

Meeting of:	<b>Learning and Culture Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date of Meeting:	<b>Thursday, 19 September 2024</b>
Relevant Scrutiny Committee:	Learning and Culture
Report Title:	Closure of Accounts 2023/24
Purpose of Report:	The accounts are complete and this report is to inform Committee of the provisional financial position of the Council for the 2023/24 financial year.
Report Owner:	<b>Director of Learning and Skills</b>
Responsible Officer:	Matt Bowmer Head of Finance/Section 151 Officer
Elected Member and Officer Consultation:	This report does not require Ward Member consultation
Policy Framework:	This is a matter for Executive decision by Cabinet.

**Executive Summary:**

- The Council encountered significant revenue pressures during 2023/24, particular pressures were in respect of inflationary pressures particularly regarding contracts and pay pressures (which reflect cost of living, market pressures and the Council’s commitment to paying real living wage).
- The Council continued to experience significant demand pressures for supporting Children’s services, Homelessness and pupils with Additional Learning Needs during 2023-24.
- The year end revenue position was a breakeven position after net transfers from reserves of £34.235m, made up of £417k transferred from Council Fund, £12.961m from the Housing Revenue Account, £11.785m transferred into specific reserves from revenue and £12.078m transferred from specific reserves to provide one off funding for projects and overspends and £8.779m drawdown from reserves to fund the capital programme and for displacement required by capital grants. The Council Fund now stands at £11.106m as at 31st March, 2024.

Table 1 - Outturn Summary

	<b>Amended Revenue Budget</b>	<b>Actual</b>	<b>Variance +Favourable () Adverse</b>	<b>Net Transfer to /(From) Reserve</b>
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Learning & Skills	128,329	128,454	(125)	7,692

Social Services	85,493	89,755	(4,262)	7,339
Environment and Housing	31,909	32,158	(249)	(1,214)
Place	3,401	4,441	(1,040)	(64)
Corporate Resources	16,741	16,734	7	495
General Policy	30,645	26,319	4,327	(1,768)
Council Tax Surplus	-	(3,423)	3,423	-
Use of Reserves	(2,096)	(2,096)	-	2,096
Total Provisional Outturn	294,422	292,342	2,080	14,575
Allocation of Surplus	-	2,080	(2,080)	(2,080)
Total	294,422	294,422	0	12,495
Capital Programme Funded from Reserves				8,779
Movement on Housing Revenue Account				12,961
Total Movement on Council Fund and Specific Reserves				34,235

Table 2 – Council Fund and Reserves

Council Fund and Specific Reserves	Opening £000's	Movement £000's	Closing £000's
Council Fund	11,523	(417)	11,106
Earmarked Reserves	82,481	(20,857)	61,624
Housing Revenue Account	16,486	(12,961)	3,525
Total	110,490	(34,235)	76,255

- Challenging savings and efficiency targets have been set for 2023/24 which includes a target of £2.75M for schools and £4.628M of Corporate savings. The progress against these savings targets is reflected in the Appendix and summarised in the table below, and whilst services have mitigated some savings in year in 2023/24 these savings will be kept under review in 2024/25 as services move to identify these on a more sustainable basis over the medium term.
- After taking account of Directorate movements to and from reserves the revenue outturn showed a surplus of £2.080m which it is proposed is transferred to reserves to be utilised as follows.
  - £2m Establish a new reserve to offset Education Deficits in 2024/25 on a provisional basis whilst the Council works with schools on establishing a coordinated approach to tackling school deficits.
  - The balance of £80k has been transferred to the General Fund
- The Housing Revenue Account had a slighter reduced projected draw down on the ringfenced reserve of £12.961m to reducing the level of its ringfenced reserve to £3.525m. Which is thought to be reasonable in the context of the pressures in the service area in 2024/25.
- The level of Useable Reserves reduced in year although by less that has been projected but some of these commitments have been slipped into 2024/25 in accordance with Capital Expenditure slippage. The Council undertook a further reserve reallocation exercise in year as outlined in the 2024/25 budget proposals and this is reflected in the outturn position.

Table 3 – Reserves

As at	Balance 31/03/23	Capital	Budget Revenue	Revenue Movemen t on Reserves	Surplus Transfer into Reserves	Realloc of Reserves	Provisiona l Balance 31/03/24
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
General Fund	11,523	0	(496)	0	80	0	11,106
Insurance	4,878	0	0	0	0	0	4,878
Service Reserves	22,521	(161)	0	(9,770)	997	3,000	16,587
Risk and Smoothing Reserves	29,802	(940)	(2,800)	(1,211)	1,587	(1,783)	24,655
Capital	17,726	(7,678)	0	(70)	1,686	(1,217)	10,447
Schools	7,554	0	0	(4,842)	2,345	0	5,057
Housing Revenue Account	16,486	0	(12,961)	0	0	0	3,525
<b>Total</b>	<b>110,490</b>	<b>(8,779)</b>	<b>(16,257)</b>	<b>(15,893)</b>	<b>6,694</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>76,255</b>

## Recommendations

1. That the report and the financial measures taken and proposed be noted.
2. That the allocation of overall Council surplus as set out below be noted
  - £2m transfer to new reserve to offset school deficits on a provisional basis in 2024/25.
  - £80k to Council Fund to offset general pressures.

## Reasons for Recommendations

1. To inform Members of the outturn and the financial measures taken and proposed.
2. To inform Members of the allocation of the 2023/24 surplus to support specific pressures identified by the Council.

### 1. Background

- 1.1 Following the end of the financial year, Scrutiny Committees are provided with provisional outturn figures for the Council. It is anticipated that the Statement of Accounts will be approved by Council in November 2024, which will follow the external audit by Audit Wales.

### 2. Key Issues for Consideration

#### 2.1 Council Fund

- 2.2 Council on 6th March 2023 approved the revenue budget for 2023/24 (minute no 779) and earlier in the year Council on 11th January 2023 approved the Housing Revenue Account budget for 2023/24 (minute number 607). There was an approved drawdown from the Council Fund of £496K during 2023/24 and £2.8M from other specific reserves.

- 2.3 This represented budgeted net expenditure for the Authority of £294.422m. Total expenditure was to be financed by Revenue Support Grant (£160.013m), National Non-Domestic Rates contribution (£42.784m) and Council Taxpayers (£91.625m).

- 2.4 The directorate revenue budgets have been amended and approved by Cabinet during the financial year. Some further virements are requested as part of this report as detailed below and are further detailed in the service specific appendices.

Table 4. Virements Requested

	Revised Budget 2023/24	Virement Requested	Revised Amended Budget 2023/24
	£000's	£000's	£000's
Learning & Skills	128,329		128,329
Social Services	85,460	33	85,493
Environment and Housing	32,009	- 100	31,909
Place	3,401		3,401
Corporate Resources	16,641	100	16,741
General Policy	30,678	- 33	30,645
Use of Reserves	- 2,096		- 2,096
<b>Total</b>	<b>294,422</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>294,422</b>

**2.5** At year end there was a £2.080m favourable variance which has been allocated as follows.

- £2m Establish a new reserve to offset Education Deficits in 2024/25 on a provisional basis whilst the Council works with schools on establishing a coordinated approach to tackling school deficits.
- The balance of £80k has been transferred to the General Fund

**2.6** Total transfers from reserves of £34.235m were made up of a £417k budgeted contribution from the Council Fund and £12.078m transferred from specific reserves to support the revenue budget, a £12.961m drawdown from the Housing Revenue Account Reserve and £8.779m drawdown from reserves to fund the capital programme and displacement arrangements. As part of the preparation for the 2024/25 budget a review of reserves has been undertaken and reserves are reported including these adjustments.

