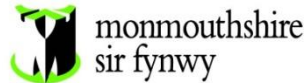


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Neuadd Y Sir
Y Rhadyr
Brynbuga
NP15 1GA

Dydd Mawrth, 10 Rhagfyr 2024

Annwyl Cynghorydd

PENDERFYNIADIAU AELOD CABINET UNIGOL

Hysbysir drwy hyn y caiff y penderfyniadau dilynol a wnaed gan aelod o'r cabinet eu gwneud **Dydd Mercher, 18fed Rhagfyr, 2024**..

AGENDA

1. RHEOLIADAU AWDURDODAU LLEOL (PRAESEPTAU) (CYMRU) 1995 DEDDF LLYWODRAET 1994 - Cynnig Amserlen Taliadau

CABINET MEMBER: County Councillor B Callard

AUTHOR: Ruth Donovan
Assistant Head of Finance
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2. SYLFAEN TRETH GYNGOR 2025/26 A MATERION CYSYLLTIEDIG

CABINET MEMBER: County Councillor B Callard

AUTHOR: Ruth Donovan Assistant Head of Finance: Revenues, Systems and Exchequer

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Yr eiddwch yn gywir,

Paul Matthews
Prif Weithredwr

PORTFFOLIOS CABINET

| Cynghorydd Sir | Meysydd o Gyfrifoldeb | Ward |
|-----------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| Mary Ann Brocklesby | <p>Arweinydd Swyddog Arweiniol – Paul Matthews, Matthew Gatehouse, Peter Davies, Will Mclean</p> <p>Strategaeth a Chyfeiriad Awdurdod Cyfan Adolygu a gwerthuso perfformiad awdurdod cyfan, gan gynnwys DDAT Perthynas â Llywodraeth Cymru, Llywodraeth y DU a chymdeithasau llywodraeth leol Perthnasoedd Rhanbarthol gan gynnwys Cydbwyllgorau Corfforedig, Byrddau Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus a Chynllunio Argyfwng trawsffiniol</p> | Llanelly |
| Paul Griffiths | <p>Aelod Cabinet dros Gynllunio a Datblygu Economaidd Dirprwy Arweinydd Swyddog Arweiniol – Will McLean, Craig O'Connor</p> <p>Strategaeth Economaidd Sgiliau a Chyflogaeth Cynllun Datblygu Lleol Amnewid Creu lleoedd a datblygu tai marchnad agored a thair fforddiadwy Creu lleoedd a Thrawsnewid Trefi Gorfodaeth parcio ceir a pharcio sifil Rheoli Datblygu Rheoli Adeiladu</p> | Castell Cas-gwent a Larkfield |
| Ben Callard | <p>Aelod Cabinet dros Adnoddau Swyddogion Arweiniol – Peter Davies, Matt Gatehouse</p> <p>Cyllid gan gynnwys y CATC a'r cylch cyllideb blynyddol Refeniw a Budd-daliadau Adnoddau Dynol, cyflogres, iechyd a diogelwch Tir ac adeiladau Cynnal a chadw a rheoli eiddo Caffael strategol</p> | Llanfoist & Govilon |
| Martyn Groucutt | <p>Aelod Cabinet dros Addysg Swyddogion Arweiniol - Will McLean, Ian Saunders</p> <p>Addysg Blynyddoedd Cynnar Addysg statudol pob oed Anghenion dysgu ychwanegol/cynhwysiant Addysg ôl-16 ac addysg oedolion Safonau a gwelliant ysgolion Dysgu Cymunedol</p> | Lansdown |

