

Pecyn Dogfennau



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DYDD LLUN, 9 TACHWEDD 2020

AT: HOLL AELODAU'R BWRDD GWEITHREDOL

YR WYF DRWY HYN YN EICH GALW I FYNYSBU RHITH-GYFARFOD
O'R **BWRDD GWEITHREDOL AM 10.00 YB, DYDD LLUN, 16EG
TACHWEDD, 2020** ER MWYN CYFLAWNI'R MATERION A
AMLINELLIR AR YR AGENDA SYDD YNGHLWM

Wendy Walters

PRIF WEITHREDWR

Swyddog Democrataidd:	Emma Bryer
Ffôn (llinell uniongyrchol):	01267 224029
E-bost:	ebryer@sirgar.gov.uk

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

Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL

AELODAETH - 10 AELOD

Cynghorydd	Portffolio
Cynghorydd Emlyn Dole	Arweinydd Arweinyddiaeth a Strategaeth Gorfforaethol; Cadeirydd y Bwrdd Gweithredol; Cynrychioli'r Cyngor ar CLILC; Datblygu Economaidd; Yn cynrychioli'r Cyngor ar Ranbarth Dinas Bae Abertawe; Cydweithio; Marchnata a'r Cyfryngau; Penodi Aelodau o'r Bwrdd Gweithredol; Penderfynu ar bortffolios ABG; Cyswllt â'r Prif Weithredwr; Bwrdd Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus
Cynghorydd Mair Stephens	Dirprwy Arweinydd Rheolwr Busnes y Cyngor; Adnoddau Dynol; Rheoli Perfformiad; Archwilio Cymru; Hyfforddiant; T.G.Ch; T.I.C. Cynllunio strategol
Cynghorydd Glynog Davies	Addysg a Phlant Ysgolion; Gwasanaethau Plant; Anghenion Addysgol Arbennig; Diogelu; Cartrefi Seibiant; Gwasanaeth Gwella Ysgolion Integredig Rhanbarthol; Dysgu Oedolion yn y Gymuned; Gwasanaethau Ieuenctid; Gwasanaethau Arlwyio Ysgolion, Aelod Arweiniol dros Blant a Phobl Ifanc; Llysgennad Ieuenctid
Cynghorydd Cefin Campbell	Cymunedau a Materion Gwledig Materion Gwledig ac Ymgysylltu â'r Gymuned; Diogelwch Cymunedol; Yr Heddlu; Deddf Gwrthderfysgaeth a Diogelwch 2015; Trechu Tlodi; Llesiant Cenedlaethau'r Dyfodol; Cyswllt y Trydydd Sector; Cydraddoldeb, Strategaeth Newid yn yr Hinsawdd.
Cynghorydd Hazel Evans	Amgylchedd Sbwriel; Clanhau Strydoedd; Gwasanaethau Priffyrdd aThrafnidiaeth; Cynnal a Chadw Tiroedd; Gwasanaethau Adeiladu; Gofalu; Clanhau Adeiladau; Cynlluniau Argyfwng; Llifogydd, Hawliau Tramwy Cyhoeddus.
Cynghorydd Linda Evans	Tai Tai - Cyhoeddus; Tai - Preifat; Heneiddio'n dda
Cynghorydd Peter Hughes Griffiths	Diwylliant, Chwaraeon a Thwristiaeth Llysgennad Cynghorau Tref a Chymuned; Datblygu'r Iaith Gymraeg; Theatrau; Chwaraeon; Canolfannau Hamdden; Amgueddfeydd; Llyfrgelloedd; Parciau Gwledig; Twristiaeth.
Cynghorydd Philip Hughes	Diogelu'r Cyhoedd Safonau Masnach; Iechyd yr Amgylchedd. Gorfodaeth Amgylcheddol; Gorfodaeth Cynllunio; Gwastraff Didrwydded; Gwasanaethau Parcio; Bio amrywiaeth
Cynghorydd David Jenkins	Adnoddau Cyllid a'r Gyllideb; Effeithlonrwydd Corfforaethol; Rheoli Eiddo / Asedau; Caffael; Budd-daliadau Tai; Refeniw; Gwasanaethau Statudol (Crwneriaid, Cofrestryddion, Etholiadol, Arglwydd Rhaglaw); Hyrwyddwr y Lluoedd Arfog; Canolfannau Cyswllt a Chanolfannau Gwasanaethau Cwsmeriaid
Cynghorydd Jane Tremlett	Gofal Cymdeithasol ac Iechyd Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol i Oedolion; Gofal Preswyl; Gofal Cartref; Anableddau Dysgu; Iechyd Meddwl; Cyswllt / Cydweithio / Integreiddio â'r GIG; Gwasanaethau Arlwyio Cartefi Gofal, Pencampwr Gofalwyr; Llysgennad Anabledd; Pencampwr Gofal Dementia

A G E N D A

1. YMDDIHEURIADAU AM ABSENOLDEB.
2. DATGAN BUDDIANNAU PERSONOL.
3. LLOFNODI FEL COFNOD CYWIR COFNODION CYFARFOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL A GYNHALWYD AR Y 2AIL TACHWEDD, 2020 5 - 8
4. CWESTIYNAU Â RHYBUDD GAN YR AELODAU
5. CWESTIYNAU A RHYBYDD GAN Y CYHOEDD
6. POLISI CODI TÂL MYNEDIAD I GEFN GWLAD - CELFI LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS 9 - 30
7. EGLWYS GYMUNEDOL TYWI – BOWLIO XCEL 31 - 40
8. ADRODDIAD MONITRO CYLLIDEB REFENIW Y CYNGOR 41 - 68
9. DIWEDDARU RHAGLEN GYFALAF 2020-21 69 - 78
10. UNRHYW FATER ARALL Y GALL Y CADEIRYDD OHERWYDD AMGYLCHIADAU ARBENNIG BENDERFYNU EI YSTYRIED YN FATER BRYN YN UNOL AG ADRAN 100B(4)(B) O DDEDDF LLYWODRAETH LEOL, 1972.

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Dydd Llun, 2 Tachwedd 2020

YN BRESENNOL: Y Cyngorydd E. Dole (Cadeirydd)

Y Cynghorwyr:

E. Dole, C.A. Campbell, G. Davies, H.A.L. Evans, L.D. Evans, P.M. Hughes, P. Hughes-Griffiths, D.M. Jenkins, L.M. Stephens a/ac J. Tremlett

Hefyd yn bresennol:

Y Cynghorwyr: D.M. Cundy

Yr oedd y swyddogion canlynol yn gwasanaethu yn y cyfarfod:

W. Walters, Prif Weithredwr

J. Morgan, Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Cymunedau

C. Moore, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol

G. Morgans, Cyfarwyddwr Gwasanaethau Addysg a Phlant

R. Mullen, Cyfarwyddwr yr Amgylchedd

L.R. Jones, Pennaeth Gweinyddiaeth a'r Gyfraith

P.R. Thomas, Prif Weithredwr Cynorthwyol (Rheoli Pobl a Pherfformiad)

G. Morgan, Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Democrataidd

I.R. Llewelyn, Rheolwr Blaen-gynllunio

S. Rees, Cyfieithydd Ar Y Pryd

L. Jenkins, Swyddog Cefnogi Bwrdd Gweithredol

M. Evans Thomas, Prif Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democrataidd

M.S. Davies, Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democrataidd

E. Bryer, Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democrataidd

R. Lloyd, Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democrataidd

K. Thomas, Swyddog Gwasanaethau Democrataidd

Siambr, Neuadd y Sir - 10.00 - 10.20 yb

1. YMDDIHEURIADAU AM ABSENOLDEB.

Ni chafwyd ymddiheuriadau am absenoldeb.

2. DATGAN BUDDIANNAU PERSONOL.

Ni ddatganwyd unrhyw fuddiannau personol.

3. LLOFNODI FEL COFNOD CYWIR COFNODION CYFARFOD Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL A GYNHALWYD AR Y 19EG HYDREF 2020

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL lofnodi cofnodion cyfarfod y Bwrdd Gweithredol a gynhaliwyd ar 19 Hydref, 2020 gan eu bod yn gywir.

4. CWESTIYNAU A RHYBYDD GAN Y CYHOEDD

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd nad oedd dim cwestiynau wedi dod i law gan y cyhoedd.

5. CWESTIYNAU Â RHYBUDD GAN YR AELODAU

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd nad oedd dim cwestiynau â rhybudd wedi cael eu cyflwyno gan yr Aelodau.

6. GORCHMYNION DATBLYGU LLEOL CANOL TREF CAERFYRDDIN A CHANOL TREF RHYDAMAN

Bu'r Bwrdd Gweithredol yn ystyried adroddiad ar gynigion i gyflwyno Gorchmynion Datblygu Lleol ar gyfer Canol Tref Caerfyrddin a Chanol Tref Rhydaman. Roedd yr adroddiad yn manylu ar y rôl bosibl y gallai Gorchmynion Datblygu Lleol ei chwarae fel rhan o gynigion adfywio ehangach yng nghyd-destun Canol y Dref, yn enwedig o ran Caerfyrddin a Rhydaman wrth gefnogi'r Fenter Lleoedd Llewyrchus a sicrhau eu bod yn gallu gwrthsefyll effeithiau economaidd COVID-19. Roedd y cynigion hefyd yn rhoi sylw dyledus i Gynllun Adfer Corfforaethol y Cyngor a Chanllawiau Cynllunio Llywodraeth Cymru – 'Adeiladu Lleoedd Gwell'.

Nodwyd bod Gorchmyn Datblygu Lleol yn rhoi cyfle i Awdurdod Cynllunio Lleol symleiddio'r broses gynllunio drwy ddileu'r angen i ddatblygwyr/ymgeiswyr gyflwyno cais cynllunio i'r Awdurdod ac i gyflwyno cynigion datblygu fel cais am Orchymyn Datblygu Lleol, gan ganiatáu i awdurdod weithredu'n rhagweithiol mewn ymateb i amgylchiadau lleol penodol yn ei ardal ddaearyddol.

Cyfeiriwyd at y cynnig i gynnwys rhan isaf Heol Awst, Caerfyrddin yn rhan o'r Gorchmyn Datblygu Lleol ar gyfer Canol Tref Caerfyrddin. Mynegwyd barn y dylid cynnwys y stryd honno yn ei chyfanrwydd yn y cynnig drafft a bod argymhelliad i'r perwyl hwnnw'n cael ei wneud i'r Cyngor.

PENDERFYNWYD YN UNFRYDOL ARGYMELL I'R CYNGOR:-

- 6.1 Bod cwmpas y Gorchmyn Datblygu Lleol arfaethedig yn cael ei gymeradwyo i'w ystyried drwy gyfrwng y broses adrodd ddemocrataidd;**
- 6.2 Bod y Gorchmynion Datblygu Lleol yn cael eu paratoi ar gyfer y trefi perthnasol gan gynnwys cynnal ymgynghoriadau ffurfiol fel y bo'n briodol ac adrodd ymhellach ar eu cwmpas, eu cynnwys a'u graddau daearyddol arfaethedig;**
- 6.3 Cymeradwyo cyhoeddi'r Gorchmyn Datblygu Lleol terfynol ar gyfer ymgynghoriad cyhoeddus am gyfnod o 6 wythnos o leiaf;**
- 6.4 Rhoi awdurdod dirprwyedig i swyddogion baratoi tystiolaeth i gefnogi'r Gorchmyn Datblygu Lleol;**
- 6.5 Rhoi awdurdod dirprwyedig i swyddogion wneud mân newidiadau golygyddol a ffeithiol;**
- 6.6 Diwygio'r cynllun ar gyfer Gorchmyn Datblygu Lleol Canol Tref Caerfyrddin i gynnwys Heol Awst, Caerfyrddin yn ei chyfanrwydd.**

7. UNRHYW FATER ARALL Y GALL Y CADEIRYDD OHERWYDD AMGYLCHIADAU ARBENNIG BENDERFYNU EI YSTYRIED YN FATER BRYN YN UNOL AG ADRAN 100B(4)(B) O DDEDDF LLYWODRAETH LEOL, 1972.

Dywedodd y Cadeirydd nad oedd unrhyw eitemau eraill o ran materion brys.

CADEIRYDD

DYDDIAD

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL 16 TACHWEDD 2020

POLISI CODI TÂL MYNEDIAD I GEFN GWLAD – CELFI LLWYBR CYHOEDDUS

Y Diben

Ceisio cymeradwyaeth i fabwysiadu Polisi Codi Tâl am gyflenwi a gosod celfi llwybr cyhoeddus ar draws y rhwydwaith hawliau tramwy cyhoeddus.

Yr Argymhellion / penderfyniadau allweddol angenrheidiol:

Cymeradwyo mabwysiadu'r polisi codi tâl a'i hyrwyddo'n briodol.

Y Rhesymau:

Nid dyletswydd yr awdurdod priffyrdd yw darparu a chynnal a chadw celfi ar hyd hawliau tramwy cyhoeddus, megis camfeydd, gatiau mochyn, a gatiau ceffyl. Yn hytrach, cyfrifoldeb y tiffeddiannwr ydyw.

Hyd yn hyn mae'r Tîm Mynediad i Gefn Gwlad wedi ariannu'r gwaith o gyflenwi a gosod celfi ar draws y rhwydwaith ar ran y tiffeddiannwr ym mhob achos bron. Yn y gorffennol, eithriad yn unig oedd gweld y tiffeddiannwr yn talu, ac mae'r dull o benderfynu pwy ddylai dalu costau cyflenwi/gosod wedi bod yn anffurfiol ac yn anghyson i raddau helaeth.

A ninnau'n wynebu sefyllfa ariannol heriol, nid ystyrir bod y costau sydd ynghlwm wrth y ffordd hon o weithio yn gynaliadwy.

