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TUESDAY, 24 JANUARY 2023

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

I HEREBY SUMMON YOU TO ATTEND A MEETING OF THE CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WHICH WILL BE HELD IN THE CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, CARMARTHEN, AND REMOTELY AT 2.00 PM ON MONDAY, 30TH JANUARY, 2023 FOR THE TRANSACTION OF THE BUSINESS OUTLINED ON THE ATTACHED AGENDA

Wendy Walters

CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Democratic Officer:	Martin S. Davies
Telephone (direct line):	01267 224059
E-Mail:	MSDavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
This is a multi-location meeting. Committee members can attend in person at the venue detailed above or remotely via the Zoom link which is provided separately.	
The meeting can be viewed on the Authority's website via the following link:- https://carmarthenshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home	

Wendy Walters Prif Weithredwr, *Chief Executive*,
Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin. SA31 1JP
County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP

**CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE**

PLAID CYMRU GROUP - 8 Members

Cllr. Kim Broom (Vice-Chair)
Cllr. Terry Davies
Cllr. Alex Evans
Cllr. Hazel Evans
Cllr. Deian Harries
Cllr. Jean Lewis
Cllr. Dai Nicholas
Cllr. Elwyn Williams

LABOUR GROUP - 4 Members

Cllr. Lewis Davies
Cllr. Rob James
Cllr. Dot Jones
Cllr. Kevin Madge

INDEPENDENT GROUP - 2 Members

Cllr. Giles Morgan (Chair)
Vacancy

A G E N D A

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.**
- 2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST INCLUDING ANY PARTY WHIPS ISSUED IN RELATION TO ANY AGENDA ITEM.**
- 3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (NONE RECEIVED).**
- 4. REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY CONSULTATION 2023/24 TO 2025/26.** 5 - 42
- 5. FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAMME (COUNCIL FUND) 2023/24 TO 2027/28.** 43 - 62
- 6. TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY AND STRATEGY 2023-24.** 63 - 112
- 7. REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2022/23.** 113 - 154
- 8. CARMARTHENSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD (PSB) MINUTES - NOVEMBER 2022.** 155 - 162
- 9. FORTHCOMING ITEMS.** 163 - 184
- 10. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 13TH DECEMBER 2022.** 185 - 188

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CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 30th JANUARY 2023

REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY CONSULTATION 2023/24 to 2025/26

Appendix A – Corporate Budget Strategy 2023/24 to 2025/26

Appendix A(i) – Efficiency summary for the Chief Executive and Corporate Services departments

Appendix A(ii) – Growth Pressures summary for the Chief Executive and Corporate Services departments

Appendix B – Budget monitoring report for the Chief Executive and Corporate Services departments

Appendix C – Charging Digest for the Chief Executive and Corporate Services departments

THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE IS ASKED TO:

- consider and comment on the budget strategy proposals
- consider and comment on the proposals for delivery of efficiency savings for their service area identified in Appendix A(i)
- bring forward any other proposals for efficiency savings
- examine the Departmental Budgets
- endorse the Charging Digests

Reasons:

The Cabinet at its meeting on 9th January 2023 will have considered the attached Revenue Budget Strategy 2023/24 to 2025/26 (Appendix A) and endorsed the report for consultation purposes. A verbal update will be given at the meeting in relation to any changes or specific proposals made by the Cabinet if appropriate.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDERS:

- Cllr. Darren Price (Leader)
- Cllr. Alun Lenny (Resources)
- Cllr. Phillip Hughes (Organisation and Workforce)

<p>Directorate: Corporate Services</p> <p>Name of Director: Chris Moore</p> <p>Report Author: Randal Hemingway</p>	<p>Designation:</p> <p>Director of Corporate Services</p> <p>Head of Financial Services</p>	<p>Tel No. / E-Mail Address:</p> <p>01267 224120 CMoore@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 224886 Rhemingway@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
30th JANUARY 2023**

**REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY CONSULTATION
2023/24 to 2025/26**

The objective of the report is to allow members to consider the corporate budget strategy for the financial years 2023/24 to 2025/26 to consider the service delivery impact and options for the forthcoming years.

The report is set out as follows:

Appendix A

- The attached report is a copy of the Revenue Budget Strategy 2023/24 to 2025/26 that has been presented to the Cabinet. As part of the budget consultation process the report is presented to this Scrutiny Committee for your consideration.
- The report provides members with an initial view of the revenue budget issues for the forthcoming year and also reflects departmental submissions.

Appendix B
Current budget extracts for the Chief Executive and Corporate Services departments.

Appendix C
Charging Digest for the Chief Executive and Corporate Services departments. The charges for 2023/24 have yet to be adopted and any change to the proposed charges will impact on the budget/efficiency proposals.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?	YES
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IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy and Crime & Disorder

The budget is being prepared having regard to the Improvement Plan.

3. Finance

The report provides an initial view of the Budget Strategy for 2023/24, together with indicative figures for the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years. The impact on departmental spending will be dependent upon the final settlement from Welsh Government and the resultant final Budget adopted by County Council.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDERS AWARE/CONSULTED? YES	(Include any observations here)
Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:	
Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
2023/24 3 year Revenue Budget	Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen

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REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES
Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Committee

30th January 2023

REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY 2023/24 to 2025/26

(Copy of Cabinet report 09/01/2023)

DIRECTOR & DESIGNATION	DIRECTORATE	TELEPHONE NO.
C Moore, Director of Corporate Services	Corporate Services	01267 224121
AUTHOR & DESIGNATION	DIRECTORATE	TELEPHONE NO
R Hemingway, Head of Financial Services	Corporate Services	01267 224886

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.** Cabinet in October 2022 received a report on the Revenue Budget Outlook for 2023/24 to 2025/26 which appraised Members of the financial outlook and the proposals for taking forward the budget preparation.
- 1.2.** This report provides Members with the current view of the Revenue Budget for 2023/24 together with indicative figures for the 2024/25 and 2025/26 financial years. The report is based on officers' projections of spending requirements and takes account of the provisional settlement issued by Welsh Government on 14th December 2022.
- 1.3.** Whilst significant work has already been undertaken in preparing the budget, this represents an initial position statement which will be updated over the coming months as the budget is further developed, council members are engaged and public consultation takes place. The final settlement is due to be received from Welsh Government on 7th March 2023.
- 1.4.** The report is broken down into six parts:
 - Funding Projections/Provisional Settlement
 - Budget Requirement
 - Impact on the Authority's budget requirement
 - Consultation
 - Conclusion
 - Recommendations

2. FUNDING PROJECTIONS/PROVISIONAL SETTLEMENT

- 2.1. The provisional settlement was announced on Wednesday 14th December 2022. Provisional figures for individual Local Authorities were provided for 2023/24, with indicative figures for 2024/25.
- 2.2. The Westminster Autumn Statement announced in November 2022 included a significant Barnett consequential for Welsh Government, reported at £1.2 billion over two years. This was primarily made up of increased funding for Education, Health and Social Care, and changes to business rates, all of which are devolved functions.
- 2.3. The main points of the Provisional Settlement 2023/24 on an all Wales basis are as follows:
- 2.3.1. Local government revenue funding for 2023/24 set at £5.514 billion, an increase of 8.0% (£403 million) compared to 2022/23. Like for like, the increase is 7.9% on an all-Wales basis.
 - 2.3.2. The minister's letter accompanying the settlement highlights that the increase includes funding to meet the Foundation Living Wage, as well as passporting the Education consequential from the UK Autumn Statement.
 - 2.3.3. Whilst this is welcome, the inflationary pressures far exceed the funding provided. In particular, no additional funding has been provided to meet the inherent budget shortfall going forward as a result of the 2022 pay awards.
 - 2.3.4. There is no funding floor, meaning a wide variation between individual Local Authorities, ranging from +9.3% (Monmouthshire) to +6.5% (Blaenau Gwent). These variances are driven by updates to key datasets which influence the funding allocation, such as the number of Universal Claimants and Free School Meal Pupils in particular areas.
- 2.4. The Settlement figures for Carmarthenshire are:
- 2.4.1. After adjustments for WG identified transfers, the increase in the provisional settlement is 8.5% (£26.432 million). The Aggregate External Finance (AEF) therefore increases to £338.017 million in 2023/24.

This settlement is significantly above the indicative figure of a 3.4% increase and provides some £15.5m more than our original assumption, **however Welsh Government themselves recognise that even this increased figure will not be enough to meet inflationary pressures facing councils and difficult decisions will need to be made.** The

level of inflationary cost increases is on a scale not seen for several decades, as discussed in detail later in this report.

We have set our Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) assumptions for 2023 and beyond to accommodate an easing of inflation versus current rates. Whilst the Office of Budget Responsibility (OBR) forecasts a sharp reduction in CPI over the next 12 months – we have followed this pattern, albeit at a higher level – this is because the OBR forecast includes in particular the impact of energy and food costs, which our budget accommodates as separate cost pressures. A key assumption is that across our workforce, pay awards track the prevailing inflation rate over the medium term. The financial model forecasts a requirement for £20m savings over the three year MTFP period.

Details of the many Welsh Government Service Specific Grants were provided alongside the provisional settlement on 14 December 2022 at an all-Wales level. For 2023/24, as has been standard over several years, most remain at a broadly similar level (cash value) to previous years, which will in reality reduce outputs. With the level of general inflation as well as pay awards at a much higher level, the impact of this next year will be significant.

2.5. There are however some important updates to specific grants:

- There is new funding of £40m all-Wales to provide continued support to Ukrainians seeking refuge in Wales. This funding will be critical to mitigate any unfunded pressure on Local Authority budgets, meaning that the £1m pressure recognised in the October report can now be released.
- WG has provided additional £5.5m funding to flatline the Recruit Recover Retain Standards (RRRS), instead of the planned reduction. This will enable schools to continue catchup/recovery activities.
- The Additional Learning Needs Transformation grant has nearly doubled from £6.6 million to £12 million across Wales. This increase is estimated to contribute c. £300k-400k to Carmarthenshire.
- The Pupil Development Grant has been increased by a reported £9m across Wales, which is estimated at c. £500k-600k to Carmarthenshire

As with last year, there are a number of grant changes referred to in the text to the main WG budget narrative, for which the values do not appear to be reflected in the Local Government provisional grant tables – it is assumed that they are due to be updated for the final settlement.

3. BUDGET REQUIREMENT 2023/24

3.1. Current Years performance (2022/23)

3.1.1. As the Authority’s core spending requirement remains constant year on year, a review of current year’s performance is important in identifying whether there are any underlying problems within the base budget

3.1.2. The current projection for the Revenue Outturn for 2022/23 (based on the October 2022 monitoring) is as follows

Service	Approved Budget £'000	Total Expenditure Forecast £'000	Variance Forecast For Year £'000
Chief Executive	17,218	16,687	-531
Communities	119,589	122,223	2,634
Corporate Services	29,116	28,235	-881
Education and Children's Services	187,394	191,091	3,697
Environment	65,784	65,709	-75
Departmental Expenditure	419,101	423,945	4,844
Unfunded Pay offers		6,300	6,300
Corporate contingency	3,000	200	-2,800
Capital Charges	-17,694	-20,194	-2,500
Levies and Contributions	11,479	11,477	-2
Transfer to/ from Reserves	0	-2,370	-2,370
Net Expenditure	415,885	419,358	3,473

The main reasons for the departmental variances are as follows:

- Chief Executive’s Department: underspends on member pay and travelling, registrars and vacant posts across the department, offset by People Management overspends
- Education and Children’s Services: Significant overspends in children’s services due to increased demand and agency costs, overspends in ALN budgets and School Meals Service, offset by additional grants in Early Years non-maintained provision.
- Communities Department: underspends in Older Peoples and Physical Disabilities budgets are offset by overspends in Learning Disabilities and Mental Health divisions. Additionally, Leisure income levels have been gradually returning to pre-pandemic levels, however this creates an in-year overspend. It should also be noted that without the sectoral staffing shortages in social care, the overspend could be significantly higher.

- Corporate Services: there are underspends on pre-Local Government Reorganisation pension costs, and Council Tax Reduction, partially offset by an overspend in Rent Allowances.
- Environment Department: Overspends in waste services, school transport and reduced car park usage post-pandemic, offset by vacant posts and reduced property maintenance activity due to contractor capacity.

At this point the Authority is currently forecasting an overspend of £3.5 million which will need to be met from general balances. **It is imperative that the structural pay issue causing this is dealt with in next year’s budget as this is not a sustainable financial position.**

3.2. Validation

3.2.1. Validation reflects the changes in expenditure requirements to deliver the **current level** of services in future years. Primarily this is inflation, but also includes some service specific changes. Some areas of inflation are currently at rates that have not been seen in decades and present risks to our budget. The key validation factors are as follows:

	<u>2023/24</u> Original	<u>2023/24</u> Proposed	<u>2024/25</u>	<u>2025/26</u>
General inflation - Expenditure	3.0%	5.0%	3.0%	2.0%
General inflation - Fees & Charges	2.5%	10.0%	3.0%	2.0%
Electricity & Gas	5.0%	£9.5m	-10.0%	0.0%
Fuel	5.0%	50.0%	3.0%	5.0%
Pay Inflation - non teaching	2.5%	5.0%	3.0%	2.5%
Pay Inflation - Teaching	2.5%	5.0%	3.0%	2.5%
NI increase	nil	-1.25%	nil	nil
Levies (see para 3.2.9)	2.5%	13.0%	3.0%	2.0%
Pension Contributions	nil	-1.8%	nil	nil
Capital Charges	£500k	£500k	£500k	£500k

3.2.2. With the exception of pay, the largest change to the council’s budget is the sharp increase in energy and fuel costs. As with large parts of the public sector, our gas and electricity needs are procured by Crown Commercial Services, who aggregate their client’s requirements to secure prices in the year ahead. Whilst this paid handsome dividends for our 2022/23 energy needs, the wholesale energy market has been at unprecedented levels, largely driven by the war in Ukraine. Carmarthenshire has set a two year purchasing strategy, with around three quarters of our energy needs already secured for 2023/24 and half for 2024/25. Based on the latest figures from Crown Commercial Services, we will need to add £9.5m to energy

budgets for 2023/24, however there is expected to be a 10% reduction for 2024/25 which is built into our calculations.

- 3.2.3. The cost of Road Transport Fuel has also increased rapidly over the last year. This affects both the council's own fleet, for which a 50% price increase has been added to budgets, as well as third party run services such as school transport, for which an explicit budget pressure is included within Appendix B.
- 3.2.4. The Council's 2022/23 budget was set on the basis of a 4% pay award for both NJC staff (the largest share of our payroll by value and staff numbers) and Teachers. Against this:
- 3.2.5. The NJC award has been agreed at a flat value of £1,925 across all grades, which equates to a 7.1% increase when applied to our workforce. The unbudgeted 3.1% "catchup" must be built into the budget calculations for 2023/24
- 3.2.6. The independent pay review body's recommendation of a 5% increase for all Teachers has been accepted by Welsh Government, but at this point Unions are balloting for strike action, demanding an uplift to 12%. Our draft budget includes the 1% "catchup" to 5%, with a recognition that any extra above this would be unfunded and represent an explicit significant risk. Every 1% is worth approximately £1m.
- 3.2.7. The previous MTFP planning assumptions include future annual pay awards of 2.5% for all staff. This was updated to 5% for 2023/24 in the budget outlook paper to reflect the higher inflation combined with the level of industrial action across both the public and private sector currently. Looking beyond this, the picture is highly uncertain, therefore our assumption is that pay growth mirrors inflation.

The impact of nationally set pay awards adds c. £19m to the estimated budget requirement for 2023/24, and a total of £33m over the 3 year planning period.

- 3.2.8. Against these extraordinary increases, we are able to offset three separate cost savings which partially mitigate the scale of the increase required:
- Within the Autumn Statement, the Chancellor confirmed the removal of the Health and Social Care Levy. As the 2022-23 allowed for an increase of £2m across council employed staff

and a further £500k for commissioned care, these can now be reversed.

- Staffing budgets have historically been set at the “top of paycales” – this means for individual jobs, the budget provides for the maximum pay point an individual employee could reach in that role. Whilst prudent budgeting, this leads naturally to an inherent underspend due to normal levels of staff turnover, internal promotions etc. By budgeting more precisely according to the exact makeup of the current workforce, we are able to reduce staffing budgets by an estimated £2.5m. This would apply to all departments, with the exception of delegated school budgets, as they are governed by the fair funding formula.
- Strong investment returns and prudent stewardship of the Dyfed Pension Fund over many years has resulted in a funding surplus, confirmed by the fund’s independent actuaries following the most recent Triennial valuation of the Dyfed Pension Fund which has been carried out over the last year. As a consequence, Carmarthenshire is able to reduce our Employers contribution rate by 1.8%, which provides a saving of £2.8m. The final valuation results will be notified to Carmarthenshire before the end of the Financial Year.

These three measures, taken together, are worth nearly £8m, and without which, the budget reductions requirement and/or council tax increase would have been considerably more challenging.

3.2.9. We understand from the Fire Authority that their indicative budget assumed a levy increase of 13%. Since this was agreed, Welsh Government has indicated that Fire Authorities will be required to meet the ongoing annual costs of the emergency service network, the share of which we estimate and anticipate will add £150k to Carmarthenshire and is shown in the pressures appendix for reference. This is yet to be confirmed by the Fire Authority in a formal meeting.

3.2.10. As a result of these factors, validation adds over £30 million to the current year’s budget.

3.3. Cost Reduction Programme

In anticipation of the settlement challenges, significant work to review service efficiencies/rationalisation proposals has been undertaken.

3.3.1. The savings targets set for each financial year are as follows:

	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m
Original target – MTFP (March 2022)	3.839	5.333	n/a
Budget Outlook (October 2022)	18.800	n/a	n/a
Proposed Savings (following Provisional Settlement and other budget adjustments)	9.377	6.448	4.531

3.3.2. Accordingly, departments have developed a range of proposals, and these efficiencies are included in **Appendix A** of this report.

- The efficiency proposals are categorised as follows:
 Managerial – Efficiencies that result in no perceivable change to the overall level of service delivery.
 Policy – Efficiency or service rationalisation proposals that will directly affect service delivery.

	2023/24 £m	2024/25 £m	2025/26 £m
Managerial	6.136	3.641	2.755
Existing Policy	0	0.200	0.952
New Policy	3.241	0.543	0.289
Total	9.377	4.384	3.996

(Detail at **Appendix A**)

3.3.3. More work will need to be undertaken to further develop these efficiencies.

3.4. New Expenditure Pressures and contingency

3.4.1. New expenditure pressures are the combinations of additional cost to meet existing service needs e.g. increased client base/greater service take up and the costs of meeting change in service provision e.g. policy changes.

3.4.2. The original budget outlook report included £5.5 million per annum to meet growth pressures.

As with recent years, a much higher value of initial growth bids were received from departments, totalling £17 million. Based on an evaluation of the value and unavoidable nature of pressures submitted as well as additional funding identified through grants as explained in paragraph 2.5 above. Initial indications that many of the submissions are genuinely unavoidable and have already been constrained where practical. At this stage in the budget development, and pending further analysis to be undertaken by Directors, an indicative sum of £12 million been allocated across departments (Appendix B).

This budget round, social care pressures in particular have been at a very high level:

- the Foundation Living Wage, which impacts commissioned social care delivery, has been increased to £10.90, a 10% uplift.
- As well as demographic growth pressures for older people's budgets, this year's bid recognises the demographic increase in adults living with learning disabilities, which has seen a significant overspend in the current year.
- There are significant and unavoidable increases to energy and food costs incurred by residential care providers.

Last year's budget provided part year increased funding to support changes to the waste collection methodology – required to achieve increasingly challenging statutory Welsh Government recycling targets. This budget completes this with a further £0.8m, which will also contribute towards the decarbonisation agenda.

The Education and Childrens department bids include areas of acute overspend in the current year such as ALN and Inclusion services, and pressures on children's services.

3.4.3 In total, pressures funding adds £12 million to the budget, including an unallocated sum of £250k. The detail is provided at **Appendix B**.

3.4.4 Last year's budget included an explicit contingency budget of £3.5 m, of which £0.5m was ringfenced for social care. This was

to meet increased costs or lost income following the cessation of the WG hardship scheme which came to an end in March 2022.

Of the £3m corporate contingency, £200k has been allocated to school transport costs, with additional allocations likely to be needed to cover a range of budgetary issues such as sustained reduction in car park usage and PPE purchase and storage. As this requirement is much lower than what was feared, and given the scale of the budget gap, **it is proposed that £1.5m can be released.**

3.5. Schools Delegated Budgets

3.5.1 Over recent years, our MTFP has provided in full for known pressures to school budgets including inflationary costs and pay awards, without requiring any budget reduction proposals. School balances have also benefitted from additional grant funding provided by Welsh Government, with aggregate balances in March 2022 totalling £15.2m.

In 2022/23 delegated school budgets represent more than 30% of the authority's net revenue budget. Given the scale of the financial challenge this year, it is impossible to maintain this protection without significantly impacting other council services. This budget therefore includes a £2.7m saving applied, which is consistent with the level of savings required of other areas of council services.

Members should also note that as outlined in paragraph 2.5 above, there are increases to the RRRS grant (which was not expected to continue at the same level), ALN and PDG grants. These will all help to support education funding over the year ahead.

Immediately following the provisional settlement publication, there were calls to ensure that the additional Education Barnett consequential funding was indeed spent on Education. This draft budget meets and exceeds that expectation.

3.6. Internal Funding

3.6.1. Generally speaking, whilst the use of reserves to support annual budgets should not be summarily discounted, it must be treated with caution. Funding on-going expenditure from such funds merely defers and compounds difficult financial problems to the following year. One-off items of expenditure within any budget proposal lend themselves better for such funding support.

3.6.2. In deliberating this point however, members must bear in mind any **inherent risks** that may be built into the budget strategy. These include:

- Cash-flat grants next year with reductions in 2024/25, which inevitably will either reduce outputs, or increase pressure on core departmental budgets
- Teachers 2022 Pay Award – as this is currently not agreed by Unions
- 2023 NJC and Teachers Pay awards – our 5% assumption may be insufficient if inflation stays higher for longer
- Possible COVID19 resurgence, for which we have very little budgetary contingency, and would need to fall back upon reserves
- Social care delivery – the true demand pressures are currently constrained by what is operationally deliverable by the workforce – any positive progress made to increase capacity in this area will in effect have a negative impact on the budget

Following the significant change to funding from Westminster and the unrecognisable inflationary environment, Welsh Government has marginally increased its indicative settlement for 2024/25 from 2.4% to 3.0%. We have not uplifted our assumptions out of prudence, based upon:

- The indicative reduction in specific grant values could credible outweigh this, dependent upon individual grants and the extent to which they support core service delivery and fund staffing (direct or commissioned)
- The wide range in Local Authorities individual settlements. The 0.6% increase is dwarfed by the 2.8% variation from highest to lowest settlement.

It should also be noted that within the Westminster Government Autumn statement, much of the fiscal tightening is planned in the three years following the General Election in 2025.

3.6.3. The following table summarises the main categories of reserves held by the Authority.

	1 st Apr 2022 £'000	31 st Mch 2023 £'000	31 st Mch 2024 £'000	31 st Mch 2025 £'000
Schools Reserves	15,205	7,815	7,815	7,815
General Reserves	13,468	9,995	9,995	9,995
Earmarked Reserves	139,328	112,831	77,955	61,744

School Reserves

- Schools have delegated responsibility for the management of their own finances. The level of reserves held by an individual school at any point in time will depend on a number of factors including the level of contingency fund that the school governing body considers appropriate, and the particular plans each school has for expenditure. Officers have yet to be informed of any transfers to/from these reserves by individual schools for future years.
- Legislation allows schools to carry forward reserves from one financial period to another. The School Funding (Wales) Regulations 2010 requires schools to limit their accumulated reserves at year end to £50,000 for Primary Schools and £100,000 for Secondary and Special Schools or 5% of their budget dependent on what is greater. School Improvement officers are currently working with schools to ensure they comply with the guidance. As at 31st March 2022, 17 primary, 2 secondary and 1 special schools were in deficit.

3.6.4. General Reserves

- In the changeable and challenging environment currently facing Local Government the Authority is committed to maintaining a reasonable level of General reserves or Balances. Whilst there is no prescribed minimum level for Balances, Council has previously deemed 3% of net expenditure as being a prudent level, which has been accepted by our Auditors as being reasonable
- The overall level of balances is taken into consideration each year when the annual budget is set and has on occasions been utilised to augment expenditure/reduce council tax. The 2023/24 budget was set on the basis of no transfers from the General Reserves. Based upon the October Budget monitoring (outlined in paragraph 3.1.2 above) there could be a draw on General Reserves of £3.5m and a fall of £7.4 m in school balances at the end of the current financial year.
- Given the ongoing impact of the pandemic response on our budgets and the uncertainty of continued WG support into next year, it is deemed imprudent at this stage to assume any further

support for future years budgets from the current General Reserves.

3.6.5. Earmarked Reserves

- The Authority holds earmarked reserves which have been set up to finance the delivery of specific projects, or in protecting the authority against future liabilities or issues. The reserves can be summarised as follows:

Reserve	March 2022 £'000	March 2023 £'000	March 2024 £'000	March 2025 £'000	March 2026 £'000
Insurance	13,536	14,286	15,536	15,536	15,536
Capital Funds	47,557	38,896	19,681	15,202	9,702
Development Fund (inc Schools Dev Fund)	1,033	1,131	2,185	2,191	2,191
Corporate Retirement Fund	6,171	6,493	6,108	5,747	5,403
Joint Ventures	1,538	1,504	1,455	1,406	1,387
Other	69,492	49,819	32,989	21,661	15,694
TOTAL	139,328	112,131	77,955	61,744	49,915

- As can be seen from the table above the level of earmarked reserves fluctuates greatly year on year, and whilst the level in each fund is not an exact science it is based on an informed estimate and past experience of the likely call on the authority in future years in line with the intended purpose of each reserve. Great care must therefore be taken when considering utilising such funds for purposes other than those which they were created as this could lead to the authority being faced with substantial unfunded liabilities in the future
- The budget proposals therefore assume nil contribution from reserves in support of the revenue budget in 2023/24 and a further analysis of the reserves held will be undertaken over the coming months with any further proposed utilisation being considered at the budget finalisation stage.
- Taking account of the proposals within this report, the Director of Corporate Services confirms that overall the estimated level of financial reserves (as indicated above) is adequate for the financial year 2023/24, with the General Reserves being at the appropriate level in line with guidelines and good practice, but is also very conscious of the significant risks highlighted in paragraph 3.6.2 of this Budget Strategy.
- The Director is also very conscious of the ongoing commitment to capital projects and of the demand on future services and

therefore feels the reserves will need to be monitored closely going forward.

4. IMPACT ON THE AUTHORITY’S BUDGET STRATEGY

The table below provides an updated position on the current financial outlook taking account of the provisional settlement and also other recent validation changes.

4.1. The Current Financial Outlook (updated for the Provisional Settlement) is set out in the table below:

	Current MTFP		Proposed Financial Model		
	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2023/24 £'000	2024/25 £'000	2025/26 £'000
Previous Year’s Budget	416,085	430,746	415,885	450,157	463,183
General Inflation incl energy	5,247	3,203	18,886	2,285	2,614
Pay Inflation ¹	6,314	6,430	11,636	8,236	5,733
Other, incl capital charges and release of corp contingency	1,506	1,165	261	1,454	1,280
Growth	5,500	5,500	12,150	7,500	7,500
Savings proposals	-3,908	-3,982	-9,377	-4,384	-3,996
Further savings to be identified	Nil	Nil	Nil	-2,064	-535
Funding unallocated	Nil	Nil	716	Nil	Nil
Net Expenditure	430,746	443,063	450,157	463,183	475,779
Funded by:					
Revenue Settlement	322,509	330,249	338,017	346,130	354,777
Council Tax Receipts	108,237	112,814	112,140	117,053	121,002
Council Tax Increase:	3.41%	3.85%	7.00%	4.00%	3.00%

1. Includes effect of reductions to pay budgets outlined in paragraph 3.2.8

4.2. The total of budget reductions now required for 2023/24 is £9.4m and for the 3 year period are estimated at £20m.

4.3. The 2023/24 budget contains £716k which is as yet unallocated, which will allow members scope to consider additional information forthcoming in respect of:

- 4.3.1. Responses to the consultation process
- 4.3.2. Clarification of specific grants – including the inflationary impact of reduced outputs
- 4.3.3. Further growth pressures not currently addressed
- 4.3.4. Changes in assumptions on inflation and pay offers
- 4.3.5. Changes arising from the final settlement

5. CONSULTATION

Budget consultation has been planned for the coming month and a summary of the individual approaches are as follows:

- 5.1.** Members seminars. (16-20 January 2023)
- 5.2.** The public consultation was launched on 21 December 2022 and will run until 29 January 2023
- 5.3.** Town & Community Councils meeting on 19 January 2023
- 5.4.** Commercial ratepayers consultation in January 2023
- 5.5.** Consultation with Scrutiny Committees 23-30 January 2023.
- 5.6.** Consultation with the Schools Budget Forum on 11 January 2023
- 5.7.** Trade Union Consultation meeting on 18 January 2023

6. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015

6.1. In considering the budget proposals, members need to take into consideration the requirements of the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Act requires that we must carry out sustainable development, improving the economic, social environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

‘... the public body must act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’

- 6.2.** In doing so, we must demonstrate the following 5 ways of working:
- Looking at the long-term so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs
 - Understanding the root causes of the issues to prevent them recurring
 - Taking an integrated approach so that we look at all well-being goals and objectives of other services and partners

- Collaboration – Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions
- Involving a diversity of population in decisions that affect them

6.3. Carmarthenshire's Well Being objectives were updated in April 2021:

Start Well

1. Help to give every child the best start in life and improve their early life experiences
2. Help children live healthy lifestyles

Live Well

3. Support and improve progress, achievement, and outcomes for all learners
4. Tackle poverty by doing all we can to prevent it, help people into work and improve the lives of those living in poverty
5. Create more jobs and growth throughout the county
6. Increase the availability of rented and affordable homes
7. Help people live healthy lives (tackling risky behaviour and obesity)
8. Support community cohesion, resilience and safety

Age Well

9. Support older people to age well and maintain dignity and independence in their later years

In a Healthy and Safe & Prosperous Environment

10. Look after the environment now and for the future
11. Improve the highway and transport infrastructure and connectivity
12. Promote Welsh Language and Culture

Corporate governance

13. Better Governance and use of Resources

7. CONCLUSION

- 7.1. Currently the budget proposals assume the full delivery of all of the savings proposals submitted.

- 7.2.** Work needs to be undertaken to further develop the cost reductions for years 2024/25 and 2025/26 to be able to maintain the current Budget Strategy and level of council tax. Departments will be working over the forthcoming year to refine these savings.
- 7.3.** It is recognised the critical importance of minimising the Council Tax increase for our residents during this cost of living crisis, whilst recognising the requirement to set a legally balanced budget in a time of economic turmoil.
- 7.4.** Given the current risks around this Budget Strategy and the ongoing inflationary backdrop, the Council Tax increase next year has been increased to 7%, seeking to mitigate reductions to critical services valued by our residents. In years 2 and 3, the financial picture remains uncertain, and as such we have modelled indicative Council Tax increases of 4% and 3% purely for planning purposes, seeking to strike a balance with budget reductions. This partially alleviates the scale of the reductions proposals which the council needs to consider over future years of the Medium Term Financial Plan.
- 7.5.** Over the coming weeks and part of the refining of the Medium Term Financial Plan where the Authority gets further clarification on costs and grant funding and feedback on the consultation, the Authority will aim to limit the Council Tax increase as far as possible.

8. RECOMMENDATION

8.1. That Cabinet:

- 8.1.1. Note the contents of the report and approve the three year Budget Strategy 2023/24 – 2025/26. This strategy will be used to support the budget consultation and form the basis of the final budget proposals.
- 8.1.2. Note the budget reductions/savings proposals in Appendix A, which will be considered as part of the consultation.
- 8.1.3. Note the unallocated sum of £716k in the current strategy, which will be given further consideration at the completion of the consultation as noted in paragraph 4.3.

