

MEETING: AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

DATE: 13 FEBRUARY 2020

**TITLE: REVENUE BUDGET 2019/20 –
END OF NOVEMBER 2019 REVIEW**

PURPOSE: Monitoring Report on the Latest Financial Position

**ACTION: Receive the information, consider the risks arising from
the forecast expenditure against the budget, and scrutinise
the Cabinet’s decisions regarding budget management by
the Council and its departments.**

CABINET MEMBER: COUNCILLOR IOAN THOMAS

CONTACT OFFICER: FFION MADOG EVANS, SENIOR FINANCE MANAGER

1. In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, the Audit and Governance Committee is expected to scrutinise some financial matters, including budget monitoring reports, as appropriate.
2. The attached report (Revenue Budget 2019/20 – End of November 2019 Review) was submitted to the Cabinet on 21 January 2020.
3. The Cabinet Member for Finance and the Chairman of the Audit and Governance Committee have asked us to present this report to the Audit and Governance Committee to be scrutinised, together with the relevant decision notice which is on the next page.
4. The Audit and Governance Committee is requested to note the situation and the relevant risks regarding the budgets of the Council and its departments, consider the Cabinet’s decisions and comment as necessary.

Appendices:

Cabinet Decision Notice 21/01/2020

Cabinet report 21/01/2020: Revenue Budget 2019/20 – End of November 2019 Review

**GWYNEDD COUNCIL
CABINET DECISION NOTICE**

Date of Cabinet Meeting:	21 January 2020
Date decision will come into force and implemented, unless the decision is called in, in accordance with section 7.25 of the Gwynedd Council Constitution.	5 February 2020

SUBJECT

Item 8: REVENUE BUDGET 2019-20 - END OF NOVEMBER REVIEW

DECISION

Resolved to:

- Accept the report on the end of November 2019 review of the Revenue Budget and consider the latest financial situation regarding the budgets of each department/service.
 - Note that there is a significant overspend by the Adults, Health and Well-being Department this year, and as complex details need to be clarified in this picture in Adults care, the Chief Executive has already called a meeting of the relevant officers and commissioned work in order to gain a better understanding and a clear response programme. To attempt to meet the overspend in future, an additional resource is allocated as part of the bidding system for the 2020/21 budget.
 - To note that the Children's Budget Taskforce has been commissioned by the Chief Executive to address serious financial matters within the Children and Families Department so that it is possible to get to the root of the Department's overspend, with the intention of submitting a report to the Cabinet that will detail on the response plan. To attempt to meet the overspend in future, an additional resource is allocated as part of the bidding system for the 2020/21 budget.
 - On Corporate budgets, that:
 - (£198k) of additional tax yield on the Council's Tax Premium is added to the £2.7 million that has already been allocated in 2019/20 to be considered for the Housing Strategy.
 - (£75k) relating to capital costs allocated to a capital programme fund.
 - (£500k) of Corporate underspend is allocated to fund a lack of grants in the field of sustainable social services.
 - (£312k) to be spent to fund one-off bids that have been submitted by the Departments for expenditure in 2020/21.
 - The remainder (£502k) would go towards the Council's general balances
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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

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 had been included in the report.
