

# Public Document Pack



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Os yn galw gofynnwch am / If calling please ask for  
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## **LEARNING AND SKILLS SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Wednesday, 14th December, 2022**

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The use of Welsh by participants is welcomed. If you wish to use Welsh please inform us by noon, two working days before the meeting

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## **SUPPLEMENTARY PACK**

### **1.1. Finance Report Q2**

To receive and consider the report of the Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Transformation.

(Pages 3 - 4)

<b>2.</b>	<b>LLANFIHANGEL RHYDITHON - WELSH MEDIUM PROVISION</b>
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To receive and consider the report of the Cabinet Member for a Learning Powys.

(Pages 5 - 6)

<b>3.</b>	<b>CRICKHOWELL AREA REVIEW</b>
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To receive and consider the report of the Cabinet Member for a Learning Powys.

(Pages 7 - 8)

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# 5.2

## Learning and Skills Scrutiny Committee 14-12-2022

<b>Report Title:</b>	Quarter Two 2022-23 Financial Forecast Update
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Head of Finance

### Key Issues in the report highlighted by Lead Officer

The report provides an update on the forecast financial outturn (both revenue and capital) for the 2022-23 financial year based on the updated position at quarter two (September)

The report explains the changes from quarter one, covering how well we are achieving our savings targets, what reserves we may have to use to balance the outturn, what grants have been received and whether any budget virements need to be approved.

The report allows the Service Heads to provide an update about their financial position and challenges in Appendix B

### Key Feeders (tick all that apply)

Strategic Risk		Cabinet Work Plan	
Director / Head of Service Key Issue		External / Internal Inspection	
Existing Commitment / Annual Report		Performance / Finance Issue	X
Suggestion from Public		Referral from Council / Committee	
Corporate Improvement Plan	X	Impacting Public / other services	
Service Integrated Business Plan	X		
Suggestion from Members			
Partnerships			

### Scrutiny Impact (tick all that apply)

Policy Review		Performance	X
Informing Policy Development – Financial Regulation compliance	X	Evidence Gathering	
Risk		Corporate Improvement Plan	X
Service Integrated Business Plan	X	Partnerships	
Pre-Decision Scrutiny		Finance / Budget	X

### Other (please specify)

Not applicable

### Suggested scrutiny activity - Committee's Role:

1. Questioning and analysing service levels and costs (use of public money) and ensuring the Council remains within the budget it has set (raising areas of concern to be sure issues being investigated)

a) In Appendix B have the Heads of Service provided clear explanation about their financial position and set out what they may have to do to mitigate any overspends (cutting cost, raising income etc)

b) Is the way they will cut spend to manage their overspend realistic? Does the narrative provided give assurance that their proposals can be delivered and make a difference to the financial position

c) If the information is not clear ask the head to explain further so you are satisfied

d) Are there changes to the budget plan that require virements (moving budgets around to comply with financial regulations), do any of these budget plans require use of reserves, if so what is the impact?

e) Are you clear why savings are not being achieved and are alternative means of delivery proposed

f) Will overspends have an impact on budget setting next year

2. Monitoring capital projects – Are these projects on track to be delivered as planned, do heads envisage further slippage in timescales or changes in cost and if so what are the implications

3. Does the financial position in revenue and capital ensure that the services is delivering its objectives – or create a dip in delivery of the service provided ?

4. Is the commentary written in clear, plain and understandable language?

5. Is the content and quality of reporting appropriate and sufficient to provide the organisation (particularly Scrutiny themselves as well as the responsible Heads of Service, Directors, and Portfolio Holder) with assurance about the work being undertaken?

6. Any other comments

**On what specific elements of the report would scrutiny comment add value**

As noted above.

**Learning and Skills Scrutiny Committee**  
**14-12-2022**

<b>Report Title:</b>	Welsh-medium Provision in Dolau
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Marianne Evans

**Key Issues in the report highlighted by Lead Officer**

- 2. Methodology
- 3. Advice
- 4. Resource Implications

**Key Feeders (tick all that apply)**

Strategic Risk	x	Cabinet Work Plan	
Director / Head of Service Key Issue		External / Internal Inspection	
Existing Commitment / Annual Report		Performance / Finance Issue	
Suggestion from Public		Referral from Council / Committee	
Corporate Improvement Plan		Impacting Public / other services	
Service Integrated Business Plan			
Suggestion from Members			
Partnerships			

**Scrutiny Impact (tick all that apply)**

Policy Review		Performance	
Informing Policy Development		Evidence Gathering	
Risk		Corporate Improvement Plan	
Service Integrated Business Plan		Partnerships	
Pre-Decision Scrutiny	x	Finance / Budget	

**Other (please specify)**

**Suggested scrutiny activity - Committee's Role:**

To consider whether the approach to the task is appropriate

**On what specific elements of the report would scrutiny comment add value**

To consider the rationale that underpins officers' advice that developing Welsh-medium provision in Dolau is not viable

To consider whether the resource implications could be a barrier to the future development of Welsh-medium provision and how this could be addressed

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**Learning and Skills Scrutiny Committee**  
**14-12-2022**

<b>Report Title:</b>	Crickhowell Area Review
<b>Lead Officer:</b>	Marianne Evans

**Key Issues in the report highlighted by Lead Officer**

Section 3 – Advice

Section 4 – Resource Implications

Section 5 – Legal Implications

**Key Feeders (tick all that apply)**

Strategic Risk	x	Cabinet Work Plan	
Director / Head of Service Key Issue		External / Internal Inspection	
Existing Commitment / Annual Report		Performance / Finance Issue	
Suggestion from Public		Referral from Council / Committee	
Corporate Improvement Plan		Impacting Public / other services	
Service Integrated Business Plan			
Suggestion from Members			
Partnerships			

**Scrutiny Impact (tick all that apply)**

Policy Review		Performance	
Informing Policy Development		Evidence Gathering	
Risk		Corporate Improvement Plan	
Service Integrated Business Plan		Partnerships	
Pre-Decision Scrutiny	x	Finance / Budget	

**Other (please specify)**

**Suggested scrutiny activity - Committee's Role:**

To consider whether the approach taken with the Crickhowell Area Review provides a good basis for future catchment reviews

**On what specific elements of the report would scrutiny comment add value**

To consider whether, in relation to Llanbedr C.i.W Primary, circumstances have so altered since the proposal was approved that its implementation would be “inappropriate altogether”

To consider the rationale for not proceeding to establish an all-age school in Crickhowell at this point in time, but instead to support Crickhowell HS and Crickhowell CP School to consider shared headteacher arrangements as a basis for further consideration of the all-age model at a later date

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