| | | |
|----------------|--|------------------------|
| | <p>Rhaglen cymunedau cynaliadwy ar gyfer dysgu Gwasanaethau Ieuenctid Cludiant ysgol</p> | |
| Ian Chandler | <p>Aelod Cabinet dros Ofal Cymdeithasol, Diogelu a Gwasanaethau Iechyd Hygyrch Swyddog Arweiniol - Jane Rodgers</p> <p>Gwasanaethau Plant Maethu a mabwysiadu Gwasanaethau Troseddau Ieuenctid Gwasanaethau Oedolion Diogelu plant ac oedolion awdurdod cyfan Anableddau Iechyd meddwl a lles Perthynas â darparwyr iechyd a mynediad at ddarpariaeth iechyd</p> | Parc |
| Catrin Maby | <p>Aelod Cabinet dros Newid Hinsawdd a'r Amgylchedd Swyddogion Arweiniol – Debra Hill-Howells, Craig O'Connor, Ian Saunders</p> <p>Datgarboneiddio Cynllunio Trafnidiaeth gan gynnwys cludiant o'r cartref i'r ysgol Prifffyrdd a Ffilyd Cyngor Sir Fynwy Rheoli gwastraff, gofal strydoedd, sbwriel, manau cyhoeddus a pharciau Palmentydd a lonydd cefn Lliniaru Llifogydd Isadeiledd Gwyrdd, Bioamrywiaeth ac Iechyd Afonydd</p> | Drybridge |
| Angela Sandles | <p>Aelod Cabinet dros Gydraddoldeb ac Ymgysylltu Swyddogion Arweiniol – Matthew Gatehouse, Ian Saunders, Jane Rogers, James Williams</p> <p>Datblygu cymunedol, anghydraddoldeb a thlodi (iechyd, incwm, maeth, anfantais, gwahaniaethu, ynysu ac argyfwng costau byw) Ymgysylltu â dinasyddion a hybu democratiaeth gan gynnwys gweithio gyda sefydliadau gwirfoddol Profiad y dinesydd - hybiau cymunedol, canolfan gyswllt, gwasanaeth cwsmeriaid a chofrestryddion, cyfathrebu, cysylltiadau cyhoeddus a marchnata Canolfannau hamdden, chwarae a chwaraeon Cyfleusterau cyhoeddus Gwasanaethau Etholiadol ac adolygiad o'r cyfansoddiad Moeseg a safonau Iaith Gymraeg Safonau Masnach, Iechyd yr Amgylchedd, Gwarchod y Cyhoedd, a Thrwyddedu</p> | Dwyrain Magwyr a Gwndy |

| | | |
|------------|---|---------|
| Sara Burch | Materion Gwledig, Tai a Thwristiaeth Swyddog Arweiniol – Craig O'Connor, Ian Saunders Cynhyrchu a bwyta bwyd yn lleol, gan gynnwys amaeth- goedwigaeth a garddwriaeth leol Digartrefedd, Llety dros dro, tai sector preifat, (cynlluniau prydlesu cartrefi gwag, benthyciadau gwella cartrefi, grantiau cyfleusterau i'r anabl a thechnoleg ymaddasol), Dyrannu tai cymdeithasol Cysylltedd band eang Teithio Llesol Mynediad i Gefn Gwlad a Hawliau Tramwy Datblygu Twristiaeth a Gwasanaethau Diwylliannol | Cantref |
|------------|---|---------|

Nodau a Gwerthoedd Cyngor Sir Fynwy

Ein Pwrpas

- i ddod yn sir ddi-garbon, gan gefnogi lles, iechyd ac urddas i bawb ar bob cam o'u bywydau.

Amcanion rydym yn gweithio tuag atynt

- Lle teg i fyw lle mae effeithiau anghydraddoldeb a thlodi wedi'u lleihau;
- Lle gwyrdd i fyw a gweithio gyda llai o allyriadau carbon a gwneud cyfraniad cadarnhaol at fynd i'r afael â'r argyfwng yn yr hinsawdd a natur;
- Lle ffyniannus ac uchelgeisiol, lle mae canol trefi bywiog a lle gall busnesau dyfu a datblygu;
- Lle diogel i fyw lle mae gan bobl gartref maen nhw'n teimlo'n ddiogel ynddo;
- Lle cysylltiedig lle mae pobl yn teimlo'n rhan o gymuned ac yn cael eu gwerthfawrogi;
- Lle dysgu lle mae pawb yn cael cyfle i gyrraedd eu potensial.

Ein Gwerthoedd

Bod yn agored. Rydym yn agored ac yn onest. Mae pobl yn cael cyfle i gymryd rhan mewn penderfyniadau sy'n effeithio arnynt, dweud beth sy'n bwysig iddynt a gwneud pethau drostynt eu hunain/eu cymunedau. Os na allwn wneud rhywbeth i helpu, byddwn yn dweud hynny; os bydd yn cymryd peth amser i gael yr ateb, byddwn yn esbonio pam; os na allwn ateb yn syth, byddwn yn ceisio eich cysylltu gyda'r bobl a all helpu - mae adeiladu ymddiriedaeth ac ymgysylltu yn sylfaen allweddol.

