

REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24 - END OF AUGUST REVIEW						
Adults, Health and Well-being Department	2023/24 Proposed Budget	2023/24 Estimated Position	Estimated Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Estimated Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Net Over / (Under) Spend Final Position 2022/23
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Adults Services</u>						
Older People's Services						
Residential and Nursing - Homes	21,114	22,114	1,000		1,000	514
Domiciliary Care	9,020	8,776	(244)		(244)	(3)
Others	856	1,548	692		692	981
	30,990	32,438	1,448	0	1,448	1,492
Physical Disabilities Services	3,174	2,834	(340)		(340)	(407)
Learning Disabilities Services	26,450	29,211	2,761		2,761	1,190
Mental Health Services	4,429	4,765	336		336	193
Other Services (Adults)	3,692	3,772	80		80	(184)
<u>Adults Services Total</u>	68,735	73,020	4,285	0	4,285	2,284
<u>Provider Services (shows net budget)</u>						
Residential Care	0	285	285		285	336
Day Care	(5)	(118)	(113)		(113)	(186)
Community Care	138	1,817	1,679		1,679	1,828
Others	0	24	24		24	20
<u>Provider Services Total</u>	133	2,008	1,875	0	1,875	1,998

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Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Other Services</u>						
Departmental Central Services (including Department savings)	3,635	4,053	418		418	123
Use of reserve funds			0		0	(520)
Closure of 2022/23 Accounts Adaptation			0		0	(3,785)
<u>Other Services Total</u>	3,635	4,053	418	0	418	(4,182)
<u>Adults, Health and Well-being Total</u>	72,503	79,081	6,578	0	6,578	100

Adults, Health and Well-being

Older People's Services - in residential and nursing, higher fee costs by private providers, as well as lower contributions from residents following a change to the threshold of contributions for residential care. Although there is reduced demand for domiciliary care (£244k), a disproportionate increase is seen in direct payments which overspend £732k in 'Others'.

Physical Disabilities Services - reduced demand for domiciliary care; however, increased pressure on direct payments.

Learning Disabilities Services - increasing pressure and a number of new, costly supported accommodation cases responsible for £2m of the overspend, but also pressure is seen on residential and nursing, direct payments and the costs of taxis for day services.

Mental Health Services - more demand for supported housing and increasing pressure on residential and nursing with four new intensive cases.

Provider Services - increased use of agency staff leading to overspend in residential care. Higher staffing costs and rates of non-contact hours are high and, therefore, having a negative impact on the income reclaimed in community care. The Day Care provision has been affected and reduced over recent years, therefore underspending.

Departmental Central Services - posts above the structure and failing to realise savings.

Savings - following the inability of the department to realise savings schemes, £1,488k worth of savings have been erased. The predicted departmental overspending of £6.6m follows the erasure of savings.

In light of the exceptional overspend projection by the Adults, Health and Well-being Department, it is noted that the Chief Executive has already commissioned work to explain the complex details of the Adult care picture, to obtain a better understanding of the issues and a clear response programme. The work will be led by the Statutory Director of Social Services.

REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24 - END OF AUGUST REVIEW						
Children and Families Department	2023/24 Proposed Budget	2023/24 Estimated Position	Estimated Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Estimated Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Net Over / (Under) Spend Final Position 2022/23
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Service Management	561	534	(27)		(27)	(105)
Operational	2,562	2,974	412		412	151
Placements						
Out-of-County Placements	5,536	4,781	(755)		(755)	378
Fostering through an Agency	1,791	1,460	(331)		(331)	(174)
Fostering - Internal	2,856	2,574	(282)		(282)	(361)
Support Services and Others	1,905	2,052	147		147	40
	12,088	10,867	(1,221)	0	(1,221)	(117)
Post-16	1,475	1,375	(100)		(100)	36
Specialist/Derwen	2,336	3,043	707		707	480
Youth Justice	274	244	(30)		(30)	(39)
Early Years	151	157	6		6	(82)
Workforce Development Unit	116	116	0		0	(132)
Others	2,090	2,232	142		142	(19)
Contribution to the Department's Overspend Fund	(76)		76		76	(97)
Children and Families Total	21,577	21,542	(35)	0	(35)	76

Children and Families

Operational - pressure on support plans along with staffing above the field worker budget following a number of maternity leave periods.

Placements - reduced pressure on Out-of-county Placements this year with the average number 24.2, compared to 25.7 for 2022/23, with the cost approximately £219k per case. Average numbers of Fostering through Agent and Internal Fostering consistent with 2022/23 numbers but as there are several asylum seekers without parents or guardians receiving a service, the income receipt from the Home Office for them has resulted in an underspend. Pressure on the support worker budget and the Placements Team.

