impact that this decision would have on opportuniti es for people to use the Welsh language and on treating the Welsh language no less favourably than the English language. | As touched upon above, it is clear in the day to day matching of children and young people that we often have to compromise in terms of placing children /young people in placements where Welsh is not spoken. This is purely because of the lack of Welsh speaking Foster Carers being recruited (and retained).  A greater incentive financially would encourage more Welsh speakers to apply to Foster (amongst all fostering enquiries), and possibly even encourage those who foster for the Independent Fostering Agency's (IFA's) to transfer.  With the Welsh Government agenda of 'Eliminating Profit' underway the Fostering Market is in a position whereby it is possible that many IFA's will be forced to close down by April 2027. With this in mind Foster Carers themselves will be in a position to either register with a charity (who we as a Local Authority have to pay a similar fee to that of the IFA's) or register with a Local Authority. This is a timely opportunity that could be capitalised upon. |  |  |  |

| E - | - Who did you consult?   | What did they say?      |
|-----|--|-------------------------|
| 1   | Chief Executive / Senior Leadership<br>Team (SLT)<br>(mandatory) | SLT - supported         |
| 2   | Finance / Section 151 (mandatory)                                | Yes – forms part of SLT |
| 3   | Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)                           | As above                |
| 4   | Human Resources (HR)   | As above                |
| 5   | Property   | N/R                     |

| E – Who did you consult? |                           | What did they say?                  |  |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 6                        | Information Communication | N/R                                 |  |
|                          | Technology (ICT)          |                                     |  |
| 7                        | Procurement               | N/R                                 |  |
| 8                        | Scrutiny                  | TBC                                 |  |
| 9                        | Local Members             | To be heard in full Council Meeting |  |
|                          | E A P                     |                                     |  |

### F - Appendices:

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

<sup>\*\*</sup>Attached is the more detailed report that illustrates the application in a clearer more coherent way (Appendix A). Not all information can be shared in the desired manner on this form.

<sup>\*\*</sup>As above.



| Isle of Anglesey County Council   |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|--|
| Report to:                        | Executive Committee  |  |
| Date:                             | 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2025  |  |
| Subject:                          | Flood Risk Management Strategic Plan                               |  |
| Portfolio Holder(s):              | Councillor Dafydd Rhys Thomas                                      |  |
| Head of Service /<br>Director:    | Huw Percy<br>Head of Highways, Waste and Property Services         |  |
| Report Author:<br>Tel:<br>E-mail: | Rowland Thomas<br>01248 752312<br>rowlandthomas@ynysmon.llyw.cymru |  |
| Local Members:                    | Applicable to all elected members                                  |  |

### A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

The Executive Committee is asked to approve the Local Flood Risk Management Strategic Plan.

The Strategic Plan (Annex 1) sets out the Council's ambitions for managing flood risk in Anglesey for a six year period.

The strategic plan follows nine Key Priority Areas (KPA), which have been developed in consideration of Welsh Government's National Strategy and Anglesey's local policies and plans:

- KPA 1 Improve understanding of local flood and coastal risks
- **KPA 2** Improve communication
- **KPA 3** Increase preparedness and resilience
- **KPA 4** Collaborate to reduce flood and coastal risk
- **KPA 5 –** Minimise the risks and impacts of flooding and coastal erosion
- **KPA 6** A sustainable and holistic approach
- **KPA 7** Where possible, prioritise investment to the most at risk communities
- KPA 8 Provide an appropriate effective and sustained response to flood and coastal erosion events
- KPA 9 Use knowledge and data to inform planning decisions and policy formulation

The strategic plan also explains the roles and responsibilities, both internally and externally in relation to managing flood risk.

A series of measures have been developed to ensure delivery of the strategic plan and an action plan presents the specific tasks and commitments needed by the Isle of Anglesey County Council to ensure the KPA are met.

#### A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

The strategic plan / action plan will be reviewed annually to ensure successful delivery of the strategic plan.

The strategic plan has been prepared alongside a Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP), which identifies local flood risk through predicted flood risk and recorded flooding incidents.

Public consultation was completed between 11<sup>th</sup> November until 20<sup>th</sup> December. For further information, please see Annex 3.

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

It is a statutory requirement on the council to prepare a Flood Risk Management Strategic Plan (LFRMS).

### C – Why is this a decision for the Executive?

It is a statutory plan requiring approval by the Executive.

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

The Strategic Plan has been aligned to the Council Plan and all KPA have been defined to complement existing Council commitments to the environment and its constituents.

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

The development of the Strategic Plan has been funded through existing revenue budgets and annual flood risk management allocation from Welsh Government.

The Strategic Plan commits to revenue and capital investment, ranging from updating and developing polices, to investigating the viability of flood alleviation schemes in 'at risk' areas.

Welsh Government currently provides annual flood risk management revenue funding of £225,000, which is included in the Revenue Support Grant. This is used to subsidise the Council's statutory and non-statutory commitment to flood risk management. The Strategic Plan has been development on the assumption that

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

this funding commitment will continue for the full life of the strategic plan. The need to find Council wide budget savings has resulted in the internal allocation being reduced to £191,000.

In addition, Welsh Government invite funding applications to investigate the viability and delivery of flood alleviation schemes. Subject to funding approval, Welsh Government commit to 85% funding towards assessment, design and construction. The Council is required to fund the remaining 15% of all project costs. In order to fully deliver the action plan, the Council will need to continue to provide capital investment and ensure appropriate resources are available to manage and deliver any potential schemes.

The Council has a statutory duty to form a SuDS (sustainable drainage features) Approving Body (SAB) for all developments with drainage implications of 100m² or more. Where the development includes shared assets, the Council has a duty to reach an agreement to adopt the shared drainage features following construction. The SAB application fees are fixed in accordance with the Flood and Water Management Act. Within the Strategic Plan, the Council proposes to implement a pre-application service. This has the potential to generate additional income along with providing local clarity and advice for developers. The existing pre-application service is currently delivered on an ad-hoc basis without charging.

Where applicable, the Council will look to work collaboratively with Risk Management Authorities (RMA) to reduce flood risk. As part of this process, the Council will investigate the possibility of third party funding investment.

| Do | Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):  |   |  |  |  |
|----|---|---|--|--|--|
| 1  | How does this decision impact on our long term needs as an Island?  | Future flood risk is predicted to increase in Anglesey into the future. There is therefore a clear need to manage risk as much as is reasonably practical.  |  |  |  |
| 2  | Is this a decision which it is envisaged will prevent future costs / dependencies on the Authority? If so, how? | The Council has a legal duty to maintain many flood risk assets. The action plan proposes to use the latest technologies to improve records and improve maintenance schedules. This will create opportunities to repair and manage assets as opposed to wholesale replacement costs when they become defective.  Through identifying 'at risk' areas, the Council has the opportunity to apply for Welsh Government funding to reduce flood risk in the county. |  |  |  |
| 3  | Have we been working collaboratively with other   | Internal and cross-service collaboration on the development of the strategic plan   |  |  |  |

| Do | Dd – Assessing the potential impact (if relevant):   |  |  |  |
|----|--|--|--|--|
|    | organisations to come to this decision? If so, please advise whom.   | to help shape the objectives and define internal roles and responsibilities.   |  |  |
| 4  | Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting this way forward, including those directly affected by the decision? Please explain how.  | A workshop was held with elected members to input into the draft strategic plan.   |  |  |
|    |  | The draft strategic plan has been subject to a period of public consultation. The formal consultation process offered citizens the opportunity to contribute towards the final strategic plan. |  |  |
| 5  | Note any potential impact that this decision would have on the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010.   | An equality impact assessment has been completed. The Strategic Plan aims to offer citizens benefits impacting all society.  |  |  |
| 6  | If this is a strategic decision, note any potential impact that the decision would have on those experiencing socio-economic disadvantage.   | An equality impact assessment has been completed.  Reduced flood risk to communities has the potential to offer a positive impact on house prices and home insurance premiums.                 |  |  |
| 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. | An equality impact assessment has been completed.  No negative impacts identified.   |  |  |