**2.7** The following table compares the amended budget and the actual expenditure, including transfers to and from reserves, for the Council. The final column shows the net transfers to specific reserves for each directorate which has been included within the actual expenditure figures.

**Table 5 – Summary Outturn**

Directorate	Revised Budget 2023/24	Outturn 2023/24	Variance	Unplanned Use of Reserves/ (Transfer to Reserves)	Residual Variance 2023/24	Use of Reserves 2023/24
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Learning and Skills	128,329	128,369	(40)	(85)	(125)	7,692
Social Services	85,493	93,744	(8,251)	3,989	(4,262)	7,339
Environment and Housing	31,909	30,735	1,174	(1,423)	(249)	(1,214)
Corporate Resources	16,741	16,734	7	0	7	495
Place	3,401	4,345	(944)	(96)	(1,040)	(64)
Policy	30,645	26,319	4,326	0	4,326	(1,769)
Use of Reserves	(2,096)	(2,096)	0	0	0	2,096
Council Tax Surplus	0	(3,423)	3,423	0	3,423	0
Favourable Variance Transferred to Reserves	0	0	0	(2,080)	(2,080)	(2080)
<b>Total</b>	<b>294,422</b>	<b>294,727</b>	<b>(305)</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12,495</b>

**2.8** A detailed analysis of the outturn is provided at Appendix 1.

**2.9** A number of the Council's budgets continue to be under considerable pressure a summary of the key headline pressures in year is set out below.

**2.10** Schools outturned with a slightly more favourable position than had been reported during the year which was in part due to additional grant income from Welsh Government, the net drawdown from reserves across the delegated schools budget was £4.673m. The majority of schools made progress towards a balanced budget in year and schools ended with remaining net reserve balances of £2.309m. However, this masks some significant variances across individual schools with some schools with significant deficits and some schools with significant balances.

**2.11** In Central Learning and Skills, a key ongoing pressure is the School Transport budget. Local Education Authorities have a statutory duty to provide free school transport for pupils of statutory school age who reside beyond walking distance to the nearest appropriate school in addition to a statutory duty to provide transport for pupils with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) who require access to specialist provision. Mainstream transport continues to run for pupils who are not able to get into their catchment school as they are full. In 2023/24 a number of economic factors such as increased fuel costs, shortage of operators and

drivers in this sector continue to exacerbate pressures in this area. Some operators have also handed back routes as they cannot fulfil them. Other pressures have been experienced in the service in respect of Children’s placements and supporting those with additional learning needs and social and emotional needs.

**2.12** The main reasons for the variances are set out in the following paragraphs and additional detail is set out in the supporting appendices to this report.

### Learning and Skills

**2.13** Table 6 below provides detail of the outturn for the Learning & Skills Directorate. The outturn was an adverse variance of £125k after the transfer into the budget of £7.692m from reserves. A detailed analysis of the outturn for Learning and Skills can be found in Appendix 2.

**Table 6 – Learning & Skills Outturn**

	Amended Budget 2023/24	Projected Outturn 2023/24	Variance	Unplanned Use of Reserves/ (Transfer to Reserves)	Residual Variance 2023/24	Use of Reserves 2023/24
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
<b>Learning and Schools</b>						
Delegated Schools	115,439	115,439	0	0	0	4,590
Use of Reserves	(1,200)	(1,200)	0	0	0	1,200
Strategy, Culture, Community Learning and Resources	6,754	7,159	(405)	0	(405)	1,532
Directors Office	252	252	0	0	0	0
Additional Learning Needs and Wellbeing	4,113	3,985	128		128	452
Standards and Provision	2,971	2,735	236	(85)	151	(82)
<b>Total Learning and Skills</b>	<b>128,329</b>	<b>128,369</b>	<b>(40)</b>	<b>(85)</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>7,692</b>

### Schools

**2.14** The delegated schools budget for 2023/24 outturned on target after transferring in £4.369M from School Balances and utilising a further £1.2M planned as part of the 2023/24 budget proposals to smooth energy pressures in schools.

- 2.15** Schools are permitted to carry forward any revenue variances through school balances. At the start of the 2023/24 financial year, school balances totalled £6.667m, with 9 schools in a deficit position this was an increase from 0 at the start of 2022/23. By the end of 2023/24 year, school balances have decreased by £4.369m to £2.309m. A table identifying school balances is attached at Appendix 2.
- 2.16** A total of 43 schools needed to draw down funding from reserves amounting to £5,257,741 and only 10 schools transferred funding into school balances amounting to £889,100.
- 2.17** As at 31st March 2024, there were 22 schools in a deficit position or 41.5% of schools in total, with total deficits amounting to £3,149,651. The net amount remaining within school balances as at 31st March 2024 is £2.309m however, primary school balances are in an overall net deficit position of £681,252.
- 2.18** The table below shows the breakdown on a sector by sector basis.

Table 7 – School Balances 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

	Total no. of schools	Number of schools in deficit at 31/03/2024	% of schools in a deficit position	Total value of deficit balances carried forward at 31/03/2024	Balance CF as at 31st March 2024
Primary schools	44	19	43%	(£2,776,198)	(£681,252)
Secondary schools	6	2	33%	(£277,974)	£1,971,221
3-19 schools	2	1	50%	(£95,479)	£265,616
Special schools	1	0	0%	£0	£753,255
Total	53	22	42%	(3,149,651)	2,308,840

- 2.19** Appendix 3 shows the carry forward per school over the last 10 financial years.
- 2.20** Any school that has a deficit outturn position, will be requested to prepare a balanced recovery plan eradicating the deficit over a three to five year period. Schools are currently working on budgets and recovery plans to the statutory deadline of 30th June 2024.
- 2.21** Other transfers to and from reserves have also taken place in year which are detailed in the appendix such as repayment to the energy management fund for Salix schemes £67k, repayment of ICT loans £10k. There is also an accounting



adjustment for the timing on the Big Fresh Catering Dividend in 2022/23 of £300k.

## **Central Learning and Skills**

**2.22** The Central Learning and Skills budget for 2023/24 outturned with an adverse variance of £125k after transferring in £1,963k from reserves. Key issues are outlined below and an outturn proforma is attached at Appendix 1 which provides a summary of the main variances against the budget and also the transfers from reserves.

**2.23** Adverse Variances in the service included pressures in School Transport, Children placements, specific school support and establishment of new ALN provision and redundancy costs in schools. There were also pressures in respect of savings identified but not realised such as the Arts Service and School Repairs. Key Pressures in the service included the following.

- Early Retirement/Voluntary Retirement (ER/VR) budget - It is a statutory requirement that redundancy costs in schools are funded centrally. The ERVR budget overspent by £352k due to increased redundancy costs in schools this year.
- A total of £1.175m was transferred from the Education Pressures Reserve to provide support for schools during the year. This includes an additional funding of £1.050m was identified as part of the 22/23 outturn and was added to the Education Pressures Reserve in 23/24. A total of £850k was allocated for additional learning needs support in mainstream schools and was transferred to primary and secondary schools via the funding formula. The balance of £200k was identified for schools in special measures and was allocated to Pencoedtre and Ysgol Pen Y Garth to support the schools with additional staff and training. A further amount of £150k was transferred in from the Education Pressures Reserve to cover additional inspection support costs related to Pen Y Garth, legal costs for Whitmore High School and leadership costs relating to Whitmore and Pencoedtre.
- The School Transport final overspend was £555k and as reported in-year this can be attributed to operators requesting uplifts on their daily rate due to inflation, additional costs due to price increases on routes where pupils have been added, new routes being put in place for pupils attending Ysgol Y Deri
- There was an adverse variance of 10% of the Joint Pooled CLA budget overspend of £195k. Due to increasing numbers of placements and the increasing cost of those placements the pressure on this budget will continue to increase in future years.
- The existing provision at Whitmore Resource Base and Hafan Resource Base (Gladstone school) was increased from September 23. These costs have been funded from the ALN Implementation Grant in 23/24 and this will continue in 24/25. The ongoing costs will be put forward as a cost pressure for 25/26.
- The ALN Implementation Grant also funded the setup of the Welsh Medium Specialist Resource Base at Gwaun Y Nant. This provision will be fully funded from the base budget in 24/25 as a cost pressure was awarded.

