

COUNCIL CABINET 20130122

Present – Councillor Dyfed Edwards (Chairman)

Councillors - Siân Gwenllïan, Peredur Jenkins, Brian Jones, John Wynn Jones, W Gareth Roberts, Ioan Thomas, Paul Thomas, John Wyn Williams and R H Wyn Williams.

Also present - Harry Thomas (Chief Executive), Dilys Phillips (Head of Democracy and Legal Department), Aled Davies (Head of Regulatory Department), Gwyn Morris Jones (Head of Highways and Municipal Department), Nia Haf Davies (Planning Policy Manager), Huw Williams (Head of Consultancy Department), Dafydd Edwards (Head of Finance Department), Iwan Trefor Jones (Corporate Director), Dilwyn Williams (Corporate Director), Geraint George (Head of Strategic and Improvement Department), Rhian Tomos (Cabinet Support Team Leader), Einir Davies (Executive Officer to the Leader).

Apologies: No apologies were received.

1. WELCOME

The following were welcomed to the meeting:-

Eryl Crump, Daily Post.

2. DECLARATION OF PERSONAL INTEREST

No declarations of personal interest were received from any member present.

3. URGENT ITEM

There were no urgent items.

4. MINUTES

The Chairman signed the minutes of the Council Cabinet meeting held on 18 December 2012 as a true record.

5. SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Submitted – the report of Councillor Gareth Roberts, Cabinet Member for the Environment.

RESOLVED

To agree with the policies set out in the West Wales Shoreline Management Plan for the Gwynedd coastline.

To formally adopt the plan once the Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest Statement is approved by the Welsh Government.

6. DRAFT FINANCIAL STRATEGY FOR 2013/14 – 2016/17

Submitted – the report of Councillor Peredur Jenkins, Cabinet Member for Resources.

RESOLVED

To adopt the following as draft views to be discussed again on 19 February prior to submitting a recommendation to the Full Council.

- 1 That a revenue budget of £233.913m should be adopted in 2013/14 to be distributed amongst the services as noted in Appendix 1 which will also mean depending upon savings of £1.891m in 2013/14.
- 2 That this sum should be financed through the £181.633m grant we will be receiving from the Welsh Government and £52.28m from the Council Tax which would entail a Council Tax increase of 3.5%.
- 3 That one-off bids should also be approved from the £394,250 to be financed from the £268,050 performance improvement grant money which is retained each year for one-off issues adding a further £126,200 from the Council Tax resource set aside for 2015/16.
- 4 In relation to the position for the next four years, that we should plan to find the projected financial deficit of over £32m for the next four years by planning to increase Council Tax by an average of 3.5% a year which will produce nearly £8m on top of the £8.7m savings for which we have already been planning.
- 5 That we should then aim to find the residue by establishing a further efficiency target of £6.4m and trying to manage demand for Council services by being proactive to avoid creating a demand for those services with a view to finding a further £5m. Any residual sum would then have to be found from service cuts.
- 6 To approve a capital programme of £20.839m for 2013/14; £15.748m for 2014/15 and £20.346m for 2015/16 on the schemes noted in Appendix 3.
- 7 To agree to delete the "Support for Members" savings scheme (£54,000) from the savings programme in accordance with the Democratic Services Committee's recommendation.

7. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN – PREFERRED STRATEGY DOCUMENT

Submitted – the report of Councillor John Wyn Williams, Cabinet Member for Planning.

RESOLVED

The draft Preferred Strategy Document was approved for public consultation.

Prior to releasing the document for public consultation, it was decided that delegated powers would be given to the Head of Regulatory Department to make minor corrections.

8. COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME

Submitted – the report of Councillor Brian Jones, Cabinet Member for Deprivation.

RESOLVED

It was resolved to support the Cabinet Member's amended recommendations, namely to ask the Full Council to adopt the Council Tax Reduction and Prescribed Requirements Regulations (Wales) and his proposals regarding the discretionary elements.

9. WASTE MANAGEMENT – MATTERS ARISING FROM THE SECOND QUARTER BUDGET REVIEW

Submitted – the report of Councillor Gareth Roberts, Cabinet Member for the Environment.

RESOLVED

To accept what is recommended in order to address predicted over and under expenditure on waste budget headings, Highways and Municipal Department.

10. FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE CONSULTANCY

Submitted – the report of Councillor Gareth Roberts, Cabinet Member for the Environment.

RESOLVED

- 1 That work be commissioned from the Head of Finance Department to research the arrangements for financial management in Gwynedd Consultancy, whilst at the same time, establishing, in conjunction with the Head of Consultancy Department, the evidence behind what has happened in 2012/13 and the likely position for 2013/14.
- 2 To ask the Head of Finance Department to ensure that the report is available by the end of this financial year in order to ensure that Gwynedd Consultancy starts 2013/14 on a sound footing.
- 3 In the light of this research's conclusions, that the Cabinet Member for Environment leads a second piece of work to establish a new sustainable model which is responsive to the economic situation.

11. REGIONAL PROCUREMENT FOR 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS

Submitted – the report of Councillor John Wynn Jones, Cabinet Member for the Economy.

RESOLVED

1. To agree to implement the Procurement Strategy for North Wales Construction Procurement, that is, to support the setting of a framework agreement for construction projects over £4.35m for the 21st century schools programme, and to agree to implement the Procurement Strategy for the procurement of other structures over £4.35m, on the condition that:
 - a clause is included in the Invitation to Tender that notes that Gwynedd Council's use of the framework will be reviewed on a case by case basis.
 - the Council obtains clarity on who will be liable if a legal challenge arises.
2. To agree to the proposal of improving current construction procurement under £4.35m.

The meeting commenced at 1.00pm and concluded at 3.30pm.

CHAIRMAN