Mae gan bolisi codi tâl y potensial i ddarparu incwm ychwanegol i'r gwasanaeth, ac felly, capasiti ychwanegol. Hefyd bydd yn creu tegwch a chysondeb wrth benderfynu pryd y dylai tiffeddiannwr dalu costau celfi.

Angen ymgynghori â'r pwyllgor craffu perthnasol: Na

Angen penderfyniad gan y Bwrdd Gweithredol: Oes

Angen penderfyniad gan y Cyngor Na

YR AELOD O'R BWRDD GWEITHREDOL SY'N DAL Y PORTFFOLIO: - Y Cyng. Hazel Evans, yr Aelod o'r Bwrdd Gweithredol dros yr Amgylchedd.

Y Gyfarwyddiaeth:
Yr Amgylchedd / Cymunedau

Enw Pennaeth y Gwasanaeth:
Stephen G Pilliner

Awdur yr Adroddiad:
Caroline Ferguson
Rheolwr Mynediad i Gefn Gwlad
Rhif ffôn.
01554 742216
Cyfeiriad E-bost:
cferguson@sirgar.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

EXECUTIVE BOARD

16th November 2020

SUBJECT

Countryside Access Charging Policy – Public Path Furniture

1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT.

A charging policy has been developed by the Countryside Access service to introduce a means of recovering a portion of current expenditure on supplying and installing public path furniture on behalf of landowners.

Since the appointment of the Countryside Rangers in 2003, and to a lesser extent before then, Carmarthenshire's Countryside Access team have funded the supply and installation of furniture across the network on behalf of the landowner in almost all cases.

Section 146 of the Highways Act 1980 requires any stile or gate across a footpath, bridleway, or restricted byway to be maintained by the landowner.

With a challenging financial outlook, the service is not reasonably able to continue with the current level of support for landowners.

The proposed policy has been carefully considered to introduce an appropriate and fair degree of cost recovery for furniture supply and installation by the Authority whilst formalising concessions in certain circumstances. The concessions contained in the policy are included to support and assist in delivering policies and actions contained in the Carmarthenshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) 2019-2029, particularly around least restrictive access and prioritisation of promoted routes.

The policy also serves to provide a clear set of rules for furniture provision that will inform landowners of their statutory responsibilities and will assist Countryside Access staff in offering landowner support that is consistent, fair and reasonable.

The proposed charging policy provides that where Landowners: 1. Adopt standardised furniture to support access. 2. Are compliant and cause no obstruction on the promoted and wider network, no charges will apply.

Charging will apply in the following circumstances:

- Where non standardised furniture is installed. Charges will be applied at fifty percent and subject to conditions on compliance as set out in the detailed report attached.
- Where the landowner wishes to have a stile installed, it must meet the British Safety Standard but as stiles restrict access, charges will be applied at seventy five percent and subject to conditions set out in the detailed report.
- Where furniture is required because of a landowner request to divert a Right of Way,

the landowner is liable to meet the full cost.

- Where enforcement action is required the landowner is liable for the full cost of installation.

The proposed policy, if approved, will apply across all of Carmarthenshire excluding the eastern portion of the County that sits in the Brecon Beacons National Park as this area is managed by the National Park Authority under the current Delegation Agreement.

A policy of this type is currently uncommon across Wales, but a number of Welsh Authorities are considering a similar move towards furniture recharge.

This report is seeking approval to adopt the charging policy.

2. OTHER OPTIONS AVAILABLE AND THEIR PROS AND CONS

No Change

The Authority could continue to work in the current way and not introduce any form of charging policy or clear set of rules for furniture provision. This would remove the risk of resistance from landowners as the Authority would continue to undertake work on their behalf without recovering any costs. Working in this way would eliminate any possibility of achieving any income from undertaking landowner duties and it would not regulate furniture provision to allow officers to work to a clear and consistent set of rules. Not introducing a policy for furniture provision would maintain the commonly held but incorrect view that the Local Authority are responsible for public path furniture.

More Concessions

The proposed policy could be amended to contain further concessions. Increased concessions would keep potential landowner resistance to a minimum as the Authority would continue to undertake work on behalf of landowners with minimal cost recovery. A policy of this type would still serve to create clear and consistent rules for furniture provision however the policy would likely have minimal budgetary benefits and would support the commonly held but incorrect view that the Local Authority are responsible for furniture.

Fewer Concessions

The proposed policy could be amended to contain fewer concessions. Introducing more comprehensive charging would generate significant income for the service and would align the Authority more with section 146 of the Highways Act (1980), clearly placing responsibility for path furniture on the landowner. A policy of this type might however, given the very sudden and significant change in furniture provision support, lead to animosity with landowners and greatly increase enforcement cases.

To introduce a more comprehensive charging would impact more significantly on the landowner. Any additions to the proposed policy will delay the adoption of a formal working system that has been carefully considered to better reflect responsibilities for public path furniture, safeguard the countryside access budget, introduce consistency in furniture provision and fairness in cost recovery.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?	YES
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IMPLICATIONS

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

Signed: Stephen Pilliner

Head of Highways & Transportation

Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities	Legal	Finance	ICT	Risk Management Issues	Staffing Implications	Physical Assets
Yes	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	NO

1. Policy, Crime & Disorder and Equalities

The introduction of a charging policy improves consistency and equality in determining when costs for public path furniture are recovered.

2. Legal

The policy will better align the Authority with the provisions of section 146 of the Highways Act (1980) placing responsibility for path furniture onto the landowner. It will necessitate the Countryside Access service in processing landowner claims for a 25% financial contribution towards furniture, from the Authority, introduced by the Countryside Act (1968).

There may be more cases of enforcement as a result of the Authority carrying out less work on behalf of the landowner free of charge.

The concessions contained in the policy have been approved by Legal Services.

3. Finance

Adoption of this policy will introduce a means of cost recovery for service expenditure on furniture. This will support the Countryside Access maintenance budget.

If cases of enforcement increase the Countryside Access legal budget may be put under more pressure although costs should be recoverable in most cases.

6. Staffing Implications

The charging policy may lead to fewer furniture installations being carried out by the service on the behalf of the landowner where landowners choose to complete work themselves.

This would a positive outcome within a small team as it would increase capacity within the Ranger team to undertake statutory duties, improvements and grant funded projects across the network.

Where landowner installation has taken place there would be a need for that installation to be inspected for compliance. If landowner installations were to become the standard, then there may be a need to specifically assign furniture inspections to a member/members of the Countryside Access team to ensure each installation is checked and signed off.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: Stephen Pilliner

Head of Highways & Transportation

(Please specify the outcomes of consultations undertaken where they arise against the following headings)

1. Scrutiny Committee

No

2. Local Member(s)

No

3. Community / Town Council

No

4. Relevant Partners

Carmarthenshire Local Access Forum

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

No

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
Highways Act 1980	N/A	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1980/66
Countryside Act 1968	N/A	https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1968/41
Carmarthenshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) 2019-2029	N/A	Countryside Access Unit, Mynydd Mawr Woodland Park, Tumble. SA14 6HU https://www.carmarthenshire.gov.wales/home/council-services/public-rights-of-way/rights-of-way-improvement-plan/#.X0UZgOSWzIU

REPORT TO THE DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT IN RESPECT OF
CARMARTHENSHIRE'S PROPOSED COUNTRYSIDE ACCESS
CHARGING POLICY – PUBLIC PATH FURNITURE

Introduction

The provision and maintenance of furniture along public rights of way, such as stiles, kissing gates and bridle gates is the responsibility of the landowner.

Carmarthenshire has historically been a County that has exceeded its statutory duties in respect of supplying and maintaining furniture of the public rights of way (proW) network.

Maintenance budgets and funding opportunities have enabled this approach and as a result many kilometres of proW have been re-opened, providing valuable access opportunities for residents and visitors to the County.

With the Authority covering the costs associated with this work, including costs that should have been borne by the affected landowners, few cases of enforcement occurred as a result.

Unfortunately, the financial outlook continues to be challenging and as such the service can no longer provide the same level support for landowners, a policy has therefore been developed in relation to furniture provision.

The terms of the proposed policy will still support landowners but will ensure they bear their legal responsibilities more appropriately. It will also ensure that where public funds are used for furniture, support will be consistent and the results will be clearly aligned with the policies and actions contained in the Carmarthenshire ROWIP.

Relevant Legislation

Section 146 of the Highways Act 1980 requires any stile or gate across a footpath, bridleway or restricted byway to be maintained by the landowner in a safe condition and to the standard of repair required to prevent unreasonable interference with the rights of users.

If a landowner complies with their duty to maintain PROW furniture, they are entitled to recover at least 25% of their costs from the authority. This was introduced by the Countryside Act 1968 to provide a fair division of responsibility between owners and the highway authority. Where authorities have failed to compel landowners to carry out their duties, as in Carmarthenshire, landowners have not claimed the grants that would otherwise be due to them.

If a landowner fails in his duty, the Local Authority, as the relevant highway authority, may, after giving at least 14 days' notice to both owner and occupier, do any work necessary to repair, replace or remove a piece of furniture and charge costs to the owner.

Conclusions

With no consistent policy in place for supplying furniture and/or materials to a landowner, or for charging landowners for work undertaken by the Authority on their behalf the County are using public funds for expenses they are not legally liable for without a rationale and are doing so in an inconsistent way that might leave us open to challenge.

Introducing an approved policy of cost recovery for installing furniture on the PROW network will allow us to provide clear and consistent guidelines to landowners.

It would align our working practices with the relevant legislation whilst providing a rationale for instances where we continue to support landowner duties.

It also has the potential to generate a moderate income that would support the maintenance budget and could increase the capacity of the service.

The delivery of the proposed policy will support actions and policies contained within the Carmarthenshire Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2019-2029 and has positively supports the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Countryside Access Charging Policy – Public Path Furniture

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1. Summary

Responsibility for protecting Public Rights of Way (PROW) and maintaining their surface lies with the Local Authority as the relevant highway authority. However, the provision and maintenance of furniture along public rights of way, such as stiles, kissing gates and bridle gates is not a highway authority duty, it is the responsibility of the landowner.

Since the appointment of the Countryside Rangers in 2003, and to a lesser extent before then, Carmarthenshire's Countryside Access team have funded the supply and installation of furniture across the network on behalf of the landowner in almost all cases.

As a result of supplying and installing furniture at no cost to the landowner, resistance to PROW maintenance and improvements from landowners has been minimal, this has led to fewer cases of formal enforcement.

Available funding, particularly the Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) grant, allowed the service to meet the costs associated with this way of working. Unfortunately, the ROWIP grant has now ceased and the financial outlook continues to be challenging, the service is therefore unable to continue with the current approach to the supply and installation of furniture.

This policy sets out how the service intends to revise its way of working in relation to furniture supply and installation, providing a clear and consistent set of rules, whilst taking account of our statutory responsibilities.

2. Legal Context

Section 146 of the Highways Act 1980 requires any stile or gate across a footpath, bridleway or restricted byway to be maintained by the landowner in a safe condition and to the standard of repair required to prevent unreasonable interference with the rights of users. This is the case in respect of every piece of furniture on the PROW network unless there is specific legal agreement to the contrary.

If a landowner fails in his duty, the Local Authority, as the relevant highway authority, may, after giving at least 14 days' notice to both owner and occupier, do any work necessary to repair, replace or remove a piece of furniture and charge costs to the owner. The existence of this power does not detract from the duty of the highway authority to take enforcement action if the condition of a stile or gate constitutes an obstruction.

If a landowner complies with their duty to maintain PROW furniture, they are entitled to recover at least 25% of their costs from the authority. In practice, if the Authority carries out the work on behalf of the landowner, they should charge 75% of the total cost, if the landowner carries out the work themselves, they may claim back 25% of the total cost.

This was introduced by the Countryside Act 1968 to provide a fair division of responsibility between owners and the highway authority. Where authorities have failed to compel

landowners to carry out their duties, as in Carmarthenshire, landowners have not claimed the grants that would otherwise be due to them.

3. Principles of this Policy

Reduced funding means that the Countryside Access team is not able to continue to work in the same way as previously, funding the supply and installation of furniture across the PROW network on behalf of the landowner in almost all cases.

There is a need for a coherent policy for supplying furniture and/or materials to a landowner, and for when a landowner should be charged for work undertaken by the Authority on their behalf. Introducing an approved policy of cost recovery for installing furniture on the PROW network will allow us to provide clear and consistent guidelines to landowners.

The decision to move to a policy of charging for furniture is in line with the Highways Act 1980. Delivery of the policy will assist in achieving 'Least Restrictive Access' across Carmarthenshire's PROW network, a policy contained in our Rights of Way Improvement Plan (ROWIP) 2019-2029. Numerous ROWIP Actions will also be supported by the policy including network maintenance, improvement, and accessibility.

This policy has the potential to increase capacity within the service by generating additional income which could fund more furniture across the County, opening more routes to the public.

The parameters of this policy will require the service to keep standard furniture stock and equipment rather than the range currently held. This has the potential to increase capacity within the service by reducing expenditure on holding varied stock as currently.

These are the parameters in which we will now generally work subject to periodical review to take account of any financial changes, variations in National or Local Authority policy and/or changes to the legal and statutory framework covering PROW.

4. Terms of Payment

Where the legal obligation is for the landowner to provide or maintain the necessary PROW furniture and the landowner chooses for the Authority to undertake works, this will be charged under the terms of this Policy.

Payment for work shall be made up front.

5. Chargeable Furniture supply/installation

Circumstances where the Authority will seek to recover costs are as detailed below.

5.1 Non-Standard Gates

Landowners/managers demonstrating compliance when approached by a member of the Countryside Access team but who would like the Authority to install a gate type that is not standard stock will be required to pay half of the total cost of supply and installation of that gate.