Tegwch. Darparwn gyfleoedd teg, i helpu pobl a chymunedau i ffynnu. Os nad yw rhywbeth yn ymddangos yn deg, byddwn yn gwrando ac yn esbonio pam. Byddwn bob amser yn ceisio trin pawb yn deg ac yn gyson. Ni allwn wneud pawb yn hapus bob amser, ond byddwn yn ymrwymo i wrando ac esbonio pam y gwnaethom weithredu fel y gwnaethom.

Hyblygrwydd. Byddwn yn parhau i newid a bod yn hyblyg i alluogi cyflwyno'r gwasanaethau mwyaf effeithlon ac effeithiol. Mae hyn yn golygu ymrwymiad gwirioneddol i weithio gyda phawb i groesawu ffyrdd newydd o weithio.

Gwaith Tîm. Byddwn yn gweithio gyda chi a'n partneriaid i gefnogi ac ysbrydoli pawb i gymryd rhan fel y gallwn gyflawni pethau gwych gyda'n gilydd. Nid ydym yn gweld ein hunain fel 'trefnwyr' neu ddatrysyr problemau, ond gwnawn y gorau o syniadau, asedau ac adnoddau sydd ar gael i wneud yn siŵr ein bod yn gwneud y pethau sy'n cael yr effaith mwyaf cadarnhaol ar ein pobl a lleoedd.

Caredigrwydd – Byddwn yn dangos caredigrwydd i bawb yr ydym yn gweithio gyda nhw, gan roi pwysigrwydd perthnasoedd a'r cysylltiadau sydd gennym â'n gilydd wrth wraidd pob rhyngweithio.



REPORT

SUBJECT: LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) ACT 1994 THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES (PRECEPTS) (WALES) REGULATIONS 1995 – Proposed Payment Schedule

MEETING: Individual Cabinet Member – Councillor B. Callard

DATE: 18th December 2024

DIVISION/WARDS AFFECTED: All

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1. To seek Member approval of the proposals for consultation purposes regarding payments to precepting authorities during the 2025/26 financial year as required by statute.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1. That the following schedule of payments be proposed pending consultation:
- (i) The Police Authority precept is paid from the Council Fund by twelve monthly equal instalments on the third Tuesday in each month.
 - (ii) The Community Council precepts are paid by three equal instalments on the last working day in April, August and December in each year.
- 2.2. That the Community Councils are consulted prior to the determination and that the response of the consultation is considered when making the final determination.
- 2.3. That a further report be produced on the results of consultation enabling a determination to be made by 31st January in accordance with statute.

3. KEY ISSUES:

- 3.1. The Council as a billing authority is required to determine the schedule of instalments for payment of Precepts from the Council Fund for each year.
- 3.2. The Regulations provide that on or before the 31st December each year a billing authority must inform each precepting authority of its proposals for a schedule of instalments to satisfy all of the precepts. This proposal should be followed by a determination on or before the 31st January, with at least 21 days elapsing between decision on the proposals and the making of a determination.
- 3.3. In each schedule the billing authority must specify the number of instalments, the proportion of each precept which is to be paid in each instalment and the dates in the year on which

instalments are to be paid. The payment to the Police Authority must be made on the same day and should not be less than twelve instalments in any one financial year. In the case of Town and Community Councils the agreement can be one of the following:

- (i) Payment by three instalments in April, August and December, or;
- (ii) Payment by one instalment on the last working day in April.

3.4. For the existing financial year Monmouthshire County Council operate the arrangement identified in (i) above for Town and Community Councils and pay the Police Authority precept on the third Tuesday of each month.

4. REASONS:

4.1. To approve the proposals for consultation purposes regarding payments to precepting authorities during the 2025/26 financial year as required by statute.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

5.1. Options are laid out by Statute and no further assessment is required.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

6.1. Not applicable.

7. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

7.1. Negligible cash flow advantages would be achieved should a decision be made to pay the Police Authority precept on the last working day of each month.

