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01766 771000



## INTRODUCTION

With Chancellor George Osborne's recent announcements in Westminster regarding additional cuts to public sector budgets, it has now become evident to all that we now live in a post-financial era, with public services in Wales at the edge of a precipice.

The priorities of central government in response to the financial crisis mean cutbacks to services for those who depend on them most. It is as if the world has turned on its head with us seeing the creation of a society where there are no spending cuts on wars and nuclear weapons but where increasing numbers in our communities rely on food banks.

This certainly is not the kind of society that we are trying to create here in Gwynedd; our aspiration is for a county and nation where fairness and social justice are given priority and where each individual gets an opportunity to reach one's full potential and to succeed. But the danger is that the government's financial policies in Westminster will stand in our way.

We have sought to cope with cuts here in Gwynedd over a number of years. We have managed to safeguard essential services for the county's residents to a great extent, thanks to careful financial planning and positive collaboration with our various partners.

However, it is no longer a case of looking for minor savings here and there, but rather a time to make significant cuts to essential services such as education, care, leisure and libraries. With the need for the Council to address a financial shortfall of around £50 million in the period up to 2017/18, no part of Gwynedd Council will unfortunately be able to escape facing significant cuts. While the master plays his tune, it is us who have to suffer, and who must try to cope and create order out of this crisis.

In the midst of such apparent despair, we, the people of Gwynedd, must offer hope for the future. We need to support each other and create new and more sustainable ways of delivering some of our essential services.

There is no doubt that the future will be different, and in order to ensure Tomorrow's Gwynedd, we need to play our part in re-inventing ourselves to create the New Gwynedd.

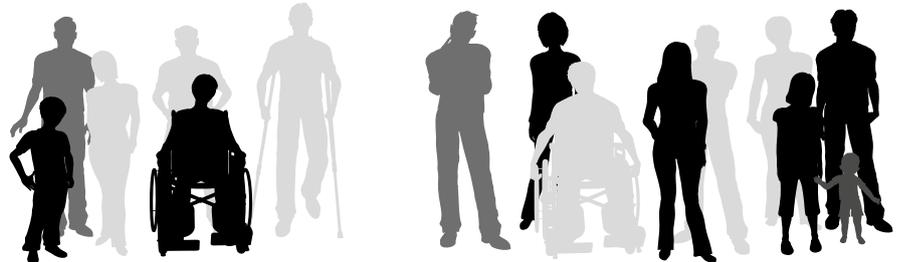
Each and every one of us has strong feelings about the current political context and the situation that has been forced upon us. It is, of course, important to raise our voices, but protest alone can never be adequate.

This is a time for us to galvanise our energy and efforts to create something positive driven by hope and fairness. Past governments have responded to the circumstances of their day by creating the welfare state and boosting the public sector for the benefit of all. In the twenty first century with the dismantling of public services, our responsibility is to create the alternative state, with the objective of serving the majority and not the few.

**Councillor Dyfed Edwards,**

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Dyfed Edwards". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'D'.

**Gwynedd Council Leader**



## WHY IS GWYNEDD CONSULTING ON CUTS?

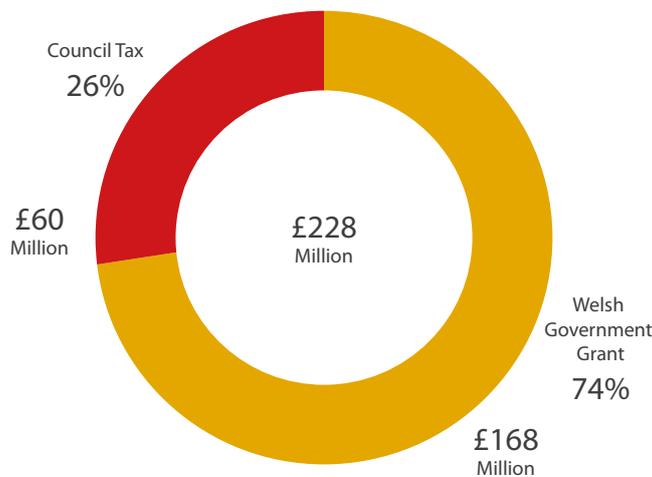
**Gwynedd Council Chief Executive Dilwyn Williams outlines the choices facing the people of Gwynedd**

Over the past ten years, Gwynedd Council like most other councils in Wales, has had to try to continue to provide services for residents with less money.

By now however the situation has deteriorated significantly and has reached a critical point. To explain the background to all this, it would be useful to understand the background in terms of what has been happening in Gwynedd Council over the past ten years.

### Gwynedd Council's Income and Expenditure

In 2015/16 Gwynedd Council is spending £367 million on our local services, but as we also charge a fee for a number of services and attract grants for some of our activities, the actual bill for local services in 2015/16 will be a little over £228 million. The money to pay for this bill comes from two sources:



As can be seen, the grant we receive from the Welsh Government is the most important factor when considering how much is possible for us as a Council to spend on services for local people.

## 2006 - 2010

Back in March 2006, the annual bill for the Council's services was a little under £178 million. Over a period of four years - up to the end of March 2010, this annual bill had increased by almost £40 million to £218 million. The graph below shows that inflation and an increase in the demand for Council services were the main reasons for this. The increase in the demand stemmed from an increase in the number of older people, children and vulnerable adults in need of the services we provide along with the growing expectations upon us as a Council.

The increase in Gwynedd Council's costs between 2006 and 2010 and how the Council bridged the gap.

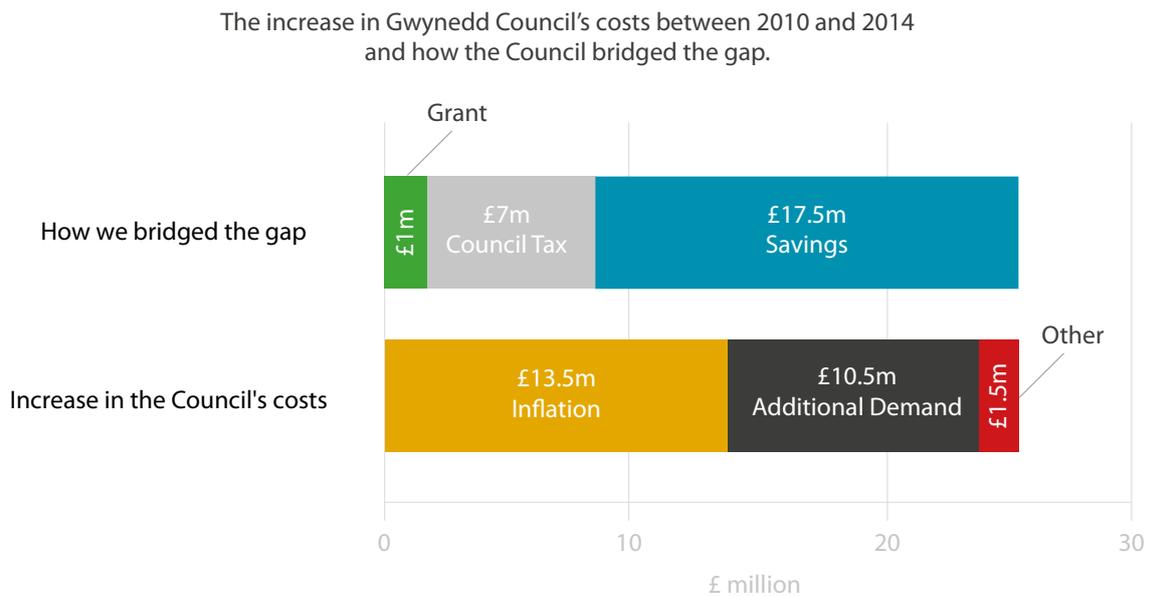


Over this period (2006 - 2010) the Council had to contend with the significant inflation of 3.6% per year on average, due to high oil prices, increasing salary costs and payments to various suppliers. But as can be seen on the above graph, the grant the Council received from the Welsh Government did not increase by a sufficient amount to meet this inflation. Despite the fact that the Council increased Council Tax over the period, this was still not enough to meet the cost of inflation and we had to look for savings so that we could pay for the increasing demand for services that we were facing.

## 2010 - 2014

By 2009 of course, the public purse had started to feel the effects of the recession. Over the four year period from March 2010 to March 2014, the impact of inflation on Gwynedd Council slowed down to an average of 1.6% a year - mainly as a result of public sector pay freezes, however the increase in the demand for council services continued to increase.

By this point, the main difference was the fact that the grant received from the Welsh Government was hardly increasing. During the period between March 2010 and March 2014 this grant only increased by £1 million. Again, despite the fact that the Council was continuing to increase Council Tax over the period in question, this in itself did not come close to meeting the inflation bill. As the graph below shows, the Council had to find significant savings at this time to pay for inflation and to meet the increasing demand for services..



By now the limits on the public purse had tightened even more.

Over the four year period from March 2014 to March 2018, we are planning on the basis that the grant we receive from the Welsh Government will fall by £21 million over the period, but that inflation and the increase in demand for our services will add £29 million to our costs creating a £50 million funding gap that will have to be found.

Over this four year period 2014 - 2018, we have planned on the basis of an annual Council Tax increase of 3.5% which will mean, along with the slightly higher increase in 2015/16, we will likely cut this funding gap by £9 million leaving a gap of £41 million to be bridged.

The likely funding gap Gwynedd Council will face between 2014 and 2018 and how the Council intends to bridge this gap.



### What does this mean to the people of Gwynedd?

As the above graphs show, from March 2006 to March 2014, the Council had to find savings of over £31 million as the funding received in the form of a grant from the Welsh Government and the sums raised through Council Tax, were not enough to cover the costs of inflation and the increasing demand for our services.

So far we have been focusing our efforts on delivering efficiency savings by continuing to try to meet the needs of the people of Gwynedd, but in new or different ways.

The examples of the efficiency savings we have implemented so far include:

- **Reducing the number of Council senior officers to save £700,000 – the Council has reduced the number of Heads and Directors and by now Gwynedd has amongst the smallest number of senior officers in North Wales;**
- **Reducing energy costs through a series of projects to reduce the amount of petrol, electricity and gas the Council consumes and to generate renewable electricity in order to save £770,000 per year;**
- **Reducing the frequency of residual refuse collections to save up to £400,000 per year;**
- **Changing the terms of employment for Council staff to save £780,000 per year;**
- **A project to generate renewable electricity from food waste collected from Gwynedd households which has led to a saving of £500,000 per year in the Council's landfill costs.**

Some of the above projects have of course meant changing the way the Council meets the needs of the people of Gwynedd and the nature of the service in question, but at the end of the day the service still exists and continues to meet the needs of local people.

By now however, as the Council has for many years been implementing every possible opportunity to realise efficiency savings, the opportunities that are left for finding more such savings have reduced and as a result, the Council will now have no option but to deliver cuts to balance the books.

Making cuts will mean reducing a service or bringing a service to an end, meaning that the Council will not meet the needs of the people of Gwynedd if those service areas are cut.

## Having your say

At the end of the day, it will be Gwynedd Councillors who will have to decide which services to cut, but as a Council we are eager to hear what you have to say regarding the decisions that are ahead of us.

As a Council we have sifted through all of the services we provide to the people of Gwynedd and have divided them into two categories - those services that we could potentially cut, and those that will not be possible for us to cut. Pages 10 to 45 of this document outline the options available to the Council when these difficult decisions will have to be made in the Spring of 2016.

Of the £228 million that Council services cost at present, we have identified almost £26 million worth of efficiency savings that we can implement. In addition, we are confident that there are opportunities to find more efficiency savings in some services, especially the 'back office' function from which we are confident we will be able to realise a further £8 million of savings. This in itself will unfortunately not be enough to address the £41 million gap.

Of the gap which is left, we have identified possible options for service cuts worth almost £12 million. Of this £12 million sum, it is possible that the Council will need to realise £7 million of cuts.

There is an opportunity for you to have an input into these important decisions by telling us which services, worth up to **£5 million**, that you would like the Council **not to cut**.

In order to understand what is under consideration, you will need to spend some time reading the background on the possible cut options and their likely implications, which are outlined in this document. Please read through the options before submitting your response as the final decisions the Council will have to take regarding the future of local services will affect all of us who receive services from Gwynedd Council.

This is an opportunity for you to let Gwynedd Councillors know what your priorities are before the Council decides what to cut, I therefore urge you to take this opportunity to have your say.



**Dilwyn Williams**  
Chief Executive of the Council

## How to take part

Over the next few pages you will see a list of the possible service cut options under five categories:

**Remember you can fill in your questionnaire on-line at [www.gwynedd.gov.uk/gwyneddchallenge](http://www.gwynedd.gov.uk/gwyneddchallenge)**



These possible choices worth around £12 million – that is £5 million more than the £7 million of cuts it is possible the Council will need to implement from the spring of 2016 onwards.

To have your say on the possible choices, please:

- 1) **Read through the possible proposals under the 5 categories on the following pages.**
- 2) **Have your say by completing the feedback form in the centre of this booklet. (pages 45-52). There are 3 parts to the feedback form:**
  - **General Details** – please note your Post Code, Age Group, Language etc
  - **Proposals** – tick the proposals that you **do not want** the Council to include on the final list of cuts. You can note up to **£5 million** worth of choices. As you can see, for a number of the proposals, there is more than one option, and for these proposals, please tick your preferred option.
  - **Council Tax** – additional question regarding Council Tax.
- 3) **Pull out the feedback form (pages 45-52) and return it to the Council in the enclosed prepaid envelope.**

**Thank you very much for taking part in the Gwynedd Challenge engagement exercise.**

# 01.

## Environment

**For proposals Env 1 to Env 11 tick the proposal that you do not want the Council to include in their final list of cuts on the response form in the centre of the booklet.**

### Env1 - Recreational Routes (the cycle paths)

The Council is responsible for maintaining and improving a 50km network of Recreational Routes that have been developed with the support of local communities.

Over 300,000 journeys are made annually on these lanes (Lôn Eifion, Lôn Las Menai, Lôn Las Ogwen) which are open to both walkers and cyclists.

<b>Env1</b>	<b>Delete the maintenance budget to save £89,094</b>	Deleting this budget would mean that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• it will not be possible to control seasonal growth</li><li>• it would not be possible to carry out repairs following acts of vandalism</li><li>• it would not be possible to remove fallen trees etc.</li><li>• there would be an increased danger that these Recreational Routes would eventually have to be closed, resulting in the loss of a resource that is used by Gwynedd residents and tourists.</li></ul>	
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### Env2 - Nature Reserves

The Council owns, manages and maintains 12 Nature Reserves and other sites that are unsuitable for other uses. Many of the sites are on the outskirts of towns and villages and offer an opportunity for quiet leisure time, enjoyment of our natural environment and are an educational resource for local schools.

During 2014, 7 schools took advantage of the resource and the work on the reserves was supported by more than 100 local volunteers.

<b>Env2</b>	<b>Delete the maintenance budget to save £59,396</b>	Not carrying out maintenance work would mean that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• overgrowth would not be controlled and responsive work and repairs would not be addressed</li><li>• there would be increased risks for the public because of dangerous trees and footpaths resulting in the possibility of having to close the sites with residents losing the benefit of using them, loss of an educational resource and a deterioration in the condition of natural habitats that are of national importance.</li></ul>	
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### Env3 - Llŷn Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

This service is responsible for preparing and implementing plans to manage the Llŷn Peninsula's Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). It receives a grant from Natural Resources Wales to implement projects in the management plan, for example promoting access to historical sites, restoring and maintaining habitats, organising walking tours and talks on the history and heritage of Llŷn.