**2.24** Favourable variances included underspends against School Improvement due to the maximisation of grants and a reduction in the charges for the Central South Consortium. There was also a favourable variance against The Youth Engagement & Progression Service underspent by £133k as result of vacancies and the maximisation of grant funding.

**2.25** Transfers in from reserves included the following:

- A total of £175k has been transferred in from the Education Pressures Reserve to fund the costs of the demountables at Ysgol Y Deri.
- A further £118k was transferred in from the Education Pressures Reserve to cover additional temporary posts. This will be an ongoing issue in 2024/25.
- A total of £190k was transferred in from the Catering Equipment Reserve to offset expenditure incurred on catering equipment. This will be recharged to the Big Fresh Catering Company as part of the lease.
- A further £221k was transferred in from the Welfare Reform Reserve to cover the costs of Free School Meals during the holidays.

**2.26** Transfers into reserves included the following:

- The underspend of £263k on capital borrowing was transferred from the Capital Investment budget to the Schools Investment Strategy Reserve as planned.
- A total of £40k was transferred to the Energy Management Reserve in respect of School Decarbonisation
- £320k was transferred to the ICT Hwb End User Reserve which will be used for the ongoing renewal of devices previously purchased under the Hwb Grant.

### **Allocation of Surplus**

**2.27** Following Directorate specific transfers to and from reserves the Council reported a surplus of £2.080m this was largely due to the continued use of the Council's reserves to minimise external borrowing, investment income generated in year as well as the Council tax surplus in 2023/24.

**2.28** The indicative outturn was reviewed by SLT and following further discussions the following sums have been transferred to reserves to allow schemes to progress in 2023/24.

- £2m Establish a new reserve to offset Education Deficits in 2024/25 on a provisional basis whilst the Council works with schools on establishing a coordinated approach to tackling school deficits.
- The balance of £80k has been transferred to the Council Fund

## Efficiency Targets

- 2.29** As part of the Final Revenue Budget Proposals for 2023/24, an efficiency target of £7.378M was set for the Council, this is a far higher level of savings than has been set for a number of years.
- 2.30** Of this sum £2.75M has been delegated to schools has been managed as part of school budget setting. There are a number of schools that have ended the year in a deficit position and have set deficit recovery strategies to mitigate the deficit budget over a 3-5 year period.
- 2.31** The outturn position in respect of the 2023/24 savings is detailed in Table 3 below whilst the value of savings achieved is broadly similar to the percentage reported as part of Quarter 3 Monitoring the amount mitigated has increased slightly so that the net shortfall is 11% rather than 15% as reported in February.

Table 15 – Outturn Position 2023/24 Savings

Directorate	Target	Amount Achieved	% Achieved	Mitigation	Mitigation Achieved %	Shortfall	Shortfall %
	£'000s	£'000s		£'000s		£'000s	£'000s
Policy	1,615	1,615	100%	-	0%	-	0%
Resources	582	331	57%	250	43%	1	0%
Neighbourhood and Housing	1,000	743	74%	40	4%	217	22%
Learning and skills	564	369	65%	105	19%	90	16%
Social Services	681	481	71%	-	0%	200	29%
Place	265	245	92%	-	0%	20	8%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,707</b>	<b>3,784</b>	<b>80%</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>528</b>	<b>11%</b>

- 2.32** The shortfall in Learning and Skills relates to the Schools Repairs budget, it is hoped that increased asset renewal provision in the Capital programme in 2024/25 will help mitigate the pressures against this budget in year but pressures in schools may also have an impact on delivery of this saving.
- 2.33** Attached at Appendix 4 is a statement detailing all savings targets for 2023/24 and the current progress against them.

## Reserves

- 2.34** A reserve is an appropriation from a revenue account and does not constitute a cost of service until the expenditure is eventually incurred. A reserve does not cover a present obligation or liability and is a voluntary means of setting aside monies for future requirements either capital or revenue.

- 2.35** As part of the preparation for the 2024/25 budget a full review of the Council's reserves has been undertaken some consolidation has been undertaken and some reallocation to ensure that the reserves are more appropriately matched the Council's key budgetary risks the table below reflects the reallocation of reserves that has taken place, this includes an additional allocation of £3m to Social Services reserves and the establishment of a £1m budget risk reserve.
- 2.36** Table 15 below sets out the use of reserves for a variety of purposes including planned usage to fund Capital Expenditure, planned revenue usage in accordance with the earmarked purpose of the reserve, unplanned usage to fund emerging overspends during 2023/24 and planned transfers to reserves to set aside fund for specific purposes. The use of reserves to support the Capital programme has reduced to £8.779m and reflects slippage on the delivery of schemes in 2023/24. Where schemes have been reprofiled into 2024/25 this drawdown from reserves will now take place in 2024/25 to match expenditure.
- 2.37** Use of reserves includes an allocation of £7.2m to offset pressures in Social Services and £2m transferred from Education Reserves to support pressures in schools and ALN including £1m set aside as part of the 2023/24 closing process. Transfers into reserves include the corporate surplus of £2.080m which consisted into £2m into a reserve to offset school deficits and £80k transferred into the Council Fund. The use of reserves is detailed in the table below and a detailed analysis is attached at Appendix 5.

**Table 15 – Reserves**

As at	Estimated Balance 31/03/23	Capital	Budget Revenue	Revenue Mvmt on Reserves	Surplus Transfer into Reserves	Realloc of Reserve	Provisional Balance 31/03/24
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
General Fund	11,523	0	(496)	0	80	0	11,106
<b>Total General Fund</b>	<b>11,523</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(496)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>11,106</b>
Insurance	4,878	0	0	0	0	0	4,878
<b>Service Reserves</b>							
Learning and Skills	4,131	(47)	0	(2,002)	258	0	2,340
Social Services	10,015	0	0	(7,201)	0	3,000	5,814
Neighbourhood Services	3,078	(11)	0	0	0	0	3,067
Corporate Resources	734	0	0	(205)	0	0	529
Place	2,096	(23)	0	(160)	361	0	2,274
Other Service Reserves	1,625	(80)	0	(45)	364	0	1,864
Other Corporate	842	0	0	(157)	14	0	699
<b>Risk and Smoothing Reserves</b>							
Homelessness and Housing Reserve	4,456	0	(200)	0	1,193	0	5,449

