

# Public Document Pack



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21 March 2025

Lisa Evans

01545 574177

Dear Sir / Madam

I write to inform you that a Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee will be held HYBRID - NEUADD CYNGOR CEREDIGION, PENMORFA, ABERAERON / REMOTELY VIA VIDEO CONFERENCE on Thursday, 27 March 2025 at 10.00 am for the transaction of the following business:

1. **Apologies**
2. **Disclosure of personal interest (including whipping declarations). Members are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and prejudicial interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Members Code of Conduct. In addition, Members must declare any prohibited party whip which the Member has been given in relation to the meeting as per the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.**
3. **Chair Announcements**
4. **Recruitment and Retention (Pages 3 - 16)**
5. **Ceredigion Public Services Board (PSB) meeting held on the 3rd March 2025 (Pages 17 - 28)**
6. **Oversight of in year financial matters (Pages 29 - 72)**
7. **To receive a update from the Chairmen of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees and to consider the draft Forward Work Programmes (Pages 73 - 90)**
8. **Confirm minutes of the previous meeting and consider any matters arising therefrom (Pages 91 - 98)**

Members are reminded to sign the Attendance Register

A Translation Services will be provided at this meeting and those present are welcome to speak in Welsh or English at the meeting.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'L Edwards', written in a cursive style.

**Miss Lowri Edwards**  
**Corporate Lead Officer: Democratic Services**

**To: Chairman and Members of Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating  
Committee**

The remaining Members of the Council for information only.

## CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

**Report to:** Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

**Date of meeting:** 27 March 2025

**Title:** Recruitment and Retention

**Purpose of the report:**

To inform Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee of the current position regarding recruitment, retention and the use of agency social workers, care workers and occupational therapists.

**Reason Scrutiny have requested the information:**

For information and to determine the level of agency professional workers who are actively employed in Through Age Wellbeing services.

**Background**

The engagement of agency professionals has become more prevalent within social care over the last ten years for all local authorities in Wales.

In recent years Ceredigion County Council has seen an increase in the need to engage qualified social workers, occupational therapists and care workers.

In response to this situation Ceredigion County Council has been creative in identifying a range of solutions to ensure a safe service is delivered.

**Current Situation**

There has been an encouraging increase in applications received for permanent roles in the local authority over recent months. However, we remain reliant on expensive agency provision to deliver social care services in Ceredigion.

**Context**

The Council has a legal duty to provide safe statutory services for those most in need in Ceredigion. Whilst responsibility for this ultimately lies with the Council's Statutory Director of Social Services (SDSS), there is an organisational responsibility to support the SDSS to ensure these responsibilities are discharged effectively and in a manner that results in a safe service.

The risk of not having a safe service would, at worst, present a risk to life in terms of service users, but also significant financial risk, and toll on staff & capacity should the Council be placed into special measures.

Where recruitment is challenging across social care structures agency staff are used. The cost of doing so represents a necessary spend given the safe service that they are critical to maintaining.

Our utilisation of agency staff ensures the needs of the Council and those of our service users are met. As you will see from the information throughout the report, the challenge to recruitment in social care is a national one, and one which is likely to remain without a significant focus on the issues from Welsh Government.

The recruitment and retention of an appropriately sized workforce is one of the most significant challenges facing local government and the public sector in general, with increasing vacancy rates across all areas. As well as explaining the challenges, this report also captures the ways in which the Council is attempting to respond to them.

The ability to attract and retain talent is critical to maintaining a skilled workforce capable of delivering quality services to our communities. The Council employs a workforce of around 3,500 employees, to a full-time equivalent workforce of around 2,550 employees, largely female based at approximately 66 percent.

Recruitment and retention in our Through Age Wellbeing (TAW) social care services has continued to be challenging post Covid19, especially in the statutory field and has required innovative local solutions and investment.

Nevertheless, TAW services now employ a workforce of around 840 employees, having expanded to include new services such as Hafan y Waun, Wellbeing Centres, Children's Safe Accommodation and Occupational Therapy, and of a full-time equivalent workforce of c.570 there is now a female workforce higher-than-the-corporate-average at 76%.

Of these roles 240 are supporting statutory services and vacancies in these roles currently stands at 57 (24%), noting 39 of these are occupied by agency staff leaving 18 unfilled.

Of the remaining 600 roles, vacancies are 122 (21%) but only 8 of these are occupied by agency staff, wholly within our residential homes team.

The agency staff covering statutory services until recently included an eight-member managed team arrangement through *Innovate Services*. The appointment of this managed team was made in September 2022 and was stood down in December 2024. This solution has enabled the children's social care services to stabilise and achieve a consistent and responsive service.

Following a review of risk, in February 2023 the recruitment and retention of qualified social workers was identified as a corporate risk and included on the Corporate Risk Register. Since this time, quarterly updates have been provided on the progress against mitigating actions designed to reduce the risk to an acceptable level.

The purpose of this report is to provide an overview of the ongoing recruitment and retention issues facing TAW services, progress on the corporate risk mitigating actions as well as outlining the work currently being undertaken to address these challenges.

## **Financial Considerations**

There are several areas within Social Care where external resources have been needed to supplement core staff employed directly by the Council.

These remaining areas are Professional Social Worker and Occupational Therapy posts covered by agency resource and Care & Support worker posts within the Local Authority Care Homes. Most data sets are from a snapshot in February 2025.

### Professional Social Worker Posts

On the Social Work qualified roles, there are currently 33 agency workers covering statutory posts plus 3 agency workers within the Fostering service. The hourly rates being paid varied from £41.00 to £57.00 per hour with one outlier at £65 per hour for a Team Manager role. There is clearly an additional cost to using agency workers, however there is a partial offset from the saving from the associated vacant post as well as an agency staff member not incurring Employer Pension contributions nor any additional cost being incurred for hours / days not worked (e.g. Sickness / annual leave). There is a typical additional cost on an annualised basis of c.£15k to c.£35kpa for using an agency Social Worker:

	Social Worker £'000	Senior Practitioner £'000
Cost as an Employee (with oncosts)	51.5	57.2
Cost with Agency (based on 44 weeks)	67	92.8
<b>Difference</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>35.6</b>

### Professional Occupational Therapy (OT) Posts

Despite active ongoing recruitment campaigns, opportunities for permanent qualified appointments have been very limited. However, a recent campaign for Occupational Therapy Assistants (OTAs) had several exceptional candidates. The service took the opportunity to create additional OTA posts reworking vacancies in the system and these will be fully operational from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025.

The OT operational service redesign is incorporating these OTAs across the Targeted Care and Enablement Service to improve therapeutic input and approaches, supporting the prevention and early help ethos of Through Age, Wellbeing services. OTAs are supported to consider and participate in the 'Grow your Own' Therapist approach, and this will support the development of qualified OTs going forward.

The service has also been successful in securing additional grant funding to enable agency qualified Locum OTs to both support the ongoing development of the service redesign and to ensure statutory duties are being met along the way. There are currently 5 agency workers working within the OT service

	Occupational Therapist £'000	Senior Occupational Therapist £'000
Cost as an Employee (with oncosts)	51.5	57.2
Cost with Agency (based on 44 weeks)	73	83
<b>Difference</b>	<b>21.5</b>	<b>25.8</b>

## Care & Support Worker Posts

Within Local Authority Care Homes, it is the operational side of 24/7 shifts that need to be filled. This is exacerbated at present by the onboarding of Hafan y Waun from the MHA Group who deployed large numbers of agency workers. A wide-ranging recruitment campaign is in place and Agency use has reduced by c50% in the last six months.

The current typical level of usage is now a net cost of c. £20k per week (equating to just under 700 hours of care per week), although this varies from week to week depending on operational requirements. Agency Hourly rates being paid for Care & Support Worker roles and Senior Care & Support Worker roles vary from £25.99 to £47.00. The reason for the large differential is the higher end hourly rates cover Saturdays, Sundays and Bank Holiday working.

	Care Assistant £'000	Senior Care Assistant £'000
Cost as an Employee (with oncosts)	32	38
Cost with Agency (based on 44 weeks)	42	76
<b>Difference</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>38</b>

In this area, whilst there is a partial financial offset already included within the net cost per week (as the base budget provides for the core operational hours required to run each Home), it is not as significant as there is no wider vacancy run rate position that assists, because each shift is required to be filled to maintain adequate staffing ratios.

The agency cost premium also varies depending on the type of shift being covered – it is at its highest for a basic weekday daytime shift - an 85% premium (£14.03 including oncosts v £25.99 agency), but this reduces to only 11% for a Bank holiday night.

Therefore, there is a significant net cost to using agency staff in Local Authority Care Homes and this is only being mitigated at present through underspends in other parts of Porth Gofal, namely Day Services and Targeted Care & Enablement Services.

## Impact on 24/25 Budget

The Quarter 3 revenue monitoring report considered by Cabinet on 11/03/25 references the financial impact of agency costs within the TAW Services. Across the Pwrths a projected outturn position of an £808k overspend is being forecast for 24/25, which is a significant improvement over Q2 (when a £1.4m overspend was forecast). The financial position is being managed corporately with an overall expected breakeven position bottom line. The improved Q3 TAW position includes the impact of the reducing level agency related spend. A net cost of £1.540m (after allowing for vacancy elements and specific funding for the Innovate team) was included in the Q3 projections across all TAW agency spend, against which £500k has been factored in from reserves to partially mitigate down to just over £1m.

## **Recruitment and retention issues in Social Care**

The recruitment and retention issues affecting social care in Wales have previously been reported and the key challenges noted in July 2023 remain today. These include:

- *Workforce shortages*: The demand for social care services has been increasing due to an aging population, rising complex care needs, and legislative changes. However, the number of people entering the profession has not kept pace with the demand.
- *Lower pay and poor working conditions*: Social care roles are often associated with low pay and challenging working conditions. Social workers in Wales often face lower pay compared to other professions requiring similar qualifications and responsibilities.
- *Lack of career progression and development opportunities*: Limited career progression and professional development opportunities within the social care sector can discourage individuals from pursuing long-term careers in this field.
- *Negative perception of the sector*: The social care sector has often been undervalued and stigmatised, leading to a negative perception of the profession. This can discourage individuals from considering social care as a viable career option, contributing to the recruitment challenges.
- *Geographical disparities*: Recruitment issues may be more pronounced in rural and remote regions.
- *Work-life balance and stress*: Social work can be emotionally demanding and stressful. The nature of the work, dealing with challenging situations and providing support to vulnerable individuals and families, can impact the work-life balance of social workers.

## **Local Government Pay**

One of the most significant challenges is salary levels in local government. All local authorities are tied into national pay bargaining arrangements, that are not automatically linked to funding from central government. There are also job evaluation scheme considerations across local government which make it difficult to offer more competitive salaries and benefits packages in specific roles. This can lead to a higher turnover as employees seek better-paying positions elsewhere, often in the private sector, or in comparable paying roles but with less work demands. There is a project currently being managed by the Association of Directors of Social Services (Cymru) to work towards reducing reliance on agency social workers across children's social care. It is envisaged that there will be scope to look at the same approach with adult social workers in the future; the project having produced the All-Wales Pledge to reduce the number of agency social workers employed by local authorities. The steps to be taken within the Pledge include not employing social workers who have left local authority employment to join an agency, reducing the hourly pay rate offered to agency social workers to be more aligned with local authority pay rates and to re-negotiate pay rates of existing agency employees to lower amounts.

ADSS (Cymru) recognise that change has be incremental and there is a need to give local authorities alternatives to using expensive agency solutions. To date there are no obvious solutions coming forward from the project.

However, to sign up to the All-Wales Pledge is an undertaking to stop using agency workers

therefore creating is a risk that agency staff will move on to maintain their income. This would place local authorities in a position where there was insufficient qualified social worker capacity to fulfil statutory duties to the community.

The basic salaries paid for social worker roles vary across all local authorities in Wales as each authority will have individual pay policies and banding in place. The differences can be up to £4k for a qualified social worker, when comparing Ceredigion salaries to that of larger authorities. Furthermore, as a recruitment and/or retention tool, local authorities have introduced market forces supplements which has exacerbated these differences with authorities paying between £2k and £6k per annum. Having a national pay spine for qualified social workers would remove the internal market influences currently in place between neighbouring authorities.

### **Regional picture overview**

The most recent Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board Workforce Report (2022-23) highlights some key messages which are consistent and compelling. The issues set out below persist across Ceredigion, Carmarthenshire, Pembrokeshire and Powys. There remain serious workforce risk factors found across the four local authorities in a wide range of areas, including:

- high vacancy levels and difficulties in recruiting to posts such as safeguarding work, in part because of increased workloads arising from issues such as more complex case management processes.
- problems in securing a sufficient supply of social workers at all stages of their careers but especially in roles which involve specialist skills.
- dependence on destabilising levels of agency staffing.
- a high proportion of staff in the upper age range.
- high turnover levels when social workers have completed their post-qualifying period.
- sickness absences often attributed to stress, anxiety, fatigue, or mental health concerns.
- fears about worker burn out and other challenges to their well-being.
- significant upheaval caused by changes in working conditions, especially those which have occurred because of the pandemic.
- increasing demand for services and rising workload levels.
- remuneration concerns.

The review concluded that it was crucial that any improvement plans take into account the work being done at a national level through the Social Care Wales *Social Work Workforce Plan 2022 to 2025*. The plan contains five principles.

*“We want to have a social work workforce that:*

- *feels valued and is valued.*
- *has the right values, behaviours, knowledge, skills, and confidence to assess care and support needs and provide support when needed.*
- *is sustainable and has enough people to provide responsive health and social care that*



*meets the needs of the people of Wales.*

- *works in an environment where supporting employee well-being is essential so that people and organisations can thrive.*
- *reflects the population’s diversity, Welsh language, and cultural identity.”*

### **Increasing use of agency workers**

On a national scale, the number of social work graduates and experienced professionals entering the field has not kept pace with the demand and therefore the use of agency social worker staff is increasing across the sector. This is reflected in Mid and West Wales.

Over the last six months, and in response to the increasing instability in the recruitment market, local authorities in Wales have been working together to develop a joint approach to the use of agency social workers in children’s services.

There is a project currently being managed by the Association of Directors of Social Services (Cymru) to work towards reducing reliance on agency social workers across children’s social care with scope to look at the same approach with adult social care.

ADSS (Cymru) recognise that this change must be incremental and give local authorities alternatives to using expensive agency solutions. Of 22 local authorities in Wales there are 20 signed up to an agreement to support the project. The premise of the agreement is to develop and to manage the agency supply chain, improve the quality of staff and regulate pay rates within agency Children’s Social Work. The key stakeholders are social care and finance managers, human resources teams, trade unions, agency providers and agency social workers.

### **Current Position in Ceredigion**

The review produced for the Mid and West Wales Safeguarding Board, mentioned above, included reference to evidence-based research undertaken by the Local Government Association on two relevant areas: (a) when Social Workers would stay in local authority employment, and (b) when Social Workers would leave local authority employment. These have been set out in the first column of the two tables below. The second column records the response in place in Ceredigion to either promote the relevant area (in the first table) or to address the issue (in the second table).

<b><i>There is research that states that Social Workers stay in Council employment when they:</i></b>	<b>The situation in Ceredigion County Council:</b>
<i>feel valued and supported with good management, good supervision, good initial and post qualifying training</i>	Ceredigion achieves this through a robust Through Age Wellbeing management structure, which ensures that supervision, reflective practice and training opportunities are available for all social care staff
<i>have a supportive team and colleagues providing advice, expertise, and emotional support</i>	We achieve this through a programme of regular team meetings, team social activities, access to a wellbeing support service and counselling service

<i>have good work-life balance and career progression</i>	The Through Age Wellbeing services have developed team structures and training opportunities that support career progression as well as flexible working opportunities in line with our local policies and procedures
<i>have clear priorities and appropriate caseloads</i>	We achieve this through the Signs of Safety supervision policy focusing on strengths and positive outcomes, regular supervision enables the worker to prioritise and identify clear goals and techniques to manage caseloads
<i>operate in an environment where reflective practice is the norm</i>	Our teams and managers achieve this through individual and group supervision, action learning opportunities and case reviews
<i>have effective administrative back up and IT systems</i>	Corporate systems have been developed to enable access and support from all corporate services including IT and business support
<i>have job security</i>	The Team Ceredigion ethos is promoted across all the services and through regular communications to all staff the aim is to create a 'family' approach reinforcing the importance of job security and being part of the Ceredigion community
<i>have access to flexible working</i>	New ways of working post pandemic has enabled further flexibility for staff working for the Council, in addition to existing relevant policies and procedures.

<b><i>There is research that states that Social Workers leave Council employment when:</i></b>	<b>The situation in Ceredigion County Council:</b>
<i>referral rates rise</i>	Post pandemic we have seen the number of referrals rise and complexity of cases increase, this is managed through regular monitoring of data and performance and re directing individual staff and teams to support in those areas of greatest need.
<i>individual caseloads increase</i>	we manage this through supervision and case allocation, supporting staff to manage their caseloads effectively and where appropriate providing additional staffing resource

<i>the support they've previously received diminishes</i>	Support is consistent and delivered as per previous comments above
<i>the control which they believe they should have over their working lives is reduced</i>	Flexible working has been key in supporting staff in maintaining a positive work life balance
<i>they cannot use their own professional judgement</i>	Staff are supported to work autonomously and use their professional judgement; this is a key requirement within social care practice and is supported through good supervision and management
<i>local policy changes result in reduced allowances</i>	This has not been applicable in Ceredigion
<i>local pay rates are uncompetitive compared with those available nearby</i>	This is an area of concern and is addressed further within the report.

## **Recruitment and retention initiatives**

With the aim of making Ceredigion self-sufficient with a regular supply of qualified social workers the following actions are being taken:

- Social work trainees have been recruited to enrol on the Open University (OU) course, sponsored by the local authority. The 'grow your own social worker' (GYO) scheme has successfully recruited cohorts for several years' worth of qualifiers. Grants have been secured for external candidates' salaries, plus several internal colleagues joined the scheme 'on the job' with grants covering their tuition.
  - 2022/3: 3 trainees – 2 external / 1 internal (all qualified and placed in Ceredigion)
  - 2023/4: 3 trainees – 1 external / 2 internal (all qualified and placed in Ceredigion)
  - 2024/5: 6 trainees – 5 external / 1 internal
  - 2025/6: 6 trainees – 2 external / 4 internal
  - 2026/7: 3 trainees – all external
  - 2027/8: 6 trainees expected - 3 external / 3 internal– recruitment underway now
  - 2028/9: 4 trainees expected – 2 external / 2 internal – recruitment Feb 2026
- For the eight years prior, early versions of the GYO Programme resulted in the following:
  - 12 external Trainee Social Workers recruited - 5 other employees sponsored on an independent route to qualify as Social Workers. As a result, 16 employed as Social Workers by Ceredigion County Council.
  - 5 Swansea University Social Work students completed hosted placements and were employed as Ceredigion County Council Social Workers.
  - 80 student Social Work placements were provided.
- In addition - 22 employees were supported to undertake a Certification in Higher Education, out of which 9 continued onto the Social Work degree in the cohorts outlined

above. Ceredigion also host practice placements to students from other universities to support the qualifying program and expose students the benefits of working for the local authority. There is strong evidence to suggest that student social workers take up employment with the host local authority in which they had a positive experience whilst qualifying.

- Work in partnership with Aberystwyth University to develop a Mid and West Wales Social Work Master's Degree program reached an advanced stage before the university had to shelve proposals due to funding priorities. Ceredigion County Council and the University will resume discussions and jointly explore this development with oversight from Social Care Wales. The Local Authority remains optimistic that progress can be made at the right time for all partners.
- Develop in-house and implement a senior practitioner training programme to support the progression pathway for qualified social workers in the absence of a national training programme.

