

GWYNEDD CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	22 January 2019
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.	6 February 2019

SUBJECT

Item 5: APPLICATION FOR SERVICE TRANSFORMATION RESOURCE FOR THE CHILDREN AND FAMILY SUPPORT DEPARTMENT

DECISION

To assign £34,382 from the Council Plan Fund to finance a transformation officer post for a period of one year in the Children and Supporting Families Department to undertake a specific intervention in order to ensure that the Department's services are operating in the most efficient way possible.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

It is expected that departments function in a way that ensures that there are no unnecessary arrangements within their services, and that procedures and tasks are implemented in the most efficient way. The Department is of the view that a full scale and detailed review of all responsibilities and associated tasks across the service is needed in order to provide assurance that the service is being run effectively and efficiently.

The aim of the work will be to provide assurance that the service in its entirety is working in the most efficient way possible in the interests of the people of Gwynedd and to ensure that any changes needed are implemented.

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

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

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

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SUBJECT

Item 6: APPRENTICESHIP - BID TO THE GWYNEDD COUNCIL PLAN FUND

DECISION

- a) Approve the establishment of an apprenticeship scheme.
 - b) Commit £300,000 from the Council Plan Fund in order to establish the apprenticeships scheme to employ at least 20 new apprentices in 2019.
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REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Establishing an apprenticeships scheme is one of the priorities within the Council's proposed Plan for 2019/20. It is vital to continually reconcile and improve skills levels in Gwynedd in order to respond to future challenges, secure a positive future and keep our young people living in the area. The scheme gives the Council an opportunity to lead the way by offering apprenticeships of the highest quality, through the medium of Welsh.

The Council's workforce planning requirements note the need 'to get the right people, with the right skills, in the right places, at the right time'. The scheme will be an effective way of responding to these requirements.

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

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SUBJECT

Item 7: BID FOR COUNCIL RESOURCES TO TRANSFORM THE SCHOOLS SYSTEM

DECISION

- a) To commit £103,492 from the Council Plan Fund for a two-year period to fund a Project Manager post, which would enable the Education Department to respond to, and implement individual projects to transform the schools system in a timely manner as they arise and in accordance with the adopted education principles.
 - b) To review the situation when the initial two-year period ends, and/or if an increase is anticipated in the number of further individual projects that will need to be implemented to transform the schools system in light of adopting the education principles.
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REASONS FOR THE DECISION

On 18 December, the Cabinet adopted the new Education Principles as the basis for fulfilling the Department's vision and to develop a system to ensure a high quality of education for the children and young people of Gwynedd for the twenty first century.

The department will proceed to transform the system through two entirely different elements. The first, and the most prominent, is the 21st Century Schools Programme, which is a capital programme consisting of Band A and Band B. The second is opportunities from non-capital projects under the leadership of the Education Area Officers. In order to ensure that the department is able to implement and realise the projects, an additional resource in the form of a Project Manager post will be needed.

Unless an additional resource is obtained, it will be an increasing challenge to continue to maintain an unsustainable system, with inequality in the opportunities and experiences the children and young people of Gwynedd have to realise their potential.

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

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SUBJECT

Item 8: REVENUE BUDGET 2018/19 - END OF NOVEMBER REVIEW

DECISION

- To accept the report on the end of November 2018 review of the Revenue Budget and consider the latest financial position in respect of the budgets of every department/service.
- To ask the Cabinet Member for Adults, Health and Well-being, together with the Head of Department, to get to the root of the Provider service overspend and take steps to reduce the overspend, and to report to the Cabinet on the response plan.
- Due to an increase in the overspend on a number of budget headings by the Children and Supporting Families Department since the last review, to consider the situation when receiving the Cabinet Member's performance report (29/01/19 Cabinet) with a view to attempt to reduce the overspend by the end of the financial year.
- Due to the level of overspend on pupils' transport by the Education Department, to consider the situation when receiving the Cabinet Member's report (29/01/19 Cabinet).
- To allow the Environment Department to allocate (£60k) of the department's underspend to conduct a review by commissioning research by the University and employing extra officers to collect evidence in the Public Transport field following a number of issues over recent years.
- Harvest (£2,984k) of the net underspend on Corporate budgets,
 - with (£700k) associated with the Council Tax premium to be allocated to a specific fund to be considered for the Housing Strategy.
 - (£435k) relating to capital costs to be transferred to the capital programme's financing fund.
 - with the remainder of (£1,849k) to be transferred to the Supporting the Financial Strategy Fund to assist with inevitable one-off pressures on the Council's budgets.

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).

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

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

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SUBJECT

Item 9: CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2018/19 - END OF NOVEMBER REVIEW

DECISION

To accept the report on the end of November review (30 November 2018 position) of the capital programme, and approve the revised financing as shown in part 4 of the report, that is:

- £9,000 increase in the use of borrowing
 - £3,502,000 increase in the use of grants and contributions
 - £30,000 increase in the use of capital receipts
 - £488,000 increase in the use of revenue contributions
 - £220,000 increase in the use of renewal funds and others
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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).

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

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SUBJECT

Item 10: SAVINGS OVERVIEW - PROGRESS REPORT ON THE REALISING SAVING SCHEME

DECISION

To accept the report and note the encouraging progress towards realising the savings schemes during 2018/19 and previous years.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

In the Council's financial strategy since 2015/16, £27m worth of savings have been approved to be realised during the period 2015/16 to 2018/19.

Realising the individual schemes is the responsibility of the relevant Cabinet members, and Members' performance reports are presented regularly to Cabinet meetings, detailing the progress of individual savings schemes within their portfolios, and the position at the time. It is the responsibility of the Cabinet Member for Finance to keep an overview of the whole picture.

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

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SUBJECT

Item 11: PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CORPORATE SUPPORT AND LEGAL DEPARTMENT

DECISION

To accept and note the information in the report.

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.

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

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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 12: PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

DECISION

To accept and note the information in the report.

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.

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

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SUBJECT

Item 13: PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE

DECISION

To accept and note the information in the report.

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.

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, and it was confirmed that there was nothing to add.