Cost of Living	854	0	(200)	(283)	0	0	371
Pay Pressures	4,168	0	0	(360)	61	0	3,869
Energy Pressures	3,885	0	(2,400)	0	0	0	1,485
Legal	2,000	0	0	(160)	0	0	1,840
Project Zero	2,325	(50)	0	(208)	322	(681)	1,708
Investment and Growth Fund	2,353	0	0	0	0	(2,353)	0
Reshaping Risk and Investment	2,523	0	0	(200)	0	251	2,574
Corporate Landlord	5,707	(760)	0	0	0	0	4,947
Digital Reshaping	1,531	(130)	0	0	11	0	1,412
Budget Risk	0	0	0	0	0	1,000	1,000
Capital Reserves							
Capital	17,726	(7,678)	0	(30)	1,645	(3,175)	8,488
Independent Living Reserve	0	0	0	0	0	500	500
Capital Regeneration and Levelling Up	0	0	0	(40)	40	1,458	1,458
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>86,450</b>	<b>(8,779)</b>	<b>(3,296)</b>	<b>(11,051)</b>	<b>4,349</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>67,672</b>
<b>Ring Fenced Reserves</b>							
Schools	6,677	0	0	(4,368)	0	0	2,309
Other Ringfenced Schools Reserves	877	0	0	(474)	345	0	748
School Deficit Reserve	0	0	0	0	2,000	0	2,000
Housing Revenue Account	16,486	0	(12,961)	0	0	0	3,525
<b>Total Reserves</b>	<b>110,490</b>	<b>(8,779)</b>	<b>(16,257)</b>	<b>(15,893)</b>	<b>6,694</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>76,254</b>

### 3. How do proposals evidence the Five Ways of Working and contribute to our Well-being Objectives?

- 3.1 The Council's revenue budget and therefore its expenditure is incurred in order to achieve its corporate priorities as set out in the Corporate Plan 2020-2025 through the 4 well-being outcomes.

### 4. Climate Change and Nature Implications

- 4.1 At 31st March, 2024 the Council holds reserves specifically earmarked to support the Council's response to the Climate and Nature Emergency totalling £1.369m with further reserves earmarked within the Capital reserves shown.

## **5. Resources and Legal Considerations**

### **Financial**

**5.1** As detailed in the body of the report.

### **Employment**

**5.2** There are no employment implications contained in this report.

### **Legal (Including Equalities)**

**5.3** The provisional outturn figures for the Council have been used in the preparation of the Statements of Accounts. Regulation 10(1) of the Accounts and Audit (Wales) Regulations 2014 (as amended) requires the Responsible Financial Officer to sign and date the Statement of Accounts and certify that they present a true and fair view of the financial position at the end of the year. This means that for 2023/24 the Statement of Accounts should be certified by the Section 151 Officer by 31st May 2024.

**5.4** If it is not possible to meet this deadline the Council has to advertise that this has not happened and the reason why. Due to the continued impact of the pressures of the COVID-19 pandemic and Resource pressures in the team it was not possible to produce the Statement of Accounts by 31st May 2024 and the appropriate advert was placed. The Statement of Accounts was however signed by the S151 Officer on 29th June, 2024.

## **6. Background Papers**

None.

Appendix 1	Amended Budget	Projected	Variance	Unplanned Use	Residual	Use of Reserves
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
<u>Learning and Schools</u>						
Delegated Schools	115,439	115,439	-		-	4,590
Use of Reserves	- 1,200	- 1,200	-		-	1,200
Strategy, Culture, Community Learning and Directors Office	6,754	7,159	- 405		- 405	1,532
Additional Learning Needs and Wellbeing	252	252	-		-	-
Standards and Provision	4,113	3,985	128		128	452
	2,971	2,735	236	- 85	151	- 82
Total Learning and Skills	128,329	128,369	- 40	- 85	- 125	7,692
<u>Social Services</u>						
Children and Young Peoples Services	18,652	23,923	- 5,271	2,674	- 2,597	3,670
Adult Services	58,246	60,569	- 2,323	660	- 1,663	2,677
Resource Management and Safeguarding	7,879	8,665	- 786	784	- 2	992
Youth Offending Service	716	587	129	- 129	-	-
Total Social Services	85,493	93,744	-8,251	3,989	-4,262	7,339
<u>Neighbourhood Services and Housing</u>						
Neighbourhood Services and Transport	28,307	28,665	- 358	-	- 358	209
Building Services	-	- 231	231	- 231	-	- 231
Regulatory Services	1,668	1,559	109	-	109	-
General Fund Housing	1,934	742	1,192	- 1,192	-	- 1,192
Total Neighbourhood Services and Housing	31,909	30,735	1,174	- 1,423	- 249	- 1,214
<u>Corporate Resources</u>						
Resources	17,172	17,231	- 59	-	- 59	495
Housing Benefit	- 431	- 496	65	-	65	
Total Corporate Resources	16,741	16,734	7	-	7	495
<u>Place</u>						
Regeneration	1,494	1,323	171	- 176	- 5	155
Development Management	1,726	1,695	31	-	31	31
Private Housing	181	261	- 80	80	-	122
Vale Enterprise Centre	-	1,066	- 1,066	-	1,066	
Total Place	3,401	4,345	- 944	- 96	- 1,040	64
<u>Policy</u>						
General Policy	30,645	26,319	4,326		4,326	- 1,768
Total Policy	30,645	26,319	4,326	-	4,326	- 1,768
Use of Reserves	- 2,096	- 2,096	-		-	2,096
Council Tax Surplus	-	- 3,423	3,423		3,423	0
Allocation of Surplus		-	-	- 2,080	- 2,080	- 2,080
Grand Total	294,422	294,727	- 305	305	0	12,496

<u>Funded By</u>						
Council Tax	- 91,625	- 91,625				
Revenue Support Grant	- 160,013	- 160,013				
Non Domestic Rates	- 42,784	- 42,784				
Grand Total	- 294,422	- 294,422				

Transfer from Reserves Revenue	12,496
Transfer from Reserves Capital	8,779
Total Transfer from Reserves	21,275

Appendix 2	
Directorate	<b>Learning &amp; Skills</b>
Service Area	Director and Strategy, Community Learning and Resources

Outturn Summary	Amended Budget 2023/24	Projected Outturn 2023/24	Variance	Allocation of Surplus to Reserves	Residual Variance 2023/24	Use of Reserves 2023/24
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Strategy, Culture, Community Learning and Resources Directors Office	6,754	7,159	- 405		- 405	1,532
	252	252	-		-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,006</b>	<b>7,411</b>	<b>- 405</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>- 405</b>	<b>1,532</b>

### **Outturn Key Headlines**

A key ongoing pressure is the School Transport budget. Local Education Authorities have a statutory duty to provide free school transport for pupils of statutory school age who reside beyond walking distance to the nearest appropriate school in addition to a statutory duty to provide transport for pupils with Additional Learning Needs (ALN) who require access to specialist provision. Mainstream transport continues to run for pupils who are not able to get into their catchment school as they are full. In 2023/24 a number of economic factors such as increased fuel costs, shortage of operators and drivers in this sector continue to exacerbate pressures in this area. Some operators have also handed back routes as they cannot fulfil them. This service transferred a net overspend of £555k at year end to the Learning and Skills budget.

Early Retirement/Voluntary Retirement (ER/VR) budget - It is a statutory requirement that redundancy costs in schools are funded centrally. The ERVR budget overspent by £352k due to increased redundancy costs in schools this year. Schools are responsible for paying the early retirement costs for any staff that leave but a scheme has been in place for a number of years where the ER/VR budget pays the one-off costs related to a staff member leaving and then the cost is recharged to the school over an agreed number of years. The additional net costs for this year were £14k. A total of £337k was transferred from the Corporate Pay Pressures Reserve to offset the

As part of the efficiency savings for the Directorate the £90k budget for School Repairs and Maintenance was cut. However, expenditure of £94k was incurred for works across various schools that would normally have been funded from this budget. A total of £39k of the overspend related to revenue contributions to capital outlay (RCCO) which were not known about until year end.

