



Cyngor Castell-nedd Port Talbot  
Neath Port Talbot Council

## **CABINET**

**13<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

### **Report of the Chief Finance Officer – H.Jones**

**Wards affected – All**

#### **Matter for Decision**

**Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2023/24 – As at the end of September 30<sup>th</sup> 2023**

#### **Purpose of Report**

To provide Members with information in relation to the Council's projected revenue budget position and savings as agreed for 2023/24.

#### **Background**

This report sets out the Council's projected budget position based on information available as at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

#### **Budget Management Responsibility**

Under the Council's Constitution and Financial Procedure Rules Corporate Directors are responsible for managing their Budgets within the overall cash limit approved by Council.

A Corporate Director may exercise virements on budgets under his or her control for any amount on any one budget head during the year, following notification to the Chief Finance Officer provided that:

- a) overall expenditure and income is contained within the cash limit
- (b) except where virement would involve a significant variation in the level or nature of the delivery of the service approved by Council in the Revenue Budget.

## Summary

The Council's net revenue budget for 2023/24 is £361m (£338m in 2022/23). When the budget was set a number of service savings and efficiencies were required totalling £15m. The current position on these savings are attached in appendix 2, with a red, amber, green (RAG) rating to show their current status.

The overall budget position as at September 2023 is a £3.4m overspend after reserve requests. As the financial year progresses, services will need to continually review expenditure and income in their areas to mitigate the impact of the overall budget overspend.

<b>Summary 2023/24</b>							
	Original Budget	Revised Budget	Projected Outturn	Possible pay award adjustment	Probable Commitment	Reserves	Variance ~ Under / (Over)
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning - Schools	102,086	102,086	112,486	0		-10,400	0
Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning - Other	31,677	31,405	32,239	-442		-260	-132
Social Services Health & Housing	105,572	105,909	109,961	-1,000		-152	-2,900
Environment	46,262	46,262	46,407	-1,000		2,155	-1,300
Strategy and Corporate	21,357	21,312	21,943	-387		-90	-154
<b>Directly Controlled Expenditure</b>	<b>306,954</b>	<b>306,974</b>	<b>323,036</b>	<b>-2,829</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-8,747</b>	<b>-4,486</b>
Levies and contributions	10,203	10,203	10,203				0
Capital financing	19,608	19,608	19,303				305
Pay contingency	4,714	4,714	0	2,829	1,885		0
Contingency	781	761	461				300
Energy efficiency/Transition/Contingency	2,800	2,800	0		2,800		0
Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS)	19,413	19,413	18,975				438
							0
Contributions from reserves	-3,500	-3,500	-3,500				0
							0
<b>(Overspend) / Underspend</b>	<b>360,973</b>	<b>360,973</b>	<b>368,478</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4,685</b>	<b>-8,747</b>	<b>-3,443</b>

At present it is difficult to quantify the effect of the pay settlement for 2023/24. The current projections reflect the latest pay offer for green book staff of £1,925 per employee up to grade 13 and then 3.88% thereafter. The base budget included a provision for a 4% pay award and it has been calculated that based on the current offer that a further £2.8m for non school staff will be required to fund this uplift. A pay contingency budget was set aside in the 2023/24 budget setting process and once the pay award has been finalised, a virement will be requested to move this budget to the individual service directorates.

Teachers pay award has now been agreed at 5% from September 1<sup>st</sup>. Schools have estimated that including the pay award for non- teaching

staff, a further £2m will be required in order to fund the additional pay award in full.

The vacancy management target for the council in 2023/24 is £2.9m. To date there is a shortfall of £300k and for the purposes of this budget monitoring report, this shortfall of £300k has been built into the current overspend. It is anticipated that as the year goes on, this remaining target will be met in full or savings elsewhere will be identified to offset it.

In order to try to address the overspend position Officers will look to implement additional cost saving and income generation measures in year. These measures will only be where they can be delivered within existing policy frameworks.

Significant service variances of £100k or more are detailed below.

### **Education Leisure and Lifelong Learning (ELLL)**

Based on costs incurred to date the ELLL directorate is projected to overspend by £132k assuming additional funding is provided to cover the additional pay award. The main variances included in this £132k overspend are:

#### **Out of County placements £354k underspend**

Due to a mixture of additional income from children attending NPT schools and a reduction in independent sector placements.