Post-16 - reduced pressure on the provision after intensive packages recently came to an end.

Specialist/Derwen - the increasing overspend trend continues as a result of an increase in the demand for support plans and specialist support. A change in the emphasis in terms of how the service is provided, with increased pressure on direct payments which is responsible for £108k of the overspend. An overspend of £85k is anticipated on the Short Respite Unit due to staff costs and reduced income after Anglesey Council established their own provision instead of coming to Gwynedd for the service.

Others - combination of overspending on staffing, specialist service fees and on the contributions of joint services.

Following an overspend of £76k by the Department in 2022/23, the department intends to use £76k of the underspend anticipated this year to abolish the overspend fund.

REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24 - END OF AUGUST REVIEW						
Education Department	2023/24 Proposed Budget	2023/24 Estimated Position	Estimated Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Estimated Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Net Over / (Under) Spend Final Position 2022/23
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Devolved Schools	90,242	90,242	0		0	0
Devolved Schools - Additional Costs from Staff and Electricity Inflation Above Budget			0		0	1,304
Schools Quality Services	(1,391)	(1,592)	(201)		(201)	(61)
Infrastructure and Support Services						0
Transportation	6,286	7,746	1,460		1,460	551
Ancillary Services	1,314	1,311	(3)		(3)	(200)
Others	3,579	3,552	(27)		(27)	(38)
	11,179	12,609	1,430	0	1,430	313
Leadership and Management	2,499	2,277	(222)		(222)	(259)
Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion	5,241	5,265	24		24	(89)
Youth Service	984	951	(33)		(33)	
Use of the Department's Underspend Fund	241		(241)		(241)	
Use of School Balances					0	(1,304)
Education Total	108,995	109,752	757	0	757	(96)

Education

Schools Quality Service - combination of income receipts and spending cuts.

Transportation - overspend projection of £626k on school taxis. Following the recent re-tendering of bus contracts, an overspend of £833k is anticipated by the end of the year.

The Transport field has been the subject of a strategic review to try to control the increase in expenditure, it is suggested that the need for further work by the Education Department and Environment Department continues, so that it is possible to reduce overspending and take advantage of opportunities for efficiencies.

Infrastructure and Support Services - Ancillary Services - higher staffing costs and lack of income on the care element of breakfast clubs overspending £116k but staff turnover and income and grant receipts in catering abolishes the overspend.

Infrastructure and Support Services - Others - underspend on a number of various budgets.

Leadership and Management - vacancies and underspend on a number of budget headings.

Additional Learning Needs and Inclusion - a mixed picture which is a combination of vacant posts and underspend on a number of varied headings, while circumstances involving one specific centre continue and responsible for an overspend of £126k.

Youth Service - underspend on staff costs.

In order to reduce the overspend reported, the department intends to use its £241k underspend fund in its entirety this year.

REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24 - END OF AUGUST REVIEW						
Economy and Community Department	2023/24 Proposed Budget	2023/24 Estimated Position	Estimated Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Estimated Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Net Over / (Under) Spend Final Position 2022/23
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Management	450	455	5		5	(8)
Community Regeneration and Support Programmes	473	434	(39)		(39)	(40)
Maritime and Country Parks	(186)	(213)	(27)		(27)	21
Byw'n Iach and Other Leisure Contracts	2,247	2,317	70		70	608
Economic Development Programmes	(36)	(36)	0		0	14
Marketing and Events	293	293	0		0	3
Gwynedd Libraries	1,755	1,712	(43)		(43)	(77)
Museums, Arts and Gwynedd Archives	942	1,054	112		112	61
Use of the department's underspend fund			0		0	(32)
Closure of 2022/23 Accounts Adaptation			0		0	(550)
<u>Economy and Community Total</u>	5,938	6,016	78	0	78	0

Economy and Community

Community Regeneration and Support Programmes - underspend on staff costs and on several budget headings.

Maritime and Country Parks - beaches and Hafan, Pwllheli exceed income targets

Byw'n Iach and Other Leisure Contracts - the leisure provision was transferred to the Byw'n Iach Company in April 2019, but responsibility for the running costs of properties remained with the Council. In recent years, the impact of Covid affected the company's income. The Welsh Government compensated them for the loss in 2020/21 and 2021/22 from its hardship fund. In 2022/23, the Council provided £550k financial support to Byw'n Iach to enable it to maintain its services. The financial support continues this year and the required amount has reduced to £375k.