As a part of its employment offer, we promote the following benefits to recruit, retain and support the whole workforce:

#### ***Functional/Fiscal***

- Relocation package of up to £8k for hard-to-fill roles
- Market forces supplement to qualified social workers and now to qualified Occupational Therapists
- Hybrid and flexible working opportunities
- Car leasing and cycle to work schemes
- Lifestyle savings card

#### ***Pastoral / Developmental***

- Access to employee health and wellbeing support
- A clear and robust supervision policy
- Annual appraisals
- Access to a wide range of mandatory and specialist training
- Care First – Employee Assistance Package

#### **Outreach**

- We've attended careers fairs, job centre days, and supported We Care Wales campaigns - both regionally and nationally
- Promoted employment opportunities across the Through Age Wellbeing services to Aberystwyth University Students
- Virtual information sessions held with Swansea University students

- Sponsored and hosted the 2024 Regional Safeguarding Conference to showcase practice and innovation in Ceredigion

### **Current recruitment campaigns**

We have revised our candidate attraction material to improve the marketing of our brand and employment offer which has seen the following developments:

- Developed 3 'showcase videos' for the purpose of sharing on our socials, careers site, info sessions etc:
  - (i) Lifestyle
  - (ii) Mixed testimonials
  - (iii) Case Study.
- These have been shared as part of sponsored campaigns on our social media channels achieving a reach of over 100,000. In addition, there are weekly 'non-sponsored' awareness raiser posts shared on our social media platforms.
- We have shared a range of content on our social media channels (Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn) to showcase our employment offer
- Staff testimonial quotes shared on our social media platforms
- Introduced a relocation package scheme for qualified social worker vacancies
- Attended careers fairs in schools and job centres. Promoted employment opportunities across the Through Age Wellbeing services to Aberystwyth University students
- Introduced a reduced/CV application form and currently reviewing key job descriptions with a view to making them more appealing
- Sponsored and hosted the 2024 Regional Safeguarding Conference to showcase practice and innovation in Ceredigion
- Held virtual information sessions for those interested in careers with Ceredigion – explaining benefits, opportunities and provided application advice
- Supported and shared national sector campaigns such as We Care Wales Social Work Week, Carer week

## Conclusion

There are indications that the initiatives outlined above are beginning to have a positive impact on the recruitment and retention of qualified social workers. As a snapshot of vacancies, the following indicates the considerable improvement at social worker level but also that focus needs to continue in the higher graded roles:

Qualified social worker roles	Feb 2022	Feb 2025
Team Manager	2	3
Senior Practitioner	9	9
Social Worker	24	12
Independent Reviewing Officer	3	3

Addressing recruitment and retention issues requires a multi-faceted approach. It includes improving pay and working conditions, investing in professional development and training, promoting the value and importance of social care roles, focusing on improving job satisfaction, employee wellbeing, promoting a positive and supportive work culture, and implementing targeted recruitment strategies to attract and retain social care professionals in Wales.

Collaborative efforts between the government, social care providers, educational institutions, and professional associations are crucial in finding sustainable solutions to these challenges. Additionally, addressing the underlying recruitment challenges and improving the overall perception of social care as a valued and rewarding profession can also contribute to better retention rates.

### **Wellbeing of Future Generations:**

**Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If not, please state why.**

No

This is a report that has been compiled in response to a request from the Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee. For information only.

### **Summary of Integrated Impact Assessment:**

**Long term:** N/A

**Collaboration:** N/A

**Involvement:** N/A

**Prevention:** N/A

**Integration:** N/A

### **Recommendation(s):**

The Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee take note of the content of the report.

### **Reason for recommendation(s):**

None.

**Contact Name:** Audrey Somerton-Edwards

**Designation:** Corporate Lead Officer, Porth Cynnal, Statutory Director of Social Services, Geraint Edwards, Corporate Lead Officer People and Organisation.

**Date of Report:** 4 March 2025

**Acronyms:** Definitions contained in the report.

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## CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

**Report to:** Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee

**Date of meeting:** 27<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**Title:** Ceredigion Public Services Board (PSB) meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025

**Purpose of the report:** To provide an opportunity for the Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee to scrutinise the decisions made or actions taken by the Ceredigion PSB.

**Reason Scrutiny have requested the information:**

As the designated Scrutiny Committee for taking an overview of the overall effectiveness of the PSB.

**Background**

Under Section 35 of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, Local Authorities are required to ensure their Overview and Scrutiny Committees have the power to scrutinise decisions made, or other action taken, by the Public Services Board for the Local Authority area in the exercise of its functions.

**Current Situation**

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE CEREDIGION PSB MEETING HELD ON THE 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025**

The draft minutes of the Ceredigion PSB meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 are presented to the Committee and can be seen in **Appendix 1**.

**Wellbeing of Future Generations:**

**Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why.**  
Not completed as the report is not a Policy or Service change.

**Summary of Integrated Impact Assessment:**

**Long term:**

**Collaboration:**

**Involvement:**

**Prevention:**

**Integration:**

**Recommendation(s):**

- i. To receive the draft minutes of the Ceredigion PSB meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025.

**Reasons for decision:**

In order for the Overview and Scrutiny Coordinating Committee to carry out their role of taking an overview of the overall effectiveness of the PSB

**Contact Name:** Timothy Bray

**Designation:** Partnerships and Civil Contingencies Manager

**Date of Report:** 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025

**Acronyms:** Public Services Board (PSB)

**Appendices**

**Appendix 1**

The draft minutes of the Ceredigion PSB meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025

# Ceredigion

## Public Services Board

**Meeting 42  
3 March 2025, 14:00-16:00**

**Virtual via Teams  
MINUTES**

<b>Present:</b>	
Hazel Lloyd Lubran (HLL) Gavin Bown (GB) Barry Rees (BR) Megan Harris (MH) Steve Thomas (ST) George Holloway (GH) Trina Nealon (TN) Wayne Thomas (WT) Dr Andrew Cornish (AC) Heddwyn Thomas (HT) Wyn Morris (WM)	Chair, CAVO Vice-Chair, Natural Resources Wales Ceredigion County Council Hywel Dda Public Health Team Aberystwyth University One Voice Wales Hywel Dda Public Health Team Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service Coleg Sir Gâr Dyfed Powys Police Department for Work and Pensions
<b>Also in attendance:</b>	
Greg Jones (GJ) Carys Lloyd-Jones (CLJ) Cathryn Morgan (CM) Jessica Thomas (JT) Mandy Williams (MW) Russell Hughes-Pickering (RHP)	Ceredigion County Council Ceredigion County Council Ceredigion County Council Dyfed Powys Police Co-Production Network Wales Ceredigion County Council
<b>PSB Support Team:</b>	
Diana Davies (DD) Tim Bray (TB) Sara Dafydd (SD) Neris Davies (ND) Teleri Elias	Ceredigion County Council Ceredigion County Council Ceredigion County Council Ceredigion County Council Ceredigion County Council ( <i>Minutes</i> )
<b>Members of the Public Attendees:</b>	
Jim Ralph – Observer Elizabeth Mullen – Observer Polly Ernest – Observer	
<b>42.1</b>	<b>Apologies, introductions &amp; disclosures of interest</b>
The Chair Hazel Lloyd Lubran (HLL), welcomed those present to the meeting. The members of the public in attendance were also acknowledged and welcomed by HLL. HLL noted that a number of queries were submitted prior to the meeting by the observers present – However, it was highlighted that queries must relate to the statutory functions or work programme of the PSB, and that any questions relating to the work of individual organisations would be forwarded as appropriate. HLL	

confirmed that all queries submitted had been forwarded to the Board's representative for Natural Resources Wales (NRW), Gavin Bown (GB). GB presented the latest information on NRW's Visitors Centres via the Chat function: *All paths, trails, car parks, play areas and toilet facilities will remain open at the sites and public meetings were held to update communities on November 25 (Ynyslas) and 26 (Bwlch Nant yr Arian). The expression of interest process for community use of Ynyslas Visitor Centre has now finished. NRW are considering the submissions and will notify interested parties as soon as possible. Latest information on the Visitor Centres in Ceredigion is available from the following [webpage](#).*

**Apologies were noted for the following:**

- Pat Smith – Department for Work and Pensions
- Iwan Cray – Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
- Dr Ardiana Gjini – Hywel Dda Public Health Team
- Claire Bryant – Police & Crime Commissioner's Office
- Superintendent Steve Davies – Dyfed Powys Police
- Councillor Wyn Evans – Ceredigion County Council
- Elen James – Ceredigion County Council
- Councillor Bryan Davies – Ceredigion County Council
- Councillor Catrin Davies – Ceredigion County Council
- Councillor Matthew Vaux – Ceredigion County Council

HLL noted that the three Counties are experiencing similar challenges in terms of senior representation from Hywel Dda University Health Board (HDdUHB), which will warrant further investigation.

**42.2 Minutes of the previous Ceredigion PSB meeting – 2 December 2024**

The minutes from the meeting held on 02.12.2024 were agreed as a true record.

**42.3 Completion of actions and matters arising from previous meeting 2 December 2024**

All actions from the previous meeting on 02.12.24 were completed or included on the agenda.

<b>Action Log – 2 December 2024</b>		
1.	<b>Complete</b> – Well-being Plan Information Events to remain as a standing Agenda item, and the Partnerships Team to establish whether Google calendar can be used in place of the Events Log document.	Partnerships Team
2.	<b>Complete</b> – Ann Elias to share details for the Active Travel Plan consultation, the Partnerships Team to circulate to PSB members.	Ann Elias, Partnerships Team
3.	<b>Complete</b> – Ann Elias to be invited back to a future PSB meeting for an update on the Active Travel Plan following the consultation.	Partnerships Team
4.	<b>Complete</b> – Megan Harris to report back at a future PSB meeting on the Public Health initiatives focussing on behavioural change.	Megan Harris
5.	<b>Complete</b> – Feedback from the Community Transport event to be fed back at the next PSB meeting.	Hazel Lloyd Lubran
6.	<b>Complete</b> – The Partnerships Team to ensure that future spotlight sessions are noted on the agenda circulated ahead of PSB meetings for partners to consider their inputs.	Partnerships Team
7.	<b>Complete</b> – The Partnerships Team to circulate the WSA To Healthy Weight workshops report, and details of how to sign up to the regional Learning Network when further information is available.	Partnerships Team

<b>8.</b>	<b>Complete</b> – The Partnerships Team to circulate the recommendations from the Fair Work Task and Finish Group meeting, and members to respond by 16 December 2024 with comments or objections to the proposals.	Partnerships Team
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<b>42.4</b>	<b>Ceredigion Local Well-being Plan 2023-28: Review of Activity Tracker (Meeting 42)</b>
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Tim Bray (TB) presented the Activity Tracker to the Board, which had been updated and circulated as part of the papers ahead of the meeting. The Activity Tracker provides an overview of completed actions and progress monitoring against the Well-being Plan's Objectives. During a recent PSB Chair's meeting, the Activity Tracker was reviewed in full prior to circulation to Board members. For ease of reference, the areas in which there were updates had been highlighted, and partners were asked to raise any comments or feedback in relation to the highlighted updates at the meeting. No comments or feedback were received – The Activity Tracker will be further updated and circulated ahead of the next PSB meeting.

TB also confirmed that work will soon commence on the PSB's Annual Report for 2024-2025. It is hoped that a draft can be shared with the Board for consideration and feedback ahead of the next meeting to allow for timely publication.

**Action: The PSB Support Team to draft the Annual Report for 2024-2025 for consideration and discussion at June's meeting.**

<b>42.5</b>	<b>Well-being Plan Information Events</b>
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HLL noted that work continues to ensure attendance at community events to promote the work of the PSB and the Local Well-being Plan. Sara Dafydd (SD) explained that following prior conversations around utilising Google Calendar to facilitate the process of logging events, it was found that the process required a number of additional steps which would likely restrict partner accessibility to the interactive calendar. It was therefore proposed that a calendar of upcoming events would be uploaded to the PSB's website and agreed that partners would contact the Partnerships Team with any event suggestions which could be included. HLL suggested that utilising Connect Ceredigion could be also considered as a contingency. SD noted that the Partnerships Team had received information regarding Jig-So's Fun Fest and Information Sharing event, which is scheduled for the Easter holidays in Cardigan.

**Action: Calendar of upcoming events will be uploaded to the PSB's website by PSB Support team**

TB confirmed that the PSB Support Team attended the Lampeter Well-being Show on 26 February. Copies of the Well-being Plan for 2023-2028 and the Assessment of Local Well-being were available for attendees to read, and the Annual Report video was also played during the day. The Team also collected views from the public on their perception of well-being, with the aim of using responses to inform the next Assessment of Local Well-being. HLL reported that the Community Development Outreach Team (CDOT) who hosted the Lampeter Well-being Show with support from the PSB, are also looking to replicate the event in Cardigan.

<b>42.6</b>	<b>Chair's Update</b>
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**i. Community Transport**  
A Community Transport event was hosted by CWMPAS in Aberaeron during December. The event invited anyone with an interest in community transport to attend and consider how the challenge of being a rural County could be overcome to enable people to better access services and opportunities. HLL explained that a video summarising the key discussion points is in the process of

being produced, and a report is undergoing translation which can be shared once ready.

**ii. Shared Prosperity Fund Update**

Cynnal y Cardi conducted a workshop on the future of the Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF). It is thought that SPF funding will be available for bids in the next financial year, which will be used to develop an investment plan for the economy for 2026-2027 onward. Next year's SPF may be significant funding source for the PSB; the workshops reports and findings will be shared with partners upon release

**Action: Shared Prosperity Fund Workshops reports and findings will be shared with partners upon release - support team to circulate.**

**iii. RPB Governance Structure Review – Regional Collaboration**

The West Wales Regional Partnership Board (RPB) are looking to review their governance structures and operational effectiveness within the Regional Health and Care System. This includes a survey assessing the performance of all Boards under the Regional Board. A meeting with key Regional Board partners will look to cement commitment to the Board and solidify its strategic focus. A subsequent report summarising these discussions will be circulated for review and consideration once finalised.

HLL has met with other PSB Chairs regionally, who expressed an interest in establishing a collaborative agreement between the RPB and Public Services Boards to collaborate on shared priorities and topics of focus. With the above in mind, it was proposed that it would be timely to review the PSB's own governance structure ahead of commencing preparations for the next Assessment of Local Well-being.

The Board discussed the positives and negatives of establishing a regional Public Services Board to enhance representation, which would enable delegation of actions to local PSB Delivery Groups. Although the legislation dictates collaborating/merging within Health Board footprints, members were keen to explore possibilities with Powys, in addition to Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire. Diana Davies (DD) suggested that the Partnerships Team liaise with regional counterparts, with the aim of preparing an options paper for presentation at the next PSB meeting. The Board agreed to this as a way forward, and the proposal of reviewing the Board's Terms of Reference prior to the September meeting was also supported.

**Action: The PSB Support Team to liaise with regional counterparts to discuss the proposition of a regional PSB.**

**Action: The PSB Support team to prepare an options paper around a regional PSB for presentation and consideration by the PSB at the next meeting.**

**Action: The PSB's Terms of Reference to be reviewed ahead of September's PSB meeting.**

<b>42.7</b>	<b>Spotlight Session: Ways of Working</b>
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HLL introduced Russell Hughes-Pickering (RHP), Ceredigion County Council's Corporate Lead Officer for Economy & Regeneration, who presented a Spotlight Session on Ways of Working. RHP explained that following COVID, Ceredigion County Council (CCC) began work on a 'Ways of Working' project, which also included the production of a Hybrid Working Strategy. The project was established to explore the appetite for long-term change within the workforce and the extent of a shift in the wider strategic vision of where, when and how people can access services. A staff engagement exercise was carried out in April 2021 to gather feedback, experiences, ideas and future workplace requirements in order to support strategic decision-making. Based on responses, 5

priorities were identified and a number of success measures.

Next steps included piloting hybrid workspaces in Canolfan Rheidol and Penmorfa, and the data collected during the hybrid phase was used to inform the next steps. The data collated included utilisation figures, busy times, duration averages etc. During the last year, over 17,000 desks were booked, not including those who attended both locations to attend meetings in meeting rooms. A public engagement exercise was subsequently carried out whereby residents were asked how they would like to see any unused spaces in Canolfan Rheidol and Penmorfa being utilised. Feedback from the public showed that Health and Social Care were the most popular suggestions across the 2 sites. Based on the feedback, offices have been re-designed to support the Through Age and Well-being Programme in Penmorfa, with the new Centre for Independent Living opening in 2024 on the ground floor. The Centre promotes independence and community support and is set to transform the way individuals find solutions and access information to help themselves. In Canolfan Rheidol, the Health Board are currently trialling the use of areas on the ground and second floor, which includes physiotherapy sessions.

HLL thanked RHP for the presentation and reinforced that many organisations are currently having to make difficult decisions regarding use of buildings at this time. Partners including Gavin Bown (GB), Heddwyn Thomas (HTh), Steve Thomas (STh), Megan Harris (MH) and Andrew Cornish (AC) all expressed willingness to be involved in further conversations around exploring opportunities for co-locating services, with a consensus that costs spent on additional overheads could be better utilised on frontline services. There was also agreement that the needs of certain services and sectors vary. As well as ensuring that any shared spaces are fit for purpose, there must also be consideration that requirements often evolve and change. It was also noted that amending spaces to suit service requirements would also incur certain costs. Whilst monitoring current trends, there is also a need to consider where those trends will lead, and challenges remain in predicting what requirements will look like in the future. HLL reinforced the importance of becoming more visible in communities and moving away from physical building being the sole route to accessing services. MH agreed that whilst there are a lot of services that the Health Board are unable to move out from clinics, there is a shift towards being more agile including increased working from home, pop-up clinics and localised, work. There was agreement that the Integrated Care Centres (ICC) located in Aberaeron and Cardigan are well received, and that consideration is being given to scoping opportunities for a similar approach in Lampeter.

HLL explained that post COVID, CAVO conducted a survey to ascertain the needs of 3<sup>rd</sup> sector groups. It was noted that there still appears to be interest in terms of shared office space in Aberystwyth amongst 3<sup>rd</sup> sector groups. RHP noted that whilst there is a general understanding of the needs and requirements of public sector organisations, it would be beneficial to gain a better idea of what 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations and community groups are looking for in terms of spaces. HLL proposed that given the interest in the Aberystwyth area, CAVO would look to reach out the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector to enquire about any office or building needs and plans in Aberystwyth, as part of initial steps to progress in this area.

**Action: PSB Support team to convene a focus group to consider and explore innovative practices for potential building sharing and co-location in Aberystwyth.**

**Action: CAVO to reach out to the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector to enquire about any office or building needs and plans in Aberystwyth.**

42.8	PSB Delivery Group Updates:
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**i. Well-being in Lampeter Delivery Group** (*Greg Jones, CCC*)

The [minutes from the meeting held on 30 January](#) were shared with the papers. GJ explained that the Delivery Group are now seeking to appoint a Vice Chair following Gwilym Dyfri Jones' (GDJ) departure from his role at the University of Wales Trinity Saint David (UWTSD). At the last meeting, Rob Starr (RS) presented an updated version of the Lampeter Poverty and Deprivation Report, which highlighted specific pockets of deprivation in Lampeter Town Centre in terms of Community Safety and Housing. An update was given on the progress of the Lampeter Youth Project Steering Group, which acknowledged that the landscape for youth provision in the area has changed significantly since the establishment of the Group a year ago. Ceredigion County Council's Youth Service continue to provide services via 'Y Fan' on Fridays, and a round of the Phoenix project in collaboration with the Fire Service commenced in February at Lampeter Fire Station. Youth Workers also remain based in Ysgol Bro Pedr 4 days a week. Area 43 and Stage Goats have entered a partnership to pilot a Youth Café in Lampeter, opening in Spring 2025. In the interim, Area 43 are hosting a pop-up café 1 day a week in Victoria Hall.