There is also specialist advice available for the public and assessments are offered on the impact of developments on the AONB. In 2014, advice was provided to more than 100 planning applications within the Llŷn area. The service is responsible for administering a £68,000 Welsh Government grant towards projects that support community initiatives, to protect heritage and hold events such as the Llŷn Coastal Festival, Saint David's Day celebrations in Pwllheli, to create allotments in Nefyn, the Capel Carmel scheme in Anelag and improvements to Neuadd Rhoshirwaun hall.

<b>Env3</b>	<b>Bring the service to an end to save £39,150</b>	Bringing the service to an end would mean: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• the work of preparing the new plan could not be completed</li><li>• the loss of annual grants such as those noted above, that would benefit the Llŷn area.</li></ul>	
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## Env4 - Road Works Management

This service issues permits allowing people to put skips and scaffolding on the county's roads, and co-ordinates and ensures the quality of the work undertaken by utility companies [e.g. Water, Gas and Electricity Board] when digging the roads and causing delays in traffic flow. They deal with approximately 3,100 street works inspections, monitor around 800 permits and around 1,300 street works every year.

<b>Env4</b>	<b>Delete the budget by 7.5% to save £30,000</b>	Deleting around 7.5% of the Unit's budget would mean that there: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• would be a risk that the quality of our highways would deteriorate due to a lack of sufficient monitoring of the standard of work undertaken by contractors</li> <li>• would be a decline in the condition of roads leading to more accidents, collisions and possible delays</li> <li>• would be an increased danger to the public as the Council would fail to effectively manage scaffolding and skips on the street</li> <li>• would be a reduction in the monitoring resources resulting in an increase in the cases of contractors working on the county's highways beyond the permitted time, and an increase in traffic congestion</li> <li>• may also be delays in dealing with licensing.</li> </ul>	
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## Env5 - Cutting Grass in Council Cemeteries

The Council is responsible for maintaining 16 of the county's cemeteries. The grass in these cemeteries is currently cut 7 times every year.

<b>Env5</b>	<b>Reduce the frequency of grass cutting from 7 times to 5 times a year to save £60,000</b>	If the frequency of grass cutting is reduced to five times a year, this will impact on the appearance of the cemeteries as the grass grows longer.	
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## Env6 - Street Cleaning - Arfon Community Gang

In the Arfon area, the Council's Community Gang quickly tackles and clears up any mess from public spaces in our busiest towns.

<b>Env6</b>	<b>Delete the Community Gang in Arfon to save £70,000</b>	Bringing the Community Gang Service to an end would mean the Council would be unable to respond promptly and quickly to clearing mess in the Arfon Area. This would be likely to lead to situations where there could be a wait of a week before the service clears up any mess.	
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## Env7 - Street Cleaning - street bins and dog fouling bins

Around 55 members of staff are responsible for regularly cleaning streets, highways, promenades and other public spaces in the county.

<b>Env7</b>	<b>Delete the provision of 2,000 street bins and dog fouling bins to save £200,000</b>	Bringing the provision of 2,000 street and dog fouling bins to an end would likely impact upon the cleanliness and appearance of every town and a large number of villages in the county.	
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## Env8 - Street Cleaning - in villages and industrial estates

Around 55 members of staff are responsible for regularly cleaning streets, highways, promenades and other public spaces in the county.

<b>Env8</b>	<b>Reduce the frequency of street cleaning in town centres and industrial estates to save £130,000</b>	At the moment, villages and industrial estates receive a monthly street cleaning service and the service responds to any incident where there is a mess within 14 days. If the response period was changed to 28 days and the regular cleaning was changed to every 3 months, rather than every month, there would be a negative impact on the standard of cleanliness and the appearance of villages and industrial estates.	
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## Env9 - Street Cleaning - in town centres and shopping centres

Around 55 members of staff are responsible for regularly cleaning streets, highways, promenades and other public spaces in the county.

Env9	<b>Reduce the frequency of street cleaning in town centres and shopping centres to save £80,000</b>	Due to higher activity levels and volume of people, a higher standard of daily cleaning is required. By reducing the frequency of street cleaning from every day to every other day, it is probable that there will be an impact on the standard of cleanliness and the appearance of areas such as Bangor city centre and town centres including Caernarfon, Pwllheli, Porthmadog, Dolgellau, Tywyn and Barmouth.	
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## Env10 - Flood Risk Management

Ten officers are responsible for monitoring places in Gwynedd which are at risk of flooding and coastal erosion and evaluating what can be done to try to mitigate the risks that arise. They are also responsible for developing projects in response to specific risks and seek to attract grants to deliver them, for example:

- the A55 and Talybont flood prevention scheme
- scheme to respond to flooding at Fairbourne
- scheme at Traeth Crugan, Aberdyfi.

Where it is not possible to attract grants to fund such schemes, they seek to ensure that those people living in the areas that are at risk of flooding are aware of the risks and how to protect themselves.

Env10	<b>Reduce the resource by 7.5% to save £40,000</b>	Reducing the budget by 7.5% would mean: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• less resource available to create individual flood plans</li> <li>• that it would take longer to complete individual plans</li> <li>• fewer grant applications being presented</li> <li>• fewer schemes being realised in the future.</li> </ul>	
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## Env11 - Building Control

Ten surveyors and four technicians are responsible for ensuring reasonable standards of health and safety for people in or around buildings by ensuring that they comply with the appropriate building regulations. They are also responsible for ensuring that buildings comply with energy conservation requirements and requirements in relation to facilities for disabled people.

The department currently deals with approximately 1,000 applications and attends approximately 75 cases of hazardous structures every year.

Env11	<b>Reduce the resource by 7% to save £40,000</b>	Reducing the resource by around 7% would: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• make it more difficult to carry out these responsibilities to the standards expected by the Welsh Government in terms of completing work within a specific period of time</li> <li>• mean that work on hazardous structures would have to take priority over the other work which attracts fees</li> <li>• this could mean that the response time would slip to the maximum 4 hours because of the size of the county.</li> </ul>	
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**For proposals Env12 to Env22, if you accept that the service can be cut as described in the box where you will see this symbol '◆', please leave the proposal blank on the response form in the centre of this document and move on to the next proposal.**

- If you do not want to cut the service at all, tick option 'a' on the response form in the centre of this document.
- If you want to keep part of the service, please tick your preferred option on the response form in the centre of this document.



## Env12 - Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)

9 employees are responsible for the CCTV network in Bangor, Caernarfon and Pwllheli.

Over the past three years, the service has monitored and recorded around 15,000 criminal and anti-social incidents with around half of these assisting the Police with successful prosecutions.

It is likely that the existence of the service has contributed to preventing anti-social behaviour in these areas.

◆ Deleting the service would mean that there would be no means of gathering evidence to assist the Police with prosecutions. Considering that the service assisted in prosecuting over 7,000 cases in the last three years, there is a possibility that there would be an increase in crime in these areas. This would result in a saving of £208,000. ◆

<b>Env12a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service which will save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Env12b</b>	<b>Maintain part of the service by reducing the CCTV resource to save £90,000</b>	Reducing the number of staff from 9 to 3 would mean that the cameras would continue to be in use, but there is no certainty of constant monitoring. This would have a detrimental effect on the Council's ability to assist the Police with the task of gathering evidence and convicting criminals.	

## Env13 - Public Footpaths

The Gwynedd public footpath network is 2,672 miles long and the paths have been divided into four categories according to an assessment of importance.

Council resources are prioritised to maintain the footpaths that are in categories 1 and 2, which are approximately 1,230 miles, and include the Coastal Path. This maintenance work includes cutting grass and seasonal growth which equates to about 40% of the budget. The remainder of the budget is used to re-surface footpaths, install new gates, signage, solve land drainage problems, to repair and construct bridges.

Although expenditure is not prioritised for category 3 and 4 footpaths, the legal responsibility for these footpaths remains with the Council and it responds to matters that endanger the health and safety of the public.

Anyone has the right to try to divert, eliminate or create a public footpath and this service ensures that appropriate consideration is given, with 43 applications received over the past 5 years. Applications often have to follow a complex legal procedure which can take some years to complete.

The service also takes action against any landowner who attempts to prevent people from using a public footpath. During 2014, there were 2 cases but the service can avoid enforcement steps in most cases by means of discussion and persuasion.

It is impossible to put a figure on how many people use the whole network, but 345,221 walkers were recorded on the Coastal Path between June 2013 and May 2014.

Generally, a lack of maintenance on these pathways could increase the risk of accidents for walkers and spending less in this area could have a detrimental impact on the relationship between landowners and walkers.

It is assumed that this would have a detrimental impact on the tourism industry. The Tourism Study (2014) indicates how important access to the countryside is for businesses as 60% of visitors come to Gwynedd to walk, 49% to visit beaches and 6% to watch the wildlife.

As an element of the maintenance work is done by awarding grants to community councils, they will also be affected.

◆ Cutting the budget by 60% would mean that only around 200 miles of category 1 and 2 footpaths could be maintained (or 7% of the entire network). The Coastal Path alone is 180 miles. It would not be possible to respond effectively to complaints and urgent matters, the impact of severe weather and to process applications to create or divert footpaths. This would result in a saving of £330,000. ◆

<b>Env13a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Env13b</b>	<b>Keep 80% of the budget and cut 20% of the budget to save £110,000</b>	Cutting the budget by 20% would mean that around 1,000 miles of category 1 and 2 footpaths could be maintained. Staff resources would be available to respond to enquiries and complaints and to make use of any available grants.	
<b>Env13c</b>	<b>Keep 60% of the budget and cut 40% of the budget to save £220,000</b>	Cutting the budget by 40% would mean that only around 700 miles of category 1 and 2 footpaths could be maintained. Losing staff would mean that the Council could not address problems in all parts of the county nor to make to make use of grants and preventing disputes from leading to enforcement action.	

## Env14 - Biodiversity

2 members of staff provide specialist advice on matters concerning wildlife and trees to the public as well as advice on the impact of planning applications and planning policies on wildlife and trees.

Specialist advice is provided every year on approximately 160 planning applications, and in recent years the team has also played a key role in the process of preparing new planning policies for the Council.

The team also run projects which help to protect the variety of wildlife that we have in Gwynedd and host awareness-raising sessions by working with schools and holding events with communities such as walking tours and wildlife visits.

◆ Deleting the service in its entirety would mean that it would not be possible to respond to any complaints and enquiries from the public or to any consultations on planning applications in relation to wildlife and tree matters. As there would be no specialist input on matters relating to wildlife and trees with regards to planning applications, or the development of planning policy, there would be a significantly increased risk that some varieties of trees and species of wildlife would be lost forever resulting in a negative effect on the local natural environment. This would result in a saving of £60,000. ◆

<b>Env14a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Env14b</b>	<b>Cut 50% of the service to save £30,000</b>	A reduction of 50% in the service would mean bringing the wildlife promotion schemes with schools and communities to an end. It is also likely to mean that there would be a significant delay in providing specialist advice and an inability to provide advice at all on a number of matters, which would delay decisions on a number of planning applications. A reduction in the resource could increase the risk of losing some types of wildlife from the county and would have a negative effect on Gwynedd's natural environment.	

## Env15 - Joint Planning Policy with Anglesey

This service is responsible for:

- preparing planning policies and guidance, monitoring and updating them for Gwynedd Council and Ynys Môn County Council
- providing guidance as and when necessary to both Councils' Planning Services to deal with planning applications
- preparing a response on behalf of both Councils to consultations about the development of national planning policies and guidance.

The policies and guidance set out a firm framework to deal with planning applications to ensure that new developments meet the real needs of all residents and businesses in the area. Such policies contribute to creating and sustaining jobs, protecting our natural and historical environment and supporting the Councils to ensure the provision of housing including affordable housing for the needs of our residents. They also promote developments which protect and maintain the needs of the area and ensure that no developments have a negative effect on the local residents and area.

◆ Cutting 30% of the service's resource would likely mean that the Council would not have the resource it needs to monitor policies or to publish reports about the policies. In addition, the Council would not be able to start the process early enough to respond to changes in the area or make any changes to policies and guidance. This could lead to inappropriate developments which would have a negative effect on residents and the environment. This would result in a saving of £45,000. ◆

<b>Env15a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Env15b</b>	<b>Keep 90% of the resource and cut 10% of the Resource to save £15,000</b>	Cutting 10% of resource would mean that the service would not be able to offer advice and help to the public or planning officers in both Councils on policy matters in the period before or after submitting a planning application. For example, these planning applications could include large supermarkets or housing estates and the lack of policy input could have a negative impact on the quality of the development and consequently there is a risk that there would be a negative effect on local residents.	
<b>Env15c</b>	<b>Keep 80% of the resource and cut 20% of the Resource to save £30,000</b>	Cutting 20% of the resource would cause a delay in providing the supplementary planning guidance required to support new policies, as well as delays in monitoring planning policies. This could lead to either missing opportunities for developments to go ahead as they should, as there would not be adequate information available to see whether it would have a negative effect on residents, or that the Councils would not have the information to know whether the policies work and whether they meet the needs of local residents.	

## Env16 - Traffic Management

This service is responsible for managing traffic flow and implementing plans to reduce collisions and injuries on Gwynedd's roads. Safety improvements are delivered by using the budgets available to the service, as well as attracting grants from other organisations.

All traffic orders are managed (e.g. speed restrictions etc.) to ensure that there is a legal basis to changes. The expertise within the service ensures the standard and quality of improvements and that developments by others (including consideration of planning applications) are likely to effect traffic flow or safety of road users.

- ◆ Reducing the budget by £130,000 would mean that it would not be possible to deliver improvements to Gwynedd's road safety, including improvements to speed reduction, improve parking provision, improving footways, crossing areas and traffic signs. It would also mean that it would not be possible to enforce traffic orders.
- Reducing the specialist staffing resource by 16% would mean that the service would not be making the most of the money available. This would result in the service not being as effective in delivering improvements in road safety. Reducing the resource would also reduce opportunities to attract grant funding as it would not be possible to submit bids. The cut would affect the services's ability to gather and assess the necessary data on traffic flow, speed and accidents, which helps to identify the hotspots. There would be a risk of not prioritising resources on the areas that are really in need of attention in order to reduce the number of accidents and injuries in dangerous locations.
- Reducing the staffing resource by 32% would cut the entire specialist resource which offers advice on developments that affect the highway. There would be no provision to advise Council officers, the National Park Authority and developers on highway design requirements and developments. This could lead to developments that would have a detrimental impact on traffic flow and on the safety of Gwynedd's road users. ◆

Env16a	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
Env16b	<b>Cut 50% of the budget to save £65,000</b>	Cutting 50% of the budget for delivering improvements would mean delivering 50% less safety improvement works on Gwynedd's roads, therefore there would be fewer improvements implemented. However it would be possible to act on the higher priority aspects.	

