

# ERC Scrutiny Seminar Budget Proposal

27<sup>th</sup> January 2025



# Economic Development & Growth

## Portfolio Holders :

Cabinet member for a More Prosperous Powys Cllr David Selby

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for a Fairer Powys Cllr Matthew Dorrance

Cabinet Member for a Greener Powys Cllr Jackie Charlton

Cabinet Member for a Connected Powys Cllr Jake Berriman

Cabinet Member for a Safer Powys Cllr Richard Church



# HTR - Budget Requests 2025/26



- **Base budget 2024/25 - £36,256k**

- **Pressures**

- Inflationary Pressures £1,291k
- Growth Demography £Nil
- Service Pressures £1,342k
- 2024/25 Undelivered Savings £323k

- **Pressures held at risk**

- Grants ceasing, legal fees, maintenance, waste £804k

**Undelivered Savings (+)**

- Street lighting energy deflation 24/25 £103
- Under delivery of car park savings target 24/25 £120
- Not achievable due to HWRC tender including this and overall increase in cost - Review of HWRC contract to introduce charges for DIY waste disposal, implement a booking system and profit share agreement. £100

£'000

**Draft Budget Requests 2025/26 = £35,628k (-2%)**



# HTR - Budget Requests 2025/26

## Service Pressures

	£'000
• School mainstream transport forecast overspend 2024/25	£274
• School mainstream transport contracts to be retendered in September 2025.	£619
• Flooding - to meet responsive and recovery costs below the EFAS threshold	£400
• Sustainable Travel Officer	£18
• Electric Vehicle Officer	£18
• Improvement & Programme Change Manager	£73
• Agency staff expenditure inflation	£14
• Materials/contractors/fuel expenditure inflation	£301
• Increase in income to mitigate inflation for materials/contractors/fuel	-£120
• Income to mitigate pay gap	-£255

## Proposed Savings £3,583k

	£'000
• Staff restructure	(300)
• Use of the Bus Network Grant to support public transport	(960)
• Street Lighting - Part Night / Part Night Dimming	(25)
• Route optimisation of Waste and Recycling Collections	(53)
• Bulk residual waste at the North Powys bulking facility	(50)
• Review back office structure	(75)
• Increase Greenwaste collection charge by £10.00	(150)
• Increase Trade Waste prices	(23)
• Budget saving from removal of cardboard banks	(50)
• Street Works Income aligned to actual recovery levels	(103)
• Extended producer responsibility grant to fund HWRC costs	(1,744)
• Digitise HTR Service - Collate data and push relevant data to web	(50)



# Extended producer responsibility

Each local authority in the UK has been allocated a provisional payment for 2025/26 based on a formula putting each authority into different categories. For Powys this is £4.6m next year.

For this payment, local authorities are required to provide an 'efficient and effective' collection, disposal and processing service so it is important that any additional funding is used to fulfil this requirement. Failure to do so will result in a reduction in the payment. There may be other funds that can be diverted as a result of this payment, but caution must be taken until the final payment is agreed (spring / summer 2025).

The W&R Service have put forward an outline provisional plan for additional expenditure to help deliver a more effective service, but this is also dependant on future requirements such as introducing the collection of additional materials (such as plastic film, batteries and electronic waste) and the capital investment that might require. Both additional staffing and vehicles will be required to deliver this service, in addition to other costs such as processing and disposal, which have been factored into our calculations. We assume there will be £1.7m that can be made available to support the service currently and that is shown as saving in the FRM.

Future payments will be based on actual costs as opposed to the current estimates, so any future cuts will result in a reduction in the payment received. Producers will also be looking to reduce their costs through improving and reducing the packaging they use, which is the rationale behind the legislation



# Planning & Regulatory Services - Budget Requests 2025/26



- **Base budget 2024/25 - £10,039k**

- **Pressures**

- Inflationary Pressures £493k
- Growth Demography £Nil
- Service Pressures £167k

- **Pressures held at risk**

- Non pay inflation/food hygiene inspections £17k

### Service Pressures

	£'000
• Local Development Plan 2	2
• Reprofiled Local Development Plan 2	-29
• IDOX Extension	43
• Northgate Extension	36
• Public Protection income pressures	100
• Planning validation via AI	15