An update was given by Geinor Jones on the Whole Systems Approach (WSA) to Healthy Weight, following the PSB's commitment at December's meeting to support the Access to Food sub-system. Train the Trainer Asset Mapping sessions were held in Lampeter and Cardigan mid-February, which aimed to equip participants with the skills required to carry out asset maps around access to food with various community groups. A summary of Ceredigion's Local Food Partnership recent work was also given by Ann Owen, who explained that the Partnership are currently undertaking a Good Food Survey which will inform a Good Food Strategy for the County. An update on the Social Model for Health and Well-being (SMfHW) was given by Rhian Rees, who reported that a SMfHW Summit will be held on 20 March which will celebrate and build support for the model, showcase efforts to reduce health inequalities and improve equity for communities.

HLL noted that GDJ departure had also resulted in a gap in representation on the wider PSB, and SD confirmed that efforts are ongoing to identify a relevant replacement. HLL reported that UWTSD are establishing a Stakeholder Group to review the future of the Lampeter campus, and expressed that it would be beneficial for the PSB to be involved in those conversations.

**ii. Well-being in Cardigan** (*Hazel Lloyd Lubran, CAVO*)

The [minutes from the meeting held on 15 January](#) were shared with the papers. A summary of Ceredigion's Local Food Partnership recent work was also given by Ann Owen, and Melanie Walters shared an update on Age-Friendly Ceredigion. HLL reminded members that it was previously agreed that Melanie Walters would return to a meeting of the wider PSB to update on the Age-Friendly Ceredigion work.

**Action: Age-Friendly Ceredigion to be included on the Agenda at a future PSB meeting.**

HLL noted the Well-being in Cardigan Delivery Group remain keen and committed to supporting the development of the Well-being Centre in Cardigan. HLL also reminded members that the opportunity remains to join the WSA Regional Learning Network. A report is in progress by the Public Health Team following the asset mapping training sessions held at Cardigan and Lampeter.

**iii. Climate and Nature Delivery Group** (*Tim Bray, CCC*)

TB confirmed that NRW have issued a call for Expressions of Interest for their internal position that would also have responsibility for chairing the Climate and Nature Delivery Group. Hopefully there will be some progress before the next PSB meeting

Historically, the work around the Mid and West Wales Travel Charter was nestled in this Delivery



Group, with regular updates given by Rhian Rees at meetings. TB reported that Dr Tom Porter from Cardiff and Vale Public Health Team who leads on Healthy Travel Wales, has arranged a meeting on 5 March with the aim of revisiting the conversations around a Healthy Travel Charter for Mid and West Wales, as well as potential collaboration with Swansea Bay.

In the absence of a Chair for the Climate and Nature Group and given that the Climate Change Risk Assessment (CCRA) has been identified as a priority piece of work, TB confirmed that conversations have been held with Carmarthenshire PSB around collaborating on this piece of work. TB explained that a CCRA Task and Finish Group has been scheduled by Carmarthenshire for 4 March, and an invite has been extended to himself and HLL as PSB Chair to discuss regional overlaps and collaboration.

## **42.9 Refugee Resettlement Group Update**

The Refugee Resettlement Group Update Cover Report was circulated with the papers for this meeting. As Co-ordinator, a summary of the Group's work over the past year was given by Cathryn Morgan (CM). At the Group's last meeting on 20 January 2025, it was noted that there are 101 Ukrainian people (46 families) living in Ceredigion and 25 active Homes for Ukraine hosts. Ukrainian families continue to arrive slowly, with 10 people (6 families) arrived between September 2024 and January 2025.

CM explained some recent changes have been made to the Homes for Ukraine Scheme. The UK Government are now issuing visas to new applicants for 18 months, as opposed to 3 years, and those on a 3-year visa can apply to extend their visa for a further 18 months.

The UK Government have also announced that Thank You payments issued to Homes for Ukraine hosts will reduce from £500 to £350 per month from 1 April 2025. The Welsh Government (WG) have agreed to add £150 per month to the payments for individuals being hosted during their first 12 months. Many hosts in Ceredigion have said they cannot afford to continue for £350 per month. Ceredigion County Council's Refugee Resettlement Team have drawn up a list of mitigating actions and are liaising with the Council's Housing Options Team to reduce the risk of homelessness.

Affordable housing remains a key problem for refugee resettlement and asylum dispersal. The Team have been unable to offer sanctuary to any more refugee families under the UK Resettlement Scheme, as a suitable property at an affordable rent can't be identified. The last non-Ukrainian family was welcomed in April 2022.

The Refugee Resettlement Team ran a satisfaction survey in 2023/2024. Those who responded to the survey said that the top three barriers to integration were lack of English, difficulty finding a job and lack of affordable housing. However, 100% of those who answered said that they felt welcomed by the local community and that Ceredigion is a place where people from different backgrounds get along.

Formal support for families from Syria and Afghanistan has now ended, however the Team is still available to them if they need low level advice or signposting. The changing situation in Syria has caused fear amongst the local Syrian community that they will be forced to return. This is unlikely since most of the Syrian families have successfully applied for 'Indefinite Leave to Remain' status or British Citizenship.

The Home Office contracts ClearSprings Ready Homes to find properties for asylum seekers. They have identified three potential properties in Ceredigion, but each one has fallen through for various reasons.

The Group has agreed to reduce the number of meetings from 3 times per year to twice a year. Additional meetings will be called if required.

**42.10 Feedback from Ceredigion County Council Coordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee**

TB gave an update on feedback from the Coordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee as Cllr Wyn Evans (WE) had sent his apologies for the meeting. Papers shared ahead of the meeting included [minutes from the previous Coordinating Overview and Scrutiny Committee](#) meeting, which was held on 16 January 2025. The discussion in relation to December's PSB meeting was highlighted for members' ease of reference. The main points were noted as:

- CAVO were thanked for distributing grants to assist with food poverty and warm places. Hazel Lloyd-Lubran stated that CAVO works very closely with Ceredigion County Council in this regard.
- The Chair asked if there was any progress made with working with other Authorities. It was confirmed that one successful meeting of PSB chairs has been held to date and another one will be held on 6 May 2025.

**42.12 Any Other Business**

Due to time constraints, it was agreed that a brief update on the Gorwel Data Dashboard would be circulated following the meeting via email.

**Action: Tim Bray to circulate an update on the Gorwel Data Dashboard.**

It was noted that some members have difficulty in attending PSB meetings on Monday afternoons, and so it was proposed that different days were considered for meetings arranged in 2026.

The Chair thanked members for their time and contributions. The meeting was concluded at 16:03.

**42.13 Date of next meeting: 2 June 2025 at 14:00-16:00**

Ongoing Action Log		
1.	The PSB Support Team to draft the Annual Report for 2024-2025 for consideration and discussion at June's meeting.	Partnerships Team
2.	Calendar of upcoming events will be uploaded to the PSB's website by PSB Support team	Partnerships Team
3.	Shared Prosperity Fund Workshops reports and findings will be shared with partners upon release - support team to circulate.	Partnerships Team
4.	The PSB Support Team to liaise with regional counterparts to discuss the proposition of a regional PSB.	Partnerships Team
5.	The PSB Support team to prepare an options paper around a regional PSB for presentation and consideration by the PSB at the next meeting.	Partnerships Team
6.	The PSB's Terms of Reference to be reviewed ahead of September's PSB meeting.	Partnerships Team
7.	PSB Support team to convene a focus group to consider and explore innovative practices for potential building sharing and co-location in Aberystwyth.	Partnerships Team / ALL

<b>8.</b>	CAVO to reach out to the 3rd sector to enquire about any office or building needs and plans in Aberystwyth.	Hazel Lloyd Lubran
<b>9.</b>	Age-Friendly Ceredigion to be included on the Agenda at a future PSB meeting.	Partnerships Team / Melanie Walters
<b>10.</b>	Tim Bray to circulate an update on the Gorwel Data Dashboard.	Tim Bray

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## CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

<b>Report to:</b>	<b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee</b>
<b>Date of meeting:</b>	<b>27.3.2025</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Oversight of in year financial matters</b>
<b>Purpose of the report:</b>	<b>To provide the Committee with an oversight of key in year Financial Monitoring matters</b>

### **Background**

The 24/25 Budget setting process was a challenging one which included c 70 Budget Reduction proposals being approved totalling c£5.8m. Progress in delivering these Budget Reduction is reviewed and monitored by Leadership Group at the end of every month.

During the year, it is intended to provide individual Overview & Scrutiny Committees with the following information:

- The latest quarterly financial position as reported to Cabinet (to include the latest BRAG status position on the 24/25 Budget Reductions)
- This will include both Revenue and Capital Financial Monitoring reports.

This information will enable the Committee to scrutinise the financial matters pertinent to the areas of Service falling within its remit. At any point during the year, the Committee may choose to explore any area of the Budget within its remit via the Forward Work programme.

### **Wellbeing of Future Generations:**

Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed?

Not applicable – these were considered where appropriate as part of the Budget Setting process.

### **Recommendation(s):**

**To note the report and for the Committee to scrutinise the information provided as it deems appropriate and relevant to the areas under its remit.**

### **Reasons for decision:**

To scrutinise the latest financial position.

### **Appendices:**

Appendix 1: Latest quarterly Controllable Revenue Financial Monitoring report

Appendix 2: Latest quarterly Capital Financial Monitoring report

**Contact Name:** Duncan Hall - Corporate Manager: Finance & Procurement  
**Date of Report:** 6/3/25

# CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

**Report to:** Cabinet

**Date of meeting:** 11/03/25

**Title:** 24/25 Controllable Revenue Budget - Financial Performance - Quarter 3

**Purpose of the report:** To report on the 24/25 Revenue Budget - actual position to the end of December 2024 and forecasted year-end position.

**For:** Information

**Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member:**  
Councillor Gareth Davies, Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement

## 1. **SUMMARY**

This report updates Cabinet on the financial performance for all Services in relation to the Council's 24/25 Controllable Revenue Budget of £193.6m. The Budgets for each Service are actively monitored and reviewed on a regular basis, in order to assess the timing of income and expenditure, as well as the forecasted year-end position and ensuring corrective action is taken wherever possible and as appropriate.

**At this stage, a projected underspend is forecast for the year of £97k on the Controllable Budget. I.e. a balanced position is now expected to be achieved for the 24/25 financial year.**

The headline in year challenges have included:

- a) Payaward and SCAPE Pensions risks.
- b) Significant cost pressures relating to high-cost complex Children's placements as previously reported.
- c) Significant costs still being incurred re agency staff needed to fulfil statutory front line roles within our Local Authority Residential Homes and also professional Social Worker roles, although there are signs of downward trends starting to emerge.
- d) The impacts of Storm Bert and Storm Darragh.

In addition there is:

- Delivering the £5.8m of in year savings.
- Impact of the increased Council Tax Premiums on Second Homes and Long Term Empty Properties

## **2. BUDGET PERFORMANCE - HEADLINE IN YEAR CHALLENGES**

The following expands further:

- a) In year Payaward funding matters have been fully resolved both for NJC staff and Teachers. This is largely as a result of additional WG funding being received during Q3 of £1.263m and £388k respectively. In addition the SCAPE Pensions matter is also resolved by virtue of WG funding being received in line with expectations (Teachers - £1.296m and Fire levy - £87k).
- b) Out of County Children's placements – As at Q3 there has been no change in the number of residential placements (26) nor college placements (10). The refurbishment of 2 properties into new in-county facilities is now complete and the next steps required to become operational are at an advanced stage. The average cost per residential placement currently stands at c£320k, with total gross expenditure now forecast to be c£9.3m on the 36 placements for 24/25. To partially mitigate the position £1.5m is being used from reserves (included within the projections) in order to manage the position.
- c) The use of agency staff within Social Care remains considerable due to continued recruitment challenges, with a net cost of £1.540m included within the financial projections across the Porth Through Age Services, against which £500k is being factored in from reserves to partially mitigate. This covers 41 frontline Social Care Worker roles as well as Care & Support Worker roles for the 24/7 shifts in the Council's Residential Care Homes. The forecasted net position has decreased by £227k since Q2 with a downward trend being seen in both Porth Cynnal (net cost of Professional Social worker roles) and also within the Council's Residential Care Homes (with the average cost decreasing by c£10k per week in Q3 relative to Q1 & Q2 combined).
- d) Storm Bert (23/11/24) and Storm Darragh (05/12/24) are currently projected to cost the Council in the region of £350k. This covers a range of initial emergency response costs plus then recovery phase related costs. It included deploying staff, the cost of a damaged vehicle, Aberystwyth Promenade repair works and emergency repair works to Council properties and other assets (including clearing a significant volume of trees and debris from roads, footpaths, bridleways and nature reserves). At present this cost estimate falls under the Council's threshold for being eligible for financial assistance from Welsh Government (£390k), therefore the full sum is included in the Year end forecast position.



### 3. BUDGET PERFORMANCE – KEY BENEFITS

At present there are underspends within:

- Finance & Procurement - £1.8m underspend is projected mainly in relation to the Treasury management budgets, combined with savings on the core F&P service budget.
- Schools & Lifelong Learning Service - £305k projected underspend due mainly to the benefit of temporary grant funding opportunities within Lifelong Learning.
- Porth Cymorth Cynnar - £283k projected underspend, mainly within the Housing part of the Service.

In addition, as part of the in-year funding announced from WG in December, a sum of just over £1m was announced for Education and Schools (on top of the £388k in relation to Teachers' Pay). This consisted of:

Heading	Ceredigion Share £'000	Notes
Increase in School Standards Grant	407	£389k Additional monies provided direct to Schools
Increase in Education Reform element of LAEG grant	311	£104k direct to Schools for ALNCO work. £207k for ALN Provision in Schools
School Repairs & Maintenance	361	Schools Capital Maintenance and Energy efficiency works via Capital Programme.
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,079</b>	

Headteachers were notified of each School's share of the additional funding before Christmas. It is likely that the additional funding will result in slightly higher balances for some Schools at year-end.

### 4. BUDGET PERFORMANCE – BUDGET SAVINGS

The 24/25 Budget included £5.8m of savings across approximately 70 different items as approved by Full Council on 29/02/24. The current BRAG status for each item is shown in Appendix 2 and can be summarised as follows:

		£'000	%age	No. of items
<b>Blue</b>	Complete	3,014	52%	46
<b>Green</b>	On Track	1,903	33%	16
<b>Amber</b>	Partially on track but with some issues	322	5%	5
<b>Red</b>	Not on track and/or major issues and/or higher risk	554	10%	3
		<b>5,793</b>	<b>100%</b>	

In summary 62 items totalling £4.9m (85% of the savings) are either fully complete or fully on track, leaving 8 items totalling £0.9m (15% of the savings) either partly on track or Not on track as yet. The 3 remaining items in a Red status are shown overleaf:

Item Ref	Area of Service	Narrative	24/25 Savings / Income Value £'000	BRAG Status (29/01/25) and Latest Update
42	WG Weekly Charges for non-residential Care	Lobby WG to increase the weekly cap from £100 to £120	125	<i>Red</i> <i>Reversal of Item proposed in 25/26 Budget (note £63k one-off WG grant received in 24/25)</i>
36b	Libraries	Retain a presence in each of the 4 current towns but co-locate library provision with other Council Services where-ever possible, combined with reviewing every location's opening hours - Lampeter component	35	<i>Red</i> <i>Reversal of Item proposed in 25/26 Budget</i>
70	Out of County Placements	Additional target to achieve from review of existing Placements and transitional arrangements to new in county facilities	394	<i>Red</i> <i>Reversal of Item proposed in 25/26 Budget</i>

Where Budget Reductions are only being achieved as a part year effect during 24/25, this is now reflected with the relevant Service's forecast position and each Service is expected to manage this as an in year financial management matter.

## 5. BUDGET PERFORMANCE – COUNCIL TAX (INCLUDING PREMIUMS)

With an increase in the Council Tax Premiums for Long Term Empty properties and Second Homes being effective from 01/04/24, the position is being very closely monitored to identify if / when trends start emerging.

The table overleaf shows that:

- There are now 142 less Long Term Empty Properties subject to a Council Tax premium compared to when the Council Taxbase was set for the 24/25 Budget on 31/10/23, with the decrease being particularly prominent in the 5 to 10 year (-37%) and over 10 year categories (-40%).
- There is now a small 1% decrease (13 less properties) that are Second Homes subject to a Council Tax premium compared to when the Council Taxbase was set for the 24/25 Budget on 31/10/23.

The latter is actually an upward movement from 31/10/24, mainly as a result of the Valuation Office continuing to assess Self Catering accommodation against the thresholds laid out by Welsh Government in the Non-Domestic Rating (Amendment of Definition of Domestic Property) (Wales) Order 2022. Namely the changes relating to 'available to let days' (increased to 252 days from 140 days) and 'actual let days' (increased to 182 days from 70 days).

	Premium %age	Number of Properties as at 31/10/23	Number of Properties as at 31/12/24	%age Change
<b><u>Long Term Empty Properties</u></b>				
Up to & including 5 years	100%	292	267	-9%
Over 5 years and up to & including 10 years	150%	171	107	-37%
Over 10 years	200%	133	80	-40%
<b>Total</b>		<b>596</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>-24%</b>
<b>Second Homes</b>	100%	<b>1,648</b>	<b>1,635</b>	<b>-1%</b>

The following table shows a c1.25% lower level of Council Tax collection (as compared with the last 2 financial years) at this stage in the year. If this does not improve by year-end it could in theory equate to a shortfall of c£825k, however this would not crystallise immediately as collection would still continue in future periods after year-end.

<b><u>Overall In year Council Tax collection rate</u></b>	
22/23 Financial Year – up to 31/12/22	82.1%
23/24 Financial Year – up to 31/12/23	82.2%
24/25 Financial Year – up to 31/12/24	80.9%

Behavioural change was expected as a result of the new levels of Council Tax Premium as the over-riding policy intention was to bring properties back into permanently occupied residential use. However, the current trends (particularly more so on Second Homes) are not showing the overall level of decrease at the pace that had been assumed when setting the Budget. It is therefore highly likely that there will be a temporary financial benefit until the new policy approach starts achieving its intentions. This has the potential to be financially significant for 24/25 (indicatively c£840k for the 9 months to 31/12/24). This is therefore likely to be one avenue to provide temporary mitigation (where/if required) for any slippage in delivering in-year Budget savings and/or if there is no improvement in the Council Tax collection rate.

The take up on the [Ceredigion Community Housing \(Shared Equity\) Scheme](#) is also being closely monitored. The position to c10/01/25 is:

	Number	Value £'000
Total Enquiries	23	n/a
Applications Received	8	385
Applications Rejected / Withdrawn	1	44
Applications Work in Progress	-	-
Applications Approved	7	341
<i>Of which Applications Paid</i>	6	295

The funding for approved applications will come from the Community Housing reserve (current balance as at 01/04/24 of £2.557m) and when this reserve falls below £2.0m it would then be topped up annually back up to a maximum of £2.0m in line the parameters set by Full Council.

## 6. BUDGET PERFORMANCE – SERVICE POSITIONS

There have been some Budget Movements during Q3 and these are reflected in the Latest 24/25 Budget included within the overall Budget papers for Full Council on 03/03/25. In summary:

- Virements to all Services (including £58k for the Delegated Schools Budget) to reflect the additional £264k cost of the 24/25 NJC pay award compared with Budget - funded through part of the £1.263m WG in year grant.
- Balance of £1.263m WG grant to be set aside in reserves at year-end to provide additional resilience for Out of County Placements (£799k) and Social Worker Market Forces Supplements (£200k). Position to be reviewed at year-end.
- Virements to align various component parts of Porth Cynnal (reduced by £845k) and Porth Cynnal (increased by £845k). The largest part (£765k) related to the correct alignment of all Hafan y Waun budgets in one place under Porth Gofal in relation to its operation as a Council run Care Home.
- Virements to reduce Energy budgets of Services occupying buildings by £162k in total, as a result of reduced Electricity and Gas contract prices from 01/10/24. No reduction applied to Delegated Schools Budgets in year.

