

# CABINET CYNGOR GWYNEDD

## REPORT TO THE CABINET

15 September 2015

**Cabinet Member:** Councillor Dyfrig Siencyn

**Subject:** The Performance of Gwynedd Council 2014-15

**Contact officer:** Hawis Jones, Strategic Planning and Performance Manager

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### Decision sought

To recommend to the Full Council that they adopt the report on the 2014-15 performance of Gwynedd Council.

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### Local member's views

Not a local matter.

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### Introduction

In accordance with the Council's performance management arrangements, the performance report for 2014-15 is submitted to the Cabinet for approval.

### Reasons for recommending the decision

The Cabinet must approve the report before it is adopted by the Full Council at its meeting on 8 October 2015. The report was also submitted for the attention of the Scrutiny Forum to scrutinise the balance of the report.

### Relevant considerations

The report is based on reports on the performance which were submitted by the Project Leaders and addresses the achievement against the outcomes of the Council's Strategic Plan 2013-17.

The Wales Audit Office considers this report when preparing its assessment of the Council's performance. As usual, they will be searching for a balanced report, which addresses the aspects that failed to be achieved as well as the successful aspects.

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A 'brief' version has been prepared that addresses the main issues visually. It has been created to be easy to read by Gwynedd residents.

It will be arranged for the public to be informed of the report via the Council's usual media, including social media.

## Next steps and timetable

The report will be considered further by:  
The Full Council – 8 October 2015, for final approval

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## Views of the statutory officers

### Chief Executive:

"It is a necessity for us to be accountable for what we have done as a Council as a result of the promises we have made in the 2013-17 Strategic Plan. In that respect, we are required to publish a report that is fair and balanced. I believe that to be true, and the Scrutiny Forum has looked specifically at that point. I am aware that the Forum had made several suggestions to make the report more understandable to the public.

I approve this report to the Cabinet as one that can be recommended to the Council."

### Monitoring Officer:

"No comments to add from the perspective of appropriateness."

### Head of Finance Department:

"Pages 31 and 55 of the 2014-15 performance report notes that the Council has managed to achieve efficiency savings of £3.3 million in 2014-15, by changing the way we deliver services and avoid having to cut services to the people of Gwynedd. While we will continue to maximise efficiencies, I confirm the Council Leaders' facts (Page. 4) that in subsequent years the Council will have to identify what we are really going to prioritise, within challenging times of shrinking in the money which comes from central government to the local government sector.

The report notes the success of projects and services across several areas. I'm glad that includes (Page. 54) effective tax collection, keeping within budget and prompt payment of invoices. In addition, it is encouraging to see (Pages 51 & 52) there has been

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improvement in the time taken to process claims for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Benefit, whilst also attracting £788,910 of additional funding to the Hardship Fund (Page. 28) and processing of payments to support 1,658 families (to mitigate the impact of the 'bedroom tax' etc.) in 2014-15."

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## Appendices

**Appendix 1 – Report on the Performance of Gwynedd Council 2014-15**

**Appendix 2 – Gwynedd Measure Data 2014-15**

**Appendix 3 – Brief Gwynedd Performance Report 2014-15**

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