| E - | - Who did you consult?                             | What did they say?  |
|-----|--|---|
| 1   | Chief Executive / Leadership Team (LT) (mandatory) | Comments from the LT have been incorporated into the report and the draft report is endorsed by the LT.                                   |
| 2   | Finance / Section 151<br>(mandatory)               | The Section 151 Officer is a Member of the LT and any comments made have been taken into account in discussions on this report in the LT. |
| 3   | Legal / Monitoring Officer (mandatory)             | The Monitoring Officer is a Member of the LT and any comments made have been taken into account in discussions on this report in the LT.  |
| 4   | Human Resources (HR)                               | N/A   |
| 5   | Property   | N/A   |
| 6   | Information Communication Technology (ICT)         | N/A   |
| 7   | Procurement  | N/A   |

| E | - Who did you consult? | What did they say?   |
|---|------------------------|--|
| 8 | Scrutiny               | The draft Flood Risk Strategic Plan were considered by the Corporate Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 11 March 2025. The Committee resolved to recommend the Plan to the Executive for approval and adoption with an additional recommendation that it also include as appendices the planned maintenance schedule along with the capital plan for 2025/26 showing planned expenditure on flood relief schemes in the next financial year. |
| 9 | Local Members          | A workshop was held on 13/02/24 with local members to help inform the LFRMS and Strategic Plan.  Members briefing session 04/03/25.  |

### F - Appendices:

- Flood Risk Management Strategic Plan
   Post Consultation Feedback Report

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



## Ynys Môn Anglesey

## Flood Risk Strategic Plan

To be reviewed every 6 years

Mae'r ddogfen hon hefyd ar gael yn y Gymraeg /

This document is also available in Welsh.



www.anglesey.gov.wales

### Foreword

Climate change is the globally defining challenge of our time and for future generations. This includes Anglesey, its residents, visitors and communities.

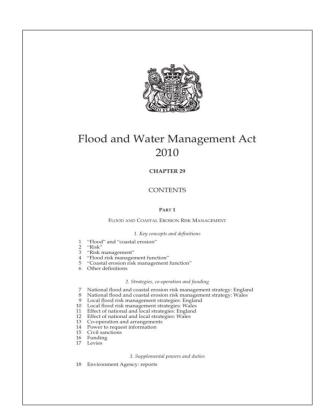
Climate change will bring rising sea levels and more intense storms. We need to make tough decisions on how to manage the associated risks to ensure climate resilience.

This strategic plan strengthens our stance on prevention and links with our Council Plan, Capital Strategic Plan other strategic plans to ensure we address the short and long-term risks in a proactive and efficient way.

Our approach encourages wider resilience, prevention and awareness, so better decisions can be made, by the public and those who have an influence on development and climate adaptation. Collaboration with partners, including agencies and our communities to limit the effects of climate change is essential. It is not possible to remove all risk, but we can manage it and help reduce its impact.

Whilst the Council is committed to reducing risk, the void between ambition and the ability to deliver is growing due to the continuous strain on resources and capacity, especially in the current financial challenge. Support from the Welsh Government is crucial for delivery.

## Why do we need a Flood Risk Strategic Plan?



The Flood and Water Management Act (FWMA) 2010 requires all 22 Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) in Wales to produce a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy / Strategic Plan. FWMA 2010 identified Isle of Anglesey County Council as the LLFA for the district.

Different Risk Management Authorities (RMAs) in Wales are responsible for different sources of flood risk. LLFAs are responsible for "local flood risk" which is defined as flood risk from:

- Surface water runoff
- Groundwater
- Ordinary watercourses (generally smaller watercourses).

This strategic plan explains how flooding will be managed across Anglesey. It also presents a summary of our Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS), which is our second Local Strategy. Whilst we previously published our LFRMS and Flood Risk Management Plan (FRMP). separately, the new Strategy integrates a FRMP.

### Data

<u>Stats Wales</u> outlines that the following numbers of properties in Anglesey are at risk of flooding from the following main flooding sources based on the Flood Risk Assessment Wales (FRAW) modelling, together with the latest National Receptor Database 2023

(NRD 2023):

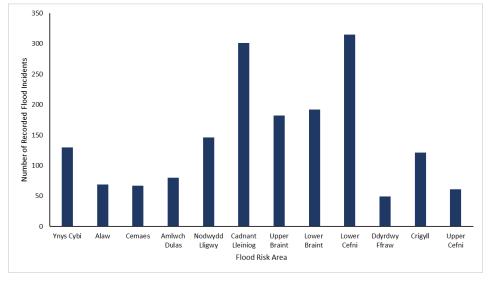
306 Rivers ↑ ↑ ↑

2,470
Surface Water & Small watercourses



### **Recorded Flood Incidents in Anglesey since 2012**

- These flood records could relate to flooding from any source.
- This data provides an addition to the data from the FRAW maps (annex A, B, C), potentially identifying areas at risk which are not shown on the flood maps.



## Who is the Strategic Plan for?

### Residents, communities and landowners

- Help protect them from the risk of flooding
- Identify and manage high-risk areas
- Defined roles and responsibilities
- Inform decision making



### **Risk Management Authorities**

- Collaborate with them on flood risk management (FRM)
- Guide effective resource allocation
- Align with the National Strategy objectives





### **Isle of Anglesey County Council**

- Guide decision making and FRM
- Inform infrastructure investments
- Align planning objectives with flood risk management
- Ensure climate resilience
- Inform grant applications





## Council Plan 2023-2028 Strategic Objectives

The Council Plan's vision is to:

The Council Plan is the key document serving as a focal point for decision-making at all levels; providing a framework to plan and drive forward priorities; shape annual spending; monitor performance and progress.

At its core is our desire to work with Anglesey residents, communities and partners to ensure the best possible services, improve the quality of life for all and create opportunities for future generations.

It's six main objectives reflect the key areas the Council should be focusing its efforts on:

'Create an Anglesey that is healthy and prosperous where people can thrive.'



### The Welsh Language

Increase the opportunities to learn and use the language.



### Social Care and Wellbeing

Providing the right support at the right time.



### Education

Ensuring an effective provision for today and for future generations.



### Housing

Ensuring that everyone has the right to call somewhere home.



### **Economy**

Promoting opportunities to develop the Island's economy.



### Climate Change

Responding to the crisis, tackling change and working towards becoming net zero organization by 2030.



Council Plan 2023 to 2028 (gov.wales)

## Council Plan 2023-2028 - Values

The Council Plan 2023-28 is underpinned by the organisation's core values, which are used to develop and guide the vision, strategic plans and services.



### Respect

We are respectful and considerate towards others regardless of our differences.



### Collaborate

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



### Honesty

We are committed to high standards of conduct and integrity.



## Champion the Council and the island

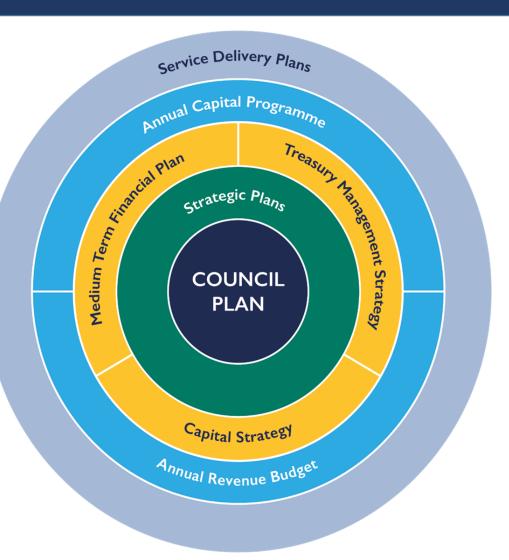
We create a sense of pride in working for the Council and present a positive image for the Council and the Island.

## Strategic circle

The strategic circle identifies the plans in place to ensure we can achieve our priorities and objectives.