Most of the significant financial matters have already been referenced within this report. It should be noted that the Porth position has improved considerably by just over £600k since Q2:

Service	Q2 Year End Forecast	Q3 Year End Forecast	Change
<b><u>Porth Through Age Services</u></b>			
Porth Cymorth Cynnar	244	283	39
Porth Cynnal	(948)	(792)	156
Porth Gofal	(715)	(299)	416
<b>Total</b>	<b>(1,419)</b>	<b>(808)</b>	<b>611</b>

The main reasons for this are:

- a downward trend of reducing agency staff cost starting to emerge both in Professional Social worker spend in Porth Cynnal and also Care & Support Worker Care Home role spend under Porth Gofal (The forecasted net position has decreased by £227k since Q2).
- Additional grant funding opportunities with Targeted & Short-Term Services.
- An improved position in relation to Direct Payments expenditure.

A breakdown of the 24/25 Controllable Budget position by Service is shown overleaf, with further explanation and detail then shown in Appendices A to N:

Service	Latest Budget £'000	Budget to December 2024 £'000	Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Variance to December 2024 £'000	Year End Forecast under/ (over) spend £'000	Year End Forecast under/ (over) spend £'000	Comment
Customer Contact & ICT	<b>6,689</b>	4,686	4,641	45		-	It is expected by the service to breakeven during the 2024/25 financial year. The Service is managing several in year challenges including the delivery of Budget Savings.
Democratic Services	<b>5,201</b>	3,924	3,833	91		<b>60</b>	At this stage in the year there are no problem areas identified.
Economy & Regeneration	<b>3,738</b>	2,955	2,791	164		-	At this stage in the year there are no problem areas identified.
Finance & Procurement	<b>21,431</b>	16,068	14,531	1,537		<b>1,800</b>	The service expects to underspend significantly, mostly stemming from Treasury management savings (£1.2m) combined with an underspend on the core F&P service (£400k)
Highways & Environmental Services	<b>19,974</b>	13,559	13,147	411		-	The Service continues to face various cost and income pressures up to the quarter 3 stage of this financial year, and at this point the strategy (within the Service) to reach a break-even budget by the end of 2024/25 is on target.
Legal & Governance Services	<b>1,695</b>	1,273	1,211	62		<b>30</b>	At this stage in the year there are no problem areas identified.
People & Organisation	<b>2,419</b>	1,736	1,776	(40)		<b>(50)</b>	At this stage in the year, there are no problem areas identified other than an overspend mainly on inherited Pension costs.
Policy, Performance & Public Protection	<b>2,532</b>	1,889	1,772	117		<b>50</b>	At this stage in the year there are no problem areas identified.

Continued.....

Service	Latest Budget £'000	Budget to December 2024 £'000	Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Variance to December 2024 £'000	Year End Forecast under/ (over) spend £'000	Year End Forecast under/ (over) spend £'000	Comment
<b><u>Pyrth Through Age Services</u></b>							
Porth Cymorth Cynnar	<b>4,039</b>	6,021	5,779	242	283		At this early stage in the year, the service is expecting an underspend of £283k mainly driven by a positive financial position in the Housing Service.
Porth Cynnal	<b>37,891</b>	28,601	29,245	(644)	(792)		The service mainly deals with the higher end complex cases and placements. There remain Recruitment challenges, despite the Council's terms and conditions being relatively attractive, with a net cost of £988k being projected within Porth Cynnal for agency staff covering frontline Social Worker roles, which is then being offset by a £800k contribution from reserves. Cost pressures resulting from higher costs and/or higher volumes are also being seen in the areas of Looked After Children, Learning Disability Floating Support & Physical Disability placements. Combined this is leading to a projected overspend of £792k for the year.
Porth Gofal	<b>18,367</b>	15,013	15,218	(205)	(299)		Social care continues to face recruitment challenges, despite the Council's terms and conditions being relatively attractive. This is resulting in a continued need to use agency staff in frontline Social Worker roles and Care & Support roles in our Residential Care Homes. Within Porth Gofal there is a £852k net overspend projected for agency costs. There are underspends within Domiciliary Care and the Enablement Team. Overall there is currently a projected overspend of £299k for the year.
<b>Pyrth Through Age Services</b>	<b>60,297</b>	<b>49,635</b>	<b>50,242</b>	<b>(607)</b>		<b>(808)</b>	Overall there is a £611k improvement in the Pyrth, partly due a trend of reducing agency costs and increased grant income

Continued.....

Service	Latest Budget £'000	Budget to December 2024 £'000	Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Variance to December 2024 £'000	Year End Forecast under/ (over) spend £'000	Year End Forecast under/ (over) spend £'000	Comment
Schools & Lifelong Learning	57,976	54,972	54,761	211		305	The Service is projecting an underspend mainly due to the benefit of grant funding within the Lifelong Learning part of the service.
Leadership Group	5,541	2,957	3,842	(885)		(1,290)	The Out of County placements budget remains under considerable pressure despite the development of the in county facilities. This is mainly due to increasing complexities/needs resulting in higher average placement costs. At this stage an overspend of £1.14m is anticipated (on projected gross expenditure of £9.3m) which includes using £1.5m from Reserves as a temporary mitigation. In addition there are estimated costs of c£350k in relation to Storm Bert & Storm Darragh which are also leading to a projected overspend.
Levies, C/Tax Premium & Reserves	6,079	4,005	4,017	(12)		-	The forecast is for a break-even position, although there may not be a need to make a transfer to the Community Housing Reserve.
<b>Total Controllable Budget</b>	<b>193,572</b>	<b>157,658</b>	<b>156,564</b>	<b>1,094</b>		<b>97</b>	

## **7. CONCLUSION**

The financial landscape continues to be challenging, however within 24/25 the position has been significantly helped by c£3m of WG in year additional funding announced in December and all pay award and SCAPE pensions matters being fully resolved. With 85% (£4.9m) of the Budget Reductions required already complete or on track, significant progress has been made since the 24/25 Budget was set. Only 3 items now remain in a Red status, each of which is being considered as part of the 25/26 Budget setting process.

The position within Social Care has improved considerably since Q2 with the combined projected overspend position across the 3 Pwrth reducing from £1.4m to £0.8m. Whilst there is still a significant level of expenditure on agency staff (net cost of £1.54m projected for the year), and an ongoing recruitment challenge to fill essential frontline roles, it is pleasing to see the start of a downward trend in the net cost of agency staff emerging in several areas. The position in relation to Children's Out of County Placements under the LG budget is still highly significant at a projected £9.3m for the full year (gross expenditure), but the trend of significant increases in placements and costs each quarter does appear to have now broadly stabilised compared with previous quarters.

The Council Tax dynamic (which funds approx. 30% of the Council's Budget) is becoming more complex and multifaceted, however on balance it is likely to show a temporary financial benefit during 24/25, which would also assist the overall in year financial position at year-end.

The Council has a financially resilient balance sheet, with £44m of Earmarked Reserves and £6.7m in General Balances as at 31/03/24. However, relative to the Council's £193.6m budget, the combination of Earmarked Reserves and General Balances only affords approx. 3 months' worth of cover and Earmarked Reserves are projected to decline in a carefully managed way (e.g. Use of match funding as major capital schemes reach completion).

As a result of the latest forecast position, including the benefit of the additional WG funding, a balanced position is now expected to be achieved overall at year-end.

### **Wellbeing of Future Generations:**

**Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If not, please state why.**

No

#### **Summary of Integrated Impact Assessment:**

**Long term:** Not applicable

**Collaboration:** Not applicable

**Involvement:** Not applicable

**Prevention:** Not applicable

**Integration:** Not applicable



**Recommendation(s):**

To note the overall Revenue position outlined in the report.

**Reasons for decision:**

To recognise the latest financial position.

**Overview and Scrutiny:**

Considered during the Budget setting process. These quarterly reports will also be on the agenda for each Scrutiny Committee, so that they can explore matters as appropriate and as relevant to their respective remit.

**Policy Framework:**

Medium Term Financial Strategy

**Corporate Well-being Objectives:**

The Budget supports the Strategic Objectives of the Council

**Finance and Procurement implications:**

Noted within the report

**Legal Implications:**

Part of the Section 151 officer's role and responsibility for the proper administration of the Council's financial affairs under Local Government Finance Act 1972.

**Staffing implications:**

Elevated levels of Pay awards would pose a risk of needing to review Council and Service priorities.

**Property / asset implications:**

n/a

**Risk(s):**

Risk of insufficient funding if there are significant overspends.

The 24/25 Budget process was incredibly challenging and the in year management of the Budget is no different. The medium term financial outlook is also challenging. The financial risk score therefore remains at the maximum possible score of 25 in the Corporate Risk Register.

**Background Papers:**

Revenue Budget 2024/25

**Appendices:**

- Appendix A: Customer Contact & ICT
- Appendix B: Democratic Services
- Appendix C: Economy & Regeneration
- Appendix D: Finance & Procurement
- Appendix E: Highways & Environmental Services
- Appendix F: Legal & Governance Service
- Appendix G: People & Organisation
- Appendix H: Policy, Performance & Public Protection
- Appendix I: Porth Cymorth Cynnar

Appendix J: Porth Cynnal  
Appendix K: Porth Gofal  
Appendix L: Schools & Lifelong Learning  
Appendix M: Leadership Group  
Appendix N: Levies, Council Tax Premium & Reserves

**Corporate Lead Officer:**

Duncan Hall - CLO: Finance & Procurement

**Reporting Officer(s):**

Duncan Hall, Justin Davies and Debbie Evans

**Date:**

16/02/25

## Adroddiad ar yr hyn a Ragwelir o ran y Gyllideb Rhagfyr 2024 / Budget Forecast Report December 2024

Cyswllt Cwsmeriaid a TGCh / Customer Contact &amp; ICT

Swyddog Arweiniol / Corporate Lead Officer : Alan Morris

## 1. CRYNODEB / SUMMARY

Diwedd y Flwyddyn / Year End Forecast:

Disgwylir gan y gwasanaeth bydd y gyllideb yn mantoli yn ystod y flwyddyn ariannol 2024/25. Mae'r Gwasanaeth yn rheoli sawl her yn ystod y flwyddyn gan gynnwys cyflawni Arbedion Cyllideb.

It is expected by the service to breakeven during the 2024/25 financial year. The Service is managing several in year challenges including the delivery of Budget Savings.

## 2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Gwasanaeth Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (L, C neu U) Level of risk (L, M or H)
TGCh / ICT	4,020	2,682	2,669	13	59	Disgwylir i'r maes yma tanwario ychydig oherwydd nifer o fan newidynnau gwariant o fewn y Wasanaeth. This area is expected to underspend a little due to a number of minor expenditure variables with the Service.	I / L
Gwasanaethau Cwsmeriaid / Customer Services	1,601	1,204	1,114	90	79	Disgwylir i'r maes yma tanwario oherwydd trosiant staff. This area is expected to underspend due to staff turnover.	I / L
Gwasanaethau Cymunedol / Community Services	961	722	780	(58)	(138)	Nid yw rhai o'r arbedion a gyllidebwyd yn y maes hwn yn gwbl gyraeddadwy yn y Flwyddyn Ariannol hon. Some of the budgeted savings within this area are not fully achievable in this Financial Year.	C / M
Rheoli'r Gwasanaethau a Strategaeth y Gwasanaethau / Service Management and Strategy	107	78	78	-	-	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
<b>CYFANSWM / TOTAL</b>	<b>6,689</b>	<b>4,686</b>	<b>4,641</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>-</b>		

## Adroddiad ar yr hyn a Ragwelir o ran y Gyllideb Rhagfyr 2024 / Budget Forecast Report December 2024

Gwasanaethau Democraidd / Democratic Services

Swyddog Arweiniol / Corporate Lead Officer : Lowri Edwards

## 1. CRYNODEB / SUMMARY

## Diwedd y Flwyddyn / Year End Forecast:

Ar yr adeg hon o'r flwyddyn, nid oes problemau wedi'u nodi.

At this stage in the year there are no problem areas identified.

## 2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Gwasanaeth Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (L, C neu U ) Level of risk (L, M or H)
Gwasanaethau Democraidd / Democratic Services	2,102	1,599	1,471	128	120	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. Rhagwelir arbedion yn y Gwasanaeth Cyfieithu a Lwfansau Aelodau. There are no problem areas identified at present. There are projected savings in the Translation Service & Members Allowances.	I / L
Cymorth Corfforaethol i Wasanaethau / Corporate Service Support	2,645	1,984	2,034	(50)	(60)	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
Rheoli'r Gwasanaethau a Strategaeth y Gwasanaethau / Service Management and Strategy	454	341	328	13	-	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
<b>CYFANSWM / TOTAL</b>	<b>5,201</b>	<b>3,924</b>	<b>3,833</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>60</b>		

## Adroddiad ar yr hyn a Ragwelir o ran y Gyllideb Rhagfyr 2024 / Budget Forecast Report December 2024

Economi ac Adfywio / Economy and Regeneration

Swyddog Arweiniol / Corporate Lead Officer : Russell Hughes-Pickering

## 1. CRYNODEB / SUMMARY

## Diwedd y Flwyddyn / Year End Forecast:

Ar yr adeg hon o'r flwyddyn, nid oes problemau wedi'u nodi.

At this stage in the year there are no problem areas identified.

## 2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Gwasanaeth Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwirariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (I, C neu U ) Level of risk (L, M or H)
Gwasanaethau Eiddo / Property Services	2,868	2,237	2,295	(58)	-	Mae incwm Cyflogau Cafalaf yn parhau i fod yn isel ar y cam cynnar hwm yn y flwyddyn, yn bennaf oherwydd costau dichonoldeg a fydd, gobeithio, yn arwain at brosiectau. Capital Salaries income remains low at this early stage in the year, mainly due to feasibility costs which will hopefully lead on to projects.	C / M
Buddsoddiadau Economaidd Strategol / Strategic Economic Investments	339	174	23	151	-	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
Twf a Menter / Growth & Enterprise	219	245	53	192	-	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
Gwasanaethau Cynllunio / Planning Services	199	214	336	(122)	-	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
Rheoli'r Gwasanaethau a Strategaeth y Gwasanaethau / Service Management and Strategy	113	85	84	1	-	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
<b>CYFANSWM / TOTAL</b>	<b>3,738</b>	<b>2,955</b>	<b>2,791</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>-</b>		

## Adroddiad ar yr hyn a Ragwelir o ran y Gyllideb Rhagfyr 2024 / Budget Forecast Report December 2024

Cyllid a Chaffael / Finance and Procurement

Swyddog Arweiniol / Corporate Lead Officer : Duncan Hall

## 1. CRYNODEB / SUMMARY

## Diwedd y Flwyddyn / Year End Forecast:

\*\* Translate \*\*

The service expects to underspend significantly, mostly stemming from Treasury management savings (£1.2m) combined with an underspend on the core F&amp;P service (£400k)

## 2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Gwasanaeth Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (I, C neu U) Level of risk (L, M or H)
Gwasanaeth Cyllid a Chaffael / Finance & Procurement Service	4,068	2,785	2,525	260	400	** Translate ** There is a projected underspend on staffing budgets and also additional grant income generated.	I / L
Budd-daliadau Tai a Chynllun Cymorth Treth y Cyngor / Housing Benefits and Council Tax Support Scheme	7,272	7,272	7,008	264	200	Mae'r tanwariant a ragwelir yn ymwneud â Chynllun Cymorth Treth y Cyngor. The forecast underspend relates to the Council Tax Support Scheme	I / L
Yswiriant, Terfynu a Chostau Corfforaethol Eraill / Insurance, Termination & Other Corporate Costs	1,664	1,766	1,723	43	-	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
Cyfrif Cyfalaf Corfforaethol / Corporate Capital Account	8,427	4,245	3,275	970	1,200	Mae'r llogau ar fuddsoddiadau a enillwyd yn uwch na'r hyn a gyllidwyd gan fod cyfraddau llog yn parhau'n uwch na'r hyn oedd wedi'i ragweld ac mae'r balansau arian parod ar gael i'w buddsoddi yn uwch na'r disgwyl. Yn ogystal, mae taliadau ar fenthyciadau yn is na'r hyn a gyllidwyd. There is higher than budgeted interest being generated on investments due to interest rates remaining higher than forecast and the cash balances available to invest being higher than forecast. In addition there are lower payments on loans than budgeted.	I / L
<b>CYFANSWM / TOTAL</b>	<b>21,431</b>	<b>16,068</b>	<b>14,531</b>	<b>1,537</b>	<b>1,800</b>		

## Adroddiad ar yr hyn a Ragwelir o ran y Gyllideb Rhagfyr 2024 / Budget Forecast Report December 2024

## Priffyrdd a Gwasanaethau Amgylcheddol / Highways and Environmental Services

Swyddog Arweiniol / Corporate Lead Officer : Rhodri Llwyd

## 1. CRYNODEB / SUMMARY

## Diwedd y Flwyddyn / Year End Forecast:

Mae'r Gwasanaeth yn parhau i wynebu pwysau costau ac incwm amrywiol hyd at y cam chwarter 3 o'r flwyddyn ariannol yma, ac ar hyn o bryd mae'r strategeth (o fewn y Wasanaeth) i gyrraedd gyllideb sydd yn mantoli erbyn diwedd 2024/25 ar y targed.

The Service continues to face various cost and income pressures up to the quarter 3 stage of this financial year, and at this point the strategy (within the Service) to reach a break-even budget by the end of 2024/25 is on target.

## 2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Gwasanaeth Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (L, C neu U ) Level of risk (L, M or H)
Casglu a Gwaredu Gwastraff / Waste Collection & Disposal	5,804	4,173	4,353	(179)	(169)	Pwysau incwm masnach is, effaith costau rheoli'r amhariadau casgluadaw gwastraff, a'r her arbedion o fewn yr ardal y Safleoedd Gwastraff Cartref. Pressure from lower trade waste income, the impact of managing the waste collection interruptions, and the savings challenge within the Household Waste Sites.	C/M
Parciau a gerddi, Glanhau Priffyrdd, Gwasanaethau Parcio, Harbwrws / Parks & Gardens, Highways Cleaning, Parking Services, Harbours	(1,061)	(937)	(443)	(494)	(743)	Pwysau incwm is o'r Gwasanaethau Parcio. Pressure from lower Parking Services income.	C/M
Cludiant Teithwyr Corfforaethol, Uned Cynnal a Chadw Trafnidiaeth / Corporate Passenger Transport, Transport Maintenance Unit	8,514	6,034	5,530	504	516	Rhagolwg tanwariant ar trafndiaeth cymdeithasol, ac hefyd mae effaith y cyllid y disgwylir o LIC i gefnogi costau uwch gwasanaethau bysiau Cyhoeddus. Forecast underspend on social transport, plus impact of the higher funding expected from WG to support increased Public bus services costs.	C/M
Cynnal a Chadw Priffyrdd, Caffael a Strategaeth, Peirianeg Arfordirol a Gwaith Draenio Tir / Highways Maintenance, Coastal Engineering & Land Drainage Procurement & Strategy	5,235	3,172	2,911	262	200	Tanwariant ar costau staff ac effaith incwm cryf o'r ardal Cau'r Ffyrdd'. An underspend on staffing costs, plus the impact of strong income from the Road Closure area.	I/L
Gwasanaethau Priffyrdd, Diogelwch y Ffordd, Rheoli Trafnidiaeth Rhanbarthol / Highways Services, Road Safety, Regional Transport Management	713	529	429	101	-	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I/L
Rheoli'r Gwasanaethau a Strategaeth y Gwasanaethau / Service Management and Strategy	769	587	368	219	196	Tanwariant oherwydd amcangyfrif swyddi gwag, hyd at ddiwedd y flwyddyn ariannol. An underspend due to staffing vacancies now forecast to the end of the financial year.	I/L
<b>CYFANSWM / TOTAL</b>	<b>19,974</b>	<b>13,559</b>	<b>13,147</b>	<b>411</b>	<b>-</b>		

## Adroddiad ar yr hyn a Ragwelir o ran y Gyllideb Rhagfyr 2024 / Budget Forecast Report December 2024

Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol a Llywodraethu / Legal &amp; Governance Services

Swyddog Arweiniol / Corporate Lead Officer : Elin Prysor

## 1. CRYNODEB / SUMMARY

Diwedd y Flwyddyn / Year End Forecast:

Ar yr adeg hon o'r flwyddyn, nid oes problemau wedi'u nodi.  
At this stage in the year there are no problem areas identified.