### Proposed Savings

	£'000
• Non- pay inflation (see held at risk)	(11)
• Increase school meals by £0.10	(40)
• Remove postal service	(55)
• Dispose of the Gwalia office retaining some revenue budget to fund library move to another building	(140)
• Dispose of the Neuadd Brycheiniog office	(147)
• Saving as a result of the completion of the roll out of UPFSM	(285)

**Draft Budget Requests 2025/26 = £10,020k (0%)**









# Community Wellbeing

## Portfolio Holders

Cabinet Member for a Safer Powys – Cllr Richard Church



# Community Wellbeing Budget 2025-26

- **Base budget**
  - 2024/25 - £3,065k
  - 2025/26 £3,060k – an overall £4,630 reduction
- **Pressures**
  - **Inflation** on pay and other costs totalling £83k
  - **Pay** – Library Staff Equal Pay £24k
  - **Contract Provider Uplifts**– Inflation for Freedom leisure budget £5k

**Total of £112k**



# Community Wellbeing Savings 2025/26

£116k



Proposed savings–	£'000
• Utilities Inflation decrease	(15)
• Use of grant to mitigate any short term savings prior to wider service review	(31)
• Vacancy factor of 3%	(60)
• Income – selective budgets at 10%	(10)



# Corporate Services

## Portfolio Holders

Cabinet Member for Finance and Corporate Transformation

Cllr David Thomas

Cabinet Member for a Connected Powys Cllr Jake Berriman

Leader and Cabinet Member for an Open and Transparent

Powys Cllr James Gibson-Watt

Cabinet Member for Future Generations Cllr Sandra Davies

Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for a Fairer Powys Cllr

Matthew Dorrance (equality, diversity, poverty)



# Corporate Services - Budget Requests 2025/26



£'000	Base Budget 2024-25	Pay Award 2024/25	Pay Award 2025-26	Non Pay 2025-26	Pressures	Savings	Request 2025/26	Variance	% Increase
Finance	7,164	-16	202	64	0	-239	7,175	11	0.10%
Business Intelligence & Governance	4,133	-11	180	6	0	-122	4,185	53	1.30%
WOD	2,839	-7	92	32	0	-118	2,837	-1	0.00%
Digital	5,428	-5	111	47	0	-164	5,418	-11	-0.20%
Legal	1,614	-10	51	2	165	-10	1,813	199	12.30%

**Corporate Service** in the main are funding their inflation and pressures with equivalent savings to ensure minimal increase requested.

**Legal Services Pressures** - require funding for solicitors £85k (contract and employment), funding for HM Coroner annual increase £25k, land charges reduced searches/income £20k and contribution to the county council election reserve £35k

**Proposed Savings** – the savings proposed from Corporate Services are managing budgets internally – vacancy factor, inflation on contracts, reconfiguration of the communication offer, inflation uplifts to fees and reduction to the insurance budget. These do not need an individual impact assessment

**Pressures held at Risk** - Fire levy £60k (Ni Increase – WG funded), Review of boundary structure £50k, Inflation for Digital £152k, DBS fee income £10k



# Corporate Activities (obligations) - Budget Requests 2025/26

- **Base budget 2024/25 - £39,483k**

- **Pressures**

- Inflationary Pressures £16k
- Growth Demography £Nil
- Service Pressures £1,644k
- Capital Financing £2,602k

**Service Pressures**

**£'000**

- Council Tax Reduction Scheme £1,078
- Fire Levy + Bannau Brych NP £534
- Apprenticeship Levy £32
- Capital Borrowing Costs £2,602

- **Pressures held holding at risk**

- Nil

- **Proposed Savings – £'000**

- Pension actuarial review (350)
- Staff structure review across Council (500)
- Use of SPF funding to support services (1,000)

**Draft Budget Requests 2025/26 = £41,895 (+6%)**



# Capital 2025/26



## HTR

£'000

- Street Lighting and Roads £8,100
- Recycling £1,132
- Transport – specific reserve for vehicles and equipment £5,405
- Major schemes and flood alleviation £1,771
- Highways LUF – subject to funding being finalised £10,724
- Countryside and Outdoor Rec £471

## Housing General Fund

- Disabled Adaptations £1,300
- Landlord loans & safe warm secure grants £400
- Other £141

## Community Wellbeing

- Libraries - self service system £31
- Leisure – essential works to maintain provision £1,000

## Digital

- Desktop refresh and cloud £450