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CORPORATE, PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
30th January 2023
Efficiency Summary

Proposals																
	MANAGERIAL				EXISTING POLICY PROPOSALS				NEW POLICY PROPOSALS				TOTAL PROPOSALS			
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Chief Executive	718	344	10	1,072	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	718	344	10	1,072
Education	1,048	75	55	1,178	0	0	402	402	175	0	0	175	1,223	75	457	1,755
Schools Delegated	0	0	0	0	0	200	550	750	2,700	300	200	3,200	2,700	500	750	3,950
Corporate Services	325	125	0	450	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	325	125	0	450
Communities	2,637	2,650	2,246	7,533	0	0	0	0	75	155	89	319	2,712	2,805	2,335	7,852
Environment	1,408	447	444	2,299	0	0	0	0	291	88	0	379	1,699	535	444	2,678
	6,136	3,641	2,755	12,532	0	200	952	1,152	3,241	543	289	4,073	9,377	4,384	3,996	17,757

DEPARTMENT	2022/23 Budget	FACT FILE	2023/24 Proposed	2024/25 Proposed	2025/26 Proposed	Total	EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTION
	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	

Chief Executive

Chief Executive, Business and Executive Support	618	Office of the Chief Executive, business and executive support	35	19	0	54	Reduction of staffing within Business Support Unit
Chief Executive, Business and Executive Support	618	Office of the Chief Executive, business and executive support	30	0	0	30	Further reduction in staffing within business support unit
People Management division	3,095	Includes Payroll, People Services, Organisational Development, Employee Wellbeing , HR Development Team, Business and Project Support	75	65	0	140	£20k L&D reallocation of the SCDWP grant ; £35k TIC additional income & £20k HR payroll - introduction of a new AVC wise scheme.
People Management Division	3,095	Includes Payroll, People Services, Organisational Development, Employee Wellbeing , HR Development Team, Business and Project Support	75	65	0	140	Realignment of Division
Information Technology	4,722	ICT Services underpins and contributes towards all that the Council delivers both internally as an organisation and externally to service users and communities, independently or in partnership. It is a vital function providing innovative opportunities for improving services and achieving our priorities in an efficient and effective way. IT Services is pivotal as an enabler of change and a vehicle for driving forward transformational improvement to all services. As we continually strive to deliver our solutions in an efficient manner and in line with our key Digital Strategies (Digital Transformation Strategy, Digital Technology Strategy, Digital Schools Strategy) our major savings in future years however will have to be found from our staffing budget. The work the service does significantly contribute to financial savings being delivered from revenue budgets held across the Authority by other service areas.	100	111	0	211	Reduction in the Hardware Replacement Programme. This will result in having to sweat the current assets and hardware estate we manage by extending the life of current stock. i.e. a laptop is scheduled to be replaced currently every 4 years based on industry advice and standards. This will have to be extended by 1-2 years presenting a risk as there will be a significant reduction in stock available in the replacement programme. This could reduce the quality of the excellent service that we have been providing to staff during COVID and hybrid-working and will likely increase hardware failures and disruption to staff working by extending life of current stock beyond what we currently have set in our Replacement Programme.
Statutory Services - Coroners	369		20	10	10	40	Discussion with Pembrokeshire CC on how costs can be economised including office accommodation (inquest files storage costs will remain) due to remote working. It is also planned to instigate talks with Glangwili hospital to formalise the arrangements regarding post mortems carried out of behalf of the Coroner and also to formalise a tender for Funeral Directors working on behalf of the Coroner. Both these proposals should generate future savings.
Corporate Policy	805		26	0	0	26	£4k from Policy which will see a reduction in budgets currently supporting admin, subsistence and meeting costs; £22k from Welsh Language which will see a reduction in projects and commissioned work/research.
Admin and Law	25		19	0	0	19	Removal of the civic and cabinet vehicles
Marketing & Media	542	Business Unit comprising of translation, marketing and tourism, contact centres, customer services, press and communications.	46	44	0	90	review of translation unit
Marketing & Tourism Development	400		40	0	0	40	£40k reduction in activities that currently support the tourism sector.
Regeneration division	4,547	Regeneration is a key priority for the council. The Division provides Business, employability, grant funding and skills support and advice. We also deliver physical regeneration projects throughout the county, including the Swansea Bay City Deal Pentre Awel Life Science and Wellness Village planned for Delta Lakes. The Regeneration Division is responsible for the management of land assets (those within the economic/commercial portfolio) of the Council, taking a strategic commercial view to ensure the portfolio is managed to meet the Council's economic development needs. The Division is also responsible for the delivery of the Council's Net Zero Carbon agenda.	122	30	0	152	£30k Staffing cost savings (possibly making use of external funding in place of current core funding); £10k - Econ Dev revenue budget cut - split 50/50 between Rural & Llanelli; £12k - Operational depots revenue budget cut; £30k - Admin building revenue budget cut; £30k - Property industrial premises budget cut; & £10k - Welfare Rights & Citizen's Advice (£168,000): Grant to CAB reduced by £10k and collaboration opportunities explored to reduce CAB's running costs
Regeneration division	4,547	Regeneration is a key priority for the council. The Division provides Business, employability, grant funding and skills support and advice. We also deliver physical regeneration projects throughout the county, including the Swansea Bay City Deal Pentre Awel Life Science and Wellness Village planned for Delta Lakes. The Regeneration Division is responsible for the management of land assets (those within the economic/commercial portfolio) of the Council, taking a strategic commercial view to ensure the portfolio is managed to meet the Council's economic development needs. The Division is also responsible for the delivery of the Council's Net Zero Carbon agenda.	130	0	0	130	Additional £60k staff saving cost. Additional £30k econ dev revenue budget cut – split 50/50 between Llanelli and rural. £40k through mothballing admin areas where vacant to reduce utility costs etc.

Chief Executive Total

718 344 10 1,072

DEPARTMENT	2022/23 Budget	FACT FILE	2023/24 Proposed	2024/25 Proposed	2025/26 Proposed	Total	EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTION
	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	

Corporate Services

Financial Services

PRE LGR Pension Costs	1,816	Cost of Pre LGR Pension Costs	100	100	0	200	Reduction in call on budget over time
Bank Charges	66	Cost of Authority's Banking arrangements	5	0	0	5	Reduction in bank charges following negotiation of new contract
Treasury	-200 (income budget)		100	0	0	100	Increased investment returns from treasury activity - assumes recent increase in interest rates sustained and higher level of cash balances retained
Treasury & Pensions Section	77	Provision of a Treasury Management and Pension Fund Investments Service including statistical and legislative research and development work. The unit manages the strategic direction, formulates and implements Policy and Strategy and ensures the integrity of the Dyfed Pension Fund. The unit also manages the Dyfed Welsh Church Fund and Banking Services	15	0	0	15	Increase in external SLA income for work undertaken for Wales Pension Partnership
Accountancy	1,399	The provision of a decentralised accounting and financial management service, covering: • Technical Accounting (Preparation of final accounts, corporate accounting and taxation), • Management Accounting (Month end close, maintenance of financial records and budgeting) • Strategic Finance functions (projects, planning and financial advice to members)	0	25	0	25	Increase in external SLA income for work undertaken for Llesiant Delta Wellbeing
External Audit Fees	229	Cost of external audit fees	10	0	0	10	Reduction in external audit cost by maximising audit costs chargeable against grant schemes
Total Financial Services			230	125	0	355	

Revenues & Financial Compliance

Rates Relief	289	Cost to CCC of properties that are eligible and have successfully applied for discounts on their business rates	50	0	0	50	Demand is currently less than current budget provision
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	17,249	Low income households, if meet certain criteria are entitled to Council Tax reduction.	35	0	0	35	Aligning the budget to actual
Total, Revenues and Financial Compliance			85	0	0	85	

Corporate Services General

Training Budget	60	Training budget set for the Department and to be used to support staff development / CPD - managed centrally by BSU	10	0	0	10	Reduce the sum available for the Department for training - current budget is £60k
Total Corporate Services General			10	0	0	10	

Corporate Services Total

325 125 0 450

MANAGERIAL Total			1,043	469	10	1,522	
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Demographic, Legislative or continuing pressures

APPENDIX A (ii)

	Description	Bid 2023-24 £'000	Indicative Allocation 2023-24 £'000
Fire Levy	Budget pressure for Emergency services network about draft budget agreed	150	150
Contingency	Unallocated	0	250
TOTAL		16,973	12,150

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Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Report
Budget Monitoring as at 31st October 2022 - Detail Monitoring

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Chief Executive										
Chief Executive-Chief Officer	240	0	-260	-20	215	0	-260	-45	-25	Savings on supplies & services
Chief Executive Business Support Unit	618	0	-585	34	512	-4	-585	-77	-111	3 staff on secondment, no commitment to year end.
Chief Executive Total	859	0	-845	14	727	-4	-845	-122	-136	
People Management										
TIC Team	242	-61	-221	-40	235	-61	-221	-47	-7	
Agile Working Project	0	0	0	0	66	0	0	66	66	Unfunded post
SCWDP	724	-417	1	308	730	-417	1	314	6	
Practice Placements	68	-67	0	1	79	-78	0	1	0	
Health & Social Care Induction Training Pilot	0	0	0	0	8	-8	0	0	0	
Business & Projects Support	255	0	-275	-21	261	0	-275	-14	6	
Payroll	872	-365	-285	221	921	-356	-285	279	58	Past year staffing efficiencies of £79k not being met. Partially offset by vacancies during the year.
People Services – HR	964	-275	-786	-97	1,030	-258	-786	-13	84	Temporary additional resource to deal with increased recruitment along with past year efficiencies of £48k not being met.
Employee Well-being	815	-359	-423	33	807	-330	-423	54	21	Shortfall on past year income target efficiency of £40k, partially offset by in year vacancies.
Organisational Development	468	-40	-498	-69	517	-7	-498	12	81	Training efficiency target not currently being met (£33k). Investors in People assessment one off costs of £26k, Unfunded Welsh Language post previously funded from Risk Management fund.
Employee Services – HR/Payroll Support	142	0	-132	11	150	0	-132	18	7	
School Staff Absence Scheme	0	0	0	0	1,124	-1,124	0	0	0	
DBS Checks	137	0	0	137	112	-2	0	110	-27	Review of DBS checks process & budget to be undertaken
People Management Total	4,687	-1,585	-2,619	484	6,040	-2,641	-2,619	780	297	
ICT & Corporate Policy										
Information Technology	5,643	-921	-3,846	876	5,608	-886	-3,846	876	-0	
Welsh Language	125	-11	-153	-39	125	-11	-153	-39	-0	
Chief Executive-Policy	722	-32	-786	-96	721	-63	-786	-128	-33	Vacant posts in early part of year now filled with the exception of one, estimated to be filled from January.
Public Services Board	6	0	0	6	6	0	0	6	0	
Armed Forces Covenant Scheme	0	0	0	0	50	-50	0	-0	-0	
Armed Forces Veterans Hub	0	0	0	0	5	-5	0	-0	-0	
Armed Forces and Remembrance	5	0	0	5	4	0	0	4	-2	
Total ICT & Corporate Policy	6,500	-964	-4,785	752	6,518	-1,016	-4,785	718	-34	

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	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Admin and Law										
Democratic Services	2,133	-290	2,372	4,216	1,972	-315	2,372	4,029	-187	Underspend on members pay and allowances £143k, travelling costs £18k, along with an additional £26k of income for work undertaken for the HRA.
Democratic Services - Support	526	0	-494	32	508	-30	-494	-16	-48	Additional income for work undertaken for the Wales pension partnership £22k & PCC £8k, savings on supplies & services £18k.
Corporate Management	0	0	296	296	0	0	296	296	0	
Civic Ceremonial	25	0	21	45	21	0	21	42	-4	
Land Charges	103	-275	20	-152	131	-267	20	-116	36	Shortfall in income due to low demand for searches
Police and Crime Commissioner	0	0	0	0	72	-72	0	0	0	
Legal Services	2,092	-273	-1,511	307	2,046	-263	-1,511	271	-36	Vacancies in early part of the year now filled. 3 current vacancies estimated to be filled from January.
Central Mailing	46	0	1	47	31	-8	1	24	-23	Saving on franking machine leasing costs
Admin and Law Total	4,926	-838	703	4,791	4,782	-955	703	4,530	-261	
Marketing & Media										
Marketing and Media	409	-171	-213	25	430	-32	-213	185	160	Overspend on salaries pending divisional realignment. Loss of income streams from external partners (e.g. ERW £80k). Looking at alternative potential partnership arrangements.
Translation	595	-53	-502	40	457	-53	-502	-98	-138	2 vacant posts pending divisional realignment & number of staff working reduced hours, savings on supplies & services.
Customer Services Centres	1,203	-362	-762	79	939	-358	-762	-181	-260	Part year vacancies in Contact Centre and Hwbs. Constantly out to advert due to difficulty in filling posts.
Yr Hwb, Rhydaman a Llanelli	174	-96	8	87	74	-53	8	29	-57	2 vacant posts pending divisional realignment, offset partly by less income from decreased demand for desk rent space.
Marketing Tourism Development	405	-5	37	436	355	-5	37	386	-50	Underspend on salaries pending divisional realignment
Events	40	-26	2	16	40	-26	2	16	0	
Total Marketing & Media	2,826	-713	-1,430	683	2,295	-526	-1,430	338	-345	
Statutory Services										
Elections-County Council	110	0	129	238	110	0	129	238	-0	
Elections-Community Council	0	0	0	0	26	-26	0	-0	-0	
Registration Of Electors	176	-3	243	416	224	-51	243	416	-0	
Registrars	525	-343	192	374	611	-493	192	310	-64	Increase in anticipated income due to large number of ceremonies taking place.
Coroners	369	0	8	377	405	0	8	413	37	£20k one off costs in relation to one particular case, large increase in undertakers fees, mortuary fees and post mortem fees in line with other local authorities.
Electoral Services - Staff	265	0	-291	-26	223	0	-291	-68	-42	1 post currently vacant, unlikely to be filled until January.
Statutory Services Total	1,444	-346	281	1,380	1,599	-570	281	1,310	-70	

Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Report
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Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Regeneration & Property										
Regeneration Management	308	0	38	346	349	0	38	387	41	Overspend due to cessation in staff time recharged to projects
Parry Thomas Centre	37	-37	11	11	37	-37	11	11	-0	
Betws wind farm community fund	87	-87	1	1	87	-86	1	1	0	
Welfare Rights & Citizen's Advice	161	0	2	162	161	0	2	162	0	
Llanelli Coast Joint Venture	150	-150	5	5	157	-157	5	5	-0	
Business Grants	0	0	0	0	359	-359	0	-0	-0	
Econ Dev-Rural Carmarthen, Ammanford, Town Centres	405	0	6,307	6,712	405	0	6,307	6,712	0	
Econ Dev-Llanelli, C Hands, Coastal, Business, Inf & Ent	470	0	89	558	470	0	89	558	0	
Community Development and External Funding	545	0	89	635	543	-1	89	632	-3	
Food Banks	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	3	
Kickstart	0	0	0	0	131	-131	0	0	0	
Transforming Towns Business Fund	0	0	0	0	23	-23	0	-0	-0	
Wellness	275	0	19	294	275	0	19	294	0	
Swansea Bay City Deal	0	0	24	24	-0	0	24	24	-0	
Property	1,195	-91	-1,251	-146	1,063	-16	-1,251	-204	-57	4 posts currently vacant estimated to be filled from January. These vacancies and an underspend on supplies and services are covering a shortfall on income generated from external work undertaken.
Commercial Properties	34	-463	537	108	101	-539	537	99	-9	
Provision Markets	623	-556	376	443	601	-531	376	446	3	
Asset Transfers	0	0	0	0	12	-12	0	-0	-0	
Asset Sales	20	0	0	20	20	0	0	20	-0	
Operational Depots	356	0	-326	30	350	0	-326	25	-5	
Administrative Buildings	3,399	-796	-3,111	-508	3,396	-802	-3,111	-516	-8	
Industrial Premises	494	-1,519	940	-85	512	-1,545	940	-93	-8	
The Beacon	164	-144	50	70	163	-142	50	71	0	
County Farms	79	-351	428	156	93	-308	428	212	57	Income target not met due to current economic climate, as no scope to increase tenancy agreements at the moment.
Livestock Markets	62	-114	3	-48	22	-68	3	-42	6	
Externally Funded Schemes	9,226	-9,222	323	327	9,012	-9,009	323	327	-0	
Regeneration & Property Total	18,088	-13,529	4,555	9,114	18,344	-13,767	4,555	9,133	19	

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Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Financial Services										
Corporate Services Management Team	510	-142	-422	-54	547	-179	-422	-54	-0	
Accountancy	1,877	-478	-1,253	146	1,853	-454	-1,253	146	0	
Treasury and Pension Investment Section	277	-200	-70	7	271	-217	-70	-16	-24	Additional income for work undertaken for Wales Pension Partnership
Grants and Technical	357	-114	-218	25	292	-53	-218	21	-4	Vacant post estimated to be filled (est December)
Payroll Control	97	0	-88	9	98	0	-88	10	1	
Systems and Accounts Payable	581	-79	-457	44	545	-81	-457	7	-37	5 Vacant posts during the year. All 5 filled from November
Pensions	1,555	-1,469	-58	28	1,338	-1,252	-58	28	-0	
Audit Fees	325	-96	4	234	300	-96	4	209	-25	A proportion of audit fees are chargeable directly to grants
Bank Charges	66	0	1	67	52	0	1	53	-14	Reduced costs following new bank contract
Wales Pension Partnership	88	-86	0	3	76	-73	0	3	0	
Miscellaneous Services	7,016	-125	1,698	8,589	6,588	-39	1,698	8,247	-342	£329k underspend on pre LGR pension costs along with a £13k underspend on Treasury Management expenses.
Financial Services Total	12,750	-2,788	-863	9,098	11,959	-2,443	-863	8,653	-445	
Revenues & Financial Compliance										
Procurement	638	-36	-551	51	580	-36	-551	-7	-58	Savings from staff member working reduced hours, maternity leave and a number of posts currently at lowest point on the salary scale
Audit	511	-20	-463	27	492	-39	-463	-11	-38	1 vacant post estimated to be filled in November, 1 recently filled post and one post working at reduced hours
Risk Management	158	-1	-149	9	140	-1	-149	-9	-18	Staff member working reduced hours
Business Support Unit	149	0	-81	68	135	0	-81	54	-13	2 staff members on lowest points of the scale
Corporate Services Training	62	0	-59	3	36	0	-59	-23	-26	Less planned training during the year
Cost of Living Discretionary Grant	0	0	0	0	576	-576	0	0	0	
Local Taxation	986	-763	528	750	972	-802	528	697	-53	Savings on 4 vacant posts to date. Two have been filled, and two remain vacant and are being covered by agency following failure to recruit.
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	17,249	0	78	17,327	17,008	0	78	17,086	-241	Underspend based on latest demand figures.
Rent Allowances	41,323	-41,540	1,495	1,278	37,206	-37,311	1,495	1,390	112	Projections on expenditure based on 2021/22 claims
Rates Relief	289	0	5	294	184	0	5	190	-105	Low take-up anticipated in 2022/23. Based on current demand.
Page 36										
Housing Benefits Admin	1,702	-753	-877	72	1,455	-632	-877	-54	-125	DWP Housing Benefit Admin grant received is £212k less than budget. There is a net £217k underspend on pay costs, due to 11 current vacant posts, estimated to be filled from January, which is offset by the cost of agency staff who have been covering some of these posts due to difficulties in recruiting replacements. We have also received £120k of one-off grants from DWP during the year to complete specific projects.

Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Report
Budget Monitoring as at 31st October 2022 - Detail Monitoring

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022	Notes
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	
Revenues	1,033	-139	-755	138	1,158	-136	-755	268	129	£100k increase in bank charges over budget due to increased number of card payments. £82k one-off essential software upgrade. Offset by short term vacant posts that are being covered by agency following failure to recruit, along with 3 recent vacant posts that are estimated to be filled from January.
Revenues & Financial Compliance Total	64,099	-43,252	-830	20,018	59,944	-39,532	-830	19,582	-436	
TOTAL FOR CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES	116,179	-64,013	-5,832	46,334	112,209	-61,454	-5,832	44,923	-1,411	

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APPENDIX C

CHARGING DIGEST - Chief Executives

2021/22 Actual £	2022/23 Budget £	2023/24 Budget £	Business Unit	Service Provided	2022/23 Charge Levied £	2023/24 Proposed Charge £	Comments
			Admin and Law				
250,825	275,000	302,500	Land Charges	Search Fees	130.80	130.80	No change to charges to take place during 2023-24. A new Land Charges system will be implemented during 2023-24 with a view to potentially increasing charges within statutory restrictions at that point.
				Any additional enquiries (dependent on enquiry)	12.00	12.00	
				Any additional enquiries (dependent on enquiry)	24.00	24.00	
			Regen, Policy and Property				
2,704	2,514	2,765	Statutory Services Electoral Services	Electoral Registration			
				Purchase of the Full/Open or list of overseas electors Register in printed format	10.00 + 5.00 per 1,000 entries (or part of 1,000 entries)	10.00 + 5.00 per 1,000 entries (or part of 1,000 entries)	Statutory fee
				Purchase the Full/Open or list of overseas electors Register in data format	20.00 plus 1.50 each for 1,000 entries (or part of 1,000 entries)	20.00 plus 1.50 each for 1,000 entries (or part of 1,000 entries)	Statutory fee
				Marked copy of the Register	10.00 + 2.00 per 1,000 names	10.00 + 2.00 per 1,000 names	Statutory fee
				Copies of election spending return and declaration	0.20 per side	0.20 per side	Statutory fee
448,836	343,063	377,369	Registrars	Marriage			
				Notice of Marriage per notice valid for 12 months	35.00	35.00	Statutory fee
				Superintendent Registrar & Registrar fee	150.00 - 585.00	160.00 - 625.00	Dependent on date and venue. Increasing prices more than this is likely to price our services out of the market.
				Payable to registrar present at ceremony:			
				In the Register office	46.00	46.00	Statutory fee
				In a registered building	86.00	86.00	Statutory fee

APPENDIX C

CHARGING DIGEST - Chief Executives

2021/22 Actual £	2022/23 Budget £	2023/24 Budget £	Business Unit	Service Provided	2022/23 Charge Levied £	2023/24 Proposed Charge £	Comments
				Conversion from Civil Partnership to marriage	45.00	45.00	Statutory fee
				Civil Partnership			
				For the recording of each notice of civil partnership	35.00	35.00	Statutory fee
				For the attendance of the civil partnership registrar at the civil partnership registration	46.00	46.00	Statutory fee
				Superintendent Registrar & Registrar fee	150.00 - 585.00	160.00 - 625.00	Dependent on date and venue. Increasing prices more than this is likely to price our services out of the market.
				Site visit inspection of venue for statutory or non-statutory events	100.00	100.00	Rarely requested
				Registrar attendance at rehearsal	75.00	75.00	Rarely requested
				Registrar attendance at promotional event	35.00 per hour + travel	40.00 per hour + travel	2 registrars attendance.
				Certificates for special purposes :			Factories Act, Education Act, Social Security (Administration) Act, Savings Banks Act
				General Search	18.00	18.00	Statutory fee
				Specific search in indexes	15.00	15.00	per hour
				Admin proof of life verification	10.00	10.00	Foreign pension holders
				Custom postage request	10.00	10.00	Requires visit to post office
				Civil Funeral	200.00 plus travel expenses	350.00	Plan ceremony and officiate - crematorium, cemetery, chapel of rest - Weekdays only.
				Corrections - consideration by local Superintendent Registrar	75.00	75.00	Statutory fee
				Foreign divorce - consideration by local Superintendent Registrar	50.00	50.00	Statutory fee
				Space 17 Birth registration amendments (changing the baby's name after registration)	40.00	40.00	Statutory fee
				Triage of waiver request on behalf of the General Register Office	20.00	20.00	Statutory fee
				Triage of complex correction request on behalf of the General Register Office	32.00	32.00	Statutory fee

APPENDIX C

CHARGING DIGEST - Chief Executives

2021/22 Actual £	2022/23 Budget £	2023/24 Budget £	Business Unit	Service Provided	2022/23 Charge Levied £	2023/24 Proposed Charge £	Comments
				Triage of foreign divorce consideration on behalf of the General Register Office	28.00	28.00	Statutory fee
				Memorial Service	360.00	575.00	Plan ceremony and officiate - Parc Myrddin or chapel of rest - Sundays only.
				Certificates: Birth, Death, Marriage, Civil Partnership			
				Full or extract Certificate applied for at the time of the registration	11.00	11.00	Statutory fee
				Full or extract Certificate applied for at any other time	11.00	11.00	Includes admin fee
				Express Service for Certificates	35.00	35.00	Now a statutory fee
				Non-Statutory Ceremonies			
				Register Office	150.00 - 585.00	160.00 - 625.00	Dependent on date and venue. Increasing prices more than this is likely to price our services out of the market.
				Licensed Venue	150.00 - 585.00	160.00 - 625.00	Dependent on date and venue. Increasing prices more than this is likely to price our services out of the market.
				Private Citizenship Ceremony	90.00	90.00	per adult, £25 per child
				Licence for Venue for Marriages and Civil Partnerships	1,340.00 - 2,215.00	1,405.00 - 2,325.00	3 year licence or 5 year licence. Increasing prices more than this is likely to price our services out of the market.
				Bespoke Ceremonies	Price on application	Price on application	Priced as stat ceremony but with additional charges for prelim site inspection/risk assessment and travel as appropriate.
Page 41			Property & Regeneration	Lease or rental of corporate property			Dependent on market valuations at time of lease commencement or rent reviews. Not appropriate to rise with inflation as rent will vary with market conditions.

APPENDIX C

CHARGING DIGEST - Corporate Services

2021/22 Actual £	2022/23 Budget £	2023/24 Budget £	Business Unit	Service Provided	2022/23 Charge Levied £	2023/24 Proposed Charge £	Comments
408,066	371,096	371,096	Revenue Services	Costs imposed where Magistrates' Court recovery proceedings are instigated in respect of unpaid Council Tax or Non-Domestic (Business) Rates	62.00 (subject to in-year review - please see Comments)	62.00	As a result of a High Court case in 2015 local authorities are not in a position to simply periodically increase / vary costs e.g. in line with inflation. Instead a calculation of the (estimated) actual costs involved in taking action is necessary with any change then agreed with the Court. Based on the current operational cost of the work relating to recovery proceedings, the existing level of recovery costs (Summons £32, Liability Order £30, Total £62) is unlikely to change in the medium term. The proposed level of costs will therefore remain slightly below the upper limit invoked by Welsh Government.

**CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
30.01.23**

**FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAMME (COUNCIL FUND)
2023/24 TO 2027/28**

THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE IS ASKED TO:

As part of the budget consultation to examine the attached Capital Programme.

REASONS:

That the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee consider the content of this report and put forward any comments or observations for consideration by Cabinet.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER: Cllr. Alun Lenny - Resources

Directorate: Corporate Services

Name of Head of Service:
Randal Hemingway

Report Author: Adrian
Armstrong

Designations:

Head of Financial
Services

Tel: 01267 224886

Email addresses:

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

30.01.23

**FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAMME (COUNCIL FUND) – 2023/24
TO 2027/28**

The report brings together the latest proposals for the five-year capital programme 2023/24 to 2027/28. It forms the basis of the budget consultation process with members and other relevant parties. Feedback from this consultation process, along with any updates, will inform the final Capital Programme budget report which will be presented to Cabinet, and in turn to County Council in March 2023.

The proposed gross expenditure on the capital programme for 2023/24 is £154.530m with the projected funding being £90.527m from the county council's own resources through the use of borrowing, reserves and direct revenue financing, capital receipts and general capital grant, with the balance of £64.003m coming from external sources. These figures include projects delayed in 2022/23 that have been carried over and built into the budgets of future years.

The new capital programme is fully funded over the five-year period; however, it is proposed to under commit some of the available funding in order to give flexibility across the programme to cover any unexpected additional costs and to allow further consideration to the Sustainable Communities for Learning review when complete.

The programme includes projected expenditure on the Swansea Bay City Region Deal projects against which the authority will borrow, with the funding being returned from both Welsh and UK governments over a 15-year period (from 2018/19).

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: Randal Hemingway

Head of Financial Services

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES

3. Finance

The updated capital programme is projected to be fully funded for the five years 2023/2024 through to 2027/28, however, if any of the currently anticipated funding does not materialise it will need to be revisited. In addition, it is expected that further commitments will need to be considered when the Sustainable Communities for Learning review is complete, and this will then need to be considered further by the Council. You will note that the majority of potential schools funding has not been allocated directly to specific schools.

7. Physical Assets

New assets created from the capital programme will be added to the Council's portfolio. In addition, the programme proposes expenditure to improve the existing assets and comply with statutory responsibilities.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED YES	Include any observations here
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Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
2022/23 – 2026/27 Capital Programme		Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen. On-line via corporate website – Minutes of County Council Meeting 2 nd March 2022.
2023/24 – 2027/28 Capital Programme		Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen.

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REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee

30th January 2023

**FIVE-YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAMME – 2023/24, 2024/25, 2025/26,
2026/27 and 2027/28**

DIRECTOR & DESIGNATION	DIRECTORATE	TELEPHONE NO.
C Moore, Director of Corporate Services	Corporate Services	01267 224120
AUTHOR & DESIGNATION	DIRECTORATE	TELEPHONE NO.
R Hemingway, Head of Financial Services	Corporate Services	01267 224886

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1. The report provides members with a view of the proposed five-year Capital Programme 2023/24, 2024/25, 2025/26, 2026/27 and 2027/28.
- 1.1. The Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Committee are being consulted as part of the development of the programme. Feedback from this consultation process, along with the outcome of the final settlement, will inform the final budget report which will be presented to Cabinet and County Council in March 2023 for approval.
- 1.2. The authority is required to approve a rolling capital programme each year as part of its budget setting process. This facilitates forward planning and is consistent with the requirements of the Prudential Code in terms of financial planning and funding while assisting officers in bidding for external funding.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. Last year the authority agreed a fully funded five-year capital programme 2022/23 to 2026/27 which was approved at County Council on 2nd March 2022.
- 2.2. 2021 was an unprecedented year and saw us reprioritise our capital strategy and capital programme to reflect the desire to boost local businesses and local economies in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. This commitment remained our focus last year and coupled with the UK Government's levelling up funding saw the start of significant investments to boost the Carmarthenshire economy. During 2022 we faced multiple challenges from rising costs, rising inflation and reductions in government funding, those challenges remain as we look to prioritise our spending in 2023/24 and beyond. The truth is that the council has never faced the pressures on budgets that we currently face. The capital programme has been reviewed

and departments also submitted proposals for new critically urgent projects for the programme. Projects have been assessed and prioritised with only the highest priorities being included in the programme. Given the cost pressures on the revenue budgets no wider expressions of interest were invited. This will enable projects already approved to be completed without putting additional pressures on resources and local contractor capacity.

- 2.3. The proposed capital programme is attached in Appendix A and shows the anticipated expenditure and sources of funding over the five year period.
- 2.4. The proposed capital programme and funding is based on the Welsh Government's (WG) provisional settlement, received on 14th December 2022. This year the capital funding across Wales has been confirmed at £180m for 2023/24 and 2024/25 which is 8.1% lower in real terms compared to the 2022/23 capital budget. For Carmarthenshire this means an allocation of non-hypothecated capital funding of £11.989m. Other hypothecated capital funding grants across Wales totalling £925.948m was announced in the settlement and we will be applying to take advantage of this grant funding in due course but it is not reflected in the programme at this time. Any successful applications for funding will be reported separately. The Final Settlement, is due in March. Should there be any amendments in the funding figures Cabinet is asked to delegate to the Director of Corporate Services authority to adjust the programme accordingly, in liaison with the Chief Executive, Leader and Cabinet Member for Resources. Similarly, delegated authority to update the programme is sought should any other award of grant funding be received at the same time, again in consultation with the same.

3. PRIORITIES

- 3.1. The current Corporate Strategy for 2018-2023 (refreshed June 2021) sets out the Authority's strategic priorities, aspirations, overarching themes and core values, and the programme has been developed in line with these, whilst also recognising the priorities that have come forward as a consequence of the pandemic and Levelling Up funding.
- 3.2. The proposed capital programme of £261m over the five years (which includes some reprofiled projects from previous years), is aimed at delivering a number of key projects that will create jobs and improve the quality of life for the people of Carmarthenshire.

The key investments within the programme are:

	£'m
Schools	73
Housing (Non HRA)	12
Lesiure & Culture	4
Regeneration	27
Swansea City Deal Region	84
ICT and Property	4
Place and Infrastructure	57

4. FUNDING

The provisional settlement received from WG allocated capital funding of £11.989m for the Authority in 2023/24, made up of non-hypothecated supported borrowing of £5.914m and General Capital Grant of £6.075m.

- 4.1. The level of capital receipts funding included within the programme has been revised in line with latest estimates. Capital receipts of £5.5m will be applied across the programme including £3.5m to the Llanelli Leisure centre project. It should be noted that there may be a need to amend future capital programmes if there is a shortfall in expected receipts.
- 4.2. The use of earmarked reserves was approved as part of previous years' reports and were included as funding for the current capital programme. In total £47.2m of reserve funding is included over the five years of the programme.
- 4.3. The existing levels of investment into the schools estate programme is maintained with a realisation that additional funding will be needed in future years to deliver the whole MEP programme. New match funding is made available from reserves and prudential borrowing to deliver the next phase of new school builds.
- 4.4. Funding from external parties in the form of grants for the whole of the capital programme is currently expected to be in the region of £100.5m. which includes City Deal, Levelling Up projects and anticipated schools grants.
- 4.5. As part of the provisional annual settlement from Welsh Government, funding was made available on an all Wales basis for the following areas:
 - Active Travel Fund, Local Transport Fund, Bus Infrastructure, Road Safety and Safe Routes in Communities - £107m for 2023/24. Carmarthenshire will bid for funding from these grants and any successful awards will be added to the capital programme in due course.
- 4.6. Disappointingly, no award was made for Highways Refurbishment or Resilient Roads funding as in previous years which means we have had to revise down our commitments in this area.
- 4.7. Given our significant investments in years 1 and 2 of the programme and the reduced capital settlement from WG we propose to continue to make use of unsupported borrowing, short-term, to prevent what would otherwise be a shortfall in funding at the start of the programme. This will be repaid in years 3, 4 and 5 of the programme where funds are available.

5. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24 TO 2027/28

- 5.1. When the capital programme was approved at County Council on 2nd March 2022 it was fully funded. The new capital programme again remains fully funded over the five-year period, however, it is proposed to undercommit some of the available funding from the Welsh Government in order to give

flexibility across the programme to cover any unexpected additional costs on approved projects.

Community Services

- 5.2. In recent years there have been significant investments across the Community Services portfolio with investments in the new Carmarthenshire Archive, Museums in Abergwili and Parc Howard and the ongoing development at Oriol Myrddin.
- 5.3. The new programme includes the provision of a new leisure centre in Llanelli, which will be delivered in conjunction with the Pentre Awel development under the umbrella of the Swansea Bay City Region.
- 5.4. In 2027/28 within Private Sector Housing, further funding is provided for Disabled Facility Grants of £2.5m.