This will be subject to the following criteria:

- i. There must be no reported incidents of aggressive or intimidating behaviour towards PROW users or staff linked to the landowner/manager.
- ii. Aside from the poor condition of or absence of furniture, there must be no evidence of wilful obstruction in respect of any PROWs across the holding
- iii. The landowner/manager must accept responsibility for the furniture once installed, as per their duty under the Highways Act 1980.

5.2 Stiles

If the landowner/manager wishes to install a stile on the PROW network within their holding they must cover the full cost of the stile(s) and installation as is their statutory duty. Any stile must meet the current British Standard BS5709:2018 and must be permissible on the network.

Stiles are discouraged in Carmarthenshire. A stile does not provide a widely accessible means of accessing a pedestrian PROW and as such it does not satisfy our Policy of Least Restrictive Access. A stile carries higher risk of injury to the public and a higher level of liability for the landowner. Being predominantly constructed from timber, stiles can fall into disrepair in a relatively short period.

If supply and installation is undertaken by the landowner, they may claim back the statutory 25% for costs incurred for a stile(s) from the Authority. Proof of costs incurred must be provided.

If a stile(s) is supplied and installed by the Authority, on behalf of the landowner, 75% of total costs will be recovered from the landowner, the statutory 25% entitlement will be automatically deducted.

5.3 Enforcement

Landowners/managers that are not compliant when approached by a member of the Countryside Access team, subsequently leading to default enforcement proceedings, will be charged the full cost of any furniture installation carried out as part of a default action.

If following a successful enforcement action through the court, a landowner/manager elects to contract the services of the Countryside Access team to carry out any necessary furniture installation(s) they will be expected to cover the full costs of the works.

5.4 Diversion Orders

If a PROW that has been subject to a Diversion Order because of a formal application, then the applicant is liable for all costs associated with the creation of the new route. This includes the full cost of all necessary furniture. 25% cost recovery from the Authority under the Countryside Act (1968) does not apply in these circumstances.

For a price list of all PROW furniture applicable to this section, see appendix 1

6. Furniture supplied/installed Free of Charge

Presently the Authority will continue to undertake landowner responsibilities in respect of PROW furniture in the circumstances detailed below.

6.1 Promoted Network

Due to the importance placed on promoted PROWs in the County and the additional burden that is placed on them, the Countryside Access team will continue to fund the upkeep of furniture and provision of replacement furniture on behalf of the landowner.

These promoted routes, for example the Wales Coast Path, the Heart of Wales Trail, and the Cothi Trail, should be maintained in the best possible condition to showcase the best of the what the County has to offer to local people and tourists visiting the County.

6.2 Wider Network

Landowners/managers that demonstrate clear compliance when approached by a member of the Countryside Access team will still be offered furniture installation free of charge in order to open a path(s) on their holding, subject to strict criteria:

- i. A specific furniture type must be accepted according to the status of the PROW – see appendix 2.
- ii. There must be no reported incidents of aggressive or intimidating behaviour towards PROW users or staff linked to the landowner/manager.

- iii. Aside from the poor condition of or absence of furniture, there must be no evidence of wilful obstruction in respect of any PROWs across the holding
- iv. The landowner/manager must accept responsibility for the furniture once installed, as per their duty under the Highways Act 1980.

This approach will maximise the efficiency of the Countryside Service. It will deliver valuable and sought-after network improvements on the ground and reward landowner compliance whilst still being mindful of deliberate PROW offences that will annul eligibility for this offer. It will also enhance the network, opening routes in cooperation with landowners whilst consistently delivering least restrictive access across the network.

7. Equality Impact Assessment

This Policy has been subject to an initial Equality Impact Assessment, see appendix 3. A detailed EIA assessment was not considered necessary.

Appendix 1 - Price List (excl VAT)

Furniture Type	Price
Galvanised Self Closing Pedestrian Gate (complete unit)	£134.00
Treated Timber Pedestrian Gate (with posts and ironmongery)	£130.30
Galvanised Stock Proof Self Closing Kissing Gate (complete unit)	£265.00
Treated Timber Kissing Gate	£210.30
Treated Timber Stile (2 Step)	£25.00
Treated Timber Stile (2 step) with dog latch	£50.00
Galvanised Bristol Gate complete unit (field gate with built in pedestrian gate)	£351.00
10'/3048mm Galvanised Field Gate (with posts and ironmongery)	£154.00
12'/3660mm Galvanised Field Gate (with posts and ironmongery)	£162.75
10'/3048mm Treated Timber Field Gate (with posts and ironmongery)	£205.30
12'/3660mm Treated Timber Field Gate (with posts and ironmongery)	£230.20
Galvanised Bridle Gate (complete unit)	£135.00
Galvanised Bridle Gate (complete unit with bridle latch)	£208.00
Treated Timber Bridle Gate (with posts and ironmongery)	£142.80
Treated Timber Bridle Gate (with posts and ironmongery and bridle latch)	£216.00
*Please Note	
Prices subject to annual review	
Price on application for items not included above	
Prices may vary if urgent supply is required and stock is unavailable	

Appendix 2 - Countryside Access Furniture offered Free of Charge

Public Footpaths

Galvanised Self Closing Pedestrian Gate – 1000mm Clear Span

Treated Timber Pedestrian Gate – minimum 1000mm Clear Span

Bridleways

Galvanised Bridle Gate with bridle latch – 1525mm Clear Span

Treated Timber Bridle Gate – minimum 1525mm Clear Span

Restricted Byways

Galvanised 3048mm Field Gate (minimum legal width)

Appendix 3 – Initial Equalities Impact Assessment

Department: Countryside Access	Completed by (lead): Caroline Ferguson	Date of initial assessment: 24/08/2020 Revision Dates:
Area to be assessed: (i.e. name of policy, function, procedure, practice or a financial decision)	Countryside Access Charging Policy – Public Path Furniture	
Is this existing or new function/policy, procedure, practice or decision?	New Policy	
What evidence has been used to inform the assessment and policy? (please list only)		
Statutory Duties Relevant Legislation Rights of Way Improvement Plan (2019-2029) Past/Existing working practices		

1. Describe the aims, objectives or purpose of the proposed function/policy, practice, procedure or decision and who is intended to benefit.	The aim of this policy is to provide consistency in the provision and/or installation of countryside access furniture for landowners. It will introduce an approved means of cost recovery for furniture provided/installed by the Authority where the landowner is liable. Introducing the policy and recovering costs has the potential to generate additional income for the service to fund more works across the public path network rather than covering 100% of landowner liabilities across a lesser length of the network.		
The Public Sector Equality Duty requires the Council to have “due regard” to the need to:-	2. What is the level of impact on each group/ protected characteristics in terms of the three aims of the duty?	3. Identify the risk or positive effect that could result for each of the group/protected characteristics?	4. If there is a disproportionately negative impact what mitigating factors have you considered?

<p>(1) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation;</p> <p>(2) advance equality of opportunity between different groups; and</p> <p>(3) foster good relations between different groups</p> <p>(see guidance notes)</p>		<p>Please indicate high (H) medium (M), low (L), no effect (N) for each.</p>	<p>Risks</p>	<p>Positive effects</p>	
<p>Protected characteristics</p>	<p>Age</p>	M	None	Introduces consistency across all groups	N/A
	<p>Disability</p>	M	None	Introduces consistency across all groups. The installation of standardised furniture will assist access for all groups. Officers will advise with the Disability Coalition of the positive impact of the policy.	N/A
	<p>Gender reassignment</p>	M	None	Introduces consistency across all groups	N/A
	<p>Race</p>	M	None	Introduces consistency across all groups	N/A
	<p>Religion/Belief</p>	M	None	Introduces consistency across all groups	N/A

	Pregnancy and maternity	M	None	Introduces consistency across all groups	N/A
	Sexual Orientation	M	None	Introduces consistency across all groups	N/A
	Sex	M	None	Introduces consistency across all groups	N/A
	Welsh language	M	None	Introduces consistency across all groups	N/A
	Any other area	M	None	Introduces consistency across all groups	N/A

5. Has there been any consultation/engagement with the appropriate protected characteristics?

YES ☐

NO ☒

6. What action(s) will you take to reduce any disproportionately negative impact, if any? N/A

7. Procurement

Following collation of evidence for this assessment, are there any procurement implications to the activity, proposal, service? No

Please take the findings of this assessment into your procurement plan. Contact the corporate procurement unit for further advice.

8. Human resources

Following collation of evidence for this assessment, are there any Human resource implications to the activity, proposal or service? No

9. Based on the information in sections 2 and 6, should this function/policy/procedure/practice or a decision proceed to Detailed Impact Assessment? (recommended if one or more H under section 2)		YES <input type="checkbox"/>	NO ✓
Approved by: Head of Service			Date: 24/08/2020

Bwrdd Gweithredol 16^{eg} Tachwedd 2020

Eglwys Gymunedol Tywi – Bowlio Xcel

Yr argymhellion / penderfyniadau allweddol sydd eu hangen:

1. Rhoddir cymeradwyaeth i roi ymrwymiad o £50,000 i Eglwys Gymunedol Tywi i gefnogi Bowlio Xcel a phrosiectau cysylltiedig sy'n caniatáu iddynt barhau i fasnachu. Mae hwn i'w ariannu o gronfeydd wrth gefn adrannol. Rhoddir y cyllid fel grant y tynnir arno yn ôl yr angen.
2. Rhoddir cymeradwyaeth pe bai angen cyllid ychwanegol ar Eglwys Gymunedol Tywi i gefnogi eu gallu i barhau i weithredu, y byddai cynnyddu eu benthygiad presennol hyd at £50,000 yn cael ei ganiatau.

Y Rhesymau:

I gefnogi Bowlio Xcel a'i brosiectau cysylltiedig fel y gallant barhau i gyflawni'r gwasanaethau y maent yn eu darparu i drigolion Sir Gaerfyrddin ac ardaloedd cyfagos.

Angen ymgynghori â'r Pwyllgor Craffu perthnasol AMHERTHNASOL

Angen i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol wneud penderfyniad OES

Angen i'r Cyngor wneud penderfyniad NAC OES

YR AELOD O'R BWRDD GWEITHREDOL SY'N GYFRIFOL AM Y PORTFFOLIO:- Y Cyng.
David Jenkins

Y Gyfarwyddiaeth
Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol

Enw Cyfarwyddwr y
Gwasanaeth:
Chris Moore

Awdur yr Adroddiad:
Chris Moore

Swydd:

Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau
Corfforaethol

Rhifau ffôn: 01267 224120

Cyfeiriadau e-bost:
CMoore@sirgar.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Board

16th November 2020

Towy Community Church – Xcel Bowl

The report provides background information on the services that the Xcel Bowl and associated projects provide. The projects include a Foodbank, Community Shop and Furniture Recycling. In tandem they have worked with over 50 referral agencies including the Council to meet the needs of disadvantaged families. This community hub is utilised by a wide demographic within Carmarthenshire and neighbouring areas.

This report seeks approval for the sum of £50,000 to be made available to Xcel Bowl to support their recovery from the impact of the pandemic allowing them to continue to trade and ensuring continuity of service provision into the future. It will also provide employment security for the staff who have been retained.

This report also seeks approval for an increase to the existing loan up to £50,000 be allowed should Towy Community Church require additional funds to support their continued operation. The current loan period will be extended to ensure that repayments are maintained based on the existing level of loan repayments.

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: R Hemingway

Head of Financial Services

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

2. Legal

State Aid has been considered and the rules are not breached.

Amendment required to existing loan agreement between Carmarthenshire County Council and Towy Community Church

3. Finance

The application is for an award of £50,000 to be released at the point of necessity to be funded from corporate departmental reserves and that should additional funds be required the existing loan arrangement can be increased by up to £50,000. The award will secure financial stability for the Xcel Bowl, Foodbank, Community Shop and Furniture Recycling.

5. Risk Management Issues

The national lockdown in Wales from 23rd October to 9th November 2020, known as a “fire break”, has been factored into the cashflow forecasts. However, there are risks associated with the longer term uncertainty and impact of Covid-19 with the prospect of potential further lockdowns.

7. Physical Assets

Regarding the development of the former creamery site, Phase 1 covered the bowling centre, food bank and furniture recycling centre, and a 99 year lease was entered into on 26th June 2012 for these premises. Phase 2 involved a building agreement which permitted the construction of a 600 seat auditorium, conference and meeting rooms, debt counselling service, cafe / restaurant, catering training, luncheon club and office accommodation.

The impact of the pandemic on revenue generation has affected Towy Community Church’s ability to progress with Phase 2. Discussions will need to continue to ascertain the impact on timelines if trading continues under the present recommendation in order to inform a further report on a revised scheme programme and anticipated completion date for Phase 2.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: C Moore

Director of Corporate Services

1. Scrutiny Committee

N/A

2. Local Member(s)

N/A

3. Community / Town Council

N/A

4. Relevant Partners

N/A

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations

N/A

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

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
Formal request and cashflows		County Hall, Carmarthen

Report of the Director of Corporate Services

Executive Board

16th November 2020

Towy Community Church – Xcel Bowl

To provide support to ensure the ongoing viability of the Xcel Bowl Centre

Name of Director & Designation C Moore – Director of Corporate Services	Directorate Corporate Services	Telephone No. 01267 224120
Author & Designation As above	Directorate	Telephone No.

1. BRIEF SUMMARY OF PURPOSE OF REPORT

An application has been received to support the Xcel Bowl Centre and the charitable arms of Towy Community Church so that they can continue to deliver the services they provide to the residents of Carmarthenshire and neighbouring areas.