#### **Home to school transport £366k overspend**

There have been several new routes since the budget was set, this pressure now brings the current cost of the home to school service to approximately £9.3m.

#### **Skills and Training unit £167k overspend**

The current Jobs Growth Wales contract sum is not covering the full cost of delivery. As the largest JGW provider within the consortium, discussions are underway with Pembrokeshire CC to address this in the hope of securing additional funding this financial year which will in turn reduce the projected overspend.

### **Education Leisure and Lifelong Learning (ELLL)-School Budgets**

The delegated school budget for 2023/24 is £102m. Based on projections to date, schools are expected to go into an overall deficit reserve position of £3.9m. The opening balance of school reserves as

at April 2023 was £6.5m. Included within this deficit position is an estimated pressure of £2m for unfunded pay awards.

Teachers pay award for 2023/24 has now been agreed at 5% from September 1<sup>st</sup> and non-teachers' pay is still under negotiation but assumed to be £1,925 per full time employee for the purposes of budget monitoring.

All schools currently reporting a deficit budget have been requested to submit a recovery plan.

The following risks have been identified within the ELLL directorate:

Welsh Government (WG) has passed legislation that means speed limits on most restricted roads will reduce from 30mph to 20mph from September 2023. The transport section are currently reviewing the impact of this on Home to School Transport. It is likely some existing routes will need to be revised and additional routes procured.

The unit costs of Home to School Transport continue to be monitored, a shortage of drivers and lack of competition means we are seeing an increase in the price of routes.

### **Social Services Health & Housing (SSHH)**

Based on costs incurred to date the SSHH directorate is projected to overspend by £2.9m assuming additional funding is provided to cover the additional pay award. The main variances included in this £2.9m overspend are:

#### **Children's Residential Care £391k overspend**

The overspend is based on the assumption that there will be an average of 22 children in residential care for the whole year, 2 more than the provision in the budget. Step down provision is being explored for a number of placements which would ease the pressure on this budget. It is becoming increasingly difficult to place children with more complex needs, this has been considered as part of the recruitment strategy and the amended foster plus scheme. By increasing the foster allowance, it should attract foster carers who are able to provide placements for young people whose needs are more complex.

#### **Adoption Service £100k underspend**

The cost of the joint service is shared out between the partners, Swansea, NPT and Bridgend and is apportioned on the number of adoption placements made each year. It is anticipated that NPT will receive a refund of £100k of its initial contribution based on refunds received in prior years. There is a risk that NPT adoption numbers could be higher this year and therefore a greater contribution required, placements will be monitored throughout the year and adjustments made if necessary.

#### Elderly Residential Care £817k underspend

The under spend is due to additional income, an increase in pensions has led to increased assessed charges and additional recovery of fees following the sale of residents assets.

#### Elderly Domiciliary Care £838k overspend

An overspend in the external market due to additional hours commissioned, 8,841 hours per week compared with 7,345 in the budget. This is partially offset by vacant posts within the in-house homecare service.

#### Community Resource Team - £190k underspend

Due to vacant posts over and above vacancy target.

#### Physical Disability Placements £212k overspend

Due to new placements.

#### Learning Disabilities £419k overspend

The projection is based on placements agreed and approximate start dates included for new placements. No costs have been included for placements that have been agreed in principle but no placement found, assuming that the additional cost will be offset by placement discharges.

The following risks are highlighted as potential future costs which are not included in the figures:

- Implications for night care from Fire Service report, need for more than 1 member of staff on night cover
- New placements (Careers Wales) at Star College and Beechwood College

#### Mental Health £787k overspend

Projection includes any placements where costs have been agreed. New placements where costs have been agreed will have approximate start

dates. It does not include placements agreed in principle and out to brokerage, on the assumption that the additional cost will be offset by placement discharges.

#### Housing Advice/Supported Tenancies £1.25m overspend

At the start of the pandemic WG changed the policy relating to homelessness to ensure no-one was sleeping rough. The policy change resulted in a much higher than average demand for temporary accommodation and meant that a significant amount of additional accommodation needed to be sourced urgently.

That specific change in policy has now been integrated into the Housing Wales Act via a secondary legislation change, therefore the majority of households presenting are now eligible for temporary accommodation so demand is likely to remain at current levels for some time.