This plan is a key strategic plan that aligns with the Council's Plan and contributes to the achievement of the strategic objectives and vision.

In addition, there are several other national and regional plans which align with this strategic plan (annex D).



## Key priority areas

The key priority areas have been developed to align with the National Strategy objectives (annex E) and reflect our local context and priorities.

- Improve understanding of local flood and coastal risks
- Improve communication
- Increase preparedness and resilience
- Collaborate to reduce flood and coastal risk
- Minimise the risk and impacts of flooding and coastal erosion
- A sustainable and holistic approach
- Where possible, prioritise investment to the most at risk communities
- Provide an appropriate, effective and sustained response to flood and coastal erosion events
- Use knowledge and data to inform planning decisions and policy formulation

# Improve understanding of local flood and coastal risks

### Why is this important?

To enable informed decision making, supporting better land use, effective mitigation strategies e.g flood defences and early warning systems and to ensure Anglesey is climate resilient.

### What are we going to do?

- Update the Flood Risk Management System and conduct a thorough review of asset data.
- Develop a culverting policy and create comprehensive plans to assess the condition of drainage assets across the county.
- Review and refine council policies on new and existing highway drainage connections to align with best practice for FRM.

- · Record all flooding incidents
- Investigate where appropriate.
- Establish a detailed record of watercourse assets.
- Assess the condition of drainage assets.
- Develop a county-wide map based system of flood risk assets, Flood Investigation Reports, historical flooding records and areas at risk of flooding.

## Improve communication

### Why is this important?

Improving communication and preparation will help inform and enable positive decision making to improve resilience and reduce negative impacts, whilst enabling and improving coordination in flood prevention and response efforts to be effective.

### What are we going to do?

- Provide strategic leadership and direction at a local level.
- Target areas at high risk of flooding to increase awareness of emergency procedures in the event of a flood.
- Promote and work together with groups including community flood groups.
- Ensure the website contains current and relevant information.
- Ensure that flood warning communications are accessible to as many people as possible.

- Develop and implement a FRM
   Communication Strategy, through community-based awareness engagement activities and sharing of flood warning communications.
- Develop a strategic approach to supporting communities pre, during and post flood events.
- Review and update council website to ensure helpful and current FRM information is available.
- Develop a standard set of responses for the council to address concerns and complaints, ensuring transparency and public awareness.

## Increase preparedness and resilience

### Why is this important?

Reducing the impact of flooding on communities, infrastructure, and the environment is critical, whilst enabling a faster response and recovery during flood events.

### What are we going to do?

- Support communities to better understand flood risk, to become more resilient to flooding and to manage their own flood risk.
- Collaborate with statutory bodies to promote the existing flood warning service (NRW).
- Increase public awareness of available flood prevention and resilience measures.
- Promote multiple benefits in relation to flood management schemes.

- Develop and implement a FRM Communication Strategy, through community-based awareness engagement activities and sharing of flood warning communications.
- Develop a strategic approach to supporting communities pre, during and post flood events.
- Regularly update the council website to ensure current and accurate information is available to the public.
- Review the Councils existing sandbag policy.
- Set up an annual member briefing for FRM matters.

### Collaborate to reduce flood and coastal risk

### Why is this important?

Understanding roles and responsibilities is essential to ensure all efforts are coordinated, and resources are used effectively, maximising the benefits for all stakeholders. This also fosters builds trust amongst communities and authorities, promoting a unified approach to FRM.

### What are we going to do?

- Maintain and share an asset register.
- Ensure effective data sharing.
- Seek partnership working opportunities so that those that benefit from existing or proposed flood management schemes can contribute towards their planning and management.
- Ensure riparian owners are aware of their duties to keep watercourses flowing freely.
- Provide support and guidance to people who wish to maintain or improve flood defences on private land.

- Update the flood risk asset register with the latest information available for both private and publicly maintained assets.
- Develop and implement a FRM Communication Strategy.
- Review and establish a council policy on new & existing highway connections.
- Develop a standard set of responses for the council to address concerns and complaints.
- Develop a proactive coastal asset management regime
- Set up an annual member briefing for FRM matters.

# Minimise the risk and impacts of flooding and coastal erosion

### Why is this important?

Safeguarding individuals and communities from harm during flooding and coastal erosion events is vital. In addition, preventing financial losses, maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem services is also an essential element of climate resilience.

### What are we going to do?

- Identify areas at greatest risk of flooding and prioritise FRM in those areas.
- Establish regular maintenance schedules for flood and coastal erosion risk management assets.
- Minimise disruption to essential services and critical infrastructure.
- Ensure that coastal adaptation is applied appropriately to reduce risk to individuals, communities, businesses and the environment.

- Formalise a management process for coastal defence assets and demountable structures.
- Produce a culverting policy.
- Provide bi-annual updates on progress and review flood risk management plans.
- Develop a proactive coastal asset management regime
- Liaise with key stakeholders to identify critical infrastructure, agree roles and responsibilities to ensure services are accessible and operational during inclement weather, and attend regular collaboration meetings to share forward investment programs.

## A sustainable and holistic approach

### Why is this important?

A sustainable approach to FRM considers the interconnections between economic growth, environmental health and social equity, leading to more comprehensive and effective FRM solutions.

### What are we going to do?

- Maximise the multiple benefits gained from flood management/alleviation schemes, including water quality, biodiversity and amenity as well as FRM.
- Encourage sustainable development within FCERM projects.
- Where feasible, promote blue-green infrastructure within FCERM projects.
- Encourage schemes involving Natural Flood Management (NFM) where appropriate.

- Investigate the potential for Natural Flood Management (NFM) within flood management schemes.
- Set up a SAB pre app service to provide early guidance on suitable SuDS.
- Review the current SAB application process.
- Develop a proactive coastal asset management regime.

# Where possible, prioritise investment to the most at risk communities

### Why is this important?

Prioritising investment to the most at risk communities reduces the impact of flooding and ensures the most vulnerable populations receive the necessary resources to enhance resilience.

Targeting resources where the need is greatest also ensures that funding and expertise are used efficiently, and long-term costs of emergency responses and recovery efforts are reduced.

### What are we going to do?

- Develop a capital investment programme to reduce the frequency of flooding to the most at risk areas.
- Develop a 'funding catalogue' of all potential sources of funding from public, private, voluntary and other sectors.
- Explore partnership funding with relevant Risk Management Authorities and other sources to support schemes.
- Utilise Section 19 (S19) reports to guide investment.

- Update the Flood Risk Management system.
- Create a plan for the assessment of the existing drainage assets.
- Develop and implement a maintenance schedule for flood and coastal erosion risk management assets.
- Formalise a management process for coastal defence assets and demountable structures.
- Assess flood risk based on potential failure of council managed assets.
- Liaise with key stakeholders to identify critical infrastructure, agree roles and responsibilities to ensure services are accessible and operational during inclement weather, and attend regular collaboration meetings to share forward investment programs.
- Seek to maximise funding opportunities through promoting multiple benefits.

# Provide an appropriate, effective and sustained response to flood and coastal erosion events

### Why is this important?

- It reduces the impact of flooding on communities, infrastructure, and the environment.
- Crucial for minimising disruption to emergency service during and post flood event.
- Improves preparedness, thus reducing the costs of reactive measures.

### What are we going to do?

- Provide appropriate and effective support and guidance to local communities, pre, during and post flood events.
- Ensure there is effective co-ordination between IoACC departments and other organisations.
- Record and investigate flood events appropriately and effectively.

- Update the Flood Risk Management System.
- Develop and implement a Communication Strategy e.g through community-based awareness engagement activities and sharing of flood warning communications.
- Develop a strategic approach to supporting communities pre, during and post flood events.
- Establish a procedure for post-flood risk response.

# Use knowledge and data to inform planning decisions and policy formulation

#### Why is this important?

Knowledge and data is crucial for ensuring informed decision-making, targeted resource allocation, proactive FRM and sustainable development.