Environment

- 5.5. For 2027/28 further allocations to existing rolling programmes of work are included, namely Highway Improvements £600k, Highway Drainage £250K, Bridge Maintenance £400k, Road Safety Improvement £250k, public lighting, £400k.

Given the disappointing omission of specific highways Improvement grant funding in the WG settlement, in 2022/23 we were able to supplement this with £1m of our own resources. We will be able to continue this support in 2023/24 funded for borrowing because we have been able to take advantage of more favourable borrowing rates than was supported by the Welsh Government under the LGBI initiative. This is in addition to our annual commitment of £600k already mentioned. We will continue to work with the WG in the hope that funding towards highways can be restored in future years.

- 5.6. 2027/28 also sees the continuation of our commitment to Rights of Way and Byways with funding of £66k, in recognition of our obligations in this area and the wider community health and environmental benefits provided by these valuable resources.
- 5.7. Our commitment to the Tywi Valley Path project continues with £18.2m included in the new programme, £1,864k in-house funding together with the grant of £16.8m from the UK Government's Levelling Up Fund. A major investment which will bring significant benefits to the rural economy in the medium to long-term and improvements in health and wellbeing for residents.
- 5.8. Funding for flood risk management of £75k in 2023/24 continues in order to match external grants.
- 5.9. Significant investment continues to be made available to the upkeep and refurbishment of the County's estate.
 - Works continue at County Hall, alongside £300k for county farms slurry infrastructure.

- In addition in 2027/28 it is proposed to continue the annual allocation towards Capital Maintenance across the county estate at £3m. (£15.2m across the five years.) This maintains our investment in this area whilst recognising that the estate may be downsized in coming years as we aim to release capital receipts to fund future programmes.
- 5.10. £4.7m for refuse and recycling vehicle replacement is included, which will see the rollout of kerbside sorting for recycling collections. It is hoped that this project will attract significant funding from WG in the future which will see investment in the infrastructure at Nantycaws and the replacement of the current refuse lorries with an electric fleet in the coming years. It will make a huge contribution to our efforts to decarbonise our services to address local, national and global commitments to Net Zero Carbon.
- 5.11. A five-year Fleet Replacement Programme for £4.5m, excluding refuse and recycling collection vehicles, is included to ensure that vehicles and plant machinery assets are replaced when they reach the end of their viable economic life. The funding for this capital spend will be provided directly from revenue budgets of the service users via prudential borrowing.
- 5.12. As part of the provisional settlement £20m per annum from 2023/24 will be made available on an all Wales basis for the decarbonisation agenda. We will work with the WG and other local authorities and organisations to see how this funding can be best utilised to have the greatest impact across the authority's estate, and across Wales, in response to the climate emergency.

Education and Children

- 5.13. In the Education and Children Services capital programme, the MEP includes the continuation of the Sustainable Communities for Learning improvement programme. Schemes are funded jointly by Welsh Government grant and the Authority.
- 5.14. There are eight schools included in the programme at design stage. As they complete final business case stage and receive offers of grant funding from the Welsh Government they will be included in the delivery stage of the programme. Future reports will seek approval for inclusion in the programme if and when external funding is secured. Internal match funding will be from the Consolidated MEP Delivery Fund.
- 5.15. It is proposed to award a further £500k in 2027/28 to fund ongoing pressures on the education budget, namely: Equalities Works, Health and Safety measures, Mobile Classroom Provision.
- 5.16. To mitigate ongoing health and safety concerns at a number of school drop-off sites we propose to provide £850k in 2023/24 and 2024/25 for the provision of new bus bays and traffic management projects. This will be funded by MEP unsupported prudential borrowing.
- 5.17. An autism spectrum disorder (ASD) unit is urgently needed in the Llanelli area. It is hoped that this will attract government funding of approximately £1.5m. It is proposed to provide a further £500k in match funding for the

provision of the same from our own resources to meet our responsibilities in this area. This will be funded MEP unsupported prudential borrowing.

Chief Executive

5.18. ICT services are crucial to our future ways of working. There is £2.4m allocated across the programme for this area. It includes annual funding of £200k per annum to support digital transformational projects across council services. The county council will also see the benefit of the Swansea Bay City Region Digital Project across the county.

Regeneration

5.19. The work to deliver the new Carmarthen town centre hub continues. A new community resource, in partnership with healthcare and education providers. It will also see a new home for some of the county's art collections currently unseen by the public, and a new fitness suite. This development will bring footfall back to the town centre and be a catalyst for the regeneration and revitalisation of Carmarthen town centre.

5.20. In the medium term we will need to be able to support new regeneration projects as they are developed. We are therefore making new awards of £2m per year in 2026/27 and 2027/28 to Regeneration Schemes Match Funding, which in turn will be utilised to attract external grant funding to developments across the county.

5.21. Work continues on the Pentre Awel project (Zone 1), delivered under the Swansea Bay City Region programme, which will create five distinct buildings linked with a "street" space, comprising an aquatics centre, sports hall, multipurpose sports and fitness rooms and gym, education and training facilities, clinical delivery and research and innovation and business space. The budgeted costs of Zone 1 which started in 2018/19 are increasing at the moment and we are in negotiations with the contractor currently. The funding will be via City Deal (£40m), County Council finances, Llanelli Waterfront JV, third party Health partners, and external market funding, £26m of which falls within year one of the new programme.

The project also includes the provision of a hydro-therapy pool, which will be part of the leisure element, the funding for which includes approximately £1m from a trust. This project, when costs are finalised, will be subject to a separate County Council report. With reference to the City Deal funding, the expenditure - whilst being incurred by the Authority, will be repaid to the Authority over a period of up to 15 years by both Welsh and UK governments. The structure of the City Deal projects means that WG expects the Authority to deliver the projects and raise the funding through borrowing which will then be repaid over a 15 year period. The projects or the Authority will need to accommodate the interest payments on this borrowing.

5.22. The Pentre Awel development also provides for an assisted housing development programme, in Zone 3, which is part of the HRA capital programme.

5.23. The County Council will also have an input in other regional projects delivered by the Swansea Bay City Region given its role as lead body.

6. WELL-BEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (WALES) ACT 2015

6.1. In considering the capital programme, members need to take into consideration the requirements of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. The Act requires the public bodies to carry out development sustainably, improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

‘... the public body must act in a manner which seeks to ensure that the needs of the present are met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’

6.2. In doing so, we must demonstrate the following five ways of working:

- i. Looking at the long-term so that we do not compromise the ability of future generations to meet their own needs
- ii. Understanding the root causes of issues to prevent them recurring
- iii. Taking an integrated approach so that we look at all well-being goals and objectives of other services and partners
- iv. Working with others in a collaborative way to find shared sustainable solutions
- v. Involving a diversity of population in decisions that affect them

6.3. The act identifies seven well-being goals and provide a shared vision for public bodies to work towards. We must work towards achieving all of them.

- i. A prosperous Wales
- ii. A resilient Wales
- iii. A healthier Wales
- iv. A more equal Wales
- v. A Wales of cohesive communities
- vi. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language
- vii. A globally responsible Wales

6.4. Our well-being objectives are designed to maximise our contribution to achieving the seven well-being goals of the Act.

6.5. All projects within the programme have been assessed and scored with the five ways of working, the seven goals and our corporate well-being statement in mind.

7.

SUMMARY

The table below gives a breakdown of the expenditure by departments and the sources of funding.

CAPITAL PROGRAMME SUMMARY						
	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<u>Expenditure</u>						
Community Services	6,312	2,300	2,000	2,500	2,500	15,612
Place and Infrastructure	34,611	6,272	6,143	5,026	5,026	57,078
Education & Children	18,416	33,593	20,857	500	500	73,866
Chief Executive	1,465	1,657	200	200	200	3,722
Regeneration	93,726	10,906	2,294	2,201	2,000	111,127
Total Expenditure	154,530	23,513	12,376	10,427	10,226	261,405
<u>Grants and Contributions</u>						
External Funding	64,003	23,273	13,232	0	0	100,508
Net Expenditure Funded by CCC	90,527	31,455	18,262	10,427	10,226	160,897
<u>CCC Funding</u>						
Non-hypothecated Supported Borrowing	5,914	5,914	5,914	5,914	5,914	29,570
Unsupported Borrowing	23,884	6,056	5,290	-868	280	34,661
Prudential Borrowing - Fleet	7,250	1,000	1,000	0	0	9,250
General Capital Grant	6,075	6,075	6,075	6,075	6,075	30,375
Capital Reserves	41,369	12,725	1,904	500	0	56,498
Capital Receipts	2,000	0	0	0	0	2,000
Joint Venture Funding Llanelli Leisure Centre	3,500	0	0	0	0	3,500
Direct Revenue Funding	516	516	516	490	16	2,054
Overall Net Position: Surplus + / Deficit (-)	0	831	2,437	1,684	2,059	7,011

7.1. To summarise the overall position, all approved projects within the capital programme are fully funded for the five years from 2023/24 to 2027/28, however, not all available funding is committed at this time in order to us flexibility to deal with future cost pressures or urgent works which may arise.

7.2. The total cost of the programme is £261.4m of which £100.5m is funded from external grants and contributions.

7.3. The full detail of the proposed five-year capital programme is attached in Appendix A.

8. REVENUE IMPLICATIONS

8.1. The revenue budget strategy in 2023/24 allows for a £400k increase in the revenue budget implications of the capital programme.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 That the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee consider the content of this report and put forward any comments or observations for consideration by Cabinet.

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Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2027/28

Appendix A

Capital Project 2023/24-2027/28	Year 1			Year 2			Year 3			Year 4			Year 5			Five Year Total 2023/24:2027/28		
	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total Scheme	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total
COUNCIL FUND	2023/24			2024/25			2025/26			2026/27			2027/28			Five Year Total		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
COMMUNITIES																		
Private Sector Housing																		
Disabled Facility Grants	2,700	0	2,700	2,300	0	2,300	2,000	0	2,000	2,500	0	2,500	2,500		2,500	12,000	0	12,000
Sports & Leisure																		
Amman Valley Leisure Centre 3G Pitch	1,912	0	1,912	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,912	0	1,912
Culture																		
Oriel Myrddin	700	1,000	1,700	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	700	1,000	1,700
Total Communities	5,312	1,000	6,312	2,300	0	2,300	2,000	0	2,000	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	0	2,500	14,612	1,000	15,612
Total Communities Excluding HRA	5,312	1,000	6,312	2,300	0	2,300	2,000	0	2,000	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	0	2,500	14,612	1,000	15,612

Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2027/28

Appendix A

Capital Project 2023/24-2027/28	Year 1			Year 2			Year 3			Year 4			Year 5			Five Year Total 2023/24:2027/28		
	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total Scheme	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total
	2023/24			2024/25			2025/26			2026/27			2027/28			Five Year Total		
COUNCIL FUND	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
ENVIRONMENT																		
Countryside																		
Byways	16	0	16	16	0	16	16	0	16	16	0	16	16	0	16	80	0	80
Rights of Way Improvement Programme	50	0	50	50	0	50	50	0	50	50	0	50	50	0	50	250	0	250
Coastal and Flood Defence																		
Flood Management	75	425	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	75	425	500
Fleet Management																		
Fleet Replacement - Prudential Borrowing	2,520	0	2,520	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	0	1,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,520	0	4,520
Infrastructure																		
Multi Storey Car Park, Llanelli	60	0	60	60	0	60	60	0	60	60	0	60	60	0	60	300	0	300
Highways	1,600	0	1,600	600	0	600	600	0	600	600	0	600	600	0	600	4,000	0	4,000
Highways Drainage	250	0	250	250	0	250	250	0	250	250	0	250	250	0	250	1,250	0	1,250
Bridges and Structures	400	0	400	400	0	400	400	0	400	400	0	400	400	0	400	2,000	0	2,000
Street Lighting Replacement & Upgrade	0	0	0	400	0	400	400	0	400	400	0	400	400	0	400	1,600	0	1,600
Waste Management																		
Refuse Vehicles replacement	2,125	0	2,125	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,125	0	2,125
Decarbonisation of Refuse and Recycling Collection Vehicles	2,605	0	2,605	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,605	0	2,605
Transportation																		
Road Safety Improvement Schemes	250	0	250	250	0	250	250	0	250	250	0	250	250	0	250	1,250	0	1,250
Cross Hands Economic Link Road Phase 2	384	0	384	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	384	0	384
Public Transport Infrastructure																		
Twyi Valley Path - Non Levelling Up	426	0	426	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	426	0	426
Tywi Valley Path - Levelling Up Fund	6,086	11,751	17,837	0	0	0	45	0	45	0	0	0	0	0	0	6,131	11,751	17,882
Property																		
Capital Maintenance	2,838	0	2,838	3,246	0	3,246	3,072	0	3,072	3,000	0	3,000	3,000	0	3,000	15,156	0	15,156
County Hall	1,600	0	1,600	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,600	0	1,600
Tŷ Elwyn	1,150	0	1,150	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,150	0	1,150
Total Environment	22,435	12,176	34,611	6,272	0	6,272	6,143	0	6,143	5,026	0	5,026	5,026	0	5,026	44,902	12,176	57,078

Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2027/28

Appendix A

Capital Project 2023/24-2027/28	Year 1			Year 2			Year 3			Year 4			Year 5			Five Year Total 2023/24:2027/28		
	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total Scheme	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total
	2023/24			2024/25			2025/26			2026/27			2027/28			Five Year Total		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
EDUCATION & CHILDREN																		
Schools: General Projects																		
Non MEP Education Works - Equalities Works, Mobiles, H&S etc	500	0	500	500	0	500	500	0	500	500	0	500	500	0	500	2,500	0	2,500
Dyffryn Taf Bus Bays	169	0	169	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	169	0	169
Infant Class Size Penygroes	157	0	157	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	157	0	157
Glanymor Bus Bays	250	0	250	250	0	250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500	0	500
Amman Valley Bus Bays	300	0	300	300	0	300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	600	0	600
Bro Myrddin Onsite traffic management issues	100	0	100	100	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200	0	200
Amman Valley Safeguarding access	200	0	200	200	0	200	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	400	0	400
ASD Llanelli	500	1,500	2,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	500	1,500	2,000
Sustainable Communities for Learning BandA - Design stage Projects																		
Laugharne	50	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	50
Dewi Sant	100	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	100
Sustainable Communities for Learning BandB - Design stage Projects																		
Ysgol Gymraeg Gwenllian	20	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	0	20
Carmarthen West	50	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	50
Llandybie	50	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	50	0	50
Heol Goffa New School	100	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	100
Bryngwyn	100	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	100
Maes y Morfa	100	0	100	100	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200	0	200
Sustainable Communities for Learning BandB - Approved Schemes																		
Y Castell	0	60	60	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	60	60
Pembrey	3,260	850	4,110	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,260	850	4,110
Sustainable Communities for Learning Match Funding																		
Consolidated MEP Delivery Fund	2,500	7,500	10,000	9,750	22,393	32,143	7,125	13,232	20,357	0	0	0	0	0	0	19,375	43,125	62,500
Total Education & Children	8,506	9,910	18,416	11,200	22,393	33,593	7,625	13,232	20,857	500	0	500	500	0	500	28,331	45,535	73,866

Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2027/28

Appendix A

Capital Project 2023/24-2027/28	Year 1			Year 2			Year 3			Year 4			Year 5			Five Year Total 2023/24:2027/28		
	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total Scheme	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total
	2023/24			2024/25			2025/26			2026/27			2027/28			Five Year Total		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
CHIEF EXECUTIVE																		
Property																		
Rural Estate Infrastructure	0	0	0	300	0	300	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	300	0	300
St David's Park - Block 3	1,000	0	1,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,000	0	1,000
Digital Transformation	200	0	200	200	0	200	200	0	200	200	0	200	200	0	200	1,000	0	1,000
PSBA Network	75	0	75	75	0	75	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	150	0	150
Strategic Digital Initiatives	100	0	100	100	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	200	0	200
Information Security and Governance	50	0	50	50	0	50	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	100
Virtualised Server & Storage Environment Replacement	0	0	0	400	0	400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	400	0	400
UPS 15KVA	15	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	0	15
Voice Infrastructure	25	0	25	20	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45	0	45
Business Critical Infrastructure & Strategic ICT Development	0	0	0	512	0	512	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	512	0	512
Total Chief Executive	1,465	0	1,465	1,657	0	1,657	200	0	200	200	0	200	200	0	200	3,722	0	3,722

Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2027/28

Appendix A

Capital Project 2023/24-2027/28	Year 1			Year 2			Year 3			Year 4			Year 5			Five Year Total 2023/24:2027/28		
	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total Scheme	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total
	2023/24			2024/25			2025/26			2026/27			2027/28			Five Year Total		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
REGENERATION																		
Transformational Strategy Project Fund	0	0	0	1,500	0	1,500	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	0	2,000	7,500	0	7,500
Rural Employment Spaces JV	1,000	1,000	2,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,000	1,000	2,000
Rural Enterprise Fund	1,500	0	1,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,500	0	1,500
Transformation Commercial Property Development Fund	2,500	0	2,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,500	0	2,500
Business Support for Renewable Energy Initiatives (3rd Party Grants)	400	0	400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	400	0	400
Ten Town Growth Plan																		
Ten Town Growth Plan	1,000	0	1,000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,000	0	1,000
Llanelli, Cross Hands & Coastal Belt Area																		
Tri Market Street North	1,700	0	1,700	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,700	0	1,700
Ammanford, Carmarthen & Rural Area																		
Carmarthen Hub - Levelling Up Fund	1,896	8,417	10,313	0	0	0	93	0	93	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,989	8,417	10,406
Carmarthen Hub - Fit-out	0	0	0	0	0	0	201	0	201	201	0	201	0	0	0	402	0	402
Swansea Bay City Region Projects																		
City Deal - Pentre Awel Wellness Project	20,513	27,000	47,513	8,526	880	9,406	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29,039	27,880	56,919
City Deal - Llanelli Leisure Centre	22,300	4,500	26,800	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	22,300	4,500	26,800
Total Regeneration	52,809	40,917	93,726	10,026	880	10,906	2,294	0	2,294	2,201	0	2,201	2,000	0	2,000	69,330	41,797	111,127
Total Council Fund	90,527	64,003	154,530	31,455	23,273	54,728	18,262	13,232	31,494	10,427	0	10,427	10,226	0	10,226	160,897	100,508	261,405
Total Council Fund Excluding HRA	90,527	64,003	154,530	31,455	23,273	54,728	18,262	13,232	31,494	10,427	0	10,427	10,226	0	10,226	160,897	100,508	261,404

Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2027/28

Appendix A

Capital Project 2023/24-2027/28	Year 1			Year 2			Year 3			Year 4			Year 5			Five Year Total 2023/24:2027/28		
	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total Scheme	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total	County Council Funding	External Funding	Total
	2023/24			2024/25			2025/26			2026/27			2027/28			Five Year Total		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Sources of Funding																		
Borrowing: PWLB	22,554	0	22,554	11,570	0	11,570	12,204	0	12,204	5,046	0	5,046	6,194	0	6,194	57,568	0	57,568
Borrowing: Non PWLB	14,513	0	14,513	1,400	0	1,400	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15,913	0	15,913
Capital Receipts	5,500	0	5,500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5,500	0	5,500
Reserves / Revenue	30,526	0	30,526	13,241	0	13,241	2,420	0	2,420	990	0	990	16	0	16	47,193	0	47,193
Highways & Transport Grants		12,176	12,176	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12,176	12,176
Economic Development Grants		40,917	40,917	880	880	880	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	41,797	41,797
Education Grants		9,910	9,910	22,393	22,393	22,393	13,232	13,232	13,232	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	45,535	45,535
Other Grants & Funding	17,434	1,000	18,434	6,075	0	6,075	6,075	0	6,075	6,075	0	6,075	6,075	0	6,075	41,734	1,000	42,734
Total Capital Programme Funding	90,527	64,003	154,530	32,286	23,273	55,559	20,699	13,232	33,931	12,111	0	12,111	12,285	0	12,285	167,908	100,508	268,416
Summary of Expenditure by Services																		
Private Housing	2,700	0	2,700	2,300	0	2,300	2,000	0	2,000	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	0	2,500	12,000	0	12,000
Culture & Leisure	2,612	1,000	3,612	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,612	1,000	3,612
Transportation, Infrastructure & Municipal	16,847	12,176	29,023	3,026	0	3,026	3,071	0	3,071	2,026	0	2,026	2,026	0	2,026	26,996	12,176	39,172
Economic Development	52,809	40,917	93,726	10,026	880	10,906	2,294	0	2,294	2,201	0	2,201	2,000	0	2,000	69,330	41,797	111,127
Education & Children	8,506	9,910	18,416	11,200	22,393	33,593	7,625	13,232	20,857	500	0	500	500	0	500	28,331	45,535	73,866
Property	6,588	0	6,588	3,546	0	3,546	3,072	0	3,072	3,000	0	3,000	3,000	0	3,000	19,206	0	19,206
ICT	465	0	465	1,357	0	1,357	200	0	200	200	0	200	200	0	200	2,422	0	2,422
Total Capital Expenditure by Service	90,527	64,003	154,530	31,455	23,273	54,728	18,262	13,232	31,494	10,427	0	10,427	10,226	0	10,226	160,897	100,508	261,405
Summary of Expenditure by Department																		
Community Services	5,312	1,000	6,312	2,300	0	2,300	2,000	0	2,000	2,500	0	2,500	2,500	0	2,500	14,612	1,000	15,612
Place and Infrastructure	22,435	12,176	34,611	6,272	0	6,272	6,143	0	6,143	5,026	0	5,026	5,026	0	5,026	44,902	12,176	57,078
Education & Children	8,506	9,910	18,416	11,200	22,393	33,593	7,625	13,232	20,857	500	0	500	500	0	500	28,331	45,535	73,866
Chief Executive	1,465	0	1,465	1,657	0	1,657	200	0	200	200	0	200	200	0	200	3,722	0	3,722
Regeneration including City Deal	52,809	40,917	93,726	10,026	880	10,906	2,294	0	2,294	2,201	0	2,201	2,000	0	2,000	69,330	41,797	111,127
Total Capital Expenditure By Department	90,527	64,003	154,530	31,455	23,273	54,728	18,262	13,232	31,494	10,427	0	10,427	10,226	0	10,226	160,897	100,508	261,405
External Grants	0	64,003	64,003	0	23,273	23,273	0	13,232	13,232	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100,508	100,508
Net CCC Funding	90,527	0	90,527	31,455	0	31,455	18,262	0	18,262	10,427	0	10,427	10,226	0	10,226	160,897	0	160,897

* N.B. Some external funding shown may be subject to final approval from the relevant funding body.

**COPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
30/01/2023**

TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY AND STRATEGY 2023-24

THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE IS ASKED TO:-

To consider the content of the report, as this information will form the basis of this Committee's role in scrutinising the activity and function during the year.

Reasons:

To comply with the Revised CIPFA Prudential Code and the Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr. A. Lenny

Directorate: Corporate Services

Name of Director: Chris Moore

Report Author: Anthony Parnell

Director of
Corporate Services

Treasury and
Pension
Investments
Manager

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
30/01/2023**

TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY AND STRATEGY 2023-24

1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.

It is a requirement of the revised CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management, which Council have adopted, that

1. The Council maintains a Treasury Management Policy which states the policies and objectives of the Authority's treasury management activities;

and

2. The Council approves a Treasury Management Strategy annually before the start of the financial year to which it relates.

In addition, under the Local Government Act 2003 the Council approves the Treasury Management Indicators for the coming year.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: C Moore

Director of Corporate Services

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	YES	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

Council has adopted the revised CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management, one of the requirements is that an annual Treasury Management Policy and Strategy be approved by Council before the commencement of the year to which it relates.

2. Legal

Under the Local Government Act 2003 and the revised CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management, local authorities must set out their Treasury Management Indicators that relate to the Authority's capital spending and its borrowing.

3. Finance

The Treasury Management Policy and Strategy details the procedures that the Authority adheres to in managing its treasury management function.

Interest paid and earned has a direct impact on the Authority's Revenue Budget. The estimated projections are included in the Budget which is to be presented to Council on 1st March 2023.

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below

Signed: C Moore

Director of Corporate Services

1. Scrutiny Committee

For information to Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee on the 13th December 2022.

2. Local Member(s) N/A

3. Community / Town Council N/A

4. Relevant Partners N/A

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations N/A

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED

YES

Include any observations here

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
The Local Government Act 2003		County Hall, Carmarthen
Guidance issued by Welsh Government		County Hall, Carmarthen
Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes		County Hall, Carmarthen
Revised CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities		County Hall, Carmarthen

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**MEETING OF THE CORPORATE PERFORMANCE AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE
DATE: 30th JANUARY 2023**

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY AND STRATEGY 2023-2024

A. INTRODUCTION

This Council carries out its treasury management activities in accordance with the Prudential Code of Practice first developed for public services in 2002 by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). This Code was last revised in 2021. The Council also carries out its treasury management activities in accordance with the CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021.

The revised Code identifies three key principles:

1. The Council should put in place formal and comprehensive objectives, policies and practices, strategies and reporting arrangements for the effective management and control of their treasury management activities.

2. The Council's policies and practices should make clear that the effective management and control of risk are prime objectives of their treasury management activities and that responsibility for these lies clearly within their Council. The Council's appetite for risk should form part of its annual strategy and should ensure that priority is given to security and liquidity when investing funds.

3. The Council should acknowledge that the pursuit of value for money in treasury management, and the use of suitable performance measures, are valid and important tools for responsible Councils to employ in support of their business and service objectives; and that within the context of effective risk management, the Council's treasury management policies and practices should reflect this.

B. CIPFA PRUDENTIAL CODE AND CIPFA TREASURY MANAGEMENT CODE OF PRACTICE

1. This Council has adopted the Revised CIPFA Prudential Code 2021 and the Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021.

The CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021 stipulates that there should be Member scrutiny of the treasury policies, Member training and awareness and regular reporting.

The main objectives of the 2021 Codes are to ensure, within a clear framework, that the capital expenditure plans of local authorities are affordable and proportionate, that all borrowing liabilities are within prudent and sustainable levels, and that treasury management decisions are taken in accordance with good professional practice and in full understanding of the risks involved and how these risks will be managed to levels that are acceptable to the organisation.

The Council has adopted the four clauses shown in 1.1 as part of its financial procedure rules and the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee is responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of the treasury management strategy and policies, before making recommendations to Council.

The policies and parameters within this report provide an approved framework within which the officers undertake the day-to-day treasury activities.

- 1.1 The four clauses adopted are:

- (1) This Council will create and maintain, as the cornerstones for effective treasury management:
 - A treasury management policy statement, stating the policies, objectives and approach to risk management of its treasury management activities
 - Suitable Treasury Management Practices (TMPs), setting out the manner in which the Council will seek to achieve those policies and objectives, and prescribing how it will manage and control those activities
- (2) The Council is required to receive and approve, as a minimum, three main reports each year, which incorporate a variety of policies, estimates and actuals.

This Council will therefore receive reports on its treasury management policies, practices and activities, including an annual strategy in advance of the year, a mid year review report and a year end annual report, in the form prescribed in its TMPs. This treasury management policy and strategy report includes the prudential indicators (Appendix D) and the minimum revenue provision (MRP) policy (Appendix E).

- (3) This Council delegates responsibility for the implementation and monitoring of its treasury management policies and practices, and the quarter 1 and quarter 3 monitoring reports to the Cabinet, and for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions to the Director of Corporate Services, who will act in accordance with the Council's policy statement and TMPs and CIPFA's Standard of Professional Practice on Treasury Management.
- (4) The Council nominates the Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee to be responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of the treasury management strategy and policies.

1.2 **Treasury Management Practices (TMPs)**

The Schedule of TMPs is shown in Appendix A.

C. TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY

1. This Council defines its Treasury Management activities as:

The management of the Council's borrowing, investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions and the effective control of the risks associated with those activities, and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.

'Investments' in the definition above covers all the financial assets of the organisation, as well as other non-financial assets (including loans and other non-specified investments) which the organisation holds primarily for financial returns, such as investment property portfolios. This may therefore include investments which are not managed as part of normal treasury management or under treasury management delegations. All investments require consideration of appropriate investment management and the risk management framework under this CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021.

2. This Council regards the successful identification, monitoring and control of risk to be the prime criteria by which the effectiveness of its treasury management activities will be measured. Accordingly, the analysis and reporting of treasury management activities will focus on their risk implications for the Council.

The key principle of control of risk and optimising returns consistent with the organisation's risk appetite should be applied across all investment activities, including more commercially based investments.

3. This Council acknowledges that effective treasury management will provide support towards the achievement of its business and service objectives. It is therefore committed to the principles of achieving value for money in treasury management and to employing suitable comprehensive performance measurement techniques, within the context of effective risk management.

This policy holds indefinitely until circumstances dictate that a change is necessary. Any changes must be done before the beginning of the financial year to which it relates, or in exceptional circumstances within the year if approved by Council.

It is the Director of Corporate Services responsibility to implement and monitor the Treasury Management Policy, revising and re-submitting the Policy for consideration to the Cabinet and the Council if changes are required.

D. TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2023-2024

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Treasury Management Strategy provides details of the expected activities of the Treasury Management function in the financial year 2023-24.
- 1.2 The Council's financial procedure rules require an annual strategy to be reported to Council outlining the expected treasury activity for the forthcoming year. A key requirement of this report is to explain both the risks, and the management of the risks, associated with the treasury service. Further treasury reports will be produced during the year if the strategy needs updating and a year-end annual report on actual activity for the year.
- 1.3 The strategy covers:
 - Treasury Indicators and Limits on Activity
 - Prospects for interest rates
 - Borrowing Strategy
 - Investment Strategy
 - Debt Rescheduling and Premature Repayment of Debt
 - Performance Indicators
 - Treasury Management Advisers
 - Member and Officer Training

2. TREASURY INDICATORS AND LIMITS ON ACTIVITY

- 2.1 Under the Local Government Act 2003 and the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities 2021, local authority capital spending and its borrowing to fund that spending is limited by what is affordable, prudent and sustainable. The Prudential Code sets out a number of indicators that enables the authority to assess affordability and prudence. The Prudential Indicators that related to Treasury Management were reclassified as Treasury Indicators in recent revisions of the Codes and are:

- Upper Limit for Fixed Rate Exposure
- Upper Limit for Variable Rate Exposure
- Limits on the Maturity Structure of Borrowing
- Limits on Total Principal Sums Invested Long Term

The Prudential Code also requires that the total external debt does not exceed the Authorised Limit for external debt and only exceeds the Operational Boundary for external debt temporarily on occasions due to variation in cash flow. Full Council when approving the Budget sets the Authorised Limit and the Operational Boundary.

2.2 The Treasury Management Indicators for 2023-24 are:

2.2.1 Interest rate exposure limits for 2023-24 are estimated as follows:

Estimated Average Position for 2023-24			
	Fixed Interest Rate	Variable Interest Rate	Total
	£m	£m	£m
Borrowed	+463	+3	+466
Invested	(50)	(50)	(100)
Net Debt	+413	(47)	+366
Proportion of Total Net Debt	+113%	(13%)	+100%

It is recommended that the following maximum exposure limits are adopted:

	Fixed Interest Rate	Variable Interest Rate
Proportion of Total Net Debt	+150%	+5%

2.2.2 It is recommended that the following exposure limits for 2023-24, 2024-25 and 2025-26 are adopted:

Interest Rate Exposures	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
	Upper	Upper	Upper
	£m	£m	£m
Limits on fixed interest rates based on net debt	528	551	564
Limits on variable interest rates based on net debt	53	55	56

2.2.3 It is recommended that the Council sets upper and lower limits for the maturity structure of its borrowing as follows:

	Upper Limit	Lower Limit
Under 12 months	15%	0%
12 months to 2 years	15%	0%
2 years to 5 years	50%	0%
5 years to 10 years	50%	0%
10 years to 20 years	50%	0%
20 years to 30 years	50%	0%
30 years to 40 years	50%	0%
40 years and above	50%	0%

2.2.4 Maximum principal sums invested longer than 365 days:

	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
	£m	£m	£m
Maximum principal sums invested longer than 365 days	10	10	10

3. PROSPECTS FOR INTEREST RATES

Based on the average projection from a number of sources we can expect the trend in the Bank Rate, set by the Monetary Policy Committee, over the next three years to be as follows:

	Current	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
	%	%	%	%
Average Bank Rate	3.50	4.44	3.63	2.69

4. BORROWING STRATEGY 2022-23 – 2024-25

4.1 The current forecast for interest rates reflects a view that the MPC would be keen to further demonstrate its anti-inflation credentials by delivering a succession of rate increases. Bank Rate stands at 3.5% currently, but is expected to reach a peak of 4.5% in 2023.

Further down the road, the Bank of England will be keen to loosen monetary policy when the worst of the inflationary pressures are behind us – but that timing will be one of fine judgment: cut too soon, and inflationary pressures may well build up further; cut too late and any downturn or recession may be prolonged.

The CPI measure of inflation is currently 10.7%, despite the cost-of-living squeeze that is still taking shape, the Bank will want to see evidence that wages are not spiralling upwards in what is evidently a very tight labour market.

In the upcoming months, the forecasts will be guided not only by economic data releases and clarifications from the MPC over its monetary policies and the Government over its fiscal policies, but the on-going conflict between Russia and Ukraine.

There is expected to be a steady but slow fall in PWLB rates over the next few years, though there will be a lot of unpredictable volatility during this forecast period.

The uncertainty over future interest rates increases the risks associated with treasury activity. As a result the Council will continue to take a cautious approach to its treasury management strategy.

Against this background and the risks within the economic forecast, caution will be adopted with the 2023-24 treasury operations. The Director of Corporate Services will monitor interest rates in financial markets and adopt a pragmatic approach to changing circumstances.

The Director of Corporate Services, under delegated powers, will take the most appropriate form of borrowing depending on the prevailing interest rates at the time, taking into account the risks shown in the forecast above.