7.2. Similarly, any decision to move Town and Community Council precept payment to one instalment at the end of April is unlikely to introduce a material cashflow disadvantage but would reduce our payment administration by two thirds and may also assist the financial management within town & community councils.

8. WELLBEING OF FUTURE GENERATIONS (INCORPORATING EQUALITIES, SUSTAINABILITY, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING)

8.1. There are no implications directly arising from the recommendations and decisions highlighted in this report.

9. CONSULTEES

Strategic Leadership Team
Cabinet Members
Head of Finance (Section 151 Officer)

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1. None

AUTHORS

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REPORT

Subject: COUNCIL TAX BASE 2025/26 AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS

Directorate: Resources

Meeting: Individual Cabinet Member Decision – Cabinet Member for Resources

Date: 18th December 2024

Divisions/Wards Affected: County Wide

1. PURPOSE:

- 1.1 To agree the Council Tax base figure for submission to Welsh Government, together with the collection rate to be applied for 2025/26 and to make other necessary related statutory decisions.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That in accordance with the Local Authorities (Calculation of Tax Base) (Wales) Regulations 1995, the amount calculated by the Council as its Tax Base for 2025/26 shall be notified as **48,566.96** and the collection rate set at **98.2%**.
- 2.2 That no Special Resolution declaring Drainage Rates as Special Expenses be made.
- 2.3 That any expenses incurred by the Council in performing in part of its area a function performed elsewhere in its area by a Community Council shall not be treated as a special expense for the purpose of Section 35 of the Local Govt. Finance Act 1992.
- 2.4 That Council Tax setting continues to be a function of full Council.

3. KEY ISSUES:

Council Tax Base

- 3.1 For each financial year, the Council shall set its Council Tax, taking account of its own total net budget requirement and amounts receivable for redistributed Non-Domestic Rates, Revenue Support Grant and any other additional grants. It will also take account of any precepts it receives from other authorities and the value of the Council Tax Base. In simple terms, the net spending not met by grant is divided by the Tax Base to give the amount of Council Tax for a dwelling in Band D. The budget requirement, grant calculations and precepts will be addressed in the Council Tax Setting report.
- 3.2 It was previously agreed by Council in January 2005 that the largely technical matter of setting the Council Tax Base be dealt with by Executive decision. Legally, whilst the annual council tax setting decision could also be decided by the Executive, this has always been referred to full Council, given its wide interest and importance. It is

therefore recommended that council tax setting continues to be a decision for full Council.

- 3.3 The ratified council tax base information must be passed to Welsh Government (WG) by 7th January 2025 with reference to dwellings in the Valuation List as of 31st October 2024 and considering anticipated changes likely to occur during 2025/26. Provisional information has been provided to Welsh Government, if any changes to policy are considered which affect the tax base, revised information will need to be submitted. Significant differences may require Welsh Government to adjust the RSG entitlements via an amending report. The prescribed period during which Councils would notify major precepting authorities of the council tax base figure is normally 1st November to 31st December.
- 3.4 The tax base calculated for 2025/26 reflects Council's decision, on 9th March 2023, to use its discretionary powers under Section 12A and 12B of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 to charge a council tax premium on long term empty properties and second homes in the county. From 1st April 2024 the following council tax premiums apply:
- Long term empty properties: a 100% premium for properties empty for 1 year, a 200% premium for properties empty for 2 years and a 300% premium for properties empty for 3 years or more.
 - Second homes: a premium of 100%.
- 3.5 The 2025/26 tax base has been prepared based on the new parishes, as determined under The Monmouthshire (Communities) Order 2021. All changes took effect from 1st April 2022.