#### What are we going to do?

- Ensure that the planning process is properly informed by considering relevant plans and policies such as the FRMP, River Basin Management Plan and Shoreline Management Plans.
- Regulate ordinary watercourses and enforce powers to maintain a free passage of flow.
- Ensure that all stages of the SAB process are effective and efficient.
- Ensure that FRM is included in the formulation of planning policy.

- Produce a culverting policy.
- Review and update draft byelaws by WLGA and consider adoption in Anglesey.
- Set up a SAB pre-application service.
- Review the current SAB application process.
- Development of an improved SAB technical review process.
- Review of the SAB adoption / agreement process and develop a procedure for SAB enforcement.
- Establish the maintenance requirements of adoptable assets.
- Review and establish a council policy on new & existing highway connections.

# Governance – Monitoring & Reporting

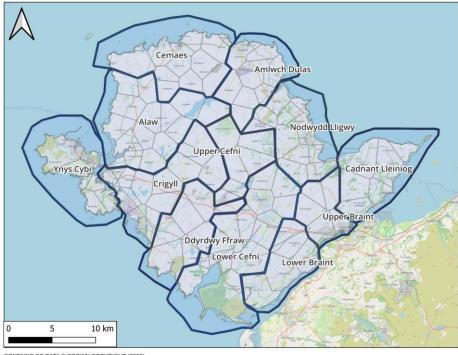
- The Strategy / Strategic Plan will be fixed for the duration for 6 years. The Flood Action Plan is appended to the Strategy / Strategic Plan and is a "living document". It will continue to develop as new information, expertise and resources influence the delivery of the measures and actions.
- The strategic plan will be reviewed on a regular basis to monitor progression on the implementation.
- The strategic plan should be reviewed in conjunction with the next review of the National Strategy and the Action Plans should be updated every two years, with interim progress reporting every year.





# Annex A: Flood Risk Management Plan

Communities at Risk Register (CaRR) data and Coastal and Inland Catchment Boundaries have been used to create the regional and local boundaries for each scenario assessed.



CONTAINS OS DATA © CROWN COPYRIGHT (2023)
COMMUNITIES AT RISK REGISTER (CaRR) AREA OUTLINES FROM DATAMAPWALES (2023)

D S 10 km

CONTAINS OS DATA © CROWN COPYRIGHT (2023) COMMUNITIES AT RISK REGISTER (CaRR) AREA OUTLINES FROM DATAMAPWALES (2023)

Inland Flood Risk Areas in Anglesey

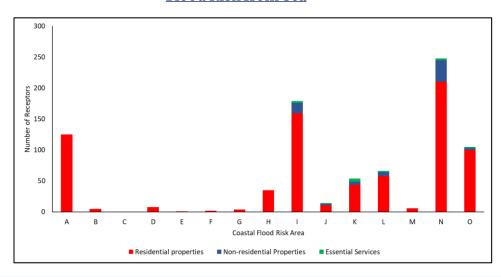
Coastal Flood Risk Areas in Anglesey

# Annex B: Flood Risk Management Plan

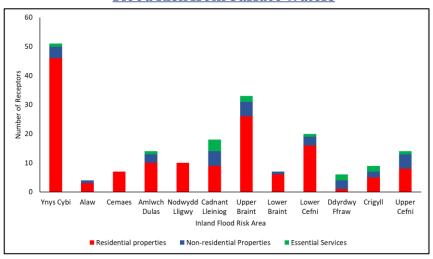
The charts below presents the predicted flood risk to risk receptors (residential properties, non-residential properties and essential services) at risk of flooding from the various sources for the high-risk event scenario.

This data is derived from the National Receptor Dataset and Flood Risk Assessment Wales (FRAW) Maps.

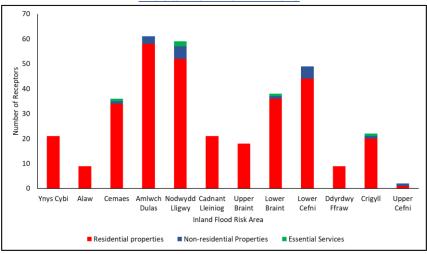
#### Flood Risk from Sea



#### **Flood Risk from Surface Waters**



#### **Flood Risk from Rivers**



# Annex C: Summary of flood risk areas on Anglesey

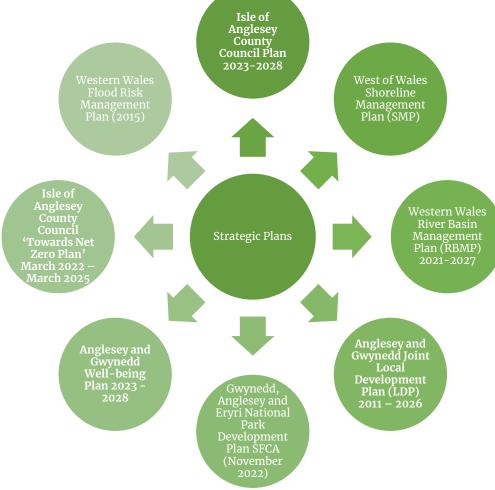
The data used to inform this assessment includes both predicted and recorded flood data

| CaRR Area      | Source of Flooding                 | Receptors at Risk  |  |  |  |
|----------------|------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Amlwch         | Rivers                             | Residential, Non-residential   |  |  |  |
| Beaumaris      | Sea                                | Residential, Non-residential, Essential Services                     |  |  |  |
|                | Surface Water & Small Watercourses | Non-residential, Essential Services, Minor Roads                     |  |  |  |
|                | Based on flood incident data       |  |  |  |  |
| Benllech       | Rivers                             | Residential, Non-residential, Essential Services                     |  |  |  |
| Dwyran         | Sea                                | Residential, Essential Services                                      |  |  |  |
| -              | Rivers                             | Residential  |  |  |  |
|                | Based on flood incident data       |  |  |  |  |
| Dyffryn        | Sea                                | Residential, Non-residential, Minor roads                            |  |  |  |
| Gaerwen        | Based on flood incident data       | <u> </u>   |  |  |  |
| Holyhead       | Sea                                | Residential, Non-residential   |  |  |  |
|                | Rivers                             | Residential  |  |  |  |
|                | Surface Water & Small Watercourses | Residential, Non-residential, Essential services                     |  |  |  |
|                | Based on flood incident data       |  |  |  |  |
| Llandegfan     | Based on flood incident data       |  |  |  |  |
| Llanfair       | Rivers                             | Residential, Railways and roads                                      |  |  |  |
| Pwllgwyngyll   | Surface Water & Small Watercourses | Residential, Non-residential, Essential Services, Railways and roads |  |  |  |
|                | Based on flood incident data       | ·  |  |  |  |
| Llanfechell    | Rivers                             | Residential  |  |  |  |
| Llangaffo      | Sea                                | Minor roads  |  |  |  |
|                | Rivers                             | Minor roads  |  |  |  |
|                | Surface Water & Small Watercourses | Railways   |  |  |  |
| Llangefni      | Rivers                             | Residential, Non-residential, Railways                               |  |  |  |
|                | Based on flood incident data       |  |  |  |  |
| Llangoed       | Based on flood incident data       |  |  |  |  |
| Llangristiolus | Surface Water & Small Watercourses | Minor roads  |  |  |  |
| Malltraeth     | Sea                                | Residential, Minor roads   |  |  |  |
|                | Rivers                             | Minor roads  |  |  |  |
| Menai Bridge   | Sea                                | Residential  |  |  |  |
|                | Based on flood incident data       |  |  |  |  |
| Moelfre        | Rivers                             | Residential  |  |  |  |
| Pentre Berw    | Based on flood incident data       |  |  |  |  |
| Red Wharf Bay  | Sea                                | Residential  |  |  |  |
| Trearddur      | Sea                                | Residential  |  |  |  |

Annex D: Coordination with other Strategic plans

In addition to the Welsh Government's National Strategy for Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) in Wales, there are several other national, regional and local plans which align with this Strategy.





