

GWYNEDD CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	27 September 2022
Date decision will come into force and be implemented, unless the decision is called in, in accordance with section 7.25 of the Gwynedd Council Constitution.	12 October 2022

SUBJECT

Item 6: CORPORATE PARENT ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22

DECISION

The information in the report, which reported on the work of the Corporate Parent Panel for 2021-22, was accepted and noted.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

It is essential that Cabinet members are aware of the Panel's work and are able to satisfy themselves that the Panel has undertaken the work required both thoroughly and conscientiously.

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 were included in the report.

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SUBJECT

Item 7: ANNUAL EQUALITY REPORT CYNGOR GWYNEDD 2021-22

DECISION

The contents of the Annual Report for 2021-22, Strategic Equality Plan 2020-24, were noted and approved.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

It was expressed that the Council was required to report annually on the Council's Strategic Equality Plan in accordance with the Equality Act.

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

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SUBJECT

Item 8: AMENDING THE COUNCIL'S WELSH LANGUAGE POLICY

DECISION

The amendments made to the Language Policy were supported and it was recommended that the Full Council adopted the amended Policy.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

It was noted that major changes had been made in the way that the Council operated and provided services to the public since the current Policy was drawn up in 2016. Therefore, it is vital to ensure that the Council's Welsh Language Policy was updated to reflect those operating methods and the Council's current ambition in terms of promoting the use of Welsh in its services.

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

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SUBJECT

Item 9: ANNUAL REPORT - EMPLOYMENT

DECISION

The information in the Annual Report for 2021/22 was noted and approved.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

An annual update is submitted of the workforce details and their employment, together with outlining objectives for developing the workforce and setting the direction for the future.

The report was submitted noting that the Cabinet needed to reflect and agree on the corporate strategy in this key field for the future.

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

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SUBJECT

Item 10: HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING ANNUAL REPORT

DECISION

The Annual Report was accepted.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The annual report was submitted to the Cabinet as part of health and safety management arrangements within the Council. It was noted that it was essential that Cabinet members had a full overview of the Council's standing in the field.

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 11: NORTH WALES MARKET STABILITY REPORT - DRAFT REPORT 2022

DECISION

The North Wales Market Stability Report for 2022 was approved and recommended for adoption by the Full Council.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

It was expressed that providing an overview of the North Wales Market Stability Report 2022 was one of the requirements under the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014. It was noted that the population needs assessment had been submitted to the Full Council on 3 March 2022, and that it looked at the demand for services across the north Wales region. It was explained that this report was a follow up of that and assessed the delivery side of things.

One report had to be drawn up for the entire region, and then approved by each of the local authority areas and the Health Board.

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 12: COUNCIL TAX PREMIUM ON SECOND HOMES AND LONG-TERM EMPTY PROPERTIES

DECISION

Hold a public consultation on the possible proposal to increase the Council Tax Premium on Second Homes and Long-term Empty Properties beyond 100% and up to 300% for the 2023/24 financial year.

To delegate the right to the Head of Finance in consultation with the Head of Legal Services to prepare a public consultation pack in accordance with the report and any recommendations by the Cabinet.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

For the 2021/22 and 2022/23 financial years, the Council has charged a Council Tax Premium of 100%, which is the highest permitted by law for these financial years. Legislative changes mean that the Council can charge a Premium of up to 300% from 1 April 2023 onwards.

The full Council must make an annual decision on the rate of the Premium, and in order to comply with the legal requirements, should the Council wish to increase the level of the Premium, a public consultation would have to be held on the proposal.

The Cabinet's decision was sought to agree to hold a public consultation on the level of the Premium, so that it was possible to operate appropriately, which would allow the full Council to make a decision on the level of the Premium for 2023/24 at its meeting on 1 December 2022, whether it is a decision to increase the Premium or keep it at the same level.

**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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SUBJECT

Item 13: REVIEW OF THE GWYNEDD STANDING ADVISORY COUNCIL ON RELIGIOUS EDUCATION (SACRE) CONSTITUTION

DECISION

The recommendation of the Education Department and Gwynedd SACRE Committee to change the membership of Group B as noted, was approved:

- Group A - Christianity and other Beliefs
- Group B - representation of Teachers and Headteachers - keep the number of seats at 5

The seats will be allocated as follows:

- 3 seats to be divided between the Teaching Unions recognised by Gwynedd Council (NAS/UWT; UCAC; NEU; ASCL and NAHT - to be determined by the Gwynedd Teaching Unions Forum)
- 1 seat to be filled by the Primary and Special Catchment Areas Consultative Group (GYDCA)
- 1 seat to be filled by the Gwynedd Secondary Headteachers Group (GSCU)
- Group C - Elected Members - keep at 7
- Co-opted - SACRE Committee to retain the right to co-opt members

(3 votes, which is 1 for each Group; Co-opted members do not have a vote).

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The Council has not considered the constitution since 2019, and as a result the existing constitution notes that teacher representatives come from the Teachers' Unions that are active within the Authority. However, the NUT and ATL Unions merged in 2017 to create the NEU Union, and in addition, the NAHT Union is recognised by Gwynedd Council.

The Education Department and SACRE are of the opinion that there is a need to strengthen the teachers' representation on the Committee to add value to the meetings and the Committee's actions.

**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 14: TO APPROVE AND ADOPT THE GWYNEDD COUNCIL AGREED SYLLABUS FOR RELIGION, VALUES AND ETHICS

DECISION

The Agreed Syllabus for Religion, Values and Ethics was approved and adopted in accordance with the recommendation of the Education Department and the Gwynedd Statutory Advisory Committee on Religious Education (SACRE) and the Welsh Government's Guidance.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

Every local authority has a legal duty to hold an Agreed Syllabus Conference to review the syllabus and recommend an appropriate syllabus for adoption by the local authority. Whenever the local authority is of the view (based on the observations made to it or otherwise) that the agreed syllabus for religion, values and ethics should be reconsidered, the local authority will be responsible for convening the Agreed Syllabus Conference for this purpose. The agreed syllabus for religion, values and ethics should be reconsidered every five years. As a result of the emergence of the Curriculum and Assessment Act (Wales) 2021 and the establishment of the Curriculum for Wales, the Agreed Syllabus Conference was held for Gwynedd on 15 February 2022. The unanimous decision of the Conference was to adopt Welsh Government's Guidance on Religion, Values and Ethics.

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

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SUBJECT

Item 15: PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR EDUCATION

DECISION

To accept and note the information in the report.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To ensure effective and transparent performance management, a Cabinet Member is required to periodically report to the Cabinet on the performance of the field for which the Member is responsible.

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 16: PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR FINANCE

DECISION

To accept and note the information in the report.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

To ensure effective and transparent performance management, a Cabinet Member is required to periodically report to the Cabinet on the performance of the field for which the Member is responsible.

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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