A total of £1.175M was transferred from the Education Pressures Reserve to provide support for schools during the year. Additional funding of £1.050M was identified as part of the 22/23 outturn and was added to the Education Pressures Reserve in 23/24. A total of £850k was allocated for additional learning needs support in mainstream schools and was transferred to primary and secondary schools via the funding formula. The balance of £200k was identified for schools in special measures and was allocated to Pencoedtre (£150k) and Ysgol Pen Y Garth (£25k) to support the schools with additional staff and training (the remaining £25k was allocated to the Additional Learning Needs & Wellbeing Service to cover training invoices which had been paid for on behalf of Pencoedtre). A further amount of £150k was transferred in from the Education Pressures Reserve to cover additional inspection support costs related to Pen Y Garth (£35k), legal costs for Whitmore High School (£74k) and leadership costs relating to Whitmore and Pencoedtre (£44k).

<b>Favourable Variances</b>	£000's
Payments to private nurseries	- 61
Staff Costs and Other	- 14
School Decarbonisation	- 40
Capital Investment	- 265
ICT Hwb end user	- 320
Libraries	- 11



Adult Community Learning	-	81
Pension Payments	-	2
Teacher Facilities Time	-	3
Rates Rebate	-	196

<b>Total Favourable Variances</b>	-	<b>993</b>
-----------------------------------	---	------------

<b>Adverse Variances including Planned Use of Reserves</b>	£000's
School Repairs (Including demountables at YYD and RCCO Contributions for	268
Catering Equipment Lease new equipment	190
FSM Vouchers Hardship Fund	221
Arts Service Overspend	54
Penarth Pier Pavilion	24
School Transport Overspend	555
Early Retirement/Voluntary Retirement Scheme	277
Welsh Immersion	6
Schools Long Term Supply & Maternity	104
Support provided to schools from reserves	1,175
Non Delegated Budgets	56

<b>Total Adverse Variances</b>	<b>2930</b>
--------------------------------	-------------

<b>Net Outturn</b>	<b>1937</b>
--------------------	-------------

<b>Use of Reserves</b>	£000's
Planned	
Early Retirement/Voluntary Retirement Scheme	- 277
Support provided to schools from reserves	- 1,175
Staff Costs and Other	- 118
Costs for Demountables at Ysgol Y Deri	- 175
Catering Equipment Lease	- 190
FSM Vouchers Hardship Fund	- 221
<b>Total Planned Use</b>	<b>- 2,156</b>

Unplanned Transfers from  
No Unplanned Transfers from Reserves

Transfers to	
School Decarbonisation	14
Capital Investment	264
ICT Hwb end user	320
Libraries - Salix contribution	1
Ysgol Bro Morgannwg Pitch Sinking Fund	25

<b>Total Movement against Reserves</b>	-	<b>1,532</b>
--	---	--------------

<b>Net Outturn</b>	<b>405</b>	-404.9723	-	0
--------------------	------------	-----------	---	---

Directorate	<b>Learning &amp; Skills</b>
Service Area	Additional Learning Needs

Outturn Summary	Amended Budget 2023/24	Projected Outturn 2023/24	Variance	Allocation of Surplus to Reserves	Residual Variance 2023/24	Use of Reserves 2023/24
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Additional Learning Needs and Wellbeing	4,113	3,985	128	-	128	452
Total	4,113	3,985	128	-	128	452

### **Outturn Key Headlines**

The Children's Placements budget pays for provision at out of county and independent schools. After a transfer in of £201k from the ALN Implementation grant the budget outturned with an adverse variance of £5k. In addition to these costs, Learning & Skills also had to pick up 10% of the Joint Pooled CLA budget overspend. The final external placements panel report showed an overspend of £1.951M which meant that the Directorate had to contribute £195k at year end. The total overspend of £200k against Childrens Placements and the Pooled budget was covered by a transfer from the Education Pressures Reserve, Due to increasing numbers of placements and the increasing cost of those placements the pressure on this budget will continue to increase in future years.

The existing provision at Whitmore Resource Base and Hafan Resource Base (Gladstone school) was increased from September 23. These costs have been funded from the ALN Implementation Grant in 23/24 and this will continue in 24/25. The ongoing costs will be put forward as a cost pressure for 25/26. The ALN Implementation Grant also funded the setup of the Welsh Medium Specialist Resource Base at Gwaun Y Nant. This provision will be fully funded from the base budget in 24/25 as a cost pressure was awarded.

The Additional Needs Fund (ANF) which provides additional learning support assistants in schools, agreed by a ANF panel. overspent by £386k. There was £174k left in the ANF reserve which was transferred in to offset part of the overspend with the balance of £212k being transferred back to primary schools. This was done on a percentage basis which reflected the contribution made by each school to the fund.

<b>Favourable Variances</b>	£000's
Prevention & Partnership	- 79
Complex Needs (including Children's Placements)	- 23
Recoupment Income	- 61
Capital contribution for out of county placements at Ysgol y Deri	-26
<b>Total Favourable Variances</b>	<b>- 189</b>

<b>Adverse Variances including Planned Use of Reserves</b>	£000's
Joint Pooled CLA Budget	195
Additional Needs Fund	174
Additional Learning Needs	144
<b>Total Adverse Variances</b>	<b>513</b>

<b>Net Outturn</b>	<b>324</b>
--------------------	------------

<b>Use of Reserves</b>	£000's
Planned	
Joint Pooled CLA Budget	- 195
Children's Placements	- 5
Additional Needs Fund	- 174
Additional Learning Needs	- 104

Total Planned Use	-	478
-------------------	---	-----

Unplanned Transfers from  
No Unplanned Transfers from Reserves

Transfers to  
Capital contribution for out of county placements at Ysgol y Deri 26

Total Movement against Reserves	-	452	452
---------------------------------	---	-----	-----

Net Outturn	-	128	128.37596 -	0
-------------	---	-----	-------------	---

Directorate	<b>Learning &amp; Skills</b>
Service Area	Standards and Provision

Outturn Summary	Amended Budget 2023/24	Projected Outturn 2023/24	Variance	Allocation of Surplus to Reserves	Residual Variance 2023/24	Use of Reserves 2023/24
	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's	£000's
Standards and Provision	2,971	2,735	236	- 85	151	- 82
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,971</b>	<b>2,735</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>- 85</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>- 82</b>

#### **Outturn Key Headlines**

There was an underspend of £66k against School Improvement due to the maximisation of grants and a reduction in the charges for the Central South Consortium.

The Youth Engagement & Progression Service underspent by £133k as result of vacancies and the maximisation of grant funding. Of this figure a total of £60k was transferred into the Education Pressures Reserve to help towards future replacement/repair costs for the mobile vehicle.