# Annex E: Key priority areas alignment with the National Strategy objectives

|   | Key priority areas   |   | National<br>Strategy<br>Objectives |          |   |          |
|---|--|---|------------------------------------|----------|---|----------|
|   |  |   | В                                  | С        | D | Ε        |
| 1 | Improve understanding of local flood and coastal risks                                       | ✓ |                                    |          |   |          |
| 2 | Improve communication  | ✓ |                                    |          |   |          |
| 3 | Increase preparedness and resilience   |   | <b>✓</b>                           |          |   |          |
| 4 | Collaborate to reduce flood and coastal risk   | ✓ | <b>✓</b>                           |          | ✓ | <b>✓</b> |
| 5 | Minimise the risk and impacts of flooding and coastal erosion                                |   | ✓                                  |          | ✓ |          |
| 6 | A sustainable and holistic approach  |   | >                                  | <b>\</b> |   |          |
| 7 | Where possible, prioritise investment to the most at risk communities                        |   |                                    | >        |   |          |
| 8 | Provide an appropriate, effective and sustained response to flood and coastal erosion events |   |                                    |          |   | <b>√</b> |
| 9 | Use knowledge and data to inform planning decisions and policy formulation                   |   |                                    |          | ✓ |          |



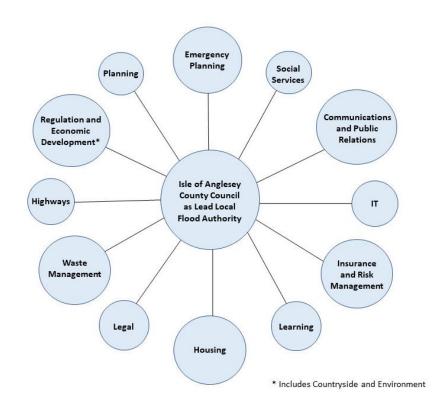
# Annex F: Roles and responsibilities for managing flood risk

Isle of Anglesey Council (IoACC) are responsible for taking the lead in managing flood risk from local sources. This includes surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses and where there is an interaction between these sources and main rivers or the sea.

Following implementation of the FWMA, the management team for IoACC designated 'Highways, Waste and Property Services' to take the lead in ensuring the Council's compliance with legislation and to ensure that all relevant services and external agencies assist to fulfil the requirements of this Act.

The Head of Service for 'Highways, Waste and Property Services' has the delegated authority for the operational implementation of the Strategy.

The diagram illustrates the departments within IoACC that have a part to play in reducing flood risk and implementing the Act as a LLFA.





Local Flood Risk Management Strategy/Flood Risk Strategic Plan Consultation

11<sup>th</sup> November – 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Responses

February 2025

Status: Official

#### Prepared by:

| Author               | Version | Dated      |
|----------------------|---------|------------|
| M Williams & S Wasik | 1       | 07.02.2025 |

#### Introduction

The Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is a statutory document requiring a public consultation process of a minimum of 6 weeks. The consultation period took place between 11<sup>th</sup> November 2024 and 20<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

During the public consultation period, four drop in events were held at the following locations:-

- 1. **Llangefni** 19/11/24 from 2pm until 7pm
- 2. **Amlwch** 20/11/24 from 2pm until 7pm
- 3. **Beaumaris** 25/11/24 from 2pm until 7pm
- 4. **Holyhead** 28/11/24 from 2pm until 7pm

The public consultation event and drop in events were advertised through various media platforms, such as the Council website and social media sites. Event reminders were shared in advance of the drop in events.

Via email, local members and other key stakeholders such as Town and Community Councils were informed of the consultation.

Rowland Thomas – Group Engineer within Highways, was invited to and attended a radio interview to promote the public consultation process. In addition to this, the consultation was advertised through a press release, which can be accessed via the following link: <a href="Public feedback vital to new Anglesey flood plans">Public feedback vital to new Anglesey flood plans</a>

The consultation period was also promoted on Anglesey's website, which included an online questionnaire.

#### **Consultation Summary**

#### Website Feedback

Thirty three visits were made to the online consultation webpage. Please note that a visit is defined as a series of page requests from the same uniquely identified visitor with a time of no more than 30 minutes between each request.

No feedback was received from the website and zero completed questionnaires were submitted.

#### **Drop In Event Feedback**

In total, eleven members of the public attended the drop in events, along with an officer from Natural Resources Wales (NRW).

No feedback was received, and no questionnaires were submitted.

#### General Feedback

No feedback was received from stakeholders, local members or Community Councils.

During the consultation period, one email was received, with three comments for consideration. The following section summarises the comments received and how the comments have been considered.

| Comment 1              | "It is disappointing that the town is only mentioned in Annex C (Summary of flood risk areas on Anglesey) under risk from the sea. Surely the town should be include in the flood risk from Surface water and small watercourses? Some 40 properties along Penlon/Lon y Waen/Lon y Gamfa suffered from internal flooding from surface water & small watercourse during November 2017. As such the Council will have this recoded flood data and Appendix C should be updated." |
|------------------------|--|
| Officer Report         | <ul> <li>70 flooding incidents have been reported in Menai Bridge since 2012 (variety of sources). This is detailed in Appendix E. In comparison to other areas, there are other locations that have experienced an even higher number of incidents.</li> <li>Menai Bridge is included within the Action Plan and is considered a 'most at risk' area.</li> </ul>  |
| Suggested Modification | - Attribute the high number of flooding incident (within top 10) to its classification as a 'most at risk area'  |

| Comment 2              | 'Welcome that the Council is to Regulate ordinary watercourses and enforce powers to maintain a free passage of flow. Would this also include adopting ordinary watercourse byelaws? This would be separate from the proposal to develop a culverting policy.' |  |  |  |
|------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Officer Report         | - Policy Action 08 details 'Review and update draft byelaws<br>by WLGA and consider adoption in Anglesey' which covers<br>adopting ordinary watercourse byelaws.   |  |  |  |
| Suggested Modification | - No changes as a review of byelaws has already been included in the Policy Action Plan  |  |  |  |

| Comment 3              | 'Note the easy read version states that "Culverts are structures that drain water away from roads." Suggest that this is not factually correct and may be misleading.'  |  |  |
|------------------------|---|--|--|
| Officer Report         | - Noted.  |  |  |
| Suggested Modification | - No changes as the definition in this document has been simplified as it is intended for an easy read audience. This approach prioritises accessibility and understanding over technical accuracy. For a more detailed and precise definition, please refer to the full strategy document. |  |  |

| ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL   |   |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Report to:                        | The Executive                                       |  |  |  |
| Date:                             | 25 <sup>th</sup> March 2025                         |  |  |  |
| Subject:                          | Housing Revenue Account Business Plan 2025-<br>2055 |  |  |  |
| Portfolio Holder(s):              | Councillor Robin W Williams                         |  |  |  |
| Head of Service/ Director:        | Ned Michael   |  |  |  |
| Report Author:<br>Tel:<br>E-mail: | Ned Michael<br>01248 752200                         |  |  |  |
| Local Members:                    | Relevant to all Elected Members                     |  |  |  |

#### A –Recommendation/s and reason/s

In line with the Welsh Government's requirement, we are required to submit our application for our Major Repairs Allowance, together with the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) 30 Year Business Plan, by 31 March to secure our Major Repairs Allowance of approximately £2.7m for 2025-26.

The HRA's 30-year Business Plan is attached and, once approved, will be formalized in the corporate style.

I recommend that the Executive Committee approve:-

R1 Recommend the Housing Revenue Business Plan 2025-2055 for the Executive's approval.

#### 1.0 Background

**1.1** This Report and Business Plan has been prepared in conjunction with Officers from the Housing and Finance Services. The Business Plan forms the primary tool for financial planning of the delivery and management of the Council's housing stock.

