CYNGOR GWYNEDD CABINET DECISION NOTICE

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	28 November 2023
Date decision will come into force and be implemented, unless the decision is called in, in accordance with section 7.25 of the Cyngor Gwynedd Constitution	13 December 2023

SUBJECT

Item 6: EQUALITY OBJECTIVES CONSULTATION DOCUMENT 2024-28

DECISION

It was agreed to release the consultation document on the Equality Objectives 2024-28 for public consultation in accordance with the report.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

According to the specific duty placed on Welsh public organisations as part of the Equality Act 2010, a Strategic Equality Plan must be produced every four years. As part of that, our Equality Objectives need to be reviewed for the period. It is also part of the specific duty to include people with protected characteristics when making our decision.

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 7: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NORTH WALES REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD 2022/2023

DECISION

To note the work and progress made in 2022/23 in the areas of work that are brought forward regionally through the North Wales Regional Partnership Board.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The purpose of this report is to provide information to partners in relation to the North Wales Regional Partnership Board and its activities during 2022/23.

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 8: ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CORPORATE PARENT PANEL 2022-2023.

DECISION

To accept and note the information in the report which reports on the work of the Corporate Parent Panel for the year 2022-23.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The purpose of this report is to provide and update on what has been achieved by the Corporate Parent Panel during the period.

It is essential that Cabinet members are aware of the Panel's work and can satisfy themselves that the Panel has undertaken the work required, 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

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SUBJECT

Item 9: ARFON POST-16 EDUCATION

DECISION

- 1. To approve Option 2 for the project on Post-16 Education in Arfon.
- 2. The Cabinet approved the Head of Education Department to hold discussions on revising the memorandum of understanding with the stakeholders who make up the Gwynedd and Ynys Môn Post-16 Education Consortium with the aim of strengthening the arrangements and to report back to the Cabinet with recommendations for the agreed amendments.
- 3. The Cabinet gave its permission to redirect part of the Arfon Post-16 Education project's budget in accordance with the report, in order to address the financial deficit in Band B projects that cannot be progressed at present due to the insufficient budget for them as a result of increased costs.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

The deadline for submitting business cases for our projects that are part of the Band B envelope, Sustainable Learning Communities Programme, ends in March 2024, and we need to ensure that we have fulfilled our commitments within Band B by then. The Arfon Post-16 Education Project is part of the Band B capital envelope.

In March 2023 permission was obtained from the Cabinet to commence an informal engagement process with key stakeholders to consider the current post-16 provision, and highlight the key considerations in order to identify the direction and opportunities to strengthen the post-16 education provision in Arfon. A detailed report was drawn up, under the title 'Post-16 Education Overview' as a basis to the engagement.

In order to support the engagement, virtual meetings were held with learners, parents, teaching staff and governors during the period to give them an opportunity to voice their opinions and ask any questions about the field. Six virtual sessions were held, and over 140 stakeholders attended.

In addition, to encourage as much contribution to the conversation as possible, special virtual sessions were held to gather opinions and ideas from learners in Arfon about the

type of post-16 education system that would satisfy the vision as well as their needs and those of their peers in the future.

The main messages gained from the informal engagement process can be summarised as follows:

- The main priority is the Quality of Education.
- ICT should be used to reiterate and support the face-to-face learning.
- That Welsh and bilingual Education is of integral importance (despite some comments to the contrary).
- That the capital funding should be used to improve the facilities in our secondary schools in general so that all 11-18 year-old learners can benefit from the investment.
- That there is general objection to any proposal to centralise the provision or have a tertiary provision.
- That many comments were received regarding the provision of GLIM in terms of quality, medium and pastoral care.

On 7 March 2023 permission was obtained from the Cabinet for further work to be undertaken with stakeholders in order to develop potential models for post-16 education in Arfon, based on the informal engagement that was undertaken in the autumn term 2020.

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

A declaration of personal interest was received from Councillor Elin Walker Jones as she was a governor in Ysgol Tryfan. She was not of the opinion that it was a prejudicial interest and she did not leave the meeting during the discussion on the item.

Declarations of personal interest were received from Councillors Beca Brown and Berwyn Parry Jones as they were governors in Ysgol Brynrefail. They were not of the opinion that it was a prejudicial interest and did not leave the meeting during the discussion on the item.

The Chief Executive declared a personal interest as he had a family connection who was a student in one of the schools that had been discussed. He was not of the opinion that it was a prejudicial interest and did not leave the meeting during the discussion on the item.

ANY CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN PRIOR TO MAKING THE DECISION

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SUBJECT

Item 10: PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN AND SUPPORTING FAMILIES

DECISION

The information in the report was accepted and noted.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

In order to ensure effective performance management.

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 11: PERFORMANCE REPORT OF THE CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULTS, HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

DECISION

The information in the report was accepted and noted.

REASONS FOR THE DECISION

In order to ensure effective performance management

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