2. KEY DECISIONS REQUIRED, IF ANY

The report seeks approval for a commitment of funding to be made available as a grant, to ensure the longer term financial sustainability of the Xcel Bowls and associated projects.

3. RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 Approval is given that a commitment of £50,000 be given to Towy Community Church to support the Xcel Bowl and associated projects allowing them to continue to trade. The funding will be given as a grant which will be drawn upon as required.
- 3.2 Approval is given that should Towy Community Church require additional funds (over and above the grant) to support their continued operation, an increase to their existing loan of up to £50,000 would be allowable. The current loan period will be extended to ensure that repayments are maintained based on the existing level of loan repayments.

4. REASON(S)

An application for financial assistance has been received from Towy Community Church to provide a support package to Xcel Bowl and its associated projects so

that they can continue to deliver the services they provide to the residents of Carmarthenshire and neighbouring areas.

The Foodbank, Community Shop and Furniture recycling in tandem have worked with over 50 referral agencies including the Council, to meet the needs of disadvantaged families.

The support will enable continuity of service provision into the future and provide security of jobs to staff.

5. BACKGROUND AND EXPLANATION OF ISSUES

At a meeting of the County Council in December 2011, it was agreed that Carmarthenshire County Council would provide support by way of an annuity loan in the sum of £270,000 to secure community-led economic and community uses for the former Creamery site for the wellbeing of the County. At the time of writing, the amount of loan principal outstanding is £163,145. Prior to the impact of the pandemic, over the course of the loan period, loan payments of interest and principal had been made in accordance with the repayment schedule.

The Xcel Bowl and associated projects have been trading for over 7 years, and during that time have built an excellent reputation, winning numerous awards as a charity and tourist destination, to become a vital community hub, utilised by a wide demographic within Carmarthenshire and neighbouring areas.

Throughout 2019, the Xcel Bowl in partnership with both local and national organisations, has hosted several events. They have supported local charities and various community events. The venue has also been used for training events by local businesses. Xcel Bowl have continued to have the support of Mencap during the year, which together with their relationship with Remploy has enabled them to offer employment and work experience to a number of disabled persons. They have been recognised as a 'Disability Employer' Company and have made several presentations on behalf of the DWP as an example of best practice in Carmarthenshire and Pembrokeshire.

The Foodbank has worked with fifty active referral agencies in and around Carmarthen to identify those in need of support. As a result, 1,355 three-day emergency food supplies were given out. A total of 3,172 people were fed, including 1,246 children. The community has been very generous donating a total of 39,851kg to the Foodbank during the year. The main donation periods in the year were Easter, Harvest and Christmas, as well as two collections in a local supermarket during June and November/December.

They have continued to build stronger links in the community through sharing information. There have been opportunities and invitations to talk about the work of the Foodbank in local schools and they have been invited to speak to the children and parents, as well as hosting regular group talks in the Foodbank for local clubs and organisations to raise awareness of the work that they do.

The Community Shop has seen a very busy year. It has increased the number of its volunteers and employed an individual to take responsibility for running the expanded warehouse. They donate to other organisations in the area, including local schools providing support to parents and children and to organisations working with the homeless.

2019 saw continued community use of the Recycled Furniture Project. The free collection service meant that throughout the year, the project collected and recycled 6,132 pieces of furniture, including 134 large electrical items, reducing the amount of goods that would have otherwise gone to landfill. As well as selling low cost furniture, they made donations to local people in crisis and have helped 68 individuals and families. They provided work placement opportunities for 2 disadvantaged under 25's, as well as offering work experience to candidates from the Probation Service.

5.1 CURRENT POSITION

In January and February 2020, the Xcel Bowl exceeded their forecast targets generating a profit of £15,000. Plans were being made to embark on the design approval and build of Phase 2 of the Xcel Centre, with works due to commence in June 2020. Grant and loan funding had been secured from WCVA for refurbishment of the kitchen and café area. In March, trade rapidly decreased as fear of the pandemic grew, and the Trustees made the decision to temporarily close on 22nd March 2020 and the Phase 2 development plans were put on hold. Despite the closure of the other projects and the Foodbank Manager being forced to shield, the centre were able to maintain services by adapting delivery to become Covid-19 safe, ensuring that during lockdown families in need were still able to access vital supplies.

During national lockdown, in addition to the Welsh Government Job Retention Scheme, applications for government grant were made and the centre received Covid 19 related grants. The majority of staff were furloughed until 1st July 2020. In anticipation of re-opening on the 3rd August, staff essential to the programme of works needed to make the site Covid-19 safe were recalled.

The site re-opened on shorter revised hours from 3rd August, however due to the restrictions imposed to meet the new Covid-19 safety standards within the bowling facility, the number of lanes in operation was restricted to every other lane and the number of covers in the café were reduced by 50%. Staff numbers have been kept at a minimum and flexible furlough utilised.

English bowling centres were not allowed to open until 17th August, and this impacted on the early trade due to confusion amongst customers, particularly tourists. However, the last 2 weeks of August saw demand for the available lanes almost reach capacity.

With increasing concerns about a second wave of the virus and further restrictions imposed on households mixing, there has been a steady decline in

trade, meaning the centre has only achieved 36% of sales revenue against the corresponding period last year, i.e. August and September 2019. An analysis of the figures was not giving a favourable picture in the short to medium term and having exhausted eligible grant funding, decisions regarding having to close the Xcel Bowl had to be considered.

The Centre Manager approached the County Council at the beginning of October 2020 to discuss potential options and the viability of each. The options considered were:

- Option 1: Closure of the bowling centre for 6 months
- Option 2: Continue to trade with reduced hours
- Option 3: Permanent closure of the bowling centre

Having considered the financial forecasts for each of the options and to ensure the future viability and maintain community benefits, it is considered that the best option is for the Xcel Bowl to continue to trade with reduced hours. This option offers the benefit of continuity of service provision into the future and provides security of jobs to staff. The Centre's business model has always been to utilise funds generated by the Bowl and Café to support the Xcel projects and therefore closing the Xcel Bowl would impact negatively on the Foodbank and other projects.

To further demonstrate that Option 2 presented the best outcome, three further financial forecasts were presented to the County Council. These were based on the following assumptions:

- i) a cautious approach to the increase in sales
- ii) that sales will increase slowly with trade lifting incrementally by Summer 2021
- iii) that sales will increase at a faster rate with trade increasing by Spring 2021

The forecasts are based on the reduction of staff numbers and hours facilitated by the voluntary redundancy programme, which has included trimming middle management. Anticipated future upturn in trading is reflected in additional staff hours. Opening hours have been arrived at by analysing profitability over the last 2 years. The forecasts also reflect the national lockdown in Wales from 23rd October to 9th November 2020.

It is considered that £100,000 would be sufficient to support the Xcel Centre through the most realistic assumption, based on current knowledge.

Should there be an immediate increase in sales as a result of lockdown "bounce back", then the return to profitability is accelerated and may be earlier than the forecasts predict.

6. OTHER OPTIONS AVAILABLE

Other options considered were to either close the bowling centre for a period of six months or close the bowling centre permanently. Both were discounted based on the financial forecasts and the negative impact closure would have on the charitable arms of the business, namely the Foodbank, Community Shop and Furniture recycling together with the loss of benefit to the community. Generally the cost of full closure is in excess of the reduced hours option, due to the decommissioning cost. Complete closure would lose important facilities to the County.

7. COMMUNITY STRATEGY INTEGRATION TOOL

Not applicable

8. IMPLICATIONS:

1. LEGAL

State Aid rules have been considered and the rules are not breached. An amendment will be required to the existing loan agreement between Carmarthenshire County Council and Towy Community Church.

2. FINANCE

The application is for an award of £50,000 to be released at the point of necessity. This can be funded from corporate services departmental reserves. Should additional funds be required, the existing loan arrangement can be increased by up to £50,000. The award will secure financial stability for the Xcel Bowl, Foodbank, Community Shop and Furniture Recycling.

3. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

The national lockdown in Wales from 23rd October to 9th November 2020, known as a “fire break”, has been factored into the cashflow forecasts. However, there are risks associated with the long term uncertainty and impact of Covid-19 with the prospect of potential further lockdowns.

4. PHYSICAL ASSETS

Regarding the development of the former creamery site, Phase 1 covered the bowling centre, food bank and furniture recycling centre, and a 99 year lease was entered into on 26th June 2012 for these premises. Phase 2 involved a building agreement which permitted the construction of a 600 seat auditorium, conference and meeting rooms, debt counselling service, cafe / restaurant, catering training, luncheon club and office accommodation.

The impact of the pandemic on revenue generation has affected Towy Community Church’s ability to progress with Phase 2. Discussions will

need to continue to ascertain the impact on timelines if trading continues under the present recommendation in order to inform a further report on a revised scheme programme and anticipated completion date for Phase 2

9. FEEDBACK FROM CONSULTATIONS UNDERTAKEN

Not applicable

10. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN THE PREPARATION OF THE REPORT

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Where available for public inspection
Formal request and cashflows		County Hall, Carmarthen.

Bwrdd Gweithredol 16^{eg} Tachwedd 2020

Adroddiad Monitro Cyllideb Refeniw y Cyngor

Yr Argymhellion / Penderfyniadau Allweddol Sydd Eu Hangen:

Sicrhau bod y bwrdd yn derbyn yr adroddiad Monitro Cyllideb ac yn ystyried y sefyllfa cyllidebol a'r camau cywirol priodol.

Yn sgil y gorwariant sylweddol rhagweledig presennol ar lefel adrannol, dylai'r Prif Swyddogion a'r Penaethiaid barhau i adolygu eu sefyllfaoedd cyllidebol yn feirniadol a pharhau i roi ar waith bob gweithrediad priodol angenrheidiol, er mwyn cadw o fewn yr adnoddau a ddosbarthwyd, tra'n cydnabod y pwysau mae Covid-19 wedi'i roi ar gyllideb yr Awdurdod yn ei gyfanrwydd.

Y Rhesymau:

I ddarparu'r newyddion i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol ynglyn a sefyllfa diweddaraf cyllideb 2020/21, ar 31^{ain} Awst 2020.

Ymgynghorwyd â'r pwyllgor craffu perthnasol: AMHERTHNASOL

Angen i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol wneud penderfyniad OES
Angen i'r Cyngor wneud penderfyniad NAC OES

YR AELOD O'R BWRDD GWEITHREDOL SY'N GYFRIFOL AM Y PORTFFOLIO:-

Cyng. David Jenkins

Y Gyfarwyddiaeth:
Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol

Enw Cyfarwyddwr y
Gwasanaeth:
Chris Moore

Awdur yr Adroddiad:
Randal Hemingway

Swyddi:

Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau
Corfforaethol

Pennaeth y Gwasanaethau
Ariannol

Rhif ffôn: 01267 224886
Cyfeiriadau E-bost:

CMoore@sirgar.gov.uk

RHemingway@sirgar.gov.uk

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Executive Board

16th November 2020

The revenue budget monitoring reports for the period to 31st August 2020 are attached and indicate that:

COUNCIL FUND REVENUE ACCOUNT (Appendix A)

Overall, the monitoring report forecasts an end of year overspend of £3,971k on the Authority's net revenue budget with an overspend at departmental level of £4,971k.

This unprecedented position is due to a combination of:

- additional irrecoverable costs due to Covid-19 activity;
- foregone income from services which closed during national lockdown and continue to experience reduced revenue, which may not be fully recompensed by Welsh Government (WG); and
- planned savings proposals which have been undeliverable due to the pandemic.

The full year forecast includes known financial positions up to the point of writing as well as assumptions about the remainder of the year. As such, all figures are acutely sensitive both to changes in the assumptions over inherent Covid-19 related additional costs / foregone income as well as the level of recompense from WG. The current picture is:

Expenditure – the Authority is submitting a monthly hardship claim for additional costs.

The vast majority are being refunded, though a small proportion are deemed ineligible – principally where it is deemed that the cost has arisen from a local discretion/decision rather than national policy or unavoidable cost. There are also several months' worth of Free School Meals refunded costs still on hold as dialogue between authorities and WG seek to agree offsetting savings. In August, WG announced a further £260m of financial support for local authorities, however it can only be claimed retrospectively in this way.

Income – WG have now completed the Quarter 1 (April-June) process. Clearly identifiable lost income has been paid in full, however there is still a residual impact from elements such as officer costs not chargeable to grants or capital schemes and school fundraising events cancelled.

At the time of writing, 15 out of 22 Local Authority areas as well as Llanelli are subject to additional Covid restrictions, and the Prime Minister has warned things will be “bumpy through to Christmas” and beyond. This financial forecast therefore broadly assumes a continuation of Covid related expenditure, which is largely met by WG, and a sustained level of income loss for which there is partial – but not full – WG recompense. Where such assumptions have been made, these are provided in the commentary against specific budget variances within Appendix A.

Members should note that this forecast does not include any allowance for a reduction in Council Tax collection. Carmarthenshire experienced a marked reduction in payments during the first quarter, which it is unlikely to fully recover during the year. This area is being monitored closely by the Director of Corporate Services as the current year impact could be in the range £1-2m.

Chief Executive's Department

The Chief Executive Department is anticipating an underspend of £108k for the year. This is made up of a £478k overspend from a combination of partial rent holidays during Q2 not covered by WG and overall reduction in occupancy levels, offset by underspends on Member expenses and staffing savings from vacant posts across the department. (£586k net underspend on operational budgets).

The most significant change from the previous forecast is confirmation from WG of full payment of Q1 rent holidays (vs 50% estimated)

Operational budgets

The Chief Executive's section is anticipating an underspend of £130k, primarily due to vacant posts and an underspend on supplies and services.

