

Pecyn Dogfennau



Mark James LLM, DPA, DCA
Prif Weithredwr,
Chief Executive,
Neuadd y Sir, Caerfyrddin. SA31 1JP
County Hall, Carmarthen. SA31 1JP

DYDD MERCHER, 9 MAWRTH 2016

AT: HOLL AELODAU'R PWYLLGOR CRAFFU POLISI AC ADNODDAU

YR WYF DRWY HYN YN EICH GALW I FYNYCHU CYFARFOD O'R **PWYLLGOR CRAFFU POLISI AC ADNODDAU** SYDD I'W GYNNAL YN SIAMBR, 3 HEOL SPILMAN, CAERFYRDDIN AM **10.00 AM** AR **DYDD MERCHER, 16EG MAWRTH, 2016**, ER MWYN CYFLAWNI'R MATERION A AMLINELLIR AR YR AGENDA ATODEDIG.

Mark James

PRIF WEITHREDWR



AILGYLCHWCH OS GWELWCH YN DDA

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Cyf:	AD016-001

PWYLLGOR CRAFFU POLISI AC ADNODDAU 13 AELOD

GRŴP PLAID CYMRU – 5 AELOD

- | | | |
|----|--------------|--------------------------|
| 1. | Y Cynghorydd | G. Davies (Is-Gadeirydd) |
| 2. | Y Cynghorydd | J.K. Howell |
| 3. | Y Cynghorydd | A. Lenny |
| 4. | Y Cynghorydd | D. Price |
| 5. | Y Cynghorydd | D. E. Williams |

GRŴP ANNIBYNNOL – 4 AELOD

- | | | |
|----|--------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Y Cynghorydd | T. Bowen |
| 2. | Y Cynghorydd | W.J.W. Evans |
| 3. | Y Cynghorydd | A.G. Morgan |
| 4. | Y Cynghorydd | D.W.H. Richards (Cadeirydd) |

GRŴP LLAFUR – 4 AELOD

- | | | |
|----|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. | Y Cynghorydd | D.J.R. Bartlett |
| 2. | Y Cynghorydd | J.S. Edmunds |
| 3. | Y Cynghorydd | A.W. Jones |
| 4. | Y Cynghorydd | R. Thomas |

AGENDA

1. YMDDIHEURIADAU AM ABSENOLDEB
2. DATGANIADAU O FUDDIANNAU PERSONOL
3. DATGAN CHWIPIAID PLAID SYDD WEDI EU GWAHARDD
4. CWESTIYNAU GAN Y CYHOEDD (NID OEDD DIM WEDI DOD I LAW)
5. EITEMAU AR GYFER Y DYFODOL 5 - 8
6. DIWEDDARIAD BWRDD GWASANAETHAU LLEOL SIR GAERFYRDDIN 2015 9 - 20
7. DEDDF LLESIANT CENEDLAETHAU'R DYFODOL (CYMRU) 2015 21 - 30
8. ADRODDIAD MONITRO CYLLIDEB CYFALAF A REFENIW 2015/16 31 - 54
9. EGLURHAD AM BEIDIO Â CHYFLWYNO ADRODDIADAU CRAFFU 55 - 56
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Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

POLICY & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

16th MARCH 2016

Forthcoming items for next meeting – Friday 22nd April 2016

Discussion Topic	Background
Combined Spend on Private Sector and Third Sector Services – TIC Review	At its work programme planning session held on the 11th May 2015, the Committee requested that the outcomes of these reviews be reported to the Committee. An update on both reviews was deferred from the November 2015 meeting and will now be presented as a combined report.
TIC Annual Review 2015	The TIC Team was established to support a programme of transformational change across the Local Authority and to seek opportunities to drive out waste and inefficiency by delivering more purposeful services. This annual review will provide the Committee with an update of the Team's work during 2015.
Tackling Poverty Action Plan	This is a key priority for the Welsh Government, Carmarthenshire's Local Service Board and Carmarthenshire County Council. This update report (deferred from March) will provide the Committee with an opportunity to monitor the progress being made by the Council in terms of tackling poverty.
Asset Management Plan	Deferred from the March meeting, this will provide the Committee with an opportunity to be consulted during the formulation of the Council's Asset Management Plan.

Discussion Topic	Background
Revised Procurement Strategy	This item will provide the Committee with an opportunity to consider the County Council's revised Procurement Strategy. Members of the Committee have been contributing to the development of this strategy via a focus group.

As requested by members of the Committee at its meeting in February 2014, the latest version of the Committee's Forward Work Programme is included with the forthcoming items (on next page).

Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee – Forward Work Programme 2015/16 (as at 8th March 2016)

11 June 2015	24 July 2015	5 October 2015	25 November 2015	6 January 2016	3 February 2016	16 March 2016	22 April 2016
Revised Corporate Strategy	EOY Performance / Monitoring 2014/15	TIC Review (Wales Audit Office report)	Spend on external expertise – to include legal expertise. (Annual Report)	3-year Revenue Budget Consultation 2016/17 to 2018/19	Compliance Strategy for Welsh Language Standards	Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (including LSB Review)	Combined Spend on Private Sector and Third Sector Services – TIC review
Draft CCC Improvement Plan 14/15 and Annual Report 13/14	EOY Budget Monitoring 2014/15	Budget Monitoring 2015/16	Welsh Language Skills Strategy	5-year Capital Programme Consultation 2016/17 to 2020/21	ICT Strategy (including e-mail usage and monitoring)	LSB Annual Report 2015	Revised Procurement Strategy
P&R Scrutiny Committee Forward Work Programme 2015/16	Treasury Management Annual Report 2014/15	Carmarthenshire Ageing Well Plan	Welsh Language Scheme Annual Report 2014/15		Treasury Management Policy & Strategy 2016/17	Budget Monitoring 2015/16	TIC Annual Review 2015
P&R Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2014/15	Treasury Management 2015/16 (Q1)		Draft Strategic Equality Plan 2016-20		Treasury Management 2015/16 (Q3)	Actions & Referrals Update	Asset Management Plan
	Strategic Equality Plan Annual Report 2014/15		Treasury Management 2015/16 (Q2)		Procurement Annual Report 2014/15		Tackling Poverty Action Plan
	Actions & Referrals Update		Budget Monitoring 2015/16				
			Performance / Monitoring 2015/16 Quarter 2				
			Actions & Referrals Update				

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

PWYLLGOR CRAFFU POLISI AC ADNODDAU 16^{eg} O FAWRTH 2016

Diweddariad Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Lleol Sir Gaerfyrddin 2015

Ystyried y materion canlynol a chyflwyno sylwadau arnynt:

- Bod y Pwyllgor yn ystyried crynodeb o weithgarwch Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Lleol Sir Gaerfyrddin yn ystod y flwyddyn 2015 gan gynnwys crynodeb o strwythur y Bwrdd, materion a gafodd eu trafod a chynnydd ar brosiectau a gwaith penodol.

Rhesymau:

- I gyflwyno diweddariad ar waith y Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Lleol yn ystod 2015.
- Cyflwyno braslun o drefniadau'r Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Lleol newydd o fis Ebrill 2016 ymlaen.

Angen cyfeirio'r mater at y Bwrdd Gweithredol er mwyn gwneud penderfyniad: NAC OES

Aelod y Bwrdd Gweithredol sy'n gyfrifol am y Portffolio:

Cyng. Emlyn Dole (Arweinydd y Cyngor ac Is-Gadeirydd y Bwrdd Gwasanaeth Lleol)

Y Gyfarwyddiaeth: Prif Weithredwr Enw Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth: Wendy Walters Awduron yr Adroddiad: Gwyneth Ayers Joanna Jones	Swyddi: Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwyol (Adfywio a Pholisi) Rheolwr Polisi Corfforaethol a Phartneriaeth Swyddog Datblygu'r Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Lleol	Rhifau Ffôn / Cyfeiriadau E-Bost: 01267 224112 wswalters@sirgar.gov.uk 01267 224659 gayers@sirgar.gov.uk 01267 224039 jjones@sirgar.gov.uk
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

POLICY & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 16th MARCH 2016

Carmarthenshire Local Service Board Update 2015

The Carmarthenshire LSB was established in 2007 and 2015-16 will be the final year of its existence before the establishment of the Public Services Board in May 2016 as a result of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act requirements.

The attached report provides a summary of LSB activity during 2015 and includes:

1. Introduction and Background to LSB;
2. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015;
3. Summary of issues discussed during 2015;
4. Future Public Services Board Arrangements and Priorities.

As a result of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act requirements from April 2016 onwards each county in Wales will establish a Public Services Board to replace the current LSB structure.

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: Wendy Walters Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)

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: Wendy Walters Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)

1. **Local Member(s)** – Through LSB Annual Forum event held on 1st December 2015.
2. **Community / Town Council** – Through LSB Annual Forum event held on 1st December 2015.
3. **Relevant Partners** – Through bi-monthly LSB meetings and Annual Forum event held on 1st December 2015.
4. **Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations** – N/A

**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
Integrated Community Strategy for Carmarthenshire 2011-16	<p>Fersiwn Cymraeg / Welsh Version http://www.thecarmarthenshirepartnership.org.uk/Cymraeg/Documents/Strategaeth%20Gymunedol%20Integredig.pdf</p> <p>Fersiwn Saesneg / English Version http://www.thecarmarthenshirepartnership.org.uk/English/Documents/Integrated%20Community%20Strategy.pdf</p>

Title of Document	File Ref No. / Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Integrated Community Strategy Annual Report for 2014-15	Available through Gwyneth Ayers, Policy & Partnership Manager
Carmarthenshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment	<p>Fersiwn Cymraeg / Welsh Version http://www.thecarmarthenshirepartnership.org.uk/Cymraeg/StrategaethGymunedoIntegredig/Documents/Carms%20JSNA%20-%20Welsh%20FINAL%20Document.pdf</p> <p>Fersiwn Saesneg / English Version http://www.thecarmarthenshirepartnership.org.uk/English/ICS/Documents/Carms%20JSNA%20-%20FINAL%20Document.pdf</p>
LSB Annual Forum Feedback	Available through Gwyneth Ayers, Policy & Partnership Manager

Carmarthenshire Local Service Board Update 2015

1. Introduction and Background to LSB

Local Service Boards (LSBs) were set up in 2007/2008 as a direct response to Sir Jeremy Beecham’s review of local service delivery – ‘Delivering Beyond Boundaries’ which was published in November 2006. The review set out an action plan for improving Public Service Delivery in Wales. One of the actions was to establish LSBs. Carmarthenshire was successful in becoming a pilot area for the setting up of Local Service Boards in 2007 and this new board evolved from the Carmarthenshire Community Planning Steering Group which had been established in the county. The board as a pilot area agreed on two main priorities for the LSB those being Health & Social Care Integration and Sustainable Development.

Carmarthenshire Local Service Board has developed significantly since it was established and although there have been changes in terms of individual membership the core member organisations have remained committed to supporting a strategic direction of travel for the county with a focus on delivery from the top. The Carmarthenshire LSB includes the following organisations (with named representatives):

Organisation	Representatives
Carmarthenshire County Council	Cllr. Emlyn Dole, Leader & Vice-Chair of LSB Mark James, Chief Executive Wendy Walters, Assistant Chief Executive Rob Sully, Director of Education & Children’s Services
Hywel Dda University Health Board	Bernardine Rees, Chairman of Hywel Dda University Health Board Steve Moore, Chief Executive Sarah Jennings, Director of Governance, Engagement & Communication
Dyfed Powys Police	Chief Superintendent Clare Parmenter
Coleg Sir Gâr	Barry Liles, Principal elected Chair of LSB in May 2014
University of Wales Trinity Saint David	Jane Davidson, Director of INSPIRE
Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services	Marie Mitchell, Chief Officer
Natural Resources Wales	Huwel Manley, Environment Manager West
Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Service	Adrian Nicholas, Head of County Command
Welsh Government	Frances Duffy, Director of Health Transport & Reconfiguration
Police & Crime Commissioner for Dyfed Powys	Tim Burton, Deputy Commissioner
Department for Work & Pensions	Jocelyn Llewellyn, Senior Employer and Partnership Manager (Jobcentre Plus)

2. Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The Well-being of Future Generation (Wales) Act 2015 was published last year with the duty applying from April 2016 onwards. The Act seeks to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. It will help to improve the way in which sustainable decisions are made across named public bodies in Wales with all of those public bodies working to a common set of seven national goals:

- A prosperous Wales;
- A resilient Wales;
- A healthier Wales;
- A more equal Wales;
- A Wales of cohesive communities;
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language; and
- A globally responsible Wales.

The Act will also move the existing Local Service Boards on to a statutory basis where they will become known as Public Service Boards (PSBs). PSBs need to be in place from April 2016 and will be responsible for improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of the County. The PSB will utilise the sustainable development principle to maximise its contribution to the achievement of seven national well-being goals by addressing the specific well-being needs of the area.

Sustainable development is the overriding principle of the PSBs activities. This means acting 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.