Furthermore, there is an overspend of £70k on the running costs of Byw'n Iach properties.

Gwynedd Libraries - vacant post and less expenditure on several budget headings.

Museums, Arts and Gwynedd Archives - overspend mainly as lack of income are issues at Neuadd Dwyfor and Storiell.

REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24 - END OF AUGUST REVIEW						
Highways, Engineering and YGC Department (including Trunk roads)	2023/24 Proposed Budget	2023/24 Estimated Position	Estimated Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Estimated Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Net Over / (Under) Spend Final Position 2022/23
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Highways Services (including Trunk roads)	11,428	11,935	507		507	954
Engineering Services	397	392	(5)		(5)	117
Municipal Services	5,093	5,573	480		480	426
Gwynedd Consultancy	(365)	(349)	16		16	(73)
Use of Reserve Funds			0		0	(300)
Contribution by Consultancy Department			0		0	(73)
Closure of 2022/23 Accounts Adaptation			0		0	(2,434)
Highways, Engineering and YGC Total	16,553	17,551	998	0	998	(1,383)

Highways, Engineering and YGC (including Trunk Roads)

Highways Services - less work being commissioned by external agencies and, therefore, having a negative impact on income.

Engineering Services - underspend on various headings.

Municipal Services - a mixed picture which is a combination of factors, additional pressure on the budgets of street cleaning and cleaning public toilets. Income losses in ground maintenance and public toilets but higher income by the bereavement services which reduces the overspend reported.

Gwynedd Consultancy - projections of lack of income by external organisations such as other Councils and Welsh Government on road services and engineering.

REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24 - END OF AUGUST REVIEW						
Environment Department	2023/24 Proposed Budget	2023/24 Estimated Position	Estimated Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Estimated Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Net Over / (Under) Spend Final Position 2022/23
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Department Management	770	753	(17)		(17)	58
Planning and Building Control Service	510	575	65		65	(128)
Street Care and Transport Services						
Network Management (Transportation)	288	28	(260)		(260)	(380)
Parking and Parking Enforcement	(2,043)	(1,901)	142		142	334
Integrated Transport	2,047	2,426	379		379	375
	292	553	261	0	261	329
Countryside and Access	671	672	1		1	(1)
Public Protection	1,774	1,578	(196)		(196)	(252)
Waste	13,535	13,987	452		452	1,410
Use of the Department's Underspend Fund	55		(55)		(55)	
Environment Total	17,607	18,118	511	0	511	1,416

Environment

Planning and Building Control Service - lack of income that is reduced by an underspend on staff costs.

Street Care Services and Transport

Network Control (Transportation) - exceeding the streetworks fees income, as well as vacant posts and underspend on many of the budget's headings.

Parking and Parking Enforcement - parking income deficit of £227k which is reduced by an underspend on other budgets.

Integrated Transport - overspend of £485k on public bus contracts, but higher income and various underspend reduces the overspend reported. It is suggested that the review into the Transport provision should continue.

Public Protection - vacant posts and less expenditure on a number of the budget headings, including food and water samples, services and supplies.

Waste - a number of matters are responsible for the overspend, but mainly on waste and recycling collection. Additional circuits have led to overspending on employment costs and fleet costs. Sickness and overtime levels are also problematic, while there are additional costs in terms of vehicle hire. Overspending on the costs of handling recycling materials but the income on the sale of recycling materials exceeds the budget. Reduction in residual waste means that the associated costs are lower.

Following the increased overspend trend in the waste field in recent years, and external review was commissioned by WRAP Cymru. The report and recommendations on ways to improve the service are already being considered by the department with steps to respond to the situation being implemented.

In order to reduce the overspend reported, the department intends to use its £55k underspend fund this year.

REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24 - END OF AUGUST REVIEW

Housing and Property Department	2023/24 Proposed Budget	2023/24 Estimated Position	Estimated Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Estimated Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Net Over / (Under) Spend Final Position 2022/23
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Management	344	314	(30)		(30)	(32)
Housing Services						
Homelessness	4,968	6,523	1,555		1,555	2,754
Private Sector Housing	387	429	42		42	(46)
Others	240	157	(83)		(83)	(237)
	5,595	7,109	1,514	0	1,514	2,471
Property Services						
Property	4,104	4,083	(21)		(21)	49
Caretaking, Catering and Cleaning	(31)	(33)	(2)		(2)	(6)
	4,073	4,050	(23)	0	(23)	43
One-off Corporate Covid Provision	1,400		(1,400)		(1,400)	
Closure of 2022/23 Accounts Adaptation			0		0	(2,482)
Housing and Property Total	11,412	11,473	61	0	61	0

Housing and Property

Homelessness - the trend of significant pressure on the Temporary Accommodation service continues to be very intense with higher average costs as the availability of temporary accommodation in the county has reached its capacity. This year, an additional budget of £3m of council tax premium was allocated to assist with the additional pressures.