There is an anticipated £37k overspend in the People Management section. A £35k underspend relates to supplies and services costs along with a £28k down to less DBS checks being undertaken. This is offset by £50k shortfall in income target, partially due to Covid-19 restrictions along with a £50k overspend on various salary related costs.

The ICT & Corporate Policy section are anticipating a £160k underspend largely due to part year vacant posts within the division.

Admin and Law are anticipating an underspend of £194k. Members expenses are underspent (£142k), there is additional income from Joint Committees (£37k) and Legal Services have some staffing vacancies (£64k). Offset against this is a shortfall in Land Charges income of £57k.

The Marketing and Media section are anticipating a £34k net underspend, made up of an overspend of £118k within Marketing and Media on salary costs pending a staffing review within the whole division (19-20 saving proposal), and also a loss of income streams from external partners such as ERW. Potential alternative income streams are currently being sought. This is offset by an underspend on staffing costs in the Customer Services Centres, Translation Unit and Yr Hwb. These will all form part of the divisional staffing review.

Within Statutory Services, income from Registrars is down £56k, offset by underspends in Electoral Services and Coroners leaving a net underspend of £45k within the division

The Regeneration division is anticipating a £417k overspend for the year. This is made up of an overspend of £478k from a combination of partial rent holidays during Q2 not covered by WG and overall reduction in occupancy levels, with small offsets from staffing and supplies and services.

Department for Communities

The Department for Communities is projecting a £899k overspend for the year. Physical Disabilities, Learning Disabilities and Mental Health budgets account for the majority of the overspend, with an underspend forecast within Older People. Social care teams have prioritised the safe delivery of key services, meaning that the department has been unable to progress many of the planned savings proposals. However, the budget position is highly uncertain with eligibility for grant funding changes as well as the resumption of some services over recent weeks and months. Looking ahead to the rest of the year, the department is likely to be most affected in financial terms by the impact of a second wave.

Older People's budgets are forecasting an underspend of £534k. The most significant change from the previous forecast is that the temporary pay enhancements to provide resilience during the pandemic which WG previously deemed as ineligible for hardship funding will now be met. There are significant underspends forecast for the year due to the reduction of home care delivered, reduced reablement activity and the closure of day services at the start of the pandemic.

Physical Disabilities services are forecasting a £452k overspend. the budget position is volatile with considerable uncertainty regarding grants eligibility and future demand. The demand for Direct Payments has continued from last year. This allows the service user to request this as an alternative to regulated provision.

In Learning Disability services, there is an overspend of £249k. At the start of the pandemic, day services were closed, and community services reduced significantly, reducing expenditure in this area, whilst alternative support measures were put in place, the costs are shown in other budgets.

The overspend in Mental Health of £761k is largely due to increased demand and reduced health contribution for joint packages than budgeted.

Together LD/MH services were significantly changed in response to the pandemic. Further analysis is being carried out by the service to better understand and mitigate adverse financial effects.

Leisure & Culture Services are predicting to breakeven. Whilst there is an ongoing material reduction in income over the year, this change in forecast position is a result of the recovery of lost income now being funded by WG.

Homes & Safer Communities are predicting to breakeven. Overspends caused by underachievement of licensing income are offset by underspends resulting from staff vacancies.

Corporate Services

The Corporate Services Department is projecting a £208k underspend for the year, though this is made up of much larger variances.

The budget for Council Tax Reduction Scheme is forecast to be £1,047k overspent due to exceptional increased demand, of which it is assumed only 50% is funded by WG (this remains a live discussion at the time of writing). This is almost fully offset by reductions in pre LGR costs, efficient recovery of rent allowance overpayments and vacancies across the department. There is also £60k of net additional income from services provided to M&WWFA and WPP.

Department for Education and Children

The Department for Education and Children is forecasting a net overspend of £749k at year end. The most significant change from the previous forecast is on full funding for schools cleaning (see below).

The main adverse budget variations relate to: assumed reduced School Meals and breakfasts income and partial irrecoverable costs from Free School Meal payments £594k; Special Educational Needs provision £276k; Education Other Than At School £86k; National Model for School Improvement - increased contribution to ERW following NPT's withdrawal from the Consortium £68k; Adoption services due to a specific family placement £100k; Music Service running costs (mainly staffing) exceeding the SLA income from schools by £61k; School Modernisation property decommissioning costs £61k; increased direct payments made in relation to disabled children £105k.

A significant change from the previous forecast is that we now assume that the additional schools cleaning which has been implemented will remain at current levels for the rest of the year and be covered in full by WG, which has materially reduced the overspend position by £850k. However, there is new irrecoverable expenditure forecast for face coverings and PPE, totalling £199k. Face coverings purchased for schools following extremely late notice from WG in August are more expensive than the level of grant funding by £99k.

This is partially offset by staff vacancies, utilisation of additional grants and external income to support core spend £364k; fewer children taking up places in early years non-maintained provision settings £96k; forecast reduction in redundancy processes due to Covid-19 £66k; reduced number of out of county placements within children's £236k.

Schools Delegated Budgets

Schools working budgets are predicting a net overspend in year of approximately £2.2m. This has increased by £600k since the previous forecast following further budget submissions from schools but remains subject to change between now and the end of the financial year as plans develop.

Members should note that budgets should not include any significant additional Covid-19 safety measures incurred for the safe reopening of schools – such costs have been retained centrally within departmental budgets.

The year-end position 2019/20 resulted in a net deficit on school reserves of £2m which is a significant deterioration from the £373k deficit in 2018/19.

Environment

The most significant changes from the previous forecast are improvements to Property Maintenance utilisation and full payment of Q1 lost parking income vs part payment assumed previously.

The department is anticipating an overspend of £1,439k for the financial year, largely due to lost income due to Covid-19 across parking and property maintenance, combined with additional costs within waste services due to Covid-19 to comply with social distancing requirements and sickness cover.

The Waste and Environmental Services division is projecting a £366k overspend. This is due to additional social distancing measures and sickness/shielding cover in waste collection, offset by savings from the delay to the AHP collection service (total £257k) as well as underachievement of income against budget on Sustainable Drainage Approval (£81k) along with additional costs in cleansing (£38k).

Highways and Transportation are anticipating a £678k overspend for the year. This is predominantly due to a loss of income in parking services (annual target income £3.3m) which it is assumed will only be partially recoverable from WG. (£833k). This is offset by £106k saving on vacant posts and other smaller savings.

Planning Division is anticipating a £170k overspend for the year, largely accounted by a reduction in income due to Covid-19. It is not yet clear the extent to which applications are reduced versus merely delayed.

The Property Division is anticipating an £211k overspend due to the operational impact of Covid-19 on the service. This service normally operates on a cost recovery model, therefore the budget is highly sensitive to the effects of sickness absence, shield or productivity changes.

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT (Appendix B)

The HRA is predicting to be underspent by £3,135k for 2020/21. Repairs and Maintenance is likely to be underspent by £2,945k. Budget managers are predicting underspends on Responsive (£725k), Minor Works (£2,086k), Voids (£112k) and Drains & Sewers (£22k). This is a result of a general reduction in demand due to Covid-19, with only emergency and legislative servicing being undertaken up to the end of August.

Supervision & Management is projecting an underspend of £255k mainly due to staff vacancies (£219k), premises cost (£123k) due to work restrictions and reduced decants, transport costs (£39k) due to reduced visits offset by recharge income (£127k) officers costs not capitalised on projects like Ty Isha. Capital financing charges will be £632k less than budgeted due to a reduction in previously forecast interest rates and an underspend on the capital programme. Officers are currently reviewing these forecast underspends for possible re-assignment to deliver alternative services to tenants.

Income (inclusive of rents) will be under target by approximately £688k. Made up predominantly of less than budgeted rental income of £604k primarily due to void loss, and underachievement of commission on sales relating to the collection of water rates £87k.

Lists of the main variances are attached to this report.

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: **Chris Moore**

Director of Corporate Services

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

Council Fund

Overall, the Authority is forecasting an overspend of £3,971k at this point in time. The Authority will monitor this position going forward with Directors controlling and limiting spend wherever possible. Clarity over the continued level of additional funding from WG will be critical to the potential out-turn position.

HRA

The HRA is predicting to be underspent by £3,135k for 2020/21.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: **Chris Moore**

Director of Corporate Services

1. Scrutiny Committee – Not applicable

2. Local Member(s) – Not applicable

3. Community / Town Council – Not applicable

4. Relevant Partners – Not applicable

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations – Not applicable

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
2020/21 Budget		Corporate Services Department, County Hall, Carmarthen

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE SERVICES

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

COUNCIL'S BUDGET MONITORING REPORT 2020/21

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

Table 1

Forecasted for year to 31st March 2021

Department	Working Budget				Forecasted				Aug 20	June 20
	Controllable Expenditure	Controllable Income	Net Non Controllable	Total Net	Controllable Expenditure	Controllable Income	Net Non Controllable	Total Net	Forecast Variance for Year	Forecasted Variance for Year
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Chief Executive	31,821	-13,246	-5,564	13,011	31,915	-13,448	-5,564	12,903	-108	247
Communities	153,367	-63,030	12,711	103,049	155,046	-63,810	12,711	103,947	899	1,686
Corporate Services	81,196	-51,937	-1,614	27,645	78,951	-49,898	-1,614	27,438	-208	55
Education & Children (incl. Schools)	182,960	-31,406	26,677	178,231	188,899	-34,396	26,677	181,180	2,949	3,538
Environment	125,293	-78,943	12,708	59,058	127,767	-79,979	12,708	60,497	1,439	2,475
Departmental Expenditure	574,637	-238,561	44,919	380,995	582,578	-241,531	44,919	385,965	4,971	8,000
Capital Charges/Interest/Corporate				-19,940				-20,940	-1,000	-600
								0	0	
Levies and Contributions:										
Brecon Beacons National Park				138				138	0	0
Mid & West Wales Fire & Rescue Authority				10,400				10,400	0	0
Net Expenditure				371,593				375,563	3,971	7,400
Transfers to/from Departmental Reserves										
- Chief Executive				0				0	0	0
- Corporate Services				0				0	0	0
- Environment				0				0	0	0
Net Budget				371,593				375,563	3,971	7,400

Chief Executive Department
Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Aug 20 Forecast Variance for Year £'000	June 20 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Chief Executive	868	0	-836	31	993	-256	-836	-99	-130	-57
People Management	4,399	-1,451	-2,615	333	4,423	-1,438	-2,615	370	37	19
ICT & Corporate Policy	5,825	-922	-4,864	39	5,830	-1,086	-4,864	-121	-160	-159
Admin and Law	4,319	-823	684	4,180	4,050	-748	684	3,986	-194	-144
Marketing & Media	2,820	-805	-1,428	588	2,488	-506	-1,428	554	-34	-66
Statutory Services	1,276	-303	282	1,255	1,239	-311	282	1,210	-45	-23
Regeneration	12,315	-8,942	3,212	6,585	12,892	-9,103	3,213	7,002	417	676
GRAND TOTAL	31,821	-13,246	-5,564	13,011	31,915	-13,448	-5,564	12,903	-108	247

Chief Executive Department - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

Main Variances

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Aug 20	Notes	June 20
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Forecast Variance for Year		Forecasted Variance for Year
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Chief Executive							
Chief Executive-Chief Officer	260	0	201	0	-58	Large underspend on supplies and services.	-2
Chief Executive Business Support Unit	608	0	792	-256	-72	3 vacant posts - All not being filled	-54
People Management							
Business & Projects Support	275	0	240	0	-35	Savings on supplies and services	-28
Employee Well-being	718	-296	728	-246	59	£50k Income target not being met due to: less external work and less 1:1 health screenings taking place due to social distancing; £19k additional agency staff offset by £12k short-term savings on pay costs.	43
Organisational Development	509	-10	542	-33	11	£11k Employee termination costs	-0
Employee Services – HR/Payroll Support	130	0	157	0	26	£18k graduate not funded, 2 x employees regraded with no funding £8k	0
DBS Checks	124	0	93	-5	-37	Less DBS checks undertaken than budgeted for	0
ICT & Corporate Policy							
Welsh Language	165	-10	122	-10	-43	Vacant post not currently being filled due to team review being undertaken. Delayed due to COVID-19 but due to be completed by end of 20/21	-45
Chief Executive-Policy	848	-30	730	-28	-116	3 vacant posts not currently being filled due to team review being undertaken. Delayed due to COVID-19 but due to be completed by end of 20/21	-115
Admin and Law							
Democratic Services	1,850	-260	1,737	-289	-142	Underspend on Members pay & travelling costs along with an additional £33k income for work undertaken for the Housing Revenue Account.	-97
Democratic Services - Support	494	0	479	-26	-41	Additional income for work undertaken for the Wales Pension Partnership (£20k), the Police and Crime Commissioner (£7.5k) and Education through Regional Working (£5k)	-37
Land Charges	130	-300	77	-190	57	A reduction in estimated income as result of COVID-19 partially offset by savings on supplies and services and legal costs	49
Legal Services	1,777	-263	1,689	-243	-68	3 vacant posts (£64k), one to be filled shortly but no plan to fill the other two in the current financial year. An additional £10k of income for work undertaken for the Wales Pension Partnership.	-58

Chief Executive Department - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