Transition Arrangements from LSB to PSB

The Council's Policy & Partnership Team have been preparing for the transition from LSB to PSB and this was supported by a workshop that took place in January 2016 with current LSB members to consider what elements of best practice we want to continue from the LSB into PSB and also transition arrangements into the new Board. Arrangements for the scrutiny of the work of the PSB are yet to be finalised but there is an expectation that a designated local authority scrutiny committee (likely to be the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee in Carmarthenshire) is responsible for this role. The designated scrutiny committee can require any PSB member to give evidence to the committee but only in respect of the exercise of joint functions conferred on them as a member of the PSB. Terms of Reference for the PSB and supporting structure are currently being prepared and will be agreed at the first meeting of the PSB in May 2016.

3. Summary of issues discussed during 2015

The past 12 months have been a challenging period for each of the individual LSB member organisations with significant service pressures and a changing financial position requiring organisations to review their existing services and current delivery

mechanisms in order to reduce costs and achieve efficiencies in working to a shrinking public sector budget. The LSB has played a key role in identifying collaborative approaches and responses to some of these challenges and will continue to do so over coming years as the current budget trends continue. Organisations recognise that by working together they are able to share knowledge, information and experience of work and projects that they have delivered but also to use the forum to identify any opportunities to make the most efficient and effective use of the resources available to us for the benefit of the county. A number of key developments that have happened over the past year are noted below:

3.1 Single Integrated Plan

Carmarthenshire had decided to integrate all its statutory and some non-statutory plans into one document back in 2011 through the Integrated Community Strategy (ICS) for Carmarthenshire 2011-16. The LSB has responsibility for developing and monitoring progress against the strategy which sets the vision and aspiration for Carmarthenshire as a whole. As a result of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act the ICS will change to become a local well-being plan from 2018 onwards. A proposal will be taken to the March LSB to get agreement to extend our current ICS, which is due to be reviewed in April 2016, to 2018 when the Well-being Plan will then take over. An annual report on delivery against the ICS outcomes and goals during 2014-15 was presented at the LSB annual forum event held in Parc y Scarlets on December 1st 2015.

3.2 Strategic Review of Partnerships

Towards the end of 2014, the LSB made the decision to review its current arrangements with regards to strategic partnerships. It identified a series of recommendations that highlighted that the current partnership structure was not fit for future purpose. Taking into account the direction being set by the then Well-being of Future Generations Act, it became more of a focus to ensure our local structures were set up to deliver on the future requirements being placed on us by the forthcoming Act. A final review paper was presented to the July 2015 LSB meeting which listed nine recommendations for approval. This paper was accepted in its entirety and paved the way for replacing the current five partnership model (Community Safety; Children and Young People; Environment; Regeneration; and Health & Social Care) with three thematic groups. The three thematic groups will be as noted below and reflect the new national goals:

- Healthy Families and Communities;
- Fair and Safe Communities; and
- Prosperous and Resilient Communities.

Each of the thematic groups will also consider issues relating to the cross-cutting themes of poverty; children and young people; older people; and Welsh language.

3.3 Collaborative T&F Workstreams:

During the early part of 2015, it was agreed to establish a series of LSB workstreams on matters where greater collaboration between LSB partners could lead to efficiency of

service, greater capacity and cost reduction for all individual partners. These workstreams are being taken forward on a task and finish basis and have focussed on:

- a. Estates and facilities maintenance;
- b. Transport;
- c. Staff development;
- d. Procurement.

Following updates provide an outline of some of the main achievements of these workstreams to date:

- **Estates & Facilities Maintenance**

Workstream Lead: Jonathan Fearn; Head of Corporate Property for CCC:

The group has considered matters relating building and grounds maintenance, servicing of electrical and mechanical equipment, energy and new build and construction development and have established a sub-group to take some of these areas forward. The group have also established a further sub-group to consider parking management issues at Jobswell Road which affects a number of LSB partner organisations. Other areas being explored by the group include a web based meeting room booking system and co-location opportunities, discussions are underway to progress both these initiatives.

- **A strategic approach to collaborative people management**

Workstream Lead: Caroline Peek, Coleg Sir Gar & Dr Liz Wilson, University of Wales Trinity Saint David

A successful leadership conference was held in November 2015 which was attended by over 90 senior managers from across LSB partners. As a result of the success of this event further consideration is being given to the development of a collaborative leadership programme across public sector agencies in the County.

- **Transport**

Workstream Lead: Peter Llewellyn, Head of Strategic Partnerships; Hywel Dda University Health Board

The work of this group has concentrated on a collaborative approach to pool car booking, scoping of opportunities to share bunkered fuel sites, shared staff travel policies to reduce business mileage and a strategic transport analysis that has been conducted to identify further opportunities.

- **Procurement**

Workstream Lead: Alan Aitken, Procurement Manager; Carmarthenshire County Council

The group have been looking at opportunities to work collaboratively on future procurement projects by sharing future work programmes and liaising locally on National Procurement Service projects and work. Opportunities relating to sharing best practice on community benefit clauses in contracts are also being developed.

3.4 Carms News

LSB partners agreed to continue to fund Carms News during the 2015-16 financial year and also agreed to the paper being re-focused. This meant that a newly formed multi-agency editorial committee would be established to ensure that joint articles were published where possible and better use of space and less duplication occurred amongst partners. It was agreed that the pages would focus on one of the five priorities contained within the Integrated Community Strategy and to have more interaction with the public with better use of 'what's on' pages, calls to action and 'Did you know' sections. It was further agreed during 2015 to reduce the number of editions of the paper from six to four. Discussions are underway with regard to arrangements for the 2016-17 financial year with partners keen to continue to support the publication. It is likely that the number of hard copy editions circulated to each home will be reduced to two per year with a further two editions published online only.

3.5 Climate Change Adaptation Work

Through the Environment Partnership, the LSB commissioned a piece of work to identify key actions for climate adaptation and a report was produced based on work undertaken during 2014 and 2015 in considering the potential implications of climate change in Carmarthenshire. The report outlines a number of recommendations that will be taken forward around four specific areas: Infrastructure; Asset Management; Communications; and Finance. A working group has been established, led by University of Wales Trinity Saint David, which will involve a number of LSB partners to develop a work plan for taking the recommendations forward in 2016.

3.6 LSB ESF Project Closure

2015 saw the closure of the six LSB ESF Projects that were being taken forward in Carmarthenshire through ESF funding drawn down to progress projects. The six projects were as follows:

- **Carmarthenshire & Ceredigion Third Sector Brokers** – this project looked at developing links between the community based health and social care teams in Carmarthenshire and Ceredigion with the third sector providers. The brokers worked closely with the health and social care Community Resource Teams to ensure services and support provided by the third sector was included as part of the support package to clients and patients. This added value to core statutory service provision as well as supporting clients who are not eligible for core services. Three brokers were employed in Carmarthenshire and two in Ceredigion. The broker roles were hosted by the voluntary sector (CAVS in

Carmarthenshire and CAVO in Ceredigion) with the posts being based within the Community Resource Teams working with these fully integrated teams. The ESF funded project came to an end in December 2014 but due to the success of the roles and evaluation of added benefit provided the roles have been mainstreamed into core service provision within Integrated Services. The posts are now hosted by the Health Board.

- **Carmarthenshire Success** – This project was hosted by Coleg Sir Gâr and worked in partnership with LSB partners. This project employed a part-time co-ordinator until December 2014 to provide a strategic approach to support the shared delivery and promotion of 25 apprenticeship opportunities per year for employment and training in the public sector for local young people aged 16-24, within Carmarthenshire.
- **Environment Partnership Development Officer** – The Environment Partnership Development Officer role was a resource to support the LSB in developing and delivering upon challenging Sustainable Development targets. Part of this work included supporting the Environment Partnership in Carmarthenshire which was made up of representative organisations from across all sectors. The aim of the role was to lead, coordinate, develop and project manage the current and future activity of the Environment Partnership. This included working proactively with a range of partners of the LSB to ensure effective local collaboration, plus integration with wider regional and national agendas. Given the re-structure of the Carmarthenshire partnership arrangements the Environment Partnership will no longer exist with the agenda integrated into the new thematic working groups.
- **Advice & Support Carmarthenshire (ASC)** – ASC sought to facilitate and enable partnership working between the various agencies that provide advice and support services with an emphasis on poverty and social inclusion. The project aimed to ensure the best use of the resources available within the County, creating a more joined up approach and ultimately greater capacity to support as many citizens as possible through the delivery of focussed campaigns. The coordinator did not provide the advice and support directly but facilitated and worked with organisations that were already active in this area in order to better target provision in areas of identified need. The coordinator also supported organisations to work collaboratively to strengthen any funding bids for financial support. The ASC network has been disbanded as a result of the cease of funding but the Council is looking at the funding it provides to the sector through the Third Sector review being undertaken by TIC.
- **LSB Development Officer** – This was a staff post which funded the LSB Development Officer to support the development of a workplan and secretariat of the LSB. This post was continued in 2015-16 through Welsh Government funding.

- **Regional Collaboration & Improvement officer** – This project aimed to develop greater collaboration between, and integration of, key programmes to Tackle Poverty in the most deprived communities in Wales, namely Communities First, Families First and Flying Start. It sought to reduce duplication in areas of programme overlap; encourage greater and more effective collaboration between the programmes, key service providers, and other appropriate agencies and stakeholders and ensure that programmes are planned jointly and maximum use is made of resources, ensuring joined up delivery and reduction in duplication.

The Project also looked to engage with Local Service Boards (LSBs) to develop informed, effective relationships and provide an integrated approach to regional planning and commissioning of services across local authorities. This in turn would lead to better commissioning processes and support the development of strong governance and performance management.

3.7 Agency response to incidents in Llanelli (November 2015)

The LSB is reactive to certain events and incidents that require a multi-agency response within the County. Partners will also bring certain matters to the Board's attention to keep others updated or if it may affect one of more of the other LSB partners. During November 2015, there were two separate events in Llanelli where two men were murdered in the same local area, both deaths were unconnected. The Force brought the item to the LSB to re-assure other partners of the process being undertaken and any community interventions that had been put in place and to consider any other possible avenues of collaboration between partners that had not been taken forward.

3.8 Syrian Re-settlement Scheme

Carmarthenshire LSB received an update on progress in terms of the local approach towards delivery and support for the UK wide Syrian Resettlement scheme. Carmarthenshire are due to receive their first cohort of refugees during the early part of 2016. In order to prepare for the arrival of the refugees, a multi-agency Task & Finish group has been established locally. Lead by Robin Staines, Head of Housing & Public Protection, the group will consider a work programme around four main priorities: Health; Housing; Employment; and Education, to ensure that all Syrian refugees have access to opportunities to integrate them fully into the County upon arrival through the scheme. Discussions at LSB included that Dyfed Powys Police have established their own Oversight Board to monitor any community tensions and the Health Board noted they had Syrian clinicians who were keen to do what they can to help. The Board agreed to receive regular updates on progress around the resettlement scheme.

4. Future Public Services Board Arrangements and Priorities

The newly formed PSB (first meeting to be held on 12 May 2016) will consider its priorities once the Board has been formed and Terms of Reference and chairing arrangements have been agreed. A full work programme will be developed for future

meetings. It is likely that the following areas of work will feature as ongoing priorities for the PSB:

- a. Prepare and publish an assessment of the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in Carmarthenshire by no later than May 2017;
- b. To prepare and publish a Local Well-being Plan for the county setting out local objectives and the steps it proposes to take to meet them by no later than May 2018;
- c. To confirm future scrutiny requirements and arrangements for the PSB as a result of the WFG Act guidance;
- d. To continue with the collaborative working workstreams established by the LSB;
- e. To develop communication and engagement platforms in Carmarthenshire between PSB partners, particularly with PSB stakeholders, Town & Community Councils, Elected members, communities and any other interested parties).

PWYLLGOR CRAFFU POLISI AC ADNODDAU 16^{eg} O FAWRTH 2016

Deddf Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol (Cymru) 2015

Ystyried y materion canlynol a chyflwyno sylwadau arnynt:

- Bod y Pwyllgor yn ystyried cynnwys a gofynion y Ddeddf ac yn nodi a gwneud sylwadau ar y camau arfaethedig sy'n cael eu cymeryd yn Sir Gaerfyrddin er mwyn sicrhau cydymffurfiaeth.

Rhesymau:

- Cymeradwywyd y Ddeddf newydd hwn gan y Cynulliad Cenedlaethol yn 2015 i'w weithredu o fis Ebrill 2016 ymlaen.
- Mae'r Ddeddf yn berthnasol i 44 o gyrff cyhoeddus ar draws Cymru, gyda Chyngor Sir Gaerfyrddin yn un o'r rheini.
- Bwriad y Ddeddf yw gwella lles cymdeithasol, economaidd, amgylcheddol a diwylliannol Cymru ac mae'n anelu at osod yr egwyddor honno wrth wraidd pob dim mae gwasanaethau cyhoeddus yng Nghymru yn eu gwneud.