Inclusion and OOST outturned with a favourable variance of £11k after transferring £34k to the Education Pressures Reserve. This will be used to fund a temporary Attendance Officer post at Pencoedre High School in

<b>Favourable Variances</b>	£000's
School Improvement & Grants	- 65
Inclusion	- 45
Youth	- 133
EAL & LAC, MEAG & Travellers	- 3

Total Favourable Variances	-	246
----------------------------	---	-----

<b>Adverse Variances including Planned Use of Reserves</b>	£000's
Engagement Team, EOTAS & Alternative Curriculum	13

Total Adverse Variances		13
-------------------------	--	----

Net Outturn		-233
-------------	--	------

<b><u>Use of Reserves</u></b>	£000's
Planned	

Engagement Team, EOTAS & Alternative Curriculum

- 13

Total Planned Use	-	13
-------------------	---	----

Unplanned Transfers from  
No Unplanned Transfers from Reserves

Transfers to

Inclusion - Temporary Attendance Officer at Pencoedtre High School 24/25	35
Youth - Universal Provision (Replacement/Repairs to mobile vehicle)	60

Total Movement against Reserves	82
---------------------------------	----

Net Outturn	-	151
-------------	---	-----

Savings	£000's Target	£000's Achieved	
Learning and Skills Savings Achieved in 2023/24	564	369	A
Learning and Skills Savings Mitigated in 2023/24			M
Makerspace income generation for letting out of makerspace rooms in barry and penarth libraries		20	M
External income -income generation for letting to external organisations for filming and events		20	M
Review Arts Provision		65	M
Learning and Skills Savings Not Achieved in 2023/24			
Removal of schools emergency repairs budget		90	NA
Total Savings Learning and Skills	564	564	

%

Proportion of Savings Achieved	65%
Proportion of Savings Mitigated (temporary)	19%
Savings not achieved in year	16%

Appendix 3

	Schools Balances as at 31st March	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance	move. on	move. on	Formula	balance
		31.03.15	31.03.16	31.03.17	31.03.18	31.03.19	31.03.20	31.03.21	31.03.22	31.03.23	31.03.24	31.03.24	31.03.24	31.03.24	last FY	last FY	2023/24	% of formula
<b>Nursery Schools</b>	Bute Cottage Nursery	£10,423	£11,277	£13,011	£7,286	£16,626	£25,080	£64,096	£73,411	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	0%		£1,601,631	1%
	Cogan Nursery	£32,686	£21,320	£23,342	£29,633	£27,041	£23,370	£78,664	£102,609	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0	0%		£937,352	-12%
	<b>Total Nursery</b>	<b>£43,109</b>	<b>£32,597</b>	<b>£36,353</b>	<b>£36,919</b>	<b>£43,667</b>	<b>£48,450</b>	<b>£142,760</b>	<b>£176,020</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>£0</b>	<b>0%</b>		<b>£991,724</b>	<b>-9%</b>
<b>Primary Schools</b>	Albert Primary	£62,501	£67,991	£97,944	£92,943	£97,269	£46,720	£112,591	£164,844	£57,129	£16,653	£16,653	£16,653	£16,653	-40,476	-71%	£1,829,988	-5%
	All Saints Primary	£46,968	£20,523	£29,026	£61,781	£86,424	£58,021	£78,258	£152,724	£9,613	£-114,796	£-114,796	£-114,796	£-114,796	-£124,409	-1294%	£1,096,732	17%
	Barry Island Primary	£33,440	£76,811	£46,140	£33,287	£42,247	£2,976	£51,837	£113,260	£13,461	£-89,270	£-89,270	£-89,270	£-89,270	-£102,732	-763%	£1,288,875	-12%
	Cadoxton Primary	£18,400	£47,444	£11,567	£585	£71,851	£55,250	£170,253	£210,108	£33,190	£-87,229	£-87,229	£-87,229	£-87,229	-£120,419	-363%	£1,829,988	-5%
	Cogan Primary (incl. nursery from 22/23)	£68,982	£119,178	£154,325	£65,066	£57,837	£39,913	£92,481	£135,142	£193,524	£183,078	£183,078	£183,078	£183,078	-£10,446	-5%	£1,096,732	17%
	Colcot Primary	£13,317	£57,867	£51,715	£27,206	£34,257	£-13,997	£54,834	£79,832	£-39,887	£-154,505	£-154,505	£-154,505	£-154,505	-£114,618	287%	£1,288,875	-12%
	Dinas Powys Primary	£38,369	£4,691	£140	£16,662	£38,252	£-18,872	£130,199	£165,811	£111,995	£92,863	£92,863	£92,863	£92,863	-£19,132	-17%	£1,868,762	5%
	Evenlode Primary (incl. bute nursery from 22/23)	£31,443	£38,668	£10,072	£14,216	£14,511	£8,180	£108,453	£232,976	£256,770	£248,896	£248,896	£248,896	£248,896	-£7,874	-3%	£1,790,132	14%
	Fairfield Primary	£30,796	£692	£-35,471	£0	£39,718	£-29,219	£20,824	£76,441	£-38,817	£-24,633	£-24,633	£-24,633	£-24,633	£14,184	-37%	£1,207,637	-2%
	Gladstone Primary	£34,991	£74,968	£77,848	£36,173	£43,676	£-83,577	£-66,769	£82,054	£-114,235	£-556,758	£-556,758	£-556,758	£-556,758	-£442,523	387%	£1,634,327	-34%
	Gwenfo Primary	£44,123	£87,600	£90,914	£69,376	£87,011	£15,738	£72,859	£128,976	£14,339	£-163,665	£-163,665	£-163,665	£-163,665	-£178,003	-1241%	£991,025	-17%
	High Street Primary	£25,647	£34,027	£20,121	£23,624	£28,090	£19,051	£104,394	£189,596	£132,673	£112,260	£112,260	£112,260	£112,260	-£20,413	-15%	£1,218,304	9%
	Holton Primary	£41,907	£73,207	£62,743	£58,740	£4,277	£-39,992	£123,000	£155,636	£42,907	£-54,745	£-54,745	£-54,745	£-54,745	-£97,652	-228%	£1,610,917	-3%
	Jenner Park Primary	£59,640	£70,073	£17,478	£64,626	£66,611	£36,562	£133,525	£235,529	£116,353	£124,870	£124,870	£124,870	£124,870	£8,517	7%	£1,478,996	8%
	South Point Primary	£11,246	£8,485	£26,590	£35,199	£79,961	£97,519	£79,628	£51,722	£35,905	£-6,027	£-6,027	£-6,027	£-6,027	-£41,932	-117%	£641,480	-1%