## 2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Gwasanaeth Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (L, C neu U ) Level of risk (L, M or H)
Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol / Legal Services	707	532	483	49	20	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
Gwasanaethau Archwilio / Audit Services	701	526	505	21	20	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
Rheoli'r Gwasanaethau a Strategaeth y Gwasanaethau (gan gynnwys Crwneriaid) / Service Management and Strategy (including Coroners)	287	215	223	(8)	(10)	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
<b>CYFANSWM / TOTAL</b>	<b>1,695</b>	<b>1,273</b>	<b>1,211</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>30</b>		



## Adroddiad ar yr hyn a Ragwelir o ran y Gyllideb Rhagfyr 2024 / Budget Forecast Report December 2024

Pobl a Threfniadaeth / People &amp; Organisation

Swyddog Arweiniol / Corporate Lead Officer : Geraint Edwards

## 1. CRYNODEB / SUMMARY

## Diwedd y Flwyddyn / Year End Forecast:

Ar hyn o bryd, nid oes unrhyw adran yn nodi problemau heblaw am orwariant o ran costau Pensiwn a Etifeddyd.

At this stage in the year, there are no problem areas identified other than an overspend mainly on inherited Pension costs.

## 2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Gwasanaeth Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (I, C neu U ) Level of risk (L, M or H)
Adnoddau Dynol / Human Resources	1,209	851	899	(48)	(50)	Mae costau pensiwn a chostau lechyd Galwedigaethol rhagamcanol i gael eu gorwario ar ddiwedd y flwyddyn. Pension costs and Occupational Health costs projected to be overspent at year end.	C/M
Profiad Gweuthiwr / Employee Experience	547	391	389	2	-	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	C/M
Dysgu a Datblygu / Learning and Development	577	429	423	6	-	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	C/M
Rheoli'r Gwasanaethau a Strategaeth y Gwasanaethau / Service Management and Strategy	86	65	65	-	-	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
<b>CYFANSWM / TOTAL</b>	<b>2,419</b>	<b>1,736</b>	<b>1,776</b>	<b>(40)</b>	<b>(50)</b>		

## Adroddiad ar yr hyn a Ragwelir o ran y Gyllideb Rhagfyr 2024 / Budget Forecast Report December 2024

Polisi, Pherfformiad a Amddiffyn y Cyhoed / Policy, Performance &amp; Public Protection

Swyddog Arweiniol / Corporate Lead Officer : Alun Williams

## 1. CRYNODEB / SUMMARY

## Diwedd y Flwyddyn / Year End Forecast:

Ar yr adeg hon o'r flwyddyn, nid oes problemau wedi'u nodi.

At this stage in the year there are no problem areas identified.

## 2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Gwasanaeth Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (L, C neu U ) Level of risk (L, M or H)
Partneriaethau a Pherfformiad / Partnerships & Performance	1,030	762	745	17	20	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
Diogelu'r Cyhoedd / Public Protection	1,384	1,039	945	94	100	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
Rheoli'r Gwasanaethau a Strategaeth y Gwasanaethau / Service Management and Strategy	118	88	82	6	(70)	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present. Additional funding is include for Software costs and short term staffing pressures.	I / L
<b>CYFANSWM / TOTAL</b>	<b>2,532</b>	<b>1,889</b>	<b>1,772</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>50</b>		

## Adroddiad ar yr hyn a Ragwelir o ran y Gyllideb Rhagfyr 2024 / Budget Forecast Report December 2024

Porth Cymorth Cynnar

Swyddog Arweiniol / Corporate Lead Officer : Greg Jones

## 1. CRYNODEB / SUMMARY

## Diwedd y Flwyddyn / Year End Forecast:

Ar ddechrau'r flwyddyn hon, roedd y gwasanaeth yn rhagweld tanwariant o £283mil yn bennaf oherwydd sefyllfa ariannol gadarn gan y Gwasanaeth Tai.

At this early stage in the year, the service is expecting an underspend of £283k mainly driven by a positive financial position in the Housing Service.

## 2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Gwasanaeth Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (L, C neu U) Level of risk (L, M or H)
Gwasanaethau Cymorth Cynnar / Early Intervention Services	902	1,251	1,250	1	(8)	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
Gwasanaethau Tai / Housing Services	872	2,852	2,644	208	274	Mae'r tanwariant a ragwelir yn ymwneud yn bennaf ag incwm uwch na'r disgwyl (e.e. Incwm Budd-daliadau Tai ar gyfer llety dros dro a chyllid ECO felx ac Addasiadau i'r Anabl). The projected underspend mainly relates to higher than expected income (e.g. Housing Benefit income for temporary accommodation ECO Flex and DFG funding).	I / L
Canolfannau Lles / Wellbeing Centres	1,582	1,262	1,232	30	11	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. Mae incwm yn dechrau dangos arwyddion positif yn y Canolfannau Llesiant ac y mae bellach yn cyflawni lefelau cyn COVID. There are no problem areas identified at present. Income is starting to show encouraging signs in the Wellbeing Centres and is now hitting pre COVID levels.	C / M
Gwasanaeth Ieuencid Ceredigion / Youth Services	579	578	575	3	6	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd, mae'r tanwariant yn ymwneud â chyllidebau gweithwyr. There are no problem areas identified at present, the underspend relates to Employee budgets	I / L
Rheoli'r Gwasanaethau a Strategaeth y Gwasanaethau / Service Management and Strategy	104	78	78	-	-	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
<b>CYFANSWM / TOTAL</b>	<b>4,039</b>	<b>6,021</b>	<b>5,779</b>	<b>242</b>	<b>283</b>		

**Adroddiad ar yr hyn a Ragwelir o ran y Gyllideb Rhagfyr 2024 / Budget Forecast Report December 2024**

Porth Cynnal

Swyddog Arweiniol / Corporate Lead Officer : Audrey Somerton Edwards

**1. CRYNODEB / SUMMARY**

**Diwedd y Flwyddyn / Year End Forecast:**

Mae'r gwasanaeth yn ymdrin yn bennaf a'r achosion a lleoliadau mwyaf cymhleth. Mae heriau recriwtio yn parhau, er bod telerau ac amodau'r Cyngor yn gymharol ddeniadol. Rhag-amcangyfrifir cost net o £988mil ar gyfer staff asiantaeth Porth Cynnal sy'n cwmpasu rolau Gweithwyr Cymdeithasol rheng flaen, sy'n cael ei grwdd gyda chyfraniad o £800mil o'r gronfa wrth gefn. Mae pwysau costau sy'n deillio o gostau uwch a/neu gyfeintiau uwch hefyd i'w gweld gan yr adrannau lleoliadau Pobl Hŷn, Byw â Chymorth, Gwasaniaethau Cymorth Anabledd Dysgu ac lleoliadau Anabledd Corfforol. Gyda'i gilydd, rhagwelir y bydd hyn yn arwain at orwariant o £792mil dros y flwyddyn llawn.

The service mainly deals with the higher end complex cases and placements. There remain Recruitment challenges, despite the Council's terms and conditions being relatively attractive, with a net cost of £988k being projected within Porth Cynnal for agency staff covering frontline Social Worker roles, which is then being offset by a £800k contribution from reserves. Cost pressures resulting from higher costs and/or higher volumes are also being seen in the areas of Looked After Children, Learning Disability Floating Support & Physical Disability placements. Combined this is leading to a projected overspend of £792k for the year.

**2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Gwasanaeth Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (L, C neu U) Level of risk (L, M or H)
Gofal wedi'i Gynllunio / Planned Care	16,696	12,758	13,476	(718)	(867)	<p>Mae'r gorwariant a ragwelir yn cynnwys cost net defnyddio staff asiantaeth a Thîm a Reolir (hyd at fis Rhagfyr 2024) gan roi gorwariant rhagamcanol o £533mil ar ôl defnyddio £300mil o gronfeydd wrth gefn. Yn gyffredinol, gan gynnwys costau asiantaeth, rhagwelir y bydd gorwariant o £821mil ar y tîm LAC ac Asesu Plant a Theuluoedd. Mae yna hefyd orwariant rhagamcanol o £354mil ar leoliadau Plant sy'n Derbyn Gofal, yn bennaf oherwydd y defnydd o ddarparwyr Asiantaethau Maethu Annibynnol, ac hefyd ar Ofalwyr - Cleientiaid Etifeddol (£88mil). Mae'r gorwariant hwn wedi'i wrthbwysu'n rhannol gan danwariant a ragwelir ar Leoliadau Preswyl Pobl Hŷn (£294mil) ac ar welyau Pobl Hŷn (£199mil).</p> <p>The projected overspend includes the net cost of using agency staff and a Managed Team (to December 2024) giving a projected overspend of £533k after using £300k of reserves. Overall, inclusive of the agency costs, the LAC and Children and Family Assessment team are projected to be overspent by £821k. There is also a projected overspend on the LAC placements of £354k, mainly due to the use of Independent Foster Agency providers, and also on Carers - Legacy Clients (£88k). These overspends have been partially offset by a projected underspend on Older Persons Residential Placements (£294k) and on Older Persons Beds (£199k).</p>	U / H
Cymorth Estynedig / Extended Support	15,380	11,515	11,621	(106)	(159)	<p>Rydyn yn rhagamcanu gorwariant gan y gwasanaeth. Rhagwelir gorwariant ar Gwelyau Anableddau Corfforol (£210mil) ac Gwasaniaethau Cymorth Anableddau Dysgu (£114mil). Mae'r rhain wedi'i wrthbwysu'n rhannol gan danwariant net ar Daliadau Uniongyrchol (£135mil).</p> <p>An overspend is projected on the service. The overspend mainly relates to PD Beds (£210k) and LD Floating Support (£114k). These have been partially offset by a net underspend relating to Direct Payments (£135k).</p>	U / H

2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION							
Gwasanaeth  Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf  Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg  Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (I, C neu U)  Level of risk (L, M or H)
Lles Meddyliol / Mental Wellbeing	4,444	2,953	2,850	103	108	<p>Rhagwelir gorwariant yn y gwasanaeth yma. Yn bennaf oherwydd tanwariant ar welyau lechyd Meddwl (wedi'u wrthbwysu'n rhannol gan ddau leoliad newydd) a fydd yn creu tanwariant a ragwelir o £89mil. Mae disgwyl bydd yna hefyd tanwariant ar y tîm lechyd Meddwl (£85k). Mae hyn wedi'i wrthbwysu gan orwariant ar adrannau eraill o'r gwasanaeth, yn bennaf ar daliadau Uniongyrchol (£60mil).</p> <p>There is an underspend projected, MH Beds mainly due to 4 placements ending since budgets were set (partially offset by two new placements) giving a projected underspend of £89k. There is also a projected underspend on the Mental Health team (£85k). These have been offset by overspends on other codes, primarily an overspend on MH Direct Payments (£60k)</p>	C / M
Diogelu / Safeguarding	970	622	831	(209)	(243)	<p>Mae'r gorwariant yn ymwneud yn bennaf â chostau staffio ac asiantaeth ychwanegol yn y tîm Diogelu.</p> <p>The overspend mainly relates to additional agency and staffing costs in the Safeguarding team</p>	C / M
Rheoli'r Gwasanaethau a Strategaeth y Gwasanaethau / Service Management and Strategy	401	753	467	286	369	<p>Mae cyfraniad o £500mil o gronfeydd wrth gefn wedi cael ei ystyried i wrthbwysu'n rhannol y £688mil net o gostau staff asiantaeth a ragwelir ar draws y Gwasanaeth.</p> <p>A £500k contribution from reserves has been factored in to partly offset the net £688k of agency staff costs projected across the Service.</p>	I / L
<b>CYFANSWM / TOTAL</b>	<b>37,891</b>	<b>28,601</b>	<b>29,245</b>	<b>(644)</b>	<b>(792)</b>		

**Adroddiad ar yr hyn a Ragwelir o ran y Gyllideb Rhagfyr 2024 / Budget Forecast Report December 2024**

**Porth Gofal**

**Swyddog Arweiniol / Corporate Lead Officer : Donna Pritchard**

**1. CRYNODEB / SUMMARY**

**Diwedd y Flwyddyn / Year End Forecast:**

Mae gofal cymdeithasol yn parhau i wynebu heriau recriwtio, er bod telerau ac amodau'r Cyngor yn gymharol ddeniadol. Mae hyn yn arwain at barhâd yn yr angen i ddefnyddio staff asiantaeth ar gyfer rolau Gweithwyr Cymdeithasol rheng flaen a rolau Gofal a Chymorth yn ein Cartrefi Gofal Preswyl. Rhag-amcanwyd gorwariant net o £852mil ar gyfer costau asiantaethau ym Mhorth Gofal. Mae tanwariant yn yr adran Gofal Cartref a'r Tim Galluogi. Ar y cyfan, rhagwelir gorwariant ar hyn o bryd o £299mil dros y flwyddyn gyfan.

Social care continues to face recruitment challenges, despite the Council's terms and conditions being relatively attractive. This is resulting in a continued need to use agency staff in frontline Social Worker roles and Care & Support roles in our Residential Care Homes. Within Porth Gofal there is a £852k net overspend projected for agency costs. There are underspends within Domiciliary Care and the Enablement Team. Overall there is currently a projected overspend of £299k for the year.

**2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Gwasanaeth  Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf  Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024  Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg  Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (L, C neu U)  Level of risk (L, M or H)
Gwasanaethau Uniongyrchol / Direct Services	8,284	6,379	6,464	(85)	(106)	Rhagwelir gorwariant gan y gwasanaeth hwn yn bennaf oherwydd y defnydd o weithwyr gofal Asiantaeth yn y cartrefi preswyl a gaiff ei wrthbwysio i raddau gan swyddi gwag yn y rolau hyn (sef gorwariant net o £142mil). There is an overspend projected on this service due mainly to the use of Agency care workers in the residential homes being somewhat countered by vacant posts in these roles (net effect of £142k overspend).	U / H
Gwasanaethau Tymor Byr ac wedi'u Targedu / Targeted and Short Term Services	7,920	6,615	6,315	300	400	Mae'r Gwasanaeth Galluogi yn cario swyddi gwag ar hyn o bryd ac mae hefyd wedi derbyn cyllid gan y Gronfa Buddsoddi Ranbarthol ar gyfer darparu gwasanaethau sy'n arwain at danwariant amcangyfrifol o £399mil. Disgwylir hefyd tanwariant ar y Tim Therapi Galwedigaethol oherwydd heriau recriwtio yn arwain at swyddi gwag (£232k). Mae'r tanwariant hwn wedi'i wrthbwysio rhywfaint gan orwariant amcangyfrifol ar wariant y Storfa Offer (£87k), oherwydd cynnydd yn y galw am leoliadau ym Maes y Môr (£143k). Enablement Service is currently carrying vacancies and has also received RIF funding for the provision of services leading to a projected underspend of £399k. There is also an expected underspend on the Occupational Therapy Team, due to recruitment challenges leading to vacant posts (£232k). These underspends have been somewhat countered by a projected overspend on the Equipment Store expenditure (£87k), due to an increase in demand, placements at Maes y Mor (£143k).	C / M

2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION							
Gwasanaeth Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (L, C neu U ) Level of risk (L, M or H)
Gwananaethau Asesu a Brysbennu Integredig / Integrated Triage and Assessment Services	1,676	1,534	1,946	(412)	(571)	Mae costau ychwanegol staff Asiantaeth yn y rhan hon o'r gwasanaeth wedi'u gwrthbwyso gan rai arbedion oherwydd swyddi gwag, mae hyn yn bennaf o fewn y tîm Brysbennu Porth Gofal. Bydd yr incwm grant yn y gyllideb sylfaenol a dybir hefyd yn cael ei adolygu. There are additional costs of Agency staff in this part of the service offset by some savings from vacant posts, this is primarily within the Porth Gofal Triage team. Grant income assumed in the base budget is also under review.	U / H
Rheoli'r Gwasanaethau a Strategaeth y Gwasanaethau / Service Management and Strategy	487	485	493	(8)	(22)	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
<b>CYFANSWM / TOTAL</b>	<b>18,367</b>	<b>15,013</b>	<b>15,218</b>	<b>(205)</b>	<b>(299)</b>		

## Adroddiad ar yr hyn a Ragwelir o ran y Gyllideb Rhagfyr 2024 / Budget Forecast Report December 2024

Ysgolion a Dysgu Gydol Oes / Schools &amp; Lifelong Learning

Swyddog Arweiniol / Corporate Lead Officer : Elen James

## 1. CRYNODEB / SUMMARY

## Diwedd y Flwyddyn / Year End Forecast:

Mae'r Gwasanaeth yn amcan tanwariant yn bennaf oherwydd grantiau ychwanegol o fewn Gwasanaeth Dysgu Gydol Oes.

The Service is projecting an underspend mainly due to the benefit of grant funding within the Lifelong Learning part of the service.

## 2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Gwasanaeth Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (L, C neu U) Level of risk (L, M or H)
Ysgolion Cynradd / Primary Schools	20,409	20,409	20,409	-	-	Mae'r cyllid i gyd yn cael ei ddirprwyo i Gyrrff Llywodraethol Ysgolion o 1 Ebrill. All funding is delegated to School Governing Bodies wef 1 April.	I / L
Ysgolion Uwchradd / Secondary Schools	16,307	16,307	16,307	-	-		I / L
Ysgolion Pob Oed / All-through Schools	12,305	12,305	12,305	-	-		I / L
Gwella Ysgolion / School Improvement	1,803	855	990	(135)	(123)	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd, mae'r gorwariant oherwydd salwch tymor hir staff There are no problem areas identified at present, overspend is due to staff on long term sickness	I / L
Adnoddau Dysgu / Learning Resources	359	243	210	33	28	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
Anghenion Dysgu Ychwanegol / Additional Learning Needs	2,160	1,683	1,556	127	155	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd, mae'r tanwariant yn ymwneud â chyllidebau gweithwyr, grantiau UKSPF, ac arbedion ar cludiant ADY There are no problem areas identified at present, the underspend relates to Employee budgets, UKSPF Grants, and savings on ALN Transport	C / M
Gwasanaethau Diwylliannol / Cultural Services	1,047	656	694	(38)	(37)	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd, mae'r gorwariant oherwydd incwm mynediad amgueddfa yn llai na'r disgwyl There are no problem areas identified at present, the overspend is due to Museum income less than expected	I / L
Dysgu Gydol Oes / Lifelong Learning	589	513	309	204	266	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd, mae'r tanwariant yn ymwneud â chyllidebau gweithwyr, a grantiau UKSPF sydd yn parhau tan Chwefror nawr There are no problem areas identified at present, the underspend relates to Employee budgets and UKSPF Grants which have been extended to February now	I / L



2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION							
Gwasanaeth  Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf  Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg  Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (L, C neu U )  Level of risk (L, M or H)
Ymgysylltu a Chyrhaeddiad / Engagement and Attainment	1,660	1,030	968	62	103	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd, mae'r tanwariant yn ymwneud â chyllidebau gweithwyr, a grantiau UKSPF. There are no problem areas identified at present, the underspend relates to Employee budgets and UKSPF Grants.	I / L
Uned Arlwygo Gorfforaethol / Corporate Catering Unit	1,024	419	419	-	(32)	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd, mae'r gorwariant oherwydd 83% sydd ar UPFSM wedi cyllido ar 95%. Mae £60k tanwaraint oherwydd cau Tregerddan There are no problem areas identified at present, the overspend is due to 83% uptake on UPFSM, budgeted on 95%. £60k of underspend is from Tregerddan	I / L
Rheoli'r Gwasanaethau a Strategaeth y Gwasanaethau / Service Management and Strategy	313	552	594	(42)	(55)	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
<b>CYFANSWM / TOTAL</b>	<b>57,976</b>	<b>54,972</b>	<b>54,761</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>305</b>		

**Adroddiad ar yr hyn a Ragwelir o ran y Gyllideb Rhagfyr 2024 / Budget Forecast Report December 2024**

Arweiniol / Leadership

Brif Weithredwr / Chief Executive : Eifion Evans

**1. CRYNODEB / SUMMARY**

**Diwedd y Flwyddyn / Year End Forecast:**

Mae'r gyllideb lleoliadau y Tu Allan i'r Sir yn parhau dan bwysau sylweddol er gwaethaf datblygiad cyfleusterau o fewn y sir. Mae hyn yn bennaf oherwydd cymhlethdodau/anghenion cynyddol gan arwain at gostau lleoliad uwch ar gyfartaledd. Ar hyn o bryd rhagwelir gorwariant o £1.14m (ar wariant gros rhagamcanol o £9.3m), sy'n cynnwys defnyddio £1.5m o'r cronfeydd wrth gefn. Yn ogystal, amcangyfrifir costau o tua £350k mewn perthynas â Storm Bert a Storm Darragh sydd hefyd yn arwain at orwariant a ragwelir.