Angen cyfeirio'r mater at y Bwrdd Gweithredol er mwyn gwneud penderfyniad: NAC OES

Aelod y Bwrdd Gweithredol sy'n gyfrifol am y Portffolio:
Cyng. Pam Palmer (Cymuendau)

Y Gyfarwyddiaeth:	Swyddi:	Rhifau Ffôn / Cyfeiriadau E-Bost:
Prif Weithredwr		
Enw Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth: Wendy Walters	Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwyol (Adfywio a Pholisi)	01267 224112 swalters@sirgar.gov.uk
Awduron yr Adroddiad: Gwyneth Ayers	Rheolwr Polisi Corfforaethol a Phartneriaeth	01267 224659 gayers@sirgar.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

POLICY & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 16th MARCH 2016

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015

The joint foreword to the Act draft guidance by Carl Sargeant and Leighton Andrews notes as follows:

“The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 fulfils our commitment to make sustainable development the central organising principle of the Welsh public service and fundamentally underpins our ambitions for public service reform. For the first time, the Act gives a legally-binding common purpose - the well-being goals - for national and local government and for other specific public bodies, and details the principle by which the public sector should work together to deliver the long-term well-being of Wales.”

The well-being goals referred to will be the basis for all public bodies to set their individual and collective objectives. The seven goals are as follows:

1. A prosperous Wales
2. A resilient Wales
3. A healthier Wales
4. A more equal Wales
5. A Wales of cohesive communities
6. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language
7. A globally responsible Wales

The Act sets out core requirements that will shape the way of working of the following:

- Individual role of public bodies;
- Collective role of public services board; and
- Collective role of community councils.

The attached report focuses on the core requirements of the Act and outlines the proposed approach for taking forward each element of the requirements in Carmarthenshire.

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: **Wendy Walters** **Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)**

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

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities – The Council will need to embed the new seven national well-being goals and five ways of working into all that it does. A new impact assessment process for Council decision making will need to be developed to incorporate and evidence that due consideration has been given to the five ways of working. Consideration will also need to be given embedding this approach to other statutory requirements relating to equality impact assessment (Equality Act 2010) and Welsh language impact assessment (Welsh Language Standards 2015).

The Act also places a duty on Public Services Boards to prepare and publish a local assessment of need and a local well-being plan. Once published, these documents will set the policy and planning framework for public bodies in Carmarthenshire.

2. Legal – The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act was approved by the National Assembly for Wales on the 17 March 2015 and received Royal Assent on the 29 April 2015. The duty applies to named public bodies from April 2016 onwards.

3. Finance – The Council requirements will be developed through the Policy and Performance Management Teams of the Regeneration and Policy Division.

However, since the establishment of the LSB in 2007 Welsh Government have provided funding (either through direct grant or ESF funding) towards the support costs of the requirement on the Local Authority to provide administrative and development support to the LSB. On the 6 January 2016 a letter was received from Welsh Government confirming that this funding support would no longer continue and despite the LSB Chair (Barry Liles) and Vice-Chair (Cllr. Emlyn Dole) asking Welsh Government to reverse this decision as it will have a negative impact on the capability of the new Public Services Board to deliver and add value Welsh Government have since confirmed that they will continue with their proposed course of action. This does leave a funding gap in terms of PSB support staff and possibly limit PSB capability.

5. Risk Management Issues – The Auditor General for Wales will examine the extent to which a public body has acted in accordance with the sustainable development principle.

In addition, the newly appointed Future Generations Commissioner for Wales (Sophie Howe) will be able to review how an individual public body and PSB are meeting their well-being objectives. Public bodies must respond to any recommendations put forward by the Commissioner.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: **Wendy Walters** Assistant Chief Executive (Regeneration & Policy)

1. Local Member(s) – N/A

2. Community / Town Council – Specific duties apply to five Town & Community Councils in Carmarthenshire: Llanelli Town Council; Llanelli Rural Council; Pembrey & Burry Port Community Council; Carmarthen Town Council; and Llannon Community Council.

3. Relevant Partners – On-going discussions with current LSB and future PSB members. Specific workshop to discuss arrangements held on 21st January 2016 with first PSB meeting to be held on 12th May 2016.

4. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – N/A

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
Shared Purpose: Shared Future – statutory guidance for delivering the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015	<p>Cymraeg http://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/people/future-generations-act/statutory-guidance/?skip=1&lang=cy</p> <p>English http://gov.wales/topics/people-and-communities/people/future-generations-act/statutory-guidance/?lang=en</p>

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 (WFG Act)

1. The Core Requirements

1.1 The WFG Act received Royal Assent in April 2015 and its overarching aim is to get all public bodies in Wales who are subject to the Act to work in a way that improves economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being to help us create a Wales that we want to live in now and in the future.

1.2 The Act gives a legally-binding common purpose by establishing the seven well-being goals which national government, local government, local health boards and other specified public bodies must work towards. Those seven well-being goals are stated as:

1. A prosperous Wales;
2. A resilient Wales;
3. A healthier Wales;
4. A more equal Wales;
5. A Wales of cohesive communities;
6. A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language; and
7. A globally responsible Wales.

1.3 The Act also details the ways in which specified public bodies must work, and work together to improve the well-being of Wales. Based on the sustainable development principle, the Act confirms five ways of working to support decision making which ensures public bodies take account of:

- a. Long-term thinking – balancing the need to take action to address current issues with the need to meet long term needs of Wales.
- b. An integrated approach – considering how a body's objectives may impact upon the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being and considering how an individual body's objectives impact upon other public bodies' objectives.
- c. Engagement – involving the people and communities with an interest in the well-being objectives, engaging them in finding sustainable solutions.
- d. Collaboration – acting collaboratively with other bodies, or different parts of a body acting together in a co-productive way, to assist in the achievement of the body's objectives.
- e. Preventative action – deploying resources to undertake action now in order to prevent problems occurring or getting worse.

The five ways of working supports existing commitments such as the Welsh language, equalities and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

1.4 The Act sets out key requirements to be delivered through a number of different functions:

- The individual role of public bodies covered by the Act to require them to set well-being objectives, publish a well-being statement, review well-being objectives and report on progress.

- The collective role of public services board and the functions they must undertake, including the preparation of an assessment of local well-being and a local well-being plan.
- The collective role of specific town and community councils which meet the criteria set out in the Act to comply with their duty to take all reasonable steps towards meeting the local objectives in the local well-being plan that has effect in its area.

1.5 The remainder of this report focuses on these key requirements and the proposed approach in Carmarthenshire to ensuring compliance with the Act requirements.

2. Individual well-being duty on public bodies

2.1 Individual public bodies named in the Act must set well-being objectives that maximise their contribution to achieving the well-being goals. Once objectives are agreed the public body must also publish a well-being statement (which can be incorporated into a Corporate Plan) to explain why they consider the objectives will contribute to the well-being goals and how the sustainable development principle has been applied.

2.2 The national well-being goals will act as a consistent framework for all 44 public bodies in Wales to use. Those public bodies named in the Act are as follows:

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Local Authorities; | • the Higher Education Funding Council for Wales; |
| • Local Health Boards; | • the Arts Council of Wales; |
| • Public Health Wales NHS Trust; | • the Sports Council for Wales (Sport Wales); |
| • Velindre NHS Trust; | • the National Library of Wales; |
| • National Park Authorities; | • the National Museum of Wales (National Museum Wales); |
| • Fire and Rescue Authorities; | • the Welsh Ministers. |
| • Natural Resources Body for Wales (Natural Resources Wales); | |

2.3 The well-being goals should be considered in the context of improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The goals must be considered as an integrated set and not in isolation of each other as there will often be dependencies between goals.

2.4 Public bodies must publish their first set of organisational well-being objectives against the national well-being goals by March 2017.

2.5 Public bodies must also publish an annual report on the progress they have made in meeting their well-being objectives. This could be incorporated into the Council's Annual Report and Improvement Plan.

2.6 Welsh Government state that this should not be seen as ‘an additional layer’ to existing activity. This should be the primary way that a public body sets its priorities with the expectation that it will be embedded within existing corporate processes. Therefore, for the Council the organisational objectives and annual report should be reflected in the future Corporate Strategy and Annual Report and Improvement Plan.

2.7 Carmarthenshire County Council has for a number of years aligned its organisational objectives and business planning process to the outcomes of the Integrated Community Strategy. Therefore, the Act requirements will not be a significant change in approach however the Council will need to align to the new national well-being goals and it is proposed that this will be implemented in the 2017-18 business planning cycle.

2.8 The introduction of the five ways of working is the fundamental shift that the Act introduces to the way in which public bodies review, plan, decide and deliver on the future of its provision. The five ways of working requires public bodies to be able to evidence and demonstrate that they have given due consideration of the long-term impact, helping to prevent problems occurring or getting worse, taking an integrated and collaborative approach, and considering and involving people of all ages in the decisions it takes.

2.9 The five ways of working needs to be applied to everything that the Council does in terms of reviewing, planning and deciding on its future approaches including within the following service areas:

- Corporate planning;
- Risk management;
- Workforce planning;
- Performance management;
- Financial planning;
- Procurement; and
- Asset management.

2.10 As a result, the Council is currently developing a new impact assessment process to support its decision making processes which will incorporate the five ways of working as well as other statutory requirements relating to equality impact assessment (Equality Act 2010) and Welsh language impact assessment (Welsh Language Standards 2015) and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the child (UNCRC). The intention is to test and introduce this new impact assessment process during 2016-17 via report cover sheets.

3. Collective well-being duty on public services boards (PSB)

3.1 The Act places a well-being duty on specified public bodies to act jointly via PSBs to improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of their area by contributing to the achievement of the well-being goals.

3.2 PSBs will be established in each county from April 2016 onwards (to replace the former Local Service Boards) and will be responsible for:

- a. assessing the state of economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being in their areas. The first assessment needs to be published no later than May 2017 and discussions are underway with colleagues in Ceredigion and Pembrokeshire about a possible three counties approach to undertaking this assessment;
- b. setting local objectives that are designed to maximise their contribution within their areas to achieving those goals. The local objectives will be based on the findings of the needs assessment. These local objectives will be set out in a local well-being plan, the first of which needs to be published no later than May 2018;
- c. the taking of all reasonable steps by members of boards (in exercising their functions) to meet those objectives. The PSB will need to prepare and publish an annual report on the steps they have taken since the publication of the well-being plan.

3.3 The Council must make administrative support available to the PSB.

3.4 Carmarthenshire County Council will be a statutory member of the new PSB. The first meeting of the PSB in its new format is scheduled to take place on the 12 May 2016. Other members of the PSB will be as follows:

Statutory members

- Carmarthenshire County Council;
- Hywel Dda University Health Board;
- Mid & West Wales Fire and Rescue Service; and
- Natural Resources Wales.

Invited Participants, who are invited to participate in the Board's activities:

- Welsh Ministers;
- Chief Constable of Dyfed Powys Police;
- Dyfed Powys Police and Crime Commissioner;
- Director, Carmarthenshire Association of Voluntary Services;
- Director of Public Health, Hywel Dda University Health Board;
- Regional Jobcentre Representation, Department of Work & Pensions;
- Principal, Coleg Sir Gâr;
- Senior Representative University of Wales Trinity Saint David;
- Representation from National Probation Service and Community Rehabilitation Company;
- Representation from Brecon Beacons National Park Authority; and
- Regional Representation from Arts Council of Wales.

3.5 The Act also stipulates a number of 'Other Partners' the PSB must engage with. These are key partners in the area who exercise functions of a public nature, have a material interest in the well-being of the area and deliver important public services in relation to the preparation, implementation and delivery of the work of the board. The PSB will establish an engagement mechanism and on-going communication with these key partners. It is likely that the PSB will hold one extended meeting per year with representatives of the 'other partners' in attendance. These partners include (but are not limited to):

- Community and Town Councils;
- Public Health Wales NHS Trust;
- Community Health Council;
- Higher Education Funding Council for Wales;
- Sports Council for Wales;
- National Library of Wales;
- National Museum of Wales;
- National Botanic Garden for Wales; and
- Future Generations Commissioner's Office.

3.6 In preparation for the Act the LSB undertook a partnership structure review during 2015 and in order to support the work of the PSB and deliver against the new national well-being goals it has been agreed to establish three thematic groups:

- Healthy Families and Communities;
- Fair and Safe Communities; and
- Prosperous and Resilient Communities.

In addition to the thematic groups an Operational Delivery Group (ODG) will be established to undertake the ground work on the undertaking of the assessment of need of the county, contributing to the formulation of PSB priorities, co-ordinating the development of the Well-Being Plan and developing and monitoring an outcomes based performance framework.

3.7 In order to ensure democratic accountability there is a requirement for a designated local government scrutiny committee to scrutinise the work of the PSB. The scrutiny committee can require any member of the Board to give evidence, but only in respect of the exercise of joint functions conferred on them as a member of the Board. Arrangements to enable this to be taken forward in Carmarthenshire are currently being considered and it is likely that the Council's Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee will be requested to undertake this function on behalf of Carmarthenshire PSB.