Main Variances

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Aug 20	Notes	June 20
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Forecast Variance for Year		Forecasted Variance for Year
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Marketing & Media							
Marketing and Media	501	-285	399	-66	118	Overspend on salaries pending divisional realignment. Loss of income streams from external partners (e.g. ERW £80k). Looking at alternative potential partnership arrangements.	130
Translation	552	-51	451	-35	-86	£20k saving down to staff reducing their hours, £11k on a vacant post, £27k underspend as a result of maternity leave and £13k saving on staff at a lower point on the salary scale than budgeted. Further savings on supplies and services.	-78
Yr Hwb	187	-92	66	-36	-65	Three vacant posts pending divisional realignment but less income anticipated as a result of COVID-19.	-83
Statutory Services							
Registrars	430	-301	456	-250	77	£56k estimated loss of income due to COVID-19. £50k increase in registration officers hours to catch up on delays in various registrations not able to be undertaken during early months of COVID-19 are assumed to be recoverable from WG	43
Coroners	384	0	310	0	-74	Following the appointment of medical examiners by the NHS, fewer cases are being referred to the Coroner.	-32
Electoral Services - Staff	287	0	247	0	-40	Vacant Post during year pending divisional realignment.	-1
Regeneration & Property							
Food hubs and banks	0	0	262	-262	0	£99k reimbursement received from WG. £163k draw down from reserves.	0
Property	1,241	-67	1,184	-73	-64	Part year vacant post (£32k). Assumed post will be filled from September. Large underspend on travelling and car hire as well as other supplies and services savings.	-72
Commercial Properties	32	-582	43	-492	102	General loss of income due to properties becoming vacant and no immediate prospect of re-letting. Full reimbursement of rent holiday from WG for Quarter 1 reflected in the figures. Assumed rent holiday loss for July and August will not be reimbursed by WG.	137
Provision Markets	581	-651	560	-498	132	Ongoing reduction in Lettings income due to market forces impacting rates achievable. Full reimbursement of rent holiday from WG for Quarter 1 reflected in the figures. Assumed rent holiday loss for July and August will not be reimbursed by WG.	191

Chief Executive Department - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

Main Variances

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Aug 20	Notes	June 20
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Forecast Variance for Year		Forecasted Variance for Year
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Industrial Premises	539	-1,520	321	-1,217	86	Full reimbursement of rent holiday from WG for Quarter 1 reflected in the figures. Assumed rent holiday loss for July and August will not be reimbursed by WG. Anticipated shortfall in income collected at Nant Y Ci Mart	255
Livestock Markets	59	-209	33	-24	158		130
Other					4		-28
Grand Total					-108		247

Department for Communities
Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Aug 20 Forecast Variance for Year £'000	June 20 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Adult Services										
Older People	60,255	-24,827	3,240	38,668	61,601	-26,707	3,240	38,134	-534	917
Physical Disabilities	8,165	-1,784	253	6,634	8,676	-1,843	253	7,086	452	989
Learning Disabilities	40,451	-9,166	1,291	32,577	40,719	-9,184	1,291	32,826	249	-785
Mental Health	9,575	-3,864	256	5,967	10,034	-3,562	256	6,728	761	321
Support	6,940	-5,428	1,129	2,640	6,944	-5,463	1,129	2,610	-30	90
Homes & Safer Communities										
Public Protection	3,214	-1,094	535	2,655	3,140	-1,024	535	2,651	-4	-7
Council Fund Housing	9,140	-7,972	523	1,691	10,262	-9,089	523	1,695	4	11
Leisure & Recreation										
Leisure & Recreation	15,627	-8,894	5,485	12,218	13,671	-6,937	5,485	12,218	0	150
GRAND TOTAL	153,367	-63,030	12,711	103,049	155,046	-63,810	12,711	103,947	899	1,686

Department for Communities - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

Main Variances

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Aug 20 Forecast Variance for Year	Notes	June 20 Forecasted Variance for Year
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Adult Services							
Older People							
Older People - Commissioning	3,646	-513	3,587	-516	-61	Vacant posts	-93
Older People - LA Homes	7,936	-5,097	7,963	-5,124	0		368
Older People - Private/ Vol Homes	24,748	-13,314	25,424	-13,915	76	Pressures remain on the demand for services	536
Older People - Extra Care	774	0	824	0	51	Cwm Aur contract - savings proposals in previous years only partially delivered	51
						Enhanced rates of pay re COVID-19 not funded by Welsh Government Hardship Fund £247k (5 months)	308
Older People - LA Home Care	7,514	0	7,805	-147	143	Budget to be realigned	-20
Older People - Direct Payments	1,127	-299	1,006	-299	-120	Hardship Fund £1 per hour. Demand had fallen due to cancelled care packages early in the year. Activity now increasing. Delays to implement several savings proposals	151
Older People - Private Home Care	8,238	-2,523	8,936	-3,571	-350	Unmet PBB previous year	0
Older People - Business Support & Admin	920	-175	1,004	-177	81	Staff vacancies - less reablement due to COVID-19 - claim to be put in for flat rate uplift £1 an hour - nothing claimed to date yet	-185
Older People - Enablement	1,874	-658	1,718	-781	-279	No day services due to COVID-19	-200
Older People - Private Day Services	225	0	8	0	-217		
Physical Disabilities							
Phys Dis - Commissioning & OT Services	861	-109	733	-100	-119	Vacant posts	-108
Phys Dis - Private/Vol Homes	1,659	-439	1,330	-276	-167	Demand led	45
						Significant changes over recent years as packages reassessed following the transfer of Welsh Independent Living Fund into Revenue Support Grant. Primarily affected Physical Disabilities and Learning Disability clients for Direct Payments, Day Services and Community Support. Budget adjustments to be monitored to check initially virements were accurate	250
Phys Dis - Group Homes/Supported Living	1,079	-167	1,347	-167	268	Demand reduced due to COVID-19	0
Phys Dis - Community Support	198	0	120	0	-79	Demand remains steady but at a level of overspend in 2019/20	800
Phys Dis - Direct Payments	2,535	-577	3,244	-577	709		
Phys Dis - Independent Living Fund	132	0	74	0	-59		

Department for Communities - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

Main Variances

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Aug 20 Forecast Variance for Year	Notes	June 20 Forecasted Variance for Year
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income			
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Learning Disabilities							
Learn Dis - Private/Vol Homes	10,812	-2,844	11,582	-2,560	1,054	Demand increased - further work to establish underlying cause. Previous year had last minute grant income which has not been forecast in these figures	150
Learn Dis - Direct Payments	3,954	-547	4,607	-547	653	Demand remains steady but at a level of overspend in 2019/20	275
Learn Dis - Group Homes/Supported Living	10,989	-1,771	11,707	-2,221	268	More demand in Supported Living as an alternative to Residential Care. Rightsizing in Supported Living ongoing but delayed due to COVID-19. Accommodation and Efficiency project which plans for strategic longer term future accommodation options as well as current client group is now picking up pace.	700
Learn Dis - Private Day Services	1,238	-80	321	-80	-917	Day Services closed from March 2020. Assume closure for whole financial year. Where care has been reassessed and alternative has been provided, the additional cost is shown as an overspend in that budget. However this is not claimable under Welsh Government Hardship Fund where there is no additional cost	-991
Learn Dis - Transition Service	600	0	539	0	-61		-32
Learn Dis - Community Support	2,587	-158	2,054	-158	-533	Community Services provision greatly reduced from March 2020. Activity levels beginning to increase. Where care has been reassessed and alternative has been provided, the additional cost is shown as an overspend in that budget. However this is not claimable under Welsh Government Hardship Fund where there is no additional cost	-918
Learn Dis - Adult Placement/Shared Lives	3,031	-2,198	2,980	-2,278	-131	Staff vacancies and reduced payments for day services support	-16
Mental Health							
M Health - Private/Vol Homes	6,081	-3,064	6,470	-2,806	647	Demand increased - further work to establish underlying cause. Previous year had last minute grant income which has not been forecast in these figures	250
M Health - Community Support	561	-74	637	-74	76	Demand led - likely increase due to COVID-19	2
Other Variances - Adult Services					-33		209

Department for Communities - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

Main Variances

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Aug 20	Notes	June 20
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Forecast for Year		Forecasted Variance for Year
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Homes & Safer Communities							
Public Protection							
PP Business Support unit	111	0	90	0	-22	Vacant posts	-17
Public Health	283	-14	289	-4	17	Underachievement of Fees and costs recoverable. Overspent on Premises Maintenance.	2
Air Pollution	126	-35	123	-18	14	Underachievement of licensing income.	16
Animal Safety	158	0	122	0	-36	Vacant posts.	-23
Licensing	350	-330	338	-292	26	Underachievement of licensing income.	6
Food Safety & Communicable Diseases	494	-38	466	-41	-31	Underspent on agency costs and staff travelling costs.	8
Financial Investigator	32	-271	133	-334	38	Underachievement of casework income due to courts not being open.	0
Other Variances - Public Protection					-10		1
Council Fund Housing							
Other Variances - Council Fund Housing					4		11
Leisure & Recreation							
Pendine Outdoor Education Centre	522	-348	276	-141	-39	Vacant posts in structure	-157
Carmarthen Leisure Centre	1,640	-1,751	1,373	-1,441	43	Unable to claim current year efficiencies from Hardship Fund	266
Amman Valley Leisure Centre	910	-833	809	-701	30	Unable to claim current year efficiencies from Hardship Fund	115
Llanelli Leisure Centre	1,340	-1,145	1,194	-956	43	Unable to claim current year efficiencies from Hardship Fund	201
ESD Rev Grant - Ynys Dawela	43	-43	33	-5	28	Grant for project not yet confirmed by funding body	28
Arts General	25	0	0	0	-25	Vacant post being held pending restructure	-25
Entertainment Centres General	444	-62	298	-13	-97	Vacant posts in structure	-78
Oriel Myrddin CCC	113	0	126	0	14	Backdated NNDR bills re: 26/27 King Street	-0
Leisure Management	389	0	356	0	-33	Vacant post in structure	-32
Other Variance - Leisure & Recreation					37		-168
Grand Total					899		1,686

Corporate Services Department
Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Aug 20 Forecast Variance for Year £'000	June 20 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Financial Services	5,399	-2,862	-2,548	-12	5,085	-2,781	-2,548	-244	-232	-236
Revenues & Financial Compliance	4,793	-1,723	-2,404	666	4,320	-1,813	-2,404	103	-563	-198
Other Services	71,004	-47,351	3,337	26,991	69,546	-45,305	3,337	27,578	587	489
GRAND TOTAL	81,196	-51,937	-1,614	27,645	78,951	-49,898	-1,614	27,438	-208	55

Corporate Services Department - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

Main Variances

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Aug 20	Notes	June 20
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Forecast Variance for Year		Forecasted Variance for Year
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Financial Services							
Corporate Services Management team	485	-63	480	-109	-50	£35k income from Fire Authority SLA and £15k savings on supplies and services	-47
Accountancy	1,697	-459	1,593	-468	-113	Vacant posts not likely to be filled in the short term. A few staff members currently being paid at the lower points of the scale whilst budgeted at the top.	-116
Treasury and Pension Investment Section	258	-182	247	-207	-37	£25k additional income for work undertaken for the Wales Pension Partnership; £12k - three staff members currently at lower points of the salary scale but budgeted at top of scale.	-37
Payments	531	-76	492	-72	-35	Net £16k part year vacant posts and £19k savings on supplies and services	-35
Revenues & Financial Compliance							
Procurement	548	-34	533	-34	-14	Net effect of vacancies and additional staff costs	-7
Audit	482	-19	416	-33	-80	2 vacant posts during the year.	-47
Risk Management	148	-0	138	-0	-10	Flexible retirement wef 01/09/2020	16
Corporate Services Training	59	0	33	0	-26	Under utilisation of budget due to current working practices	-0
Local Taxation	934	-741	851	-790	-131	A few posts have been vacant during the year to date and are expected to be filled imminently. A number of staff members are currently on lower points of the salary scale but budgeted at the top of scale and 2 staff members have reduced their hours. Additional one off WG grant of £43k has contributed to the underspend.	-46
Housing Benefits Admin	1,645	-752	1,421	-827	-299	A few posts have been vacant during the year to date and are expected to be filled imminently. A large number of staff members are currently on lower points of the salary scale but budgeted at the top of scale.	-113
Other Services							
Audit Fees	316	-92	287	-92	-29	A proportion of audit fees chargeable directly to grants	-27
Council Tax Reduction Scheme	16,511	0	18,058	-500	1,047	Significant increase in caseload as a result of COVID-19. Estimated cost is £2m greater than 19-20 actual cost. £179k income received from WG for Q1.	1,047
Rent Allowances	46,923	-47,140	44,250	-44,676	-209	Efficient recovery of overpayments	-209
Miscellaneous Services	7,187	-120	6,892	-38	-213	£238k underspend on pre LGR pension costs	-313
Other Variances					-9		-11
Grand Total					-208		55

Department for Education & Children
Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Aug 20 Forecast Variance for Year £'000	June 20 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Schools Delegated Budgets	130,821	-12,133	0	118,687	133,021	-12,133	0	120,887	2,200	1,600
Director & Strategic Management	1,480	0	-108	1,371	1,484	0	-108	1,376	4	4
Education Services Division	7,150	-2,716	21,135	25,568	6,591	-2,067	21,135	25,659	91	506
Access to Education	9,046	-6,201	1,589	4,433	9,420	-5,950	1,589	5,060	626	827
School Improvement	2,705	-516	429	2,617	2,782	-546	429	2,665	48	1
Curriculum & Wellbeing	7,748	-4,031	893	4,610	8,482	-4,674	893	4,701	90	47
Children's Services	24,013	-5,809	2,739	20,943	26,071	-8,176	2,739	20,634	-309	-298
Additional resources for reopening of schools	0	0	0	0	1,049	-850	0	199	199	850
TOTAL excluding schools	52,140	-19,273	26,677	59,544	55,879	-22,263	26,677	60,293	749	1,938
GRAND TOTAL	182,960	-31,406	26,677	178,231	188,899	-34,396	26,677	181,180	2,949	3,538

Department for Education & Children - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