The Out of County placements budget remains under considerable pressure despite the development of the in county facilities. This is mainly due to increasing complexities/needs resulting in higher average placement costs. At this stage an overspend of £1.14m is anticipated (on projected gross expenditure of £9.3m) which includes using £1.5m from Reserves as a temporary mitigation. In addition there are estimated costs of c£350k in relation to Storm Bert & Storm Darragh which are also leading to a projected overspend.

**2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

Gwasanaeth Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (L, C neu U) Level of risk (L, M or H)
Gŵp Arweiniol / Leadership Group	519	389	354	35	50	Ni nodwyd unrhyw faes a oedd yn achosi problem ar hyn o bryd. There are no problem areas identified at present.	I / L
Arbedion Corfforaethol / Corporate Savings	(269)	(1,264)	(1,264)	-	-	** Translation ** £1.263m of funding has been received from WG for in year NJC pay pressures. It is currently planned to put £1.0m of this into reserves at year-end.	C / M
Cyllid wrth gefn / Contingencies	249	50	38	12	(200)	** Translation ** The budget will be able to fund the first £150k of costs incurred in relation to Storm Bert & Darragh - but a further £200k of spend would have to be funded from underspends from other budgets, as it is below the WG's threshold for financial support.	C / M
Lleoliadau y tu allan i'r Sir / Out of County Placements	5,042	3,782	4,714	(932)	(1,140)	Ceir 26 lleoliad preswyl a 10 lleoliad coleg. Disgwylir i'r cyfleusterau newydd o fewn y sir gychwyn yn weithredol yn ystod Ch4 o 24/25. Mae'r gost cyfartalog fesul lleoliad wedi cynyddu i oddeutu £320mil. Ar hyn o bryd rhagwelir gwariant gros o £9.3miliwn gyda £1.5mil o'r gronfeydd wrth gefn a dybir, ochr yn ochr â symud i'r cyfleusterau o fewn y sir. There are 26 residential placements and 10 college placements. The new in-county facilities are due to start becoming ready during Q4 of 24/25. Average cost per placement has increased to c£320k. Gross expenditure currently forecast to be c£9.3m with £1.5m from reserves assumed alongside the transition to the in-county facilities.	U / H
<b>CYFANSWM / TOTAL</b>	<b>5,541</b>	<b>2,957</b>	<b>3,842</b>	<b>(885)</b>	<b>(1,290)</b>		

## Adroddiad ar yr hyn a Ragwelir o ran y Gyllideb Rhagfyr 2024 / Budget Forecast Report December 2024

Ardollau, Premiwm Treth y Cyngor a Chronfeydd / Levies, Council Tax Premium and Reserves

Swyddog Arweiniol / Corporate Lead Officer : Duncan Hall

## 1. CRYNODEB / SUMMARY

## Diwedd y Flwyddyn / Year End Forecast:

\*\* translate \*\*

The forecast is for a break-even position, although there may not be a need to make a transfer to the Community Housing Reserve.

## 2. GWYBODAETH ARIANNOL / FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Gwasanaeth Service	Y Gyllideb Ddiweddaraf Latest Budget £'000	Cyllideb hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Budget to December 2024 £'000	Gwir wariant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Actuals to December 2024 £'000	Amrywiant hyd at Rhagfyr 2024 Variance to December 2024 £'000	Rhagolygon Diwedd y Flwyddyn tan/(gor) wariant Year End Forecast under/(over) spend £'000	Esboniad o'r gorwariant/tanwariant a ragwelir a lefel y risg Explanation of forecast over/under spend & the level of risk	Lefel y risg (L, C neu U) Level of risk (L, M or H)
Ardollau / Levies	5,464	4,005	4,005	-	-	Pan osodwyd y gyllideb, rhagdybiwyd y byddai'r Cyngor yn derbyn cyllid grant o £87mil yn uniongyrchol o Lywodraeth Cymru mewn perthynas â chynnydd yng nghyfraniadau'r cyflogwyr i bensiynau'r Gwasanaeth Tân - derbyniwyd ym mis Rhagfyr. When the budget was set it was assumed that the Council would receive grant funding direct from WG for £87k in relation to an increase in Firefighters pensions employers contributions - this was recieved in December.	C / M
Premiwm Treth y Cyngor / Council Tax Premium	615	-	12	(12)	-	Bydd y swm a fydd yn cael ei drosglwyddo i'r Cynllun Tai Cymunedol wrth gefn yn ddibynnol ar y balans wrth gefn ar ddiwedd y flwyddyn. Y balans ar 01/04/24 yw £2.557miliwn ac ychwanegir ato yn unig os bydd yn disgyn o dan £2.0miliwn. Bydd y potensial ar gyfer tanwariant yn cael ei adolygu wrth i'r flwyddyn fynd yn ei blaen. The amount that will be transferred into the Community Housing Reserve will depend on the balance on the reserve at the end of the year. The balance available as at 01/04/24 is £2.557m and this will only be topped up if it falls below £2.0m. The potential for an underspend here will be reviewed as the year progresses.	I / L
Balansau a Chronfeydd wrth gefn / Balances & Reserves	-	-	-	-	-	Nid oes unrhyw feysydd problemus wedi'u nodi ar hyn o bryd. Bydd unrhyw drosglwyddiad i / o'r Gronfa Gyffredinol yn cael ei ystyried ar ddiwedd y flwyddyn pan fydd sefyllfa gyffredinol y Cyngor yn hysbys. There are no problem areas identified at present. Any transfer to / from the General Fund will be considered at year end when the overall position for the Council is known.	C / M
<b>CYFANSWM / TOTAL</b>	<b>6,079</b>	<b>4,005</b>	<b>4,017</b>	<b>(12)</b>	<b>-</b>		

## Budget Reductions Proposals (approved by Full Council 29/02/24)

Item Ref	Service	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Area of Service	Narrative	24/25 Revenue Savings / Income Value £'000	BRAG Status (29/01/25)
1	Finance & Procurement	Corporate Resources	NNDR Discretionary Relief	Reduce existing budget headroom and scale back support from 01/04/25 to focus solely on Ceredigion based organisations combined with a maximum award level	10	Blue
2	Finance & Procurement	Corporate Resources	Community Grants Scheme	Reduction in the Scheme's scope to only provide revenue grants via the Welsh Church Fund and the Capital grant budget to be reduced from £200k to £100k	26	Blue
3	Finance & Procurement	Corporate Resources	Insurance	Operational Savings	50	Blue
4	Finance & Procurement	Corporate Resources	Treasury Management	Continued delivery of Treasury Management Savings - Interest Paid on borrowing / Investment Income	365	Blue
5	Finance & Procurement	Corporate Resources	Council Tax Reduction Scheme	Operational Savings based on current volumes	200	Blue
6	Finance & Procurement	Corporate Resources	WG Child Burial & Cremation Grant	Operational Savings - Grant expected to be transferred into Final Settlement, minimal annual spend	15	Blue
7	Porth Cymorth Cynnar	Healthier	Support & Prevention	Operational Savings from Income generation e.g. Climbing Wall	6	Green
8	Porth Cymorth Cynnar	Healthier	Support & Prevention	Operational Savings - Use alternative Minibus arrangements	8	Green
9	Porth Cymorth Cynnar	Healthier	Support & Prevention	Review of locations used for Youth Clubs, together with looking at a greater use of Volunteers	10	Blue
10	Porth Cymorth Cynnar	Healthier	Wellbeing Centres	Greater Commercial Income generation	75	Green
11	Porth Cymorth Cynnar	Healthier	Housing	Operational Savings - maximimise ECO scheme income	10	Green
12	Porth Cymorth Cynnar	Healthier	Housing - Homelessness	Reduce number of properties leased in and move to freehold owned properties, combined with a review of Temporary Accomodation Management Fees paid to external Providers	60	Green
13	Porth Cymorth Cynnar	Healthier	Carers & Community	Review use of Penparcau Family Centre building	5	Blue
14	Porth Cymorth Cynnar	Healthier	Support & Intervention	Operational Savings from reviewing Youth Service and Parent and Family SLAs	33	Blue
15	Porth Cymorth Cynnar	Healthier	Energy Savings	Anticipated savings from lower Gas prices from October 23 (indicative 13%)	15	Blue
16	Porth Cynnal	Healthier	Review of Carers Sitting Service	Reduce the level of Budget provision from £255k to £150k and to form part of the wider Day Services & Respite Review	105	Amber
17	Porth Cynnal	Healthier	Meals at Home	Cease directly operating the service and signpost to external Providers from April 2024 onwards	18	Blue
18	Democratic Services	Corporate Resources	Translation	Operational savings to reduce the level of external Translation	15	Blue
19	Schools & Lifelong Learning	Learning	Culture - Music Service	Operational savings / efficiencies	10	Blue
20	Schools & Lifelong Learning	Learning	Culture - Theatre Felinfach	Operational savings / efficiencies from vacant post(s)	63	Blue
21	Schools & Lifelong Learning	Learning	Culture - Arts Support	Terminate current Service Level Agreements with Aberystwyth Arts Centre (£30k) & Theatr Mwdan (£14k)	44	Blue
22	Schools & Lifelong Learning	Learning	Culture - Ceredigion Museum	Operational savings / efficiencies from vacant post(s)	26	Blue
23	Schools & Lifelong Learning	Learning	Culture - Ceredigion Museum	Introduce Fees & Charges in order to visit Ceredigion Museum	60	Amber
24	Schools & Lifelong Learning	Learning	Culture - Ceredigion Museum	Seek interest parties to operate Ceredigion Museum on a Charitable / Trust basis	25	Amber
25	Schools & Lifelong Learning	Learning	Core Staffing	Review of S&LLL Central Structure	259	Green
26	Schools & Lifelong Learning	Learning	Corporate Catering Unit	Outcome of WG Universal Free School Meals Unit Rate increasing from £2.90 to £3.20 from January 24 (reduces the level of Council subsidy Council)	150	Blue
27	Schools & Lifelong Learning	Learning	Energy Savings - Retained Budget	Anticipated savings from lower Gas prices from October 23 (indicative 13%)	3	Blue
28	Schools & Lifelong Learning	Learning	Energy Savings - Delegated Schools	Anticipated savings from lower Gas prices from October 23 (indicative 13%)	56	Blue
29	People & Organisation	Corporate Resources	Various	Operational savings / efficiencies	20	Blue
30	Legal & Governance	Corporate Resources	Various	Operational savings / efficiencies	19	Blue
31	Policy, Performance & Public Protection	Healthier	Community Warden Service	Cease operating a Community Warden Service (No Pest control function just statutory Stray Dogs aspect to be fulfilled) (Fleet element - c£10k)	64	Blue
32	Policy, Performance & Public Protection	Corporate Resources	Supplies & Services	Operational savings to reduce 3rd Party spend	6	Blue
33	Customer Contact, ICT & Digital	Corporate Resources	Mobile Phones / Connections	Operational savings from a reduction in Mobile Phones / IT Connections	55	Blue
34	Customer Contact, ICT & Digital	Corporate Resources	Zoom licence	Operational savings from fully moving to Microsoft Teams	9	Blue
35	Customer Contact, ICT & Digital	Corporate Resources	Printing & Post	Operational efficiencies through reviewing Post Room and Reprographics Services	32	Amber
36a	Customer Contact, ICT & Digital	Corporate Resources	Libraries	Retain a presence in each of the 4 current towns but co-locate library provision with other Council Services where-ever possible, combined with reviewing every location's opening hours - Abeaeron component	35	Green
36b	Customer Contact, ICT & Digital	Corporate Resources	Libraries	Retain a presence in each of the 4 current towns but co-locate library provision with other Council Services where-ever possible, combined with reviewing every location's opening hours - Lampeter component	35	Red

## Budget Reductions Proposals (approved by Full Council 29/02/24)

Item Ref	Service	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Area of Service	Narrative	24/25 Revenue Savings / Income Value £'000	BRAG Status (29/01/25)
37	Customer Contact, ICT & Digital	Corporate Resources	Libraries - Schools Support	Cease the additional Libraries support provided to Schools (This does not affect the Library provision that each School themselves currently operates)	47	Blue
38	Customer Contact, ICT & Digital	Corporate Resources	Mobile Library service	Reduce the current operation from 3 core vehicles + 1 delivery van down to 2 core vehicles.	70	Blue
39	Porth Gofal	Healthier	LA Residential Care Homes	Review collaborative approaches with Health Board etc to maximise the use of Hafan y Waun, Aberystwyth	100	Green
40	Porth Gofal	Healthier	LA Residential Care Homes	Review the future options for Tregerddan Care Home in Bow Street	250	Blue
41	Porth Gofal	Healthier	Day Services	Future Day Services & Respite service to be designed to cost no more than £1.250m pa	500	Green
42	Porth Gofal	Healthier	Charges for non-residential Care	Lobby WG to increase the weekly cap from £100 to £120	125	Red
43	Porth Gofal	Healthier	Energy Savings	Anticipated savings from lower Gas prices from October 23 (indicative 13%)	21	Blue
44	Economy & Regeneration	Thriving	Public Conveniences	Review of Public Toilets - Combination of increased Fees & Charges, possible closure, reduce running costs or transfer to Town & CTTY Councils where appropriate	100	Blue
45	Economy & Regeneration	Corporate Resources	Energy Savings	Anticipated savings from lower Gas prices from October 23 (indicative 13%)	25	Blue
46	Economy & Regeneration	Corporate Resources	Operational Office Buildings	Continue to maximise the range of public facing services in Canolfan Rheidol, Aberystwyth and Penmorfa Aberaeron and seek alternative uses for County Hall, Aberaeron (£150k already assumed in the 23/24 base budget)	50	Green
47	Economy & Regeneration	Corporate Resources	Corporate Estate / Commercial Buildings and Use of Space	Continued maximisation of income opportunities including recovering all costs, following up rent reviews, retain v sell v repurpose considerations	100	Green
48	Economy & Regeneration	Corporate Resources	Energy Schemes	Reduced running costs following capital investment in Energy Schemes - ranging from WG Re:Fit scheme to Solar PVs on key buildings (£125k already assumed in the 23/24 base budget)	100	Green
49	Economy & Regeneration	Thriving	Various	Other Operational Savings / Efficiencies	14	Blue
50	Economy & Regeneration	Thriving	Building Regulations / Land Charges	Increased Income linked to Fees & Charges	30	Blue
51	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Highways Surface Dressing Programme	Reduce Revenue Contribution to Capital by £250k and replace with core Capital funding (no overall expenditure reduction)	250	Blue
52	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Highways Surface Dressing Programme	Reduce Revenue Contribution to Capital by a further £120k with a corresponding £120k reduction in Capital expenditure)	120	Blue
53	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Transport	Remove budget for Bwcabus contribution now that WG have withdrawn funding for the scheme	70	Blue
54	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Streetlighting	Introduce automatic Streetlighting dimming	35	Blue
55	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Arriva Site, Aberystwyth	Convert site to car parking in the short term by extending Maes yr Afon Car park	50	Green
56	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Parking on the Promenade in Aberystwyth	Introduce Fees & Charges for the Promenade as part of a new Fees & Charges Car Parking charges structure	400	Green
57	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Car Parking - Fees & Charges	New Fees & Charges structure with principles to include charging all year round, Peak / Off peak tiering, Charging beyond 8am to 6pm, Premium locations, simpler charging periods (To be subject to a further Cabinet report)	125	Green
58	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Harbours - Fees & Charges	Continued move to Full Cost Recovery to eliminate any Council Subsidy plus New Additional Fees for Commercial Passenger Boats	75	Blue
59	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Other Fees & Charges	Increase other H&ES Fees & Charges by inflation (E.g. Road Closures, Section 38)	100	Blue
60	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Community Glass Banks	Replace Community Glass Banks with Council owned bins and Council vehicles to empty	40	Blue
61	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Waste Service	Operational savings - stop producing Waste Calendars	20	Blue
62	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Waste Service	Limit the number of black bags collected from each household	25	Green
64	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Grounds Maintenance	Stop undertaking seasonal Grounds Maintenance work and/or transfer to Town & Community Councils	84	Blue
65	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Street Cleaning	Stop undertaking seasonal Street Cleaning work and/or transfer to Town & Community Councils	32	Blue
66	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Winter Gritting	Review and reduce Winter Gritting routes for Winter 2024 (10% reduction = c£25k)	25	Blue
67	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Household Waste Sites	Review of opening hours across all Household Waste Sites, including closure of 1 Site	100	Amber
68	Highways & Environmental Services	Thriving	Residual Waste Contract	Provisional outcome from new contract procurement (to be considered by 20/02/24 Cabinet)	300	Blue
69	Economy & Regeneration	Corporate Resources	Business Rates Saving	Heat Relief on 2 Biomass facilities	19	Blue
70	Leadership Group	Healthier	Out of County Placements	Additional target to achieve from review of existing Placements and transitional arrangements to new in county facilities	394	Red

TOTAL:

5,793

## Budget Reductions Proposals (approved by Full Council 29/02/24)

Item Ref	Service	Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Area of Service	Narrative	24/25 Revenue Savings / Income Value £'000	BRAG Status (29/01/25)
			<i>Blue</i>	<i>Complete</i>	3,014	52%
			<i>Green</i>	<i>On Track</i>	1,903	33%
			<i>Amber</i>	<i>Partially on track but with some issues</i>	322	6%
			<i>Red</i>	<i>Not on track and/or major issues and/or higher risk</i>	554	10%
			<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>5,793</b>	<b>100%</b>

# CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

**Report to:** Cabinet

**Date of meeting:** 11 March 2025

**Title:** Quarter 3 Capital Programme Monitoring Report

**Purpose of the report:** To report on the Capital Expenditure to date

**For:** Information

**Cabinet Portfolio and Cabinet Member:**  
Councillor Gareth Davies, Cabinet Member for Finance & Procurement Services

## 1. **Overall Position**

Details of the latest Capital Programme expenditure to the end of December are attached as Appendix A.

Total expenditure is £38.9m. The Capital Programme Working budget is £60m (excluding Contingencies) for the year.

## 2. **New Schemes – Variances, Budget Changes**

The Latest budget now reflects the updated 2024/25 programme, presented to Cabinet on 21st January 2025. The programme has been reduced in line with expectations on achievable spend by the end of the financial year 2024/25. The budgets, where there is known slippage and the scheme allows, have been re-profiled into 2025/26 and future years.

