

## **GWYNEDD CABINET DECISION NOTICE**

**Date of Cabinet Meeting:** 14/02/2017

**The Decision will come into force** and implemented, unless the decision is called in, in accordance with section 7.25.1 of the Gwynedd Council Constitution. 01/03/2017

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### **SUBJECT**

Item 6 : COUNCIL PLAN 2017-18

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### **DECISION**

To approve the Strategic Plan 2017/18 for submission to the Council on 2 March 2017.

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### **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

The original Strategic Plan for 2013-17 was adopted by the Council in May 2013. This document was submitted as a draft plan and reflected the outcomes of an internal review, and was an extension of the 2016/17 Strategic Plan.

The Plan's focus will be on improving the Council's ability to ensure the best for the people of Gwynedd and will do this by achieving the well-being objectives included in the Well-being of Future Generations Act. The plan will also transform some services to services which the Council will be able to maintain for the future.

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### **DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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### **ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION**

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which have been included in the report submitted to the meeting.

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### **SUBJECT**

Item 7 : FUTURE OF EDUCATION PROVISION IN THE BALA CATCHMENT AREA

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### **DECISION**

To consult with the governing bodies of the schools of the Berwyn Catchment-area on the option to abandon the proposal to establish a Voluntary Controlled 3-19 Learning Campus (VC, Church in Wales) in the town of Bala, in accordance with section 55 (5) of the Schools Standards and Organisation Act 2013 - with the intention to return to the Cabinet to report on the outcome of the consultation and make recommendations on the way forward.

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### **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

Following correspondence from the solicitors of the Diocese of St Asaph a report was submitted to the Cabinet on 13 December 2016 recommending the option to abandon the proposal to establish a Voluntary Controlled 3-19 Learning Campus (VC, Church in Wales) in the town of Bala, in accordance with section 55 (5) of the 2013 Schools Standards and Organisation Act 2013. It was resolved to defer the decision in order to consider legal opinion on the Diocese's latest stance and to give officers the opportunity to discuss with the catchment-area's governors.

Following the deferral, information and correspondence was received from the governors of some of the schools stating their unwillingness to be involved with the proposal for a Voluntary Controlled School. There was also evidence that opposition to the proposed designation has significantly increased in the area. This was considered to represent circumstances that led to the need to reconsider implementing the original proposal on the grounds noted in section 55(5).

In accordance with the requirements of the Schools Organisation Code 2013 a formal consultation must be held with the governing bodies of the affected schools before deciding to implement Section 55(5).

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### **DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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## **ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION**

The Statutory Officers and the catchment-area Governors were consulted to seek their views, which have been included in the report submitted to the meeting.

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### **SUBJECT**

Item 8: WELSH IN EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN 2017-20

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### **DECISION**

To approve the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan for 2017-2020, before the Authority submits it to Welsh Government for approval.

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### **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act (2013) was introduced in Wales on 4 March 2013. The Act placed a statutory duty on all local authorities to prepare and introduce a Welsh in Education Plan for the Government. Following the Cabinet's approval, the Authority will submit it for the Welsh Government's approval.

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### **DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

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### **ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION**

The Statutory Officers were consulted and their views have been included in the report submitted to the meeting.

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### **SUBJECT**

Item 9: CONSULTATION TO REVISE SCHOOL GOVERNANCE

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### **DECISION**

To respond to the Consultation to Review School Governance by noting:

- I. That the authority agrees to the proposal that LEA Governors need to meet the skills criteria.
  - II. That the Authority agrees that elected members from an LEA should not be disqualified from being a Governor.
  - III. That Gwynedd Council states to the Consultation that it is of the opinion that the review is insufficiently far-reaching to create a fit-for-purpose governance system.
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### **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

The Welsh Government has commissioned a Task and Finish Group to look at school governance; the conclusions of this group form the Consultation to Revise Governance. The Welsh Government asked Gwynedd Council for its opinion. The response emphasises that the council does not believe that the consultation is far-reaching enough.

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### **DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

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### **ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION**

Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which have been included in the report submitted to the meeting.

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### **SUBJECT**

Item 10 : EXTEND CHILD CARE FOR 3-4 YEAR OLDS IN WALES TO 30 HOURS AND IMPLEMENT THE STATUTORY REQUIREMENT OF THE CHILD CARE ACT 2006

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### **DECISION**

- I. To designate the Bangor, Dolgellau, Ffestiniog and Porthmadog Well-being areas as pilot areas in Gwynedd that will implement the childcare offer during 2017-18.
  - II. As the Government increased the number of children who will participate in the pilot after the report was published in the Cabinet agenda, to delegate powers to the Cabinet Member to designate more areas to the scheme based on the areas that currently have the least provision.
  - III. To commit to receiving grant resources to undertake the pilot (outline amount available from the Government to Gwynedd and Anglesey is £1,869,719 but to be amended according to the number of children participating in the pilot).
  - IV. To agree to establish a Gwynedd and Anglesey Childcare Unit for 2017-18.
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### **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

The Government acknowledges that childcare is one of the greatest challenges facing working families in Wales and developing a better childcare offer is considered a priority for the Government. The Government has committed to providing 30 hours per week of early years education and free childcare for working parents of three to four year olds, for 48 weeks a year.

Following discussions with the Government, it was noted that Gwynedd and Anglesey needed to target 1200 children during 17-18. Gwynedd will be targeting 62% of this figure. The numbers have increased since writing the report and as a result of this growth in numbers, the sum of money will also change.

