




Report to a meeting of the Cyngor Gwynedd Cabinet

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| Date of meeting: | 14 February 2023 |
| Cabinet Member: | Cllr Dyfrig Siencyn |
| Contact Officer: | Dewi W. Jones, Council Business Support Service Manager |
| Department / Service: | Leadership Team |
| Title of Item: | Gwynedd Council Plan 2023-2028 |
| 1. THE DECISION SOUGHT | |
| 1.1. The Cabinet's approval to the Gwynedd Council Plan 2023-28 (the Plan) for submission to the Council on 2 March 2023. | |
| 2. THE REASON FOR THE NEED FOR A DECISION | |
| 2.1 To ensure there is agreement on the contents of the Plan and that it reflects the priorities that have been identified before recommending its adoption by the full Council at its meeting on 2 March 2023. | |
| 3. INTRODUCTION | |
| 3.1 The Gwynedd Council Plan 2023-28 is our public statement as a Council of what we intend to achieve for the people of Gwynedd. It conveys our priorities and our ambition for the next five years together with the projects we will be carrying out. | |
| 3.2 Over the past few months much work has been undertaken to identify areas that should be prioritised, having considered what is important to the people of Gwynedd, which will set the direction for the Council's work for the period 2023-28. As part of the process, consideration was given to several pieces of work/information, including the projects that were in the current 2018-23 Plan, feedback from engagement in the 'Ardal Ni' Regeneration Framework, and the Well-being Assessments completed by the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board. | |
| 3.3 As part of the process of forming the plan, two workshop sessions were held for all Elected Members during December 2022. They were given the opportunity to highlight any matters that needed addressing on a county level along with the areas they represent. | |



3.4 A public consultation was conducted from 8 December until 3 January to present and explain the draft priorities to the public, partners and local organisations and to provide them with the opportunity to participate in the exercise by completing a short on-line questionnaire on www.gwynedd.llyw.cymru/consultations. Paper copies were also available in local libraries and local Siopau Gwynedd. We received 643 responses to the questionnaire.

3.5 Generally, there was agreement to the draft priorities, and respondents also welcomed the opportunity to feed into the process before submitting the Plan formally to the Cabinet and the Full Council. One point that the consultation raised was the need to consider including a project relating to providing play/leisure opportunities for children and young people. As a result, an additional project has been included which is 'Extend opportunities for play and socialising for the county's children and young people'.

3.6 We also note that revisions have been made to projects in Priority Area 4 compared with what was consulted upon back in October. The projects that were included in the former plan (A Suitable and Sustainable Care Provision for the Future, and Re-designing our Care Services) have been repackaged within three new projects – Local Preventative Support, Living Independently, and Specialist Quality Care. We hope that these new projects reflect an individual's journey through the services and are more easily understood by the layman.

3.7 The Council Plan is based on these materials and there is a draft copy in **Appendix 1**. It includes the **priority headings and areas** for 2023-28 (these are our well-being objectives for the purpose of the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations Act) and the **ambitions** for those priority areas. There is also a brief description for every **project** that we will be implementing, outlining why we are addressing it and what we will be doing over the life of the plan to respond.

3.8 Please note that only the draft version in narrative form is presented to this meeting. The aim for the new plan is for it to be a concise document which will include information about the priority areas, ambitions and the priority projects. There is an example of a draft format for the 2023-28 plan in **Appendix 2**.


3.9 We present an Equality Impact Assessment in order that the Cabinet can weigh up whether the changes are acceptable in terms of the impact they might have on people who have one or more of the characteristics that are protected under the Equality Act 2010. The Assessment can be viewed in **Appendix 3**.

4. RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

4.1. We note below the matters for the Cabinet members to consider prior to approving the Plan.

4.2. Resources

Additional resources are required in order to achieve the commitments noted for a number of the projects within the Plan. Without the resource, it may not



be possible for us to achieve what is noted. Currently, we propose that all the projects are approved as part of the Plan, subject to the Cabinet's agreement to fund them, after they have considered each business case individually. This is expected to take place as soon as possible.

4.4 Public Consultation

The public consultation on the priorities of the Council Plan for 2023-28 was conducted between 8 December and 3 January. Appropriate opportunities were provided for individuals and interested groups to participate in the exercise by completing a questionnaire that was available on the Council's website or via hard copies that were available at Siopau Gwynedd and the county's Libraries. Third sector organisations were also contacted to encourage them to take part.

643 responses were received to the public consultation and overall there was agreement to the draft priorities and projects we have identified. Responses received are summarised in **Appendix 5**.

Points 3.4, 3.5 and 3.6 in the above report highlight the amendments made to the draft plan following the consultation. Consideration will be needed as to whether any other issues have arisen in the consultation that need to be addressed.

4.5 The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Act places a duty on public bodies in Wales to improve economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being. As part of the duty, public bodies are required to publish well-being objectives that outline how they will improve well-being.


as part of the process of creating the Council Plan for 2023-28 we also reviewed our well-being objectives. In reviewing our well-being objectives, we considered several sources of evidence including information from consultation sessions held with Elected Members, the response to the public consultation on the proposed priorities for the Council Plan and the results of the Gwynedd and Anglesey Public Services Board's Well-being Assessments which were published in 2022.

Our well-being objectives will contribute directly to achieving the national well-being goals and include the practical steps or projects we will implement in order to contribute towards the objective. It is intended that we will review them regularly.

As part of the process we have also reviewed our Well-being Statement (**Appendix 4**).

4.6 Equality Act 2010

There is a statutory requirement to prepare and consider the findings of an equality impact assessment when preparing the plan in accordance with the



requirements of the Equality Act 2010 as it is implemented in Wales. The assessment is attached in **Appendix 2**.

The assessment on the Plan in its entirety does not identify any impact that would justify a departure from the recommendation, and there are elements for which a positive impact is anticipated. The Project Leaders will be responsible for undertaking a full Equality Impact Assessment on individual projects.

5. NEXT STEPS AND TIMETABLE

5.1. If the plan is approved, it is intended to submit it for adoption at the next full meeting of the Council on 2 March 2023.

5.2. After the Full Council have adopted the Plan, it will be published on the Council's website. We will also give consideration to how best to communicate the main messages of the plan to the public, and Cabinet Members will have the opportunity to give their opinion on this after the Plan is adopted.

6. Views of the Statutory Officers:

i. The Head of Finance Department

The Council Plan is a key document, which sets out what Gwynedd Council aims to do over the next five years. I can confirm that specific, limited funds are in place to finance the Plan's priorities. The report contains an acknowledgment that that resource requirements for all the improvement priorities in the Plan is greater than the money available to them, and I therefore agree with what is set out in paragraph 4.2 of the report, that there is a need to consider each individual business case before funding is agreed.

Financial propriety means that we will continue to ensure that a funding source has been identified for any commitment to spend.

ii. The Monitoring Officer:

The adoption of the Council Plan constitutes one of the main functions of the Full Council and the recommendation of the Cabinet is fundamental to the Process. The report appropriately confirms that the interrelationship with the requirements of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 is intertwined in the plan. It is essential that the Cabinet in forming its recommendations pays specific regard to the information stemming from the consultation process and the Impact Assessments which are appended.

Appendices:

Appendix 1 – Gwynedd Council Plan 2023-2028 (Draft)

Appendix 2 – Draft copy of the format for the new Plan

Appendix 3 – Equality Impact Assessment

Appendix 4 – Well-being Statement 2023/24

Appendix 5 – Summary of Public Consultation