4. Collective role for community councils

4.1 The Act places a duty on certain community and town councils to take all reasonable steps towards meeting the local objectives included in the local well-being plan that has effect in its areas. A community or town council is subject to that duty only if its gross income or expenditure was at least £200,000 for each of the three financial years preceding the year in which the local well-being plan is published.

4.2 If a community or town council is subject to the duty, it must publish a report annually detailing its progress in meeting the objectives contained in the local well-being plan. Community or town councils which do not meet the criteria for being subject to the duty but still wish to contribute towards meeting the local objectives in the local well-being plan are welcome to do so on a voluntary basis.

4.3 In Carmarthenshire, the community and town councils that meet the criteria for being subject to the duty are likely to include:

- Llanelli Town Council;
- Llanelli Rural Council;
- Pembrey & Burry Port Community Council;
- Carmarthen Town Council; and
- Llannon Community Council.

4.4 The PSB will be required to liaise with these councils to ensure that their local objectives support and feed into the county-wide well-being plan and where possible add value to the work of the public bodies.

4.5 It is proposed to establish an informal officer forum between PSB support officers and the five community and town councils in Carmarthenshire subject to the duty in order to consider how to work in partnership to take this approach forward.

PWYLLGOR CRAFFU POLISI AC ADNODDAU 16^{eg} O FAWRTH 2016

Adroddiad Monitro Cyllideb Cyfalaf a Refeniw 2015/16

Ystyried y materion canlynol a chyflwyno sylwadau arnynt:

- Bod y pwyllgor craffu yn derbyn Adroddiad Monitro Cyllideb Corfforaethol yr Awdurdod ac adroddiadau adrannol y Prif Weithredwr a Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol, ac yn ystyried y sefyllfa cyllidebol.

Rhesymau:

- I ddatgan sefyllfa bresennol y gyllideb i'r Pwyllgor ar y 31ain Rhagfyr 2015, ynghylch blwyddyn ariannol 2015/16.

Angen cyfeirio'r mater at y Bwrdd Gweithredol er mwyn gwneud penderfyniad: NAC OES

Aelodau'r Bwrdd Gweithredol sy'n gyfrifol am y Portffolio:

- Cyng. David Jenkins (Adnoddau)
- Cyng. Mair Stephens (Adnoddau Dynol, Effeithlonrwydd a Chydweithio)
- Cyng. Pam Palmer (Cymunedau)

<p>Y Gyfarwyddiaeth: Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol</p> <p>Enw Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth: Owen Bowen</p> <p>Awdur yr adroddiad: Owen Bowen</p>	<p>Swydd:</p> <p>Pennaeth Dros-Dro Gwasanaethau Cyllidol</p>	<p>Rhif Ffôn / Cyfeiriad E-bost:</p> <p>01267 224886 obowen@sirgar.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

POLICY & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 16th MARCH 2016

Revenue & Capital Budget Monitoring Report 2015/16

The monitoring exercise for the period to the 31st December 2015 is attached and indicates that:

Revenue Budgets

Corporate Revenue Budget (Appendix A)

Overall, the monitoring report forecasts an end of year underspend of £1,384k on the Authority's net revenue budget with an overspend at departmental level of £1,126k.

Department for Education & Children

The Education & Children's Services Department is currently forecasting an overspend of £1,269k at year end.

The main adverse budget variations relate to school based EVR and redundancy costs (+£1,072k); EOTAS (Education other than at School) (+£426k); Fostering services & support (+£169k); Adult & Community learning (+£154k); Respite Units (+£137k); Legal fees (+£108k); Out of Hours Service (+£94k); Music Service (+£70k); Garreglwyd Residential Accommodation (+£34k); Other Family Services incl Young Carers and ASD (+£34k) and Youth Service (+£20k).

These are partially offset by under-spends across the department in: Out of County educational placements (-£514k); Staff vacancies, secondments and maximising use of grant funding (-£345k); Centrally managed schools budget (-£66k); Children's Services management & support (-£66k); Governor Support (-£32k); Payments to private early years providers (-£22k) and Adoption Services (-£24k).

There is £967k available in departmental reserves leaving a forecasted shortfall of £302k at year end.

Department for Communities

The Department for Communities is forecasting an over spend of £385k for the year.

The Older People / Physical Disabilities Division has an overspend of £382k due to non achievement of efficiency savings re Older People Day Centres and an overspend on Private Residential Care of £724k; offset by an underspend (£990k) for Home Care.

The Learning Disability / Mental Health Division has an overspend on residential and supported living placements of £818k due to a slower than anticipated reduction required to meet efficiency savings which is currently being addressed and an overspend on additional packages for Direct Payments £157k.

The Departmental overspend is reduced by £663k due to staff vacancies.

The Housing Services and Public Protection Division is forecasting an underspend of £19k due to staff vacancies and supplies and services.

The Leisure Services Division is expected to break even at year end.

Environment Department

The department is showing an anticipated overspend of £113k at year end which will be met from its departmental reserves.

The Transport division is showing a net underspend of £64k for the year. Civil design is showing an overspend of £31k due to under recovery of income as a result of a vacant post, and the Park and Ride service is estimated to be overspent by £43k following a policy decision to remove funding. Public Transport is anticipating a £57k underspend following service adjustments to manage budget pressures elsewhere within the division. There is also expected to be a £66k underspend in Car Parks as a result of an increase in income banked.

The Property Services division has an overall anticipated overspend of £223k. Building Maintenance is expecting to be £212k overspent due to not achievement of their income target as a result of a reduction in the Carmarthenshire Housing Standard related work. Repairs & maintenance of Parks and PCs are overspent by £30k as asset transfers have not as yet taken place and pumping stations (£25k) and PAT testing (£19k) are overspent as there is no budget for these functions. Building Cleaning are anticipating an overspend of £41k due to an increase in overtime and superannuation costs. This is offset by a £112k underspend in the Grounds Maintenance section due to ongoing efficiency savings.

The Streetscene division is expecting an underspend of £2k at year end.

The Policy & Development division is anticipating a £69k overspend mainly due to £36k severance efficiencies not being delivered.

The Planning Division anticipates an underspend of £111k. This is as a result of a £89k saving on vacant posts within the division as well as 2 members of staff being charged out to an externally funded scheme (£52k) along with a planned reduction in admin costs of £24k. This is offset by an overspend in Development Management due to a reduction in planning fee income of £56k.

Chief Executive's and Corporate Services Revenue Budget (Appendix B)

The Chief Executive Department is showing a projected underspend at year end of £91k. Corporate Savings proposals of £400k on Standby Costs and £100k on Health & Safety provision have not yet been implemented although this will be partially offset due to a one off sale of old printers as part of the printer rationalisation programme (£60k) and an in year underspend of £278k as a result of energy budget rationalisation. The Translation Unit is projecting an overspend of £48k due to an increase in demand for the service and Fitness for Work a projected overspend of £17k due to sickness cover and market supplement. The Regeneration Business Unit is anticipating an overspend of £45k due to a previous year efficiency to sell the property at Nant y Ci which remains unsold. There are also overspends on Un Sir Gar due to increased staffing and maintenance (£10k), Policy due to non achievement of income target (£16k), CCTV (£17k) due to late decision to cease live monitoring and Customer Services (£16k) as a result of a contribution towards running costs of Un Sir Gar. WWEC are also overspent by £35k due to non achievement of targeted consultancy income. These overspends are offset by vacant posts across the department of £365k, increased Land Charges income (£19k), Admin and Business Support supplies & services of £24k and Llanelli Community recharging a staff member time to an externally funded scheme (£20k)

The Corporate Services Department is anticipating an underspend at year end of £550k due to a reduction in the cost of annual subscriptions (-£37k); Reduction in Council Tax benefit caseload (-£118k); Reduction in revenues due to reduced security and staffing cost along with an increase in court income (-£65k); Benefits Fraud saving as staff transferred to DWP mid year and funding not being recouped (-£66k). There are also vacant posts across the department of -£348k. The Corporate Property Division is anticipating a £100k overspend predominantly due to an efficiency proposal relating to charging the health board for office occupancy that is not yet in place.

Capital Budgets

Corporate Capital Programme Monitoring 2015/16 (Appendix C)

The total projected net expenditure for 2015/16 of **£43.893m** compared to the allocated net budget for the year of **£51.276m**, indicates a projected variance of **-£7.383m** (Under spend).

Chief Executive and Corporate Services Capital Programme Monitoring (Appendix D)

St David's Park -£430k. Owing to delay in procuring works

IT -£450k. As part of the Microsoft Enterprise Agreement this budget is allocated for a payment scheduled on 1st April 2016 and, therefore, needs to be carried over to 2016/17.

East Gate Development, Llanelli -£279k. Project delayed. Still at procurement stage.

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: Owen Bowen Interim 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	NONE

3. Finance

Revenue – Overall, the Authority is forecasting an underspend of £1,384k.

Capital – The reported under spend of -£7.383m will be incorporated into the future years of the Capital Programme.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Owen Bowen Interim Head of Financial Services

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

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
2015/16 Budget	Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

POLICY AND RESOURCES SCRUTINY - 16th MARCH 2016COUNCIL'S BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2015/16 as at 31st December 2015

Head of Service & Designation O Bowen, Interim Head of Financial Services	Author & Designation O Bowen, Interim Head of Financial Services	Telephone No 01267 224886	Directorate Corporate Services
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Table 1

Forecasted for year to 31 March 2016

Service	Working Budget				Actual				Variance For Year £'000
	Controllable Expenditure £'000	Controllable Income £'000	Net Non Controllable £'000	Total Net £'000	Controllable Expenditure £'000	Controllable Income £'000	Net Non Controllable £'000	Total Net £'000	
Chief Executive	17,543	-5,286	-1,512	10,745	18,420	-6,254	-1,512	10,654	-91
Education & Childrens Services	177,715	-39,311	21,011	159,415	179,265	-39,592	21,011	160,684	1,269
Corporate Services	87,449	-55,305	-9,482	22,662	88,836	-57,242	-9,482	22,112	-550
Communities	126,155	-47,247	12,065	90,973	127,413	-48,120	12,065	91,358	385
Environment Services	117,121	-80,901	9,380	45,600	118,935	-82,602	9,380	45,713	113
Departmental Expenditure	525,983	-228,050	31,462	329,395	532,869	-233,810	31,462	330,521	1,126
Capital Charges/Asset Man. Acc.				-3,535				-5,285	-1,750
Pension Reserve Adjustment				-5,085				-5,085	0
Levies and Contributions:									
Brecon Beacon National Parks				147				147	0
Fire Authority				9,067				9,067	0
Net Expenditure				329,989				329,365	-624
Outcome Agreement Grant				-570				-570	0
Contribution from Balances				-138				-138	0
Transfer from Balances/Earmarked Reserves				-1,060				-1,060	0
Transfers to/from Departmental Reserves									
- Chief Executive				0				45	45
- Education & Children's Services				0				-967	-967
- Corporate Services				0				275	275
- Communities				0				0	0
- Environment				0				-113	-113
Net Budget				328,221				326,837	-1,384

Main Variance Summary

The following are items contributing to the variances identified for each department in the summary above:

	Variance £000
Chief Executives Department	
Chief Executive - Chief Officer - Vacant posts	-29
Corporate Savings Target - Efficiency savings will not be met until 2016-17	441
Corporate Savings Initiative - Saving from energy budget rationalisation	-278
People Management & Performance - Corporate Serv - Translation - Staff levels over and above the budgeted structure to meet demand for the service	48
People Management & Performance - Personnel Management - Part year vacant posts	-56
Admin and Law - Corporate Serv-Democratic - Part year vacant posts - Restructure imminent	-42
Customer Focus and Policy - Carbon Reduction Programme - Projection based on current estimate of likely charge	-22
Customer Focus and Policy - Complaints and Compliments Team - Vacant Post	-24
Customer Focus and Policy - Customer Services Centres - Vacant posts	-73
Customer Focus and Policy - Contact Centre - Vacant posts	-55
Statutory Services - Electoral Services - Staff - Vacant post	-28
Regeneration - West Wales European Centre - Mainly due non-achievement of consultancy income	35
Regeneration - Llanelli Community -Due to the result of recharging 1 member of staff to an externally funded project as a direct cost	-20
Regeneration Business Support Unit - Efficiency saving was identified for 14/15 in relation to premises costs at Nant Y Ci, with the intention of selling the property. The sale is currently on hold so savings have not been realised at this point	45
Regeneration Management - Vacant post	-58
Other	25
Chief Executive - Net Variance	-91
Education & Childrens Services	
Director & Management Team - Utilisation of grant income which ends March 2016 -£70k and a forecasted underspend in supplies and services -£36k	-106
Education Services - School Expenditure not currently delegated - WJEC reviewed and reduced fees for 2015-16 -£39k ,further savings identified due to fewer occasions arising where legal advice was required -£17k and a reduction in supplies and services -£10k. Efficiency saving of -£30k is planned for 2016-17	-66
Education Services - School Redundancy & EVR - Additional cost of School related EVR and redundancies	1,072
Education Services - Governor Support & Admissions - Expenditure relating to the updating of school plans less than estimated	-32
Education Services - Early Years Non-Maintained Provision - Reduction in demand for 10 hours free education for 3 year olds in non maintained settings. This forecasted underspend has reduced significantly (£-96k in the October 2015 report) due to more up to date information being used when calculating the forecasted spend	-22
Education Services - Special Educational Needs - Projected underspend due to fewer out of county placements. The underspend is being managed in conjunction with the current pressures within EOTAS (Education Other Than At School) below, although budget reduction is planned in next year's efficiency savings	-514
Education Services - EOTAS (Education Other Than At School) & Behaviour Services - Projected overspend in the cost of EOTAS. Additional staff employed in PRU(Pupil Referral Unit) in response to a need highlighted by ESTYN for additional capacity to intervene in volatile situations	426
Education Services - Rhydygors Day Centre - Vacant posts within the day centre are being considered within the review of provision	-43
Strategic Development - Information & Improvement - Underspend due to part time secondment not being back filled	-22
Learner Programmes - Music Services for Schools - Forecasted overspend relates to a reduction of SLA income from schools £18k and redundancy costs £52k	70
Learner Programmes - Youth Service - Forecasted overspend relating to staffing £40k, partially offset by a contribution from schools -£20k	20
Learner Programmes - Adult & Community Learning - Forecast overspend due to the cost of course tuition exceeding the franchise income. This situation is being addressed for 2016-17 following a comprehensive review of the service	154
Children's Services - Commissioning and Social Work - In year vacancies across the Social Care Teams. This forecasted underspend has reduced significantly (£-203k in the October 2015 report) due to an under-commitment of salary costs in previous returns	-86
Children's Services - Fostering Services & Support - Overspends forecasted in staffing £85k, the taxi's budget £77k which in previous reports was forecasting an underspend, and a further commitment made to families for extension work to be done on their homes in order to keep children in a home environment £26k. These are offset by a reduction in general supplies and services -£19k	169
Children's Services - Adoption Services - Forecasted underspend relating to adoption allowances as less placements	-24