Prior to the pandemic, average number in temporary accommodation at any one time was 50 households. Latest figures show 200 households are in temporary accommodation.

Work is ongoing to implement the Rapid Rehousing Plan which will ultimately reduce the use of temporary accommodation in the longer term and increase the stock of social housing across the borough, however this will develop over a period of between 5 – 10 years.

#### Hostels £249k overspend

This overspend is due to additional security being needed at two hostel sites.

### **Risks**

The SSHH budget is currently being underpinned by the use of £6.8m of earmarked reserves. These reserves are being used to fund the 'pressures to be monitored' which were included in the 2023/24 budget proposals as potential pressures which would not be built into the base budget but would require reserve funding if they became real costs.

It is not sustainable to continue to fund these costs from reserves on a permanent basis as the directorate reserves will run out in 2025/26 so consideration will need to be given as to how these costs can be funded on a permanent basis if they are going to be ongoing.

The figures do not include any in-year uplifts for providers. Providers of social care were given between 11% and 15% uplift for 23/24 to cover

inflationary pressures. Social services commissioning team are receiving requests for additional increases to fees, sometimes with notice given on placements if the higher fee is not agreed. The cost of finding alternative care will usually be more expensive than agreeing the higher fee.

### **Environment (ENV)**

Based on costs incurred to date the ENV directorate is projected to overspend by £1.3m assuming additional funding is provided to cover the additional pay award. The main variances included in this £1.3m overspend are:

#### **Public lighting £492K overspend**

This is due to the energy inflationary increase being in excess of the inflationary allowance, which is partially offset by other savings.

#### **Car Parking £388K overspend**

This overspend is due to two reasons. Firstly, due to a fall in footfall since COVID in town centres, the car parking income is lower. Secondly the budget agreed at Cabinet and Council included a proposal that car parking income would need to increase by £200k. This proposal has recently been agreed but we will not see a full financial year impact of the savings until the next financial year.

#### **Civic Buildings £435K overspend**

This is due to increases in electricity and gas in excess of the inflationary allowance. This estimate is based on current bills and will be regularly monitored and updated.

#### **Building Maintenance £105k overspend**

This pressure has arisen due to increased prices on external contracts.

#### **Non-operational land £129k overspend**

This is due to the loss of rent from former Wilkinson store in Neath town centre.

#### **Gnoll Park £105k overspend**

This is due to a decrease in visitor numbers and car parking income. The proposed barrier at the car park has been delayed due to the future planned programme of work at The Gnoll to be funded from the levelling up fund.

### **Strategy and Corporate Services (CORP)**

Based on costs incurred to date the CORP directorate is projected to overspend by £154K assuming additional funding is provided to cover the additional pay award.

There are no significant variances.

### **Central Budgets**

#### **Council tax reduction scheme £438k underspend**

This budget is projecting to underspend by £438k with 15,651 people currently receiving a reduction to their council tax in year.

### **Virements**

Please see below proposed virements which will need to be agreed as cross directorate budget transfers.

<b>Virements across directorates</b>			
<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Service Area</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Reason</b>
To CORP from ELLL	School meals	£ 13,000	Bank charges no longer chargeable on school meals
To ELLL from CORP	Archive Service	£ 13,000	Responsibility change of archive service

### **Council Reserves**

Under the Council’s constitution the use of existing reserves by Corporate Directors requires prior consultation with the Chief Finance Officer.

The Corporate Directors Group (CDG) has undertaken a detailed review of all specific reserves during the second quarter of 2023/24. This review has identified £6.9m of specific reserves which are no longer required for the purposes they were originally intended and which can now be repurposed.

Details of these reserves are included within Appendix 1 of this report and shown specifically in the table under the column headed ‘proposed repurposing’ and are summarised in the table below:

<b>Reserve to be repurposed</b>	<b>Value to be repurposed £’m</b>	<b>Reasoning</b>
---------------------------------	-----------------------------------	------------------



Additional learning needs	1,000	Total reserve balance not required
DARE*	2,000	Any investment required will be capital not revenue and will need to be funded through the capital programme.
Metal Box	1,085	Any investment required will be capital not revenue and will need to be funded through the capital programme.
Development fund for modernisation	76	Devices will need to be reused following next local election
Corporate Services equalisation	157	Total reserve balance not required
Corporate Services – capacity building	59	Total reserve balance not required
Income generation	1,500	Any investment required will be capital not revenue and will need to be funded through the capital programme.
Members community fund	352	Programme delivered in full – no further commitments
Strategic regeneration	1,500	Other external funding options available
Workways	170	Not required for original purpose
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,899</b>	