## Env17 - Maintain Promenades, Benches and Street Name Signs

This service is responsible for undertaking minor maintenance work and clearing the promenades in places such as Barmouth and Pwllheli. The service is also responsible for maintaining around 870 benches in the county and maintaining street name signs, with around 50 signs replaced annually.

- ◆ Abolishing the service completely would mean that the deterioration would happen sooner making it impossible to maintain or renew street name signs in the county. This would result in a saving of £80,000. ◆

Env17a	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
Env17b	<b>Cut 50% of the service to save £40,000</b>	Cutting 50% of the service would result in a deterioration in the condition of benches in the county with the possibility that in time the public will not be able to use several of them. Over time, there will be a need to remove the deteriorating and dangerous benches. Also, fences and bollards along promenades such as Barmouth and Pwllheli will not be maintained which would mean that they would also deteriorate.	

## Env18 - Highway maintenance

The Council spends £6,894,931 annually on maintaining 2,697km of roads in Gwynedd.

Roads can be split into three categories, namely:

Category	Length in Gwynedd (km)
Main Roads used to link towns in Gwynedd, for example A499 Pwllheli, A496 Barmouth, A4086 Llanberis, B4366 Bethel, B4417 Nefyn and B4573 Harlech.	514
Smaller Roads used to link villages and main estates in Gwynedd.	923
Unclassified Roads, namely other smaller link roads such as housing estate roads, smaller roads for local access.	1260

In comparison with the 8 other rural areas in Wales, in 2014/15 Gwynedd Council spent £3,315 per kilometre on maintaining roads, which is the third highest of the 9. Until last year, Gwynedd Council spent the second highest and the Government's figures show that the condition of our roads is also the second best of the nine, which reflects the level of Gwynedd Council's expenditure on the roads over the years.

If Gwynedd Council reduced its expenditure on road maintenance, their condition would deteriorate, which would mean:

- more Gwynedd roads in a poor condition
- more pothole repairs rather than resurfacing roads which would result in an uneven road surface
- having to wait longer for potholes to be repaired.

Eventually, investing less would lead to higher expenditure because, as the roads deteriorate, money would have to be spent to bring them back to an acceptable and safe standard.

◆ Reducing the budget by approximately 21%, (this is equivalent to £1.5 million) would mean:

- not resurfacing any County Roads, and only carrying out responsive work - i.e. pothole filling and patching - on the entire road network.
- this would lead to a significant deterioration in the standard of the county's roads, see below
- a saving of £1.5million ◆

Category	% not defective*			
	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Main Roads	96.4	95.4	92.1	88.8
Smaller Roads	85.8	83	80	77
Smaller Roads	77	73	69	65

<b>Env18a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	£1,500,000
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<b>Env18b</b>	<b>Keep 93% of the budget and therefore reduce the budget by 7% to save £500,000</b>	Keep 93% of the budget and cut 7% of the budget (this equates to £500,000). This means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the county's Smaller Roads and Unclassified Roads would not be resurfaced, relying on pothole repairs only</li> <li>• reducing the work programme for Main Roads – this would result in an annual deterioration of approximately 1%, see below</li> </ul>	£1,000,000
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Category	% not defective*			
	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Main Roads	96.4	95.4	94.4	93.4
Smaller Roads	85.8	83	80	77
Smaller Roads	77	73	69	65

\* Defective roads are defined as ones which have come to the end of their structural life and consequently require attention as they can no longer hold the weight of vehicles.

- Should the standard of the roads maintained by all other Councils remain the same, it is likely that the condition of Gwynedd roads would fall to be the second worst of the 9 rural areas in Wales.

## Env19 - Street Enforcement Unit

There are 7 employees responsible for the prevention of environmental crime on streets and other public spaces, including sanctions imposed for dog fouling, litter, graffiti or fly-tipping crimes.

Last year, there were over 100 cases where sanctions were given, over 1,300 cases when warnings were given and over 500 investigations into fly-tipping. Staff are also responsible for undertaking campaigns and events to improve the cleanliness of our towns and villages – last year there were over 50 different campaigns.

- ◆ Deleting the service would mean there would be:
  - no wardens or officers to tackle crimes such as dog fouling, litter, graffiti or fly-tipping on our streets and other open spaces. We will have no officers to hold campaigns and activities to tidy up and improve the cleanliness of our communities
  - a saving of £300,150 ◆

<b>Env19a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service	
<b>Env19b</b>	<b>Keep 5 posts and cut 2 posts to save £64,500</b>	By reducing the number of officers from 7 to 5 there will be less likelihood of catching those individuals who behave anti socially. This in turn will be likely to cause more untidiness on our streets as a consequence of the increase in offences such as littering, dog fouling etc.	
<b>Env19c</b>	<b>Keep 4 posts and cut 3 posts to save £92,500</b>	If there is to be a reduction in the number of officers from 7 to 4, the impact would be worse and also there would be a reduction in campaigns and events to improve the cleanliness of our towns and villages.	

## Env20 - Grass cutting in the main areas of our towns

37 employees are responsible for regular grass-cutting in our villages and towns, together with 131 children's play areas.

- ◆ If the grass-cutting service is abolished completely, there is a risk of increasing road accidents in our towns and villages. It will impact on the appearance of every village and town in the county. This would result in a saving of £120,000. ◆

<b>Env20a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Env20b</b>	<b>Reduce grass-cutting in the main areas of our towns from 8 to 6 times a year to save £120,000</b>	Reducing grass-cutting in the main grassy areas of our towns from 8 to 6 times a year, would have a negative impact on the appearance of the open areas of the County's towns.	

## Env21 - Grass cutting in children's play areas

37 employees are responsible for regular grass-cutting, together with 131 children's play areas.

- ◆ If the grass-cutting service is abolished completely families will be unable to use the 131 play areas. This would result in a saving of £60,000. ◆

<b>Env21a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Env21b</b>	<b>Cut grass every two months rather than every month in the 131 playing fields to save £60,000</b>	Grass-cutting every two months, rather than every month in the 131 children's playing fields, would result in the grass growing longer before being cut and that would probably have an impact on the use and enjoyment of the playing fields by children, parents, carers and users.	

## Env22 - Recycling Centres

The Council has 8 recycling centres, namely Caernarfon, Pwllheli, Dolgellau, Bangor, Harlech, Blaenau Ffestiniog, Bala and Rhyngddwryd. The main purpose of the centres is to facilitate recycling for the county's residents – there were 341,000 visits to these centres last year.

◆ By reducing the number of recycling centres from 8 to 3, there would be a need to choose the 3 centres in the most convenient locations for the majority of citizens but a large number of residents would have to travel further to their nearest centre. There is a possibility of an increase in fly-tipping as a result and more demand on our bulky waste collection service and recycling. The remaining centres would be extremely busy. This would result in a saving of £593,000 ◆

Env22a	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
Env22b	<b>Keep 5 recycling centres open and close 3 recycling centres to save £180,000</b>	By reducing the number of recycling centres in the County from 8 to 5, we would have to choose three centres to close and this would mean that some residents in the County would have to travel further to go to their nearest centre. As a result, the remaining centres would be busier.	
Env22c	<b>Keep 3 centres in the most convenient locations; keep a further 4 open one weekend a month and close one centre to save £230,000</b>	By changing the system to having 3 centres in the most convenient locations, having 4 other centres open one weekend per month which would mean closing one centre, it is foreseen that it will be inconvenient for some residents of the County and consequently there would be an increase in the use of the remaining centres.	

# 02.

## Children and Young People

For proposals Children1 to Children6 tick the proposal that you do not want the Council to include in their final list of cuts on the response form in the centre of the booklet.

### Children1 - Social Workers for Children

This service includes 36 workers that assess the needs of children who are referred to the Council.

Children and young people are referred to the service when there is concern that they are being abused, or when the child or the family need additional support to ensure that their needs are being met.

The service also works with children who are in the care of the Council (e.g. foster care) and arranges cases to be heard in court to ensure the safety of children and young people where it is unsafe for them to live at home. The service provides support for around 765 children at any given time, and over the past three years approximately 5,000 children have been referred to the service every year.

According to national guidelines, families needs should be assessed within 7 working days and at present we achieve this in approximately 75% of cases. In the majority of cases, the remainder are completed within 10 working days.

<b>Children1</b>	<b>Keep 96% of the resource and cut 4% of the Resource to save £80,000</b>	Reducing the resource available to the service by 4% would mean a deterioration in the quality of the work as social workers would have to deal with more cases. Reducing the resource whilst continuing to deal with the same number of referrals would mean that it would not be possible to assess needs within the specified timeframe. This could lead to unacceptable delays with children's needs increasing and some children being put at higher risk of being in danger or harm. It can be foreseen that a reduction would lead to assessments being held within 14 working days.  In addition to this, it is foreseen that it would be necessary to stop providing a service to some groups of children who currently receive a service. At the current levels, this could affect 60 children, by increasing the risk for them.	
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## Children2 - Service for young people between 16 and 21 years old

The main work of this service, which includes 7 workers, is to provide accommodation and support for young people who are in the care of the Council and who live independently, young people who have been looked after by the Council, (e.g. foster care) and have reached their 18th birthday and are eligible to receive aftercare services until they are 21 years of age, or young people up to 25 years old if they remain in education.

The service supports around 150 young people. As the majority of these young people have spent some time of their upbringing in care, they do not have the family support to maintain them. This means they are dependant on the service staff for practical support to cope with the demands of everyday life so they can develop into becoming independent self-sufficient adults. The practical support can ensure that young people keep to important appointments, receive advice regarding work and/or further education, learn practical skills such as budgeting finances and cooking etc.

<b>Children2</b>	<b>Reduce the hours that are available to support these young people by 30% to save £100,000</b>	<p>Reducing the number of hours that are available to support these young people by 30% would mean that the service would not be in a situation to provide the support in accordance with the needs assessment of every individual. There would have to be a substantial reduction in the support hours for the most needy to ensure that every young person received some element of support.</p> <p>Support must be offered to individuals with the greatest needs, leaving the young people needing a small element of support without a service. This would increase the risk of young people failing to look after themselves independently. This in turn could lead to more cases of homelessness and unemployment.</p>	
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## Children3 - Young Carers Scheme

Social Services have a statutory duty to assess the needs of young carers (namely children and young people who care for someone else) e.g. a parent or a brother or sister who is disabled or ill and to offer services in accordance with the needs. For example, the services of a support worker that can be offered to the young carer.

A referral to a young carers project opens more doors for children and young people who need support, but who do not very often want or require the support of Social Services.

The service for young carers is provided through an agreement with the 'Action for Children' organisation who offer support for young carers between 5 and 18 years of age by providing individual support, support through group work and by organising activities and trips during the school holidays.

The money funds a co-ordinator to work with young carers who are caring for someone with mental health issues. The co-ordinator also works with young carers who have more intensive needs where there may be child protection concerns or evidence that they have been abused.

The organisation provides a service for around 100 young carers at any given time and over the past three years this figure has been consistent. Referrals are made by social services, schools, nurses, health visitors etc. The service has a waiting list which usually includes around 8 individuals.

<b>Children3</b>	<b>Discontinue the scheme to save £34,000</b>	<p>Discontinuing the Young Carers scheme would mean that there would be a deterioration in the capacity to refer children and young people who care for parents or brothers or sisters to a service without the need for them to be open cases for the social services.</p> <p>This initiative reduces the pressure on the statutory services by providing options to refer those who are assessed as young carers to services within the community, which means that they do not receive services by the Council's social work teams. This increases the range of services available to provide support to them .</p>	
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## Children4 - Women's Aid Service

The service has an agreement with the South Gwynedd Domestic Abuse Service and Bangor and District Women's Aid organisations to fund two part time children's workers posts. The officers work on a one-to-one basis or in a group with those children, young people and families who display signs of having lived with domestic abuse or violence in the home.

The support tries to help children to make sense of their feelings and their circumstances; to develop appropriate safety plans and to help to develop appropriate relationships with other people.

The majority of children and young people who receive a service from the children's workers are individuals who are not open to social services as they do not reach the threshold to be considered as children in need or in need of intervention from a social worker. There are some cases where there is collaboration between the organisations and the social services, for example, when the name of a child is on the child protection register and the service is provided as part of a wider protection plan.

The service provided is higher than what is offered for families who suffer domestic violence who receive support through the Council's statutory services, and the offering and providing of the service is not dependent on a referral to the statutory service. It is the Council's statutory responsibility to investigate cases of domestic violence that are referred to the Council and bringing this service to an end would not impact upon this.

The service provides support for 142 children and young people between the ages of 4 and 17.

<b>Children4</b>	<b>Discontinue the contribution to save £53,000</b>	<p>Deleting the contribution would mean that we would see fewer children and young people receiving a service from the children's worker in the community.</p> <p>For example, a number of children receive a service to raise awareness of their situation, to assist them to cope following moving from one area to another, to receive emotional support following difficult experiences, along with having an opportunity to participate in social opportunities. These examples do not reach the threshold for receiving a service from a social worker.</p> <p>If the service was to be cut, it is not considered that this would increase the expectations placed on the statutory services as there are only a small number of cases that reach the necessary threshold to be referred to social services by both organisations.</p>	
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## Children5 - Youth Justice Service

The Youth Justice Service is a partnership between agencies (Police, Health and Probation Service) and Gwynedd and Anglesey Councils. It works with young people (10 – 18 years old) and families who:

- have been referred to them by the Police
- are going through the Court system
- are under supervision as part of a sentence
- have been referred to them because of anti-social behaviour
- have been identified as potential offenders.

They work with 63 children and young people who have offended and 67 children and young people who are in danger of offending.

<b>Children5</b>	<b>Reduce the resource by 4% to save £25,000</b>	Reducing the resource available by 4% would mean that we would see a deterioration in the amount of preventative work and therefore a danger that more children and young people would offend.	
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## Children6 - Youth Grants

The Youth Service gives an annual grant to organisations in the voluntary sector to provide social opportunities, information learning and skills development opportunities for young people. The grant is distributed amongst organisations such as the Urdd, Young Farmers, Guides and Scouts.

<b>Children6</b>	<b>Delete the Youth Grants to save £71,000</b>	<p>Deleting this arrangement would mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• less variety of clubs / groups and activities for young people and a possibility that young people would not gain as many accreditations</li> <li>• 2,137 of the county's Urdd members and 509 Young Farmers' members could see a reduction in opportunities as a result of this cut</li> <li>• it could also have an impact on opportunities for young people to socialise through the medium of Welsh, and on rural communities.</li> </ul>	
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For proposals Children7 to Children11, if you accept that the service can be cut as described in the box where you will see this symbol '◆', please leave the proposal blank on the response form in the centre of this document and move on to the next proposal.

If you do not want to cut the service at all, tick option 'a' on the response form in the centre of this document.

If you want to keep part of the service, please tick your preferred option on the response for in the centre of this document.



## Children7 - Primary School Meals

At present, approximately 5,500, or about 60%, of children receive a hot meal every day for the price of £2.20. This includes approximately 1,000 children who receive a free school meal every day. The hot meals provide 30% of the daily nutritional needs of a child and satisfy the nutritional regulations set by the Government.