In particular, the Business Plan demonstrates:-

- how the Council ensures its stock complies with the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) there remains to be some properties that are classified as 'acceptable fails':
- how the Council intends to maintain and work towards the WHQS 2023; and
- the investment required to fund its programme for developing new social housing.
- **1.2** Through its Housing Revenue Account, the council manages and owns 4042 properties and 669 garages across the Island. During the period of this Business Plan our housing stock will grow by more than 25%, to more than 5000 properties, to meet the increasing demand for local housing. We currently have more than 852 people on the waiting list for Social Housing, including 94 families in temporary accommodation on the Island, the likes of which have never been seen before.

- **1.3** The HRA Business Plan (Appendix 1) contributes towards the fundamental themes within the Council's Corporate Plan. The main contribution is towards ensuring that everyone has the right to call somewhere home, Social Care and Wellbeing as well as Economic Development.
- **1.4** The HRA continues to be ring-fenced for the Council's Landlord functions which relate to the Council's housing stock. The ring-fencing of the account means that the Council may not subsidise council housing from the general fund.

#### 2.0 The Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS)

- 2.1 The Council has achieved the WHQS since 2012. We were the second Authority in Wales to achieve this standard.
- 2.2 We remain fully committed to meeting the WHQS 2023, published in November by Welsh Government. During 2023/24, we undertook a stock condition survey of our housing stock and obtained access to 88% of our properties to establish a baseline in preparation for the new standard.

## The Welsh Housing Quality Standard states that all households should have the opportunity to live in good quality homes that are:

- · In a good state of repair.
- · Safe and secure.
- · Adequately heated, fuel efficient and well insulated.
- · Have modern kitchens and bathrooms.
- · Well managed.
- Located in attractive and safe environments.
- · As far as possible suit the specific requirements of the household, (e.g. specific disabilities).

#### **3.0 Capital Programme 2025-2026**

3.1 The Business Plan includes a capital programme worth approximately £13m. This includes a provision for external work, work associated with fire risks, asbestos, adaptations for disabled people and energy efficiency work. The budget also allows for complying with the WHQS by targeting acceptable fails and environmental standards.

#### 3.2 Energy and Decarbonisation

We will continue with this programme during 2025/26 and £3m has been allocated in the budget to install 500 solar panels with battery storage, making a positive contribution towards energy efficiency and carbon reduction targets and reducing the costs faced by our tenants.

We will undertake an investment appraisal and planning exercise to appraise our energy performance, carbon reduction targets and compliance with the Energy Pathway in preparation for the expectations of the WHQS 2023.

3.3 A provision of £7.1m has been included in the budget for responsive repairs, cyclical and planned maintenances.

3.4 Also, a sum of £3.76m has been included in the 2025-26 budget for developing new council housing and buying back former council houses on Anglesey. The Business Plan assumes a development programme of 37 units and for refurbishment work on approximately 10 units on the former Council houses in 2025-26 and throughout the period of the Business Plan.

#### 4.0 Financial Model and Assumptions

- 4.1 A 30 year financial model is required to support the HRA Business Plan which is submitted to Welsh Government.
- 4.2 On the 13th November 2024 the Welsh Government confirmed that it had agreed the Policy for Social Housing Rents for 2025/26.

The Minister decided that the maximum rent uplift for the year across the housing stock would be 2.7%.

4.3 A robustness test was undertaken to consider the risks, separately and collectively, to ensure the viability of the business plan throughout its 30-year period. Unfortunately, the test has failed due to the rent restriction and increased demands on capital expenditure resulting from WHQS2023. It is our intention to put this to the Welsh Government to make it clear that the requirements on the HRA are not sustainable.

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 Executive Committee has delegated authority to approve the HRA Business Plan.

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 our long term needs as an Island?

| 2 | Is it expected that this decision will prevent costs / dependencies on the Authority in the future? If so, how?  |  |
|---|--|--|
| 3 | Have we worked collaboratively with other organisations to come to this decision? If so, state whom.   |  |
| 4 | Have Anglesey citizens played a part in drafting the way forward, including those that would be directly impacted by the decision? Explain how.                  |  |
| 5 | Note any possible effects this decision could have on the protected groups under the 2010 Equalities Act.  |  |
| 6 | If this is a strategic decision, note any possible effect that the decision could have on those who face socio-economic disadvantage.                            |  |
| 7 | Note any possible effects that this decision would have on opportunities for people to use Welsh, and to treat the Welsh language in the same manner as English. |  |

| E - | - Who did you consult?      | What did they say? |
|-----|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| 1   | Chief Executive / Strategic |                    |
|     | Leadership Team (SLT)       |                    |
|     | (mandatory)                 |                    |
| 2   | Finance / Section 151       |                    |
|     | (mandatory)                 |                    |
| 3   | Legal / Monitoring Officer  |                    |
|     | (mandatory)                 |                    |
|     |                             |                    |
| 4   | Human Resources (HR)        | Not Relevant       |
| 5   | Property                    | Not Relevant       |
| 6   | Information Communication   | Not Relevant       |
|     | Technology (ICT)            |                    |
| 7   | Acquiring                   |                    |
| 8   | Scrutiny                    | 11.03.2025         |
| 9   | Local Members               |                    |

| F – Appendices: |  |
|-----------------|--|
|                 |  |

HRA Business Plan 2025-2055

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





# Ynys Môn Anglesey

# Housing Revenue Account 2025-2055 Business Plan

Mae'r ddogfen yma hefyd ar gael yn y Gymraeg

This document is also available in Welsh

<u>www.anglesey.gov.wales</u>

# **FOREWORD**

- The purpose of this Housing Revenue Business Plan is to outline the strategic vision, financial management and operational framework that will guide our housing services over the coming years.
- As we continue to respond to the evolving needs of our community, this plan serves as a blueprint for delivering
  high quality, affordable housing that enhances the lives of our residents and long-term sustainability.
- We are committed to providing safe and well maintained homes for all, ensuring that our resources are used efficiently and effectively.
- The key objectives include maintenance and improvement of our housing stock, enhancing resident engagement and securing financial viability while meeting legislative and regulatory requirements.
- Anglesey is a safe place and the majority of residents feel safe and are very satisfied with their homes. There is
  a strong community ethos in rural areas, villages and towns, with the rate of loneliness being amongst the lowest
  in Wales.
- The Council remains fully committed to work with Welsh Government and partners to react to the local housing challenges.

# Why do we need a Housing Revenue Account Business Plan?

The format of this business plan has been adapted to ensure our aims are communicated in a way that everyone can

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- The HRA Business Plan outlines the strategic approach to managing finances, ensuring efficient and sustainable operation of affordable housing.
- The objective is to generate sufficient income to cover housing related expenses while maintaining and improving housing stock, meeting housing demand and investing in long-term improvements and development.
- The plan will provide a framework for revenue generation, cost management and long-term financial sustainability, ensuring that the HRA fulfills its obligations and meets tenants needs.



## TAI MÓN HOUSING VISION

## "Ensuring that everyone has the right to call somewhere home"

#### Quality, Affordable and Accessible Homes

which is based on our service values that underpin our work and drive the delivery of our services, as follows:-

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

#### **OVERVIEW OF THE HOUSING SERVICE**

The Housing Service/Tai Mon employs 150 members of staff and have a revenue budget of £23M and capital budget of £29.5M. Funding for the HRA is mainly from Social Housing Grant, Rent & Service Charges Income, Major Repairs Allowance, and other grants from Welsh Government.

The Housing Service consists of the following teams:-

Income Team
Repairs & Maintenance Team
Tenant Participation Team
Housing Development Team
Housing Options Team
Financial Inclusion Team
Estate Management Team
Information Technology Team

Our service vision is "Ensuring that everyone has the right to call somewhere home"

The services we provide includes tenancy management, tenancy support, community engagement, repairs & maintenance, planned maintenance, rent collection & financial support, housing allocations and affordable housing provision.

## **What is Corporate Governance**

Corporate Governance is the system by which local authorities direct and control their functions and relate to their communities. It is founded on the basic principles of openness and inclusivity, integrity and accountability together with the overarching concept of leadership. It is an inter-related system that brings together the underlying set of legislative requirements, governance principles and management processes.