## 3. **Capital Receipts**

£61k of Capital Receipts have been achieved to end of December 2024. These relate mainly to the sale of vehicles and the repayment of housing grants.

The Capital Programme is monitored on a bi-monthly basis by the Capital Monitoring Group and issues such as project progress, virements, slippage and the implications arising thereon are considered by the Group and reported through to the Development Group.

### **Wellbeing of Future Generations:**

**Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If not, please state why.**

This report does not refer to a policy or service change.

**Summary of Integrated Impact Assessment:**

Long term: N/A  
Collaboration: N/A  
Involvement: N/A  
Prevention: N/A  
Integration: N/A

**Recommendation(s):**

To note the overall Capital Position outlined in the report.

**Reasons for decision:**

None required.

**Overview and Scrutiny:**

Considered during the budget setting process

**Policy Framework:**

Medium Term Financial Strategy

**Corporate Well-being Objectives:**

All Corporate Priorities are underpinned by the Capital Programme.

**Finance and Procurement implications:**

Compliant

**Legal Implications:**

None

**Staffing implications:**

None

**Property / asset implications:**

None directly

**Risk(s):**

Risk of insufficient funding if there are significant overspends

**Statutory Powers:**

Local Government Finance Act 1992

**Background Papers:**

Multi-Year Capital Programme

**Appendices:**

Appendix A- Capital Programme Monitoring Report

**Corporate Lead Officer:**

Duncan Hall, Corporate Lead Officer: Finance & Procurement



**Reporting Officer:**

Liz Jones, Assistant Accountant

**Date:**

12 February 2025

Qtr. 3 Capital Programme Monitoring Report 2024/25

Corporate/ Service Managers	General Funding £'000	Grant Funding £'000	Total £'000	Total Expenditure to date £'000	Budget Remaining £'000	Notes for Cabinet
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**Schools and Lifelong Learning**

21st Century Schools programme (Band B)

Ysgol Henry Richards

Childcare Provision

Welsh Medium Immersion Centre and New classroom block

Additional Learning needs Adaptations to School buildings

Llwyn y Eos New Roof

School - additional Capital works

Aberaeron Comprehensive School - Retaining Wall

Underfloor Heating System - Schools

Urgent Works Schools

Museum New Roof

NJ	3,366	4,094	<b>7,460</b>	6,042	1,418
NJ	24	-	<b>24</b>	1	23
NJ	-	1,426	<b>1,426</b>	1,330	96
NJ	-	40	<b>40</b>	10	30
NJ	-	451	<b>451</b>	56	395
NJ	105	-	<b>105</b>	102	3
NJ	1,387	902	<b>2,289</b>	1,140	1,149
NJ	26	-	<b>26</b>	-	26
NJ	120	-	<b>120</b>	91	29
NJ	120	-	<b>120</b>	14	106
ND	100	-	<b>100</b>	6	94

No Issue to Report

No Issue to Report

No Issue to Report

Due to the delay in starting this scheme it has been identified that the costs have increased. The Council is working closely with WG in order to gain an increase in grant funding.

No Issue to Report

Scheme is complete.

£361k of additional grant funding has been added to the budget during qtr3. It is anticipated that the budget will be fully spent by year end.

There will only be fees incurred in 24/25. The work will commence in 25/26.

No Issue to Report

No Issue to Report

There is very little spend expected in 24/25. Start on site expected late May 2025.

**Total - Schools and Lifelong Learning**

<b>5,248</b>	<b>6,913</b>	<b>12,161</b>	<b>8,791</b>	<b>3,370</b>
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Qtr. 3 Capital Programme Monitoring Report 2024/25

Corporate/ Service Managers	General Funding £'000	Grant Funding £'000	Total £'000	Total Expenditure to date £'000	Budget Remaining £'000	Notes for Cabinet
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**Porth Cymorth Cynnar**

Wellbeing Centres - Urgent Works	CY	267	-	<b>267</b>	252	15	No Issue to Report
Sports Wales Wellbeing Centres Facilities upgrades	CY	212	9	<b>221</b>	191	30	No Issue to Report
Disabled Facilities Grants	LH	1,400	-	<b>1,400</b>	679	721	No Issue to Report
Home Improvement & Houses into Homes Loan Schemes	LH	45	-	<b>45</b>	-	45	No Issue to Report
Community Housing Scheme	LH	400	-	<b>400</b>	295	105	No Issue to Report
Enable Grant for Independent Living	LH	-	146	<b>146</b>	76	70	No Issue to Report
	LH						An additional £20k has been awarded for Care and Repair funding - other Schemes include - Managing Better Service £47k & DFG Top up £81k
HCF Housing with Care Fund Objective 3 (Porth Cymorth Cynnar)	LH	-	148	<b>148</b>	22	126	
Intermediate Care Fund- Property Purchases & Renovations	LH	4	-	<b>4</b>	3	1	No Issue to Report
Land and Buildings Development Fund	LH	1,453	-	<b>1,453</b>	950	503	WG have Approved an extension to the end of March 2025.
National Empty Homes Grant Scheme	LH	82	-	<b>82</b>	3	80	c£10k of expenditure is anticipated in 24/25. The scheme is being extended into 2026/27.
<b>Total - Porth Cymorth Cynnar</b>		<b>3,863</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>4,166</b>	<b>2,471</b>	<b>1,695</b>	

Qtr. 3 Capital Programme Monitoring Report 2024/25

Corporate/ Service Managers	General Funding £'000	Grant Funding £'000	Total £'000	Total Expenditure to date £'000	Budget Remaining £'000	Notes for Cabinet
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**Economic and Regeneration**

Sewage Treatment Works	AB	125	-	125	35	90	No Issue to Report
Urgent Works Other	AB	70	-	70	14	56	No Issue to Report
Buildings - Invest to Save - New ways of working	AB	175	-	175	84	91	No Issue to Report
	AB						Some of the budget has been transferred into 25/26. It is anticipated the spend in 24/25 will be approximately £250k - £500k.
Energy Scheme Investments		500	-	500	148	352	
Digital Lines Upgrade	AB	40	-	40	-	40	No Issue to Report
Rural Connectivity Accelerator	CJE	-	46	46	-	46	New Approved Grant funded scheme
	AD						Agreement is being sought to use this funding for a new programme of works.
Asset Development Programme		-	180	180	(0)	180	
Market Hall Cardigan	AD	108	-	108	48	60	No Issue to Report
Footbridge Replacement Programme	AD	50	-	50	34	16	No Issue to Report
Access Improvement Grant	AD	-	110	110	104	6	No Issue to Report
Green Recovery Delivery Partnership Priority Themes	AD	-	11	11	6	5	No Issue to Report
Strata Florida	AD	60	-	60	60	-	No Issue to Report
Local Places for nature Capital	AD	-	620	620	87	533	No Issue to Report
Arfor 2 Programme	AD	-	200	200	204	(4)	Any overspend will be covered by Grant funding.
Glan yr Afon Industrial Estate Screw Pumps	AD	150	-	150	-	150	New Scheme funded by General Capital Funding.
Levelling up Projects	CJE	-	4,499	4,499	1,153	3,346	A further £1m has been spent in qtr4 to date - any underspend can be carried forward to 25/26.
<b>Total - Economic and Regeneration</b>		<b>1,278</b>	<b>5,666</b>	<b>6,944</b>	<b>1,977</b>	<b>4,967</b>	

## Qtr. 3 Capital Programme Monitoring Report 2024/25

Corporate/ Service Managers	General Funding £'000	Grant Funding £'000	Total £'000	Total Expenditure to date £'000	Budget Remaining £'000	Notes for Cabinet	
Highways Infrastructure Renewal / Improvements	PJ	2,080	-	<b>2,080</b>	1,376	704	No Issue to Report
Environmental Services	RLL	60	-	<b>60</b>	26	34	No Issue to Report
Ultra Low Emissions Vehicle Transformation	PJ	-	490	<b>490</b>	106	384	No Issue to Report
EV Charging Infrastructure Grant (WLGA)	PJ	8	121	<b>129</b>	114	15	No Issue to Report
ATF Core Funding 2024/25	PJ	-	500	<b>500</b>	150	350	No Issue to Report
ATF Waunfawr to IBERS Link Phase 1	PJ	-	300	<b>300</b>	7	293	No Issue to Report
LTF TrawsCymru Bus Corridor Infrastructure Improvements	PJ	-	950	<b>950</b>	282	668	No Issue to Report
Electric Points in GlanyAfon & Penrhos	PJ	20	711	<b>731</b>	-	731	Grant funding has only been awarded recently for this scheme.
20 mph Core Allocation	PJ	-	135	<b>135</b>	41	94	No Issue to Report
SRIC Rhiwgoch footway link to Aberaeron FY2024/25	PJ	-	358	<b>358</b>	20	338	An underspend is anticipated - A new bid will be submitted in 25/26.
Unadopted Roads - Nant Seilo, Penrhyncoch	PJ	17	50	<b>67</b>	3	64	No Issue to Report
Ystwyth Trail Llanilar	PJ	-	50	<b>50</b>	1	49	New approved Grant funded Scheme
Street Lighting invest to save	PJ	110	-	<b>110</b>	125	(15)	Includes additional works to improve efficiency.
Parking infrastructure	PJ	250	-	<b>250</b>	33	217	It is anticipated that funding will need to be re-profiled into 25/26.

Qtr. 3 Capital Programme Monitoring Report 2024/25

Corporate/ Service Managers	General Funding £'000	Grant Funding £'000	Total £'000	Total Expenditure to date £'000	Budget Remaining £'000	
FCERM ~Small scale Works 24/25 Taliesin Culvert	PJ	-	55	55	4	51
Flood Alleviation Schemes Llandre/Borth Leat - Development Stage	PJ	-	46	46	26	20
Coastal Protection Aberystwyth - Development Stage	PJ	-	270	270	205	65
Borth & Ynyslas Coastal Protection - Development Stage	PJ	-	38	38	2	36
Flood, Coastal and Risk Management, Capel Bangor and Tal-y-bont - Development Stage.	PJ	-	55	55	5	50
Llangrannog Coastal Protection - Development Stage	PJ	-	22	22	1	21
Coastal Protection Aberaeron	PJ	22,134	-	22,134	17,314	4,820
Fleet Replacement	RLL	935	-	935	655	280
<b>Total - Highways and Environmental Services</b>		<b>25,614</b>	<b>4,151</b>	<b>29,765</b>	<b>20,496</b>	<b>9,269</b>

Notes for Cabinet
No Issue to Report
Variation letter has been approved to extend the project to the 16/03/2025
Variation letter is being submitted to WG to extend the project to 31/03/25.
Variation letter is being submitted to WG to extend the project to 31/03/25.
Variation to WG being prepared before end of grant term, extension to 31/03/25 will be requested
Variation letter is being submitted to WG to extent the project to 31/03/25.
A provisional compensation event of financial significance was reported to the January Project Board. Under the contract, this requires formal determination by the Contract Administrator. Options are being explored in readiness for the outcome of this process.
No Issue to Report

Qtr. 3 Capital Programme Monitoring Report 2024/25

Corporate/ Service Managers	General Funding £'000	Grant Funding £'000	Total £'000	Total Expenditure to date £'000	Budget Remaining £'000	Notes for Cabinet	
<b>Porth Gofal</b>							
Urgent Works - Residential Homes	NL	90	-	90	7	83	No Issue to Report
Housing with Care Fund - Safe Accommodation for Children	NL	40	1,139	1,179	864	315	No Issue to Report
Hafan Deg Dementia Project	NL	-	30	30	30	0	Additional grant funding from Programmed Managed funds.
HCF Housing with Care Fund Objective 3 Porth Gofal Residential Homes upgrade	NL	-	113	113	16	97	Approved Grant Funding. Schemes include, ICES Efficiency Improvements £43k, ICES Equipment - £15k, Manual Handling Equipment for Training room - £12k & Yr Hafod Residential Home Dementia Friendly Conversion - £43k
	NL	830	-	830	301	529	No Issue to Report
Hafan y Waun Residential Home Capital Investment	NL	200	-	200	487	(287)	Additional funding will be required which includes the refurbishment costs associated with the transfer of residents from Tregerddan Care Home. It is anticipated that the funds will come from underspends from residential homes upgrade budget.
<b>Total - Porth Gofal</b>		<b>1,160</b>	<b>1,282</b>	<b>2,442</b>	<b>1,705</b>	<b>737</b>	
<b>UK Shared Prosperity Fund</b>							
Uk Shared Prosperity Fund (Powys and Ceredigion)	CJE	-	3,847	3,847	3,005	842	No issues to report
<b>Total - Uk Shared Prosperity Fund</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>3,847</b>	<b>3,847</b>	<b>3,005</b>	<b>842</b>	

## Qtr. 3 Capital Programme Monitoring Report 2024/25

Corporate/ Service Managers	General Funding £'000	Grant Funding £'000	Total £'000	Total Expenditure to date £'000	Budget Remaining £'000	Notes for Cabinet	
<b>Customer Contact</b>							
ICT Kit and Infrastructure investment	AM	300	-	300	235	65	No issues to report
Digital360 Revenues & Benefits	AM	76	-	76	76	(0)	No Issue to Report
ICT- Ceri software System	AM	80	-	80	80	0	No Issue to Report
<b>Total - Customer Contact</b>		<b>456</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>392</b>	<b>64</b>	
<b>Finance &amp; Procurement</b>							
Community Grant Scheme	JD	100	-	100	14	86	No Issue to Report
<b>Total - Finance &amp; Procurement</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>86</b>	
<b>Service Reform</b>							
Capitalisation Direction - Service Reform	JD	100	-	100	-	100	No Issue to Report
<b>Total - Service Reform</b>		<b>100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>100</b>	
<b>TOTAL WORKING PROGRAMME</b>		<b>37,819</b>	<b>22,162</b>	<b>59,981</b>	<b>38,851</b>	<b>21,130</b>	
Contingencies	JD	100	-	100	-	100	
New Approved Grants/Match funding for grant schemes	JD	110	1,716	1,826	-	1,826	
<b>Total - Contingencies</b>		<b>210</b>	<b>1,716</b>	<b>1,926</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,926</b>	
<b>TOTAL OVERALL PROGRAMME</b>		<b>38,029</b>	<b>23,878</b>	<b>61,907</b>	<b>38,851</b>	<b>23,056</b>	



## CYNGOR SIR CEREDIGION COUNTY COUNCIL

**Report to:** Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

**Date of meeting:** 27 March 2025

**Title:** Draft Forward Work Programme 2024-25 / 2025-26

**Purpose of the report:** Review the current work programme of the Committee

**Reason Scrutiny have requested the information:**

The forward work programme of the Committee is reviewed and updated at each meeting

### **Background**

Overview and Scrutiny Committees oversee the work of the Council to make sure that it delivers services in the best way and for the benefit of the local community.

The role of Overview and Scrutiny is to look at the services and issues that affect people in Ceredigion. The process provides the opportunity for Councillors to examine the various functions of the council, to ask questions on how decisions have been made, to consider whether service improvements can be put in place and to make recommendations to this effect.

Scrutiny plays an essential role in promoting accountability, efficiency and effectiveness in the Council's decision making process and the way in which it delivers services.

The main roles of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees:

- Holding the cabinet and officers as decision-makers to account
- Being a 'critical friend', through questioning how decisions have been made to provide a 'check and balance' to decision makers, adding legitimacy to the decision making process
- Undertaking reviews of council services and policy
- Undertaking reviews to develop council services and policies
- Considering any other matter that affects the county
- Ensuring that Ceredigion is performing to the best of its ability and delivering high quality services to its citizens
- Assessing the impact of the Council's policies on local communities and recommending improvement
- Engaging with the public to develop citizen centred policies and services

Effective Overview and Scrutiny can lead to:

- Better decision making
- Improved Service Delivery and Performance

- Robust Policy Development arising from public consultation and input of independent expertise
- Enhanced Democracy, Inclusiveness, Community Leadership and Engagement
- Adds a clear dimension of transparency and accountability to the political workings of the Council
- Provides an opportunity for all Members to develop specialist skills and knowledge that can benefit future policy making and performance monitoring processes
- Creates a culture of evidence based self-challenge

### **Current Situation**

#### **Questions to consider when choosing topics**

- Is there a clear objective for examining this topic?
- Are you likely to achieve a desired outcome?
- What are the likely benefits to the Council and the citizens of Ceredigion?
- Is the issue significant?
- Are there links to the Corporate Strategy
- Is it a key issue to the public?
- Have the issues been raised by external audit?
- Is it a poor performing service?

#### **Choosing topics**

Overview and Scrutiny Committees should consider information from the Corporate Strategy, the Corporate Risk Register, budget savings – proposals and impact, Quarterly Corporate Performance Management panel meetings and departmental input in choosing topics and designing their Forward Work Programmes, as well as any continuing work.

#### **Wellbeing of Future Generations:**

**Has an Integrated Impact Assessment been completed? If, not, please state why.**

No

#### **Summary of Integrated Impact Assessment:**

**Long term:** N/A

**Collaboration:** N/A

**Involvement:** N/A

**Prevention:** N/A

**Integration:** N/A

#### **Recommendation(s):**

To review and update the current Forward Work Programme.