◆ Bringing the provision of hot meals in primary schools to an end would mean that the Council would only provide a packed lunch for the 1,000 children who receive free school meals in our primary schools. There would be no provision available for the 4,500 children who currently pay for their lunch. Research shows that educational attainment, capacity to concentrate and behaviour in class is better amongst children who have eaten a nutritional lunch. The packed lunch would not satisfy the nutritional requirements set by the Government. This would result in a saving of £780,000. ◆

<b>Children7a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Children7b</b>	<b>Continue to provide a hot meal and increase the price of school meals to save £600,000</b>	Increasing the price of a school meal in primary and special schools would mean an increase from £2.30 in September 2016 to £3.00, this would have an impact on approximately 4,500 children.	

## Children8 - Youth Service

The Youth Service supports 6,600 young people by providing 2 Youth Centres and 42 Youth Clubs across the county to any young person aged between 11 and 25. The service also runs a Youth Bus which visits up to 20 communities in a year, provides youth projects such as Young People Work Clubs, SBLASH and accreditation projects such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award and the John Muir Award, which has seen nearly 2,000 accreditations being won during the last year.

An element of youth work also targets a small number of young people who are facing challenges by doing one-to-one work to support them. All this youth work ensures that young people have access to a range of informal learning experiences which give them the opportunities to gain skills, venture, enjoy and play a full part in their communities.

◆ Abolishing the entire Youth Service would mean closing every Youth Club, closing both Youth Centres and ending the outreach bus service. There would be no youth and community workers to support vulnerable young people on a one-to-one level or on a small group level.

This would mean no projects such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award and John Muir Award. There would be no education and informal skills provision which lead to accreditation and qualifications available. Projects such as Young People Work Clubs, Sblash Scheme for young people at risk of antisocial behaviour, smoking cessation project; C-Card sexual health project would come to an end. There would be no activities to promote volunteering, citizenship, exchanges and foreign trips.

Losing this preventative service on a community level, would lead to more young people being involved in antisocial behaviour, offending and dangerous behaviour. There would be fewer places for young people to access professional workers in order to obtain support with matters such as sexual health, education and learning skills, citizenship and volunteering, gaining qualifications and accreditations. Abolishing the entire Youth Service would result in a saving of £819,310 ◆

<b>Children8a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Children8b</b>	<b>Keep 12 Youth Clubs, close up to 30 Youth Clubs and provide fewer youth projects to save £200,00</b>	Closing up to 30 youth clubs and providing fewer youth projects across Gwynedd would leave up to 15 clubs open for young people in some towns and villages only. There would be fewer youth projects such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award and John Muir Award; Young People Work Clubs, Sblash Scheme; smoking cessation project, C-Card sexual health project. There would be fewer activities to promote volunteering, citizenship, exchanges and foreign trips and less education and informal skills provision which lead to accreditations and qualifications. Reducing this preventative service on a community level could lead to more young people involved in antisocial behaviour, offending and dangerous behaviour. There would be fewer opportunities for young people to access professional workers and obtain support with matters such as sexual health, education and learning skills, citizenship and volunteering, gaining qualifications and accreditations.	
<b>Children8c</b>	<b>Close all of the 42 Youth Clubs and provide fewer youth projects to save £300,000</b>	Closing all of the youth clubs and providing fewer youth projects would mean that youth clubs would not be available at the 42 communities across Gwynedd where there is a club, which would affect 6,332 young people who are currently members. Only 2 youth centres would be provided by the Council for targeted work in the communities where there is the biggest need based on deprivation, namely Caernarfon and Bangor. Only project work targeted for some young people and for some communities would be available.  There would be fewer youth projects such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award and John Muir Award; Young People Work Clubs, Sblash Scheme; smoking cessation project, C-Card sexual health project. There would be fewer activities to promote volunteering, citizenship, exchanges and foreign trips and less education and informal skills provision which lead to accreditation and qualifications.  Reducing this preventative service on a community level could lead to more young people involved in antisocial behaviour, offending and dangerous behaviour. There would be fewer opportunities for young people to access professional workers to obtain support with matters such as sexual health, education and learning skills, citizenship and volunteering, gaining qualifications and accreditations.	

<b>Children8d</b>	<b>Close every Youth Centre and Club and end the youth projects to save £600,000</b>	<p>Closing every Gwynedd Council youth club and centre, ending the outreach bus service and youth projects would mean that only one-to-one work for some young people would be provided and that would be based on need. This would mean approximately 5 workers supporting up to 12 young people each at most.</p> <p>There would be no youth projects such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award and the John Muir Award and no education and informal skills provision which lead to accreditation and qualifications available. Projects such as Young People Work Clubs, Sblash Scheme, smoking cessation project; C-Card sexual health project would come to an end. There would be no activities to promote volunteering, citizenship, exchanges and foreign trips. Losing this preventative service on a community level could lead to more young people being involved in antisocial behaviour, offending and dangerous behaviour. There would be fewer opportunities for young people to access professional workers in order to obtain support with matters such as sexual health, education and learning skills, citizenship and volunteering, gaining qualifications and accreditations.</p>	
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### Children9 - Free Breakfast

This is the scheme which provides free breakfasts for around 2,000, or 26% of children, in 76 of the county's primary schools. Of these 2,000, there are 300 pupils who are eligible for free school meals. They receive toast, cereal with milk and a fruit juice drink as part of the scheme and they can attend school from 8am onwards.

◆ Cancelling the breakfast scheme would mean that there would be no provision at all and, therefore approximately 2,000 (or 26%) children would be unable to take advantage of the scheme. Evidence suggests that breakfast is the most important meal of the day and that children who have had breakfast are more likely to achieve their full educational potential and it improves attendance and behaviour. This would result in a saving of £500,000.◆

<b>Children9a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Children9b</b>	<b>Reduce the hours of employment for staff and/or charge a fee for supervision to save £100,000</b>	If the Council reduced the hours of employment for staff and/or charged a fee for supervision for an element of the time, this would mean that the Breakfast Scheme would be reduced from 1 hour to half an hour each day and/or parents would be charged a fee for the supervisory element.	

## Children10 - Derwen Children's Service

Derwen is the team that was established jointly between the Council and the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board to provide specialist support for children between 0 - 18 years old who:

- have a developmental delay/impairment
- are disabled
- have an illness.

These children and young people are children in need as defined in the Children Act 1989 and they are eligible to receive a statutory service from the Council.

There are 19 staff who work with children and their families following an assessment of their needs. These individuals are qualified social workers, nurses and psychologists or therapists.

The team provide a service for around 300 to 400 children at any given time, and over the past three years approximately 260 new cases are referred to us annually.

◆ A reduction of 20% in the resource available for the Unit would mean the team would see a longer waiting list for an assessment, and further delays before families receive assistance from professionals in accordance with the children's needs. It is probable that a further reduction would mean that some families would wait up to 25 working days for an initial assessment. This would result in a saving of £150,000 ◆

<b>Children10a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Children10b</b>	<b>Keep 90% of the resource and cut the resource by 10% to save £75,000</b>	<p>A reduction of 10% in the resource available would mean that the team would need to create a waiting list for a service and that there would be an increase in the time taken to assess needs.</p> <p>We are at present experiencing difficulty in satisfying the expectation of holding initial assessment of needs within 7 working days.</p> <p>Last year, only 40% of assessments were held within the 7 day timeframe, 46 assessments out of 116 applications. On average, the remainder are currently held within 15 working days.</p> <p>Reducing the resource would mean a further deterioration causing further delays for parents and children in difficult circumstances. As some of these children are suffering from serious illnesses and sickness, we would increase the risk of families missing out on opportunities to receive timely services to reduce the stress that is on them.</p>	

## Children11 - Derwen Support Service

Following a needs assessment, some children and young people who are open to Derwen's Services are referred for support services provided by Derwen's registered support services. The Support Services provide Support Workers to:

- enable a child or young person to participate in community activities and develop skills such as playing skills
- offer respite for carers by taking the child or young person out into the community
- care for a child or young person in his/her own home
- provide overnight care in the home when practically possible.

We provide a service for approximately 100 children at any given time.

◆ A reduction of 20% in the resource would mean that there would be 40 fewer children receiving service, and as a result some families would find it difficult to maintain themselves without additional support. This could create situations where the needs of an entire family would increase to an unacceptable degree and an increase in the need to offer support on a more intensive and costly scale. This would result in a saving of £150,000. ◆

<b>Children11a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Children11b</b>	<b>Keep 90% of the resource and cut the resource by 10% to save £75,000</b>	A reduction of 10% in the resource available would mean that the team would see around 20 fewer children and young people who are disabled/ill and their families receiving support services and therefore there would be more pressure on carers and families. It would also increase the probability that some children and young people who are disabled/ill are unable to grow up to be independent with relevant life skills.	

# 03.

## Care, Health and Wellbeing

For proposals Care1 to Care8 tick the proposal that you do not want the Council to include in their final list of cuts on the response form in the centre of the booklet.

### Care1 - Community Safety and Domestic Violence Projects

The Council, jointly with the Health Board, Probation Service, the Police and the Fire Service, pays for schemes to reduce crime and disorder and substance misuse in Gwynedd, such as schemes to reduce domestic violence, re-offending and sexual offences, as well as other types of crime and disorder.

The money currently pays for:

- small community safety campaigns and projects for example marketing materials, training, graffiti cleaning supplies, bins for needles, personal alarms and marking property in case it gets stolen
- small campaigns and activities to raise awareness of domestic violence for example the white ribbon campaign every November, marketing materials and training.

<b>Care1</b>	<b>Delete the budget to save £24,250</b>	Deleting the projects budget would mean that local projects and campaigns would not be funded and therefore no information and materials will be available to the public.	
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### Care2 - Domestic Violence

The Council contributes towards an 'Independent Domestic Violence Advisors' service which offers support to individuals and families that have been identified as being at high risk of being victims of domestic violence. The support includes putting measures in place to protect individuals in their homes, support for moving home, support in dealing with the process if they are homeless and / or need to apply for benefits and support throughout the process of taking a case to the Court and / or injunction. Last year there were 298 high-risk referrals to the service.

<b>Care2</b>	<b>Delete the contribution to save £9,750</b>	Reducing the resource by £9,750 (20%) would mean less support for individuals and families that have been identified as being at a high risk of suffering domestic violence and therefore support would not be available for approximately 60 individuals.	
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### Care3 - Reducing the Budget for Voluntary/Charitable Organisations

The Council spends £885,000 a year on grants for not-for-profit organisations which provide various services for vulnerable adults in Gwynedd, or individuals who are at risk of becoming vulnerable. At present, 18 organisations receive grants.

The majority of these organisations also receive funding from other bodies or councils, such as the Health Board or they receive grants from the National Lottery, for example. Often, match funding is required in order to receive grant funding, and some of the £885,000 they receive from the Council is used to attract more money from these bodies which is available to spend on the county's residents.

<p><b>Care3</b></p>	<p><b>Reduce the budget to save £100,000</b></p>	<p>If the Council reduces or completely cuts the funding for these groups/organisations, it is likely that they would be unable to attract funding from other sources.</p> <p>It is likely that cutting £100,000 from the total budget would mean that several services would have to be reduced or cut completely. For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Age Well Centres open for fewer hours, websites which provide advice for the people of Gwynedd may not be updated, fewer minor alterations to people's homes, fewer drop-in sessions available for people with mental health problems, less advice and support available for those caring for a vulnerable person.</li> </ul> <p>It is difficult to measure the true impact of such a cut, but the strong likelihood is that some people in our communities would need to have greater and more severe needs before they could access support or a service.</p>	
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### Care4 - Housing Enforcement

There are 7 enforcement officers and 2 empty houses officers who are responsible for ensuring the safety of more than 7,000 privately rented houses and 8,800 social houses in Gwynedd. They are also responsible for bringing empty houses back into use for homeless people and people who are on the waiting list.

In addition, last year, the officers carried out 1,630 visits to rented houses in Gwynedd, and responded to more than 500 complaints from tenants regarding hazards. During the visits, they came across 1,807 hazards and 438 of these hazards were ones which could have caused harm or death. These officers are also responsible for maintaining the Licensing Scheme in Gwynedd, which has issued 1,093 licences to ensure that landlords comply with the minimum standards. 68 empty houses were brought back into use, housing 151 people who were homeless or on the Council's waiting list.

<p><b>Care4</b></p>	<p><b>Reduce the staffing resource by 12% to save £30,000</b></p>	<p>Reducing staffing resources by 12% would mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• around 225 fewer inspections of rented houses every year, and as a result more families and individuals would continue to live in substandard and possibly dangerous houses</li> <li>• a reduction in the Council's ability to ensure that landlords comply with standards through the Licensing Scheme, and delays when responding to complaints from tenants</li> <li>• a reduction of up to 50% in the number of empty houses brought back into use therefore reducing the Council's ability to provide a home for homeless families and individuals.</li> </ul>	
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## Care5 - Healthy Living

The Council implements schemes to encourage people to live healthy lives for example the Council leads on developing the health and fitness schemes available within every Leisure Centre in the county, such as:

- activities for children
- fitness programmes for adults
- weight control sessions for the public
- sessions for young mothers to help them be active and control their weight
- circuit training, dance sessions, Pilates etc.

The Council also develops healthy living campaigns such as an anti-tobacco programme with the youth service, campaigns to improve fitness levels with 200 residents in the Communities First areas and the Gwynedd walking campaign with over 500 residents in the county to encourage them to walk more often.

<p><b>Care5</b></p>	<p><b>Delete the Healthy Living Programmes to save £54,050</b></p>	<p>Deleting the Healthy Living Programmes would mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• that over 200 residents in Gwynedd living within Communities First areas would no longer take part in fitness sessions in the community and healthy cookery sessions</li> <li>• that more than 500 residents in Gwynedd would not take part in walking schemes in 12 locations across the County</li> <li>• that there would be no specific health programmes delivered within the County. Levels of childhood obesity between the ages of 4 and 5 are the second highest in Wales (at 30%) and 27% of pregnant women across north Wales are over-weight or obese. Deleting the various health programmes specifically designed in response to this such as Mamau Active and Plantos Pwt would mean that would be a risk that there would be an increase in the levels of obesity sickness and chronic conditions in the future, leading to increased social costs in the long term.</li> <li>• that no work would be undertaken to raise awareness amongst children and young people of the dangers of passive smoking via smoke free campaigns, smoke free playgrounds, smoke free play schemes.</li> </ul>	
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## Care6 - Sports Development

This service administrates the Gwynedd sports development programme on behalf of Sport Wales with the intention of getting the young people of Gwynedd involved in sport for life.

The main work of the team is to support the development of Sports Clubs and their members. The team also works with Leisure Centres and schools in Gwynedd. There are more than 300 clubs in Gwynedd with over 6,700 members.

<p><b>Care6</b></p>	<p><b>Discontinue the Sports Development Programme to save £71,177</b></p>	<p>Cutting the resources of the Sports Development programme would mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• not co-ordinating grants for sports clubs on behalf of Sport Wales. In 2014/15, £100,000 was allocated to 91 different clubs throughout the county so that equipment could be purchased and coaching arranged to provide 14 different types of sports.</li> <li>• deleting the opportunity to collaborate with Sports Governing Bodies to break down the obstacles which prevent individuals from becoming members of sports clubs. During 2014/15, 6,747 members registered with sports clubs in Gwynedd with 60 individuals receiving direct support in representing North Wales or Wales in various sports.</li> </ul>	
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## Care7 - Homelessness

The Homelessness Team seeks to prevent people from losing their homes or helps people to find another home. Approximately 600 families in Gwynedd receive support annually. These include individuals, families with children, young people, people leaving care and people who have health problems or mental health problems. The assistance provided helps people to remain in their communities and ensures that children can remain in their schools. It is anticipated that demand for the service will increase over the next two years due to changes in housing legislation and the welfare state.

