

**CYNGOR GWYNEDD**  
**AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE DECISION NOTICE**

**(Section 100C of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended by the Local Authorities (Coronavirus) (Meetings) (Wales) Regulations 2020)**

**9 February 2023**

**Virtual Meeting**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Menna Baines, Jina Gwyrfai, Medwyn Hughes, Meryl Roberts, Richard Glyn Roberts, Huw Rowlands, Paul Rowlinson, Angela Russell, Rob Triggs and Elfed Wyn ap Elwyn

**Lay Members:** Sharon Warnes (Chair), Hywel Eifion Jones, Clare Hitchcock and Rhys Parry

**Officers:**

Dewi Morgan, (Head of Finance Department), Ffion Madog Evans (Assistant Head of Finance – Accountancy and Pensions), Delyth Jones-Thomas (Investment Manager), Caren Rees-Jones (Group Accountant – Capital and Management), Bleddyn Rhys (Audit Leader), Eva Chan Williams (Audit Leader) and Lowri Haf Evans (Democracy Services Officer)

**Others invited:**

Councillor Ioan Thomas (Cabinet Member for Finance)

Item 5 and 6: Iwan Evans (Head of Legal Services), Dewi Wyn Jones (Operational Support Leader), Bethan Richardson (Climate Change Programme Manager)

Yvonne Thomas, Alan Hughes (Audit Wales)

Item 7: Council Leader – Cllr Dyfrig Siencyn, Chief Executive – Dafydd Gibbard, Ffion Mai Jones (Operational Support Leader)

**Apologies:**

Apologies were received from Carys Edwards (Lay Member)

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<b>9 February 2023</b>
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**SUBJECT**

**Item 4: IMPLEMENTING THE DECISIONS OF THE COMMITTEE**

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**DECISION:**

**To accept the report**

**Note:**

- **Need to discuss the Committee's statutory role in respect of the Council's complaints procedure**
- 

**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

In favour	12
Against	0
Abstentions	0

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 5: UPDATE ON THE REPORTS RECENTLY PUBLISHED BY AUDIT WALES**

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**DECISION:**

- **To accept the report and the managers' response to the recommendations in 'Arrangements for Responding to the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Act 2021'**
  - **To present a report in six months' time to update the Committee with regard to transferring the functions of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board to an empowered sub-committee of the North Wales Corporate Joint Committee, to streamline governance and avoid duplication between both bodies**
  - **To accept the report and the managers' response to the recommendations in 'Update on Decarbonisation Progress'**
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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

In favour	14
Against	0
Abstentions	0

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 6: RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPROVEMENT PROPOSALS OF EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORTS**

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**DECISION:**

- **To accept the report and note the information that there are appropriate arrangements in place to ensure that improvement proposals arising from external audit reports are implemented**

**Note:**

- **That 'completed' means one of two things in the 'key to the conclusions' – there is a need to highlight which one applies to the conclusions of those proposals / recommendations that are 'completed'.**
- 

**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

In favour	14
Against	0
Abstentions	0

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 7: 2023/24 SAVINGS**

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**DECISION:**

- That the process of identifying the savings had been challenging
- That reasonable steps, under challenging circumstances, have been taken to draw up the Savings Plan
- That the savings proposed are reasonable and achievable
- That the risks and implications of the decision are clear
- That the report is adequate to enable the Cabinet to make a decision on the entire Savings Plan
- To present observations from the discussion on the report to the Cabinet for their consideration when discussing the 2023/24 Savings in its meeting on 14/2/23

**Note:**

- The risk of not achieving schemes needs to be better highlighted
  - We need to highlight that the impact of the savings will not have a disproportionate effect across the County
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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

In favour	14
Against	0
Abstentions	0

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 8: 2023/2024 BUDGET**

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**DECISION:**

- To accept the report and note the content
  - To accept the financial propriety of the proposals and the relevant risks
  - To present observations from the discussion on the options to the Cabinet for their consideration when discussing the 2023/24 Budget in its meeting on 14/2/23
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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

In favour	13
Against	0
Abstentions	0

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 9: CAPITAL STRATEGY 2023/24 (INCLUDES INVESTMENT AND BORROWING STRATEGIES)**

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**DECISION:**

- **To accept the report and to note the information and relevant risks**
- **To support the Cabinet Member for Finance's intention to submit the strategy to the Full Council for approval on 2 March 2023**

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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

In favour	12
Against	0
Abstentions	0

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 10: INTERNAL AUDIT PLAN 2022/2023**

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**DECISION:**

- To accept the report, noting the progress made against the Audit Plan 2022/23
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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

In favour	12
Against	0
Abstentions	0

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

No declarations of personal interest or relevant dispensations were received.

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**SUBJECT**

**Item 11: OUTPUT OF THE INTERNAL AUDIT SECTION**

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**DECISION:**

- To accept the report
  - To support the actions that have already been agreed with the relevant services
  - To request an update from the Audit on Taxi Safety (limited assurance level)
  - That the matter of not implementing regulatory procedures in Care Homes should be referred to the Care Scrutiny Committee.
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**THE RESULT OF THE VOTE**

In favour	12
Against	0
Abstentions	0

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**DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST AND PROTOCOL MATTERS**

Cllr Paul Rowlinson (Appendix 10 - Ukraine Refugee Scheme) as he was offering accommodation to a Ukrainian refugee. The Monitoring Officer noted that it was not a prejudicial interest and therefore the Councillor did not leave the meeting.

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