The option of delaying borrowing and utilising investment balances is likely to continue for the time being. However, this will be carefully reviewed to avoid incurring higher borrowing costs in later years due to an overall current trend of rising rates. This strategy reduces counterparty risk and hedges against any expected fall in investment returns.

The Council continues to maintain an under-borrowed position. This means that the capital borrowing need (the Capital Financing Requirement), has not been fully funded with loan debt as cash supporting the Council's reserves, balances and cash flow has been used as a temporary measure. This strategy is prudent as medium and longer dated borrowing rates are expected to fall from their current levels once prevailing inflation concerns are addressed by tighter near-term monetary policy.

The timing of any action is important, and the Director of Corporate Services and treasury advisers will monitor prevailing rates for any opportunities during the year.

The Council will be expected to borrow £36.4m for the Carmarthenshire led projects within the Swansea Bay City Deal partnership from 2023-24 to 2025-26.

4.2 The Council's agreed policy is to raise funding only from the following:

- Public Works Loan Board (PWLB)
- Market Long-Term
- Market Temporary
- Local Authorities
- Overdraft
- Internal Capital Receipts and Revenue Balances
- Leasing
- Welsh Government and Central Government

4.3 Borrowing in advance of need

The Council has some flexibility to borrow funds in advance of future years.

The Director of Corporate Services may do this under delegated power where, for instance, a sharp rise in interest rates is expected, and so borrowing early at fixed interest rates will be economically beneficial or meet budgetary constraints. Whilst the Director of Corporate Services will adopt a cautious approach to any such borrowing, where there is a clear business case for doing so borrowing may be undertaken to fund the approved capital programme or to fund future debt maturities.

Borrowing in advance will be made within the constraints that:

- It will be limited to no more than 50% of the expected increase in borrowing needed (CFR) over the three-year planning period; and
- Not to borrow more than 12 months in advance of need.

Risks associated with any advance borrowing activity will be appraised in advance and subsequently reported through the quarterly reporting mechanism.

5. **INVESTMENT STRATEGY 2023-24 – 2025-26**

5.1 **INTRODUCTION**

5.1.1 The Investment Strategy has been prepared with due regard to:

The Local Government Act 2003

Regulations made under the Local Government Act 2003 (as amended)

2021 Revised Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities

The Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2008

2021 Revised CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes

CIPFA Treasury Management Guidance Notes 2021

Welsh Government's Guidance on Local Government Investments ("the Guidance")

5.1.2 **Key Objectives**

The Council's investment strategy primary objectives are:

- safeguarding the repayment of the principal and interest of its investments on time
- ensuring adequate liquidity
- the investment return

The Authority will aim to achieve the optimum return (yield) on its investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity and with regard to the Authority's risk appetite. In the current economic climate, it is considered appropriate to maintain a degree of liquidity to cover cash flow needs.

5.1.3 Risk Benchmarking

A development in the revised Codes and the WG Investment Guidance is the consideration and approval of security and liquidity benchmarks. Yield benchmarks are currently widely used to assess investment performance. Discrete security and liquidity benchmarks are new requirements to the Member reporting, although the application of these is more subjective in nature. The approach taken is attached at Appendix B.

5.2 DEFINITIONS

5.2.1 A credit rating agency is one of the following three companies: Fitch Ratings Limited (Fitch), Moody's Investors Service Limited (Moody's) and Standard and Poors (S&P).

5.2.2 An investment is something held or a transaction which relies upon the power in section 12 of the 2003 Act. That is for any purpose relevant to its functions under any enactment, or for the purposes of the prudent management of its financial affairs. This covers all of the financial and non-financial assets a local authority has invested money into primarily or partially for the purpose of generating a surplus including investment property. As such this may include investments that are not managed as part of normal treasury management processes or under treasury management delegations (such as loans to third parties or other non specified investments).

5.3 INVESTMENT COUNTERPARTIES

The Director of Corporate Services maintains a counterparty list in compliance with the following criteria and revises the criteria and submits them to Council for approval as necessary. This criteria is separate to that which approves Specified and Non-Specified investments as it selects which counterparties the Council will approve rather than defining what its investments are. The rating criteria use the lowest common denominator method of selecting counterparties and applying limits. This means that the application of the Council's minimum criteria will apply to the lowest available rating for any institution. For instance if an institution is rated by all three agencies, two meet the Council's criteria, the other does not, the institution will fall outside the lending criteria.

5.3.1 Investment Counterparty Selection Criteria

The primary principle governing the Council's investment criteria is the security of its investments, although the yield or return on the investment is also a key consideration. To meet this main principle the Council will ensure:

- It maintains a policy covering both the categories of investment types it will invest in, criteria for choosing investment counterparties with adequate security, and monitoring their security. This is set out in the Specified and Non-Specified investment sections.
- It has sufficient liquidity in its investments. For this purpose it will set out procedures for determining the maximum periods for which funds may prudently be committed. These procedures also apply to the Council's prudential indicators covering the maximum principal sums invested.

5.3.2 **UK Banks 1 (Upper Limit)** – This Council will use banks which have at least the following Fitch, Moody’s and Standard & Poors ratings:

Short Term – F1, P-1, A-1

Long Term – AA-, Aa3, AA-

UK Banks 2 & UK Building Societies (Middle Limit) – This Council will use all UK Banks and Building Societies which have at least the following Fitch, Moody’s and Standard & Poors ratings:

Short Term – F1, P-1, A-1

Long Term – A, A2, A

UK Banks Part Nationalised – Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc (Royal Bank of Scotland and National Westminster Bank). These banks will be included if they continue to be part nationalised or they meet the ratings above.

At the time of writing the UK Government (HM Treasury) holds 45.97% stake within Royal Bank of Scotland Group.

UK part nationalised banks which are partly owned by the UK Government will be included as investment counterparties, as long as they continue to have appropriate UK Government support. UK Government backing provides a credit quality overlay above that provided by the credit rating agencies. The Royal Bank of Scotland Group plc will continue to be monitored for any further material reduction in state ownership or deterioration of the credit rating which suggests a reduction of its use or suspension from the counterparty list.

UK Banks 3 – The Council’s banker for transactional purposes if it falls below the above criteria. Balances will be minimised in both monetary size and time.

Money Market Funds – The Council will use AAA rated money market funds (MMFs) that are credit rated by at least two of the three credit rating agencies. These are pooled investment funds whose primary aims are liquidity and security and allow daily access to funds when required. Their operations are strictly regulated by the credit rating agencies and are operated by a financial institution but do not form part of that institution’s assets, should the sponsoring institution fail the MMF is entirely separate, effectively owned by the investors. These types of funds invest in a range of instruments and institutions and therefore provide a low risk spread of investments.

The Money Market Fund reforms in Europe came into force during 2018 and provide the Council the opportunity to invest into Public Debt Constant Net Asset Value (“CNAV”) MMFs and Low Volatility NAV (“LVNAV”) MMFs. This is consistent with our current strategic approach. The exceptional economic environment and low interest rate position has seen some MMFs changing operating procedures whilst keeping very low risk. The Director of Corporate Services will continue to utilise and monitor these instruments.

UK Government (including gilts and the DMADF)

Local Authorities (including Police & Fire Authorities)

5.3.3 Use of additional information other than credit ratings

Under the Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021 the Council is still required to supplement credit rating information. Whilst the above criteria relies primarily on the application of credit ratings to provide a pool of appropriate counterparties for officers to use, additional operational market information will be applied before making any specific investment decision from the agreed pool of counterparties. The market information (for example, negative rating watches/outlooks, individual/viability and support ratings) will be applied to compare the relative security of differing investment counterparties.

The UK Government, like other Western governments, have initiated market regulations which mean they may not bail out financial institutions in the future. This process included ring-fencing part of each bank and requiring greater capital buffers are held on the balance sheets. Whilst this is not a cause for concern, officers will continue to monitor the situation and, if necessary, make any changes to future investment strategies.

5.3.4 The time and monetary limits for institutions on the Council's Counterparty List are shown below: (Specified and Non-Specified Investments)

	Fitch	Moody's	Standard & Poors	Money Limit	Time Limit
Upper Limit Category - Short Term and Long Term	F1 AA-	P-1 Aa3	A-1 AA-	£10m	3 years
Middle Limit Category - Short Term and Long Term	F1 A	P-1 A2	A-1 A	£7m	1 year
Part Nationalised	-	-	-	£7m	1 year
Council's Banker (not meeting criteria above)	-	-	-	£3m	1 day
Other Institution Limits (per institution):					
- Any One Local Authority (including Police & Fire authorities)	-	-	-	£5m	1 year
- Any AAA Rated Money Market Fund CNAV	-	-	-	£10m	Daily Liquidity
- Any AAA Rated Money Market Fund LVNAV	-	-	-	£10m	Daily Liquidity
- Debt Management Account Deposit Facility (DMO)	-	-	-	£125m	6 months (max term specified by DMO)

5.3.5 There are two types of investments – Specified and Non Specified

5.3.5.1 Specified Investments

These investments are sterling investments of not more than one-year maturity. These are low risk assets where the possibility of loss of principal or investment income is small. These would include investments with:

- (1) The UK Government (such as the Debt Management Office, UK Treasury Bills or a Gilt with less than one year to maturity).
- (2) A local authority, police authority and fire authority.
- (3) Pooled investment vehicles (such as money market funds) that have been awarded a high credit rating by a credit rating agency.
- (4) A body that has high credit quality (which may include a high credit rating by a credit rating agency) such as a bank or building society. For this purpose a body with a short term rating of F1, P-1 or A-1 will be considered high quality.

5.3.5.2 Non Specified Investments

These investments are any other type of investment (i.e. not defined as Specified in 5.3.5.1 above).

The maximum sum and time limit for non specified investments is £5m per counterparty with a limit of 3 years.

Non specified investments will only be made in local authorities, bodies with a minimum long-term credit rating of AA– and in AAA rated money market funds.

Note: Barclays Bank plc are the Council's current bankers. If the bank's credit rating falls and it no longer meets the criteria for a specified investment no deposits will be made with the exception of the bank's overnight (Moneymaster) account. The average day to day operational balance on the account will not exceed £3m in these circumstances. See 5.3.4 above.

In the normal course of the council's cash flow operations it is expected that both Specified and Non-specified investments will be utilised for the control of liquidity as both categories allow for short term investments.

The use of longer term instruments (greater than one year from inception to repayment) will fall in the non-specified investment category. These instruments will only be used where the Council's liquidity requirements are safeguarded.

5.3.6 The Monitoring of Investment Counterparties

The credit ratings of counterparties are monitored regularly. The officers receive credit rating information (changes, rating watches and rating outlooks) from the treasury management advisers as and when ratings change, and counterparties are checked promptly. Occasionally ratings may be downgraded when an investment has already been made. The criteria used are such that a minor downgrading should not affect the full receipt of the principal and interest. Any counterparty failing to meet the criteria will be removed from the list immediately by the Director of Corporate Services, and if required new counterparties which meet the criteria will be added to the list.

The criteria for choosing counterparties set out above provide a sound approach to investment in "normal" market circumstances. Whilst Members are asked to approve this base criteria above, under "exceptional" market conditions the Director of Corporate Services will temporarily restrict further investment activity to those counterparties considered of higher credit quality than the minimum criteria set out for approval. These restrictions will remain in place until the banking system returns to "normal" conditions. Similarly the time periods for investments will be restricted.

This would potentially necessitate greater use of and/or increase(s) in the money limit(s) of the Debt Management Account Deposit Facility (DMADF – an account within the Government Debt Management Office (DMO) which accepts local authority deposits), Money Market Funds, guaranteed deposit facilities and strongly rated institutions offered support by the UK Government.

The present Schedule of Approved Counterparties for Lending 2023-2024 is shown in Appendix C.

5.4 **LIQUIDITY OF INVESTMENTS**

Investments are made for periods which coincide with the Council's cash flow requirements. When investing (within the risk criteria mentioned above), the aim is to achieve a level of return greater than would be secured by internal investments. The "90 day un compounded SONIA rate (backward looking)" is the recognised rate which the Council aims to exceed when lending money. This benchmark will be reviewed periodically with our advisors.

5.5 **INVESTMENTS THAT ARE NOT PART OF TREASURY MANAGEMENT ACTIVITY**

This Council recognises that investment in other financial assets and property primarily for financial return, taken for non-treasury management purposes, requires careful investment management. Such activity includes loans supporting service outcomes, investments in subsidiaries, and investment property portfolios.

This Council will ensure that all the organisation's investments are covered in the investment strategy or equivalent, and will set out, where relevant, the organisation's risk appetite and specific policies and arrangements for non-treasury investments. It will be recognised that the risk appetite for these activities may differ from that for treasury management.

The council will maintain a schedule setting out a summary of existing material investments, subsidiaries, joint ventures and liabilities including financial guarantees and the organisation's risk exposure.

Prior to making these investments, appropriate financial review procedures will be undertaken, including due diligence covering Profit and Loss, Balance Sheet, cash flow monitoring, etc, as appropriate.

This Council acknowledges that it is critical that due diligence processes and procedures reflect the additional risk an organisation is taking on. Due diligence procedures should ensure effective scrutiny of proposed investments, identification of risk to both capital and returns, any external underwriting of those risks, and the potential impact on the financial sustainability of the organisation if those risks come to pass. Where necessary independent and expert advice should be sought to ensure due diligence is suitably robust.

5.6 **CLIMATE CHANGE**

Where possible, consideration will be given to the disclosure of long term climate risks associated with investments, though with regard to treasury investments, any tangible information will be limited. Greater disclosure for non specified investments and loans to third parties may be appropriate depending on the type of activity.

6. **DEBT RESCHEDULING AND PREMATURE REPAYMENT OF DEBT**

As short term borrowing rates are likely to be considerably cheaper than longer term fixed interest rates, there may be potential opportunities to generate savings by switching from long term debt to short term debt. However, these savings will need to be considered in the light of the current treasury position and the size of the cost of debt repayment (premiums incurred).

The reasons for any rescheduling to take place will include:

- the generation of cash savings and / or discounted cash flow savings
- helping to fulfil the treasury strategy
- enhance the balance of the portfolio (amend the maturity profile and/or the balance of volatility).

Consideration will also be given to identify if there is any residual potential for making savings by utilising current investment balances to repay debt prematurely as short term rates on investments are likely to be lower than rates paid on current debt.

If rescheduling is to be undertaken, it will be reported to the Council at the earliest meeting following its action.

7. **PERFORMANCE INDICATORS**

The Code of Practice on Treasury Management requires the Council to set performance indicators to assess the adequacy of the treasury function over the year. These are distinct historic indicators, as opposed to the prudential indicators, which are predominantly forward looking. Examples of performance indicators used for the treasury function are:

- Debt (Borrowing) – New borrowing rate to outperform the average PWLB rate for the year
- Debt – Average weighted debt rate movement year on year
- Investments – Return on investment to outperform the 90-day un compounded SONIA rate (backward looking)

The results of these indicators will be reported in the Treasury Management Annual Report for 2023-24.

8. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT ADVISERS**

The Council has a contract with Link Group as its external treasury management advisor.

Link provides a range of services which include:

- Technical support on treasury matters, capital finance issues including IFRS 16 leases and the drafting of Member reports
- Economic and interest rate analysis
- Debt advisory services which includes advice on the timing of borrowing
- Debt rescheduling advice surrounding the existing portfolio
- Generic investment advice on interest rates, timing and investment instruments
- Credit ratings/market information service comprising the three main credit rating agencies

Under current market rules and the Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021 the responsibility for treasury management decisions remains with the Council at all times ensuring that undue reliance is not placed upon the external service providers.

The Council also recognises that there is value in employing external providers of treasury management services in order to acquire access to specialist skills and resources. The Council will ensure that the terms of their appointment and the methods by which their value will be assessed are properly agreed and documented, and subjected to regular review.

9. **MEMBER & OFFICER TRAINING**

The increased member consideration of treasury management matters and the need to ensure officers dealing with treasury management are trained and kept up to date requires a suitable training process for members and officers. This Council has addressed this important issue by:

- Reviewing the treasury management function and ensuring officers are suitably qualified
- Arranging external training for officers
- Arranging training for those members charged with governance of the treasury management function
- Recording training attendance

A Knowledge and Skills Register will be created and shared with officers and members involved in treasury management. The training needs of treasury management officers/ members will be periodically reviewed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1. That Scrutiny reviews and considers the content of the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2023-2024 and recommendations therein.**
- 2. That Scrutiny reviews and considers the Treasury Management Indicators, Prudential Indicators, the MRP Statement, the Investment Strategy and recommendations therein.**

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TREASURY MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (TMPs)

TMP1 RISK MANAGEMENT

General Statement

This Council regards a key objective of its treasury management activities to be the security of the principal sums it invests. Accordingly, it will ensure that robust due diligence procedures cover all external investment.

The Director of Corporate Services or those persons to which delegation has been made will design, implement and monitor all arrangements for the identification, management and control of treasury management risk, will report at least annually on the adequacy/suitability thereof, and will report, as a matter of urgency, the circumstances of any actual or likely difficulty in achieving the organisation's objectives in this respect, all in accordance with the procedures set out in TMP 6 Reporting requirements and management information arrangements. In respect of each of the following risks, the arrangements which seek to ensure compliance with these objectives are set out below.

1.1 Credit and Counterparty Risk Management

Explanation

The risk of failure by a third party to meet its contractual obligations to the Council under an investment, borrowing, capital, project or partnership financing, particularly as a result of the third party's diminished creditworthiness, and the resulting detrimental effect on the Council's capital or current (revenue) resources.

Council Action

This Council regards a key objective of its treasury management activities to be the security of the principal sums it invests. Accordingly, it will ensure that its counterparty lists and limits reflect a prudent attitude towards organisations with whom funds may be deposited, and will limit its investment activities to the instruments, methods and techniques referred to in TMP4 Approved instruments, methods and techniques and listed in the Annual Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Statement. It also recognises the need to have, and will therefore maintain, a formal counterparty policy in respect of those organisations from which it may borrow, or with whom it may enter into other financing arrangements.

A detailed list of counterparties to which the Council will lend is appended to the Annual Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Statement.

1.1.1 Policy on Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) considerations

Explanation

The Council's credit and counterparty policies should set out its policy and practices relating to ESG investment considerations. This is a developing area, and it is not implied that the Council's ESG policy will currently include ESG scoring or other real-time ESG criteria at individual investment level.

Council Action

For short term investments with counterparties, the Council utilises the ratings provided by Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's to assess creditworthiness, which already include analysis of ESG factors when assigning ratings. The Council will continue to evaluate additional ESG-related metrics and assessment processes that it could incorporate into its investment process and will update accordingly.

Typical ESG considerations are shown below. Please note that these are examples of ESG factors that are considered by the Credit Rating Agencies above when assigning credit ratings to counterparties. The credit ratings provided by these agencies are also used as the basis for selecting suitable counterparties by the Council:

- **Environmental:** Emissions and air quality, energy and waste management, waste and hazardous material, exposure to environmental impact.
- **Social:** Human rights, community relations, customer welfare, labour relations, employee wellbeing, exposure to social impacts.
- **Governance:** Management structure, governance structure, group structure, financial transparency.

1.2 **Liquidity Risk Management**

Explanation

The risk that cash will not be available when it is needed, that ineffective management of liquidity creates additional budgeted costs, and that the organisation's business/service objectives will therefore be compromised.

Council Action

The Council through its Treasury Management officers will ensure that at all times there will be a surplus of cash available which can be called upon at a moment's notice. Through its investments the Council holds cash on call account(s) which is available at any time. By the use of an effective projected cash flow exercise the likelihood of cash being not readily available when required would be rare. Robust daily, weekly, monthly and annual cash flow forecasting is in place. Call accounts and fixed term investments are utilised to their full potential.

This Council will only borrow in advance of need where there is a clear business case for doing so and will only do so for the current capital programme or to finance future debt maturities.

1.3 **Interest Rate Risk Management**

Explanation

The risk that fluctuations in the levels of interest rates create an unexpected or unbudgeted burden on the organisation's finances, against which the organisation has failed to protect itself adequately.

Council Action

This Council will manage its exposure to fluctuations in interest rates with a view to containing its interest costs, or securing its interest revenues, in accordance with the amounts provided in its budgetary arrangements as amended in accordance with TMP6 Reporting requirements and management information arrangements.

It will achieve this by the prudent use of its approved financing and investment instruments, methods and techniques, primarily to create stability and certainty of costs and revenues, but at the same time retaining a sufficient degree of flexibility to take advantage of unexpected, potentially advantageous changes in the level or structure of interest rates. This should be the subject to the consideration and, if required, approval of any policy or budgetary implications.

1.4 **Exchange Rate Risk Management**

Explanation

The risk that fluctuations in foreign exchange rates create an unexpected or unbudgeted burden on the organisation's finances, against which the organisation has failed to protect itself adequately. The Council is awarded grant from specific programmes in Euro currency and consequently receives grant income in this currency. Where the Council is a joint beneficiary and not a lead beneficiary, payments are received from the lead beneficiary in Euros into the Council's Sterling bank account.

There is a negligible risk where the Council is a joint beneficiary.

Where the Council is a lead beneficiary for a grant and is receiving income in Euro currency on behalf of other beneficiaries, the income is received into and payments made in Euros from the Euro bank account.

Council Action

Currently the Council only invests in sterling products. Hence, there is no exchange rate risk with regard these investments. For grants where the Council is lead beneficiary, receiving income in Euro currency on behalf of other beneficiaries and reimbursing them, exchange risk is mitigated by using a Euro bank account.

1.5

Inflation Risk Management

Explanation

Inflation risk, also called purchasing power risk, is the chance that the cash flows from an investment won't be worth as much in the future because of changes in purchasing power due to inflation.

Council Action

The Council will keep under review the sensitivity of its treasury assets and liabilities to inflation and will seek to manage the risk accordingly in the context of the whole Council's inflation exposures.

1.6

Refinancing Risk Management

Explanation

The risk that maturing borrowings, capital project or partnership financing cannot be refinanced on terms that reflect the provisions made by the organisation or those refinancings, both capital and current (revenue), and/or that the terms are inconsistent with prevailing market conditions at the time.

Council Action

This Council will ensure that its borrowing, private financing and partnership arrangements are negotiated, structured and documented, and the maturity profile of the monies so raised are managed, with a view to obtaining offer terms for renewal or refinancing, if required, which are competitive and as favourable to the Council as can reasonably be achieved in the light of market conditions prevailing at the time. It will actively manage its relationships with its counterparties in these transactions in such a manner as to secure this objective and will avoid

overreliance on any one source of funding if this might jeopardise achievement of the above.

1.7 **Legal and Regulatory Risk Management**

Explanation

The risk that an organisation itself, or a third party with which it is dealing in its treasury management activities, fails to act in accordance with its legal powers or regulatory requirements, and that the organisation suffers losses accordingly.

Council Action

This Council will ensure that all of its treasury management activities comply with its statutory powers and regulatory requirements. It will demonstrate such compliance, if required to do so, to all parties with whom it deals in such activities. In framing its credit and counterparty policy under TMP 1 credit and counterparty risk management it will ensure that there is evidence of counterparties' powers, authority and compliance in respect of the transactions they may effect with the organisation, particularly with regard to duty of care and fees charged.

This Council recognises that future legislative or regulatory changes may impact on its treasury management activities and, so far as it is reasonably able to do so, will seek to minimize the risk of these impacting adversely on the Council.

1.8 **Fraud, Error and Corruption, and Contingency Management**

Explanation

The risk that an organisation fails to identify the circumstances in which it may be exposed to the risk of loss through fraud, error, corruption or other eventualities in its treasury management dealings, and fails to employ suitable systems and procedures and maintain effective contingency management arrangements to these ends. It includes the area of risk commonly referred to as operational risk.

Council Action

This Council will ensure that it has identified the circumstances which may expose it to the risk of loss through fraud, error, corruption or other eventualities in its treasury management dealings. Accordingly, it will employ suitable systems and procedures, and will maintain effective contingency management arrangements, to these ends.

1.9

Price Risk Management

Explanation

The risk that, through adverse market fluctuations in the value of the principal sums the organisation invests, its stated treasury management policies and objectives are compromised, against which effects it has failed to protect itself adequately.

Council Action

This Council will seek to ensure that its stated treasury management policies and objectives will not be compromised by adverse market fluctuations in the value of the principal sums it invests, and will accordingly seek to protect itself from the effects of such fluctuations.

TMP2

PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT

Explanation

Performance measurement is a process designed to calculate the effectiveness of a portfolio's or manager's investment returns or borrowing costs and the application of the resulting data for the purposes of comparison with the performance of other portfolios or managers, or with recognised industry standards or market indices.

Council Action

This Council is committed to the pursuit of value for money in its treasury management activities, and to the use of performance methodology in support of that aim, within the framework set out in its treasury management policy statement.

Accordingly, the treasury management function will be the subject of ongoing analysis of the value it adds in support of the Council's stated business or service objectives. It will be the subject of regular examination of alternative methods of service delivery, of the availability of fiscal or other grant or subsidy incentives, and of the scope of other potential improvements.

TMP3

DECISION MAKING AND ANALYSIS

Explanation

It is vital that the treasury management decisions of organisations in the public service should be subjected to prior scrutiny. The treasury management strategy is approved annually by full council and supplemented by the provision of monitoring information and regular review by councillors in both executive and scrutiny functions. In addition, all records should be kept of the processes and the rationale behind those decisions. In respect of each decision made the Council should:

- 3.1 ensure that its results are within the limits set in the Prudential Indicators.
- 3.2 be clear about the nature and extent of the risks to which the Council may become exposed.
- 3.3 be certain about the legality of the decision reached and the nature of the transaction, and that all authorities to proceed have been obtained.
- 3.4 be content that the documentation is adequate both to deliver the Council's objectives and protect the Council's interest, and to deliver good housekeeping.
- 3.5 ensure that third parties are judged satisfactorily in the context of the Council's credit worthiness policies, and that limits have not been exceeded.
- 3.6 be content that the terms of any transactions have been fully checked against the market and have been found to be competitive.
- 3.7 in respect of borrowing the Council should evaluate the economic and market factors that influence the manner and timing of any decision to fund.
- 3.8 consider the merits and demerits of alternative forms of funding, including funding from revenue, leasing and private partnerships.
- 3.9 consider the alternative interest rate bases available, the most appropriate periods to fund and repayment profiles to use and, if relevant, the opportunities for foreign currency funding.
- 3.10 consider the ongoing revenue liabilities created, and the implications for the Council's future plans and budgets.
- 3.11 in respect of investment decisions, the Council should consider the optimum period, in the light of cash flow availability and prevailing market conditions.
- 3.12 consider the alternative investment products and techniques available, especially the implications of any which may expose the Council to changes in the value of its capital.

Council Action

This Council will maintain full records of its treasury management decisions, and of the processes and practices applied in reaching those decisions both for the purposes of learning from the past, and for demonstrating that reasonable steps were taken to ensure that all issues relevant to those decisions were taken into account at the time.

TMP4

APPROVED INSTRUMENTS, METHODS AND TECHNIQUES

Explanation

It is important that the Council is clear about the treasury management instruments, methods and techniques used as one of the main issues to be taken into account when reaching decisions in the need to protect public funds. This treasury management practice requires that the Council is equipped with the skills and experience to evaluate and control the risks and advantages associated with using the instruments available to it before including them in the approved list. Only instruments that the organisation has the skills and experience to evaluate should be included in their approved list, even if they are legally permitted to do so. This principle applies to investment, borrowing and other means of raising capital and project finance, and to the use of one off-market or financial derivative instruments such as interest rate swaps. The consideration of skills and experience is particularly critical where organisations request to be treated as professional clients under MIFID II. Designation under MIFID II should be endorsed by the treasury management strategy and regularly reviewed to ensure that designation remains appropriate.

Council Action

This Council will undertake its treasury management activities by employing only those instruments, methods and techniques detailed in the policy, and within the limits and parameters defined in Treasury Management Practice 1 Risk Management.

This Council has reviewed its classification with financial institutions under MIFID II and has set out in the schedule to this document those organisations with which it is registered as a professional client and those with which it has an application outstanding to register as a professional client.

TMP5

ORGANISATION, CLARITY AND SEGREGATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES, AND DEALING ARRANGEMENTS

Explanation

It is considered vital that there should be a clear division of responsibilities, included in a written statement of the duties of each post engaged in Treasury Management. It is especially important that staff responsible for negotiating and closing deals are not responsible for recording them, or for maintaining the cash book. This is in order to create a framework for internal check and reflects both the variety of activities in treasury management and the very often large sums involved.

Council Action

This Council considers it essential, for the purposes of the effective control and monitoring of its treasury management activities, for the reduction of the risk of fraud or error, and for the pursuit of optimum performance, that these activities are structured and managed in a fully integrated manner, and that there is at all times a clarity of treasury management responsibilities.

The principle on which this will be based is a clear distinction between those charged with setting treasury management policies and those charged with implementing and controlling these policies, particularly with regard to the execution and transmission of funds, the recording and administering of treasury management decisions, and the audit and review of the treasury management function.

If and when this Council intends, as a result of lack of resources or other circumstances, to depart from these principles, the responsible officer will ensure that the reasons are properly reported in accordance with Treasury Management Practice 6 Reporting requirements and management information arrangements, and the implications properly considered and evaluated.

The Director of Corporate Services will ensure that there are clear written statements of the responsibilities for each post engaged in treasury management, and the arrangements for absence cover.

The Director of Corporate Services will ensure there is a proper documentation for all deals and transactions, and that procedures exist for the effective transmission of funds.

TMP6

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS AND MANAGEMENT INFORMATION ARRANGEMENTS

Explanation

It is recommended that the Council's treasury management policy statement should specify formal reporting arrangements by the Director of Corporate Services to full Council, to include at a minimum, annual reports both before, mid-year and after the year-end.

Council Action

This Council will ensure that regular reports are prepared and considered on the implementation of its treasury management policies, on the effects of decisions taken and transactions executed in pursuit of those policies, on the implications of changes, particularly budgetary, resulting from regulatory, economic, market or other factors affecting its treasury management activities and on the performance of the treasury management function.

The following reporting process has been agreed by the Council:

6.1 Annual Reporting Requirements before the start of the year:

- Review of the Council's approved clauses, treasury management policy statement and practices
- Strategy report on proposed treasury management activities for the year, including the MRP and Investment policies
- Proposed Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators

6.2 Quarter 1 and Quarter 3 Reporting Requirements during the year which will be presented to both Cabinet and Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee:

- Activities undertaken
- Variations (if any) from agreed policies/practices
- Performance report
- Performance against Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators

6.3 Mid-Year Reporting Requirements during the year which will be presented to Council, Cabinet and Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee:

- Activities undertaken
- Variations (if any) from agreed policies/practices
- Performance report
- Performance against Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators

6.3 Annual Reporting Requirements after the year end

- Transactions executed and their revenue (current) effects

- Report on risk implications of decisions taken and transactions executed
- Compliance report on agreed policies/practices, and on statutory/regulatory requirements
- Performance report
- Report on compliance with Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021 recommendations
- Performance against Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators

By undertaking the above it will ensure, as a minimum, that those with ultimate responsibility for the treasury management function appreciate fully the implications of treasury management policies and activities, and that those implementing policies and executing transactions have properly fulfilled their responsibilities with regard to delegation and reporting.

TMP7 BUDGETING, ACCOUNTING AND AUDIT ARRANGEMENTS

Explanation

It is recommended that the Council brings together for budgeting and management control purposes, all of the costs and revenues associated with the Council's treasury management activities, regardless of how the Council has actually organised the treasury management function. In this context the Council's treasury management budgets and accounts should clearly identify.

- Manpower numbers and related costs
- Premises and other administrative costs
- Interest and other investment income
- Debt and other financing costs (or charges for the use of assets)
- Bank and overdraft charges
- Brokerages, commissions and other transaction-related costs
- External advisers' and consultants' charges

It is normal practice for the external auditor to have access to all papers supporting and explaining the operation and activities of the treasury management function. The

auditor will be expected to enquire as to whether the Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021 has been adopted, and whether its principles and recommendations have been implemented and adhered to. Any serious breach of the recommendations of the Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021 should be brought to the external auditor's attention.

Council Action

The Director of Corporate Services will prepare, and this Council will approve and, if necessary, from time to time will amend, an annual budget for treasury management, which will bring together all of the costs involved in running the treasury management function, together with associated income. The matters to be included in the budget will at minimum be those required by statute or regulation, together with such information as will demonstrate compliance with TMP1 Risk management, TMP2 Performance Measurement, and TMP4 Approved instruments, methods and techniques. The Director of Corporate Services will exercise effective controls over this budget and will report upon and recommend any changes required in accordance with TMP6 Reporting requirements and management information arrangements.

The calculation and compliance of Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators will be examined by Audit Wales.

This Council will account for its treasury management activities, for decisions made and transactions executed, in accordance with appropriate accounting practices and standards, and with statutory and regulatory requirements in force for the time being. This Council will ensure that its auditors, and those charged with regulatory review, have access to all information and papers supporting the activities of the treasury management function as are necessary for the proper fulfillment of their roles, and that such information and papers demonstrate compliance with external and internal policies and approved practices.

TMP8 CASH AND CASH FLOW MANAGEMENT

Explanation

The preparation of cash flow projections on a regular and timely basis provides a sound framework for effective cash management. Procedures for their preparation and review/modification, the periods to be covered, sources of data etc. should be an integral part of the schedules to the Council's approved treasury management practices.

Council Action

Unless statutory or regulatory requirements demand otherwise, all monies in the hands of the Council will be under the control of the Director of Corporate Services and will be aggregated for cash flow and investment management purposes. Cash flow projections will be prepared on a regular and timely basis, and the Director of Corporate Services will ensure that these are adequate for the purposes of monitoring compliance with Treasury Management Practice 1 (2) liquidity risk management.