<b>Care7</b>	<b>Reduce the staffing resource by 5% to save £25,000</b>	It is likely that implementing a 5% cut to the budget would result in delays in providing support for people, for example more vulnerable people could lose their homes and the Council would have to provide temporary accommodation for longer periods of time until assessments have been completed.	
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## Care8 - Benefits

The Council's benefits team is responsible for assessing applications by individuals for benefits to assist them with their rents and/or to assist them with their Council Tax bills.

Processing new applications and benefit changes in a timely and accurate manner is crucial for a number of Gwynedd residents to ensure that they are able to pay their rents and the Council Tax promptly. The most recent figures show that there are 11,745 such individuals in Gwynedd but the workload is increasing substantially as the Government's welfare reform agenda becomes operational.

Currently it takes an average of 16 days to process a new application and 6.5 days to process a change in circumstances.

<b>Care8</b>	<b>Reduce the resource by 5% to save £25,000</b>	<p>Reducing the resource by 5% would mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• that 6 or 7 fewer new applications for benefits and approximately 37 fewer cases where there are changes in the circumstances of individuals would be processed every week</li> <li>• it is likely that the time it would take to process new applications for benefits would increase to 17 days and 7.5 days to process changes in circumstances of the individuals or families, but this is based on the current level of benefit claims.</li> </ul>	
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**For proposals Care9 to Care12, if you accept that the service can be cut as described in the box where you will see this symbol '♦', please leave the proposal blank on the response form in the centre of this document and move on to the next proposal.**

**If you do not want to cut the service at all, tick option 'a' on the response form in the centre of this document.**

**If you want to keep part of the service, please tick your preferred option on the response form in the centre of this document.**



## Care9 - Social Workers, Occupational Therapists and Care Officers

There are 85 officers responsible for the needs of 4,800 people who are over 18 years of age in Gwynedd who need special care because of a physical or mental condition. The service receives nearly 8,000 new requests for help each year, assesses the individual's or their carer's needs, and plan the care that they require.

Reducing the number of employees would result in an increase in the waiting time for a needs assessment for those needing help for the first time while those who are already in the system, and who require a review of their situation, would be likely to have a considerably longer wait.

At present, on average it takes 24 days to assess an individual case when people require care for the first time and the Council reviews 82% of care packages annually.

By cutting the resource, the waiting time for reviews of packages which already exist would also increase:

- reducing the budget by 5% would reduce Gwynedd's performance to below the Welsh average
- reducing the budget by 10% is likely to bring the performance down to fewer than 74% of reviews annually, which would be among the worst performances in Wales.

Anticipating the exact impact on service users in this field is extremely difficult and a year on year impact could suggest a worse effect than what is suggested above.

◆ It is possible that a 10% reduction in the budget would result in the assessment period increasing to 36 days and would result in a saving of £360,000.◆

<b>Care9a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Care9b</b>	<b>Keep 97.5% of the budget and cut the budget by 2.5% to save £80,000</b>	It is possible that a 2.5% reduction in the budget would result in the assessment period increasing to 27 days.	
<b>Care9c</b>	<b>Keep 95% of the budget and cut the budget by 5% to save £160,000</b>	It is possible that a 5% reduction in the budget would result in the assessment period increasing to 30 days	
<b>Care9d</b>	<b>Keep 92.5% of the budget and cut the budget by 7.5% to save £240,000</b>	It is possible that a 7.5% reduction in the budget would result in the assessment period increasing to 33 days.	

## Care10 - Leisure Centres

The Council currently provides 12 leisure centres, football pitches and recreational parks in order to allow the residents of Gwynedd to have the opportunity to live healthy lives and take part in energetic activities and sport, providing leisure centres and swimming pools. The leisure centres have 16,683 members, which is 13.7% of the population, and in the last year 1,500,000 visits were made to the facilities.

◆ Closing all Gwynedd Council leisure centres across the county would mean:

- no opportunities for the residents of Gwynedd to have access to, and use of, facilities for taking part in sports and energetic activities, so that they can live healthy lives. In 2014/2015, 1.5 million visits were made to the facilities.
- no opportunities for the people of Gwynedd to learn to swim and participate and succeed in water activities. This would lead directly to a reduction in how many children can swim, from the current rate of 80%, and would remove the opportunity for 1,600 free swimming sessions for over-60 year-olds
- the loss of 115 qualified employees who provide a wide range of opportunities in health, fitness and sports activities.
- places currently used by schools for sporting facilities and physical education lessons during school hours would be lost
- health inequalities would develop between Gwynedd and other counties. For example, the obesity rate amongst children and young people would be very likely to increase without the provision.
- a saving £846,110 ◆

<b>Care10a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Care10b</b>	<b>Keep 10 leisure centres open and close 2 centres to save £137,960</b>	<p>Closing 2 of the 12 Gwynedd Council leisure centres across the county would mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an increase in the travelling distance for some Gwynedd residents to access and use facilities which allow them to take part in sports and energetic activities in order to live healthy lives. This could lead to a reduction in the numbers who are involved in energetic activities.</li> <li>• an increase in the travelling distance for Gwynedd residents who want to learn to swim and to be able to participate and succeed in water activities. This would lead to a reduction in the number of children who can swim, from the current rate of 80%, and would remove the opportunity for free swimming sessions for over-60 year-olds.</li> <li>• places currently used by some schools for sporting facilities and physical education lessons during school hours would be lost</li> <li>• health inequalities developing between the areas under consideration and other parts of Gwynedd and other counties. For example, the obesity rate amongst children and young people would increase without the provision.</li> <li>• create uncertainty about the future of two key buildings and sites across Gwynedd.</li> </ul>	

<p><b>Care10c</b></p>	<p><b>Keep 9 leisure centres open and close 3 centres to save £237,100</b></p>	<p>Closing 3 of the 12 Gwynedd Council leisure centres across the county would mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an increase in travelling distance for some Gwynedd residents to access and use facilities which allow them to take part in sports and energetic activities, in order to live healthy lives. This could lead to a reduction in the numbers who are involved in energetic activities.</li> <li>• an increase in the travelling distance for Gwynedd residents who want to learn to swim and wish to participate and succeed in water activities. This would lead to a reduction in the number of children who can swim, from the current rate of 80%, and would affect the availability of free swimming sessions for over-60 year-olds.</li> <li>• the loss of 15 qualified employees who provide a wide range of opportunities in health, fitness and sports activities.</li> <li>• places currently used by some schools for sporting facilities and physical education lessons during school hours would be lost.</li> <li>• health inequalities developing between the areas under consideration and other parts of Gwynedd and other counties. For example, the obesity rate amongst children and young people would increase without the provision.</li> <li>• create uncertainty about the future of three key buildings and sites across Gwynedd.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Care10d</b></p>	<p><b>Keep 7 leisure centres open and close 5 centres to save £376,730</b></p>	<p>Closing 5 of the 12 Gwynedd Council leisure centres across the county would mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gwynedd residents' ability to access and use facilities which allow them to take part in sports and energetic activities, in order to live healthy lives, would be restricted significantly. Using 2014/15 figures, this would mean that 812,787 visits to the facilities would have to go to other centres. Other than the question of whether everyone would go to the closest one on this level of cut, there is a question as to whether there would be capacity for individuals to take part in activities at a time convenient to them. The level of activity would be likely to reduce, with the detrimental effect on health.</li> <li>• the opportunity for some of Gwynedd's people to learn to swim and participate and succeed in water activities would be affected. This would directly lead to a reduction in the number of children who can swim, from the current rate of 80%, and have an impact on the 1,600 free swimming sessions for over-60 year-olds.</li> <li>• the loss of 54 qualified employees to provide a wide range of opportunities in health, fitness and sports activities.</li> <li>• places currently used by some schools for sporting facilities and physical education lessons during school hours would be lost.</li> <li>• health inequalities would develop between the areas under consideration and other parts of Gwynedd and other counties. For example, the obesity rate amongst children and young people would increase without the provision.</li> <li>• create uncertainty about the future of five key buildings and sites across Gwynedd.</li> </ul>	

## Care11 - Food Hygiene

The main purpose of this service is to ensure, as much as possible, that food produced or consumed in Gwynedd does not cause harm or illness to people. A high percentage of the officers' work also involves ensuring that the County's businesses meet with the requirements of health and safety regulations. Officers undertake audits and offer assistance and advice to approximately 2,000 businesses in Gwynedd every year.

◆ Reducing the resource by 13% would further increase the risk to public health due to the decrease in regular inspections and an increase in the risk of businesses selling and preparing food that is unsafe to consume, or operating in a dangerous manner. This would mean a saving of £72,000. ◆

<b>Care11a</b>	<b>Protect the whole Service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Care11b</b>	<b>Keep 93.5% of their resource and cut the resource by 6.5% to save £36,000</b>	Reducing the resources by 6.5% would mean reducing the service's ability to inspect the County's businesses to ascertain whether or not they meet food and water hygiene and safety standards and health and safety requirements. In the long run, whilst trying to prioritise, there would be an increased risk of cases of food poisoning, infectious diseases and serious accidents that would have a significant negative impact on the health of individuals and at worst, could also cause fatalities.	

## Care12 - Pollution Control

This service deals with approximately 1,700 complaints every year about issues related to noise, filth; bad odours and pests and requests to bury the dead in cases where there are no family members; in addition to complaints relating to defective sewers. Inspection work is carried out to ensure that 50 industrial and business processes within the county do not pollute the environment. Also, this service inspects 373 private drinking water supplies in commercial properties to ensure that the water is safe to drink and work is undertaken in monitoring the safety of bathing waters and chemicals in the air.

This service also records, maps and responds to possible chemical pollution in 6,555 former industrial land sites and 110 former rubbish tips. Specialist advice is provided to approximately 130 new developments every year which go through the planning process, to ensure that they do not cause pollution or noise nuisance for residents.

◆ Reducing the resource by 22% would mean we would have to respond to the most serious complaints, with a delay in our response to other complaints, resulting in around 400 of the least serious complaints every year relating to noise nuisance, odours, filth and pests not being investigated. The public will see a delay in the response to requests and advice about testing the safety of drinking water (not supplied by Welsh Water); slow response to complaints about abandoned vehicles, fly tipping on private land; black smoke and dirty private houses that attract rats. The service will only be able to respond to planning applications when there is serious noise impact or pollution. The service will not investigate the threat of pollution in former industrial sites. All of this will lead to a significant increase in the risk of negative impacts on public health and the environment. This would result in a saving of £70,000. ◆

<b>Care12a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Care12b</b>	<b>Keep 89% of their resource and cut the resource by 11% to save £35,000</b>	By reducing the resource by around 11% the public will see a delay in investigating and solving problems related to noise, bad odours, filth on private land and in houses, and complaints about insect and rat infestation. This delay could lead to a negative impact on the health of the public and on the environment. At the moment, nuisance complaints are responded to within 4 days, and complaints about defective sewers are responded to within 2 days. This could mean that it would not be possible to respond to an initial complaint about nuisance for at least six days, with priority given to complaints about defective sewers.	

# 04.

## Economy and Tourism

For proposals Econ1 to Econ7 tick the proposal that you do not want the Council to include in their final list of cuts on the response form in the centre of the booklet.

### Econ1 - The Council's Tourist Information Centres

Gwynedd has the highest percentage of tourism businesses in Wales. The sector is worth £907 million to the local economy and employs 14,773 individuals as a result of the 20.21 million visitor days and the 6.6 million annual visitors to the county.

The Council promotes tourism in Gwynedd by:

- being a link between the industry and Visit Wales, the body which promotes tourism in Wales
- runs three tourist information centres, two satellite centres and a network of information points
- promotes and markets the area through various methods.

<b>Econ1</b>	<b>Close all Tourist Information Centres to save £109,000</b>	<p>Closing all Tourist Information Centres would mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Council could not provide tourism information</li> <li>• to visitors in tourist centres in Caernarfon, Llanberis, Pwllheli, Porthmadog and Barmouth</li> <li>• less information for tourists about services, activities and local attractions which could result in a loss in income for Gwynedd businesses</li> <li>• visitors could leave the area without being aware of all that is on offer, spending less time here, spending less money and not returning because of a lack of information</li> <li>• a negative impact on Gwynedd's ability to draw attention to the area's unique attributes, such as promoting our heritage, culture and the Welsh language.</li> </ul>	
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### Econ2 - Snowdonia Mountains and Coast' booklet

The Council produces the 'Snowdonia Mountains and Coast' booklet and other printed marketing materials to attract visitors and to provide comprehensive information about accommodation, attractions, areas and events in Gwynedd.

Over the last 3 years, 340,000 booklets have been distributed and 53% of those who received it decided to visit the area.

This has led to 180,200 holidays and it is estimated that this has generated £196 million for the economy. Until July 2015, 23% of the Visit Wales national enquiries asked for the 'Snowdonia Mountains and Coast' booklet, which is the highest percentage throughout Wales.

During 2014, the Snowdonia Mountains and Coast website received 1.2 million hits, which is an increase of 28% in a year. The campaign has 14,201 Facebook and Twitter followers and more than 150,000 people have visited the YouTube channel.

<b>Econ2</b>	<b>Stop producing the 'Snowdonia Mountains and Coast' booklet to save £129,311</b>	<p>Not producing the 'Snowdonia Mountains and Coast' booklet and focusing on online information would result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a direct impact on 200 businesses who use the booklet to market their businesses</li> <li>• a reduction in the number of visits as other areas succeed to attract more of the market</li> <li>• the possibility of less expenditure and investment in the local economy.</li> </ul>	
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### Econ3 - Marketing and Tourism

Gwynedd has the highest percentage of tourism businesses in Wales. The sector is worth £907 million to the local economy and employs 14,773 as a result of the 20.21 million visitor days and the 6.6 million annual visitors to the county.

The Council promotes tourism in Gwynedd by:

- being a link between the industry and Visit Wales, the body which promotes tourism in Wales
- runs three tourist information centres, two satellite centres and a network of information points
- promotes and markets the area through various methods.

<b>Econ3</b>	<b>Delete the service to save £285,860</b>	<p>Deleting the entire service would mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• that the Council would have no resources to support or develop the sector or businesses</li> <li>• that the Council would not support county partnerships to lead on bids for Government funding to develop the sector for example to improve facilities</li> <li>• failing to invest in the industry would result in visitors having a poorer experience and would lead to a reduction in the number of visits and less money for the local economy</li> <li>• no marketing campaigns</li> <li>• a reduction in tourism as visitors are attracted to other more prominent areas</li> <li>• less money circulating in the Gwynedd economy and job losses across the County.</li> </ul>	
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### Econ4 - Support for Events

Gwynedd Council supports organisers to hold quality events across the county. In 2014, 12 major events such as Festival No. 6, Tour of Britain, Slateman, Pwllheli Toppers Sailing Race, Bala Triathlon and Tywyn Race the Train were supported leading to a £6 million investment in the Gwynedd economy. These events provided opportunities for 14,000 people to participate in events, 42,000 people to attend events, benefits for 232 local companies, with 2,000 volunteers and 1,000 young people taking part.