Main Variances

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Aug 20	Notes	June 20
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Forecast Variance for Year		Forecasted Variance for Year
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Schools Delegated Budgets							
Primary Schools	68,357	-7,135	69,207	-7,135	850	Based on schools' working budgets received for 2020/21. Deficit budget submissions are included subject to approval of recovery plans by LA	700
Secondary Schools	58,331	-4,958	59,231	-4,958	900		500
Special Schools	4,132	-40	4,582	-40	450		400
Education Services Division							
School Redundancy & EVR	2,067	0	2,001	0	-66	Forecast based on business cases approved to date. Schools are supported and challenged on staffing structure proposals	-122
Early Years Non-Maintained Provision	1,704	-1,337	828	-557	-96	Forecast based on existing known commitments. Continuing high level of Statutory Assessments issued. Increase in existing Out of County placement costs and small number of new placements.	0
Special Educational Needs	2,685	-1,379	3,092	-1,509	276	Ongoing increasing demand from schools for alternative provision	534
Access to Education							
School Admissions	345	-84	317	-84	-29	Part year staff vacancy & staff budget saving as not all staff at top of grade	-37
School Modernisation	114	-1	199	-25	61	Premises costs relating to closed schools	41
						Based on loss of income being claimed to year end from WG. Hardship FSM claims do not fully cover the payments made from Sept. Assume additional food costs and materials due to COVID-19 changes for breakfast and lunch will be reimbursed via hardship claim	822
School Meals & Primary Free Breakfast Services	8,586	-6,116	8,905	-5,841	594		
School Improvement							
School Effectiveness Support Services	473	-43	447	-37	-21	Delayed recruitment to school support due to COVID-19	1
National Model for School Improvement	1,139	-60	1,173	-26	68	ERW contribution increase due to NPT withdrawal from Consortia	0
Curriculum and Wellbeing							
Music Services for Schools	302	0	1,103	-740	61	Delay with staff restructuring which has been further affected by COVID-19 and reduced SLA income from schools	84
Welsh Language Support	337	-10	489	-142	20	Reduction in income and funding streams due to COVID-19	26
Education Other Than At School (EOTAS)	2,137	-339	2,333	-450	86	Ongoing increasing demand from schools for alternative provision	100
Youth Offending & Prevention Service	1,908	-1,116	1,821	-1,085	-57	Reduced travelling, staff vacancies and maximising grants to release core budget	-44

Department for Education & Children - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

Main Variances

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Aug 20	Notes	June 20
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Forecast Variance for Year		Forecasted Variance for Year
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Children's Services							
Fostering Services & Support	3,941	0	3,919	-5	-27	Part year vacant posts and maximisation of grant income	-16
Adoption Services	532	0	1,108	-477	100	1 off payment committed for adoption of sibling group	90
Out of County Placements (CS)	670	0	464	-29	-236	Reduction in Out of County placements and no current remand placements	-170
Short Breaks and Direct Payments	553	0	791	-134	105	Overspend mainly due to increased Direct Payments - increased demand since change in legislation & further increase linked to COVID-19	-20
Family Aide Services	172	0	297	-191	-66	Part year vacant posts and maximisation of grant income	-60
Other Family Services incl Young Carers and ASD	523	-300	648	-456	-31	Part year vacant post - currently out for recruitment	-33
Children's Services Mgt & Support (incl Care First)	992	-76	1,127	-279	-67	Further utilisation of grants - £44k, staff budget saving as not all staff at top of grade - £9k, staff recruitment savings with most posts advertised on our website - £14k	-60
School Safeguarding & Attendance	296	-45	531	-348	-67	Part year vacant posts and maximisation of grant income	-55
Additional resources for reopening of schools							
Additional Cleaning for schools re-opening	0	0	850	-850	0	Assumes additional cleaning costs will be fully recovered from Welsh Government. Expectation that additional cleaning costs in other establishments will be recovered from the user departments.	850
Face coverings & PPE	0	0	199	0	199	Expenditure incurred in August to procure Face Coverings & PPE for Schools at short notice expected to exceed WG grant by £199k	0
Other Variances					-59		8
Grand Total					2,949		3,538

Environment Department
Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget				Forecasted				Aug 20 Forecast Variance for Year £'000	June 20 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net non- controllable £'000	Net £'000		
Buisness Support & Performance	46	-92	132	87	133	-164	132	101	15	17
Waste & Environmental Services	25,651	-4,471	1,380	22,560	30,410	-8,865	1,380	22,925	366	422
Highways & Transportation	52,387	-31,575	10,399	31,211	50,663	-29,173	10,399	31,889	678	1,016
Property	42,805	-40,787	465	2,483	42,370	-40,141	465	2,693	211	717
Planning	4,404	-2,019	333	2,718	4,191	-1,636	333	2,888	170	303
GRAND TOTAL	125,293	-78,943	12,708	59,058	127,767	-79,979	12,708	60,497	1,439	2,475

Environment Department - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

Main Variances

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Aug 20	Notes	June 20
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Forecast Variance for Year		Forecast Variance for Year
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
Business Support & Performance							
Business Support	-119	-35	-148	-35	-29	Posts budgeted at top of scale but majority are not at the top of scale yet; a few temporary vacant posts during the year.	-30
Operational Training	37	-57	19	-6	33	Overspend due to COVID-19 restrictions and training time allocated to refuse and cleaning departments	30
Departmental - Core	45	0	63	0	18	£8k department's share of the Health and wellbeing co-ordinators' pay costs; £10k efficiency not yet achieved	17
Waste & Environmental Services							
SAB - Sustainable Drainage approval Body Unit	121	-115	120	-33	81	Anticipated income not materialised - Dependent on number of submissions and market buoyancy of development projects	87
Cleansing Service	2,380	-108	2,420	-108	38	Additional cleansing requirements	2
Waste Services	17,071	-1,316	17,384	-1,373	257	£194k additional net cost of resourcing due to social distancing and potential cover for sickness - assumption that 50% of Q3 costs will be not be funded and Q4 costs will not be funded at all; £148k estimated additional blue bag requirements due to: HWRCs closed from March until end of May therefore more kerbside blue bags used, cans and paper removed from community recycling centres resulting in a 35% increase in kerbside dry recycling and increased stock in additional private outlets during COVID-19 lockdown. £70k underspend due to delayed start to the Absorbent Hygiene Products collection service as a result of the pandemic.	124
Highways & Transportation							
Civil Design	1,096	-1,680	1,005	-1,623	-34	Increased income recovery	1
Transport Strategic Planning	396	0	368	0	-28	Project management fees charged to grants	0
Traffic Management	559	-43	761	-296	-52	Net increase in additional Traffic Regulation Orders income against additional planned works (£20k) and net effect of salary savings/recharges to grants of (£32k)	-16
Bar Parks	1,997	-3,271	1,666	-2,107	833	Parking fees reintroduced in September: 25% income forecasted for Sept and 50% income Oct to March. WG have reimbursed total Q1 loss of £701k but assumption is that they will only reimburse 50% for Q2 and 50% of net loss for the Q3 & Q4. The proposed efficiency of a modest price increase of 20p per charge band to sustain highways and transport services has been delayed to January 2021.	1,039
Plant y Ci Park & Ride	80	-33	148	-72	29	Increased maintenance costs & reduced income.	30

Environment Department - Budget Monitoring - as at 31st August 2020

Main Variances

EXECUTIVE BOARD 16th NOVEMBER 2020

Division	Working Budget		Forecasted		Aug 20	Notes	June 20
	Expenditure	Income	Expenditure	Income	Forecast Variance for Year		Forecast Variance for Year
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000		£'000
School Crossing Patrols	121	0	150	0	29	The school crossing patrols section has reviewed all patrols to identify where there is no requirement to provide them according to the National Safety criteria. Vacancies that arise in the sites that do not require school crossing patrols will not be filled as and when they become vacant.	31
Bridge Maintenance	740	0	703	0	-37	Structures Engineer vacant for part year	-26
Street Works and Highway Adoptions	426	-364	425	-382	-20	Additional income from highway adoption agreements	-7
Public Rights Of Way	937	-66	889	-55	-37	Post temporarily vacant	-26
Property							
Property Maintenance Operational	30,380	-31,924	28,634	-29,979	200	£200k Design CHS works – estimated effect of COVID-19 delays and the consequential impact on productivity; the property maintenance estimated effect of COVID-19 has been offset by an increased workload committed for empty properties. An on-going review of the situation is being carried out by divisional management, with a view to quantifying the potential knock-on effect on the remainder of the financial year.	718
Planning							
Building Regulations Trading - Chargeable	454	-507	403	-349	107	Overspend has reduced due to: less expenditure as a result of COVID-19 and increased income since June. Assumptions include a £30k reimbursement of lost income from WG - final decision on this will not be made until February 2021.	132
Building Control - Other	186	-5	175	-5	-10	Less staff travel & spend on supplies due to COVID-19	-12
Minerals	359	-236	377	-199	55	Shortfall in income due to COVID-19 but income has increased from June onwards.	83
Policy-Development Planning	680	-0	556	0	-123	Part year vacancy and employee on maternity, underspend has increased since June due to less estimated expenditure on consultant fees & supplies.	-52
Development Management	1,575	-968	1,487	-757	124	Income shortfall offset by less expenditure due to COVID-19 £35k assumed loss of income to be recovered from WG	109
Conservation	442	-54	461	-50	24	One-off consultancy cost	40
Other Variances					-17		202
Grand Total					1,439		2,475

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwiadol

Housing Revenue Account - Budget Monitoring as at 31st August 2020

	Working Budget £'000	Forecasted £'000	Aug 20 Variance for Year £'000	Notes	June 20 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
Expenditure					
Repairs & Maintenance					
Responsive	1,840	1,114	-725		-740
Minor Works	3,086	1,000	-2,086		-1,586
Voids	3,448	3,336	-112		-118
Servicing	1,723	1,723	0		0
Drains & Sewers	142	120	-22		0
Grounds	770	770	0		0
Unadopted Roads	107	107	0		0
Supervision & Management					
Employee	5,988	5,769	-219	Staff Vacancies	-95
Premises	1,507	1,384	-123	Underspent on Premises maintenance due to restrictions £34k. Decant costs underspent by £60k as they were stopped during lockdown.	51
Transport	72	34	-39	Reduction in staff travel due to working from home	-33
Supplies	920	919	-1		-15
Recharges	2,107	2,234	127	Ty Isha project delayed resources to be re-assigned	219
Provision for Bad Debt	511	511	0		0
Capital Financing Cost	15,423	14,791	-632	Capital HRA programme is predicting a £10m underspend on the revised budget of £39.4m, decreasing the borrowing requirement in year from £14.76m to £10.44m. The impact on mid-year CFR and therefore interest is significant, reducing capital charges by £632k. This does assume an interest rate of 4.1% which may change if other elements of the capital programme on Council Fund vary.	-485
Central Support Charges	1,687	1,695	8		0
DRF	10,000	10,000	0		0
Total Expenditure	49,329	45,507	-3,823		-2,802

Housing Revenue Account - Budget Monitoring as at 31st August 2020

	Working Budget £'000	Forecasted £'000	Aug 20 Variance for Year £'000	Notes	June 20 Forecasted Variance for Year £'000
Income					
Rents	-41,913	-41,309	604	Voids currently running at 4.19% compared to budget of 2.9% will result in £536k additional rental void loss. Also delay in new build and refurbishment of buy backs reducing the rent due by approx. £68k	585
Service Charges	-833	-833	-0		-0
Supporting People	-81	-81	0		0
Interest on Cash Balances	-139	-139	0		-23
Grants	-237	-240	-3		1
Insurance	-169	-169	0		0
Other Income	-546	-459	87	Underachievement of income from Commission on Sales relating to the collection of water rates due to higher number of voids.	47
Total Income	-43,917	-43,229	688		609
Net Expenditure	5,412	2,277	-3,135		-2,193

HRA Reserve	£'000
Balance b/f 01/04/2020	21,252
Budgeted movement in year	-5,412
Variance for the year	3,135
Balance c/f 31/03/2021	18,975

Y BWRDD GWEITHREDOL 16EG TACHWEDD 2020

<p align="center">DIWEDDARU RHAGLEN GYFALAF 2020-21</p> <p align="center">Y Pwrpas: I adrodd yr amrywiant cyllidebol yn y rhaglen gyfalaf.</p>		
<p>Yr Argymhellion / Penderfyniadau Allweddol Sydd Eu Hangen:</p> <p>I dderbyn yr adroddiad diweddaraf ar y rhaglen gyfalaf.</p>		
<p>Y Rhesymau:</p> <p>I ddarparu'r newyddion ynglyn a sefyllfa gyllideb ddiweddaraf y rhaglen gyfalaf 2020/21, ar 31^{ain} Awst 2020.</p>		
<p>Ymgynghorwyd â'r pwyllgor craffu perthnasol - Amherthnasol</p>		
<p>Angen i'r Bwrdd Gweithredol wneud penderfyniad OES</p> <p>Angen i'r Cyngor wneud penderfyniad NAC OES</p>		
<p>YR AELOD O'R BWRDD GWEITHREDOL SY'N GYFRIFOL AM Y PORTFFOLIO: Cyng. David Jenkins</p>		
<p>Y Gyfarwyddiaeth: Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol</p> <p>Enw Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol:</p> <p>Chris Moore</p> <p>Awdur yr Adroddiad: Randal Hemingway</p>	<p>Swyddi:</p> <p>Cyfarwyddwr y Gwasanaethau Corfforaethol</p> <p>Pennaeth y Gwasanaethau Ariannol</p>	<p>Rhif ffôn: 01267 224886</p> <p>Cyfeiriadau E-bost:</p> <p>CMoore@sirgar.gov.uk</p> <p>RHemingway@sirgar.gov.uk</p>

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Executive Board
16th November 2020

CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2020/21 UPDATE

This report provides an update on expenditure on the Capital programme against the budgets for 2020/21 as at the 31 August 2020. **Virements to be approved:**

£658k to be vired in 2020/21 from the Rural Enterprise Fund to Cross Hands East Phase 2. Works at Cross Hands have accelerated and will complete this year. The £658k will be paid back to the Rural Enterprise Fund in 2021/22 from the approved budget for Regeneration Transformation Strategy Projects Fund.