**Contact Name:** Lisa Evans

**Designation:** Scrutiny and Standards Officer

**Date of Report:** 21/3/25

**Acronyms:**

FWP – Forward Work Programme

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Overview and Scrutiny Draft Forward Work Programme 2024/25

Committee	Item (description/title)	Invited Speakers	Purpose i.e. monitoring, policy, recommendation
<b>Coordinating</b>			
17 July 2024	CYSUR/CWMPAS PSB minutes Serious Violence Duty CSP Community Safety Strategy	Hazel Lloyd Lubran	
12 September 2024	RIPA 2023-24 Strategic Equality Plan Annual Report PSB Minutes Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report CYSUR/CWMPAS	Elin Prysor Cathryn Morgans Hazel Lloyd-Lubran Lisa Evans/Dwynwen Jones Elizabeth Upcott	
7 November 2024	PSB Minutes 2023-24 Self-Assessment Report and Annual Review of Performance and Well-being Objectives	Hazel Lloyd-Lubran Rob Starr	

	Scrutiny self-evaluation results CYSUR/CWMPAS		
16 January 2025	PSB Minutes CYSUR/CWMPAS Whistleblowing Local Authority Performance Profile Report National Residents Survey Report	Hazel Lloyd-Lubran	
3 February 2025	Budget		
27 March 2025	PSB Minutes Recruitment and retention Oversight of in year Financial matters		
7 May 2025	RIPA CYSUR/CWMPAS Q3 Oversight of in year Financial matters		

Future meetings	review of the RIPA Policy annually in January		

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Overview and Scrutiny Draft Forward Work Programme 2025/26

Committee	Item (description/title)	Invited Speakers	Purpose i.e. monitoring, policy, recommendation
<b>Healthier Communities</b>			
10 June 2025	Homelessness  Ceredigion Regional Integration Fund Focused project overview  Residential Homes  Statutory Director of Social Services 2023-2024 annual report  Air Quality Report  Oversight of in year financial matters  IRO quarter 3	Sarah Williams  Donna Pritchard  Donna Pritchard/Nerys Lewis  Audrey Somerton-Edwards  Heddwyn Evans  Duncan Hall  Elizabeth Upcott	Requested  Requested  Requested  Annual Report  Annual Reporting  Monitoring  Monitoring
16 September 2025	Oversight of in year financial matters  Invite housing associations to the 16 <sup>th</sup> of September 2025 meeting to discuss anti-social behaviour	Duncan Hall	Monitoring  Requested

	Statutory Director of Social Services 2024-2025 annual report Carers annual report 24-25	Audrey Somerton-Edwards Iwan Davies	Annual Report Annual Report
9 December 2026	Oversight of in year financial matters	Duncan Hall	Monitoring
5 February 2026	Budget		
17 March 2026	Oversight of in year financial matters	Duncan Hall	Monitoring
Future Agenda Items			

Overview and Scrutiny Draft Forward Work Programme 2025/26

Committee	Item (description/title)	Invited Speakers	Purpose i.e. monitoring, policy, recommendation
<b>Corporate Resources Communities</b>			
13 May 2025	A report on Council Assets  Data Protection and UKGDPR Policy  Oversight of in year financial matters	Arwyn Davies  Alan Morris  Duncan Hall	Request  Pre cabinet  Monitoring
15 July 2025	Oversight of in year financial matters  Procurement Reform as a result of new legislation  County Farms Strategy  6 monthly report on Compliments, Complaints and FOI's.	Duncan Hall  Duncan Hall  Arwyn Davies  Marie-Neige Hadfield	Monitoring  Pre cabinet  Re cabinet  monitoring
11 November 2025	Oversight of in year financial matters	Duncan Hall	Monitoring

6 February 2026	Budget		
10 March 2026	Oversight of in year financial matters	Duncan Hall	Monitoring
20 May 2026	Oversight of in year financial matters	Duncan Hall	Monitoring
Future Agenda and regular items:	6 monthly report on Compliments, Complaints and FOI's.	Marie Neige-Hadfield	

Overview and Scrutiny Draft Forward Work Programme 2025/26

Committee	Item (description/title)	Invited Speakers	Purpose i.e. monitoring, policy, recommendation
<b><i>Thriving Communities</i></b>			
17 June 2025	Oversight of in year Financial matters  Update on Ash Dieback  Climate Change	Duncan Hall  Rhodri Llwyd  Rhodri Llwyd	Monitoring  Risk Register Monitoring  Risk Register Monitoring
24 September 2025	Oversight of in year Financial matters	Duncan Hall	
17 December 2025	Oversight of in year Financial matters	Duncan Hall	
6 February 2026	Budget	Duncan Hall	Recommendation

29 April 2026	Oversight of in year Financial matters	Duncan Hall	
Future meetings	Economic Strategy		

Overview and Scrutiny Draft Forward Work Programme 2024/25

Committee	Item (description/title)	Invited Speakers	Purpose i.e. monitoring, policy, recommendation
<b>Learning Communities</b>			
26 September 2024	Childcare Sufficiency Annual Report ESTYN report on schools Restructuring Schools Oversight of in year Financial matters	Carys Davies Rhianydd James / Gareth Lanagan Nia James / Elen James Duncan Hall	
17 October 2024	A level and GCSE results 2024 Feasibility Study ESTYN new reporting arrangements	Gwion Dafydd / Elen James John Hayes / Gwion Dafydd / Elen James Rhianydd James / Gareth Lanagan	
21 November 2024	Report on the work of the Welfare & Behaviour Forum Update on SEN	Sami Connolly & Huw Bonner / Elen James Bethan Payne / Elen James	

	Youth Council minutes	Lowri Evans	
6 February 2025	Budget		
27 March 2025 Special	The School review process  Feedback from the workstreams	Nia James, Eirian Davies & Gwion Dafydd	
29 April 2025 Special	The responses to the informal consultation  Sample Complaints Policy Policy on Unacceptable Actions	Nia James & Eirian Davies  Gareth Lanagan & Marie Nieve	
8 May 2025	Youth Council minutes  Oversight of in year Financial matters  Lockdown Policy for Schools  Culture & Language	Lowri Evans  Duncan Hall  Geraint Edwards/Donna Thomas/Ann Lloyd  Non Davies & Carys Lloyd- Jones	
Future meetings	to invite a representative from Dyfed Powys Police to attend a future meeting to discuss their involvement and relationship with both the schools and relevant services withing the LA		



	<p>Capacity and empty spaces in schools</p> <p>Child Care Sufficiency Assessment  – invite the Chief Executive of Mudiad Meithrin requesting her to attend a future meeting to provide Members with information on the organisation and any current or future challenges they encounter</p>		
Workstreams	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure that local and national priorities are delivered effectively</li> <li>2. Ensure equity for all pupils</li> <li>3. Ensure an effective and efficient infrastructure to meet our priorities</li> </ol>		

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## Minutes of the Meeting of OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE held at the Hybrid - Neuadd Cyngor Ceredigion, Penmorfa, Aberaeron / remotely via video conference on Monday, 3 February 2025

**PRESENT:** Councillor Wyn Evans (Chairman), Councillors Keith Evans, Marc Davies, Chris James, Elaine Evans, Caryl Roberts, Rhodri Evans, Amanda Edwards.

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Eifion Evans, Chief Executive, Barry Rees, Corporate Director, Duncan Hall, Corporate Lead Officer and Section 151 Officer, Lowri Edwards, Corporate Lead Officer, Democratic Services, Nia Jones, Corporate Manager, Democratic Services, Elin Prysor, Corporate Lead Officer Legal and Governance and Monitoring Officer, Debbie Evans, Corporate Manager, Finance, Lisa Evans, Standards and Scrutiny Officer, Dwywnwen Jones, Overview and Scrutiny Officer and Translators.

**ALSO PRESENT:**

Cabinet Members: The Leader of the Council, Councillor Bryan Davies and Councillors Alun Williams, Deputy Leader, Gareth Davies, Keith Henson, Matthew Vaux, Clive Davies, Catrin M S Davies, Wyn Thomas.

Councillors Gareth Lloyd, Elizabeth Evans, Gethin Davies, Hugh Hughes, Meirion Davies and Eryl Evans.

(10am -1.00 pm)

**43 Welcome and Apologies**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Councillors Ceris Jones and Gwyn Wigley Evans apologised for their inability to attend the meeting.

**44 Disclosures of personal interest (including whipping declarations)**

**Members are reminded of their personal responsibility to declare any personal and prejudicial interest in respect of matters contained in this agenda in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council's Constitution and the Members Code of Conduct. In addition, Members must declare any prohibited party whip which the Member has been given in relation to the meeting as per the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.**

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Bryan Davies declared a personal interest with regards to any discussion relating to the Authority's Education Staff.

Councillor Gareth Davies, Cabinet Member, declared a personal interest with regards to any discussion relating to the Fire Authority.

Councillor Rhodri Evans declared a personal interest with regards to any discussion relating to the Authority's Education Staff.

Mr Barry Rees, Corporate Director, declared a personal interest on behalf of all Officers present in the meeting with regards to any discussion relating to

the workforce, in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Local Government Employees.

**45 Chair Announcements**

The Chair highlighted the importance of having an open and honest discussion whilst considering the budget at this morning's meeting.

**46 To consider the draft 25/26 Budget as considered by Cabinet on 21/01/25**

The Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee was asked to consider the Budget report presented to Cabinet on 21/01/25. Cabinet considered and agreed 9 recommendations in relation to the draft 25/26 Budget report.

The Leader of the Council, Councillor Bryan Davies, presented the report on the draft budget for 2025/2026. The Cabinet Member for Finance and Procurement, Councillor Gareth Davies, presented the remaining information. Duncan Hall, Corporate Lead Officer, Finance and Procurement, then provided a brief verbal update on the latest Budget situation.

Key points were as follows:

- The latest estimated revenue cost pressures being faced by the Council total £11.8m for 2025/26 (excluding the Council Tax Reduction Scheme element which varies proportionate to Council Tax considerations). This is equivalent to a Ceredigion specific inflation factor of 6.1%. This compares with general inflation running at 2.6% (November 2024 CPI figure).
- The Chancellor's changes to Employers National Insurance (NI) from April 2025 is a considerable burden and a key budget variable within the Council's Cost pressures. The increase will cost the Council in the region of £3m for costs deemed to be 'Direct' (Employed staff falling under the ONS Public Sector definition) and in the region of £1m for costs deemed to be 'Indirect' (the cost burden falling on Social Care commissioned providers) – in total some £4m. At present the definitive funding is not confirmed and the position is not likely to be clear until the first quarter of 2025/26. Therefore an 80% assumed level of funding towards 'Direct' costs has been factored into the 2025/26 Budget estimates.
- The combination of the Employers NI changes and continuing to fulfil WG's policy of ensuring the Real Living Wage (5.0% increase to £12.60 per hour) is paid to registered Social Care staff are the main factors which are leading to an additional £2.4m cost in relation to externally commissioned Social Care services. This relates to the estimated cost of fee uplift considerations for 2025/26 for key sectors such as Domiciliary Care, Direct Payments, Supported Living settings and Older Persons residential placements.
- There are wider demands and pressures on Social Care related budgets - totalling £1.4m over and above Employee Pay awards, Employers NI and uplift provisions for externally commissioned services. However, the largest area of concern remains the Out of County Children's Placements Budget, where a cost pressure of just under £2.0m needs to be recognised due to the increase in both volume and average value of placements.

- The Cabinet propose to provide a base budget investment in 2 Services to recognise the need for both service stability and targeted investment to achieve results. Just under £0.5m is proposed for the Waste (Refuse) Collection service and the option of either £230k or £346k is being considered for the Planning Enforcement service.
- The UK Government continues to increase the National Living Wage (6.7% increase to £12.21 per hour). Employees pay awards are always a key budget variable, but they are not determined by Ceredigion County Council. For 2025/26 pay awards are assumed to fall back and are estimated to cost c£2.9m. At the assumed level of pay award, the Council's lowest pay point would rise from £12.26 (April 2024) to £12.63 (April 2025) and therefore, be slightly above the Real Living Wage.
- The details of many Specific grants are still to be confirmed. With the combination of Employers NI and Pay awards, it will be a challenge for Services if any grant(s) remain cash flat. One grant that has been confirmed is the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF) allocation for Ceredigion for 2025/26 of £5.0m. However, this is a 43% cut from the 2024/25 level of funding of £8.8m, with there being a combination of a change in allocation methodology as well as an overall decrease in UK wide funding during this transitional year.
- The Cabinet propose to ensure the overall Delegated Schools Budget has sufficient funding to cover the known impact of 2024/25 Pay awards, the estimated impact of 2025/26 Pay awards, the impact of the Employers NI changes from April 2025 and the full funding of the April 2024 Employers Pension contribution rate increase. The resulting impact is a 5.1% increase in the Delegated Schools budget (excluding funding transferred into the Provisional Settlement) which rises to 8.3% once funding transferred into the Provisional Settlement and passported across is included (for Sept 2024 Pay + Pensions). At an individual School level, the position will be impacted by Pupil numbers.
- The increase proposed by the Mid & West Wales Fire Authority for the Fire levy which forms part of Ceredigion County Council's Budget is lower than in recent years. The current proposal would result in an increase of 7.3% on the Council's current Fire levy cost of £5.4m and would be the equivalent of c0.6% on Council Tax.
- Competing demands on the Capital Programme will be helped in a small way by a 10.5% increase in core Capital funding from WG - worth an additional £612k. However, the level of core capital funding (now £6.5m for 25/26) is still lower in cash terms than that received over 15 years ago. A further sum of c£2.3m is expected from WG for investment in Highways improvements in Ceredigion.
- In December 2023, the Council agreed to a stepped approach to Council Tax premiums chargeable on Second Homes, with the second step to 150% becoming effect from April 2025. This decision provides an estimated £1.1m benefit to the 2025/26 Budget which will lower an otherwise higher Council Tax increase, with the caveat that each year £2.0m of funding will remain available for the [Community Housing Shared Equity Scheme](#).
- The current draft 2025/26 Budget Requirement is either £209.109m or £209.234m, depending on the level of investment in the Planning Enforcement Service.

- The current 24/25 Band D Council Tax level in Ceredigion (for all components) is £2,103.89 which is 3.9% above the average Band D Council Tax in Wales at £2,024.31. Average Council Tax levels in Wales are still lower than the equivalent English Unitary Authorities average (£2,248 for 24/25). The County Council element (just over 80% of the total bill) of the current 2024/25 Band D Council Tax is £1,726.05.
- Cabinet is mindful that c85% of all chargeable dwellings in Ceredigion fall into Bands A to E. The current draft 25/26 Budget figures indicate a potential Council Tax increase (for the Ceredigion County Council component) of around £14 per month for a Band D property.
- Considerable lobbying is being done to make the case with the WLGA and WG that there should be a Funding Floor in the 2025/26 Local Government Final Settlement of no less than 4.3%. At this level the benefit for Ceredigion would be the ability to lower the potential Council Tax increase by c2%.

Each of the 4 individual thematic Overview and Scrutiny Committees will have the opportunity to consider the impact on the Services within their remits when they meet later in the week on the 06/02/25 and 07/02/25.

Members were then given the opportunity to ask questions which were answered in turn by the Leader, Cabinet Member and/or Officers.

Main points raised during discussion were:

- Councillor Rhodri Evans, Leader of the Independent Group, referred to a letter which he on behalf of the Group had sent to Councillor Bryan Davies, Leader of the Council, for consideration by Cabinet. The letter proposed that staff rationalisation should be identified as savings for the budget setting process. He stated that Ceredigion County Council has a controllable budget of close to £200 million, of which around 64% of this spend is on employment costs. This equates to circa £120 million. The Group stated that it is not acceptable that Ceredigion residents are facing yet again another year, where the council tax rise currently forecasted at near to 10%. Councillor Rhodri Evans stated that the group felt strongly that the council tax, if set at the suggested 9.7% to 9.9% level, is unsustainable, unpalatable and needs to be reduced and are of the view that if the Group's proposal is agreed then there would be a significant reduction in the proposed Council Tax. As a group, he said that they feel strongly that the council tax should not be set higher than the Ceredigion specific inflation factor as quoted by the section 151 officer of 6.1%. Councillor Rhodri Evans stated that the Group have consistently suggested that the authority needs to identify a reduction in staffing costs and that these should be identified from employees that earn more than £45k per annum. Determining where these reductions come from, needs to be identified by departments as this is an operational function. He also stated that the Group believe that collaborative working with other Local Authorities should be explored to its full potential to generate mutual savings. He stated that

the independent group are adamant that school staffing and their budgets are not to be identified for savings, and neither should any frontline Council employees.

In response to this letter, Officers made the following comments:

- The current top estimate for the Council Tax increase is 9.9%, including a continuation of waste service investment which will add 0.9% onto Council Tax, Fire Levy @0.6% and platinum planning enforcement option @0.6% as recommended by Thriving Communities Scrutiny Committee). The three areas noted account for 2.1% of the increase, meaning the core Council Tax increase proposed is really 7.8%.
- The impact of reducing the Council Tax increase from 9.9% to 6.1% as suggested in the letter would require a saving of £2.038m. The proposal states that these savings should be met by a reduction in staffing costs for employees earning more than £45k per annum. This equates to employees on Grade 12 or above. Across all Services (including Schools), there are 663 FTEs earning over £45k (excluding oncosts) at a total cost of £49m for 25/26. For convenience of our analysis, we have used a £46k threshold as this equates to Grade 12 employees and above.

This consists of:

- i) 2% of posts are Leadership Group = 15 FTEs (£1.9m), a 32% reduction in the Senior Management Team since 2012/13.
- ii) 6% of posts are Corporate Managers = 38 FTEs (£3.0m)
- 72% of posts are Staff on Teachers / Soulbury grades = 477 FTEs (£36.4m).
- iii) Of these, 443.46FTEs are school-based teachers and leaders, costing £34.5m and 33.89FTE are on the Soulbury Scale for School Support Staff (Corporate Managers within the schools service / School Support Advisors / Advisory Teachers / Educational Psychologists, etc.), costing £1.9m.

Of those on Grade 12 + or equivalent, 95% of these are school-based and 5% are staff within the schools services, whose salaries are met from the non-delegated budget.

- iv) Remaining 20% (i.e. GR12/13/14s) = 133 FTEs (£7.7m)
  1. At least 84 FTEs (13% / £5.0m) would be out of scope due to being frontline staff (incs School Business Managers / Social Care Team Leaders / Senior Practitioners etc)
  2. There are 9 FTEs (1%) relating to regional posts such as Growing Mid Wales – nearly all of which are externally funded
  3. That then leaves 40 FTEs (6% / £2.6m) that might be deemed as non-frontline – mainly Finance, HR, ICT, Legal, Corporate Business Support – i.e. Support Services with Professional / Senior officers on >£46k but below Corporate Manager Level.
- The impact of the proposal is very significant since school-based staff make up the large majority of those paid at Grade 12 equivalent or above. For example, if savings are to come from non-frontline staff at

Grade 12 and above but below Corporate Manager level, a £2m saving in employee costs would be equivalent to a 75% reduction in support services staff (as per final bullet point).

- The Chief Executive referred to the Local Authorities (Standing Orders) (Wales) regulations 2006 and highlighted the following “the function of appointment and dismissal of, and taking disciplinary action against, a member of staff of the relevant authority must be discharged, on behalf of the relevant authority, by the person appointed as the authority’s chief executive or by an officer nominated by the authority’s chief executive” (excluding chief officers).
- The Chief Executive, therefore advised the Independent Group Members that with the point above in mind, it would be more appropriate if suggestions were put forward as to which Services they wished to investigate to achieve the necessary savings.
- Following a request, it was agreed that information is re-circulated to all Members prior to the Overview and Scrutiny Committees to be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2025 listing all Services referring to whether they are statutory or non-statutory. The Section 151 Officer agreed to re-circulate this information.
- Committee Members and Cabinet Members agreed that all Staff are appreciated and an important asset to the Local Authority.
- The Leader of the Council advised the Committee that the workforce has reduced during the past few years and that recruitment is a current issue. As all are aware there are the costs attributed to agency staff and it was noted that these costs are decreasing.
  
- A Member raised a concern regarding the Pwrth Services, in that costs are increasing. It was confirmed that since the covid pandemic, services are experiencing increased pressure and referrals in these services, as is regularly reported to the Committee.
- Committee Members agreed that the proposed investment in 2 service areas i.e. Platinum standard for the Planning Enforcement service and the reinstatement of investment in waste collection service is essential. The Planning enforcement service should be looked upon as an invest to save, with the service being self-funded by income generated through additional planning application fees and other unquantifiable savings.
- A Committee Member requested financial information regarding existing Leisure Centres and the newly established Wellbeing Centres, including any swimming pools. The Section 151 Officer agreed to circulate this information.



Following a lengthy discussion, Committee Members were asked to consider the following recommendations:

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. To consider the overall Budget position as shown in the Budget report in Enclosure A.
2. To note that individual Overview and Scrutiny Committees will consider the impact on the Services within their remits on 06/02/25 and 07/02/25.
3. To make any recommendation(s) for Cabinet to consider on 18/02/25 that the Committee deems appropriate in relation to the Budget.

Committee Members agreed:

1. They had considered the over Budget position shown in the Budget report in Enclosure A.
2. To note that individual Overview and Scrutiny Committees will consider the impact on the services within their remits on the 6<sup>th</sup> of February 2025 and the 7<sup>th</sup> of February 2025.

It was requested and agreed that Cabinet consider the contents of the letter received from Councillor Rhodri Evans, Leader of the Independent Group on behalf of the Independent Group.

**REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:** To assist with the preparation of a balanced budget and ensure appropriate scrutiny of the overall Budget being proposed.

The Chair thanked the Leader of the Council, Councillor Bryan Davies and Cabinet Member, Councillor Gareth Davies for their presentations this morning and for their continued work in lobbying the Welsh Government on behalf of Members.

The Chair also thanked Duncan Hall, Corporate Lead Officer and Section 151 Officer, the Chief Executive and Corporate Director and all other Officers involved in the preparation of the 2025/26 budget.

The Chair also thanked everyone involved in the meeting for having an open and honest discussion whilst considering the budget.

**47 To confirm Minutes of the previous meeting and to consider any matters arising from those Minutes**

It was **AGREED** to confirm the minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> of January 2025 Committee meeting as a true record. There were no matters arising from those minutes.

The Chair thanked Members for attending, Translators, and Lisa Evans and Dwynwen Jones for their support during the meeting.

**Confirmed at the Meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordinating  
Committee held on 27 March 2025**

**Chairman:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_