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### **DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which have been included in the report submitted to the meeting.

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### **SUBJECT**

Item 11: NORTH WALES POPULATION NEEDS ASSESSMENT REPORT

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### **DECISION**

To recommend that the Full Council approves the North Wales Population Needs Assessment report produced as a requirement of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.

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### **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

The decision was needed in order to submit a recommendation to the Council on the report to ensure compliance with Section 2 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the Statutory Guidance.

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### **DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

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### **ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION**

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which have been included in the report submitted to the meeting.

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### **SUBJECT**

Item 12 : REVENUE BUDGET 2016-17 - THIRD QUARTER REVIEW

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### **DECISION**

- I. To accept the report on the third quarter review of the Revenue Budget (position as at 31 December 2016) and consider the latest financial position regarding the budgets of each department/service, and ask the Cabinet Members and the relevant heads of department to take appropriate steps regarding matters under their leadership/management. ynglŷn â materion o dan eu harweiniad/rheolaeth.
  - II. To transfer (£115k) from the Regulatory Department to the Council's general balances to fulfil the Council's priorities.
  - III. To harvest (£250k) from the favourable Council Tax collections, (£180k) from the Benefits underspend, (£600k) reserve budget, together with (£250k) of the underspend included within 'Other' to the Council's general balances, with £1,055k of the sum (£756k 2017/18 and £299k 2018/19) to be used specifically to finance obligations in the Education field that have already been approved by the Cabinet on 13 December 2016.
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### **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

It is the Cabinet's responsibility to take action, as necessary, in order to secure appropriate control over the Council's budgets (e.g. approval of significant virements or supplementary budgets).

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### **DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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### **ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION**

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, which have been included in the report submitted to the meeting.

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### **SUBJECT**

Item 13: CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2016/17 - THIRD QUARTER REVIEW

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### **DECISION**

To accept the report on the third quarter review (31 December 2016 position) of the capital programme, and approve the revised financing as shown in part 4 of the report, that is:

- An increase of £2.059m in the use of other borrowing
  - A decrease of £1.871m in the use of grants and contributions
  - A decrease of £0.077m in the use of capital receipts
  - An increase of £0.470m in the use of revenue contributions
  - An increase of £0.177m in the use of renewal and other reserves
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### **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

It is the Cabinet's responsibility to take action, as necessary, in order to secure appropriate control over the Council's budgets (e.g. approval of significant virements or supplementary budgets).

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### **DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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### **ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION**

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, and it was confirmed that there was nothing to add.

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### **SUBJECT**

Item 14 : 2017/18 BUDGET AND 2017/18 - 2019/20 FINANCIAL STRATEGY

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### **DECISION**

- a) To recommend to the Council (at its meeting on 2 March 2017) that:
    - A budget of £231,299,720 should be set for 2017/18, to be funded by £168,963,540 of Government Grant and £62,336,180 Council Tax income, with an increase of 2.8%.
    - Establish a capital programme of £12.015m in 2017/18 and £6.410m in 2018/19 to be funded from sources noted in clause 9.3 of the appendix.
  - b) To note the Medium Term Financial Plan in Appendix 4, and adopt the strategy which is in part 15-17 of the Plan.
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### **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

The Council has to set a balanced budget for 2017/18. In accordance with usual practice, the annual budget is presented within the context of the medium term financial strategy, in order to ensure that the budget is prepared for the position ahead. An increase of 2.8% in tax is recommended having given consideration to an appropriate and achievable level of additional efficiency savings.

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### **DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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### **ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION**

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, and it was confirmed that there was nothing to add.

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### SUBJECT

Item 15: PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

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### DECISION

To accept and note the information in the report.

To approve the following alternative profile figures for delivering the Carbon Management Scheme:

2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	Total
49,740	15,260	40,000	50,000	155,000

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### REASONS FOR THE DECISION

In order to ensure effective and transparent performance management, Cabinet Members are required to report periodically on the performance of the field for which they are responsible to the Cabinet. Ensure appropriate control by re-profiling the savings.

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### DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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### ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, and it was confirmed that there was nothing to add.

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### **SUBJECT**

Item 16 : PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE ECONOMY AND COMMUNITY DEPARTMENT

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### **DECISION**

To accept the report and approve re-profiling the efficiency savings scheme 'EaCh9a' - Neuadd Buddug (£16,000) from the 2017/18 financial year with £9,330 to be realised in 2018/19 and £6,670 to be realised in 2019/20.

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### **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

In order to ensure effective and transparent performance management, Cabinet Members are required to report periodically on the performance of the field for which they are responsible to the Cabinet. Ensure appropriate control by re-profiling the savings.

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### **DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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### **ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION**

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, and it was confirmed that there was nothing to add.

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### **SUBJECT**

Item 17 : PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR PLANNING AND REGULATORY

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### **DECISION**

To accept and note the information in the report.

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### **REASONS FOR THE DECISION**

In order to ensure effective and transparent performance management, Cabinet Members are required to report periodically on the performance of the field for which they are responsible to the Cabinet.

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### **DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND ANY RELEVANT DISPENSATIONS APPROVED BY THE STANDARDS COMMITTEE**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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### **ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION**

The Statutory Officers were consulted to seek their views, and it was confirmed that there was nothing to add.

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