

<b>MEETING</b>	<b>FULL COUNCIL</b>
<b>DATE</b>	<b>1 MAY 2014</b>
<b>SUBJECT</b>	<b>THE COUNCIL'S STRATEGIC PLAN</b>
<b>AUTHOR(S)</b>	<b>Councillor Dyfed Edwards, Leader of the Council Geraint George, Head of Strategy and Improvement</b>
<b>RECOMMENDATION</b>	<b>To Adopt the Strategic Plan</b>

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 In May 2013, the Council adopted its Strategic Plan for 2013 - 17. The main purpose of the Strategic Plan is to set the Council's vision for 2013 - 17, which is "Supporting the People of Gwynedd to Thrive in Difficult Times." The Strategic Plan also sets the Council's priorities for the period and describes what the Council will do to achieve them.
- 1.2 Again this year, the Council must adopt a specific plan for the coming year. Members will be aware of the work that has been undertaken to review the Strategic Plan in light of the enormous financial challenge and the savings that the Council must find over the coming years as well as likely discussions on re-organisation on the horizon.

## **2. The Content of the Plan**

- 2.1 What is presented is the product of months of review work and internal discussions. In addition, Members, the public and the Council's partners were invited to share their views on the draft priorities. In terms of Members, specific sessions were held with the four Area Forums to invite views on the proposed priorities.
- 2.2. Once again this year, we have tried to improve on the clarity in terms of the reasons for addressing some of the issues in the Plan and also in terms of the outcomes we are promising to the residents of Gwynedd.

- 2.3 The Plan includes different types of projects, some that transform services and save money, some where we must respond to the requirements of statute or regulators and others that, although discretionary, where there is a clear priority for their implementation. In addition, some projects will deliver definite outcomes during 2014 - 15 and developmental schemes where preparatory work is being undertaken but where any outcomes are likely to be delivered after 2014 - 15.

### **3. The Challenge**

- 3.1 One of the hardest things at this time when we are facing the challenge of the Savings Programme, is ensuring enough capacity to deliver those and, more crucially, in terms of the time of members and officers. There are possible financial implications with some of the commitments in the Plan and they will be considered case by case in considering the individual business cases.
- 3.2 The document itself notes that the scale of the financial challenge facing the Council makes it difficult to gauge whether we will be able to realise all the promises in the document. The ambition is clear but we must keep a close eye on things during the year to see whether we will be able to realise that ambition in every priority area.

### **4. Recommendation**

- 4.1 The Council is invited to adopt the Strategic Plan.**