The Council sees Corporate Governance as doing the right things, in the right way, for the right people in a timely, inclusive, open, honest and accountable manner. It comprises the systems and processes, and also the culture and values, by which the Council is directed and controlled and how it accounts to and engages with its citizens.

## What is the Code of Corporate Governance?

To demonstrate good governance, the Council must show that it is complying with the core (and supporting) principles contained within the Framework for Delivering Good Governance in Local Government (CIPFA / Solace, 2016). The established principles are:

Principle A - Ensuring openness and comprehensive stakeholder engagement

Principle B - Defining outcomes in terms of sustainable economic, social, and environmental benefits

*Principle C* - Determining the interventions necessary to optimise the achievement of the intended outcomes

Principle D - Developing the entity's capacity, including the capability of its leadership and the individuals within it

Principle E - Managing risks and performance through robust internal control and strong public financial management

Principle F - Implementing good practices in transparency, reporting, and audit to deliver effective accountability

# Council Plan 2023-2028

The Council Plan's vision is to:

'Create an Anglesey that is healthy and prosperous where people can thrive.'

- The Council Plan is the key document serving as a focal point for decision-making at all levels; providing a framework to plan and drive forward priorities; shape annual spending; monitor performance and progress.
- At its core is our desire to work with Anglesey residents, communities and partners to ensure the best possible services, improve the quality of life for all and create opportunities for future generations.
- Its six main objectives reflect the key areas Isle of Anglesey County Council Housing Services should be focusing its efforts on.

#### Our six strategic objectives



Increasing opportunities to learn and use the language.



Providing the right support at the right time.



Education

Ensuring an effective provision for today and for future generations.



Ensuring that everyone has the right to call somewhere home.



Promoting opportunities to develop the Island's economy.



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



# Values

The Council Plan 2023-28 is underpinned by the organisation's core values, which are used to develop and guide the vision, strategic plans and services.

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As a key department within Isle of Anglesey County Council, Housing Services adhere to these values throughout all of our interactions with tenants & customers.

## **Values**



#### Respect

We are respectful and considerate towards others regardless of our differences.



#### Collaborate

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



#### Honesty

We are committed to high standards of conduct and integrity.



#### Champion the Council and the Island

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



# Strategic circle

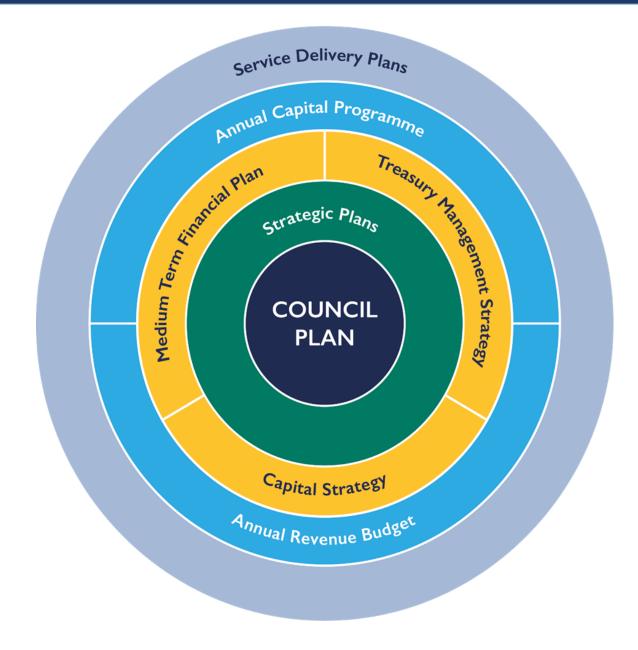
- The strategic circle identifies the plans in place to ensure we can achieve our priorities and objectives.
- This Housing Revenue Account Strategic Business plan is aligned with the Council's Plan and contributes to the achievement of the strategic objectives and vision.
- Delivering the strategic priority, together with key priority areas, sets a clear and ambitious mandate.

#### We want to ensure that we:

Make best use of existing housing stock and improving homes and communities (Theme 2 of the Council's Housing Strategy 2022-27)

Support to promote housing independence (Theme 4 of the Council's Housing Strategy 2022-27)

 Achieve WHQS2023 and our Strategic Tenants Participation Plan





#### **INCOME MANAGEMENT**

#### Why is this important?

- Funding for Housing Services The HRA income is crucial for the financial health and sustainability of local housing programs and ensures the housing services such as repairs & maintenance, housing management can be delivered effectively. The income generated ensures that essential services can be sustained without relying on general funds or taxpayers.
- Investment in New Housing surplus income can be reinvested into building new housing or enhancing the housing stock, supporting the local community and addressing housing demand by providing affordable homes to communities.
- Self-Financing the HRA is a selffinancing model meaning it generates enough income to cover its costs without relying on external funding.

#### What are we going to do?

- Provide support to tenants who may be in in financial difficulty to maximise our rental income. This will include discussions regarding downsizing, accessing financial support via our Rent Support Scheme, referrals for DAF / DHP.
- Continually achieve sustainable tenancies through pre-tenancy affordability due diligence.
- Maximising our income through various grants available.
- Reducing our voids to maximise income and ensure efficient use of our stock.
- Tenant retention and satisfaction.
- Reducing our maintenance operational costs.

#### How are we going to do this?

- A patch-based specialist Housing Management Officer supporting all tenants in arrears.
- Encouraging options to improve financial resilience, to include referrals for Financial Inclusion or Welfare Rights support.
- Increasing our housing stock to allow for more affordable options – such as downsizing opportunities.
- Ensure all grants available are claimed within the financial year.
- Increase focus on reducing void properties to improve performance.
- Looking at efficiency within our workforce to maximise output and reduce costs.

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# INVESTMENT IN HOUSING DEVELOPMENT & FORMER COUNCIL PROPERTIES

#### Why is this important?

- Providing affordable homes is essential to low income families who may struggle in the current market climate.
  - Providing economic growth and contribute to job creation.
- Can be crucial in addressing homelessness by making homes accessible to those who are at risk of becoming homeless.
- Improving living conditions and quality of life where new developments can lead to creation of modern, energy efficient and safer living environment.

#### What are we going to do?

- Develop 14 properties in Newborough at Social Rent.
- Develop 14 properties in Holyhead at Intermediate Rent.
- Develop 9 properties in Llanfaethlu at Internediate Rent.
- Continue to work on all the buy back properties recently purchased.
- Progress with the extra care accommodation in Menai Bridge.

- Maximise the use of Welsh Government social housing funding.
- Continue to work with our RSL partners to increase Ynys Môn social housing stock.

#### **WELSH HOUSING QUALITY STANDARDS 2023**

#### Why is this important?

 WHQS 2023 is important as it sets the minimum standards for social housing in Wales, ensuring that homes are safe, sustainable, and provide a good quality of life for tenants.

It is a legal requirement for all Welsh Registered Social Landlords to achieve the WHQS 2023 within 10 Years.

 Aimed to improve the quality of Social Housing on Anglesey and to reflect changes to how people live, work and feel about their homes, and to start the decarbonization of the Welsh Social Housing Stock.

#### What are we going to do?

- Ensure our stock meet specific criteria related to health, safety and comfort, including requirements for heating, insulation, ventilation and access to basic amenities.
- Focus on improving energy efficiency by helping to reduce fuel poverty supporting efforts to combat climate change.
- Achieve net zero by 2033.
- Provide flooring coverings for each home for a new tenancy.

- Through our tenants and workforce
- By upskilling Technical Housing staff with the Net zero ambition
- HRA Capital Investment
- Welsh Government Investment
- Use of Local suppliers & contractors.
- Fully utilise the WHQS2023 Grant to support the implementation.

#### Why is this important?

- It involves the planning, funding, and delivery of long term investments in our assets.
  - Capital programmes stimulate economic activity by investing in projects that create jobs and support local businesses.
- Meeting regulatory requirements such as health & safety standards, environmental guidelines and accessibility requirements.