TMP9 ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING

Explanation

Money Laundering has the objective of concealing the origin of money generated through criminal activity. Legislation has given a higher profile to the need to report suspicions of money laundering. Also, organisations such as Councils that undertake business under the Financial Services Act, or engage in certain specified activities, are required to set up procedures to comply with Anti-Money Laundering Regulations . These require Councils:

- To set up procedures for verifying the identity of clients
- To set up record-keeping procedures for evidence of identity and transactions
- To set up internal reporting procedures for suspicions, including the appointment of a money laundering reporting officer
- To train relevant employees in their legal obligations
- To train those employees in the procedures for recognising and reporting suspicions of money laundering

The Council should establish whether the Money Laundering Regulations apply to them. And it is for individual organisations to evaluate the prospect of laundered monies being handled by them, and to determine the appropriate safeguards to be put in place. It is the legal responsibility of every person engaged in treasury management, and indeed the Council, to make themselves aware of their personal responsibilities, but the Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021 recommends that Councils bring them to their staff's attention and consider the appointment of a member of staff to whom they can report any suspicions.

Council's Action

This Council is alert to the possibility that it may become the subject of an attempt to involve it in a transaction involving the laundering of money. Accordingly, it will maintain procedures for verifying and recording the identity of counterparties and reporting suspicions and will ensure that staff involved in this are properly trained.

TMP10 TRAINING AND QUALIFICATIONS

Explanation

All Councils should be aware of the growing complexity of treasury management. Modern treasury management demands appropriate skills, including a knowledge of money and capital market operations, an awareness of available sources of funds and investment opportunities, an ability to assess and control risk, and an appreciation of the implications of legal and regulatory requirements.

Every Council should provide the necessary training, having assessed the professional competence of both those involved in the treasury management function, and those with a policy, management or supervisory role. If necessary, they should ensure that access exists to the necessary expertise and skills from external sources. Arrangements to ensure the availability of suitable skills and resources should recognise the prospect that staff absences may, at times, demand that others step in who do not normally have involvement on a day-to-day basis with the treasury management function.

When feasible in the context of the size of a particular organisation and its treasury management function, career progression opportunities should be made available and succession issues should be properly addressed. Secondments of senior management to the treasury management function for appropriate periods may benefit the effectiveness of the function as a whole.

Council Action

This Council recognises the importance of ensuring that all staff involved in the treasury management function are fully equipped to undertake the duties and responsibilities allocated to them. It will therefore seek to appoint individuals who are both capable and experienced and will provide training for staff to enable them to acquire and maintain an appropriate level of expertise, knowledge and skills. The Director of Corporate Services will recommend and implement the necessary arrangements.

The Director of Corporate Services will ensure that council members tasked with treasury management responsibilities, including those responsible for scrutiny, have access to training relevant to their needs and those responsibilities.

Those charged with governance recognise their individual responsibility to ensure that they have the necessary skills to complete their role effectively.

A Knowledge and Skills Register will be created and shared with officers and members involved in treasury management. The training needs of treasury management officers/ members will be periodically reviewed.

TMP11 USE OF EXTERNAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

There are a number of service providers available to support the treasury management activities of public service organisations.

Perhaps the most active and long-standing of these have been the money-broking companies, whose role it is to act as intermediaries, making introductions between the prospective parties to transactions.

It is not the role of brokers to provide advice on the creditworthiness of those organisations to which public service organisations may lend. They may provide information already in the public domain but may not interpret it. The use of brokers is a matter for local decision. But it is considered good practice, if their services are used, to ensure that business is spread between a reasonable number of them, and certainly no fewer than two.

Direct dealing with principals is a not uncommon feature of treasury management in the public services which, if nothing else, can provide a useful check on brokers' performance.

An issue that causes some debate is whether it is necessary or desirable for public service organisations to tape conversations with brokers and principals. This is a matter for local discretion, particularly in the context of the costs involved, but brokers are required to maintain taped recordings which the Council can ask for copies if needed.

Most public service organisations require the services of clearing bankers, and a growing number make use of the services of a wider group of banks, particularly to meet their need for private finance and partnership funding. The principles of competition need to be recognised here, too. Certainly, it is highly desirable to subject clearing banking services to competition, perhaps as frequently as every three or four years.

There has also been a growing tendency for public service organisations to employ external advisers and consultants, often for the purposes of a general treasury management advisory service, but also for specific purposes, such as the securing and structuring of funding and for partnership arrangements. These, too, should be the subject of regular competitive tendering.

Further, many public service organisations employ the services of external investment managers to help manage their surplus cash and, where relevant, their pension fund, trust fund or endowment fund assets.

CIPFA advises all organisations using the services of external service providers to document comprehensively the arrangements made with them.

Council Action

The Council recognises that responsibility for treasury management decisions remain with the Council at all times. It recognises the potential value of employing external

providers of treasury management services, in order to acquire access to specialist skills and resources. When it employs such service providers, it will ensure it does so for reasons which will have been submitted to a full evaluation of the costs and benefits. It will also ensure that the terms of their appointment and the methods by which their value will be assessed are properly agreed and documented and subjected to regular review. And it will ensure, where feasible and necessary, that a spread of service providers is used, to avoid overreliance on one or a small number of companies.

TMP12 CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021 recommends that public service organisations state their commitment to embracing the principles of corporate governance in their treasury management activities, notably openness and transparency.

It is CIPFA's view that:

- adoption of the principles and policies promoted in the Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021 and in these guidance notes will in itself deliver the framework for demonstrating openness and transparency in an organisation's treasury management function
- publication of and free access to information about an organisation's treasury management transactions and other public documents connected with its treasury management activities will further assist in achieving this end
- establishing clear treasury management policies, the separation of roles in treasury management and the proper management of relationships both within and outside the organisation will establish the integrity of the function
- robust treasury management organisational structures, together with well-defined treasury management responsibilities and job specifications, will enhance accountability
- equality in treasury management dealings, absence of business favouritism and the creation of keen competition in treasury management will lay the groundwork for fairness.

The following paragraphs further emphasise the practices that CIPFA believes an organisation should employ to ensure the principles of corporate governance are successfully implemented.

Procedural responses

The policies, strategies of treasury management should link clearly to the organisation's other key policies and strategies. In the management of risk, in particular, treasury risk management should be an integral part of its overall risk

management processes, culminating in a well-defined, organisation-wide strategy for the control of risk and contingency planning.

The management and administration of treasury management should be robust, rigorous and disciplined. Over the years, some of the most significant examples of treasury mismanagement, in both the public services and the private sector, have resulted from procedural indiscipline. This has frequently been as a result of a failure to apply otherwise well-documented management and administration systems, or through failures in transmission, documentation or deal recording processes.

Reporting arrangements should be applied so as to ensure that those charged with responsibility for the treasury management policy have all the information necessary to enable them to fulfil openly their obligations; and that all stakeholders are fully appraised of and consulted on the organisation's treasury management activities on a regular basis.

The procedures for monitoring treasury management activities through audit, scrutiny and inspection should be sound and rigorously applied, with an openness of access to information and well-defined arrangements for the review and implementation of recommendations for change.

The application and interpretation of performance data should be clear, concise and relevant to the organisation's treasury management activities.

Stewardship responsibilities

The Director of Corporate Services should ensure that systems exist to deliver proper financial administration and control, and a framework for overseeing and reviewing the treasury management function.

As regards a control framework, an organisation's formal policy documents should define clearly procedures for monitoring, control and internal check.

With regard to delegation it is vitally important that those involved in the implementation of treasury management policies and the execution of transactions are unambiguously empowered to undertake their tasks, and that reporting lines are well-defined.

An organisation's adoption of and adherence to the Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021 should be widely broadcast, as should the principles of the Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021 and the method of its application in the organisation.

The organisation's procedures for reviewing the value of the treasury management function, and the implementation of opportunities for improvement, should be both continuous and open to examination.

The governance of others

In respect of the organisation's dealings with counterparties, external service providers and other interested parties, clear procedures should exist to enable the organisation, as far as is practicable, to monitor their adherence to the legal or regulatory regimes under which they operate.

Council Action

This Council is committed to the pursuit of proper corporate governance throughout its businesses and services, and to establishing the principles and practices by which this can be achieved. Accordingly, the treasury management function and its activities will be undertaken with openness and transparency, honesty, integrity and accountability.

In respect of external service providers appropriate financial review procedures will be undertaken, including Profit and Loss, Balance Sheet and cash flow monitoring.

This Council has adopted and has implemented the key recommendations of the Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2021. This is considered vital to the achievement of proper corporate governance in treasury management, and the Director of Corporate Services will monitor and, if and when necessary, report upon the effectiveness of these arrangements.

SECURITY, LIQUIDITY AND YIELD BENCHMARKING

Member reporting on the consideration and approval of security and liquidity benchmarks will continue. These benchmarks are targets and so may be breached from time to time. Any breach will be reported, with supporting reasons in the Annual Treasury Management Report.

1. Security

In context of benchmarking, assessing security is a subjective area to assess. Security is currently evidenced by the application of minimum credit quality criteria to investment counterparties, primarily through the use of credit ratings supplied by the three main credit rating agencies (Fitch, Moody's and Standard and Poor's). Whilst this approach embodies security considerations, benchmarking levels of risk is more problematic. One method to benchmark security risk is to assess the historic level of default against the minimum criteria used in the Council's investment strategy.

The table below shows average defaults for differing periods of investment grade products for each Fitch/Moody's and Standard & Poor's long term rating category.

Long term rating	1 year	2 years	3 years
AAA	0.04%	0.09%	0.17%
AA (includes AA- and AA+)	0.02%	0.04%	0.09%
A	0.05%	0.14%	0.25%
BBB	0.13%	0.36%	0.63%
BB	0.62%	1.77%	3.05%
B	2.73%	6.69%	10.34%
CCC	19.10%	27.28%	32.05%

The Council's minimum long term rating criteria is currently "AA-" for any investment greater than one year and "A" for any investment up to one year. The average expectation of default for a one, two or three year investment in a counterparty with a "AA-" long term rating would be approximately 0.02% of the total investment and the average expectation of default for a one year investment in a counterparty with a "A" long term rating would be 0.05% of the total investment. This is only an average, any specific counterparty loss is likely to be higher, but these figures do act as a proxy benchmark for risk across the portfolio.

The Council's maximum security risk benchmark for the whole portfolio, when compared to these historic default tables, is:

- **0.17% historic risk of default when compared to the whole portfolio.**

In addition, the security benchmark for each individual year is:

	1 year	2 years	3 years
Maximum	0.04%	0.09%	0.17%

These benchmarks are embodied in the criteria for selecting cash investment counterparties and these will be monitored and reported to Members in the Annual Treasury Management Report. As this data is collated, trends and analysis will be collected and reported. Where a counterparty is not credit rated a proxy rating will be applied in conjunction with our advisers, considering the regulatory environment and financial standing of an organisation.

2. **Liquidity**

This is defined as “having adequate, though not excessive cash resources, borrowing arrangements, overdrafts or standby facilities to enable it at all times to have the level of funds available to it which are necessary for the achievement of its business/service objectives” (Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice). In respect of this area the Council seeks to maintain:

- Bank overdraft facility - £0.5m
- Liquid short term deposits of at least £10m available immediately on call

The availability of liquidity and the term risk in the portfolio can be benchmarked by the monitoring of the Weighted Average Life (WAL) of the portfolio – shorter WAL would generally embody less liquidity risk. In this respect the proposed benchmark is to be used:

- **WAL benchmark is expected to be 0.5 years, with a maximum of 1 year.**

3. **Yield**

Benchmarks are currently widely used to assess investment performance. The local measure of the yield benchmark is:

- Investments – Return on investments to outperform the 90-day uncompounded SONIA rate (backward looking)

Security and liquidity benchmarks are intrinsic to the approved treasury strategy through the counterparty selection criteria and some of the prudential indicators. Proposed benchmarks for the cash type investments are shown above and form the basis of reporting in this area.

**Schedule of Approved Counterparties for Lending 2023-2024
(as at 10th January 2023)**

	<u>Fitch</u>		<u>Moody's</u>		<u>Standard and Poors</u>		<u>Money</u>	<u>Time</u>
	<u>Short Term</u>	<u>Long Term</u>	<u>Short Term</u>	<u>Long Term</u>	<u>Short Term</u>	<u>Long Term</u>	<u>Limit £'m</u>	<u>Limit years</u>
<u>Upper Limit</u>	<u>F1</u>	<u>AA-</u>	<u>P-1</u>	<u>Aa3</u>	<u>A-1</u>	<u>AA-</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>3</u>
UK Banks								
<u>Middle Limit</u>	<u>F1</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>P-1</u>	<u>A2</u>	<u>A-1</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1</u>
UK Banks								
Banco Santander Central Hispano Group - Santander UK Plc	F1	A+	P-1	A1	A-1	A	7	1
Barclays Bank	F1	A+	P-1	A1	A-1	A	7	1
HSBC Bank Plc	F1+	AA-	P-1	A1	A-1	A+	7	1
Lloyds Banking Group - Bank of Scotland Plc - Lloyds Bank	F1 F1	A+ A+	P-1 P-1	A1 A1	A-1 A-1	A+ A+	7 7	1 1
Standard Chartered Bank	F1	A+	P-1	A1	A-1	A+	7	1
UK Building Societies								
Nationwide	F1	A	P-1	A1	A-1	A+	7	1
<u>UK Banks Part Nationalised</u>								
Royal Bank of Scotland Group - National Westminster Bank Plc - Royal Bank of Scotland Plc	F1 F1	A+ A+	P-1 P-1	A1 A1	A-1 A-1	A A	7 7	1 1
<u>Council's Banker</u>							3	1 day
<u>Other Institution Limits</u>								
<u>Local Authorities</u>								
Any One Local Authority (including police and fire authority)							5	1
<u>Money Market Funds</u>								
Any AAA Rated Money Market Fund CNAV							10	1
<u>Money Market Funds</u>								
Any AAA Rated Money Market Fund LVNAV							10	1
Debt Management Office							125	6 months (max term specified by DMO)

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1. THE PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS

The following indicators are based on the figures put forward within the Capital and Revenue Plans set out in this report.

1.1. Affordability**1.1.1. Estimates of ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream**

This indicator identifies the trend in the cost of capital (borrowing and other long term obligation costs net of investment income) against the net revenue stream.

	2023/24 Estimate	2024/25 Estimate	2025/26 Estimate
Non-HRA	3.49%	3.81%	3.64%
HRA (inclusive of settlement figure)	28.10%	28.56%	28.90%

The estimates of financing costs include current commitments and the proposals in this budget report. These figures are however subject to change as and when the final funding approvals come through from the Welsh Government. Updates will be provided if these figures require amendment.

The indicators show the proportion of income taken up by capital financing costs. Indicative Aggregate External Finance (AEF) for 2024/2025 is a 2.4% increase on 2023/2024 and for 2025/2026 a 2.5% estimated increase on 2024/2025.

1.2. Prudence**1.2.1. The Capital Financing Requirement (CFR)**

This prudential indicator is the Council's Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). The CFR is the total outstanding capital expenditure which has not yet been paid for from either revenue or capital resources. It is essentially a measure of the Council's underlying borrowing need. The capital expenditure above, which has not immediately been paid for, will increase the CFR.

The Council is asked to approve the CFR projections below:

£m	2023/24 Estimate	2024/25 Estimate	2025/26 Estimate
Non-HRA	313	326	327
HRA	168	178	192
HRAS*	67	66	65
TOTAL	548	570	584

*Housing Revenue Account Subsidy Buyout of £79m in April 2015.

1.2.2. The Gross Borrowing and Capital Financing Requirement indicator

The control mechanism to limit external debt.

Estimated gross borrowing for the four years starting with the last full year (2021/22) must not exceed the CFR in the medium term but can in the short term due to cash flows.

Ensures borrowing is only for approved capital purposes.

The Director of Corporate Services reports that the Council complied with this requirement in 2021/22 and does not envisage difficulties for the future. This view takes into account current commitments, existing plans, and the proposals in the budget report.

Details of Gross Borrowing:

£m	2021/22 Actual	2022/23 Estimate	2023/24 Estimate	2024/25 Estimate	2025/26 Estimate
Debt at 1 st April	414	401	410	466	524
Expected Change in Debt	(13)	9	56	58	60
Gross debt at 31st March	401	410	466	524	584
CFR	494	508	548	570	584
Under / (Over) borrowing	93	98	82	46	0

1.2.3. External Debt

The Authorised Limit and the Operational Boundary:

The Authorised Limit prudential indicator represents a control on the overall level of borrowing. This represents a limit beyond which external debt is prohibited, and this limit needs to be set or revised by full Council. It reflects the level of external debt which, while not desired, could be afforded in the short term, but is not sustainable in the longer term. This is the statutory limit determined under section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2003. The Government retains an option to control either the total of all councils' plans, or those of a specific council, although no control has yet been exercised.

£m	2023/24 Estimate	2024/25 Estimate	2025/26 Estimate
Borrowing	602.3	627.3	641.4
Other Long- Term Liabilities	0.5	0.5	0.5
Total	602.8	627.8	641.9

The Operational Boundary for external debt is based on the same estimates as the authorised limit, but without the additional headroom for unusual and unexpected cash movements and equates to the level of projected external debt. This is clearly subject to the timing of borrowing decisions.

£m	2023/24 Estimate	2024/25 Estimate	2025/26 Estimate
Borrowing	547.9	569.9	583.9
Other Long-Term Liabilities	0.1	0.1	0.1
Total	548.0	570.0	584.0

The Council is asked to approve both the Authorised Limit and the Operational Boundary shown above.

1.2.4. Actual External Debt

The Council's actual external debt at 31st March 2022 was £401m. The actual external debt is not directly comparable to the authorised limit and operational boundary because the actual external debt reflects the position at a point in time.

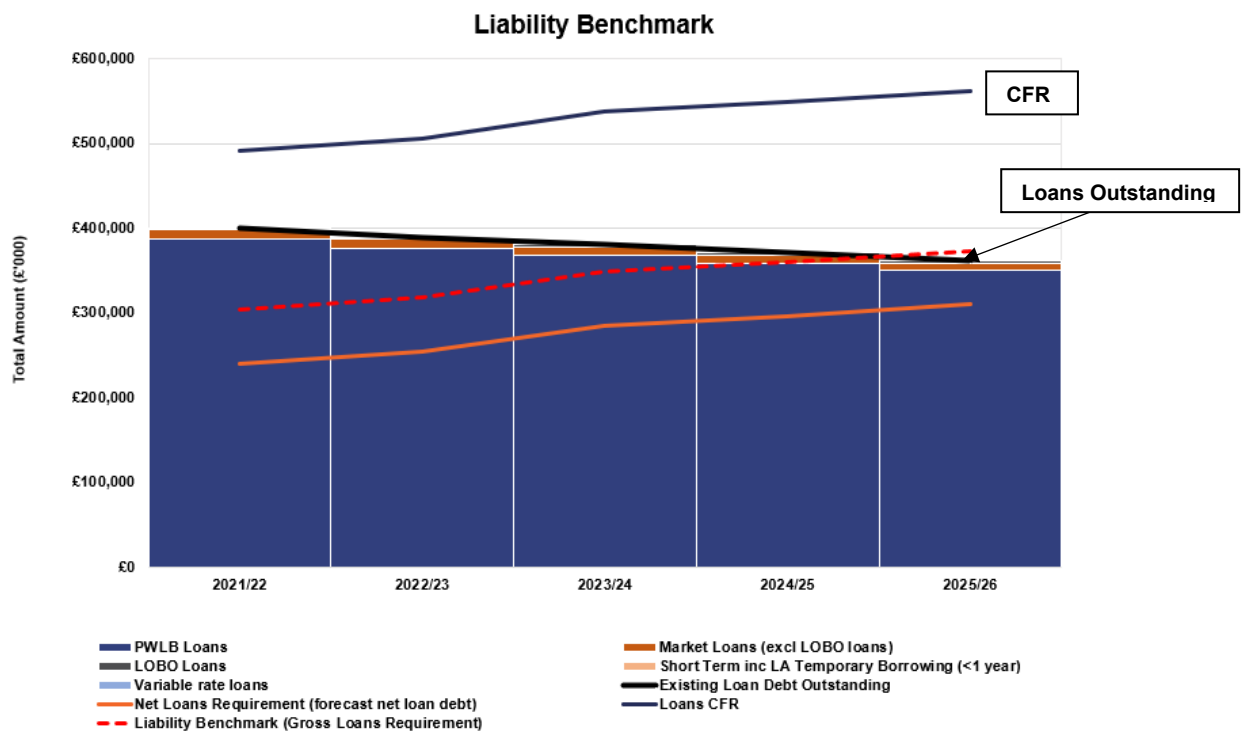
1.3. Liability Benchmark

1.3.1. Liability Benchmark

A new Prudential Indicator for 2023/24 is the Liability Benchmark. The Council is required to estimate and measure the Liability Benchmark for the forthcoming year and the following two years. The liability benchmark is a measure of how well the existing loans portfolio matches the Council's planned borrowing needs.

There are four components to the Liability Benchmark:

- **Existing Loan Debt Outstanding:** The Council's existing loans that are still outstanding in future years.
- **Loans CFR:** This is calculated in accordance with the loans CFR definition in the Prudential Code and projected into the future based on approved prudential borrowing and planned Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP).
- **Net Loans Requirement:** This will show the Council's gross loan debt less treasury management investments at the last financial year-end, projected into the future and based on its approved prudential borrowing, planned MRP and any other major cash flows forecasted.
- **Liability Benchmark:** This equals net loans requirement plus short-term liquidity allowance.



The purpose of this prudential indicator is to compare the Council’s existing loans outstanding (the black line) against its future need for loan debt, or liability benchmark (the red line). If the black line is below the red line, the existing portfolio outstanding is less than the loan debt required, and the Council will need to borrow to meet the shortfall. If the black line is above the red line, the Council will (based on its current plans) have more debt than it needs, and the excess will have to be invested. The chart therefore tells a Council how much it needs to borrow, when, and to what maturities to match its planned borrowing needs.

It is recommended that the above Prudential Indicators are adopted and that the Director of Corporate Services is given delegated authority by Council to change the balance between borrowing and other long-term liabilities.

Other long-term liabilities are other credit arrangements, which are, in the main, finance leases. These indicators may be affected once information is collated during 2023/24 for the new lease requirements under IFRS 16.

MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION (MRP) STATEMENT

The Council is required to pay off an element of the accumulated General Fund capital spend each year (the CFR) through a revenue charge (the minimum revenue provision – MRP), although it is also allowed to undertake additional voluntary payments if required (voluntary revenue provision – VRP). It is also required to charge an element of the accumulated HRA capital spend in line with Welsh Government requirements.

Welsh Government regulations were issued with effect from 1st April 2010 which require the full Council to approve a Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Statement in advance each year. A variety of options were provided to councils to replace the existing Regulations, as long as there is a prudent provision.

Council have already approved the following approaches for calculating MRP:

Supported Borrowing and Capital Expenditure

Based on CFR

The calculation is based on 2.5% of the opening Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) each year on a straight-line basis.

Unsupported Borrowing

Asset Life Method

The future borrowing value of unsupported borrowing is to be charged to revenue over 40 years or by the estimated economic life of the asset if shorter, please see below.

Capital Expenditure on the Modernising Education Programme (MEP) and Local Government Borrowing Initiative (LGBI) 21st Century Schools is classed as Unsupported Borrowing. It is estimated that asset lives within these programmes are 30 years and this is the period that will be used to determine the MRP.

Asset lives within the Fleet Programme range from 1 to 10 years, these are the periods that will be used to determine the MRP.

Local Government Borrowing Initiative (LGBI) Highways. It is estimated that asset lives within this programme are 20 years and this is the period that will be used to determine the MRP.

Housing Revenue Account

The calculation is based on 2% of the opening Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) each year.

Loans to Third Parties

The Council occasionally lends capital loans to third parties which forms part of the Capital Financing Requirement. The Council's policy is not to apply Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) to the loans but apply the loans repayments from the third party (which are capital receipts), in lieu of MRP. In the event of any likely default, the Council will calculate an Expected Credit Loss and apply MRP accordingly.

Swansea Bay City Deal

MRP on the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR) associated with City Deal expenditure financed by external loans will be profiled to match external grants received. If the grants are delayed the MRP will be reprofiled accordingly.

Council is recommended to approve the following MRP Statement for 2023/2024:

For Supported and Unsupported Capital Expenditure, the MRP policy will continue to follow the approaches above.

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 30th JANUARY 2023

REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2022/23

THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE IS ASKED TO:

- Receive the Authority's Corporate Budget Monitoring Report, the Chief Executive and Corporate Services departmental reports and the Savings Monitoring report and considers the budgetary position.

Reasons:

- To provide Scrutiny with an update on the latest budgetary position, as at 31st October 2022, in respect of 2022/23.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDERS:

- Cllr. Darren Price (Leader)
- Cllr. Alun Lenny (Resources)
- Cllr. Phillip Hughes (Organisation and Workforce)

<p>Directorate: Corporate Services</p> <p>Name of Director of Service: Chris Moore</p> <p>Report Author: Chris Moore</p>	<p>Designation:</p> <p>Director of Corporate Services</p>	<p>Tel No. / E-Mail Address:</p> <p>01267 224120 CMoore@carmarthenshire.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
30th JANUARY 2023

Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2022/23

The Financial Monitoring report is presented as follows:

Revenue Budgets

Appendix A – Authority Corporate Budget Monitoring Report

Overall, the monitoring report forecasts an overspend for the year at departmental level of £4,844k, with a forecast overspend on the Authority's net revenue budget of £3,473k.

At a high level this is due to a combination of:

- nationally negotiated pay offers at much higher levels than budgeted, for which additional governmental funding has not been provided. High level estimates are that this could be £7.1m above budget. This is offset by an estimated £0.8m due to the reversal of the health and social care levy from November 2022, which reduces the forecast for employers National Insurance contributions
- overspends in service areas driven by increased demand combined with reduced grant funding versus previous years, particularly Learning Disabilities and Children's Service
- a sustained reduction in commercial income, covering car parks, leisure centres and school meals
- capital financing underspends due to scheme delays and reduced need to borrow

As part of the 2022/23 budget setting process the Authority agreed a £3m in year contingency budget which is currently held centrally which provides a partial offset to the general pressures above. £200k has been used to offset the increase in fuel prices impacting on School Transport.

Appendix B

Chief Executive and Corporate Services detailed variances for information purposes only.

Capital Budgets

Appendix C – Corporate Capital Programme Monitoring 2022/23

The current capital programme is based on information available as at the end of October 2022.

Appendix C shows a forecasted net spend of £64,369k compared with a working net budget of £148,334k, giving a -£83,965k variance. This is a significant reappraisal of the forecasted outturn to that reported following the June Monitoring. This is mainly owing to reprofiling and slippage of City Deal, Towy Valley Path, MEP and HRA programme. In part, some of the slippage is because of contractor capacity issues.

The net budget includes the original H.R.A. and General Fund capital programmes approved by Council on 2nd March and slippage from 2021/22. Some of the budgets have also been amended to account for differences in actual grant allocations compared with

the anticipated allocations at the time the programme was approved, and new grant awards received during the year to date.

Appendix D

Details the main variances within each department.

New Projects and virements to note and approve for the current year:

Leisure:

Savings of £35k and £80k against the budgets of the County Museum Roof and Carmarthenshire Archives – Y Stordy, respectively have been transferred to Oriel Myrddin. All projects are reported as part of the Libraries and Museums main project.

A £130k revenue contribution to complete the works at Parc Howard Museum. This takes the approved budget for this project in 2022/23 to £262k.

An award of £180k Access Improvement grant funding has been received for the Morfa Bacas Path project. This funding replaces the Active Travel funding which was withdrawn because of delays to the project.

Education and Children:

A new award of £2,198k for 2022/23 funding for the roll-out of free school meals for primary aged children.

Additional capital funding from the Welsh Government for works at the Carmarthen Community Education Centre of £325k.

The budget against the Strade Welsh Language Immersion Centre has been temporarily removed because it is still awaiting an official award from the Welsh Government. It was previously uploaded based on an indicative award in error.

A total of £658k childcare places grant has been withdrawn by the Welsh Government because of delays with two schemes. No expenditure has been incurred against these schemes by the authority.

Regeneration:

Additional grant funding for the Cross Hands East Plot 3 Development of £3,900k has been awarded and received from the Welsh Government which covers the additional costs of the project. The Authority has not had to provide additional match funding to secure this grant.

Transformation Strategy Fund budget has now been allocated to specific projects within the Regeneration capital programme, namely:

£100k Cross Hands East Plot 3 Development, £1,400k to Pendine Attractor Project in gap funding which will be reimbursed by insurance monies in future, £261k to the Transforming Towns budget.

Appendix E

Details a full list of Chief Executive and Regeneration schemes, respectively. There are no Corporate Services schemes.

Savings Report

Appendix F

The Savings Monitoring report.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES – A list of the main variances is attached to this report.

IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: Chris Moore Director of Corporate Services

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	YES

3. Finance

Revenue

Overall, the Authority is forecasting an overspend of £3,473k.

Corporate Performance & Resources Services are projecting to be under the approved budget by £1,411k.

Capital

The capital programme shows a variance of -£83,965k against the 2022/23 approved budget.

Savings Report

The expectation is that at year end £417k of Managerial savings against a target of £484k are forecast to be delivered. There were no Policy savings put forward.