Private Sector Housing - a deficit in the disabled facilities grant income.

Housing Services, Others - underspend on staff costs and spending cuts.

Property Services - vacancies in Property which alleviate the overspend on services and supplies and on vehicle costs in Pest Control.

Corporate One-off Covid Provision - one-off £1.4m allocation to meet the additional costs relating to Homelessness.

REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24 - END OF AUGUST REVIEW						
Central Departments	2023/24 Proposed Budget	2023/24 Estimated Position	Estimated Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Estimated Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Net Over / (Under) Spend Final Position 2022/23
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Corporate Management Team and Legal	2,688	2,725	37		37	(17)
Finance (and Information Technology)	7,781	7,883	102		102	(10)
Corporate Support	7,635	7,697	62		62	(16)
Central Departments Total	18,104	18,305	201	0	201	(43)

Central Departments

Corporate Management Team and Legal - additional pressure of £62k on the Gwynedd element of the Coroner's budget, recent appointments in Legal have led to reduced use of agency solicitors and therefore, an underspend of (£17k) is anticipated.

Finance (and Information Technology) - banking costs overspending £115k as more payments by customers are made by card and therefore the associated banking fees are payable by the Council. Further one-off costs of £50k to buy equipment to comply with data security standard requirements of the payment card industry for Council services. The overspend is reduced by vacancies.

Corporate Support – combination of reasons responsible for the situation, including minor overspend in some fields, increasing pressure on the counselling budget with an overspend of £36k anticipated. Projections of lack of income of £22k in the Printroom.

REVENUE BUDGET 2023/24 - END OF AUGUST REVIEW						
Corporate (Reflects variances only)	2023/24 Proposed Budget	2023/24 Estimated Position	Estimated Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Use of Other Sources or Other Adjustments Recommended	Estimated Adjusted Over / (Under) Spend 2023/24	Net Over / (Under) Spend Final Position 2022/23
Field:-	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Council Tax	*	*	(151)		(151)	0
Council Tax Reductions	*	*	(984)		(984)	0
Capital Costs	*	*	(200)		(200)	0
Interest Received	*	*	(1,833)		(1,833)	0
Pay Inflation Pressure Above Budget	*	*	1,495		1,495	0
Savings Provision	*	*	0		0	0
Others	*	*	(1,602)		(1,602)	0
Corporate Total	*	*	(3,275)	0	(3,275)	0

Corporate

Council Tax - a reduction in the projections after the number of premium second homes reduced, with 166 fewer by August compared to the end of March 2023. Furthermore, the Valuer's Office permitted 67 properties to transfer from Council Tax to non-domestic rates (452 in 2022/23, 469 in 2021/22, 506 in 2020/21). In 2023/24, £6m of Council Tax Premium has been earmarked for the Housing Strategy and a further £3m for the field of Homelessness.

Council Tax Reductions - prudent projections set and a further reduction in the numbers claiming a reduction in Gwynedd compared to previous years.

Capital Costs - impact of the current treasury management policy which has meant that it was possible to avoid external borrowing, thus avoiding the associated costs.

Interest Received - the latest increase in interest rates means that the projections interest receipts exceed the expected budget.

Pay Inflation Pressure Above Budget - once again this year, there is a delay in confirming the national increase to the salaries of Local Government employees. It is anticipated that the increase will be above the budget that was deemed prudent at the time.

Savings Provision - following the failure of certain departments to realise savings in some fields, a corporate provision has been set up for the purpose, which has been fully allocated to erase problematic savings.

Others - the pressures on some budgets including the electricity budget not as much as anticipated.

It is recommended that the net underspend on Corporate budgets, namely (£3,275k) is to be allocated to the Financial Strategy Support Fund to assist to fund the financial deficit facing the Council.

Although it is premature to transfer money from funds until the financial situation is finalised at the end of the year, it is recommended that the order in terms of using funds to fund the financial deficit at the time will be:

- firstly, £3,800k from the post-Covid recovery arrangements fund established to fund financial challenges.
- with the rest funded from the Council's Financial Strategy Reserve.