	Llandough Primary	£29,889	£34,211	£57,378	£58,011	£72,049	£35,997	£45,683	£80,195	£26,168	£-44,065	£-44,065	£-44,065	£-44,065	-£70,233	-268%	£913,756	-5%
	Llanfair Primary	£10,827	£7,792	£14,516	£15,501	£23,359	£8,901	£59,013	£96,287	£85,534	£86,952	£86,952	£86,952	£86,952	£1,418	2%	£713,183	12%
	Llangan Primary	£24,625	£35,781	£32,190	£56,781	£50,840	£35,195	£36,232	£13,744	£14,327	£22,866	£22,866	£22,866	£22,866	£8,539	60%	£659,705	3%
	Llansannor Primary	£16,332	£16,497	£29,519	£77,881	£58,978	£10,726	£94,031	£150,957	£56,176	£-6,094	£-6,094	£-6,094	£-6,094	-£62,270	-111%	£943,163	-1%
	Oakfield Primary	£6,515	£15,727	£4,570	£60,695	£44,240	£28,365	£52,978	£153,479	£58,326	£11,706	£11,706	£11,706	£11,706	-£46,620	-80%	£1,008,423	1%
	Palmerston Primary	£39,570	£20,702	£55,133	£73,552	£62,527	£2,395	£13,114	£44,240	£-6,031	£-101,600	£-101,600	£-101,600	£-101,600	-£95,569	1585%	£1,047,211	-10%
	Pendoylan Primary	£-8,922	£-38,751	£-40,573	£-49,736	£-23,465	£-15,161	£37,680	£66,521	£19,588	£-6,122	£-6,122	£-6,122	£-6,122	-£25,710	-131%	£850,601	-1%
	Peterston Super Ely Primary	£20,192	£29,608	£30,689	£30,199	£29,239	£27,107	£49,754	£86,720	£39,100	£28,252	£28,252	£28,252	£28,252	-£10,848	-28%	£738,811	4%
	Rhws Primary	£37,620	£47,681	£11,682	£17,094	£32,886	£-44,486	£23,726	£76,923	£-37,569	£-393,506	£-393,506	£-393,506	£-393,506	-£355,937	947%	£1,377,193	-29%
	Romilly Primary	£1,052	£25,765	£28,558	£23,776	£15,679	£5,775	£-12,999	£222	£-243,629	£-570,598	£-570,598	£-570,598	£-570,598	-£326,970	134%	£2,462,850	-23%
	St Andrews Major Primary	£12,207	£6,371	£20,914	£40,747	£39,942	£48,305	£108,755	£175,666	£79,398	£30,615	£30,615	£30,615	£30,615	-£48,783	-61%	£940,635	3%
	St Athan Primary	£45,832	£49,755	£31,263	£54,815	£60,116	£44,007	£94,918	£148,588	£95,205	£15,230	£15,230	£15,230	£15,230	-£79,975	-84%	£936,084	2%
	St Brides Major Primary	£159,432	£133,314	£128,531	£-9,247	£55,747	£13,648	£73,516	£173,615	£72,358	£41,882	£41,882	£41,882	£41,882	-£30,476	-42%	£955,475	4%
	St David's Primary	£14,313	£10,508	£11	£15,398	£0	£-10,671	£25,683	£9,287	£-108,560	£-189,279	£-189,279	£-189,279	£-189,279	-£80,719	74%	£913,019	-21%
	St Helen's Primary	£65,198	£62,367	£30,608	£51,502	£25,902	£20,244	£102,140	£174,382	£77,404	£2,409	£2,409	£2,409	£2,409	-£74,995	-97%	£1,384,915	0%
	St Illtyd Primary	£83,252	£68,477	£59,646	£57,392	£69,872	£29,785	£20,085	£146,979	£67,437	£33,014	£33,014	£33,014	£33,014	-£34,423	-51%	£1,344,353	2%
	St Joseph's Primary	£24,935	£15,159	£12,649	£56,048	£39,743	£25,611	£87,327	£119,008	£51,240	£5,927	£5,927	£5,927	£5,927	-£45,313	-88%	£936,998	1%
	St Nicholas CIW Primary	£16,082	£65,158	£69,470	£105,230	£73,061	£56,676	£88,316	£115,353	£152,599	£108,558	£108,558	£108,558	£108,558	-£44,041	-29%	£675,622	16%
	Sully Primary	£47,166	£88,255	£73,299	£69,911	£77,263	£58,819	£168,509	£187,990	£156,707	£112,709	£112,709	£112,709	£112,709	-£43,999	-28%	£1,446,477	8%
	Victoria Primary	£90,349	£83,350	£45,767	£41,212	£79,456	£34,759	£117,275	£257,582	£62,466	£-47,123	£-47,123	£-47,123	£-47,123	-£109,589	-175%	£1,825,056	-3%
	Wick & Marcross Primary	£90,789	£143,094	£71,813	£50,863	£86,718	£60,818	£141,179	£238,623	£275,597	£293,391	£293,391	£293,391	£293,391	£17,795	6%	£741,409	40%
	Y Bont faen Primary	£43,937	£45,150	£50,098	£64,998	£55,340	£66,162	£134,721	£148,391	£89,640	£108,026	£108,026	£108,026	£108,026	£18,386	21%	£1,002,043	11%
	Ysgol Dewi Sant	£148,280	£92,441	£41,205	£55,557	£38,984	£39,778	£108,246	£134,085	£92,903	£78,404	£78,404	£78,404	£78,404	-£14,499	-16%	£940,508	8%
	Ysgol Gymraeg Gwaun Y Nant	£70,498	£48,040	£40,261	£30,501	£28,282	£16,041	£109,023	£207,619	£204,939	£70,178	£70,178	£70,178	£70,178	-£134,762	-66%	£934,566	8%
	Ysgol Gymraeg Pen Y Garth	£31,813	£15,720	£0	£23,963	£23,662	£0	£21,273	£108,006	£-15,641	£-115,939	£-115,939	£-115,939	£-115,939	-£100,298	641%	£1,226,637	-9%
	Ysgol Gymraeg Sant Baruc	£10,148	£-1,363	£-8,390	£18,905	£46,421	£29,928	£133,011	£216,332	£186,580	£103,040	£103,040	£103,040	£103,040	-£83,540	-45%	£1,075,574	10%
	Ysgol Iolo Morganwg	£87,039	£49,453	£26,633	£18,460	£35,645	£21,931	£74,876	£99,082	£3,699	£-50,243	£-50,243	£-50,243	£-50,243	-£53,941	-1458%	£878,556	-6%
	Ysgol Sant Curig	£58,751	£61,094	£39,232	£32,003	£2,673	£-55,697	£96,494	£231,691	£207,546	£137,259	£137,259	£137,259	£137,259	-£70,287	-34%	£1,632,004	8%
	Ysgol Y Ddraig	£37,661	£32,613	£22,299	£65,024	£58,011	£14,475	£336,678	£388,872	£87,700	£25,907	£25,907	£25,907	£25,907	-£61,792	-70%	£1,183,953	2%
	<b>Total Primary</b>	<b>£1,877,152</b>	<b>£2,046,194</b>	<b>£1,640,123</b>	<b>£1,806,520</b>	<b>£2,055,162</b>	<b>£803,707</b>	<b>£3,707,604</b>	<b>£6,225,090</b>	<b>£2,676,127</b>	<b>£-681,252</b>	<b>£-681,252</b>	<b>£-681,252</b>	<b>£-681,252</b>	<b>-£3,357,379</b>	<b>-54%</b>	<b>£51,876,662</b>	<b>-1%</b>
<b>Age 3-19 school</b>	Cowbridge Comprehensive	£589	£41,882	£22,207	£70,782	£72,883	£-9,054	£475,555	£973,071	£650,931	£361,095	£361,095	£361,095	£361,095	-£289,836	-45%	£7,547,687	5%
	Ysgol Bro Morgannwg	£149,871	£250,546	£55,514	£-52,067	£-23,075												