*\*Decarbonisation and Renewable Energy (DARE)*

The repurposed reserves will be used to pump prime three transformational initiatives as detailed below:

- £2.2m will be earmarked to support a programme of transformational change within Adult Services. The Cabinet will receive a separate report from the Director of Social Services, Health and Housing which will clearly set out the proposed change programme.
- £3.1m will be earmarked to support a further transformational change programme across Housing and Homelessness services. A further report setting out the detail will be presented to the Cabinet.
- £2.4m will be earmarked to fund a transformational programme in secondary and special schools. The aim of which will be to

improve attendance rates and reduce exclusions. Monitoring and progress reports will be provided to the Cabinet Board.

The balance of funding, £0.193m, will be transferred to the general reserve.

### **Integrated Impact Assessment**

There is no requirement to undertake an integrated impact assessment as this report summarises the Council's financial position

### **Valleys Communities Impacts**

No Impact

### **Workforce Impacts**

No Impact

### **Legal Impact**

No Impact

### **Risk Management Impact**

Due to the cost of living crisis, rising energy prices, inflation and post covid recovery, there is risk within the current budget projections which could result in significant variances.

Recent Welsh Government budget announcements also mean that there may be a risk around the availability of some in-year specific grants. Officers will monitor this situation and include any implications in subsequent budget monitoring reports.

### **Consultation**

This item is not subject to external consultation

### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that Cabinet:

- **Note** the contents of this report in relation to the current projected budget outturn and reserves position; including the repurposing of reserves detailed in the main body of the report.
- **Approve** the virements set out in the main body of this report.
- **Note** the progress against the agreed savings

- **Note** that Officers will look to implement additional cost saving and income generation measures in year in order to reduce the current overspend position. These measures will only be where they can be delivered within existing policy frameworks.

### **Reason for Proposed decision**

To comply with the Council's constitution in relation to budget for virements.

### **Implementation of Decision**

The decision is proposed for implementation after the three day call in period.

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1-Reserve Schedule

Appendix 2-Agreed savings RAG rating

### **Background Papers**

Budget Working Papers

### **Officer Contact**

Huw Jones – Chief Finance Officer

[h.jones@npt.gov.uk](mailto:h.jones@npt.gov.uk)

Nicole Blackmore – Chief Accountant (Financial Planning)

[n.l.blackmore@npt.gov.uk](mailto:n.l.blackmore@npt.gov.uk)

## Appendix 1 – Reserve Schedule

Description	Reserve Balance at 1st April 2023 £	Total Committed £	Reserve Balance Available £	Proposed repurposing £	Requirement for transformation £	Transformation Commitments £	Balance £
<b>Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning</b>							
<u>Delegated Schools Reserves</u>							
ERVR Primary	Cr9,675	9,675	Cr0				Cr0
Primary Schools	Cr3,248,428	0	Cr3,248,428				Cr3,248,428
Secondary Schools	Cr2,382,943	0	Cr2,382,943				Cr2,382,943
Special Schools	Cr825,780	0	Cr825,780				Cr825,780
Middle School	Cr98,639	0	Cr98,639				Cr98,639
Repair & Maintenance	Cr161,160	0	Cr161,160				Cr161,160
	<b>Cr6,726,626</b>	<b>9,675</b>	<b>Cr6,716,951</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Cr6,716,951</b>
<u>Education, Leisure and Lifelong Learning Other</u>							
Additional learning needs reserve	Cr2,254,000	0	Cr2,254,000	1,000,000			Cr1,254,000
Equalisation Account-Education	Cr1,811,500	1,050,462	Cr761,038				Cr761,038
Home to School Transport	0	Cr253,000	Cr253,000				Cr253,000
	<b>Cr4,065,500</b>	<b>797,462</b>	<b>Cr3,268,038</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Cr2,268,038</b>
<b>Total Education Leisure &amp; Lifelong Learning</b>	<b>Cr10,792,126</b>	<b>807,137</b>	<b>Cr9,984,989</b>	<b>1,000,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Cr8,984,989</b>
<u>Social Services, Health and Housing</u>							
Homecare ECM Equipment reserve	Cr96,756	158,756	62,000				62,000
Community Care Transformation Reserve	Cr2,514,396	2,514,396	0				0
Children's Residential Placements	0	0	0				0
SSHH IT Renewals Fund	Cr1,900,000	1,900,000	0				0
Social Services Equalisation	Cr3,370,114	2,873,873	Cr496,241				Cr496,241