Collection Rate

- 3.6 It should be recognised that council tax is being perceived as an increasing burden on taxpayers with more arrangements outside the statutory scheme being sought, thereby increasing the time over which the debt is paid.
- 3.7 Between 2004/5 and 2017/18 the collection rate was increased incrementally from 96% to 99%. The collection rate has since remained at 99%, as generally the overall long term collection rate has continued to meet this target. Whilst overall collection remains relatively strong, despite the continuing cost of living crisis and challenging economic environment for households, it has been necessary to reset the collection rate for 2025/26. This follows the introduction of council tax premiums in 2024/25. To ensure consistency between Councils across Wales, Welsh Government have asked the Council to adjust how premiums are accounted for in the tax base. This change has resulted in a 0.8% reduction in the collection rate, which is set at 98.2% for 2025/26.
- 3.8 The Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) was introduced by the Welsh Government on 1st April 2013, replacing what was the Council Tax Benefit Scheme. On inception the Welsh Government fully funded the scheme, pending a full review. This review was concluded in the summer of 2014, with Welsh Government announcing its intention to continue to fund the scheme for another 2 years (2015/16 and 2016/17). The scheme has since been extended further for the financial years 2017/18 through to 2024/25. During the year, Welsh Government have consulted on a number of technical changes to the Scheme, which will be introduced in 2025/26 and 2026/27. A separate report is scheduled for full Council on 23rd January 2025 to approve next year's Council Tax Reduction Scheme.

- 3.9 The Covid 19 pandemic put significant pressure on the CTRS budget in 2020/21 and 2021/22. However, demand has since returned to pre pandemic levels.
- 3.10 Funding of the CTRS from Welsh Government forms part of the annual revenue budget settlement and is expected to remain at current levels for next year. As part of its annual budget setting, the Council can determine how much budget to allocate to this Scheme taking account of levels of take up and any additional costs arising from any increases in council tax. From a household perspective, they will not be required to make any contributions.

Special Items and Expenses (Section 34)

- 3.11 Certain items of expenditure, and precepts made upon the Council by Community Councils are applicable only to certain parts of the area and special rules exist to deal with these items. These rules apply to all the Town and Community Council precepts in respect of each of their respective areas. They also apply to Drainage Rates which are charged only in certain parts of the East and South of the County area. The Council has always considered that the general body of taxpayers should be treated equally in this respect and such expenditure should be defrayed over the whole area rather than charged as an additional item on those who happen to be in a particular catchment area. If this view continues to prevail then no special resolution declaring these to be special expenses will be necessary.
- 3.12 Finally, expenses incurred by an authority in performing in part of its area a function performed elsewhere by a Community Council (concurrent functions) must be treated as a special expense unless a negative resolution is in force.
- 3.13 The effect of the above result in a recommendation leading to drainage rates and concurrent functions being charged equally across the County.

4. EQUALITY AND FUTURE GENERATIONS EVALUATION (INCLUDES SOCIAL JUSTICE, SAFEGUARDING AND CORPORATE PARENTING)

- 4.1 There are no implications for sustainability, safeguarding and corporate parenting. The Council Tax base itself is mainly calculated from information about the numbers of properties within the County, adjusted to an equivalent band D figure for things such as discounts, exemptions and reliefs, and is therefore based on fact and provided for information. Annually Council considers council tax setting as part of the wider budget proposals in March. At this time, these proposals are subject to an overall WFG assessment. Our Sustainability Community Officer has confirmed that under these circumstances there is no requirement to complete a Future Generations Evaluation.

5. OPTIONS APPRAISAL

- 5.1 Not applicable. This is a statutory report.

6. EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 6.1 Not applicable.

7. REASONS:

- 7.1 To agree the council tax base figure and the collection rate for the forthcoming financial year, as required by legislation.

- 7.2 To determine whether a special resolution should be made declaring Drainage Rates a special expense.
- 7.3 To determine whether any expenses incurred in part only of the area should be treated as special expenditure in accordance with the relevant legislation.
- 7.4 To confirm that the important matter of tax setting should continue to be a function of full council rather than be devolved for executive decision.

8. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

- 8.1 Overall the Council Tax base calculated for 2025/26 has risen by 0.2% compared to 2024/25. This increase reflects the current level of exemptions and discounts, anticipated changes in dwellings and the inclusion of council tax premiums.
- 8.2 Any income generated from council tax premiums (net of direct administration expenditure) will be transferred to an earmarked reserve to be used in future to further the Council's progress in addressing housing issues in the County.
- 8.3 The remaining estimated income derived from the council tax base will be included in the draft budget proposals to be considered by Cabinet on 22nd January 2025.

9. CONSULTEES:

Acting Chief Executive
Cabinet Member for Resources
Head of Finance

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None

11. AUTHORS:

Ruth Donovan – Assistant Head of Finance: Revenues, Systems and Exchequer

12. CONTACT DETAILS:

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