<b>Econ4</b>	<b>Delete the resource to save £37,000</b>	<p>Deleting the resource would mean that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• it would not be possible for the Council to be proactive in its effort to attract and stage events and supporting event organisers across Gwynedd</li> <li>• fewer quality events in Gwynedd in the future</li> <li>• the area could see its profile diminish and a loss of community vibrancy</li> <li>• losing local economic benefits.</li> </ul>	
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### Econ5 - Aber swing bridge, Caernarfon

The Council maintains and operates the Aber swing bridge which is adjacent to Caernarfon Castle. The bridge enables pedestrians and cyclists to cross the Seiont river, and for children and families to cross to the playing field and skateboard park on the other side of the river whilst at the same time allowing boats to navigate the river to and from the Menai Straits. The footbridge is part of the Wales Coastal Path and is an attraction that is much used by local residents and visitors alike.

Current legislation states that the bridge must be open for boats to navigate the river.

<b>Econ5</b>	<b>Close the bridge to pedestrians, cyclists and families to save £54,000</b>	<p>Closing the bridge would mean that the bridge will be closed to pedestrians, cyclists and families meaning;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an additional 3km journey for those wishing to cross the Seiont on foot or bicycle</li> <li>• that it would be far more difficult for the public to make use of local attractions such as the park and playing fields at Coed Helen</li> <li>• that it would be far more difficult for users of the caravan parks to walk into Caernarfon.</li> </ul>	
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## Econ6 - Barmouth Bridge

The Council pays an annual fee to Network Rail for the right for pedestrians, cyclists and motor cyclists to use the footbridge which is part of the historical railway bridge. The path is part of the Wales Coastal Path, the National North-South Wales Cycle Path and the Mawddach Trail. The path is a tourist attraction and is also much used by local residents.

<b>Econ6</b>	<b>Stop paying Network Rail for the right for pedestrians, cyclists and motor cyclists to use the footbridge to save £30,800</b>	If the Council does not pay Network Rail for pedestrian, cyclist and motor cyclist access over the bridge, it is possible that Network Rail would refuse to allow pedestrians, cyclists and motor cyclists the right to cross the bridge and that this would have a detrimental effect on some local businesses as the bridge is one of the town's main attractions for visitors.	
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## Econ7 - Business Support

Over the last five years the Council has supported 213 businesses to establish or develop by distributing £1.1 million of small grants creating 214 new jobs as well as safeguarding 391 jobs.

The Council has also given £650,000 worth of loans to 8 businesses across the county, creating 107 new jobs.

The business support team has provided advice and information to 2,796 small businesses, has given specific support to businesses to win tenders and has supported networking amongst small businesses.

<b>Econ7</b>	<b>Discontinue the Service to save £93,390</b>	Deleting the resource would mean that the Council would not administer the grant or loan fund in the future or offer specialist support to local businesses, including responding when a business/employer is facing short-term threats or development opportunities.	
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**For proposals Econ8 to Econ9, if you accept that the service can be cut as described in the box where you will see this symbol '◆', please leave the proposal blank on the response form in the centre of this document and move on to the next proposal.**

**If you do not want to cut the service at all, tick option 'a' on the response form in the centre of this document.**

**If you want to keep part of the service, please tick your preferred option on the response form in the centre of this document.**



## Econ8 - Strategic Economic Projects

During the last 4 years, the team has attracted grants and investment to the value of £35 million to the county for projects to create employment opportunities across Gwynedd, for example:

- developing the International Sailing Academy at Pwllheli and a programme to develop the outdoor activities tourism sector in Meirionnydd
- a package of projects to improve Bangor city centre and the town centres of Caernarfon, Blaenau Ffestiniog and Porthmadog
- targeting new work for the areas of the Trawsfynydd power station and Llanbedr airfield
- securing European funding for the Pont Briwet investment.

The team has also targeted funding from Welsh Government, European funds, the National Lottery, private sector and partners from the further and higher education sectors to implement a package of projects to develop skills, enterprise and employment for instance, Llwyddo'n Lleol and programmes to target vulnerable groups and young people not in education, employment or training to assist them in accessing the labour market.

<p>◆ Abolishing the entire resource would mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Council would not have resources or specialisms to target European funding such as the Convergence Programme, Rural Development Programme or Interreg</li> <li>• the Council would not have resources to work with the Welsh Government to invest in the economy and support projects to develop skills and enterprise</li> <li>• there would be far less investment in the economy of Gwynedd and fewer jobs being safeguarded and created</li> <li>• a saving of £266,460 ◆</li> </ul>			
<b>Econ8a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Econ8b</b>	<b>Reduce the resource by 50% to save £133,230</b>	Reducing the resources by 50% would mean: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gwynedd Council would not support the development of as many employment, skills and enterprise projects</li> <li>• it would not be possible to secure support across the county's communities</li> <li>• a small number of priorities would have to be targeted</li> <li>• there would be less investment in the Gwynedd economy and fewer jobs being safeguarded and created.</li> </ul>	

## Econ9 - Beach Management

The Council is responsible for managing 301km of the county's coastline in terms of health and safety, maintenance, cleanliness and managing powerboats and jet skis and coastal recreation activities.

The Council also manages parking and access for vehicles, power boats and pleasure boats, registering boat launches, manages dog orders, supervises safety etc on beaches.

<p>◆ Abolishing the resource so that no Gwynedd beaches are managed would mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no management arrangements for the other beaches in the county</li> <li>• increased safety risks</li> <li>• undermining the reputation of the locations for coastal activities</li> <li>• a negative effect on the tourism sector in these communities</li> <li>• Gwynedd beaches would not receive beach awards such as the Blue Flag, a European recognition of quality</li> <li>• a saving of £81,900. ◆</li> </ul>			
<b>Econ9a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Econ9b</b>	<b>Manage Blue Flag and Green Flag -winning beaches only to save £24,200</b>	Restricting activities to manage Blue Flag and Green Flag winning beaches only, which are Barmouth, Dinas Dinlle, Aberdaron, Abersoch, Pwllheli, Morfa Bychan, Tywyn, Aberdyfi, Criccieth, Harlech, Llandanwg, Fairbourne and Porth Neigwl. This would mean: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no management arrangements for the county's other beaches</li> <li>• increased safety risks</li> <li>• undermining the reputation of the locations for coastal activities</li> <li>• a negative effect on the tourism sector in these communities.</li> </ul>	
<b>Econ9c</b>	<b>Manage Blue Flag beaches only to save £55,700</b>	Restricting activities to manage Blue Flag beaches only, namely Barmouth, Dinas Dinlle, Aberdaron, Abersoch, Pwllheli, Morfa Bychan, Aberdyfi and Tywyn would mean: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no management arrangements for the county's other beaches</li> <li>• increased safety risks</li> <li>• undermining the reputation of the locations for coastal activities</li> <li>• a negative effect on the tourism sector in these communities.</li> </ul>	

# 05.

## Various

For proposals Various1 to Various8 tick the proposal that you do not want the Council to include in their final list of cuts on the response form in the centre of the booklet.

### Various1 - Community Arts Unit

Gwynedd Council offers community arts activities and schemes, such as:

- arts in health activities
- art therapy
- Criw Celf, a scheme for children who show artistic promise
- community grants
- Night Out scheme, which offer grants for community events
- specialist training
- Creative Gwynedd, which is a voluntary scheme to promote Welsh heritage and culture
- Caru Cerdd, a scheme for children who show musical promise
- activities in care homes for older people.

In 2014/15, 596 participatory sessions for 5,395 attendees were held, which attracted an audience of 26,455. The Night Out scheme was responsible for staging 172 live performances in 62 locations across the county in the last year. Eleven community organisations were supported with an investment of £4,571 grant funding to support various activities and small festivals with 200 artists, which attracted an audience of 5,260.

Various1	<b>Delete the resource to save £85,910</b>	Deleting the resource would mean: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• community and voluntary groups throughout the county would not receive support to arrange arts activities in the community</li> <li>• innovative work would not be possible, for example a scheme with the Alzheimer’s society for art in care homes, Silff Storis – a creative project in Ysbyty Gwynedd, Oriol Ysbyty Gwynedd gallery, Criw Celf and Arteffect specifically for children / young people and adults with mental health problems</li> <li>• depriving community and voluntary groups throughout the county of support to organise arts activities in the community.</li> </ul>	
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### Various2 - Lloyd George Museum

The Museum was established in 1947 and run by Trustees until it was transferred to the Council in 1987. The Council now runs the museum and Highgate, the childhood home of David Lloyd George, which has been restored to show people what it was like when it was a cobbler’s workshop in the 1860s. The museum is one of just two museums throughout Britain dedicated to a former prime minister and attracts between 6,000 and 7,000 visitors a year.

Various2	<b>Close the museum to save £27,000</b>	Closing the museum would mean: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• less opportunities to promote the history and influence of David Lloyd George on Britain and the world during a key period of remembrance to mark the centenary of the First World War and his time as prime minister</li> <li>• implications for the collections and Highgate itself, which have been donated to the Council and the Frances Lloyd George Fund charity</li> <li>• an impact on the area’s economy in terms of tourism as it is a high-profile attraction</li> <li>• depriving schools, colleges and societies of education and research opportunities.</li> </ul>	
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### Various3 - Neuadd Dwyfor, Pwllheli

Neuadd Dwyfor includes a Theatre and Cinema in the main hall, whilst Pwllheli Library and a tourist contact point are located in the foyer area on the buildings ground floor. Since the management of Neuadd Buddug has been transferred to the local community, this is the only cinema and theatre that is managed by Gwynedd Council. A recent attempt to transfer management of Neuadd Dwyfor to a partner in the third sector was unsuccessful.

An average of 32,000 people annually use the Theatre and Cinema at Neuadd Dwyfor.

Various3	<b>Close Neuadd Dwyfor to save £98,000</b>	<p>Closing Neuadd Dwyfor would mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• that there would not be a quality theatre and cinema available in the Dwyfor area and residents would have to travel a considerable distance for such entertainment</li> <li>• performance space would not be available to hire for local productions, for example the annual Coleg Meirion Dwyfor show</li> <li>• no opportunities for local young people who are interested in the performing arts to have theatrical experiences</li> <li>• no facilities for local students who are studying Drama and Theatre Studies courses</li> <li>• an effect on businesses supplying Neuadd Dwyfor with goods and services and nearby town centre businesses as Neuadd Dwyfor is an important wet-weather attraction for visitors to the Dwyfor area.</li> </ul>	
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### Various4 - Mobile library service for rural communities

The three Mobile Library vehicles visit 150 communities throughout the county which are over 3 miles from a library building on a monthly basis. The Mobile Library has approximately 2,000 items in Welsh and English including novels and factual titles for adults, books for children and young people, books for babies and nursery-aged children, audio books and large print books.

Various4	<b>Discontinue the mobile library service to save £30,000</b>	<p>Discontinuing the mobile library would mean:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• that up to 150 rural communities would lose access to the service in small villages</li> <li>• as the service is mainly used by older people and people who don't have access to their own transport or who are reliant on public transport, there is a risk that this cut could lead to an increase in social isolation for these people</li> <li>• that whilst the service for vulnerable people in their homes and residential home residents would continue, there would be no access to the mobile library throughout the county.</li> </ul>	
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### Various5 - 'Gwynedd Ni' Information Service for children and families

This service provides information for children, young people, families and professionals on a variety of services, activities and also support agencies that are available in Gwynedd and beyond to maintain the well-being of children and families. Children, young people and families can access this information service through phone contact, online 24 hours a day and through face to face contact with information officers.

The service also ensures access for children and young people through outreach work on the Lori-Ni. Children and families use this service in order to find out what's going on in communities, to find out who to go to for advice and information on matters such as health, well-being, rights, safety, learning and careers advice, play and childcare. The service maintains the Gwynedd Ni website, which received over 35,000 hits every year.

Various5	<b>Reduce the Gwynedd Ni budget to save £70,000</b>	<p>By reducing the Gwynedd Ni budget:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the service provided would be significantly less and would focus on information about childcare and relevant matters for families only</li> <li>• children and young people would be expected to search and find information by contacting all the agencies, schemes and programmes which are held centrally at present by Gwynedd Ni</li> <li>• there would be no face-to-face contact or outreach work</li> <li>• there would be no activity to promote Gwynedd Ni at events and communities.</li> </ul>	
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### Various6 - Noddfa Centre, Caernarfon

This is the only Community Centre which receives financial support from the Council in order to maintain community resources. The grant for the Noddfa Centre is used to contribute towards cleaning and caretaking costs.

<b>Various6</b>	<b>Delete the grant to save £5,000</b>	Deleting the grant could put the Committee's ability to maintain and manage this centre in the future at risk.	
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### Various7 - Processing Council Tax

The Gwynedd Council Tax and Business Rates officers keep a record of home and business owners, calculate how much tax is payable, send bills and recover unpaid bills. At the moment, they respond to enquiries within 14 days.

The team offers support to debtors who have difficulty paying, including discussing possible payment arrangements with those who fall behind with their payments and referring individuals for debt advice.

<b>Various7</b>	<b>Reduce the resource by 5% to save £25,000</b>	Reducing the resource by 5% would mean: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the time it takes to respond to an enquiry could increase to up to 25 days</li> <li>• there is a risk that the standard of responses to enquiries (in writing or over the telephone) would fall below standard</li> <li>• a reduction and deterioration in the help available to vulnerable residents and the associated risk that this could lead to an increase in hardship.</li> </ul>	
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### Various8 - Council Tax Payments

During 2014/15, approximately 6,800 taxpayers (13%), chose to pay their Council Tax in Post Offices. A cut would mean that the taxpayer rather than the Council, would be responsible for paying the Post Office fees if they continue to choose to pay using this method.

<b>Various8</b>	<b>Do not pay a fee in the Post Office to save £40,000</b>	Council statistics suggest that the cut could affect Gwynedd's poorest residents. Of the 4,900 who were given assistance to pay an element of their Council Tax, nearly 40% of them (which is approximately 1,900), chose this method of payment in 2014/15.	
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For proposals Various9 to Various17, if you accept that the service can be cut as described in the box where you will see this symbol '♦', please leave the proposal blank on the response form in the centre of this document and move on to the next proposal.

If you do not want to cut the service at all, tick option 'a' on the response form in the centre of this document.

If you want to keep part of the service, please tick your preferred option on the response form in the centre of this document.



### Various9 - Public Toilets

There are 33 employees (most of whom are part-time), working on maintaining, cleaning and looking after 73 public toilets in the county. The Council's current toilets are located along important routes, in visitor destinations, shopping centres and the busiest towns and villages.

♦ If every public toilet was closed, there will be an impact in terms of having convenient facilities for residents and visitors. There is a possibility that this will have an effect on places that attract tourists or shoppers. As Gwynedd is a county which is very dependent on the tourist industry, it is likely that closing every public toilet will have an effect on every part of the county. Closing every Council public toilet would mean a saving of £618,000. ♦

<b>Various9a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Various9b</b>	<b>Keep 23 of the Council's public toilets and close 50 to save £244,000</b>	Of the 73 public toilets, 23 are used extensively due to their location in the busiest towns in terms of visitors and shoppers. By only keeping these 23 toilets open in the county, 50 less used toilets will be closed. This will impact on residents and visitors in terms of having convenient facilities in the county.	