Description	Reserve Balance at 1st April 2023 £	Total Committed £	Reserve Balance Available £	Proposed repurposing £	Requirement for transformation £	Transformation Commitments £	Balance £
Community Resilience Fund	Cr1,750,000	1,750,000	0				0
Housing Warranties Reserve	Cr220,000	0	Cr220,000				Cr220,000
Hillside General Reserve	Cr431,098	0	Cr431,098				Cr431,098
Ring fenced homecare funding	Cr234,000	0	Cr234,000				Cr234,000
Youth Offending Team Reserve	Cr167,897	0	Cr167,897				Cr167,897
Adoption Service	Cr880,000	880,000	0				0
<b>Total Social Services, Health and Housing</b>	<b>Cr11,564,261</b>	<b>10,077,025</b>	<b>Cr1,487,236</b>	<b>0</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>Cr1,487,236</b>
<u>Environment</u>							
Transport Reserve	Cr315,173	Cr135,000	Cr450,173				Cr450,173
Asset Recovery Incentive Scheme	Cr44,593	Cr43,301	Cr87,894				Cr87,894
Swansea Bay City Deal	Cr221,000	0	Cr221,000				Cr221,000
Local Development Plan	Cr363,124	7,787	Cr355,337				Cr355,337
Parking improvement	Cr88,000	63,000	Cr25,000				Cr25,000
DARE Reserve	Cr2,000,000	0	Cr2,000,000	2,000,000			0
Waste Reserve	Cr1,536,454	83,208	Cr1,453,246				Cr1,453,246
Winter Maintenance Reserve	Cr568,429	0	Cr568,429				Cr568,429
Neath Market	Cr253,107	0	Cr253,107				Cr253,107
Baglan Bay Innovation centre - dilapidation reserve	Cr77,517	0	Cr77,517				Cr77,517
Renewable Energy Reserve	Cr17,959	0	Cr17,959				Cr17,959
Environmental Health - Housing Equalisation	Cr95,000	58,301	Cr36,699				Cr36,699
LAWDC Contingency Reserve	Cr815,177	Cr750,000	Cr1,565,177				Cr1,565,177
Workways - NPT	Cr325,522	0	Cr325,522				Cr325,522

Description	Reserve Balance at 1st April 2023 £	Total Committed £	Reserve Balance Available £	Proposed repurposing £	Requirement for transformation £	Transformation Commitments £	Balance £
Environment Equalization Reserve	Cr1,097,403	124,306	Cr973,097				Cr973,097
Metal box Reserve	Cr779,909	Cr305,333	Cr1,085,242	1,085,242			0
Pantteg Landslip Reserve	Cr500,000	32,737	Cr467,263				Cr467,263
<u>Trading Account</u>		0	0				0
Operating Account -Equalisation	Cr36,043	0	Cr36,043				Cr36,043
Vehicle Tracking	Cr92,186	71,000	Cr21,186				Cr21,186
Vehicle Renewals	Cr3,471,874	1,883,246	Cr1,588,628				Cr1,588,628
		0					
<b>Total Environment</b>	<b>Cr12,698,470</b>	<b>1,089,951</b>	<b>Cr11,608,519</b>	<b>3,085,242</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Cr8,523,277</b>
<u>Strategy and Corporate Services</u>							
Elections Equalisation Fund	Cr151,139	Cr15,000	Cr166,139				Cr166,139
Health & Safety/Occupational Health	Cr40,501	0	Cr40,501				Cr40,501
Digital Transformation Reserve	Cr1,170,000	0	Cr1,170,000				Cr1,170,000
Schools IT Equalisation (HWB)	Cr470,000	70,000	Cr400,000				Cr400,000
Development Fund for Modernisation	Cr76,032	0	Cr76,032	76,032			0
Digital renewal reserve	Cr1,754,394	990,000	Cr764,394				Cr764,394
Chief Executives Equalisation Reserve	Cr359,736	105,000	Cr254,736	156,736			Cr98,000
Organisational development reserve	Cr4,636,436	2,097,000	Cr2,539,436				Cr2,539,436
Building Capacity	Cr241,295	82,000	Cr159,295	59,295			Cr100,000
Voluntary Organisation Reserve	Cr89,744	89,744	0				0
<b>Total Corporate Services</b>	<b>Cr8,989,277</b>	<b>3,418,744</b>	<b>Cr5,570,533</b>	<b>292,063</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Cr5,278,470</b>
<u>Corporate Other</u>							