Children's Services - Residential & Respite Units - Planned additional contribution from the LHB is unlikely to be achieved in 2015-16 £150k netted off with salary savings -£13k	137
Children's Services - Garreglwyd Residential Accommodation - Additional staffing costs £70k offset by additional income recharge to Hywel Dda -£36k	34
Children's Services - Short Breaks and Domiciliary Care -Maximsation of grant income	-58
Children's Services - Childcare - Maximsation of grant income	-20
Children's Services - Other Family Services incl Young Carers and ASD - Additional costs incurred as a result of contract decommissioning	34
Children's Services - Out of Hours Service - Increased number of referrals being handled.	94
Children's Services - Children's Services Management and Support Service (incl Care First) - Part year vacant posts in Policy -£45k, staff travelling & other efficiencies in management team -£33k and an increase in SLA costs for Carefirst £12k	-66
Children's Services - Legal Fees - Additional costs incurred from long standing adoption arrangements and out of county fees.The service is planning a budget reduction as an efficiency saving proposal in 2016-17	108
Other	10
Education and Children's Services - Net Variance	1,269
Corporate Services	
Chief Officer - Part year vacancy	-72
Accountancy - Part year vacancy	-67
Local Taxation - Vacant post and projected underspend on Post Office Giro fees	-42
Housing Benefits Admin - Part year vacant posts	-19
Revenues - Reduction in security costs, reduced staffing costs and increase in Court recovery income	-65
Benefits Fraud - Transfer of staff to DWP in August 2015, but no reduction in DWP grant until 2016/17	-66
Audit - Maternity leave and new staff members at bottom of salary scale in current year	-39
Information Technology - Vacant posts	-95
Corporate Property Division - Vacant posts	-13
Operational Depots - Mid year reduction in electricity budgets	22
Administrative Buildings - Efficiency saving relating to charging Health Board for occupancy not in place	89
Industrial Premises - Reduction in anticipated lettings income	41
Rural Estate - Tenants entitlements reduced & increased rental income	-17
Provision Markets - Additional lettings	-40
Livestock Markets - Repairs and maintenance expenditure at Newcastle Emlyn and Llandovery	29
Council Tax Benefits - Slight downward movement in caseload meaning CTR being paid is 0.8% below the budget of £15.02m	-118
Rent Allowances - Minor fluctuation in Housing Benefits awarded	20
Miscellaneous Services - Reduction in subscriptions -£37k and reduction in past pension benefit claimants	-57
Other	-41
Corporate Services - Net Variance	-550
Communities	
Older People - Commissioning - Staff vacancies	-57
Older People - Private/Vol Homes - Additional placements (partly through early closure of Glanmarlais) and additional cost of increased fees paid to providers £391k	724
Older People - Extra Care - Contract renegotiation.	31
Older People - LA Home Care - Reduced care packages	-304
Older People - Direct Payments - Increase in packages	28
Older People - Private Home Care - Reduction in care packages	-686
Older People - Enablement - Staff vacancies	-271
Older People - Day Services - Efficiency saving slippage from 14/15 and 15/16. Proposal paper to CMT to reduce spend with significant reshape of service	382
Physical Disabilities - Commissioning & OT Services - Staff vacancies	-64
Physical Disabilities - Private/Vol Homes - Reduction in Packages	-70
Physical Disabilities - Group Homes/Supported Living - Increase in Packages	52

Learning Disabilities - Employment & Training - Lower grant income due to change in funding arrangements for Workchoice	65
Learning Disabilities - Commissioning - Staff vacancies	-25
Learning Disabilities - Private/Vol Homes - Slower than anticipated reduction in placements required to meet efficiency savings, work underway to address	419
Learning Disabilities - Direct Payments - Net cost of packages exceeds budgeted costs	157
Learning Disabilities - Group Homes/Supported Living - Additional placements	126
Learning Disabilities - Adult Respite Care - Staff Vacancies	-94
Learning Disabilities - Day Services - Reduction placements	-61
Learning Disabilities - Transition Service - Staff Vacancies	-30
Learning Disabilities - Community Support - Additional packages	24
Learning Disabilities - Grants - Slippage in re-negotiation of contract	79
Learning Disabilities - Adult Placement/Shared Lives - Underspend on travelling, and supplies & services	-27
Learning Disabilities/Mental Health - SSMSS - Vacant posts, and underspend on travelling and supplies & services	-47
Mental Health - Commissioning - Additional staffing costs re out of hours service	25
Mental Health - Private/Vol Homes - Additional packages resulting in an over commitment on a very volatile budget	219
Mental Health - Group Homes/Supported Living - Increase in packages	54
Mental Health - Substance Misuse Team - Underspend on salaries	-43
Director's Office - SSMSS - Adult Safeguarding & Improvement Team - Staff vacancies	-40
Departmental Support - Underspend on salaries, and supplies & services partly offset by overspend on repairs and maintenance	-131
Public Protection - PP Business Support unit - Underspend in salary costs due to vacant posts offset by agency staff costs	-31
Public Protection - Licencing - General savings on expenditure offset by an underachievement of licence fee income.	21
Public Protection - Animal Licence Movement Scheme - Vacant post for the first 7 months of 15/16	-22
Public Protection - Trading Standards Services Management - Underachievement of fee income anticipated.	35
Independent Living and Affordable Homes - General underspends in supplies and services for Supporting People	-32
Supporting People Providers - Underachievement of grant income due to 15/16 grant award being reduced by 14/15 underspend.	31
Home Improvement (Non HRA) - Underachievement of income relating to recoverable fees and costs to be covered by underspends in Homelessness	40
Homelessness -Savings in bond payments and prevention payments that are eligible under the transitional funding grant scheme. Underspend to cover the overspends anticipated in the Home Improvement and Temporary Accommodation cost centre	-43
Non HRA Affordable Housing - Anticipated underachievement of income relating to affordable home fees £13k plus one off legal/professional costs relating to one of the cases £10k	23
Leisure - Millenium Coastal Park - Supplies & Service -£18k along with increased income -£19k	-37
Leisure - Burry Port Harbour - Forecast overspend on dredging contract	19
Leisure - Pembrey Ski Slope - Forecast shortfall in income	32
Leisure - Carmarthen Leisure Centre - Part year staff vacancies -£39k, higher forecast income -£75k, Utilities -£26k	-140
Leisure - Amman Valley Leisure Centre - Part year vacancies	-28
Sport & Leisure - General - Projected overspend due to forecast investment in fitness and linked refurbishments	115
Libraries - Carmarthen Library - Part year vacancies	-28
Libraries - Ammanford Library - Part year vacancies	-39
Libraries - General - Computer related expenditure due to H6 (Heritage 6, rollout of digital format), income collection and RFID (tagging) rollout	67
Libraries - Mobile Library - Vacant Post	-26
Museums - Parc Howard Museum - Maintenance commitment	38
Other	-45
Communities - Net Variance	385

<u>Environment Services</u>	
Policy & Development - Emergency Planning - Severance not delivered £36k, estimated overspend on out of hours service £5k and £3k on other miscellaneous costs	44
Street Scene - Streetscene Core - £78k severances not fully delivered	22
Street Works and Road Adoptions - Unpredictable income from developers more than expected also legal works being undertaken within section	-26
Street Scene - Public Conveniences - PC's - Full savings not yet realised currently in year 2 of 3 year programme	40
Street Scene - Cleansing Service - Due to service demands current year efficiencies cannot be met	72
Street Scene - Waste Services - On going review of waste strategy has produced savings	-54
Transport - Civil Design - Under recovery of income due to vacant Technician post, recruitment is underway	31
Bus Stations/Community Transport/Concessionary Fares Grant - Service adjustments undertaken to manage budget pressures	-57
Car Parks - No commitment included for the £109k increased income target for 20p price increase on all tariffs and the introduction of evening charges - implementation date awaited. Increase in income banked.	-66
Nant y Ci Park & Ride - Members decision to withdraw the service/funding in 12/13 - The modified service is currently being trialled with the LHB to generate additional revenue to cover the shortfall	43
Property Services - Building Maintenance - Unachievable income target not met due to reduction in Carmarthenshire Homes Standard works	212
Property Services - Parks & PC Landlord - Asset transfer not undertaken - budget removed in 11/12 efficiencies	30
Property Services - Pumping Stations - No R&M budget for Pumping stations	25
Property Services - Grounds Maintenance Service - Effect of ongoing efficiency savings within the grounds maintenance service	-112
Property Services - Building Cleaning - Pressure due to increase in relief and overtime payments £16k; Superannuation costs £23k; Other £2k; with no corresponding budget or increased income achievable as SLA's agreed at start of the year	41
Planning - Admin - Underspend anticipated, mainly due to planned general reduced spending on administration to offset the reduction in fees generated by the division	-24
Planning - Building Control (Other) - Staff vacancies	-26
Planning - Minerals - Underspend mainly due to proposed charging out of 2 members of staff to externally funded projects as a 'direct cost'	-52
Planning - Policy - Development Planning - Vacant posts, use of reserves to cover LDP costs and additional income from work undertaken for Corporate Property	-63
Planning - Development Management - Overspend mainly attributable to projected shortfall in Planning fee income	56
Other	-23
Environment Services - Net Variance	113
<u>Capital Charges</u>	
Reduced borrowing (interest savings)	-1,750

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Revenue Budget Monitoring 2015/16 as at 31st December 2015

Forecasted for year to 31 March 2016

Service	Working Budget				Forecasted				Variance For Year £'000	Note
	Controllable Expenditure £'000	Controllable Income £'000	Net Non Controllable £'000	Total Net £'000	Controllable Expenditure £'000	Controllable Income £'000	Net Non Controllable £'000	Total Net £'000		
Chief Executive's Department										
Chief Executive										
Chief Executive-Chief Officer	353	0	-464	-111	323	0	-464	-140	-29	1
Corporate Savings Target	-610	0	0	-610	-169	0	0	-169	441	2
Corporate Savings Initiative	278	0	0	278	0	0	0	0	-278	3
Chief Executive Total	21	0	-464	-443	154	0	-464	-309	134	
People Management & Performance										
Corporate Serv-Translation	280	-15	-275	-10	328	-15	-275	39	48	4
SCWDP	648	-417	0	231	653	-422	0	231	0	
Practise Placements	64	-67	0	-3	102	-105	0	-4	-0	
Business Support	196	-1	-184	10	184	-1	-184	-2	-12	
Personnel Management	910	-295	-363	252	856	-297	-363	196	-56	5
Consultancy & Development	105	-13	-271	-179	111	-13	-271	-173	6	
Job Evaluation	93	-4	-83	5	98	-4	-83	10	5	
Fitness For Work	575	-235	-247	93	623	-265	-247	110	17	
Corporate Learning & Development	567	-12	-403	151	668	-114	-403	150	-1	
Admin HR	375	0	-319	55	401	-26	-319	55	0	
DBS Checks	113	0	0	113	115	-2	0	113	-0	
Childcare Voucher Scheme	0	0	0	0	218	-218	0	-0	-0	
People Management & Performance Total	3,925	-1,060	-2,147	718	4,356	-1,483	-2,147	726	8	
Admin and Law										
Corp. Mgmt (Chief Exec)	22	0	570	593	21	0	570	591	-2	
Democratic	1,667	0	2,635	4,302	1,666	0	2,635	4,301	-1	
Civic Ceremonial	22	0	67	89	22	-0	67	89	0	
Land Charges Administration	74	-273	84	-116	74	-285	84	-127	-12	
Corporate Serv-Democratic	458	0	-290	168	442	-26	-290	126	-42	6
Corporate Serv-Administration	188	-0	-175	13	174	-0	-175	-1	-14	
Corporate Serv-Legal	1,362	-303	-1,030	29	1,360	-302	-1,030	27	-2	
Local Duplicating Centre	25	-63	20	-18	16	-46	20	-10	8	
Corporate Serv-Land Charges	62	0	-62	-0	62	0	-62	-0	0	
Central Mailing	28	0	22	49	28	0	22	49	-0	
Admin and Law Total	3,909	-640	1,840	5,109	3,864	-660	1,840	5,044	-65	