7. Physical Assets

The expenditure on the capital programme will result in the addition of new assets or enhancement to existing assets on the authority's asset register.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE / CONSULTED?
YES

(Include any observations here)

Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information

**List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:
THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW:**

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
2022/23 Budget	Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen
2022-27 Capital Programme	Online via corporate website – Minutes of County Council Meeting 2 nd March 2022

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES
CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023
COUNCIL'S BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2022/23

Director and Designation	Author & Designation	Telephone No	Directorate
C Moore, Director of Corporate Services	R Hemingway, Head of Financial Services	01267 224886	Corporate Services

Table 1

Forecasted for year to 31st March 2023

Department	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Controllable Expenditure	Controllable Income	Net Non Controllable	Total Net	Controllable Expenditure	Controllable Income	Net Non Controllable	Total Net		
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		
Chief Executive	39,330	-17,973	-4,140	17,218	40,306	-19,479	-4,140	16,687	-530	-636
Communities	176,323	-70,529	13,795	119,589	179,666	-71,238	13,795	122,223	2,634	1,723
Corporate Services	76,849	-46,040	-1,693	29,116	71,903	-41,975	-1,693	28,235	-881	-739
Education & Children (incl. Schools)	201,385	-36,897	22,906	187,394	234,810	-66,626	22,906	191,091	3,696	4,585
Environment	142,539	-90,007	13,252	65,784	143,737	-91,280	13,252	65,709	-75	-2
Departmental Expenditure	636,426	-261,446	44,121	419,101	670,423	-290,599	44,121	423,945	4,844	4,930
Unfunded pay offers (above budget):										
NJC Staff (employers' offer)				0				6,500	6,500	6,500
Teachers (IWPRB recommendation)				0				600	600	600
Reversal of Employers N.I. increase November 2022				0				-800	-800	0
Corporate Contingency				3,000				200	-2,800	-3,000
Capital Charges/Interest/Corporate				-17,694				-20,194	-2,500	-1,500
Levies and Contributions:										
Brecon Beacons National Park				154				152	-2	-2
Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Authority				11,170				11,170	0	0
West Wales Corporate Joint Committee				155				155	0	0
Net Expenditure				415,885				421,728	5,842	7,528
Transfers to/from Departmental Reserves										
- Chief Executive				0				265	265	318
- Communities				0				-982	-982	-982
- Corporate Services				0				440	440	370
- Education & Children (incl Schools)				0				-2,131	-2,131	-2,431
- Environment				0				38	38	1
Net Budget				415,885				419,359	3,473	4,804

Chief Executive Department
Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Chief Executive	859	0	-845	14	727	-4	-845	-122	-136	-144
People Management	4,687	-1,585	-2,619	484	6,040	-2,641	-2,619	780	297	326
ICT & Corporate Policy	6,500	-964	-4,785	752	6,518	-1,016	-4,785	718	-34	-90
Admin and Law	4,926	-838	703	4,791	4,782	-955	703	4,530	-261	-244
Marketing & Media	2,826	-713	-1,430	683	2,295	-526	-1,430	338	-345	-259
Statutory Services	1,444	-346	281	1,380	1,599	-570	281	1,310	-70	-151
Regeneration	18,088	-13,529	4,555	9,114	18,344	-13,767	4,555	9,133	19	-74
GRAND TOTAL	39,330	-17,973	-4,140	17,218	40,306	-19,479	-4,140	16,687	-530	-636

Chief Executive Department - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

Main Variances

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000			
Chief Executive							
Chief Executive-Chief Officer	240	0	215	0	-25	Savings on supplies & services	-26
Chief Executive Business Support Unit	618	0	512	-4	-111	3 staff on secondment, no commitment to year end.	-119
People Management							
Agile Working Project	0	0	66	0	66	Unfunded post	66
Payroll	872	-365	921	-356	58	Past year staffing efficiencies of £79k not being met. Partially offset by vacancies during the year.	80
People Services – HR	964	-275	1,030	-258	84	Temporary additional resource to deal with increased recruitment along with past year efficiencies of £48k not being met.	83
Employee Well-being	815	-359	807	-330	21	Shortfall on past year income target efficiency of £40k, partially offset by in year vacancies.	11
Organisational Development	468	-40	517	-7	81	Training efficiency target not currently being met (£33k). Investors in People assessment one off costs of £26k, Unfunded Welsh Language post previously funded from Risk Management fund.	106
DBS Checks	137	0	112	-2	-27	Review of DBS checks process & budget to be undertaken	-26
Other variances					13		6
ICT & Corporate Policy							
Chief Executive-Policy	722	-32	721	-63	-33	Vacant posts in early part of year now filled with the exception of one, estimated to be filled from January.	-23
Other variances					-1		-67
Admin and Law							
Democratic Services	2,133	-290	1,972	-315	-187	Underspend on members pay and allowances £143k, travelling costs £18k, along with an additional £26k of income for work undertaken for the HRA.	-168
Democratic Services - Support	526	0	508	-30	-48	Additional income for work undertaken for the Wales Pension Partnership £22k & PCC £8k, savings on supplies & services £18k.	-49
Land Charges	103	-275	131	-267	36	Shortfall in income due to low demand for searches	35
Legal Services	2,092	-273	2,046	-263	-36	Vacancies in early part of the year now filled. 3 current vacancies estimated to be filled from January.	-35
Central Mailing	46	0	31	-8	-23	Saving on franking machine leasing costs	-23
Other variances					-4		-4

Chief Executive Department - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

Main Variances

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000			
Marketing & Media							
Marketing and Media	409	-171	430	-32	160	Overspend on salaries pending divisional realignment. Loss of income streams from external partners (e.g. ERW £80k). Looking at alternative potential partnership arrangements.	161
Translation	595	-53	457	-53	-138	2 vacant posts pending divisional realignment & number of staff working reduced hours, savings on supplies & services.	-122
Customer Services Centres	1,203	-362	939	-358	-260	Part year vacancies in Contact Centre and Hwbs. Constantly out to advert due to difficulty in filling posts.	-240
Yr Hwb, Rhydaman a Llanelli	174	-96	74	-53	-57	2 vacant posts pending divisional realignment, offset partly by less income from decreased demand for desk rent space.	-58
Marketing Tourism Development	405	-5	355	-5	-50	Underspend on salaries pending divisional realignment	0
Statutory Services							
Registrars	525	-343	611	-493	-64	Increase in anticipated income due to large number of ceremonies taking place.	-104
Coroners	369	0	405	0	37	£20k one off costs in relation to one particular case, large increase in undertakers fees, mortuary fees and post mortem fees in line with other local authorities.	-3
Electoral Services - Staff	265	0	223	0	-42	1 post currently vacant, unlikely to be filled until January.	-45
Regeneration & Property							
Regeneration Management	308	0	349	0	41	Overspend due to cessation in staff time recharged to projects	1
Property	1,195	-91	1,063	-16	-57	4 posts currently vacant estimated to be filled from January. These vacancies and an underspend on supplies and services are covering a shortfall on income generated from external work undertaken.	-37
County Farms	79	-351	93	-308	57	Income target not met due to current economic climate, as no scope to increase tenancy agreements at the moment	46
Other variances					-20		-85
Grand Total					-530		-636

Department for Communities
Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Adult Services										
Older People	71,112	-25,954	3,557	48,715	70,723	-26,047	3,557	48,234	-482	-833
Physical Disabilities	8,478	-1,909	286	6,855	8,271	-2,105	286	6,452	-404	-411
Learning Disabilities	43,973	-11,718	1,438	33,692	45,884	-11,320	1,438	36,002	2,309	1,422
Mental Health	11,531	-4,324	233	7,440	11,670	-4,303	233	7,600	160	558
Support	11,293	-7,375	1,167	5,085	11,317	-7,450	1,167	5,034	-51	-42
Homes & Safer Communities										
Public Protection	3,506	-1,384	532	2,655	3,456	-1,240	532	2,748	93	76
Council Fund Housing	9,216	-7,994	798	2,020	11,281	-9,925	798	2,155	135	156
Leisure & Recreation										
Leisure & Recreation	17,213	-9,870	5,783	13,126	17,065	-8,849	5,783	13,999	873	797
GRAND TOTAL	176,323	-70,529	13,795	119,589	179,666	-71,238	13,795	122,223	2,633	1,723

Department for Communities - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022
Main Variances

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000			
Adult Services							
Older People							
Older People - Commissioning	4,520	-912	4,386	-888	-110	Recruitment issues re Social Workers. Additional budget has been allocated in 2022/23 and a wide range of initiatives are being launched to increase recruitment.	-227
Older People - LA Home Care	9,265	-4,286	9,589	-4,489	120	Recruitment issues in respect of care workers has increased the reliance on Agency staff	88
Older People - Direct Payments	1,285	-313	1,434	-313	149	Demand for Direct Payments remains high as an alternative to other service provision	143
Older People - Private Home Care	9,515	-2,638	9,873	-2,638	358	Additional costs in the Home Care Framework due to supporting rural provision	157
Older People - Enablement	2,060	-485	1,504	-471	-541	Demand for reablement services remains high but capacity to deliver is constrained by staff recruitment issues. A wide range of initiatives have been launched to address this.	-447
Older People - Day Services	895	-84	493	-18	-335	Provision of day services is reduced compared to pre-pandemic levels.	-309
Older People - Other variances					-123		-238
Physical Disabilities							
Phys Dis - Private/Vol Homes	1,574	-313	1,314	-313	-260	Demand for residential placements is lower than pre-pandemic. Demand levels are increasing slowly.	-257
Phys Dis - Group Homes/Supported Living	1,447	-174	960	-174	-488	Demand for Supported Living placements is lower than pre-pandemic.	-506
Phys Dis - Direct Payments	3,024	-603	3,505	-603	481	Demand for Direct Payments remains high as an alternative to other service provision	456
Phys Dis - Other variances					-138		-104
Learning Disabilities							
Learn Dis - Employment & Training	1,921	-279	1,574	-57	-124	Provision of LD day services is reduced compared to pre-pandemic levels.	-123
Learn Dis - Private/Vol Homes	12,296	-4,482	13,333	-4,482	1,037	Whilst demand for LD Residential Placements has not increased significantly, the budget has been reduced to reflect efficiency proposals. The delivery of this has been delayed.	978
Learn Dis - Direct Payments	4,490	-572	4,952	-572	462	Demand for Direct Payments remains high as an alternative to other service provision	459
Learn Dis - Group Homes/Supported Living	10,967	-2,295	12,861	-2,295	1,894	Whilst demand for LD Supported Accommodation has not increased significantly, the budget has been reduced to reflect efficiency proposals. The delivery of this has been delayed.	1,209

Department for Communities - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

Main Variances

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000			
Learn Dis - Day Services	2,672	-464	2,311	-260	-157	Provision of LD day services is reduced compared to pre-pandemic levels.	-209
Learn Dis - Private Day Services	1,179	-84	866	-84	-313	Provision of LD day services is reduced compared to pre-pandemic levels.	-483
Learn Dis - Adult Placement/Shared Lives	2,940	-1,992	2,331	-1,937	-554	Provision of LD day services which forms part of the Shared Lives Services, is reduced compared to pre-pandemic levels.	-318
Learn Dis - Other variances					64		-91
Mental Health							
M Health - Commissioning	1,558	-154	1,213	-143	-335	Recruitment issues re Social Workers. Additional budget has been allocated in 2022/23 and a wide range of initiatives are being launched to increase recruitment.	-330
M Health - Private/Vol Homes	6,653	-3,377	7,180	-3,377	527	Whilst demand for MH Residential Placements has not increased significantly, the budget has been reduced to reflect efficiency proposals. The delivery of this has been delayed.	469
M Health - Group Homes/Supported Living	1,648	-466	1,840	-466	192	Accommodation and Efficiency project plans for strategic longer term future accommodation options as well as current client group has experienced delays due to Covid. The Progression & Review Team will prioritise Rightsizing in Supported Living in 2022.	438
M Health - Community Support	777	-78	571	-78	-206	Community Support Provision is reduced compared to pre-pandemic levels.	-83
M Health - Other variances					-18		63
Support							
Other Variances - Support					-51		-42
Homes & Safer Communities							
Public Protection							
PP Business Support unit	160	0	135	0	-26	Under on salaries & supplies & services	-25
Public Health	300	-15	321	-6	29	Over on salaries and repairs	3
Noise Control	227	0	173	-0	-54	Under on salaries	-40
Animal Welfare	87	-87	88	-41	47	Under achievement of income, mainly due to reduction in licensed dog breeders	49
Public Health Services Management	54	-115	132	-115	78	Over on salaries	19
Safeguarding, Licensing & Financial Investigation	96	0	64	0	-32	Under on salaries & Supplies & Services	-53
Fair Trading	231	-68	225	-4	58	Under achievement of income	-11

Department for Communities - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

Main Variances

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000			
Financial Investigator	124	-527	172	-527	48	This is an assumption that court process for outstanding cases will be part delivered during 2022/23. There is a significant risk that some cases will be carried forward to 2023/24	170
Other Variances					-55		-36
Council Fund Housing							
Home Improvement (Non HRA)	662	-273	692	-339	-36	Over achievement of Income	19
Homelessness	169	-70	95	-15	-20	Underspent on Expenditure	2
Non HRA Re-Housing (Inc Chr)	175	0	143	0	-33	Reduced employee costs	-21
Temporary Accommodation	533	-113	1,329	-653	256	Increased pressure on service previously funded through Hardship Grant. Alternative accommodation options currently being developed e.g. more dispersed /smaller schemes	255
Other variances					-33		-99
Leisure & Recreation							
Millennium Coastal Park	264	-109	268	-91	21	Shortfall of income to budget for Parking £14k and Concessions £4k plus numerous minor expenditure overspends	-8
Burry Port Harbour	21	-107	28	-131	-16	Excess income achieved to budget for Parking	-2
Discovery Centre	6	-90	6	-109	-19	Excess income achieved to budget for Parking	-4
Pendine Outdoor Education Centre	557	-375	382	-191	10	Income shortfall for Board & Accom (COVID19 recovery) £187k offset by reduced staffing requirement £113k along with various underspends in Premises and S & S headings	26
Newcastle Emlyn Sports Centre	337	-192	302	-135	21	Income shortfall (COVID19 recovery) £57k offset by in year vacancies / lower use of casual staff £23k, along with various underspends in S & S headings	26
Carmarthen Leisure Centre	1,513	-1,616	1,412	-1,316	198	Income shortfall (COVID19 recovery) £299k offset by in year vacancies / lower use of casual staff £107k, along with various underspends in S & S headings	151
Amman Valley Leisure Centre	960	-856	982	-721	157	Income shortfall (COVID19 recovery) £135k, along with Utilities £27k and R & M £52k, offset in part with in year vacancies / lower use of casual staff £42k and numerous minor expenditure underspends	112
Llandovery Swimming Pool	376	-259	367	-146	104	Income shortfall (COVID19 recovery) £113k offset with by in year vacancies / lower use of casual staff	97
Swendraeth Sports Centre	0	0	-37	0	-37	Credit relating to backdated NNDR	-37
Actif Facilities	249	0	260	-26	-15	External funding received which was not budgeted	-0
Actif health, fitness and dryside	213	-135	189	-87	22	Income shortfall (COVID19 recovery) £47k offset by in year vacancies / lower use of casual staff £25k	40

Department for Communities - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

Main Variances

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000			
Catering - Sport Centres	320	-297	261	-208	30	Income shortfall (COVID19 recovery) £89k offset by in year vacancies / lower use of casual staff £16k and underspend in cost of Catering £43k	5
Sport & Leisure General	840	-46	833	-54	-14	In year staff vacancies	-0
St John Lloyd - 2G Pitch	62	-14	40	-13	-22	Numerous minor expenditure underspends	-23
Llanelli Leisure Centre	1,297	-1,094	1,324	-871	249	Income shortfall (COVID19 recovery) £223k and Premises Mtce £61k offset by in year vacancies / lower use of casual staff £11k, along with various underspends in S & S headings	299
Outdoor Recreation - Staffing costs	423	0	471	0	47	Forecast overspend due to planned installation of transformer to safeguard future Service delivery	-4
Pembrey Country Park Restaurant	519	-382	591	-489	-35	Forecast to over achieve income to budget	-44
Carmarthen Museum, Abergwili.	187	-20	176	-21	-13	Numerous minor underspends in Supplies & Services	-20
Museum of speed, Pendine	89	-27	82	-2	18	Unable to achieve income target as site closed for most of 2022/23	17
Museums General	158	0	231	0	73	Unable to achieve vacancy factor, a legacy of undelivered PBB's and unfunded post	72
Arts General	16	0	2	0	-14	Vacant post being held pending restructure	-15
St Clears Craft Centre	111	-39	62	-18	-29	Vacant posts being held pending potential community run venture	-27
Laugharne Boathouse	157	-117	150	-64	46	Income shortfall (COVID19 recovery)	39
Lyric Theatre	417	-315	368	-252	13	Income shortfall (COVID19 recovery)	-33
Y Ffwrnes	813	-486	762	-394	41	Income shortfall (COVID19 recovery) £91k, offset by forecast underspend on Performance Fees £11k, cost of Catering £18k and numerous expenditure underspends	65
Entertainment Centres General	564	-63	487	-23	-37	In year staff vacancies	-7
Attractor - Management	0	0	46	0	46	Forecast cost of Project Manager post (10 mths) not funded	27
Attractor - Hostel	0	0	21	0	21	Expenditure relating to Y Caban not budgeted	0
Attractor - Externals	7	-58	9	-13	46	Parking income budgeted for Attractor site not fully achievable due to delays in contract completion	34
Leisure Management	436	-3	406	-3	-30	In year staff vacancy	-28
Other Variances					-10		39
Grand Total					2,633		1,723

Corporate Services Department
Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Financial Services	12,750	-2,788	-863	9,098	11,959	-2,443	-863	8,653	-445	-460
Revenues & Financial Compliance	64,099	-43,252	-830	20,018	59,944	-39,532	-830	19,582	-436	-279
GRAND TOTAL	76,849	-46,040	-1,693	29,116	71,903	-41,975	-1,693	28,235	-881	-739

Corporate Services Department - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

Main Variances

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000			
Financial Services							
Treasury and Pension Investment Section	277	-200	271	-217	-24	Additional income for work undertaken for Wales Pension Partnership	-25
Systems and Accounts Payable	581	-79	545	-81	-37	5 Vacant posts during the year. All 5 filled from November	-68
Audit Fees	325	-96	300	-96	-25	A proportion of audit fees are chargeable directly to grants	-25
Bank Charges	66	0	52	0	-14	Reduced costs following new bank contract	-9
Miscellaneous Services	7,016	-125	6,588	-39	-342	£329k underspend on pre LGR pension costs along with a £13k underspend on Treasury Management expenses.	-329
Other variances					-3		-4
Revenues & Financial Compliance							
Procurement	638	-36	580	-36	-58	Savings from staff member working reduced hours, maternity leave and a number of posts currently at lowest point on the salary scale	-38
Audit	511	-20	492	-39	-38	1 vacant post estimated to be filled in November, 1 recently filled post and one post working at reduced hours	-40
Risk Management	158	-1	140	-1	-18	Staff member working reduced hours	1
Business Support Unit	149	0	135	0	-13	2 staff members on lowest points of the scale	-3
Corporate Services Training	62	0	36	0	-26	Less planned training during the year	-11
Local Taxation	986	-763	972	-802	-53	Savings on 4 vacant posts to date. Two have been filled, and two remain vacant and are being covered by agency following failure to recruit.	-50
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	17,249	0	17,008	0	-241	Underspend based on latest demand figures.	-241
Rent Allowances	41,323	-41,540	37,206	-37,311	112	Projections on expenditure based on 2021/22 claims	112
Rates Relief	289	0	184	0	-105	Low take-up anticipated in 2022/23. Based on current demand.	-105
Housing Benefits Admin	1,702	-753	1,455	-632	-125	DWP Housing Benefit Admin grant received is £212k less than budget. There is a net £217k underspend on pay costs, due to 11 current vacant posts, estimated to be filled from January, which is offset by the cost of agency staff who have been covering some of these posts due to difficulties in recruiting replacements. We have also received £120k of one-off grants from DWP during the year to complete specific projects.	-74
Revenues	1,033	-139	1,158	-136	129	£100k increase in bank charges over budget due to increased number of card payments. £82k one-off essential software upgrade. Offset by short term vacant posts that are being covered by agency following failure to recruit, along with 3 recent vacant posts that are estimated to be filled from January.	168
Grand Total					-881		-739

Department for Education & Children
Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Schools Delegated Budgets	150,322	-22,286	0	128,035	157,712	-22,286	0	135,425	7,390	7,650
Transfer from Reserves				0		-7,390		-7,390	-7,390	-7,650
Director & Strategic Management	1,608	0	-109	1,499	1,368	0	-109	1,259	-240	-825
Education Services Division	5,905	-1,579	17,587	21,913	7,885	-3,684	17,587	21,787	-125	1,167
Access to Education	3,496	-103	1,339	4,733	11,529	-7,660	1,339	5,208	476	812
School Improvement	2,271	-119	460	2,613	11,182	-9,020	460	2,622	10	12
Curriculum & Wellbeing	9,721	-4,300	895	6,316	10,433	-5,247	895	6,081	-235	143
Children's Services	28,062	-8,510	2,734	22,286	34,701	-11,339	2,734	26,096	3,811	3,276
TOTAL excluding schools	51,064	-14,611	22,906	59,359	77,098	-36,950	22,906	63,055	3,696	4,585
GRAND TOTAL	201,385	-36,897	22,906	187,394	234,810	-66,626	22,906	191,091	3,696	4,585

Department for Education & Children - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

Main Variances

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000			
Director & Strategic Management							
Director & Management Team	1,238	0	1,003	0	-235	£225k earmarked for 2023/24 efficiency this year reducing the department's in year overspend. £590k has been vired to ALN since August.	-817
Other variances					-5		-8
Education Services Division							
School Redundancy & EVR	2,133	0	1,980	0	-153	Low number of school redundancies due to the surpluses brought forward & continuation of RRRS grant	-104
Early Years Non-Maintained Provision	364	0	912	-828	-280	WG grant funding received where already committed core budget. In year underspend supporting department pressures	-0
Additional Learning Needs	3,298	-1,579	4,883	-2,856	308	New ALN pressures in excess of the already committed budget for school provision. Growth budget and reserve funding has been applied to specific pressures within the service since August	1,271
Access to Education							
School Admissions	420	0	343	0	-77	Part year vacant posts currently being recruited to	-48
School Modernisation	142	0	296	-44	110	£101k closed schools & £9k additional transport costs following school reorganisations	67
School Meals & Primary Free Breakfast Services	2,934	-103	10,890	-7,616	442	Based on existing costs and income levels for school meals £299k. Primary breakfast contributions for care element shortfall £90k & increased costs of food & labour £53k	793
School Improvement							
Other variances					10		12
Curriculum and Wellbeing							
Education Other Than At School (EOTAS)	3,506	-226	3,945	-616	48	Increased agency costs due to staff absences across the 4 settings	244
Youth Support Service & Participation	2,239	-1,217	2,089	-1,207	-140	Number of part year staff vacancies, delays in recruitment and additional short term grants being utilised	-130
School Information Systems	370	-28	253	-28	-117	Part year vacant posts being reviewed as part of current restructure	-27

Department for Education & Children - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

Main Variances

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Oct 2022	Notes	Aug 2022
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Forecasted Variance for Year		Forecasted Variance for Year
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
European Funded Projects	315	-314	208	-259	-51	Project led by Pembs CC ended in May 2021, final grant income is still outstanding. £51k underspend on the flat rate allowance for indirect costs has been achieved due to the project not fully spending 15% allowance provided to cover any indirect or ineligible items. The project could still be subject to further European audits	0
Other variances					26		56
Children's Services							
Commissioning and Social Work	7,854	-109	8,960	-199	1,016	Increased agency staff costs forecast £585k re additional demand & difficulty recruiting permanent staff, legal costs £348k with additional external provision due to increased complexity of cases and increased demand for assistance to clients and their families £170k. This is partly offset by other net savings - £87k - staffing budget due to vacancies as not able to recruit and additional grant income	957
Corporate Parenting & Leaving Care	1,037	-124	937	-124	-101	Maximisation of grant income supporting priorities the service had already identified and have staff working on	-94
Fostering & Other Children Looked After Services	4,276	0	5,029	0	753	Specialist support (mainly agency) for 2 young people with highly complex needs £381k (1 additional since August). Boarded out costs re demand, allowance increases and additional payments due to connected carers £163k. Enhancement costs re more complex children in placements £46k, transport to school costs £44k re demand & increased fuel costs, one off IT equipment purchases for Carers £36k, an extension for 1 family £32k, panel costs £15k, promotion & marketing costs £13k. Increase in Special Guardianship Orders (SGO's) £23k	579
Adoption Services	564	0	1,203	-548	90	Increased staffing costs, including agency staff re ongoing service demands and maternity leave cover required for 3 members of the team	170
Out of County Placements (CS)	446	0	1,467	-31	990	3 new highly complex placements in 2022/23	881
Residential Units	849	-365	2,369	-1,159	725	£432k Garreglwyd - significant agency staff costs forecast due to difficulty recruiting to vacant posts & sickness cover. This projected outturn position assumes £616k income from Hywel Dda University Health Board. £293k forecast overspend at the new Ty Magu Residential Unit - increased staffing costs re complex placements £253k and other estimated running costs £40k, with no budget or grant funding currently available for non-staffing costs	464
Respite Units	1,025	-12	1,053	-4	36	Emergency placement at Llys Caradog, requiring specialist, high cost agency staff support	7
Supporting Childcare	1,321	-710	1,618	-1,036	-29	Maximisation of grant income supporting priorities the service had already identified and have staff working on	-20

Department for Education & Children - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

Main Variances

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Oct 2022	Notes	Aug 2022
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Forecasted Variance for Year		Forecasted Variance for Year
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Short Breaks and Direct Payments	689	-59	1,193	-235	328	Increased demand for Direct Payments since change in legislation, further pressures linked to COVID19 & lack of commissioned services available £294k. Also increased demand for 1-2-1 support under Short Breaks due to lack of available location based services £206k, partly offset by recently awarded WG grant - £172k	434
Other Family Services incl Young Carers and ASD	946	-577	1,032	-724	-61	Maximisation of grant income, partially offsetting overspends elsewhere within the division	-103
Children's Services Mgt & Support (inc Eclipse)	1,165	-164	1,538	-473	64	Increased number of Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker Children, with projected costs in excess of expected income from the Home Office	-44
Other Variances					-2		44
Grand Total					3,696		4,585

Environment Department
Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Business Support & Performance	4,273	-3,878	492	887	4,403	-3,972	492	923	36	62
Waste & Environmental Services	28,964	-4,796	1,399	25,568	29,283	-5,029	1,399	25,653	85	-117
Highways & Transportation	56,947	-33,203	10,132	33,875	58,017	-33,993	10,132	34,155	280	762
Property	46,776	-45,801	899	1,874	46,599	-45,750	899	1,749	-125	-411
Place and Sustainability	5,578	-2,329	330	3,579	5,435	-2,536	330	3,229	-350	-298
GRAND TOTAL	142,539	-90,007	13,252	65,784	143,737	-91,280	13,252	65,709	-75	-2

Environment Department - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022

Main Variances

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000			
Business Support & Performance							
Departmental - Core	45	0	77	0	32	£14k health and wellbeing staff; £18k recruitment costs for Director post	32
Other variances					4		30
Waste & Environmental Services							
Waste & Environmental Services Unit	-12	0	-77	0	-65	Interim staffing complement, recruitment will be reviewed in the third quarter.	-70
SAB - Sustainable Drainage approval Body Unit	132	-134	130	-85	47	Anticipated income not materialised - Dependent on number of submissions and market buoyancy of development projects	40
Environmental Enforcement	589	-19	554	-21	-37	Underspend relates to vacated post. Work underway to assess future needs.	-28
Green Waste Collection	574	-446	629	-545	-45	Increased customer base	-47
Waste Services	0	0	199	0	199	Sickness absence related agency cover and driver support services	0
Other variances					-14		-13
Highways & Transportation							
Departmental Pooled Vehicles	0	0	17	0	17	Under-utilisation of pool vehicles	17
Transport Strategic Planning	419	0	435	0	16	Staff costs incurred, funding subject to review of levelling up project management allocation	4
School Transport	12,570	-946	13,315	-1,411	280	£285k due to estimated additional tender price increases and increased demand for ALN.	587
Traffic Management	579	-189	966	-629	-54	Net increase in Traffic Regulation orders income	-78
Car Parks	2,113	-3,348	1,814	-2,832	217	Parking income not achieving income targets due to reduced footfall in town centres. WG reimbursement is no longer available.	407
Nant y Ci Park & Ride	85	-34	119	-57	12	Reduced demand on the service	19
Road Safety	248	-5	158	0	-85	Vacant post estimated to be filled in January, reduced hours for another post and an estimated £43k officers' time recharged to grants.	-78
School Crossing Patrols	160	0	127	0	-33	Several posts have become vacant and will not be refilled	-26
Highway Lighting	2,608	-1,221	2,208	-850	-28	Vacant Assistant public lighting engineer post estimated to be filled by December 2022	-28
Public Rights Of Way	1,043	-75	958	-57	-67	Savings on pay due to reduced hours; vacancies during the first and second quarters	-66
Other variances					5		5

Environment Department - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st October 2022
Main Variances

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY 30th JANUARY 2023

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Oct 2022	Notes	Aug 2022
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Forecasted Variance for Year £'000		Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
Property							
Property Division Business Unit	140	0	0	0	-140	No commitment for HOS post	-140
Property Maintenance Operational	34,800	-35,749	34,910	-35,996	-137	Estimated sub-contractor costs based on 81% of works programme, this may vary as the year progresses	-371
Schools Handyvan Service	253	-249	301	-240	57	More work being identified within schools which require to be undertaken	0
Pumping Stations	55	0	103	0	48	Additional cost due to further testing at Llandovery pumping station	46
Property Design - Business Unit	2,851	-3,219	3,278	-3,596	50	Purchasing of equipment to facilitate hybrid working and return to the office. Increased non chargeable time due to increased absence as a result of sickness, maternity and paternity leave.	90
Other variances					-3		-36
Place and Sustainability							
Planning Admin Account	331	-17	401	-124	-37	Due to underspend on supplies & services	-22
Building Control	687	-509	654	-492	-16	Due to vacant post to be filled in January	53
Minerals	333	-198	292	-170	-13	Due to vacant post now filled	-14
Development Management	1,839	-948	1,682	-1,038	-247	£284k underspend on vacant posts offset by additional agency, fees & travel	-263
Conservation	485	-13	457	-13	-27	Some officers not on top of grade	-27
Other Variances					-10		-25
Grand Total					-75		-2

Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Report
Budget Monitoring as at 31st October 2022 - Detail Monitoring

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000			
Chief Executive											
Chief Executive-Chief Officer	240	0	-260	-20	215	0	-260	-45	-25	Savings on supplies & services	-26
Chief Executive Business Support Unit	618	0	-585	34	512	-4	-585	-77	-111	3 staff on secondment, no commitment to year end.	-119
Chief Executive Total	859	0	-845	14	727	-4	-845	-122	-136		-144
People Management											
TIC Team	242	-61	-221	-40	235	-61	-221	-47	-7		-6
Agile Working Project	0	0	0	0	66	0	0	66	66	Unfunded post	66
Social Care Workforce Development Programme	724	-417	1	308	730	-417	1	314	6		-0
Practice Placements	68	-67	0	1	79	-78	0	1	0		0
Health & Social Care Induction Training Pilot	0	0	0	0	8	-8	0	0	0		0
Business & Projects Support	255	0	-275	-21	261	0	-275	-14	6		5
Payroll	872	-365	-285	221	921	-356	-285	279	58	Past year staffing efficiencies of £79k not being met. Partially offset by vacancies during the year.	80
People Services – HR	964	-275	-786	-97	1,030	-258	-786	-13	84	Temporary additional resource to deal with increased recruitment along with past year efficiencies of £48k not being met.	83
Employee Well-being	815	-359	-423	33	807	-330	-423	54	21	Shortfall on past year income target efficiency of £40k, partially offset by in year vacancies.	11
Organisational Development	468	-40	-498	-69	517	-7	-498	12	81	Training efficiency target not currently being met (£33k). Investors in People assessment one off costs of £26k, Unfunded Welsh Language post previously funded from Risk Management fund.	106
Employee Services – HR/Payroll Support	142	0	-132	11	150	0	-132	18	7		7
School Staff Absence Scheme	0	0	0	0	1,124	-1,124	0	0	0		0
DBS Checks	137	0	0	137	112	-2	0	110	-27	Review of DBS checks process & budget to be undertaken	-26
People Management Total	4,687	-1,585	-2,619	484	6,040	-2,641	-2,619	780	297		326
ICT & Corporate Policy											
Information Technology	5,643	-921	-3,846	876	5,608	-886	-3,846	876	-0		-68
Welsh Language	125	-11	-153	-39	125	-11	-153	-39	-0		1
Chief Executive-Policy	722	-32	-786	-96	721	-63	-786	-128	-33	Vacant posts in early part of year now filled with the exception of one, estimated to be filled from January.	-23
Public Services Board	6	0	0	6	6	0	0	6	0		0
Armed Forces Covenant Scheme	0	0	0	0	50	-50	0	-0	-0		0
Armed Forces Veterans Hub	0	0	0	0	5	-5	0	-0	-0		-0
Armed Forces and Remembrance	5	0	0	5	4	0	0	4	-2		0
Total ICT & Corporate Policy	6,500	-964	-4,785	752	6,518	-1,016	-4,785	718	-34		-90

Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Report
Budget Monitoring as at 31st October 2022 - Detail Monitoring

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000			
Admin and Law											
Democratic Services	2,133	-290	2,372	4,216	1,972	-315	2,372	4,029	-187	Underspend on members pay and allowances £143k, travelling costs £18k, along with an additional £26k of income for work undertaken for the HRA.	-168
Democratic Services - Support	526	0	-494	32	508	-30	-494	-16	-48	Additional income for work undertaken for the Wales pension partnership £22k & PCC £8k, savings on supplies & services £18k.	-49
Corporate Management	0	0	296	296	0	0	296	296	0		0
Civic Ceremonial	25	0	21	45	21	0	21	42	-4		-4
Land Charges	103	-275	20	-152	131	-267	20	-116	36	Shortfall in income due to low demand for searches	35
Police and Crime Commissioner	0	0	0	0	72	-72	0	0	0		0
Legal Services	2,092	-273	-1,511	307	2,046	-263	-1,511	271	-36	Vacancies in early part of the year now filled. 3 current vacancies estimated to be filled from January.	-35
Central Mailing	46	0	1	47	31	-8	1	24	-23	Saving on franking machine leasing costs	-23
Admin and Law Total	4,926	-838	703	4,791	4,782	-955	703	4,530	-261		-244
Marketing & Media											
Marketing and Media	409	-171	-213	25	430	-32	-213	185	160	Overspend on salaries pending divisional realignment. Loss of income streams from external partners (e.g. ERW £80k). Looking at alternative potential partnership arrangements.	161
Translation	595	-53	-502	40	457	-53	-502	-98	-138	2 vacant posts pending divisional realignment & number of staff working reduced hours, savings on supplies & services.	-122
Customer Services Centres	1,203	-362	-762	79	939	-358	-762	-181	-260	Part year vacancies in Contact Centre and Hwbs. Constantly out to advert due to difficulty in filling posts.	-240
Yr Hwb, Rhydaman a Llanelli	174	-96	8	87	74	-53	8	29	-57	2 vacant posts pending divisional realignment, offset partly by less income from decreased demand for desk rent space.	-58
Marketing Tourism Development	405	-5	37	436	355	-5	37	386	-50	Underspend on salaries pending divisional realignment	0
Events	40	-26	2	16	40	-26	2	16	0		0
Total Marketing & Media	2,826	-713	-1,430	683	2,295	-526	-1,430	338	-345		-259
Statutory Services											
Elections-County Council	110	0	129	238	110	0	129	238	-0		-0
Elections-Community Council	0	0	0	0	26	-26	0	-0	-0		-0
Registration Of Electors	176	-3	243	416	224	-51	243	416	-0		0
Registrars	525	-343	192	374	611	-493	192	310	-64	Increase in anticipated income due to large number of ceremonies taking place.	-104
Coroners	369	0	8	377	405	0	8	413	37	£20k one off costs in relation to one particular case, large increase in undertakers fees, mortuary fees and post mortem fees in line with other local authorities.	-3
Electoral Services - Staff	265	0	-291	-26	223	0	-291	-68	-42	1 post currently vacant, unlikely to be filled until January.	-45
Statutory Services Total	1,444	-346	281	1,380	1,599	-570	281	1,310	-70		-151

Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Report
Budget Monitoring as at 31st October 2022 - Detail Monitoring

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000			
Regeneration & Property											
Regeneration Management	308	0	38	346	349	0	38	387	41	Overspend due to cessation in staff time recharged to projects	1
Parry Thomas Centre	37	-37	11	11	37	-37	11	11	-0		0
Betws wind farm community fund	87	-87	1	1	87	-86	1	1	0		0
Welfare Rights & Citizen's Advice	161	0	2	162	161	0	2	162	0		0
Llanelli Coast Joint Venture	150	-150	5	5	157	-157	5	5	-0		-0
Business Grants	0	0	0	0	359	-359	0	-0	-0		0
Econ Dev-Rural Carmarthen, Ammanford, Town Centres	405	0	6,307	6,712	405	0	6,307	6,712	0		0
Econ Dev-Llanelli, C Hands, Coastal, Business, Inf & Ent	470	0	89	558	470	0	89	558	0		0
Community Development and External Funding	545	0	89	635	543	-1	89	632	-3		-16
Food Banks	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3	3		-0
Kickstart	0	0	0	0	131	-131	0	0	0		0
Transforming Towns Business Fund	0	0	0	0	23	-23	0	-0	-0		0
Wellness	275	0	19	294	275	0	19	294	0		-0
Swansea Bay City Deal	0	0	24	24	-0	0	24	24	-0		-0
Property	1,195	-91	-1,251	-146	1,063	-16	-1,251	-204	-57	4 posts currently vacant estimated to be filled from January. These vacancies and an underspend on supplies and services are covering a shortfall on income generated from external work undertaken.	-37
Commercial Properties	34	-463	537	108	101	-539	537	99	-9		-26
Provision Markets	623	-556	376	443	601	-531	376	446	3		-9
Asset Transfers	0	0	0	0	12	-12	0	-0	-0		-0
Asset Sales	20	0	0	20	20	0	0	20	-0		0
Operational Depots	356	0	-326	30	350	0	-326	25	-5		1
Administrative Buildings	3,399	-796	-3,111	-508	3,396	-802	-3,111	-516	-8		-8
Industrial Premises	494	-1,519	940	-85	512	-1,545	940	-93	-8		-21
The Beacon	164	-144	50	70	163	-142	50	71	0		-0
County Farms	79	-351	428	156	93	-308	428	212	57	Income target not met due to current economic climate, as no scope to increase tenancy agreements at the moment.	46
Livestock Markets	62	-114	3	-48	22	-68	3	-42	6		-5
Externally Funded Schemes	9,226	-9,222	323	327	9,012	-9,009	323	327	-0		-0
Regeneration & Property Total	18,088	-13,529	4,555	9,114	18,344	-13,767	4,555	9,133	19		-74

Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Report
Budget Monitoring as at 31st October 2022 - Detail Monitoring

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000			
Financial Services											
Corporate Services Management Team	510	-142	-422	-54	547	-179	-422	-54	-0		0
Accountancy	1,877	-478	-1,253	146	1,853	-454	-1,253	146	0		9
Treasury and Pension Investment Section	277	-200	-70	7	271	-217	-70	-16	-24	Additional income for work undertaken for Wales Pension Partnership	-25
Grants and Technical	357	-114	-218	25	292	-53	-218	21	-4	Vacant post estimated to be filled (est December)	-14
Payroll Control	97	0	-88	9	98	0	-88	10	1		0
Systems and Accounts Payable	581	-79	-457	44	545	-81	-457	7	-37	5 Vacant posts during the year. All 5 filled from November	-68
Pensions	1,555	-1,469	-58	28	1,338	-1,252	-58	28	-0		0
Audit Fees	325	-96	4	234	300	-96	4	209	-25	A proportion of audit fees are chargeable directly to grants	-25
Bank Charges	66	0	1	67	52	0	1	53	-14	Reduced costs following new bank contract	-9
Wales Pension Partnership	88	-86	0	3	76	-73	0	3	0		0
Miscellaneous Services	7,016	-125	1,698	8,589	6,588	-39	1,698	8,247	-342	£329k underspend on pre LGR pension costs along with a £13k underspend on Treasury Management expenses.	-329
Financial Services Total	12,750	-2,788	-863	9,098	11,959	-2,443	-863	8,653	-445		-460
Revenues & Financial Compliance											
Procurement	638	-36	-551	51	580	-36	-551	-7	-58	Savings from staff member working reduced hours, maternity leave and a number of posts currently at lowest point on the salary scale	-38
Audit	511	-20	-463	27	492	-39	-463	-11	-38	1 vacant post estimated to be filled in November, 1 recently filled post and one post working at reduced hours	-40
Risk Management	158	-1	-149	9	140	-1	-149	-9	-18	Staff member working reduced hours	1
Business Support Unit	149	0	-81	68	135	0	-81	54	-13	2 staff members on lowest points of the scale	-3
Corporate Services Training	62	0	-59	3	36	0	-59	-23	-26	Less planned training during the year	-11
Cost of Living Discretionary Grant	0	0	0	0	576	-576	0	0	0		0
Local Taxation	986	-763	528	750	972	-802	528	697	-53	Savings on 4 vacant posts to date. Two have been filled, and two remain vacant and are being covered by agency following failure to recruit.	-50
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	17,249	0	78	17,327	17,008	0	78	17,086	-241	Underspend based on latest demand figures.	-241
Rent Allowances	41,323	-41,540	1,495	1,278	37,206	-37,311	1,495	1,390	112	Projections on expenditure based on 2021/22 claims	112
Rates Relief	289	0	5	294	184	0	5	190	-105	Low take-up anticipated in 2022/23. Based on current demand.	-105
Housing Benefits Admin	1,702	-753	-877	72	1,455	-632	-877	-54	-125	DWP Housing Benefit Admin grant received is £212k less than budget. There is a net £217k underspend on pay costs, due to 11 current vacant posts, estimated to be filled from January, which is offset by the cost of agency staff who have been covering some of these posts due to difficulties in recruiting replacements. We have also received £120k of one-off grants from DWP during the year to complete specific projects.	-74

Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Report
Budget Monitoring as at 31st October 2022 - Detail Monitoring

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Oct 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000	Notes	Aug 2022 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000			
Revenues	1,033	-139	-755	138	1,158	-136	-755	268	129	£100k increase in bank charges over budget due to increased number of card payments. £82k one-off essential software upgrade. Offset by short term vacant posts that are being covered by agency following failure to recruit, along with 3 recent vacant posts that are estimated to be filled from January.	168
Revenues & Financial Compliance Total	64,099	-43,252	-830	20,018	59,944	-39,532	-830	19,582	-436		-279
TOTAL FOR CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES	116,179	-64,013	-5,832	46,334	112,209	-61,454	-5,832	44,923	-1,411		-1,376

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Capital Programme 2022/23							
Capital Budget Monitoring - Report for October 2022							
	Working Budget			Forecasted			Variance for Year
Department	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	
Public Housing	49,975	-15,330	34,645	31,512	-15,448	16,064	-18,581
Private Housing	3,983	-368	3,615	3,220	-368	2,852	-763
Leisure	3,990	-1,428	2,562	1,767	-428	1,339	-1,223
Social Care	397	0	397	388	-56	332	-65
Environment	42,165	-14,554	27,611	28,051	-12,433	15,618	-11,993
Education & Children	70,693	-39,516	31,177	20,526	-6,260	14,266	-16,911
Chief Executive	3,461	0	3,461	1,758	-60	1,698	-1,763
Regeneration	88,251	-43,386	44,865	26,973	-14,773	12,200	-32,665
TOTAL	262,916	-114,582	148,334	114,195	-49,826	64,369	-83,965

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Capital Programme 2022/23								
Capital Budget Monitoring - Report for October 2022 - Main Variances								
DEPARTMENT/SCHEMES	Working Budget			Forecasted			Variance for Year £'000	Comment
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000		
COMMUNITIES								
- Public Housing	49,975	-15,330	34,645	31,512	-15,448	16,064	-18,581	
Sewage Treatment Works Upgrading	20	0	20	28	0	28	8	Accelerated spend.
Internal and External Works (Property)	19,557	0	19,557	14,179	0	14,179	-5,378	Continuing supply chain and capacity issues.
Environmental Works (Housing Services)	450	0	450	370	0	370	-80	
Adaptations and Equalities Works (Building Services)	2,000	0	2,000	2,000	0	2,000	0	
Programme Delivery and Strategy	1,056	0	1,056	903	0	903	-153	Delays on Tyisha Scheme.
Housing Development Programme	25,791	0	25,791	13,237	-118	13,118	-12,673	Main Variances: Continuing supply chain issues with new builds -£5,999k, purchase of new properties for buyback programme depends on the supply in the market for suitable properties in areas of demand -£3,793K, delay with the appointment of delivery partner for Tyisha development -£1,616K, Strategy Regeneration Schemes -£1,560K.
Retrofit and Decarbonisation	1,101	0	1,101	796	0	796	-305	Delays because of additional costs because of inflationary pressures.
MRA and IHP Grants Income	0	-15,330	-15,330	0	-15,330	-15,330	0	
- Private Housing	3,983	-368	3,615	3,220	-368	2,852	-763	
Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)	2,993	0	2,993	2,230	0	2,230	-763	Delivery will be constrained by contractor capacity.
ENABLE - Adaptations to Support Independent Living	368	-368	0	368	-368	0	0	
Empty Properties Initiatives	622	0	622	622	0	622	0	
- Leisure	3,990	-1,428	2,562	1,767	-428	1,339	-1,223	
Amman Valley Leisure Centre 3G Pitch	1,050	0	1,050	574	0	574	-476	Project delivery reprofiled. Work due to start on site in January 2023.
Oriol Myrddin Redevelopment	1,840	-1,000	840	190	0	190	-650	Slip to 2023/24.
Libraries & Museums	357	0	357	380	0	380	23	Variance available for other projects.
Burry Port Harbour Walls	34	0	34	34	0	34	0	Project Complete.
Country Parks	709	-428	281	588	-428	160	-121	Slip Balance to 2023/24.
- Social Care	397	0	397	388	-56	332	-65	Slippage on the Learning Disability Accommodation. Projects to be delivered in future years.
ENVIRONMENT	42,165	-14,554	27,611	28,051	-12,433	15,618	-11,993	
Coastal Protection & Flood Defence Works	1,632	-1,379	253	751	-642	109	-144	Slipped to 2023/24.
Fleet Replacement	2,173	0	2,173	632	0	632	-1,541	Slipped to 2023/24.
Bridge Strengthening & Replacement	1,026	0	1,026	1,026	0	1,026	0	
Road Safety Improvement Schemes	554	0	554	100	0	100	-454	Retained for future roads programme.
Highways Infrastructure	4,550	0	4,550	4,550	0	4,550	0	
Integrated Waste Strategy	1,458	0	1,458	678	0	678	-780	Swaste Strategy will be delivered in future years.
Cross Hands ELR	1,105	0	1,105	1,373	38	1,411	306	Funding needs to be identified to complete the scheme.
Towy Valley Path	10,177	-3,578	6,599	1,085	0	1,085	-5,514	Delays with land acquisition.

Capital Programme 2022/23							Variance for Year £'000	Comment
Capital Budget Monitoring - Report for October 2022 - Main Variances								
DEPARTMENT/SCHEMES	Working Budget			Forecasted				
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000		
Other Infrastructure Projects	12,432	-9,597	2,835	14,148	-11,829	2,319	-516	The main variances include: £86k against Murray Street Car Park which is needed for future works, -£131k Trebeddrod Reservoir, -£366k Junctions - retained for future roads programme.
Property	7,058	0	7,058	3,708	0	3,708	-3,350	Slippage to programme of works at County Hall and Ty Elwyn.
EDUCATION & CHILDREN	70,693	-39,516	31,177	20,526	-6,260	14,266	-16,911	
Schools: General Projects, including Equality Act Works, Bus Bays, Mobile Class Provision	2,167	0	2,167	2,117	0	2,117	-50	Variance to fund retentions on Dyffryn Aman
Sustainable Communities for Learning - Band A - Design Stage Schemes	200	0	200	102	0	102	-98	Delays with acquiring land for Laugharne Primary School.
Sustainable Communities for Learning - Band A - WG FBC Approved Schemes	4,477	-56	4,421	4,415	-56	4,359	-62	
Sustainable Communities for Learning - Band B - Design Stage Schemes	870	0	870	960	0	960	90	Design of Gwenllian £80k and Heol Goffa £100k. Slippage against Bro Myrddin -£90k.
Sustainable Communities for Learning - Band B - WG FBC Approved Schemes	8,832	-4,910	3,922	4,745	-4,045	700	-3,222	Pembrey slip to 2023/24
Infant Class Size	0	0	0	157	0	157	157	Penygroes costs covered by MEP match funding.
Welsh Language Immersion Centres	0	0	0	70	-50	20	20	Additional Costs against Maes y Gwendraeth covered by MEP match funding.
School Buildings - Education Capital Grants - including Capital Maintenance, Rollout of free school meals and Use of facilities by the Community	8,321	-3,455	4,866	6,431	-1,565	4,866	0	
Carmarthen Community Education Centre	325	0	325	325	0	325	0	
Flying Start Capital Expansion Programme	253	-253	0	307	-307	0	0	
Childcare Offer Places	0	0	0	237	-237	0	0	
Play Opportunities Grant Projects	10	0	10	10	0	10	0	
Rhydygors Intermediate Care Project	734	0	734	600	0	600	-134	Slip to 2023/24.
Sustainable Communities For Learning - Match Funding Budget	44,504	-30,842	13,662	0	0	0	-13,662	Programme under development. Funding to slip to future years.
Other Projects with Minor Variances	0	0	0	50	0	50	50	Snagging against Dyffryn Aman.
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	3,461	0	3,461	1,758	-60	1,698	-1,763	
IT Strategy Developments	1,670	0	1,670	586	0	586	-1,084	Slip to 2023/24.
Purchase of Grillo Site, Burry Port	414	0	414	27	0	27	-387	Underspend to be slipped to cover remediation works required.
Block 3, St David's Park	1,292	0	1,292	1,000	0	1,000	-292	Slip to 2023/24.
Glanamman Industrial Estate Redevelopment	85	0	85	85	0	85	0	
Other Projects with Minor Variances	0	0	0	60	-60	0	0	Covid19 Hospitals.

Capital Programme 2022/23								
Capital Budget Monitoring - Report for October 2022 - Main Variances								
	Working Budget			Forecasted				
DEPARTMENT/SCHEMES	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Variance for Year £'000	Comment
REGENERATION	88,251	-43,386	44,865	26,973	-14,773	12,200	-32,665	
Swansea Bay City Region Projects	55,194	-34,013	21,181	10,308	-10,308	0	-21,181	Slip to 2023/24.
County Wide Regeneration Funds	4,838	0	4,838	577	0	577	-4,261	Slip to 2023/24.
Cross Hands East Strategic Employment Site Phase 1	575	0	575	575	0	575	0	
Cross Hands East Phase 2	95	-6	89	30	59	89	0	
Cross Hands East Plot 3 Development	7,002	-3,250	3,752	7,002	-3,250	3,752	0	Additional funding awarded by the Welsh Government.
Carmarthen Town Regeneration - Jacksons Lane	5	0	5	5	0	5	0	
Carmarthen Old Town Quarter	691	0	691	0	0	0	-691	Detailed design to follow Greening Infrastructure masterplan outcome.
Pendine Iconic International Visitors Destination	3,583	0	3,583	3,783	-200	3,583	0	
Llandeilo Market Hall	2,242	0	2,242	2,186	0	2,186	-56	Slip to 2023/24.
Ammanford Regeneration Development Fund	280	0	280	174	0	174	-106	Delays because of changes to state aid rules.
Town Centre Loan Scheme	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	Offer has been withdrawn. New loans to be considered.
TRI Strategic Projects - Market Street North	2,388	0	2,388	19	0	19	-2,369	Project delayed because plans were called in by Welsh Government planning division. Slipped to 2023/24.
TRI Strategic Projects - Former YMCA Building, Stepney Street, Llanelli	1,429	0	1,429	679	0	679	-750	Slip to 2023/24.
Transforming Town Centres Strategic Projects	290	0	290	240	0	240	-50	Slip to 2023/24. Some of the budget has been transferred to specific TRI projects.
Business Support for Renewable Energy Initiatives	500	0	500	100	0	100	-400	Forecast grant drawdowns based on expected spend profiles. Balance to slip to 2023/24.
Ten Towns Growth Plan	1,000	0	1,000	0	0	0	-1,000	Second stage applications being developed - anticipated that eight applications will be submitted by end of financial year. Expenditure slipped to 2023/24.
Place Making	1,680	-925	755	4	0	4	-751	Slip to 2023/24.
Levelling Up Fund - Carmarthen Hwb	6,192	-5,142	1,050	850	-850	0	-1,050	Slip to 2023/24.
Other Projects	267	-50	217	441	-224	217	0	Llanelli JV, Brilliant Basics.
TOTAL	262,916	-114,582	148,334	114,195	-49,826	64,369	-83,965	

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Chief Executive

Capital Budget Monitoring - Scrutiny Report For October 2022

Scheme	Target Date for Completion	Working Budget			Forecasted		
		Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000
Acquisitions of County Buildings		414	0	414	27	0	27
Purchase of Grillo Site, Burry Port	Complete	414	0	414	27	0	27
St David's Park	Complete	1,292	0	1,292	1,000	0	1,000
St David's Block 3		1,292	0	1,292	1,000	0	1,000
Industrial Redevelopments	Complete	85	0	85	85	0	85
Glanamman Industrial Estate Redevelopment		85	0	85	85	0	85
Covid-19 - Field Hospitals		0	0	0	60	-60	0
Covid-19 - Field Hospitals		0	0	0	60	-60	0
IT Strategy Developments	Ongoing	1,670	0	1,670	586	0	586
Digital Transformation		469	0	469	278	0	278
PSBA Network		142	0	142	18	0	18
Strategic Digital Initiatives		193	0	193	73	0	73
Corporate Wifi Environment/Meraki Broadband Hardware		205	0	205	52	0	52
Data Centre and Power		29	0	29	14	0	14
Voice Infrastructure		164	0	164	45	0	45
HWB for Schools Infrastructure Grant		374	0	374	50	0	50
Information Security and Governance		94	0	94	56	0	56
NET BUDGET		3,461	0	3,461	1,758	-60	1,698

Variance for Year £'000	Comment
-387	Saving against the purchase of the site.
-387	
-292	Slip to 2023/24.
-292	
0	
0	
0	
0	
-1,084	Slip to 2023/24.
-191	DTSG Programme has recommenced but some projects have been slow to restart for external reasons.
-124	Linked to City Deal Digital Programme.
-120	Hardware shortages and service restarts have delayed some initiatives.
-153	Replacement of Wifi and networking has been put on hold pending a review of corporate buildings.
-15	
-119	Developments on telephone system have been delayed pending the Contact Centre/Call Handling review, which will feed into the corporate voice strategy.
-324	Several capital projects related to the schools environment have been delayed but now returning to schedule.
-38	
-1,763	

Regeneration

Capital Budget Monitoring - Scrutiny Report For October 2022

Scheme	Target Date for Completion	Working Budget			Forecasted		
		Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000
Llanelli JV General	Ongoing	35	0	35	50	-15	35
Llanelli JV General		35	0	35	50	-15	35
Swansea Bay City Region Projects	Ongoing	55,194	-34,013	21,181	10,308	-10,308	0
SB City Region - Pentre Awel - Phase 1		36,100	-32,013	4,087	10	-10	0
SB City Region - Pentre Awel - Pre-Construction Works		0	0	0	10,298	-10,298	0
SB City Region - Pentre Awel - Ecology Pre-Commencement Wstage		0	0	0	0	0	0
Swansea Bay City Region - Llanelli Leisure Centre - New Development		17,094	0	17,094	0	0	0
SB City Region - Digital Project		0	0	0	0	0	0
SB City Region - Yr Egin		2,000	-2,000	0	0	0	0
County Wide Regeneration Funds	Ongoing	4,838	0	4,838	577	0	577
Transformation Strategy Project Fund		0	0	0	0	0	0
Rural Enterprise Fund		1,715	0	1,715	213	0	213
Transformation Commercial Property Development Fund		2,911	0	2,911	364	0	364
Business Flood Relief & Infrastructure Fund		212	0	212	0	0	0
Llanelli, Cross Hands & Coastal Belt Area		7,672	-3,256	4,416	7,607	-3,191	4,416
Cross Hands East Strategic Employment Site Ph1	Complete	575	0	575	575	0	575
Cross Hands East Plot 3 Development	Mar '23	7,002	-3,250	3,752	7,002	-3,250	3,752
Cross Hands East Phase 2	Dec '22	95	-6	89	30	59	89
Ammanford, Carmarthen & Rural Area		6,937	-50	6,887	6,284	-250	6,034
Carmarthen Town Regeneration - Jacksons Lane (81086)		5	0	5	5	0	5
Laugharne Carpark	Ongoing	17	0	17	17	0	17
Pendine Iconic International Visitors Destination	May '23	3,583	0	3,583	3,783	-200	3,583
Ammanford Regeneration Development Fund	Mar '23	280	0	280	174	0	174
Llandeilo Market Hall	Mar '23	2,242	0	2,242	2,186	0	2,186
Carmarthen Old Town Quarter Regeneration	Ongoing	691	0	691	0	0	0
Bright Basics Fund - Sustainable and Accessible Pendine Sands	Jun'22	119	-50	69	119	-50	69

Variance for Year £'000	Comment
0	Funded by JV.
0	
-21,181	Slip to 2023/24.
-4,087	
0	
0	
-17,094	Part of the Pentre Awel budget.
0	
0	
-4,261	Slip to 2023/24.
0	Funding Transferred to Other Projects.
-1,502	Current round of grant awards complete. Balance of funds to be slipped to 2023/24 for future rounds.
-2,547	Current round of grant awards complete. Balance of funds to be slipped to 2023/24 for future rounds.
-212	Slip to 2023/24.
0	
0	
0	Additional funding awarded by the Welsh Government.
0	
-853	
0	
0	Funded by Reserve.
0	
-106	Delays because of changes to state aid rules.
-56	Slip to 2023/24.
-691	Detailed design to follow Greening Infrastructure masterplan outcome.
0	

Regeneration

Capital Budget Monitoring - Scrutiny Report For October 2022

Scheme	Target Date for Completion	Working Budget			Forecasted		
		Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000
Town Centre Loan Scheme	Mar'22	0	0	0	0	0	0
Town Centre Loan Scheme (TCLS) - Y Linc Llanelli		0	0	0	0	0	0
Transforming Towns Strategic Projects (formerly known as TRI)		4,203	0	4,203	1,193	-159	1,034
TRI Strategic Projects - Market Street North	Ongoing	2,388	0	2,388	19	0	19
TRI Strategic Projects - Former YMCA Building, Stepney Street, Llanelli	Jul '22	1,429	0	1,429	679	0	679
Transforming Towns (Green Infrastructure & Biodiversity) - Llanelli Library Green Wall	Jan '23	68	0	68	227	-159	68
Transforming Towns (Green Infrastructure & Biodiversity) - Carregamman Car Park Enhancements	Complete	28	0	28	28	0	28
TRI Strategic Projects	Ongoing	290	0	290	240	0	240
Business Support for Renewable Energy Initiatives	Ongoing	500	0	500	100	0	100
Business Support for Renewable Energy Initiatives		500	0	500	100	0	100
Ten Town Growth Plan	Ongoing	1,000	0	1,000	0	0	0
Ten Town Growth Plan		1,000	0	1,000	0	0	0
Place Making	Ongoing	1,680	-925	755	4	0	4
Place Making		1,680	-925	755	4	0	4
Leveling Up Projects	Ongoing	6,192	-5,142	1,050	850	-850	0
Leveling Up Carmarthen Hwb		6,192	-5,142	1,050	850	-850	0
NET BUDGET		88,251	-43,386	44,865	26,973	-14,773	12,200

Variance for Year £'000	Comment
0	
0	Offer has been withdrawn. New loans to be considered.
-3,169	Slipped to 2023/24.
-2,369	Project Delayed. Slip to future years.
-750	Slipped to 2023/24.
0	
0	
-50	Slip to 2023/24. Some of the budget has been transferred to specific TRI projects.
-400	Slip to 2023/24.
-400	Eight grant approvals awarded to date £74k Majority of budget committed to first stage applications- £70k left to commit. The second-stage approvals slower than anticipated due to supply chain constraints.
-1,000	Town Working Groups developing projects. Relies on third parties to deliver.
-1,000	Second stage applications being developed - anticipated that eight applications will be submitted by end of financial year. Expenditure slipped to 2023/24.
-751	Slip to 2023/24.
-751	
-1,050	Slip to 2023/24.
-1,050	
-32,665	

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2022/23 Savings Monitoring Report
Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Committee
30th January 2023

1 Summary position as at : 31st October 2022

£67 k variance from delivery target

	2022/23 Savings monitoring		
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23
	Target	Delivered	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Chief Executive	304	237	67
Corporate Services	180	180	0
	484	417	67

2 Analysis of delivery against target for managerial and policy decisions:

Managerial
Policy

£67 k Off delivery target
£0 k ahead of target

	MANAGERIAL			POLICY		
	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23	2022/23
	Target	Delivered	Variance	Target	Delivered	Variance
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Chief Executive	304	237	67	0	0	0
Corporate Services	180	180	0	0	0	0
	484	417	67	0	0	0

3 Appendix F (i) : Savings proposals not on target

Appendix F (ii) : Savings proposals on target (for information)

DEPARTMENT	2021/22 Budget	FACT FILE	2022/23 Proposed	2022/23 Delivered	2022/23 Variance	EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTION	REASON FOR VARIANCE
	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000		

Managerial - Off Target

Chief Executive

People Management division	2,767	Includes Payroll, People Services, Organisational Development, Employee Wellbeing , HR Development Team, Business and Project Support	67	0	67	Focus is going to be on delivering the targets based on the realignment of OD, together with some additional income generation right across the division, this proving to be difficult as only have the staffing budgets to yield the efficiencies, and that is becoming more difficult as each year passes.	Savings not yet progressed
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Chief Executive Total			67	0	67		
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Policy - Off Target

NOTHING TO REPORT

DEPARTMENT	2021/22 Budget	FACT FILE	2022/23 Proposed	2022/23 Delivered	2022/23 Variance	EFFICIENCY DESCRIPTION
	£'000		£'000	£'000	£'000	

Managerial - On Target

Chief Executive

Chief Executive, Business and Executive Support	237	Office of the Chief Executive, business and executive support	20	20	0	Reduction in supplies, e.g. photocopying / postages / vehicle hire & others.
Information Technology	4,088	ICT Services underpins and contributes towards all that the Council delivers both internally as an organisation and externally to service users and communities, independently or in partnership. It is a vital function providing innovative opportunities for improving services and achieving our priorities in an efficient and effective way. IT Services is pivotal as an enabler of change and a vehicle for driving forward transformational improvement to all services. As we continually strive to deliver our solutions in an efficient manner and in line with our key Digital Strategies (Digital Transformation Strategy, Digital Technology Strategy, Digital Schools Strategy) our major savings in future years however will have to be found from our staffing budget. The work the service does significantly contribute to financial savings being delivered from revenue budgets held across the Authority by other service areas.	20	20	0	To be met by reduction in travel and stationery.
Statutory services / Coroners	372	The Coroner is an independent Judicial Officer and discharges his duties in accordance with the Coroners Act 1988. He has a duty to investigate deaths reported to him where he has reasonable cause to suspect that the death was violent, unnatural or of unknown cause or which occurs in prison.	18	18	0	Although efficiencies can be identified in the Coroner budget, the following must be highlighted: JNC for Coroners' pay has been agreed - 1.5% pay rise for 2021/22 with effect from 1st April 2021. Current budget can cover this. 2021/22 and 2022/23 will see one jury inquest with costs of approx. £100k. Current review of amalgamation of the jurisdiction of Pembrokeshire/Carmarthenshire with Swansea/Neath Port Talbot is being picked up again post COVID, unknown at present whether this will cost more to Carmarthenshire or less.
Member Travel & Printing			27	27	0	Reduction in Travel & Printing following implementing of paperless meetings and Hybrid Meetings
Regeneration division	3,542	Regeneration is a key priority for the council. The Division provides Business, employability, grant funding and skills support and advice. We also deliver physical regeneration projects throughout the county, including the Swansea Bay City Deal Pentre Awel Life Science and Wellness Village planned for Delta Lakes. The Regeneration Division is responsible for the management of land assets (those within the economic/commercial portfolio) of the Council, taking a strategic commercial view to ensure the portfolio is managed to meet the Council's economic development needs. The Division is also responsible for the delivery of the Council's Net Zero Carbon agenda.	70	70	0	£20k - Anticipated increase in Income/reduction in operating costs on Administrative estate through New Ways of Working. £25k anticipated decrease in utility costs on administrative estate due to reduced occupancy through continued agile working. £10k reduction in community grants. £15k supplies within industrial estate budget.
Marketing & Media	1,914	Business Unit comprising of translation, marketing and tourism, contact centres, customer services, press and communications.	45	45	0	£20k reduction in event support scheme, we will look at better ways of helping communities develop their events through advice and promotion. £5k reduction in Tourist Information Centre costs as we hand back Castle House and relocate to the Hwb/Debenhams. £20k tourism marketing - reduction in printing and advertising.
Departmental travel as per Transformation Innovation Change team exercise		Cross departmental travel costs	17	17	0	£17k reduction in departmental travel budgets
Departmental printing as per Transformation Innovation Change team exercise		Cross departmental printing costs	20	20	0	£20k reduction in departmental printing budgets

Chief Executive Total

237 237 0

Corporate Services

Financial Services						
PRE LGR Pension Costs	1,860	Cost of Pre LGR Pension Costs	100	100	0	Reduction in call on budget over time
Bank Charges	68	Cost of Authority's Banking arrangements	5	5	0	Reduction in bank charges following negotiation of new contract
Corporate Services Management Team	360	Departmental costs of Director, Head of Finance & Direct Support	10	10	0	Increase in external SLA income for work undertaken for Wales Pension Partnership
External Audit Fees	229	Cost of external audit fees	10	10	0	Reduction in external audit cost by maximising audit costs chargeable against grant schemes
Total Financial Services			125	125	0	

Revenues & Financial Compliance

Rates Relief	328	Cost to CCC of properties that are eligible and have successfully applied for discounts on their business rates	50	50	0	Demand is currently less than current budget provision
Total, Revenues and Financial Compliance			50	50	0	

Corporate Services General

General	12	Staff Travel	5	5	0	Reduction in staff travel by utilising technology
Total Corporate Services General			5	5	0	

Corporate Services Total

180 180 0

Policy - On Target

NOTHING TO REPORT

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Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Committee 30 January 2023

CARMARTHENSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD (PSB) MINUTES – NOVEMBER 2022

THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE IS ASKED TO:-

Review and assess the information contained in minutes from the PSB meeting on the 23 November 2022 and provide any recommendations, comments, or advice to the Cabinet Member and / or Director prior to the report's consideration by Cabinet.

Reason(s)

The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 notes the requirement that a designated local government scrutiny committee is appointed to scrutinise the work of the PSB. In Carmarthenshire, the Council's Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Committee has been designated as the relevant scrutiny committee.

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER:- Cllr. Darren Price, Leader

Directorate: Chief Executive

Name of Head of Service:

Noelwyn Daniel

Report Author:

Gwyneth Ayers

Designations:

Head of ICT & Corporate Policy

Corporate Policy, Performance & Partnership Manager

Tel Nos.

E Mail Addresses:

NDaniel@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

GAyers@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
30 JANUARY 2023

Carmarthenshire Public Services Board (PSB) Minutes –
November 2022

In order to ensure PSBs are democratically accountable, the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 places a requirement on councils to designate an overview and scrutiny committee to scrutinise the work of the PSB. In the ‘Guidance for Local Authority Scrutiny Committees on the scrutiny of Public Services Boards’ issued by Welsh Government in August 2017 it notes:

‘Under the provisions contained in the Act, overview and scrutiny committees have extensive powers to review the PSB’s governance arrangements as well as any decisions made or actions taken by the PSB. In addition, overview and scrutiny committees are provided with considerable reporting powers as they are required to share copies of any reports or recommendations made in connection with the board’s function or governance arrangement with the Welsh Ministers, the Future Generations Commissioner for Wales and the Auditor General for Wales.’

In Carmarthenshire, the Council’s Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Committee has been designated as the relevant scrutiny.

The minutes of the November 2022 Carmarthenshire PSB meeting were approved by the PSB at its 19 January 2023 meeting.

The minutes are presented to the Corporate Performance Policy & Resources Scrutiny for further consideration and scrutiny.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?	YES
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IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report:

Signed: **Noelwyn Daniel, Head of ICT & Corporate Policy**

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
YES	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The presentation of PSB minutes to a designated overview and scrutiny committee is a requirement of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015. Paragraph 181 of Statutory Guidance SPSF 3: Collective role notes:

'The (scrutiny) committee must send a copy of any report or recommendation it makes to the Welsh Ministers, the (Future Generations) Commissioner and the Auditor General for Wales.'

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED YES	Cllr. Darren Price, Leader – chair of Carmarthenshire PSB	
Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report: THESE ARE DETAILED BELOW		
Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
SPSF 3 – Guidance on the collective role through public services boards		Cymraeg http://gov.wales/docs/desh/publications/161111-spsf-3-collective-role-cy.pdf English http://gov.wales/docs/desh/publications/161111-spsf-3-collective-role-en.pdf
Guidance for Local Authority Scrutiny Committees on the scrutiny of Public Services Boards		Cymraeg http://gov.wales/docs/dpsp/publications/170817-public-services-boards-guidance-cy.pdf English http://gov.wales/docs/dpsp/publications/170817-public-services-boards-guidance-en.pdf

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2.00pm, Wednesday 23 November 2022
Zoom

MINUTES

Present	
Name	Organisation
CLlr Darren Price (Chair)	Carmarthenshire County Council
Noelwyn Daniel	Carmarthenshire County Council
Mydrian Harries	Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
CLlr Elwyn Williams	Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service Authority
Daron Herbert	Natural Resources Wales
Supt Stuart Bell	Dyfed Powys Police
Carys Morgans	Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner
Michael Thomas	Hywel Dda University Health Board
Marie Mitchell	Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services
Wyn Morris	Department for Work and Pensions
Catherine Mealing-Jones	Brecon Beacon National Park Authority
Andrew Charles	Welsh Government

In attendance	
Name	Organisation
Gwyneth Ayers	Carmarthenshire County Council
Llinos Evans	Carmarthenshire County Council
Kate Harrop	Carmarthenshire County Council
Wendy Phillips	Carmarthenshire County Council
Amy Richmond-Jones	Mid and West Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Dafydd Llywelyn	Office for the Police and Crime Commissioner
Sarah Hopkins	Sustain Wales
Gareth Jones	Carmarthenshire County Council
Richard Walters	Carmarthenshire County Council

1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

Apologies	
Name	Organisation
Barry Liles	University of Wales Trinity Saint David
Huwel Manley	Natural Resources Wales
Andrew Cornish	Coleg Sir Gâr

Maria Battle	Hywel Dda University Health Board
Jo McCarthy	Public Health Wales
Supt Clark Jones-John	Dyfed Powys Police
Christine Harley	Probation Service

Cllr Darren Price, Chair, welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting.