## Various10 - Grants for the Disabled and Adaptations

There are 7 officers responsible for providing grants and assistance to disabled children, disabled adults and older people for adaptations to their homes so that they can continue to live independently within their communities. The work contributes to avoiding the strain of having to move house or to a care home, and frees up beds in hospitals by ensuring that people can return home sooner.

Support is also provided for people on low salaries to improve the standard of their homes by offering low-interest loans. The team helps more than 1,150 people every year with adaptations. Usually, large adaptations are completed within 8 months and minor works within 15 days.

In addition, last year low-interest loans were provided to 20 home-owners on low salaries who would otherwise be unable to receive loans on the open market.

◆ Reducing the staffing resource by 40% would mean:

- increasing the time it takes to carry out the home adaptations for disabled people by up to a year
- it would not be possible to administer low-interest loans for people on low incomes to improve the quality of their homes. This could impact the number of homeless people within the county as their homes are unsuitable-
- it would be very difficult to make urgent adaptations for people who need to be discharged from hospital and for end-of-life care
- the period to complete home adaptations for disabled people would increase to an expected period of more than a year
- a saving of £60,000. ◆

<b>Various10a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Various10b</b>	<b>Keep 80% of the resource and cut 20% to save £30,000</b>	Reducing the staffing resource by 20% would result in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an increase in the time it takes to complete home adaptations for disabled people by up to a year</li> <li>• it would not be possible to administer the low-interest loans for people on low incomes to improve the standard of their homes. This could have an impact on the number of people who are homeless in the county as their homes are unsuitable for families.</li> </ul>	

## Various11 - Archives

The Council must retain the county's archived heritage, which includes public records and collections of local historical documents, and allowing access to them. This is currently done by running two records offices - one in Caernarfon and the other in Dolgellau. Approximately 3,353 visits are made to the Caernarfon office and 1,506 to the Dolgellau office annually. Gwynedd is the only county in Wales which manages two records offices. As well as these visits, the service receives more than 4,500 different enquiries a year about the Gwynedd archives contents.

◆ Centralising the Gwynedd archives' service in Caernarfon and reducing the opening hours from 4 days a week to 3 would mean:

- closing the Dolgellau record office and increasing the travelling distance in the south of the county for people who need access to historic records and documents
- fewer opportunities for the public, communities and organisations to have access to the record office. This would result in a saving of £41,672. ◆

<b>Various11a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Various11b</b>	<b>Reduce the opening hours of the Dolgellau Record Office from 3 days to 2 days a week and reduce the opening hours of the Caernarfon Record Office from 4 days to 3 days a week to save £41,672</b>	Cutting back on the opening hours of the Dolgellau Record Office from 3 days to 2 days a week and cutting back on the opening hours of the Caernarfon Record Office from 4 days to 3 days a week would mean: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reduced access for residents, organisations and visitors to archives in Gwynedd</li> <li>• make it less convenient for individuals to come to the records office at times which convenient for them</li> <li>• less community work and collaboration with organisations to interpret the archives and contribute to tourism, heritage and education projects.</li> </ul>	

## Various12 - Strategic Grants for the Arts

Gwynedd Council provides financial support for drama production companies, theatres, and arts establishments. In 2014/15, 12 organisations were supported and £169,698 was invested through grants which attracted £4 million in match funding and income for Gwynedd for arts activities.

The fund supported 1,887 arts sessions for example:

- sessions with the William Mathias Music Centre which includes music for all opportunities and sessions for people with learning disabilities
- Music In Hospitals which includes live professional performances in hospitals, hospices, day centres, special schools, nursing and residential homes
- Stiwdio Fran Wen giving opportunities for 173,354 attendees who are not in education, training or work to teach them creative skills and to put them back into contact with education and to introduce them to world of work
- 53 live performances have been staged for 63,630 audience members by companies such as Theatr Bara Caws, Galeri, Pontio and Theatr Harlech.

◆ Abolishing the grants entirely would mean:

- these activities would be unlikely to happen in Gwynedd
- far fewer Welsh medium cultural opportunities across the county
- jeopardising the future of some of the theatre, music and performance companies and work within the sector in Gwynedd
- a saving of £169,698 ◆

<b>Various12a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.
<b>Various12b</b>	<b>Reduce the budget by 50% to save £84,849</b>	Reducing the grants by 50% would mean: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fewer activities and live performances through the medium of Welsh across the county</li> <li>• jeopardising the future of some of the theatre, music and performance companies</li> <li>• risking the Council's ability to support activities across the county.</li> </ul>

## Various13 - Libraries

This service provides the statutory public library service throughout the county and maintains a network of 17 libraries, a mobile library which visits over 150 communities every month, a library at home for individuals who are housebound with monthly visits, and a mobile library for children and young people through a termly visit to every school in the county by Lori-Ni.

Between them, the libraries have over 370,000 visits, with over 600,000 items borrowed, over 75,000 enquiries received and support over 115,000 Internet computer sessions. Nearly 25,000 of Gwynedd's residents are regular borrowers and over 44,000 residents are members.

The libraries service ensures access for the residents of Gwynedd to resources such as books, audio books, e-books, DVDs; provides free internet access and computer use; provides activities to promote reading and learning such as Reading Groups, Computer Sessions, events with authors, as well as health and well-being groups.

The service also ensures access for the residents of Gwynedd to information and support on matters such as job searching, local services, useful contacts for agencies and organisations.

The service provides a programme of activities for promoting reading such as the Summer Reading Challenge and Story Sessions which promote children's literacy and reading skills; and activities such as Dechrau Darganfod in order to introduce people to using computers, using the internet, and introduction sessions to using phones and digital tablets in order to search for information as well as to read.

A consultation process was undertaken over the summer to consider how to make the library service more efficient i.e. how can we continue to provide the service at a lower cost. It is unavoidable that it will mean some changes but the Council will not come to a decision until they firstly know how much of a priority is the library service in comparison to all other Council services.

There are a lot of options in respect of cuts that can be made to this service. The choices vary from the option that will save the most to the option below of keeping 17 libraries in a different form depending on the Council's decision on how to make the service more efficient.

◆ Closing 8 libraries, keep 9 libraries open but with reduced opening hours and delete all activities would mean:

- no access to library services in 8 areas
- no activities to promote reading to promote children’s literacy and reading skills
- unable to maintain activities to introduce people to computers and the internet
- unable to deal with same level of enquiries and requests for advice and information. This would result in a saving of £195,350. ◆

<b>Various13a</b>	<b>Protect the service whilst only attempting to make it more efficient to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Various13b</b>	<b>Keep 9 main libraries and establish a combination of community libraries or community links in 8 communities to save £28,290</b>	Change the nature of the service in some communities.	
<b>Various13c</b>	<b>Keep 9 libraries and close 8 libraries to save £88,000</b>	Reducing the number of libraries from 17 library buildings to 9 main libraries would mean fewer libraries in the county. Nine main libraries would be maintained throughout the county in strategic places in order to try to ensure fairly convenient access for as many residents as possible. The libraries service would continue to support a home delivery service, a mobile service for children and young people, a mobile service for rural communities and would maintain virtual access to the service throughout the county. The possible impact of losing a library in eight communities will vary from one community to the other. Some of these communities will choose to access the library service through the main libraries, or the mobile service. It’s possible that some communities will be keen to contribute, maintain and run their own library building and service, or jointly with the Council and others.	
<b>Various13d</b>	<b>Keep 9 libraries and reduce the opening hours in those libraries and close 8 libraries to save £119,000</b>	The effects noted in Option 1 would remain as well as the fact that the opening hours of the nine main libraries would be cut back by approximately six hours a week or one day fewer than at present. Reduced opening hours would mean that some users would not be able to access the library at a time convenient to them.	
<b>Various13e</b>	<b>Keep 9 libraries and reduce the activities for promoting reading and close 8 libraries to save £162,000</b>	The effects noted in Option 1 would remain as well as the fact that the service would not arrange activities for promoting reading such as the Summer Reading Challenge and Story Sessions which promote children’s literacy and reading skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• activities such as Dechrau Darganfod sessions in order to introduce people to using computers, using the internet and introduction sessions to using phones and digital tablets in order to search for information and to read.</li> <li>• Fewer staff would also mean that the service would not be able to deal with the same level of enquiries and requests for advice and information</li> </ul>	

## Various14 - Budget for purchasing library books

The library service currently spends £250,000 a year on purchasing new stock, namely books, children's books, audio books etc. which equates to approximately 28,000 items a year. The stock is distributed across the network of libraries, mobile library and the children's library and is regularly rotated.

◆ Cutting the budget by 50% would mean far fewer new books at the libraries and a significant limit on the choice available. This would mean more use of a limited stock with the quality of the books deteriorating sooner. The waiting time for requests for books and other resources would be much longer. This would result in a saving of £130,000. ◆

<b>Various14a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Various14b</b>	<b>Keep 90% of the budget and cut 10% to save £26,000</b>	Cutting the budget by 10% would mean fewer new books at the libraries and limiting the choice available. Based on current purchasing this could mean a reduction of 2,800 in the number of books purchased. In turn, this would mean more use of a limited stock with the quality of the books deteriorating sooner and longer waiting times for requests for books and other resources.	
<b>Various14c</b>	<b>Keep 75% of the budget and cut 25% to save £65,000</b>	Cutting the budget by 25% would mean fewer new books at the libraries and a significant limit on the choice available. Based on current purchasing, this could mean 7,000 fewer books bought every year. This would mean more use of a limited stock with the quality of the books deteriorating sooner and longer waiting time for requests for books and other resources.	

## Various15 - Community Regeneration

The Community Regeneration Team manages the Government's national regeneration programmes such as Cymunedau ar Waith and Communities First, which bring services worth £500,000 a year to our most deprived communities. It includes 4 community regeneration officers that support local regeneration projects and communities. Over the last 3 years, the regeneration officers have supported 369 community enterprises or projects and have supported them to attract £1.4 million annually to support local developments such as Llŷn Maritime Museum, Talysarn BMX Scheme, Siop Ogwen, Dolgellau Family Centre.

◆ Abolishing the Area Regeneration Officer posts and management of community regeneration programmes such as Communities First would mean that the Council would not be able to support communities to venture and provide services locally. This would mean no support from the Council to help volunteers / communities / voluntary groups / social enterprises to develop their ideas, prepare business cases, prepare applications for funding and manage local regeneration projects which could create and sustain work within the communities of Gwynedd. This cut would also mean that the Council would not manage or support regeneration programmes such as Communities First for deprived areas, or the Cymunedau ar Waith programme for unemployed residents. This would result in a saving of £206,000. ◆

<b>Various15a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Various15b</b>	<b>Reduce the resource by 64% to save £75,000</b>	Reducing the number of Area Regeneration Officers from 4 to 2 would mean that the Council would not be able to support as many communities to venture and provide local services. The officers would not be able to foster such a close relationship with community organisations.  The Council would have fewer resources to help volunteers or communities to develop their ideas, prepare business cases, prepare applications for funding and manage local regeneration projects which could create and sustain work within the communities of Gwynedd.	

## Various16 - Voluntary Grants

The Council offers grants to voluntary organisations to support projects such as environmental work, landscaping, arts activities, health and well-being services, community activities, maintaining and upgrading community centres, village halls, playing fields.

◆ Abolishing these grants would mean:

- grants would not be available from the Council to voluntary and community organisations and therefore there would be no financial support available to develop projects, activities, community services across the county by voluntary groups and local committees.
- the Council would not have a Gwynedd Chest Grants Officer to provide advice, support and information to voluntary groups about applying for grants and managing grants
- a saving of £130,000 ◆

<b>Various16a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Various16b</b>	<b>Reduce the grants by 50% to save £62,500</b>	Reducing the grants budget by 50% would mean: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• fewer grants would be available to voluntary and community organisations from the Council and therefore less money to develop projects, activities, community services across the county by voluntary groups and local committees</li> <li>• fewer projects such as environmental work, landscaping, arts activities, health and well-being activities, community activities, maintain and upgrade community centres, village halls, playing fields would receive grants from the Council.</li> </ul>	

## Various17 - Public Transport

Over half of Gwynedd's bus routes are subsidised to be able to operate and this budget pays for that support. The current budget pays to ensure that journeys within 48 bus routes are able to continue with 19 routes in Arfon, 17 in Dwyfor and 12 in Meirionnydd. For example, a bus route that runs between Caernarfon- Talysarn – Nantlle, during the day from Monday to Saturday is operated commercially by the bus company, but the Council provides financial support for journeys during the evenings, on Sundays and Bank Holidays.

◆ A cut of £300,000 would result in reducing specific journeys within approximately 12 routes. ◆

<b>Various17a</b>	<b>Protect the whole service to save nothing</b>	No change to the service.	
<b>Various17b</b>	<b>Reduce the budget to save £100,000</b>	A cut of £100,000 would mean that we would have to assess which journeys are considered low priority therefore stopping the financial support meaning that those buses would no longer operate. There would be a need to assess which journeys to prioritise but it is anticipated that journeys within 4 bus routes would be stopped as a result. Obviously, if individuals are dependent on buses to travel to the shops, to go to work, or to access health or education services, this could affect them. The procedure for prioritising journeys would need to seek to reduce those impacts as much as possible. However, without knowing the exact details of every passenger, it is difficult to know exactly how this would affect the people of Gwynedd.	
<b>Various17c</b>	<b>Reduce the budget to save £200,000</b>	A cut of £200,000 would result in reducing specific journeys within approximately 9 routes.	

## General Details

What is your post code?



On behalf of whom are you completing the questionnaire?

As an individual

On behalf of an organisation or business

Please note the name organisation or business

We would appreciate if you could provide the information below. We collect this information for monitoring purposes only, and all responses will be strictly confidential. **You may choose not to answer any question or questions if you prefer not to.**

Do you consider yourself to be (male, female, think of yourself in another way)

Male

Female

Other

What is your age group?

< 17

18-24

25-49

50-64

65 +

What language do you speak as a:

First language?

Welsh

English

Other

Second language?

None

Do you consider that you have a disability which meets the definition in the 1995 Disability Discrimination Act?\*

\*The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 describes a disabled person as anyone “with a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect upon his or her ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities”.