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Revenue Budget Monitoring 2015/16 as at 31st December 2015

Forecasted for year to 31 March 2016

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Service	Working Budget				Forecasted				Variance For Year £'000	Note
	Controllable Expenditure £'000	Controllable Income £'000	Net Non Controllable £'000	Total Net £'000	Controllable Expenditure £'000	Controllable Income £'000	Net Non Controllable £'000	Total Net £'000		
Customer Focus and Policy										
TIC Team	90	-90	0	0	90	-90	0	-0	-0	
Executive Board Support	6	0	0	6	7	0	0	7	1	
Registrars	373	-232	133	274	396	-255	133	274	-0	
Welsh Language	167	0	-174	-7	167	0	-174	-7	-0	
Communications	16	0	-16	0	10	0	-16	-5	-6	
Press	115	-7	-109	-0	223	-114	-109	0	0	
Direct Communications	516	-256	-264	-5	441	-182	-264	-5	-0	
Customer Services	68	-6	-66	-4	84	-6	-66	12	16	
Carbon Reduction Programme	405	0	0	405	382	0	0	382	-22	7
Domestic Abuse Services Grant	0	0	0	0	38	-38	0	0	0	
Performance Management	476	-19	-460	-2	511	-47	-460	4	7	
Chief Executive-Policy	567	-55	-448	64	554	-26	-448	79	16	
Complaints and Compliments Team	94	0	27	121	71	0	27	98	-24	8
Police and Crime Commissioner	0	0	0	0	9	-9	0	0	0	
Older People's Partnership Fund	0	0	24	24	0	0	24	24	0	
Community Safety Fund	48	-48	74	74	0	-19	74	55	-19	
CCTV Operators	32	0	23	55	49	0	23	72	17	
Local Service Board Activity	9	0	10	19	9	0	10	19	-0	
Equalities	5	0	33	38	5	0	33	38	-0	
Community Safety-Revenue	29	0	0	29	55	-36	0	20	-9	
Community Covenant Grant Scheme	0	0	0	0	25	-25	0	0	0	
LSB Co-ordinator	0	0	0	0	36	-36	0	0	0	
Community Cohesion Fund	0	0	0	0	41	-41	0	0	0	
Local Support Service Framework	0	0	0	0	38	-38	0	0	0	
Customer Services Centres	548	-287	-306	-46	475	-287	-306	-118	-73	9
Contact Centre	594	-79	-473	42	539	-79	-473	-13	-55	10
Careline Chief Exec	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Customer Focus Wales	0	0	0	0	5	-5	0	-0	-0	
Customer Focus and Policy Total	4,157	-1,078	-1,992	1,087	4,259	-1,332	-1,992	936	-151	
Statutory Services										
Elections-County Council	0	0	139	139	12	0	139	151	12	
Registration Of Electors	120	-2	254	373	182	-56	254	380	8	

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Forecasted for year to 31 March 2016

Service	Working Budget				Forecasted				Variance For Year £'000	Note
	Controllable Expenditure £'000	Controllable Income £'000	Net Non Controllable £'000	Total Net £'000	Controllable Expenditure £'000	Controllable Income £'000	Net Non Controllable £'000	Total Net £'000		
Coroners	276	0	18	294	268	0	18	286	-8	
Electoral Services - Staff	253	0	-253	0	226	-0	-253	-28	-28	11
Statutory Services Total	649	-2	159	806	688	-56	159	790	-16	
Special Projects (Corporate)										
Sustainability	0	0	49	49	0	0	49	49	0	
Special Projects (Corporate) Total	0	0	49	49	0	0	49	49	0	
Economic Development										
Europe Direct (E)	32	-32	4	4	1	-1	4	4	0	
WWEC Matchfunding for Future Schemes	1	0	14	15	1	0	14	15	0	
SETs Technical Assistance (E)	46	-46	3	3	21	-21	3	3	-0	
RDP Axis 3 Local Partnership (E)	116	-116	3	3	78	-78	3	3	-0	
RDP Leader Running Costs (E)	43	-43	0	0	43	-43	0	-0	-0	
RDP Leader Animation Costs (E)	77	-77	0	0	74	-74	0	0	0	
RDP Leader Implementation Costs (E)	52	-52	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Regional Engagement Team (E)	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	0	0	
West Wales European Centre	446	-306	97	237	270	-95	97	272	35	12
Marketing Tourism Development	483	-20	59	521	457	-3	59	513	-9	
Castles and Princes (E)	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	-0	-0	
Destination Sir Gar 2 (E)	84	-84	0	0	84	-84	0	0	0	
Visitor Information	72	-9	14	77	77	-5	14	86	8	
Llanelli Community	40	0	25	65	36	-16	25	45	-20	13
Communities First - CCC Cluster (E)	616	-616	33	33	613	-613	33	33	-0	
Communities 2.0 (E)	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	-0	-0	
Communities First Match - Pupil Deprivation Grant (E)	49	-49	0	0	49	-49	0	0	0	
Communities First Lift (E)	92	-92	0	0	92	-92	0	0	0	
Amman Gwendraeth Community	94	0	12	106	89	0	12	101	-5	
3 T's Community Dev Core Budget	287	0	31	318	295	-13	31	313	-5	
2 Setws wind farm community fund (E)	110	-110	2	2	110	-110	2	2	0	
Community Grants	173	0	5	177	173	0	5	177	-0	
4 Rural Carmarthenshire	29	0	5	34	29	0	5	34	0	
5 Physical Regeneration	374	0	49	423	372	-2	49	419	-3	

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Revenue Budget Monitoring 2015/16 as at 31st December 2015

Forecasted for year to 31 March 2016

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Service	Working Budget				Forecasted				Variance For Year £'000	Note
	Controllable Expenditure £'000	Controllable Income £'000	Net Non Controllable £'000	Total Net £'000	Controllable Expenditure £'000	Controllable Income £'000	Net Non Controllable £'000	Total Net £'000		
Amman Gwendreath Regeneration	27	0	2	29	27	0	2	29	0	
Llanelli Regeneration	27	0	3	30	27	0	3	30	-0	
Llanelli Coast Joint Venture	134	-134	5	5	134	-134	5	5	0	
RDP Axis 4 LAG (E)	27	-27	1	1	27	-27	1	1	0	
Collaborative Communities (E)	0	0	0	0	8	-8	0	0	0	
The Beacon	123	-123	8	9	156	-156	8	9	0	
Local Investment Fund (LIF) (E)	25	-24	11	11	62	-62	11	11	0	
RLP - Convergence Funded (E)	0	0	0	0	1	-1	0	-0	-0	
Support for Carmarthenshire Businesses	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	0	
SWW Property Development Fund (E)	70	-70	2	2	146	-146	2	2	-0	
Regional Learning Partnership RCF (E)	0	0	0	0	262	-263	0	-0	-0	
ADREF (E)	70	-70	2	2	102	-102	2	2	-0	
Crosshands East SES (E)	63	-63	4	4	31	-31	4	4	-0	
Carmarthen town centre partnership (E)	54	-54	0	0	54	-54	0	0	0	
Ammanford town centre partnership (E)	36	-36	0	0	39	-39	0	0	0	
RLP - Skills Partnership (E)	0	0	0	0	71	-71	0	0	0	
RLP - UK Futures (E)	0	0	0	0	65	-65	0	0	0	
Regen Core & Policy Performance	0	0	39	39	10	0	39	49	10	
Regeneration Business Support Unit	322	-107	307	523	325	-65	307	567	45	14
Match Funding Earmarked for Future Schemes	7	0	249	255	7	0	249	255	0	
Regeneration Management	59	0	-1	58	1	0	-1	-0	-58	15
Business Support Projects	71	0	27	98	86	-23	27	90	-8	
UN Sir Gar	155	-117	0	39	172	-123	0	48	10	
Business Services Salaries	168	0	20	188	168	0	20	188	-0	
Workways(E)	0	0	0	0	2	-2	0	-0	-0	
Sector Development	61	0	6	67	61	0	6	67	-0	
Events	67	-29	3	41	88	-50	3	41	-0	
Economic Development Total	4,882	-2,506	1,043	3,419	5,098	-2,722	1,043	3,419	-0	
Chief Executive's Department Total	17,543	-5,286	-1,512	10,745	18,420	-6,254	-1,512	10,654	-91	

Transfer to/from Departmental Reserves

45

Net Forecasted End of Year Variance

-46

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Revenue Budget Monitoring 2015/16 as at 31st December 2015

Main Variance Summary		£'000
1	Chief Executive - Chief Officer - Vacant posts	-29
2	Corporate Savings Target - Efficiency savings will not be met until 2016-17	441
3	Corporate Savings Initiative - Saving from energy budget rationalisation	-278
4	People Management & Performance - Corporate Serv - Translation - Staff levels over and above the budgeted structure to meet demand for the service	48
5	People Management & Performance - Personnel Management - Part year vacant posts	-56
6	Admin and Law - Corporate Serv-Democratic - Part year vacant posts - Restructure imminent	-42
7	Customer Focus and Policy - Carbon Reduction Programme - Projection based on current estimate of likely charge	-22
8	Customer Focus and Policy - Complaints and Compliments Team - Vacant Post	-24
9	Customer Focus and Policy - Customer Services Centres - Vacant posts	-73
10	Customer Focus and Policy - Contact Centre - Vacant posts	-55
11	Statutory Services - Electoral Services - Staff - Vacant post	-28
12	Regeneration - West Wales European Centre - Mainly due non-achievement of consultancy income	35
13	Regeneration - Llanelli Community -Due to the result of recharging 1 member of staff to an externally funded project as a direct cost	-20
14	Regeneration Business Support Unit - Efficiency saving was identified for 14/15 in relation to premises costs at Nant Y Ci, with the intention of selling the property. The sale is currently on hold so savings have not been realised at this point	45
15	Regeneration Management - Vacant post	-58
	Other	25
Forecasted end of year variance:		-91
	Contribution to/from Departmental Reserves	45
Chief Executive's Net Variance		-46

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Revenue Budget Monitoring 2015/16 as at 31st December 2015

Forecasted for year to 31 March 2016

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Service	Working Budget				Forecasted				Variance For Year £'000	Note
	Controllable Expenditure £'000	Controllable Income £'000	Net Non Controllable £'000	Total Net £'000	Controllable Expenditure £'000	Controllable Income £'000	Net Non Controllable £'000	Total Net £'000		
Corporate Services Department										
Financial Services										
Chief Officer	325	-42	-286	-3	254	-42	-286	-75	-72	1
Accountancy	2,101	-385	-1,716	-0	2,033	-385	-1,716	-68	-67	2
Treasury and Pension Investment Section	211	-109	-97	4	211	-109	-97	4	0	
Local Taxation	879	-711	585	754	825	-698	585	712	-42	3
Housing Benefits Admin	1,411	-848	-518	45	1,360	-816	-518	26	-19	4
Housing Advances Admin	0	0	3	3	1	0	3	4	1	
Revenues	866	-124	-716	25	801	-124	-716	-39	-65	5
Benefits Fraud	148	0	-160	-11	82	0	-160	-77	-66	6
Payroll	536	-338	-198	0	536	-338	-198	0	-0	
Payments	387	-71	-304	12	387	-71	-304	12	-0	
Pensions	842	-796	-35	12	842	-796	-35	12	-0	
Financial Services Total	7,708	-3,424	-3,443	841	7,333	-3,379	-3,443	511	-330	
Audit Risk & Procurement										
Procurement	330	-5	-325	0	321	-5	-325	-9	-9	
Audit	542	-20	-521	0	501	-19	-521	-39	-39	7
Risk Management	126	-2	-113	12	119	-2	-113	5	-7	
Audit Risk & Procurement Total	998	-27	-959	12	941	-26	-959	-44	-56	
ICT										
Information Technology	3,656	-428	-3,099	128	3,612	-480	-3,099	33	-95	8
Central Telephone Network	1,167	-351	-806	9	1,144	-328	-806	9	-0	
ICT Total	4,823	-780	-3,906	137	4,756	-808	-3,906	42	-95	
Performance & Development										
Business Support Unit	140	0	-151	-12	132	0	-151	-19	-7	
Corporate Services Training	101	0	-101	-0	101	-1	-101	-1	-1	
Performance & Development Total	240	0	-252	-12	233	-1	-252	-20	-8	