Description	Reserve Balance at 1st April 2023 £	Total Committed £	Reserve Balance Available £	Proposed repurposing £	Requirement for transformation £	Transformation Commitments £	Balance £
Insurance Reserve	Cr4,445,382	280,000	Cr4,165,382				Cr4,165,382
Covid recovery	Cr1,406,578	1,406,578	0				0
Income Generation Reserve	Cr1,663,230	50,000	Cr1,613,230	1,500,000			Cr113,230
Members Community Fund Reserve	Cr351,974	0	Cr351,974	351,974			0
Capital support reserve	Cr683,447	0	Cr683,447				Cr683,447
Hardship relief scheme	Cr1,725,000	1,725,000	0				0
Service resilience	Cr874,072	874,072	0				0
Discretionary fund	Cr335,725	335,725	0				0
Corporate Contingency	Cr2,492,993	1,125,273	Cr1,367,720				Cr1,367,720
Strategic regeneration capacity building	Cr1,500,000	0	Cr1,500,000	1,500,000			0
Treasury Management Equalisation Reserve	Cr8,407,767	0	Cr8,407,767				Cr8,407,767
Accommodation Strategy	Cr2,273,580	0	Cr2,273,580				Cr2,273,580
Transformational support for schools					Cr2,400,000	2,400,000	0
Transformation of adult social care			0		Cr2,166,000	2,166,000	0
Transformation of housing and homelessness			0		Cr3,140,000	3,140,000	0
<b>Total Corporate Other</b>	<b>Cr26,159,748</b>	<b>5,796,648</b>	<b>Cr20,363,100</b>	<b>3,351,974</b>	<b>Cr7,706,000</b>	<b>7,706,000</b>	<b>Cr17,011,126</b>
<u>Joint Committee</u>							
Margam Discovery Centre - Building Maintenance Reserve	Cr117,107	Cr57,333	Cr174,440				Cr174,440
Workways - Regional Reserve	Cr169,860	0	Cr169,860	169,860			0
Environment Legacy Reserve (SWTRA)	Cr59,728	0	Cr59,728				Cr59,728

Description	Reserve Balance at 1st April 2023 £	Total Committed £	Reserve Balance Available £	Proposed repurposing £	Requirement for transformation £	Transformation Commitments £	Balance £
Substance Misuse Area Planning Board	Cr153,568	0	Cr153,568				Cr153,568
WB Safeguarding Board Reserve	Cr94,676	0	Cr94,676				Cr94,676
Intermediate Care pooled fund	0	0	0				0
<b>Total Joint Committee</b>	<b>Cr594,939</b>	<b>Cr57,333</b>	<b>Cr652,272</b>	<b>169,860</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Cr482,412</b>
<b>Total All Earmarked Reserves</b>	<b>Cr70,798,821</b>	<b>21,132,172</b>	<b>Cr49,666,649</b>	<b>7,899,139</b>	<b>Cr7,706,000</b>	<b>7,706,000</b>	<b>Cr41,767,510</b>
<b>General Reserve</b>	Cr20,150,693	4,900,000	Cr15,250,693	Cr7,899,139	7,706,000		Cr15,443,832
<b>TOTAL ALL RESERVES</b>	<b>Cr90,949,514</b>	<b>26,032,172</b>	<b>Cr64,917,342</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,706,000</b>	<b>Cr57,211,342</b>