I do not see myself as a disabled person:

I see myself as a disabled person:

Please note your disability/disabilities

Please indicate below if you would like to tell us about any other features that are protected under the Equality Act 2010:

Note your race (or ethnic background)

Note your sexual orientation

Note your religion or belief

Note if you are transgender

Note if you are pregnant or on maternity leave

# 01.

## Environment

Reference	Possible Cut	Details	Cost of Protecting	✓
Env1	<b>Recreational Routes (the cycle paths)</b>	Do not delete the maintenance budget	£89,094	✓
Env2	<b>Nature Reserves</b>	Do not delete the maintenance budget	£59,396	✓
Env3	<b>Llŷn Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)</b>	Do not bring the service to an end	£39,150	✓
Env4	<b>Road Works Management</b>	Do not delete the budget by 7.5%	£30,000	✓
Env5	<b>Cutting Grass in Council Cemeteries</b>	Do not reduce the frequency of grass cutting from 7 times to 5 times a year	£60,000	✓
Env6	<b>Street Cleaning - Arfon Community Gang</b>	Do not delete the Community Gang in Arfon	£70,000	✓
Env7	<b>Street Cleaning - street bins and dog fouling bins</b>	Do not delete the provision of 2,000 street bins and dog fouling bins	£200,000	✓
Env8	<b>Street Cleaning - in villages and industrial estates</b>	Do not reduce the frequency of street cleaning in town centres and industrial estates	£130,000	✓
Env9	<b>Street Cleaning - in town centres and shopping centres</b>	Do not reduce the frequency of street cleaning in town centres and shopping centres	£80,000	✓
Env10	<b>Flood Risk Management</b>	Do not reduce the resource by 7.5%	£40,000	✓
Env11	<b>Building Control</b>	Do not reduce the resource by 7%	£40,000	✓
Env12a	<b>Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)</b>	Protect the whole service	£208,000	✓
Env12b	<b>Closed Circuit Television (CCTV)</b>	Maintain part of the service by reducing the CCTV resource	£118,000	✓
Env13a	<b>Public Footpaths</b>	Protect the whole service	£330,000	✓
Env13b	<b>Public Footpaths</b>	Keep 80% of the budget and cut 20% of the budget	£220,000	✓
Env13c	<b>Public Footpaths</b>	Keep 60% of the budget and cut 40% of the budget	£110,000	✓
Env14a	<b>Biodiversity</b>	Protect the whole service	£60,000	✓
Env14b	<b>Biodiversity</b>	Cut 50% of the service	£30,000	✓
Env15a	<b>Joint Planning Policy with Anglesey</b>	Protect the whole service	£45,000	✓
Env15b	<b>Joint Planning Policy with Anglesey</b>	Keep 90% of the resource and cut 10% of the resource	£30,000	✓
Env15c	<b>Joint Planning Policy with Anglesey</b>	Keep 80% of the resource and cut 20% off the resource	£15,000	✓
Env16a	<b>Traffic Management</b>	Protect the whole service	£130,000	✓
Env16b	<b>Traffic Management</b>	Cut 50% of the budget	£65,000	✓
Env17a	<b>Maintain Promenades, Benches and Street Name Signs</b>	Protect the whole service	£80,000	✓
Env17b	<b>Maintain Promenades, Benches and Street Name Signs</b>	Cut 50% of the service	£40,000	✓
<b>Sub-Total</b>				

Reference	Possible Cut	Details	Cost of Protecting	✓
Env18a	<b>Highway maintenance</b>	Protect the whole service	£1,500,000	✓
Env18b	<b>Highway maintenance</b>	Keep 93% of the budget and therefore reduce the budget by 7%	£1,000,000	✓
Env19a	<b>Street Enforcement Service</b>	Protect the whole service	£300,150	✓
Env19b	<b>Street Enforcement Service</b>	Keep 5 posts and cut 2 posts	£235,650	✓
Env19c	<b>Street Enforcement Service</b>	Keep 4 posts and cut 3 posts	£207,650	✓
Env20a	<b>Grass cutting - main areas of our towns</b>	Protect the whole service	£280,000	✓
Env20b	<b>Grass cutting - main areas of our towns</b>	Reduce grass-cutting in the main areas of our towns from 8 to 6 times a year	£160,000	✓
Env21a	<b>Grass cutting in children's play areas</b>	Protect the whole service	£220,000	✓
Env21b	<b>Grass cutting in children's play areas</b>	Grass-cutting every two months, rather than every month in the 131 children's playing fields	£160,000	✓
Env22a	<b>Recycling Centres</b>	Protect the whole service	£593,000	✓
Env22b	<b>Recycling Centres</b>	Keep 5 recycling centres open and close 3 recycling centres	£413,000	✓
Env22c	<b>Recycling Centres</b>	Keep 3 recycling centres open in the most convenient locations, open another 4 one weekend a month and close one centre	£363,000	✓
<b>Sub-Total</b>				



# 02.

## Children and Young People

Reference	Possible Cut	Details	Cost of Protecting	✓
Children1	<b>Social Worker's for Children</b>	Do not reduce the resource by 4%	£80,000	✓
Children2	<b>Service for young people between 16 and 21 years old</b>	Do not reduce the hours that are available to support these young people by 30%	£100,000	✓
Children3	<b>Young Carers Scheme</b>	Do not discontinue the scheme	£34,000	✓
Children4	<b>Women's Aid Service</b>	Do not discontinue the contribution	£53,000	✓
Children5	<b>Youth Justice Service</b>	Do not reduce the resource by 4%	£25,000	✓
Children6	<b>Youth Grants</b>	Do not delete the Youth Grants	£71,000	✓
Children7a	<b>Primary School Meals</b>	Protect the whole service	£780,000	✓
Children7b	<b>Primary School Meals</b>	Continue to provide a hot meal and increase the price of primary school meals	£180,000	✓
Children8a	<b>Youth Service</b>	Protect the whole service	£819,310	✓
Children8b	<b>Youth Service</b>	Keep 12 Youth Clubs, close up to 30 Youth Clubs and provide fewer youth projects.	£619,310	✓
Children8c	<b>Youth Service</b>	Close all of the 42 Youth Clubs and provide fewer youth projects	£519,310	✓
Children8d	<b>Youth Service</b>	Close every Youth Centre and Club and end the youth projects	£219,310	✓
Children9a	<b>Free Breakfast</b>	Protect the whole service	£500,000	✓
Children9b	<b>Free Breakfast</b>	Reduce the hours of employment for staff and/or charge a fee for supervision	£400,000	✓
Children10a	<b>Derwen Children's Service</b>	Protect the whole service	£150,000	✓
Children10b	<b>Derwen Children's Service</b>	Keep 90% of the resource and cut the resource by 10%	£75,000	✓
Children11a	<b>Derwen Support Service</b>	Protect the whole service	£150,000	✓
Children11b	<b>Derwen Support Service</b>	Keep 90% of the resource and cut the resource by 10%	£75,000	✓
<b>Sub-Total</b>				

# 03.

## Care, Health and Wellbeing

Reference	Possible Cut	Details	Cost of Protecting	✓
Care1	<b>Community Safety and Domestic Violence Projects</b>	Do not delete the budget	£24,250	✓
Care2	<b>Domestic Violence</b>	Do not delete the contribution	£9,750	✓
Care3	<b>Reducing the Budget for Voluntary/ Charitable Organisations</b>	Do not reduce the budget	£100,000	✓
Care4	<b>Housing Enforcement</b>	Do not reduce the staffing resource by 12%	£30,000	✓
Care5	<b>Healthy Living</b>	Do not delete the Healthy Living Programmes	£54,050	✓
Care6	<b>Sports Development</b>	Do not discontinue the Sports Development Programme	£71,177	✓
Care7	<b>Homelessness</b>	Do not reduce the staffing resource by 5%	£25,000	✓
Care8	<b>Benefits</b>	Do not reduce the resource by 5%	£25,000	✓
Care9a	<b>Social Workers, Occupational Therapists and Care Officers</b>	Protect the whole service	£360,000	✓
Care9b	<b>Social Workers, Occupational Therapists and Care Officers</b>	Keep 97.5% of the budget and cut the budget by 2.5%	£280,000	✓
Care9c	<b>Social Workers, Occupational Therapists and Care Officers</b>	Keep 95% of the budget and cut the budget by 5%	£200,000	✓
Care9d	<b>Social Workers, Occupational Therapists and Care Officers</b>	Keep 92.5% of the budget and cut the budget by 7.5%	£120,000	✓
Care10a	<b>Leisure Centres</b>	Protect the whole service	£846,110	✓
Care10b	<b>Leisure Centres</b>	Keep 10 leisure centres open and close 2 centres	£708,150	✓
Care10c	<b>Leisure Centres</b>	Keep 9 leisure centres open and close 3 centres	£609,010	✓
Care10d	<b>Leisure Centres</b>	Keep 7 leisure centres open and close 5 centres	£469,380	✓
Care11a	<b>Food Hygiene</b>	Protect the whole service	£72,000	✓
Care11b	<b>Food Hygiene</b>	Keep 93.5% of their resource and cut the resource by 6.5%	£36,000	✓
Care12a	<b>Pollution Control</b>	Protect the whole service	£70,000	✓
Care12b	<b>Pollution Control</b>	Keep 89% of their resource and cut the resource by 11%	£35,000	✓
<b>Sub-Total</b>				

# 04.

## Economy and Tourism

Reference	Possible Cut	Details	Cost of Protecting	✓
Econ1	<b>The Council's Tourist Information Centres</b>	Do not close all Tourist Information Centres	£109,000	✓
Econ2	<b>'Snowdonia Mountains and Coast' booklet</b>	Continue to provide the 'Snowdonia Mountains and Coast' booklet	£129,311	✓
Econ3	<b>Marketing and Tourism</b>	Do not delete the service	£285,860	✓
Econ4	<b>Support for Events</b>	Do not delete the resource	£37,000	✓
Econ5	<b>Aber swing bridge, Caernarfon</b>	Do not close the bridge to pedestrians, cyclists and families	£54,000	✓
Econ6	<b>Barmouth Bridge</b>	Continue paying the fee to Network Rail for the right for pedestrians, cyclists and motor cyclists to use the footbridge	£30,800	✓
Econ7	<b>Business Support</b>	Do not discontinue the service	£93,390	✓
Econ8a	<b>Strategic Economic Projects</b>	Protect the whole service	£266,460	✓
Econ8b	<b>Strategic Economic Projects</b>	Reduce the resource by 50%	£133,230	✓
Econ9a	<b>Beach Management</b>	Protect the whole service	£81,900	✓
Econ9b	<b>Beach Management</b>	Manage Blue Flag and Green Flag winning beaches only	£57,700	✓
Econ9c	<b>Beach Management</b>	Manage Blue Flag beaches only	£26,200	✓
<b>Sub-Total</b>				



# 05.

## Various

Reference	Possible Cut	Details	Cost of Protecting	✓
Various1	<b>Community Arts Unit</b>	Do not delete the resource	£85,910	✓
Various2	<b>Lloyd George Museum</b>	Do not close the museum	£27,000	✓
Various3	<b>Neuadd Dwyfor, Pwllheli</b>	Do not close Neuadd Dwyfor	£98,000	✓
Various4	<b>Mobile library service for rural communities</b>	Do not discontinue the mobile library service	£30,000	✓
Various5	<b>'Gwynedd Ni' Information Service for children and families</b>	Do not reduce the Gwynedd Ni budget	£70,000	✓
Various6	<b>Noddfa Centre, Caernarfon</b>	Do not delete the grant	£5,000	✓
Various7	<b>Processing Council Tax</b>	Do not reduce the resource by 5%	£25,000	✓
Various8	<b>Council Tax Payments</b>	Do not pay a fee in the Post Office	£40,000	✓
Various9a	<b>Public Toilets</b>	Protect the whole service	£618,000	✓
Various9b	<b>Public Toilets</b>	Keep 23 of the Council's public toilets and close 50	£374,000	✓
Various10a	<b>Grants for the Disabled and Adaptations</b>	Protect the whole service	£60,000	✓
Various10b	<b>Grants for the Disabled and Adaptations</b>	Keep 80% of the resource and cut 20%	£30,000	✓
Various11a	<b>Archives</b>	Protect the whole service	£67,719	✓
Various11b	<b>Archives</b>	Reduce the opening hours of the Dolgellau Record Office from 3 days to 2 days a week and reduce the opening hours of the Caernarfon Record Office from 4 days to 3 days a week	£26,047	✓
Various12a	<b>Strategic Grants for the Arts</b>	Protect the whole service	£169,698	✓
Various12b	<b>Strategic Grants for the Arts</b>	Reduce the budget by 50%	£84,849	✓
Various13a	<b>Libraries</b>	Protect the service (by making it more efficient)	£195,350	✓
Various13b	<b>Libraries</b>	Keep 9 main libraries and establish a combination of community libraries or community links in 8 communities	£167,060	✓
Various13c	<b>Libraries</b>	Keep 9 libraries and close 8 libraries	£107,350	✓
Various13d	<b>Libraries</b>	Keep 9 libraries and reduce the opening hours in those libraries and close 8 libraries	£76,350	✓
Various13e	<b>Libraries</b>	Keep 9 main libraries and reduce the activities to promote reading and close 8 libraries	£33,350	✓
Various14a	<b>Budget for purchasing library books</b>	Protect the whole service	£130,000	✓
Various14b	<b>Budget for purchasing library books</b>	Keep 90% of the budget and cut 10%	£104,000	✓
Various14c	<b>Budget for purchasing library books</b>	Keep 75% of the budget and cut 25%	£65,000	✓
<b>Sub-Total</b>				

Reference	Possible Cut	Details	Cost of Protecting	✓
Various15a	<b>Community Regeneration</b>	Protect the whole service	£206,000	✓
Various15b	<b>Community Regeneration</b>	Reduce the resource by 64%	£131,000	✓
Various16a	<b>Voluntary Grants</b>	Protect the whole service	£130,000	✓
Various16b	<b>Voluntary Grants</b>	Reduce the grants by 50%	£67,500	✓
Various17a	<b>Public Transport</b>	Protect the whole service	£300,000	✓
Various17b	<b>Public Transport</b>	Reduce the budget	£200,000	✓
Various17c	<b>Public Transport</b>	Reduce the budget	£100,000	✓
<b>Sub-Total</b>				

## Council Tax

By filling this questionnaire, you will have indicated which services you believe should be protected when the Council will have to make service cuts.

As a result of the challenging financial situation, it will not be possible to protect each and every Council services. If your exact choices for protecting services are accepted, there is a possibility that other services will be cut or will disappear completely.

The Council's calculation of how much cuts we will need to make is based on assumption that an annual Council Tax increase of 3.5% will help the situation.

At present, a house that is in the Band D Council Tax bracket pays £1,161.07 a year in Council Tax. Increasing the Council Tax by 3.5% a year will mean an increase of £40.64 (or £3.39 a month) next year and £42.06 (or £3.51 a month) the following year.

**We would like to ask you one final question, when considering the services that you have not been able to save in your choices, would you prefer the Council increase Council Tax by a percentage that is higher than the 3.5% increase that is currently planned in the current figures to save more of the services?**

Yes

No

**If you would like us to consider doing this, to what extent?**

- **Increase of 4%** - on a Band D property, this would mean an increase of £46.44 (or £3.87 a month) next year and £48.30 (or £4.03 a month) the following year - this would allow the Council to save £579,000 of additional services.
- **Increase of 4.5%** - on a Band D property, this would mean an increase of £52.25 (or £4.35 a month) next year and £54.60 (or £4.55 a month) the following year - this would allow the Council to save £1.158 million of additional services.
- **Increase of 5%** - on a Band D property, this would mean an increase of £58.05 (or £4.84 a month) next year and £60.96 (or £5.08 a month) the following year - this would allow the Council to save £1.737 million of additional services.




**Do you feel that any of these possible service cuts will have a specific effect on you or your family? Please note why?**

Further comments