#### What are we going to do?

- Allocate financial resources for the develop, maintenance and improvement of our stock.
- Carry out long-term investments to enhance the quality, affordability and sustainability of housing.
- Ensure compliance with standards.
- Ensure our existing stock are maintained, modernised and upgraded.
- Fully utilise the finance available.

- Invest £13.8M in our stock by :-
- Spending £5M on internal WHQS works & asbestos.
- Spending £3.2M on traditional Planned Maintenance programmes.
- Spending £500k on Fire Risk management.
- Spending £250k on Central Heating works.
- Spending £500k on Environmental works.
- Spending £3.5M on Energy Performance works.
- Spending £500k on Public Sector Adaptations.
- Spending £350k on fleet renewal.

#### **DECARBONISATION**

#### Why is this important?

- Reduce the amount of CO2 and other greenhouse gases.
- Helps to mitigate climate change.
- •₫ Improving public health.
- Economic opportunities.
- Securing a sustainable future.

#### What are we going to do?

- Prepare a Target Energy Pathway for the council's housing stock detailing how the affordable heating and decarbonisation standards will be met.
- Carry out a 5 year programme for the longer term delivery of renewable energy and decarbonisation measures to install Solar PV systems across the housing stock and targeting properties which are not connected to mains gas network.
- Help households save on energy bills and reduce carbon emissions by improving their energy efficiency.

- Fully utilise the Optimised Retrofit Grant to support our decarbonisation goals.
- Utilise the ECO4 Flex Grant.
- Use the Stock Condition Survey to undertae a comprehensive review of gathered data to evaluate energy efficiency, carbon reduction targets and Energy Pathway compliance.

#### TENANT PARTICIPATION

#### Why is this important?

- Improves quality of housing.
- Fosters stronger communities.
- Provides improved decision making.
- Provides increased satisfaction.
- · Better accountability.
- Shaping policies that are more responsive to real life needs.
- Promotes inclusivity and diversity.
- Improves relationship between tenants and landlords.

#### What are we going to do?

- Encourage tenants to work in partnership with Housing Services to influence decisions and improve services.
- Ensure effective engagement and information on matters relating to Housing Services.
- Empower our Tenants to influence and shape our services.
- Ensure Tenants have the capacity and confidence to participate.
- Provide Tenants with the opportunity to discuss issues and provide input at a strategic level.

- We will work to embed Tenant participation across housing services.
- Over the next 5 years, our approach will be to regularly review and develop together with our Tenants to ensure effective representation falls in line with our vision and helping us to achieve the aims of the Tenants Participation strategic plan.
- A 12-month Action Plan will be codeveloped and monitored quarterly by the Tenant Participation monitoring group.
- Membership will also be monitored to ensure equal representation from staff and Tenants so that we can successfully work in partnership to improve services in line with Tenants needs.

#### **TENANCY SUPPORT**

#### Why is this important?

- To help tenants sustain their tenancy.
- Improves well-being of our tenants.
  - Provides financial stability.
  - Conflict resolution.
- Maximise income.

#### What are we going to do?

- Promote financial and digital inclusion initiatives to empower tenants to manage their finances effectively.
- Investigate and address complaints
   of nuisance and anti-social behaviour
   to resolve disputes at an early stage
   to prevent escalation.
- Maximising income, improving budgeting and IT skills of vulnerable households to help them to manage and generally improve their life outcomes and sustain their housing.

- Ensure effective partnership working by building strong relationships and clear communication.
- To provide information, advice and support to clients with a strong focus on increasing the financial and digital capability.
- Work closely with the relevant support agencies to develop individual support plans to assist individuals to sustain tenancies.

#### PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

## Why is this important?

- Helps to align our goals.
- Maximise efficiency & improve productivity.
- Provide continuous improvement.
- To set clear expectations.
- Ensure staff motivation & engagement.
- Improves communication.
- Accountability.

## What are we going to do?

- Close monitoring of Housing KPI's.
- Identify training needs
- Identify skills gap
- Improve workforce efficiency
- Monitor sickness performance
- Monitor our Risk Register

- Ensure Housing KPI's are shared with all Housing staff.
- Carry out review of performance indicators to identify trends, target areas and introduce new performance indicators.
- Carry out workforce productivity analysis.
- Ensure all staff appraisals are conducted.
- Carry out the Star survey

## Cynllun Ariannol 5 Mlynedd CRT/5 Year HRA Financial Plan

| •   | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 | 2028/29 | 2029/30 |
|---|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| CYFRIF INCWM A GWARIANT   | £000    | £000    | £000    | £000    | £000    |
| INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT                                      |         |         |         |         |         |
| Incwm/Income  |         |         |         |         |         |
| Rhenti Eiddo Annedd/Dwelling Rents                                  | 23,417  | 24,392  | 25,404  | 26,972  | 27,544  |
| Foidiau/Voids   | (445)   | (463)   | (483)   | (512)   | (523)   |
| Rhenti Net/ Net Rents   | 22,972  | 23,929  | 24,921  | 26,460  | 27,021  |
| Rhenti Di-Annedd/Non Dwelling Rents                                 | 291     | 302     | 314     | 484     | 502     |
| Tal Gwasanaeth/ Service Charges                                     | 250     | 260     | 270     | 281     | 292     |
| Cyfraniadau Eraill/ Other Contributions                             | 120     | 123     | 127     | 131     | 135     |
| Incwm Arall/ Other Income   | 116     | 116     | 116     | 116     | 116     |
| Gwariant/Expenditure  |         |         |         |         |         |
| Cynnal a Chadw/Repairs and maintenance                              | (7,108) | (7,387) | (7,676) | (7,977) | (8,288) |
| Goruchwyliaeth a Rheoli/ Supervision and Management                 | (7,620) | (7,838) | (8,062) | (8,294) | (8,532) |
| Rhenti, Cyfraddau a Gwariant Eraill/ Rent, Rates & Other Expenditur | 0       | (103)   | (106)   | (109)   | (113)   |
| Darpariaeth Dyledion Drwg/ Provision for Bad Debts                  | (152)   | (159)   | (165)   | (175)   | (179)   |
| Costau Rheoli Dyledion/ Debt Management Costs                       | (11)    | (13)    | (17)    | (21)    | (24)    |
| Costau Gwasanaeth Net/ Net cost of services                         | 8,858   | 9,230   | 9,722   | 10,896  | 10,930  |
| Llog Taliadwy/Interest Payable                                      | (2,027) | (2,539) | (3,107) | (3,582) | (4,027) |
| Cyfran o Gostau Pensiwn CRT/ HRA Share of Pension Costs             | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| Incwm Buddsoddi CRT/ HRA Investment Income                          | 46      | 36      | 25      | 26      | 27      |
| Syrffed (Gwarged) am y flwyddyn/ Surplus (deficit) for the year     | 6,877   | 6,727   | 6,640   | 7,340   | 6,930   |
| MANTOLEN CRT/ HRA BALANCE   |         |         |         |         |         |
| Syrffed (Gwarged) am y flwyddyn/ Surplus (deficit) for the year     | 6,877   | 6,727   | 6,640   | 7,340   | 6,930   |
| Gwariant Cyfalaf Arianwyd/ Capital Expenditure Funded               | (5,765) | (5,429) | (5,152) | (5,565) | (4,992) |
| Trosglwyddo i neu o Gronfa Refeniw/ Transfer to or from Revenue R   | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       | 0       |
| Ad-dalu Benthyciadau/ Repayment of loans                            | (1,103) | (1,261) | (1,449) | (1,698) | (1,909) |
| Cynnydd (gostyngiad) y Fantolen/ Increase/(decrease) in Balance     | 9       | 37      | 39      | 77      | 29      |
| Mantolen CRT d/y/ HRA Balance b/f                                   | 1,177   | 1,187   | 1,224   | 1,263   | 1,340   |
| Mantolen CRT i Gau /Closing HRA Balance                             | 1,186   | 1,224   | 1,263   | 1,340   | 1,369   |