£100k to be vired from Learning Disability Developments to Carmarthen Leisure Centre.

Additional Schemes to the Capital Programme to be noted and approve:

Private Housing – £500k from reserves (which was previously set aside for this purpose) - Western Valleys and Valleys task force – project to reduce the number of empty properties.

Rights of Way Access Improvement Grant – New Allocation of £74k from the Welsh Government. – 100% grant funded.

Flying Start - £440k new award of funding from Welsh Government for Flying Start pre-school education throughout the County.

County Museum - £202k Museums Archives Libraries Division (MALD) grant awarded by Welsh Government for internal restoration works at the County Museum in Abergwili.

Cross Hands East – Plot 3 - £3.250m ERDF from WEFO and £2m TMF from Welsh Government for a mixed development on the main (flagship) plot. £364k is profiled to be spent in 2020/21. The Project will be completed in 2022.

Re-fit Cymru - £2,338k funded by the Welsh Government, in the form of Salix Borrowing, for retrospective energy efficiencies to the county estate. Authority to authorise this project was delegated to the Director of Corporate Services in July 2019. The project is scheduled for completion in this financial year.

Appendix A shows a forecasted net spend of £63,428k compared with a working net budget of £114,264k, giving a **-£50,836k** variance. The significant variance projected at this time is in large part attributable to restrictions associated with the Covid-19 pandemic.

Appendix B details the main variances within each department.

DETAILED REPORT ATTACHED?

YES

IMPLICATIONS

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

Signed: **Randal Hemingway** **Head of Financial Services**

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

3. Finance

The capital programme shows an in-year forecasted variance of **-£50,836m** against the 2020/21 approved budget.

7. Physical Assets

The capital programme will have an impact on the physical assets owned by the Authority.

CONSULTATIONS

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

Signed: **Randal Hemingway** **Head of Financial Services**

(Please specify the outcomes of consultations undertaken where they arise against the following headings)

1. Scrutiny Committee

Relevant Scrutiny Committees will be consulted.

2. Local Member(s) N/A

3. Community / Town Council N/A

4. Relevant Partners N/A

5. Staff Side Representatives and other Organisations N/A

**EXECUTIVE BOARD PORTFOLIO
HOLDER(S) AWARE/CONSULTED**

NO

Include any observations here

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

List of Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

Title of Document	File Ref No.	Locations that the papers are available for public inspection
2020/21 Capital Programme		Corporate Service Department, County Hall, Carmarthen. On-line via corporate website – Minutes of County Council Meeting 3 March 2020.

Capital Programme 2020/21							Appendix A
Capital Budget Monitoring - Report for August 2020							
	Working Budget			Forecasted			Aug-20
DEPARTMENT	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Variance for Year £'000
COMMUNITIES							
- Public Housing	40,167	-10,401	29,766	30,409	-8,584	21,825	-7,941
- Private Housing	2,673	-246	2,427	2,111	-246	1,865	-562
- Leisure	5,864	-700	5,164	4,299	-234	4,065	-1,099
- Social Care	519	0	519	364	0	364	-155
ENVIRONMENT	27,843	-13,464	14,379	28,354	-17,267	11,087	-3,292
EDUCATION & CHILDREN	49,716	-27,755	21,961	24,383	-11,327	13,056	-8,905
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	5,515	0	5,515	3,433	82	3,515	-2,000
REGENERATION	57,063	-22,530	34,533	16,093	-8,442	7,651	-26,882
TOTAL	189,360	-75,096	114,264	109,446	-46,018	63,428	-50,836

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwriadol

Capital Programme 2020/21

Capital Budget Monitoring - Report for August 2020 - Main Variances

DEPARTMENT/SCHEMES	Working Budget			Forecasted			Variance for Year £'000	Comment
	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000	Expenditure £'000	Income £'000	Net £'000		
COMMUNITIES								
- Public Housing	40,167	-10,401	29,766	30,409	-8,584	21,825	0	-7,941
Sewage Treatment Works Upgrading	348	0	348	25	0	25		-323
Telecare Upgrade	20	0	20	20	0	20		0
Internal and External Works (Property)	17,934	0	17,934	15,807	0	15,807		-2,127
Environmental Works (Housing Services)	391	0	391	86	0	86		-305
Adaptations and Equalities Works (Building Services)	1,620	0	1,620	1,377	0	1,377		-243
Programme Delivery and Strategy	790	0	790	697	0	697		-93
Housing Development Programme	19,028	-336	18,692	12,360	-336	12,025		-6,667
ICF - Morfa Parent & Baby Centre (20 School Rd, Llanelli)	37	-37	0	37	-37	0		0
MRA and IHP Grants Income	0	-10,028	-10,028	0	-8,211	-8,211	0	1,817
- Private Housing	2,673	-246	2,427	2,111	-246	1,865	0	-562
Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)	1,927	0	1,927	1,593	-2	1,590		-337
ENABLE - Adaptations to Support Independent Living	246	-246	0	246	-246	0		0
Empty Properties Initiatives	500	0	500	275		275		-225
- Leisure	5,864	-700	5,164	4,299	-234	4,065	0	-1,099
Carmarthen Leisure Centre & Track	831	0	831	1,105	-59	1,046		215
Amman Valley Leisure Centre Masterplan	665	0	665	59	0	59		-606
Oriel Myrddin Redevelopment	1,073	-700	373	268	-175	93		-280
Libraries & Museums	1,628	0	1,628	1,628	0	1,628		0
Burry Port Harbour Walls	1,468	0	1,468	1,119	0	1,119		-349
Parks & Country Side	199	0	199	120	0	120		-79
- Social Care	519	0	519	364	0	364	0	-155
ENVIRONMENT	27,843	-13,464	14,379	28,354	-17,267	11,087	0	-3,292
Highways & Infrastructure	20,337	-13,464	6,873	19,892	-14,328	5,564		-1,309
Property	7,507	0	7,507	8,464	-2,940	5,524		-1,983
EDUCATION & CHILDREN	49,716	-27,755	21,961	24,383	-11,327	13,056		-8,905
Llandeilo Primary	2,989	0	2,989	100	0	100		-2,889
Gorslas - New School	5,708	0	5,708	3,000	0	3,000		-2,708
Ammanford Welsh Medium Primary	5,686	0	5,686	200	0	200		-5,486
Ysgol Gymraeg Cydweli	508	0	508	1,500	0	1,500		992
Ysgol y Castell	3,803	0	3,803	2,000	0	2,000		-1,803

Works rescheduled for 2021/22.

Includes £8.3m repurposed to deliver voids backlog. This will take up underspends from Internal works that we cannot complete at the moment because of C-19 restrictions.

Delays because of C-19 restrictions.

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Development delays because of C-19 and site shut down restrictions.

No projected variance.

IHP Grant - for Glanmor Terrace Development received in 2020/21 will be carried forward to be applied in 2021/22.

No major variances.

Delays because of C-19 restrictions.

Delays because of C-19 restrictions.

Additional C-19 costs and higher project costs. The dept has confirmed that additional costs will be funded by underspends on other projects within the Departmental programme.

Scheme on hold pending wider masterplan process. Including Amman Valley school.

Legal fees and some design expected in 2020/21. Slip the balance into 2021/22.

No projected variance.

Works to start in Sept/Oct. 26wk contract. Work to be completed in 2021/22.

Pembrey Country Park Cycling Hub - Will be utilised to cover spend on other projects.

£100k to be vired to Carm Leisure Centre. Balance to be slipped.

Main variance is Towy Valley Path - delays in land acquisition.

This variance is because of a 50% commitment against Capital Maintenance budget owing to C-19 restrictions.

Scheme subject to WG business case approval.

Delayed start on site and delayed works owing to C-19.

Scheme subject to WG business case approval.

Scheme development progressing well.

Delayed start on site and delayed works owing to C-19.

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Ysgol Pum Heol	4,813	0	4,813	2,516	0	2,516	-2,297	Delayed works due to C-19.
Heol Goffa - Replacement Building	10,713	0	10,713	1,500	0	1,500	-9,213	Delays with consultation due to C-19 and scheme is still subject to WG business case approval.
St John Lloyd	379	0	379	750	0	750	371	Additional costs on 3G Pitch.
Penrhos	417	0	417	35	0	35	-382	Project Complete - Delivered under budget
Pontyberem	238	0	238	5	0	5	-233	Project Complete - Delivered under budget
Dewi Sant	264	0	264	11	0	11	-252	Delays with site section and business case approval
Rhydygors	97	0	97	0	0	0	-97	Delays because of C-19.
Rhys Pritchard	1,768	0	1,768	2,000	0	2,000	232	Progressing Well - ahead of profiled budget.
Education - Equality Act Works	0	0	0	139	0	139	139	
School Buildings - Education Capital Maintenance Grants	2,677	0	2,677	2,000	0	2,000	-677	Delays because of C-19. Programme will be delivered in future years.
Flying Start Capital Expansion Programme	440	-440	0	30	-30	0	0	New Allocation of Grant from the Welsh Government to enhance Flying Start provision in the County. Project will be completed in 2021/22.
Infant Class Size	1,774	-1,774	0	1,774	-1,774	0	0	
Childcare Offer Places	1,626	-1,626	0	968	-968	0	0	Reflects delays in the wider school building programme. Will be delivered as part of the wider MEP programme.
Welsh Language Immersion Centre (Maes y Gwendraeth)	958	-958	0	958	-958	0	0	
MEP Income - 21 st Century Schools Grant	0	-22,957	-22,957	0	-7,597	-7,597	15,360	Income will be received in future years in line with projected expenditure. Delays to business case sign-off and C-19.
Other Projects with Minor Variances	4,861	0	4,861	4,897	0	4,897	36	
			0					
CHIEF EXECUTIVE	5,515	0	5,515	3,433	82	3,515	-2,000	
IT Strategy Developments	1,914	0	1,914	1,161		1,161	-753	Projects need to be reprofiled and reprioritised. Delays because of C-19.
Land at Nantglas, Crosshands	300	0	300	0	0	0	-300	On hold pending review of priorities.
Purchase of Grillo Site, Burry Port	1,900	0	1,900	1,468	0	1,468	-432	Purchase price lower than expected.
Glanamman Industrial Estate Redevelopment	1,268	0	1,268	750	0	750	-518	Delays because of C-19.
Other Projects with Minor Variances	133	0	133	54	82	136	3	No major variances.

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REGENERATION	57,063	-22,530	34,533	16,093	-8,442	7,651	-26,882	
Swansea Bay City Region Projects	37,273	-16,600	20,673	3,491	-3,491	0	-20,672	Project under development. Little spend expected in current year.
Rural Enterprise Fund	1,021	0	1,021	648	0	648	-373	Third party project delivery delayed due to C-19 now expected to complete in 2021/22
Transformation Commercial Property Development Fund	2,655	0	2,655	0	0	0	-2,655	Delays because of C-19.
Carmarthen Town Regeneration - Jacksons Lane	837	-81	755	125	-67	58	-698	Project under review.
Pendine Iconic International Visitors Destination	3,243	-797	2,445	2,587	-142	2,445	0	On budget overall - to be delivered by Spring/Summer 2021.
TAIS - Pendine Attractor Sand Area	30	-24	6	30	-24	6	0	
Llandeilo Market Hall	2,519	-700	1,819	1,206	-437	769	-1,050	Project delayed because of C-19 by 3 months - expenditure will to be reduced in 2020/21 and be incurred in 2021/22.
TRI Strategic Projects - Market Street North	1,881	-1,231	650	1,800	-1,231	569	-81	CCC budget to roll over into 2021/2022. WG grant to be utilised in full by the end of March 2021.
TRI Strategic Projects - Former YMCA Building, Stepney Street, Llanelli	1,931	-1,726	205	1,726	-1,726	0	-205	CCC budget to roll over into 2021/2022. WG grant to be utilised in full by the end of March 2021.
Cross Hands East Strategic Employment Site Phase 1	605	0	605	624	0	624	19	Final costs and Part 1 payments.
Cross Hands East Phase 2	2,486	-994	1,493	2,296	-804	1,493	0	Virement of £658k from Rural Enterprise Fund to cover cost of accelerated works. To be refunded from 2021-22 budget.
Cross Hands East Plot 3 Development	985	0	985	175	-144	31	-954	Progress delayed due to C-19 and other reasons. Project to be rolled forward with a target completion date of December 2022.
Carmarthen Western Gateway & Wetlands	173	-80	93	173	-80	93	0	Project delayed by C-19 restrictions but due to complete this financial year.
Laugharne Car Park	75	0	75	0	0	0	-75	Project delivery under review.
Ammanford Regeneration Development Fund	330	0	330	131	0	131	-199	Third party project delivery delayed owing to C-19. To be delivered and completed in 2021/22.
Transforming Towns (Green Infrastructure & Biodiversity) - Llanelli Library Green Wall	97	-97	0	97	-97	0	0	New project to be delivered in 2020/21.
Transforming Towns (Green Infrastructure & Biodiversity) - Parregamman Car Park Enhancements	200	-200	0	200	-200	0	0	New project to be delivered in 2020/21.
Other Projects with Minor Variances	723	0	724	783	0	784	60	
TOTAL	189,360	-75,096	114,264	109,446	-46,018	63,428	-50,836	

Mae'r dudalen hon yn wag yn fwiadol