Policy & Resources Scrutiny Report

Appendix B

Revenue Budget Monitoring 2015/16 as at 31st December 2015

Forecasted for year to 31 March 2016

Service	Working Budget				Forecasted				Variance For Year £'000	Note
	Controllable Expenditure £'000	Controllable Income £'000	Net Non Controllable £'000	Total Net £'000	Controllable Expenditure £'000	Controllable Income £'000	Net Non Controllable £'000	Total Net £'000		
Corporate Property										
Corporate Property Division	1,093	-195	-914	-16	1,107	-222	-914	-30	-13	9
Operational Depots	248	0	-328	-80	269	0	-328	-59	22	10
Administrative Buildings	3,120	-624	-2,642	-147	3,225	-640	-2,642	-58	89	11
Commercial Property	82	-533	1,471	1,019	29	-486	1,471	1,013	-6	
Industrial Premises	337	-1,371	705	-330	324	-1,317	705	-288	41	12
Rural Estate	73	-309	423	187	56	-309	423	170	-17	13
Provision Markets	447	-592	432	288	422	-607	432	247	-40	14
Livestock Markets	39	-169	23	-108	61	-162	23	-79	29	15
Corporate Property Total	5,438	-3,793	-832	813	5,493	-3,744	-832	918	104	
Other Services										
Audit Fees	362	-84	4	282	362	-84	4	282	0	
Bank Charges	61	0	1	62	50	0	1	52	-11	
Council Tax Benefits	15,018	0	61	15,079	14,900	0	61	14,961	-118	16
Rent Allowances	47,077	-47,090	1,318	1,304	49,100	-49,093	1,318	1,324	20	17
Miscellaneous Services	5,724	-107	-1,475	4,142	5,667	-107	-1,475	4,085	-57	18
Other Services Total	68,241	-47,280	-91	20,870	70,079	-49,284	-91	20,705	-165	
Corporate Services Department Total	87,449	-55,305	-9,482	22,662	88,836	-57,242	-9,482	22,112	-550	
Transfer to/from Departmental Reserves									275	
Net Forecasted End of Year Variance									-275	

Policy & Resources Scrutiny Report

Appendix B

Revenue Budget Monitoring 2015/16 as at 31st December 2015

Main Variance Summary	£'000
1 Chief Officer - Part year vacancy	-72
2 Accountancy - Part year vacancy	-67
3 Local Taxation - Vacant post and projected underspend on Post Office Giro fees	-42
4 Housing Benefits Admin - Part year vacant posts	-19
5 Revenues - Reduction in security costs, reduced staffing costs and increase in Court recovery income	-65
6 Benefits Fraud - Transfer of staff to DWP in August 2015, but no reduction in DWP grant until 2016/17	-66
7 Audit - Maternity leave and new staff members at bottom of salary scale in current year	-39
8 Information Technology - Vacant posts	-95
9 Corporate Property Division - Vacant posts	-13
10 Operational Depots - Mid year reduction in electricity budgets	22
11 Administrative Buildings - Efficiency saving relating to charging Health Board for occupancy not in place	89
12 Industrial Premises - Reduction in anticipated lettings income	41
13 Rural Estate - Tenants entitlements reduced & increased rental income	-17
14 Provision Markets - Additional lettings	-40
15 Livestock Markets - Repairs and maintenance expenditure at Newcastle Emlyn and Llandoverly	29
16 Council Tax Benefits - Slight downward movement in caseload meaning CTR being paid is 0.8% below the budget of £15.02m	-118
17 Rent Allowances - Minor fluctuation in Housing Benefits awarded	20
18 Miscellaneous Services - Reduction in subscriptions -£37k and reduction in past pension benefit claimants	-57
Other	-41
Forecasted end of year variance:	-550
Contribution to/from Departmental Reserves	275
Corporate Services Department Net Variance	-275

Tudal
2015

Capital Programme 2015/16

Capital Budget Monitoring - Report for December 2015

		Working Budget			Forecasted		
Net Exp to Dec 2015 £'000	DEPARTMENT	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000
	COMMUNITIES						
1,562	- Private Housing	4,139	-1,053	3,086	2,824	-262	2,562
1,746	- Social Care	3,367	0	3,367	4,451	-1,315	3,136
519	- Leisure	833	-335	498	262	-63	199
2,578	ENVIRONMENT	7,447	-4,077	3,370	7,655	-4,321	3,334
19,058	EDUCATION & CHILDREN	39,056	-13,399	25,657	38,261	-15,349	22,912
3,101	CORPORATE SERVICES	8,631	-1,017	7,614	7,472	-1,017	6,455
	CHIEF EXECUTIVE						
6,186	- Regeneration	10,904	-3,220	7,684	12,779	-7,484	5,295
34,750	TOTAL	74,377	-23,101	51,276	73,704	-29,811	43,893

APPENDIX C

Variance for Year £'000	Comment
-524	Main Variance : - Renewal Assistance -£299k Due to delay with partners, County Steelwork -£225k Less interest than anticipated
-231	Main Variance : - Learning Disabilities Centres -£231k due to options being considered on council buildings
-299	Main Variance : - Y Ffwrnes -£22k Retention to be paid in 16/17, Countryside Projects -£27k Due to monies being retained to match fund, Carmarthen Museum -£250k Scheme led by 3rd party - Payment to be made in 16/17
-36	Main Variance : - Bridge Strengthening - £36k due to construction cost lower than anticipated
-2,745	Main Variance : - Disabled Discrimination Works +£296k Higher demand for pupil led adaptations, legal requirement, MEP External Funding -£1,947k Re-profile of income required, Ysgol Ffwrnes +£29k due to retention to be paid early due to works completed ahead of schedule, Maes Y Gwendraeth +£455k Reprofile required due to delays in 14/15 works carried forward to 15/16, Seaside School -£1,954k delay in approving outline business case by Welsh Government, Cwm Tywi New Area School -£50k Due to options being considered, Ysgol Trimsaran -£664k Awaiting confirmation on statutory process on dual stream, Ysgol y Strade +£120k Higher level of spend during the year than anticipated, Ammanford Primary -£50k Development costs lower than anticipated, Ysgol Parc y Tywyn +£700k Due to design being ahead of schedule, Band B Schemes +£72k Due to site selection and design ahead of schedule, MEP-Other Projects +£201k Reprofile required, Completed Schemes +£43k Retentions payments outstanding
-1,159	Main Variance : - St Davids Park -£430k due to delay in procuring works, IT -£450k due to 2 year contract to be paid on 1st April 2016 and review of works, Eastgate Development -£279k due to delay - currently in procurement and design stage
-2,389	Main Variance:- Cross Hands East Strategic Employment site +£440k due to possible increases in land costs - negotiations ongoing. Ammanford Town Centre Regeneration -£470k funding committed for Town Centre agreed priority projects, Laugharne Car Park -£201k Due to technical studies required, Opportunity Street -£446k utilising external funding initially with Internal funding carrying forward to 16/17, Cross Hands East Office Dev -£465k first year of project - funding to be rolled into 16/17, Pendine Iconic International Visitors Destination -£501k awaiting funding package approval. Building for the Future - £656k Project at early stages and awaiting Welsh Government approval, Health and Safety Remediation Works -£90k Survey only in 15/16 - Implementation slipped to 16/17
-7,383	

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Corporate Services

Capital Budget Monitoring - Scrutiny Report for December 2015

Appendix D

			Working Budget			Forecasted		
Net Exp to December 2015 £'000	Scheme	Target Date for Completion	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000
0	Redevelopment - Old Mart Carmarthen	complete	20	0	20	20	0	20
0	St Davids Park	Mar-17	450	0	450	20	0	20
831	IT Strategy Developments	Ongoing	1,613	0	1,613	1,163	0	1,163
12	Rural Estates Capital Schemes	Mar-16	300	0	300	300	0	300
636	Capital maintenance	Ongoing	3,270	0	3,270	3,270	0	3,270
201	Refurbishment Works Ty Elwyn	Ongoing	333	0	333	333	0	333
1,232	Cross Hands West	Ongoing	2,367	-1,017	1,350	2,367	-1,017	1,350
0	East Gate Development	Mar-16	279	0	279	0	0	0
2,912	NET BUDGET		8,631	-1,017	7,614	7,472	-1,017	6,455

Variance for Year	Comment
0	
-430	design costs only this year - scheme to be implemented 2016-17.
-450	Slip to 16-17. Microsoft Enterprise Agreement, Budget allocated for payment that is due 1 April 2016.
0	
0	
0	
0	
0	
-279	Project delayed. Still at procurement stage.
-1,159	

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

**POLICY & RESOURCES
SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
16th MARCH 2016**

**Explanations for non-submissions
of scrutiny reports**

ITEM	RESPONSIBLE OFFICER(S)	EXPLANATION	REVISED SUBMISSION DATE
Tackling Poverty Action Plan	Wendy Walters / Gwyneth Ayers	Following the work of the Tackling Poverty Focus Group at the end of 2015, officers are currently in the process of developing a cross-departmental action plan to address the issues identified. This work has been delayed as a result of ensuring all Council departments are fully engaged in the process and progress will be reported at a future Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee.	22nd April 2016
Asset Management Plan	Jonathan Fearn / Stephen Morgan	Work to finalise the plan is not yet complete and therefore this item has been deferred to the next meeting.	22nd April 2016

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

PWYLLGOR CRAFFU POLISI AC ADNODDAU 16^{eg} O FAWRTH 2016

Diweddaraf am Weithrediadau ac Atgyfeiriadau'r Pwyllgor Craffu Polisi ac Adnoddau

Ystyried y materion canlynol a chyflwyno sylwadau arnynt:

- Hoelio sylw ar y cynnydd sy'n cael ei wneud mewn perthynas â'r camau, y ceisiadau neu'r atgyfeiriadau a gofnodwyd yng nghyfarfodydd blaenorol y Pwyllgor.

Rhesymau:

- Er mwyn i'r aelodau gyflawni eu dyletswyddau craffu mewn perthynas â monitro perfformiad.

Angen cyfeirio'r mater at y Bwrdd Gweithredol / Cyngor er mwyn gwneud penderfyniad: NAC OES

Aelod y Bwrdd Gweithredol sy'n gyfrifol am y Portffolio: *DDIM YN BERTHNASOL*

<p>Y Gyfarwyddiaeth: Prif Weithredwr</p> <p>Enw Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth: Linda Rees-Jones</p> <p>Awdur yr adroddiad: Matthew Hughes</p>	<p>Swyddi:</p> <p>Pennaeth Gweinyddiaeth a'r Gyfraith</p> <p>Ymgynghorydd Cynorthwyol</p>	<p>Rhifau Ffôn / Cyfeiriadau E-bost:</p> <p>01267 224010 lrjones@sirgar.gov.uk</p> <p>01267 224029 mahughes@sirgar.gov.uk</p>
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

POLICY & RESOURCES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 16th MARCH 2016

Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee Actions and Referrals Update

During the course of a municipal year, several requests for additional information are made by the Committee in order to assist it in discharging its scrutiny role.

The attached report provides members of the Committee with an update on the progress made in relation to these requests.