2. Real Living Wage

Dafydd Llywelyn, Chair of the Steering Group for the Mid and West Wales Region, and Sarah Hopkins, Director for Sustain Wales provided a presentation on the Real Living Wage and the work undertaken in Mid and West Wales. An overview was provided:

- The current Real Living Wage is £10.90, it is calculated annually by an independent organisation, Resolution Foundation, and overseen by Living Wage Commission. It takes into account the cost of living, particularly this year with the rise in energy costs, transport, rent, childcare costs etc.
- The Real Living Wage is paid to all workers over 18 in organisations supportive of the initiative while the national living wage is paid to all workers over 23.
- Since Covid, there has been an increase in momentum and interest in the number of accredited employers, with almost 500 currently in Wales.
- Based on ONS data, there are currently 144,000 workers across Wales not receiving a real living wage.
- To date, the accreditations have lifted almost 18,000 workers onto the Real Living Wage and put almost £67 million back into the pockets of low paid workers.
- Living Wage Places are areas across the UK that champion the Real Living Wage and have a three-year action plan.
- Mid and West Wales Region will be the first Real Living Wales region in Wales.
- The action plan has been in place for nine months.
- The targeted sectors include, agriculture, tourism, food, retail, hospitality and public.
- Data was provided to support the need for a Real Living Wage.
- Across the region, there are 103 accredited employers which has resulted in 2,762 employees being uplifted.
- Across Carmarthenshire, there are 28 accredited employers, which has resulted in 436 employees being uplifted.
- There are also employer benefits to the Real Living Wage, i.e., improved recruitment and retention of staff and links to wider staff well-being and health.
- A detailed report by Cardiff University is due before Christmas which will include benefits for employers across sectors.
- The Real Living Wage supports several Well-being Goals.

A number of members provided an update on the current position:

- MAWWFRS have carried out a job evaluation exercise and a new pay structure will be presented to their December Board meeting.
- NRW have already achieved Real Living Wage accreditation.
- CAVS are paying the Real Living Wage and are looking into applying for accreditation.

Questions were asked on the impact with contractors and the wider supply chain. The expectation was clarified and noted that this is something that can be developed over a period of time.

Darren Price thanked Dafydd Llywelyn and Sarah Hopkins for their presentation.

ACTION	
Contact Dafydd Llywelyn if interested in being involved in the Real Living Wage Steering Group	All

3. Internet of Things

Gareth Jones, Digital Programme Manager, Swansea City Deal, provided a presentation on The Internet of Things (IoT), which is a concept of connecting things that have not previously been connected.

- The aim is to provide data to make decisions. The first example of IoT was a Coca-Cola vending machine notifying when it needs to be refilled.
- Examples were provided of where this is used in our everyday lives, e.g. sensors in bins sending a signal when they need to be emptied. IoT is a growing industry.
- There are various connectivity media e.g. 3G, 4G, 5G, wireless, broadband and LoRaWAN. LoRaWAN can be connected simply and cheaply, using a low bandwidth, with its advantage being long range, low power, small level of data and low cost.
- Across the region, there are over 240 LoRaWAN gateways with Carmarthenshire leading the way.

Dyfed Powys Police are a good example of how to use the technology for various projects.

Dafydd Llywelyn suggested a gateway could be sited at Police HQ. It was confirmed that initial discussions in relation to this had taken place.

Darren Price thanked Gareth Jones for his presentation.

ACTION	
Contact Gareth Jones to discuss opportunities for LoRaWAN Gateways	All
Confirm update on gateway at Police HQ, arrange for IT colleague to contact Heddwyn Thomas, DPP, to progress and feedback to Dafydd Llywelyn	Kate Harrop

4. Cost of Living

Noelwyn Daniel provided an update on the event recently held in Llanelli. There were around 100 in attendance from various organisations. The key outcomes were:

- Need to raise awareness of the support currently available.
- Have a consistent message.
- Ensure that all contacts are maximised.
- There is a lack of co-ordination around access to work for young people e.g. apprenticeships, graduate programmes etc.
- Need to improve information on available transport.
- Not all residents are digitally literate and therefore miss out on key information and support.

Next steps

- Highlight and promote the vast amount of unclaimed benefits
- Support food banks
- Career support in schools

- Look at traditional ways of communicating to reach those who are not digitally literate.
- Share best practice and map what everyone provides.
- Re-establish Hwb Fach Y Wlad in addition to the three Hwbs located in the main towns.
- Enhance the level of support provided in the three town Hwbs by having additional dedicated officers e.g. housing, employability, trading standards, Citizens Advice Bureau. This is to commence on 1 December.

ACTION	
Circulate summary of feedback from Cost of Living event (26.10.2022)	PSB Support Team
Contact Noelwyn Daniel if interested in providing support and advice within the customer service Hwbs in Ammanford, Carmarthen and Llanelli.	All

5. Minutes and Matters arising

28 September 2022

The minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record.

It was noted that the access system for the Llandeilo office has been established and is now available for multi-agency working.

Action Log

Updates were provided on previous actions.

ACTION	
Inform staff that the Llandeilo office is now available for staff to use	All

6. Any Other Business

The following two items were circulated for information:

- Play & Early Years Integration
- Environmental Grant opportunity

7. Dates of future meetings

- 19 January 2023 (1.30pm)
- 28 February 2023 (2pm)
- 25 April 2023 (2pm)

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 30th JANUARY, 2023

FORTHCOMING ITEMS

To consider and comment on the following:

- To note the forthcoming items to be considered at the next meeting of the Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Committee to be held on the 9th February, 2023.

Reason:

- The Council's Constitution requires Scrutiny Committees, at the commencement of each municipal year, to develop and publish a Forward Work Plan which identifies the issues and reports which will be considered at meetings during the course of the year.

To be referred to the Cabinet for decision: NO

Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder: Cllr. D. Price (Leader), Cllr. A. Lenny (Resources), Cllr. P. Hughes (Organisation and Workforce)

Report Author: Martin S. Davies	Designation: Democratic Services Officer	Tel No. / E-Mail Address: 01267 224059 MSDavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
30th JANUARY, 2023

FORTHCOMING ITEMS

The Council's Constitution requires Scrutiny Committees, at the commencement of each municipal year, to develop and publish a Forward Work Programme which identifies the issues and reports to be considered at meetings during the course of the year. When formulating the Forward Work Plan the Scrutiny Committee will take into consideration those items included on the Cabinet's Forward Work Programme.

The list of forthcoming items attached includes those items which are scheduled in the Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Committee's Forward Work Plan to be considered at the next meeting, to be held on 9th February, 2023.

Also attached for information are the 2022/23 Forward Work Plans in respect of the Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Committee and the Cabinet.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?	YES: (1) List of Forthcoming Items (2) CP & R Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Plan (3) Cabinet Forward Work Plan
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IMPLICATIONS

I confirm that other than those implications which have been agreed with the appropriate Directors / Heads of Service and are referred to in detail below, there are no other implications associated with this report.

Signed: **Linda Rees-Jones** Head of Administration & Law

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE	NONE

CONSULTATIONS

I confirm that the appropriate consultations have taken in place and the outcomes are as detailed below:

Signed: **Linda Rees-Jones** Head of Administration & Law

1. Local Member(s) – N/A
2. Community / Town Council – N/A
3. Relevant Partners – N/A
4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – N/A

CABINET MEMBER PORTFOLIO HOLDER AWARE / CONSULTED	YES
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Section 100D Local Government Act, 1972 – Access to Information List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

There are none.

FORTHCOMING ITEMS – TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE NEXT MEETING OF THE CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE TO BE HELD ON 9TH FEBRUARY 2023

Agenda Item	Background	Reason for report
		<p>What is Scrutiny being asked to do? e.g. undertake a full review of the subject? Investigate different policy options? Be consulted on final proposals before decision making? Monitor outcomes /implementation?</p> <p><i>If the item is for information or for noting, can the information be provided in an alternative format i.e. via email?</i></p>
Quarterly Treasury Management and Prudential Indicator Report 1st April 2022 to 31st December 2022	This is a standard quarterly update in relation to Treasury Management	The Revised CIPFA Treasury Management Code of Practice 2017 stipulates that there should be regular reporting to Members and Member scrutiny of the treasury policies. The Corporate Performance and Resources Scrutiny Committee is responsible for ensuring this effective scrutiny of the treasury management strategy and policies.
Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee Actions and Referrals Update	These quarterly updates provide details on progress made in relation to actions and requests which arose at previous meetings.	To enable the Committee to scrutinise progress made in relation to actions and requests arising from previous meetings.

Items attached for information

1. The latest version of the Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme 2022/23
2. The latest version of the Cabinet's Forward Work Programme 2022/23

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Corporate Performance & Resources Scrutiny Committee – Forward Work Programme 2022/23

19 th October 2022	13 th December 2022	30 th January 2023	9 th February 2023	31 st March 2023
Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2021/22 (outturn) Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2022/23 (April-June)	Sickness Absence Monitoring Report - Half Year Q2 2022/23	Revenue Budget Strategy Consultation 2022/23 to 2025/26	Quarterly Treasury Management and Prudential Indicator Report 1st April 2022 to 31st December 2022	Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2022/23 (April – December)
Quarterly Treasury Management and Prudential Indicator Report 1st April 2022 to 30th June 2022	TIC Annual Report 21/22	Five Year Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2027/28	Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2022/23 (April – December) moved to March	
May & July 2022 PSB minutes	Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2022/23 (April – August)	Treasury Management Policy & Strategy 2023/24	Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee Actions and Referrals Update	
Quarter 1 performance management report	Mid-Year Treasury Management and Prudential Indicator Report 1st April 2022 to 30th September 2022	Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2022/23 (April - October)		
Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2021/22	Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee Actions and Referrals Update	November 2022 PSB minutes		
CP & Resources Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme 2022/23	September 2022 PSB minutes			

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CABINET/COUNCIL – FORWARD PLAN

FOR THE PERIOD 21 NOVEMBER 2022 TO 31 MARCH 2023

Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director Report Author
MID-YEAR TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT 1ST APRIL 2022 TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022	To provide members with an update on the treasury management activities from 1st April 2022 to 30th September 2022	Cabinet 28 Nov 2022	No	Cabinet Member for Resources	Director of Corporate Services Anthony Parnell, Treasury & Pension Investments Manager aparnell@car-marth-enshire.gov.uk
PUBLIC SPACE PROTECTION ORDER - ENHANCEMENT ON DOG RELATED CONTROLS	The report sets out the results of an engagement exercise undertaken on the potential options of enhanced Public Space Protection Orders for the control of dogs within Carmarthenshire.	Cabinet 28 Nov 2022	No	Cabinet Member for Transport, Waste and Infrastructure Services	Director of Place & Infrastructure Daniel John, Environmental Services Manager DWJohn@car-marth-enshire.gov.uk

Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director / Report Author
RECLASSIFICATION OF THE A476 CROSS HANDS	Following completion of the Cross Hands Economic Link Road planned for September 2022 it is proposed that the new road will be classified as the A476 and a section of the existing A476 be given a B road classification. Other minor modifications are also included.	Cabinet 28 Nov 2022	No	Cabinet Member for Transport, Waste and Infrastructure Services	Director of Place & Infrastructure Steve Pilliner, Head of Transportation & Highways SGPilliner@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
SUSTAINABLE DRAINAGE APPROVAL BODY (SAB) PRE-APPLICATION FEES AND CHARGES	<p>To consider the potential for charging external bodies and developers a pre-application fees for the professional advice provided by the SAB team in relation to sustainable drainage requirements and solutions for qualifying developments.</p> <p>The charges would apply for advice provided over and above reasonable levels of advice and guidance normally provided by the unit.</p>	Cabinet 28 Nov 2022	No	Cabinet Member for Transport, Waste and Infrastructure Services	Director of Place & Infrastructure Ben Kathrens, Flood Defence and Coastal Protection Manager BKathrens@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
Council Tax Base 2023/24	For Cabinet to consider the Tax Base calculations and determine the Tax Base in respect of the financial year 2023-24	Cabinet 12 Dec 2022	No	Cabinet Member for Resources	Director of Corporate Services Ann Thomas, Revenue Services Manager
Waste Strategy	This report covers detailed policies implement within the strategic and operational functions of service in line with	Cabinet 12 Dec 2022	No	Cabinet Member for Transport, Waste and Infrastructure Services	Director of Place & Infrastructure Daniel John,

Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director / Report Author
	the interim (2022/2023) kerbside waste changes. Placing into context the impending changes following the 2021-2025 waste strategy showing the planned path to improve recycling rates and adopt Welsh Government kerbside sort in Carmarthenshire.				Environmental Services Manager DWJohn@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23 UPDATE	To provide an update of the latest budgetary position for the 2022/23 capital programme, as at the 31st October 2022.	Cabinet 9 Jan 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Resources	Director of Corporate Services Randal Hemingway, Head of Financial Services RHemingway@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
CARMARTHENSHERE COUNTY COUNCIL'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021/22	Under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 we must publish an Annual Report on past performance by the end of October each year. Under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 we are required to publish an Annual Report on our Well-being Objectives. This report meets both these requirements in one document.	Cabinet 9 Jan 2023	No	Leader of the Council	Chief Executive Nicola Evans, Business Support Manager njevans@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director / Report Author
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	The report seeks formal adoption of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme for 2023/24	Cabinet 9 Jan 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Resources	Director of Corporate Services Ann Thomas, Revenue Services Manager
COUNCIL'S REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT	To provide the Cabinet with an update on the latest budgetary position as at 31st October 2022, in respect of 2022/23.	Cabinet 9 Jan 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Resources	Director of Corporate Services Randal Hemingway, Head of Financial Services RHemingway@car marthenshire.gov.uk
FIVE YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAMME (COUNCIL FUND) – 2023/24 TO 2027/28	To enable the authority to agree a five-year capital programme 2023/24 to 2027/28	Cabinet 9 Jan 2023	No	Cllr. Alun Lenny, Cabinet Member	Director of Corporate Services Chris Moore, Director of Corporate Services cmoore@carmarthe nshire.gov.uk
HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT BUSINESS PLAN 2023-2026	The HRA Business plan sets out our priorities and activities for new and existing council homes for the next three years. It also sets our capital and revenue budgets and confirms rental levels for tenants.	Cabinet 9 Jan 2023	No	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Homes	Director of Communities Rachel Davies, Strategic Housing Delivery Manager RaMDavies@carm arthenshire.gov.uk

Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director / Report Author
PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT QUARTER 2 2022/23(1 JULY TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2022)	Authorities are under a general duty to make arrangements to monitor performance. We need to demonstrate to citizens, members and regulators how performance is managed, and appropriate interventions implemented	Cabinet 9 Jan 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Organisation & Workforce	Chief Executive Noelwyn Daniel, Head of ICT and Corporate Policy ndaniel@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY 2023/24 TO 2025/26	To provide the Cabinet with an overview of the budget issues and outlook for the forthcoming years	Cabinet 9 Jan 2023	No	Cllr. Alun Lenny, Cabinet Member	Director of Corporate Services Randal Hemingway, Head of Financial Services RHemingway@car-marthenshire.gov.uk
SELF-EVALUATION AND SCHOOL DATA	Self-evaluation is integral to the business planning process. ECS has modified its approach by triangulating judgements from a wider range of perspectives	Cabinet 9 Jan 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Education and Welsh Language	Director of Education & Children Aeron Rees, Head of Curriculum and Wellbeing jarees@carmarthen-shire.gov.uk
SUPPORT FOR CURRICULUM	This report provides an overview of the support offered to our schools in relation	Cabinet 9 Jan 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Education and Welsh	Director of Education &

Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director / Report Author
DEVELOPMENT ACROSS THE SCHOOLS IN CARMARTHENSHIRE – PARTNERIAETH AND THE EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES DEPARTMENT.	to the implementation of the Curriculum for Wales, from Partneriaeth and the Education and Children's services department. In addition, the report outlines the impact of this support and the effective practice that is developing within the authority.			Language	Children Elin Forsyth, Principal Challenge Advisor EMForsyth@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
CWM BUSINESS PLAN & PROGRESS REPORT	This report presents the annual business plan of CWM Environmental, setting the annual actions and objectives and the progress the company has made	Cabinet 30 Jan 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Transport, Waste and Infrastructure Services	Director of Place & Infrastructure Daniel John, Environmental Services Manager DWJohn@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
ALTERNATIVE OUTDOOR EDUCATION OFFER	The purpose of this report is to review Carmarthenshire County Council's current Outdoor Education offer and to explore options for a re-modelled service within existing resources.	Cabinet 13 Feb 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Leisure, Culture & Tourism	Director of Communities Ian Jones, Head of Leisure IJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISALS	This report sets out the work being undertaken to review ten designated Conservation Areas across the County. It	Cabinet 13 Feb 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Rural Affairs and Planning Policy	Director of Place & Infrastructure Rhodri Griffiths,

Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director / Report Author
	<p>identifies the outcome of the review and the subsequent consultation exercise including on the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •A character appraisal; •A boundary review and •A management plan. <p>The report in setting out the above identifies the outcome of the public consultation exercise and the next steps including the processes required to amend any of the Conservation Area designations.</p>				<p>Head of Place and Sustainability RDGriffiths@carma rthenshire.gov.uk</p>
CORPORATE STRATEGY	To update our Corporate Strategy and Well-being Objectives	Cabinet 13 Feb 2023	No	Leader of the Council	Chief Executive Nicola Evans, Business Support Manager njevans@carmarth enshire.gov.uk
HIGHWAYS ASSET MANAGEMENT PLAN Maintenance Manual	<p>The Maintenance Manual is being developed as a portfolio of individual highway maintenance and management policies adopting a risk-based approach and according with a national code of practice.</p> <p>The topic being brought forward covers the management of highway drainage.</p>	Cabinet 13 Feb 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Transport, Waste and Infrastructure Services	Director of Place & Infrastructure Richard Waters, Highways and Transportation Services Manager RWaters@carmarth enshire.gov.uk

Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director / Report Author
HOUSING SUPPORT PROGRAMME (HSP) STRATEGY 2022-26	This strategy sets out our priorities and those of our partner agencies for homelessness prevention, homelessness relief and housing related support services over the coming four years (2022-26) to support our most vulnerable citizens to live as part of their communities.	Cabinet 13 Feb 2023	No	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Homes	Director of Communities Christine Harrison, Head of Strategic Joint Commissioning Chris.harrison@pembroke.gov.uk
RURAL ESTATES	In January 2021, the Welsh Government announced regulatory measures to address agricultural pollution. These regulations are known as The Water Resources (Control of Agricultural Pollution) (Wales) Regulations 2021. The regulations will have a huge impact on the majority of the Council's farms, especially the dairy farms, which will involve having to upgrade slurry storage facilities to accommodate at least five months' worth of slurry. The average capacity of slurry stores on Council farms currently stands at 2-3 months of storage. This report provides an update on the current situation regarding the impact of the regulations on the Farm Estate and the implications following the outcome of recent condition surveys carried out on all 24 farms.	Cabinet 13 Feb 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Resources	Chief Executive Jason Jones (Head of Regeneration), Head of Regeneration JaJones@car-marthenshire.gov.uk
FIVE YEAR	To enable the authority to agree a five-	Cabinet	No	Cllr. Alun Lenny, Cabinet	Director of

Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director / Report Author
CAPITAL PROGRAMME (COUNCIL FUND) – 2023/24 TO 2027/28	year capital programme 2023/24 to 2027/28	20 Feb 2023		Member	Corporate Services Randal Hemingway, Head of Financial Services RHemingway@car-marthenshire.gov.uk
REVENUE BUDGET STRATEGY 2023/24 TO 2025/26	To enable the Authority to set its Revenue Budget for the Council Fund and resultant Council Tax for 2023/24.	Cabinet 20 Feb 2023	No	Cllr. Alun Lenny, Cabinet Member	Director of Corporate Services Randal Hemingway, Head of Financial Services RHemingway@car-marthenshire.gov.uk
COUNCIL'S REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT	To provide the Cabinet with an update on the latest budgetary position as at 31st December 2022, in respect of 2022/23.	Cabinet 27 Feb 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Resources	Director of Corporate Services Randal Hemingway, Head of Financial Services RHemingway@car-marthenshire.gov.uk
Treasury Management and	To provide members with an update on the treasury management activities from	Cabinet 27 Feb 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Resources	Director of Corporate Services

Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director / Report Author
PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT 1ST APRIL 2022 TO 31ST DECEMBER 2022	1st April 2022 to 31st December 2022				Anthony Parnell, Treasury & Pension Investments Manager aparnell@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY AND STRATEGY 2023-2024	That Council formally approves the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2021-22 and recommendations therein. That Council formally approves the Treasury Management Indicators, Prudential Indicators, the MRP Statement, the Investment Strategy and recommendations therein.	Cabinet 27 Feb 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Resources	Director of Corporate Services Anthony Parnell, Treasury & Pension Investments Manager aparnell@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
BUSINESS RATES – RETAIL, LEISURE AND HOSPITALITY RATES RELIEF SCHEME 2023/24	To consider the adoption of a rate relief scheme being made available to billing authorities by Welsh Government for 2023/24	Cabinet 13 Mar 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Resources	Director of Corporate Services Ann Thomas, Revenue Services Manager

Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director / Report Author
EQUESTRIAN STRATEGY	<p>The Carmarthenshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) 2019-2029 has been produced and published in accordance with section 60 of the Countryside and Rights of Way (CROW) Act (2000).</p> <p>The ROWIP details Carmarthenshire's plan for the strategic management, development, and improvement of the County's Public Rights of Way network up until 2029.</p> <p>During consultation with the Local Access Forum, The Forum identified a need for the local authority to commit to producing a Carmarthenshire Equestrian Strategy to recognise the access opportunities and challenges for horse riding and carriage driving across the County.</p> <p>An Equestrian Strategy to 'promote and develop an accessible network for equestrian use' has therefore been published in the Carmarthenshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2019-2029.</p> <p>The report sets out the proposal to adopt an Equestrian Strategy for Carmarthenshire.</p>	Cabinet 13 Mar 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Transport, Waste and Infrastructure Services	Director of Place & Infrastructure Steve Pilliner, Head of Transportation & Highways SGPilliner@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
TENANT COMPENSATION POLICY	The report sets out our approach to when it may be appropriate to compensate a tenant who has suffered loss or inconvenience due to service failure. The	Cabinet 13 Mar 2023	No	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Homes	Director of Communities Jonathan Morgan, Head of Homes &

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Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director / Report Author
	policy will guide officers when dealing with council tenants ensuring a consistent approach.				Safer Communities JMorgan@car-marth-enshire.gov.uk
TENANT RECHARGE POLICY	Occasionally it may be necessary to recharge a tenant for work that we have carried out to the property which was the tenant responsibility under the tenancy agreement. The policy will guide officers when dealing with council tenant recharges, ensuring a consistent approach.	Cabinet 13 Mar 2023	No	Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Homes	Director of Communities Jonathan Morgan, Head of Homes & Safer Communities JMorgan@car-marth-enshire.gov.uk
WEST WALES ADULT ADVOCACY STRATEGY 2023 - 2027	THE ADULT ADVOCACY STRATEGY SEEKS TO SHAPE THE COMMISSIONING ARRANGEMENTS OF HDUHB, CARMARTHENSHIRE CC, CEREDIGION CC AND PEMBROKESHIRE CC IN ORDER TO MEET THEIR STATUTORY DUTIES. IT SEEKS TO ENSURE THAT GOOD QUALITY ADVOCACY IS READILY AND EQUITABLY AVAILABLE, IN THE WEST WALES REGION.	Cabinet 13 Mar 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Health & Social Services	Director of Communities Christine Harrison, Head of Strategic Joint Commissioning Chris.harrison@pe-mbrokeshire.gov.uk
CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23 UPDATE	To provide an update of the latest budgetary position for the 2022/23 capital programme, as at the 31st December 2022.	Cabinet 27 Mar 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Resources	Director of Corporate Services Randal Hemingway, Head

Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director / Report Author
					of Financial Services RHemingway@car marthenshire.gov.u k
CARMARTHENS IRE'S SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES FOR LEARNING (CSCfL)	To provide Cabinet with an updated CSCfL (formerly known as Modernising Education Programme (MEP)) as the long-term strategy and investment plan for schools. The plan will be brought forward following extensive consultation with stakeholders.	Cabinet 27 Mar 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Education and Welsh Language	Director of Education & Children Simon Davies, Head of Access to Education sidavies@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY, TWELVE MONTH REVIEW	The report provides an update on progress with the Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy.	Cabinet 27 Mar 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Transport, Waste and Infrastructure Services	Director of Place & Infrastructure Steve Pilliner, Head of Transportation & Highways SGPilliner@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
THE EDUCATION AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES STRATEGY FOR SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOLS AND SPECIALIST	This report outlines the range of differentiated support provided to our schools, PRUs and specialist settings ensuring that leaders, teachers and teaching assistants access the necessary support to ensure that all pupils progress and thrive.	Cabinet 27 Mar 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Education and Welsh Language	Director of Education & Children Elin Forsyth, Principal Challenge Advisor EMForsyth@carma

Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director / Report Author
SETTINGS, INCLUDING THOSE THAT ARE MOST CHALLENGED.					rthenshire.gov.uk
AN EVALUATION OF ESTYN INSPECTIONS ACROSS CARMARTHENSHERE SCHOOLS, PUPIL REFERRAL UNITS AND SPECIALIST SETTINGS.	This report provides an evaluation of Estyn inspections over the last five years, outlining the strengths of our schools, PRUs and specialist settings, as well as providing an overview of recommendations for improvement. In addition, the report outlines how the ECS department supports schools both pre and post Estyn inspections to ensure that all of our learners' progress and thrive.	Cabinet 11 Apr 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Education and Welsh Language	Director of Education & Children Elin Forsyth, Principal Challenge Advisor EMForsyth@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
LEISURE, CULTURE AND OUTDOOR RECREATION STRATEGY – POST CONSULTATION	The document provides a framework for the service to work with key stakeholders to deliver a strategically aligned Leisure, Culture and Outdoor Recreation Strategy for the next 10 years.	Cabinet 22 May 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Leisure, Culture & Tourism	Director of Communities Ian Jones, Head of Leisure IJones@carmarthenshire.gov.uk
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE WELSH IN EDUCATION	The Carmarthenshire 2022-32 WESP became operative on 1.9.22. The Local Authority is required to submit an annual	Cabinet 17 Jul 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Education and Welsh Language	Director of Education & Children

Subject	Report Summary	Decision Making Body and Dates	Is Exempt?	Cabinet Member Portfolio Holder (if applicable)	Responsible Director / Report Author
STRATEGIC PLAN (WESP)	progress report to Welsh Government. It's deemed pertinent to present this report to the Scrutiny process prior to WG submission.				Aeron Rees, Head of Curriculum and Wellbeing jarees@carmarthen-shire.gov.uk
ANNUAL TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT 2022-2023	To provide members with an update on the treasury management activities for 2022-2023	Cabinet 4 Sep 2023	No	Cabinet Member for Resources	Director of Corporate Services Anthony Parnell, Treasury & Pension Investments Manager aparnell@carmarthen-shire.gov.uk
CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23 UPDATE	To provide an update of the latest budgetary position for the 2022/23 capital programme	Cabinet 27 Nov 2023	No		

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Agenda Item 10

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY, 13 DECEMBER 2022

PRESENT: Councillor A.G. Morgan (Chair)

Councillors (In Person):

D. Nicholas

Councillors (Virtually):

K.V. Broom

L. Davies

A. Evans

R. James

D. Jones

K. Madge

D.E. Williams

Also Present (In Person):

N. Daniel, Head of ICT and Corporate Policy;

R. Hemingway, Head of Financial Services;

S. Rees, Simultaneous Translator;

M.S. Davies, Democratic Services Officer;

Also Present (Virtually):

L.R. Jones, Head of Administration and Law;

P.R. Thomas, Assistant Chief Executive (People Management & Performance);

A. Clarke, Lead Business Partner (HR);

G. Ayers, Corporate Policy and Partnership Manager;

L. Evans, Senior HR Advisor;

H. Font, Employee Wellbeing Manager;

J. Owen, TIC Programme Manager;

J. Owens, Democratic Services Officer.

Chamber, County Hall, Carmarthen, and remotely: 10.00 am - 12.15 pm

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T. Davies and H.A.L. Evans and Cabinet Members Councillors P. Hughes, A. Lenny and D. Price.

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST INCLUDING ANY PARTY WHIPS ISSUED IN RELATION TO ANY AGENDA ITEM

Councillor	Minute Number	Nature of Interest
A. Evans	7 – Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2022-23;	Mother works in Democratic Services section;
R. James	4 – Sickness Absence Monitoring Report Half Year/Q2 2022/23;	Partner works in the Library Service;
K. Madge	4 – Sickness Absence Monitoring Report Half Year/Q2 2022/23; 7 – Revenue and Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2022-23;	Daughter works in Social Services.

3. PUBLIC QUESTIONS

No public questions had been received.

4. SICKNESS ABSENCE MONITORING REPORT HALF YEAR/Q2 2022/23

[NOTE: Cllrs. R. James and K. Madge declared their interest in this item but remained in the meeting for its consideration.]

The Committee considered a report which provided sickness absence data for the cumulative period Q2 2022/23 financial year plus a summary of actions.

Amongst the issues raised on the report were the following:

- It was considered that the increased options for staff to work at multi-locations was a positive step in terms of sickness absence levels in that staff could, where possible, continue to work from home where previously they may not have travelled to work;
- In terms of job vacancies it was emphasised that there was currently no recruitment freeze though it was acknowledged that it was difficult to attract applicants for some posts. As previously stated some job descriptions had been revisited in an effort to encourage more people to apply for posts and in some instances the Authority was also able to add market supplements to the wage. Members were advised that the Authority had recently achieved Gold Accreditation following a report by an assessor from Investors In People which was a reflection of the support it gave to its employees;
- Officers agreed that every effort needed to be made to ensure that the sickness absence measures applied equitably across all staff regardless of their role whether they were office based or front-line workers;
- The Employee Wellbeing Manager agreed to provide a departmental breakdown of the 70 Mental Health First Aiders;
- In terms of Occupational Health and the demands on the service it was noted that work was being undertaken to look at ways of reshaping the service with possibly a more commercial approach. This would be reported back to the Committee in due course.

The Chair thanked officers for the support being given to staff.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report be received.

5. A VISION FOR THE NEXT PHASE OF THE COUNCIL'S TRANSFORMATION PROGRAMME

The Committee considered a report setting out a vision/business case for the new phase of the Council's transformation and change programme, which would be used to inform the development of a Transformation Strategy over the next 5 years. The aim of the strategy would be to design and implement a programme of internal change and transformation to support the Council in the delivery of its vision and priorities as set out within its Corporate Strategy.

Amongst the issues raised on the report were the following:

- It was acknowledged that there was a need to improve the sharing of best practice across the authority;

- It was noted that procedures would be introduced to monitor outcomes and to determine whether any further support was required once recommended changes and transformations had been embedded.

The TIC Programme Manager paid tribute to Bernadette Dolan, a valued member of the TIC team, who had recently passed away.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report be received.

6. CARMARTHENSHIRE PUBLIC SERVICES BOARD (PSB) MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 2022

The Committee considered the minutes of the meeting of the Carmarthenshire Public Services Board [PSB] held on the 28th September, 2022. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 required that a designated local government scrutiny committee was appointed to scrutinise the work of the PSB. In Carmarthenshire, the Council's Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee had been designated as the relevant scrutiny committee.

The Corporate Policy, Performance & Partnership Manager advised that the New Ways of Working space at Llandeilo referred to in the minutes was now open for use. She added that a workshop had recently been held for all PSB representatives in view of the number of new members at which the issue of attendance at PSB meetings had been raised.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the PSB meeting held on the 28th September, 2022 be received.

7. REVENUE & CAPITAL BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2022/23

[NOTE: Cllrs. A. Evans and K. Madge declared their interest in this item but remained in the meeting for its consideration.]

The Committee considered the Authority's Corporate Budget Monitoring Report and the Chief Executive's and Corporate Services departmental reports as at 31st August 2022 in respect of the 2022/23 financial year. The report also included an appendix detailing Savings Monitoring 2022-23.

Amongst the issues and queries raised on the report were the following:

- In response to a repeated concern regarding the number of vacant posts in the customer service centres it was reiterated that the vacancies continued to be advertised;
- In response to a comment it was confirmed that the proposed realignment of the marketing and media division was proceeding;
- It was noted that there was only one vacancy in the IT division not 5 as indicated in the report;
- The Head of Financial Services agreed to pursue a possible reduction in bank charges.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to receive the report.

8. MID-YEAR TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT 1ST APRIL 2022 TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2022

The Committee considered the Mid-Year Treasury Management and Prudential Indicator report for the period 1st April 2022 – 30th September 2022 to ensure that the activities undertaken were consistent with the requirements of the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2022-23 adopted by Council on the 2nd March, 2022.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED to receive the report.

9. SCRUTINY ACTION UPDATE

The Committee considered a report detailing actions, requests or referrals emerging from previous scrutiny meetings.

With regard to action Action ref. P&R 008 21/22 the Corporate Policy, Performance & Partnership Manager advised that the Communities, Homes and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee would be considering a progress update report on the Ten Towns Initiative at its meeting on the 19th December, 2022 which she would arrange to be circulated.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report detailing progress in relation to actions, requests or referrals emerging from previous scrutiny meetings, be noted.

10. FORTHCOMING ITEMS

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the list of forthcoming items to be considered at the next scheduled meeting be received.

11. MINUTES - 19TH OCTOBER, 2022

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on the 19th October 2022 be signed as a correct record.

CHAIR

DATE