**2023/24 Budget – Savings monitoring RAG Analysis**

Ref	Savings strategy	Responsible officer	2023/24 Saving £	Deliverability Status R/A/G	Comment/ Consequence
	<b>Efficiency/Economy measures identified</b>				
E&E1	Car Allowances	All managers	400,000	Green	
E&E2	CRB Checks	All managers	10,000	Green	
E&E3	Eye tests	All managers	7,000	Green	
E&E4	Water	All managers	52,000	Green	
E&E5	General office expenses, books and subscriptions	All managers	125,000	Green	
E&E6	Pat testing	All managers	10,000	Green	
E&E7	Periodicals, municipal journals etc.	All managers	2,500	Green	
E&E8	Window cleaning	All managers	10,000	Green	
E&E9	Canvassing	All managers	10,000	Green	
E&E10	Stationery	All managers	75,000	Green	
E&E11	Conference fees - overnight travel etc.	All managers	5,000	Green	
E&E12	Furniture purchasing	All managers	10,500	Green	
E&E13	Postages	All managers	3,000	Green	
E&E14	Medical Fees	All managers	40,000	Green	
E&E15	External printing	All managers	33,888	Green	
E&E17	Hire of room	All managers	17,000	Green	
	<b>Accommodation</b>				
ACC1	Buildings to be vacated - Closure of 5 satellite office buildings in phase 1 (2023/24)	Simon Brennan	158,000	Green	£113k achieved to date, Unable to negotiate surrender of Baglan resource centre-current lease ends August 25 <sup>th</sup> 2029. Savings achieve elsewhere
	<b>Grants</b>				
GR1	Maximisation of external grant funding	Simon Brennan	500,000	Green	Relates to SPF funding

## Appendix 2

Ref	Savings strategy	Responsible officer	2023/24 Saving £	Deliverability Status R/A/G	Comment/ Consequence
GR2	Offset ALN post against existing grant	Hayley Lervy	63,190	Green	
GR3	Catering business administrative post against grant	Rhiannon Crowhurst	48,000	Green	
<b><u>Subsidy removal</u></b>					
SUB1	Margam Park	Chris Saunders	100,000	Green	
SUB2	Increased income at skills and training unit	Chris Millis	25,000	Amber	Still in process of identifying what option to use to achieve this saving-original option no longer available
SUB3	Full cost recovery of school cleaning service	Rhiannon Crowhurst	167,275	Amber	Discussion ongoing regarding phasing
SUB4	Gnoll County Park	Mike Roberts	30,000	Red	Subject to delivery of LUF project
SUB6	Afan forest park	Simon Brennan	1,882	Green	
SUB0	Leisure Services	Chris Saunders	250,000	Green	One of pension saving and additional income
<b><u>Service Remodelling and integration</u></b>					
SERV1	Digital Savings (Mobile and Photocopier contracts)	Chris Owen	150,000	Green	
<b>Other</b>					
OTHER1	Pension Recharges - reduction in historic early access charges as numbers drop	Huw Jones	67,000	Green	

## Appendix 2

Ref	Savings strategy	Responsible officer	2023/24 Saving £	Deliverability Status R/A/G	Comment/ Consequence
OTHER2	Treasury Management - increased interest on investments	Huw Jones	500,000	Green	
OTHER3	Management of change recharge - Remove base budget for ER/VR use Organisation Development reserve if required	Andrew Thomas	200,000	Green	
OTHER4	Fall in pupil numbers as per settlement	Andrew Thomas	733,000	Green	
OTHER5	Pension Recharges - reduction in employer contribution rate from 2023/24	Huw Jones	5,109,000	Green	
OTHER6	Reversal of Social Care Levy - reduced employer national insurance contributions	Huw Jones	1,364,000	Green	
OTHER7	Vacancy management target - assumed 5% reduction in salary costs due to natural vacancies / turnover	All Directors	2,915,000	Amber	To date there is a shortfall of £300k
OTHER8	Council tax reduction scheme - reduction in claimants since pandemic levels	Huw Jones	750,000	Green	
OTHER9	Council tax collection rate - Cabinet approved increase to collection rate of 98% in Nov2022	Huw Jones	1,000,000	Green	
OTHER10	Offset costs against capital programme	Huw Jones	260,000	Green	
OTHER11	Corporate savings-Cex Budget - various initiatives across the four divisions of the corporate services portfolio - Legal, Finance, Digital and Organisational Development	Noelwen Daniel	150,000	Green	
<b>Total</b>			<b>15,352,235</b>		