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: 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

**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
P&R Scrutiny Committee Reports and Minutes	<p>Meetings held up to July 2015: http://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-democracy/committees-meetings/agendas-minutes-(archive)/</p> <p>Meetings from September 2015 onwards: http://democracy.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/ieListMeetings.aspx?Committeeld=170</p>

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

**Pwyllgor Craffu Polisi ac Adnoddau - Diweddaraf am Weithrediadau ac Atgyfeiriadau
Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee - Actions and Referrals Update**

Meeting Date	Minuted Action / Referral / Request	Progress Update	Officer	Target / Completion Date	Completed / On-going
24th July 2015	Unanimously resolved that the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Scrutiny Forum consider the format of Report B following the consultation with other Scrutiny Committees in line with minute 6.2.	At its meeting on the 11th February 2016, the Chairs & Vice-Chairs Forum were briefed on the on-going work to develop a new performance monitoring report template for the scrutiny committees which would be presented via the new dashboard layout and by members using their i-Pads. It is envisaged that the new style of report will be piloted with the Policy & Resources Scrutiny Committee in the summer before being rolled out to the remaining committees in the Autumn.	Gaynor Morgan / Matthew Hughes / Noelwyn Daniel	11th February 2016	On-going
5th October 2015	Ageing Well in Wales: Local Ageing Well Plans - Unanimously resolved to endorse the draft plan to the Executive Board.	The draft plan was endorsed by the Executive Board on the 30th November 2015 and by County Council at its meeting on the 13th January 2016.	Gwyneth Ayers / Kevin Pett	13th January 2016	Completed
25th November 2015	Welsh Language Skills Strategy - Resolved to endorse the Strategy.	At its meeting on the 13th January 2016, County Council resolved to endorse the Executive Board's recommendation that the Welsh Language Skills Strategy and ALTE framework be adopted.	Paul R. Thomas	13th January 2016	Completed
	Draft Strategic Equality Plan 2016 - 2020 - Resolved to endorse the draft plan.	At its meeting on the 10th February 2016, County Council unanimously resolved to endorse the Executive Board's recommendation that Carmarthenshire County Council's Strategic Equality Plan 2016-2020 be implemented from April 2016.	Wendy Walters / Kevin Pett	10th February 2016	Completed
6th January 2016	Revenue Budget Strategy Consultation 2016/17 to 2018/19 - Resolved to accept the report and endorse the Charging Digest.	The budget was endorsed by County Council at its meeting on the 23rd February 2016.	Chris Moore / Owen Bowen	23rd February 2016	Completed

Pwyllgor Craffu Polisi ac Adnoddau - Diweddaraf am Weithrediadau ac Atgyfeiriadau
Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee - Actions and Referrals Update

	Five Year Capital Programme 2016/17 to 2020/21 - Unanimously resolved that the draft Five Year Capital Programme be endorsed subject to the Executive Board being requested to re-consider including the Ammanford Valley Distributor Road Phase 2 in the new capital programme and continue to lobby the Welsh Government for Local Transport Grant funding for the project.	The Committee's comments were considered by the Executive Board at its meeting on the 1st February 2016. At its meeting on the 23rd February 2016, County Council endorsed the Capital Budget.	Chris Moore / Owen Bowen	23rd February 2016	Completed
3rd February 2016	Treasury Management Policy & Strategy 2016-17 - Unanimously resolved that the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2016/17 and associated appendices be endorsed.	At its meeting on the 23rd February 2016, County Council resolved that the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2016-17 and the recommendations therein be approved, as well as approving the Treasury Management Indicators.	Chris Moore / Anthony Parnell	23rd February 2016	Completed

WEDNESDAY, 3 February 2016

PRESENT: Councillor D.W.H. Richards (Chair)

Councillors:

D.J.R. Bartlett, D.M. Cundy (In place of A.W. Jones), G. Davies, J.S. Edmunds, W.J.W. Evans, W.T. Evans (In place of A. Lenny), J.K. Howell, A.G. Morgan, D. Price, E.G. Thomas (In place of T. Bowen) and D.E. Williams

The following Officers were in attendance:

A. Aitken, Procurement Manager
G. Ayres, Corporate Policy and Partnership Manager
S. Bennett, ICT Manager
C. Moore, Director of Corporate Services
A. Parnell, Treasury & Pensions Investments Manager
J. Roberts, Joint Head of ICT
P. Sexton, Head of Audit, Risk and Procurement
K. Thomas, Democratic Services Officer

Chamber, County Hall, Carmarthen - **10.00** - 11.23 am

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors T. Bowen, A.W. Jones, A. Lenny and R. Thomas

2. DECLARATIONS OF PERSONAL INTEREST

There were no declarations of personal interest

3. DECLARATION OF PROHIBITED PARTY WHIPS

There were no declarations of prohibited party whips

4. PUBLIC QUESTIONS (NONE RECEIVED)

No public questions were received

5. FORTHCOMING ITEMS

The Committee received a list of forthcoming items for consideration at its next scheduled meeting to be held on the 16th March 2016.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the list of forthcoming items be noted

6. COMPLYING WITH THE NEW WELSH LANGUAGE STANDARDS

The Committee considered a report detailing the progress being achieved by the Council in implementing, and complying with, the 170 new Welsh Language Standards received from the Welsh Language Commissioner on the 15th

September by the designated timescales of either 30th March 2016 or, the 30th September, 2016.

The following issues were discussed during consideration of the report:

- Reference was made to the Council's intention to appeal against the imposition of standard numbers 27CH, 28 and 73 and to seek their replacement with standards 27D, 29 and 74 respectively to allow for the provision of simultaneous translation when the Council met with individuals who wished to speak Welsh. Support was expressed for the appeal on the basis it was considered important people were afforded the opportunity of using the language of their choice at meetings with the Council, and the provision of simultaneous translation assisted in that regard.

The Committee was advised that as some of the Council's final standards received from the Commissioner allowed for the use of simultaneous translation, the appeal merely sought to ensure consistency across their application. If the appeal were to be granted, the revised standards would enable the Council to communicate a consistent message to both its staff and service users on its expectations when meetings were being arranged.

- Reference was made to the fact each of the 22 unitary local authorities in Wales had received different sets of standards from the Commissioner. Whilst it was accepted that each authority had different skill levels, a view was expressed that the standards should be applied uniformly across Wales.

The Committee was advised that whilst each authority had received differing sets of standards, compliance therewith was a legal requirement and their implementation would prove challenging for all the authorities. It was therefore important the Council had the support of its staff and public to drive the proposals forward, which were achievable over time. It was noted that the Commissioner also intended for all public bodies in Wales to operate to the same set of standards over time. In that regard, Unitary Authorities had formed the first tranche of public bodies to be subject to the standards, subsequent tranches would involve other public bodies including the health authorities and emergency services etc.

- Whilst the new standards were to be welcomed, and the provision of simultaneous translation was important thereto, the Committee was reminded that there were cost implications associated with their implementation. For Carmarthenshire, that represented the inclusion of a £200k growth bid within the 2016/17 revenue budget to fund the cost of additional translators. The Director of Corporate Services confirmed that the Executive Board, at its meeting held on the 1st February, 2016 had endorsed the provision of the extra funding. The cost would be met from the Council's revenue budget settlement from the Welsh Government, the reduction to which had been less than originally anticipated.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report be received.

7. ICT STRATEGY UPDATE

The Committee considered a report detailing the progress being achieved in implementing the Council's ICT Strategy 2015-18, as approved by the Executive Board at its meeting held on the 15th December, 2014 in relation to the following five themes:

Theme 1 – Giving Citizens better access to Council Services,

Theme 2 – Promoting Digital Inclusion,
Theme 3 – Supporting Business Efficiency,
Theme 4 - Sharing Information and Joining up services
Theme 5 – Supporting Schools and Education.

The Committee noted that since September 2015, a Joint Head of ICT had been in place between Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire County Councils, replacing the former arrangement with the Dyfed Powys Police, and that as a consequence of the new arrangement the current ICT Strategy may need to be reviewed.

The following issues were raised during consideration of the report:

- In response to a question relating to the use of Microsoft Skype for business and to whether that could be applied to council meetings vis-à-vis video conferencing with members participating in meetings from home, the Joint Head of ICT advised that whilst that was probably technologically feasible, there would be legislative and other requirements associated therewith which would require investigation prior to any introduction.

With regard to the above, a question was asked on how simultaneous translation could be provided at meetings where participants were situated in different locations. The Corporate Policy and Partnership Manager advised that whilst the Councils' current simultaneous translation system was fully bilingual, its extension to incorporate the type of meetings suggested would require detailed consideration on the type of technology that may be available and its cost. One example currently being trialled in that regard by the Welsh Government involved the use of Microsoft mechanical translation to translate the written word from one language to another.

- In response to a question regarding the increasing use of modern mobile technology e.g mobile phones / tablets to access services, the Joint Head of ICT advised that the Council was examining how it could holistically enable the public to access the Council's services in a way that suited both them, and the Council. One issue requiring further attention in that regard related to citizen authorisation and ensuring any information accessed by individuals was secure. If introduced, it would enable a wider range of Council services to be accessed by the public.
- Reference was made to the possibility of the Council's ICT Strategy having to be reviewed in light of the collaboration with Pembrokeshire County Council. Clarification was sought on whether, or when, that review was likely to take place.

The Joint Head of ICT advised that currently a review was being undertaken to ascertain whether there would be any benefits in pursuing a formal Joint ICT provision agreement with Pembrokeshire in terms of efficiencies and cost savings. In the interim, the Council would be proceeding with the implementation of its current strategy.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report be received

8. PROCUREMENT PROGRESS REPORT

The Committee considered a report reviewing the progress being achieved in developing the Council's Procurement Function. It also noted that a new Procurement Strategy was being developed via a cross party member focus group (comprising nominated representatives from the Policy and Resources Scrutiny

Committee) the timing of which dovetailed into a number of key milestones that included:

- The National Procurement Service
- Welsh Government Fitness Check
- Welsh Government Procurement Policy Statement
- Future Direction of the Procurement Service
- Current and Future Workplans.

The following issues were raised during consideration of the report:

- Reference was made to page 26 of the report and to the disappointing level of savings achieved to date from the Council's membership of the National Procurement Service. That concern was heightened in relation to the fuel contract negotiated by the NPS which could cost the Council an additional £35k at a time when fuel prices were falling.

The Head of Audit, Risk and Procurement in response stated that whilst the level of returns were less than anticipated, a factor compounding that disappointment was the 0.45% levy applied to NPS contracts. He advised that the Council had entered into a five year agreement with the NPS, which was currently in its third year, and that at the end of the five years local authorities would be better placed to challenge its performance. Additionally, the Wales Audit Office was currently undertaking a review of the service examining areas that included what the NPS had produced, was it paying for itself and was it providing benefit to its members.

- Reference was made to the disappointing savings accrued to date by the Council as a member of the NPS and to whether the Council could opt out of various contracts.

The Head of Audit, Risk and Procurement advised that whilst that option was available, it would have to be sanctioned by the NPS Board, approval of which he felt would be limited. He also advised that whilst the Council was a member of the NPS there had been occasions when it had decided to not opt in to various contracts e.g. the provision of stationary and the Construction Consultancy Framework.

- Reference was made to the £25k cashable savings claimed to have been earned by the Council from being a member of the NPS, and a view expressed that the Council should, when considering entering into national contracts, have regard to their potential impact on the local economy and local Small to Medium Enterprises.

The Head of Audit Risk and Procurement in response advised that whilst the Council was in the 3rd year of the 5 five year contract it would need to examine any future benefits to be accrued from continued membership. That could include the impact on the local economy, a factor taken into account when the Council had decided to pursue its Regional Contractors Framework and not participate in the NPS Contract.

- Reference was made to the £74k savings generated by the Council from having negotiated its own milk contract rather than use the NPS contract, and the committee's attention was drawn to the fact that the level of saving achieved on that one contract exceeded the whole of the claimed £56k savings achieved on its NPS contracts during 2014/15.

The Head of Audit, Risk and Procurement advised that whilst £74k of savings had been realised on the milk contract the Council's proportion thereof amounted to £26k, the remaining £48k was grant aided and would represent a reduction in the

grant claim to the Welsh Government. In response to a question relating to the sourcing of the milk he stated that whilst it would be desirable for the Council to stipulate it should be locally sourced, that was not legal. He also advised that under the former Welsh Purchasing Consortium, under which the milk contract had been procured, opportunities had been provided to local firms to tender for the contract, which would not have occurred under the nationally tendered NPS contract. Wherever possible, however, representations were made to the NPS to award contracts on a "lot basis" as opposed to an all Wales service thereby enabling local suppliers to tender for contracts.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report be received

9. QUARTERLY TREASURY MANAGEMENT AND PRUDENTIAL INDICATOR REPORT - 1ST APRIL TO 31ST DECEMBER 2015

The Committee considered the Quarterly Treasury Management and Prudential Indicator report for the period 1st April – 31st December 2015 to ensure that the activities undertaken were consistent with the requirements of the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2015-2016 adopted by Council on the 24th February, 2015.

The Director of Corporate Services advised the Committee that over the 9 month monitoring period the Council's investments had out-performed the "7 day LIBID rate", being the benchmark return for the London Money Market by earning interest of £0.220m, being £80k more than would have been earned under the LIBID rate.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the monitoring report be noted

10. TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY AND STRATEGY 2016-17

The Committee considered the proposed Treasury Management Policy and Strategy 2016/17 and was reminded that, as part of the requirements of the revised CIPFA Code of Practice on Treasury Management, the Council was required to maintain a Treasury Management Policy detailing the policies and objectives of its treasury management activities, and to approve a Treasury Management Strategy annually prior to the commencement of the financial year to which it related. Additionally, under the provisions of the Local Government Act 2003, the Council was required to approve its Treasury Management Prudential Indicators for the coming year.

The Director of Corporate Services informed the Committee that the Executive Board, at its meeting held on the 1st February, 2016 in considering the 2016/17 Treasury Management Policy and Strategy had made reference to the recent changes in the membership of the Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee and had suggested that members of the Committee receive an update/refresher training on the Treasury Management Function. In accordance with that suggestion, arrangements were being made for the provision of training, which would also be attended by the Council's treasury management advisors.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy for 2016/17 and associated appendices be endorsed

11. EXPLANATION FOR NON-SUBMISSION OF SCRUTINY REPORT

The Committee received the Non- Submission report and noted that the TIC Third Sector review had been rescheduled for consideration at its meeting to be held on the 24th April, 2016.

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the report be noted.

12. TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 6TH JANUARY 2016

UNANIMOUSLY RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on the 6th January, 2016 be signed as a correct record.

CHAIR

DATE