	Schools Balances as at 31st March	Balance 31.03.15	Balance 31.03.16	Balance 31.03.17	Balance 31.03.18	Balance 31.03.19	Balance 31.03.20	Balance 31.03.21	Balance 31.03.22	Balance 31.03.23	Balance 31.03.24	move. on last FY	move. on last FY
	<b>Total Secondary</b>	£571,648	£464,942	£507,092	£661,008	£543,072	£26,472	£1,489,319	£3,998,119	£2,309,146	£1,971,221	-£337,925	-15%
Special School	Ysgol Y Deri	£65,762	£110,187	£60,528	£99,571	-£11,807	£82,010	£291,026	£779,017	£575,414	£753,255	£177,841	31%
	<b>Total Special</b>	£65,762	£110,187	£60,528	£99,571	-£11,807	£82,010	£291,026	£779,017	£575,414	£753,255	£177,841	31%
	<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	£2,708,131	£2,946,348	£2,321,817	£2,622,733	£2,679,902	£839,050	£6,311,159	£12,771,230	£6,677,483	£2,308,841	-£4,368,642	-65%

	Change on previous Year		£238,217	-£624,531	£300,916	£57,169	-£1,840,852	£5,472,109	£6,460,071	-£6,093,747	-£4,368,642		
	Change on previous Year %		8.8%	-21.2%	13.0%	2.2%	-68.7%	652.2%	102.4%	-47.7%	-65.4%		

Please note that Cowbridge 3-19 school data also includes secondary school data prior to the 2023/24 financial year

Formula 2023/24	balance % of formula
£38,371,575	5%
£15,850,159	5%
£15,850,159	5%
£120,615,744	2%

## Appendix 4

Directorate	Description of Saving Proposal	Saving Category	Target Value £'000	Overall RAG Stat	Comments/Narrative	Value Achieved/ Expected to be Achieved	Percentage Achieved	Shortfall	Mitigation Ref	Mitigation Value Achieved	Mitigation Achieved	On Track for
			2023/24			2023/24	%	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24 YES/NO	2024/25 YES/NO
<b>Directorate Learning and Skills</b>												
Learning and Skills	Payments to Non Maintained Nursery Providers	Service Review	20	Green	Notice given to St Donats	20	100%	-				
Learning and Skills	Removal of schools emergency repairs budget	Service Review	90	Amber	Even though the budget was cut there were ongoing pressure relating to repairs in schools. This is an area that will need to be kept under review due to ongoing pressures.	-	0%	- 90				
Learning and skills	Makerspace income generation for letting out of makerspace rooms in barry and penarth libraries	Generating Income	20	Amber as unable to predict income generation	Only £2K income was achieved across both sites. Barry Makerspace wasn't available until July 2023. Mitigated in year by staffing underspends across Culture & Community Learning. The income target will need to be kept under review in 24/25.	20	100%	-				
Learning and skills	External income -income generation for letting to external organisations for filming and events	Generating Income	20	Amber as unable to predict income generation	Budget was set to include new income target. Only £472 income was achieved. The shortfall was covered by staffing underspends across Culture & Community Learning. The income target will need to be kept under review in 24/25.	20	100%	-				
Learning and skills	Stop providing newspapers and DVDs in libraries	Service Review	15	Green	Budget has been cut, service will no longer purchase DVDS	15	100%	-				
Learning and skills	Increase libraries fees and charges by 12%	Generating Income	5	Green	Fees have been increased in the budget	5	100%	-				
Learning and skills	Review Arts Provision	Service Review	65	Amber dependent on options appraisal.	Budget cut but savings not achieved. Overspend against Arts has been offset by savings within other areas of Culture & Community Learning. Restruture proposals now approved, will be kept under review	65	100%	-				
Learning and Skills	Reshaping of Out of School Tuition	Service Review	89	Green	The way in which OOST is delivered has been altered so that most tuition is delivered online rather than face to face. This is not ideal but is not out of sync with many other LAs. Budget saving will be achieved but service affected	89	100%	-				
Learning and Skills	Increase in retained element of Post 16 WG grant for school improvement administration	Service Review	50	Green	Post 16 grant for schools has been top-sliced to contribute towards the central costs of the Learning and Skills Directorate. £50k has been included as an ongoing budgeted income	50	100%	-				
Learning and skills	Review use of alternative funding sources to support service delivery	Service Review	190	Green	Shared Prosperity Fund grant has increased not decreased as anticipated. Staff roles within the Youth Service have been reassigned to work on the shared prosperity grant funded project	190	100%	-				
<b>Subtotal Directorate Learning and Skills</b>			<b>564</b>			<b>474</b>	<b>84%</b>	<b>- 90</b>		<b>-</b>		
<b>Directorate Social Services</b>												
Social Services	Closer to Home Residential Care (C&YPs)	Invest to Save	200	Amber	Delays on Building Programme and Recruitment of Staff, need to go through registration process- Provision is available to allow delivery of savings in 2024/25	0	0%	- 200				
Social Services	Budget Programme Savings 2023-24	Invest to Save	81	Amber	Potential to identify 2023/24 target from review of high cost packages of care and commitments and health funding further review work to be undertaken.	81	0%					
Social Services	Additional Income	Generating Income	400		Budget Adjustment	400	100%	-				
<b>Subtotal Directorate Social Services</b>			<b>681</b>			<b>481</b>	<b>71%</b>	<b>- 200</b>		<b>-</b>		
<b>Directorate Neighbourhood and Housing</b>												
Neighbourhood and	Increase in fees and charges	Generating Income	30	Green	Fees & Charges increased for 23/24	30	100%	-				
Neighbourhood and	Parking Charging Review	Generating Income	20	Amber	Residents permits - Cabinet Report due to be taken delayed due to 20mph work work ongoing in 2024/25	-	0%	- 20				
Neighbourhood and	Review Car Park Provison	Corporate Asset Stra	50	Amber	Court Road Car Park- Awaiting the result of the Public Consultation plan before this can be progressed further work ongoing in 2024/25	-	0%	- 50				
Neighbourhood and	Stop provision of sandbags	Service Review	5	Green	Achieved	5	100%	-				





Appendix 10

Directorate	Description of Saving Proposal	Saving Category	Target Value	Overall RAG Stat	Comments/Narrative	Value	Percentage	Shortfall	Mitigation	Mitigation	Mitigation	On Track for
			£'000			Achieved/		Ref	Value	Achieved		
			2023/24			Expected		2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2024/25	
Resources	Mayor's Supplies and Services Budget	Service Review	4	Achieved - budget adjusted.		4	100%	-				
Resources	Democratic Supplies and Services Budget	Service Review	1	Achieved - budget adjusted.		1	100%	-				
Resources	Registrars Supplies and Services Budget	Service Review	1	Achieved - budget adjusted.		1	100%	-				
Resources	Legal Services Supplies and Services Budget	Service Review	17	Achieved - budget adjusted.		17	100%	-				
Resources	Budget Supplies and Services Adjusted	Service Review	9	Achieved - budget adjusted.		9	100%	-				
Resources	Supplies and Services Budget Adjusted	Service Review	17	Achieved - budget adjusted.		17	100%	-				
Resources	Supplies and Services Budget Adjusted	Service Review	9	Achieved - budget adjusted.		9	100%	-				
Resources	Supplies and Services Budget Adjusted	Service Review	20	Achieved - budget adjusted.		20	100%	-				
Resources	Supplies and Services Budget Adjusted	Service Review	13	Amber	Need to consider impact of OD refreshments cut	12	92%	- 1				
Resources	Registrars' Income	Generating Income	30	Green	Budget has been adjusted. Additional target should be achieved based on annual trends.	30	100%	-				
Resources	O2 Mobile Phone Contract	Contract/Procurement	55	Green	Achieved - budget adjusted to reflect lower tariff however approx £18k relates to SRS and HRA and are not able to be realised within the General Fund. This is being offset by printing savings in 2023/24	55	100%	-				
Resources	Annual RSA Support Costs - Reduce	Contract/Procurement	22	Green	Saving is predicated on the reduced use of RSA due to greater VPN usage.	22	100%	-				
Resources	Review C1V Office Accommodation	Corporate Asset Strategy	50	Amber	Full saving will not be achieved during 23/24 as review is ongoing and this is part of a wider review of office space. Mitigated in year	50	100%	-		50		
Resources	Review Docks Office Site	Corporate Asset Strategy	200	Amber	Full saving will not be achieved during 23/24 as review is ongoing and this is part of a wider review of office space. A Rateable Value reduction has realised part of the saving earlier than anticipated. Mitigated in year	200	100%	-		200		
Resources	Remove Vacant Posts	Workforce Review	43	Green	Achieved - posts removed from establishment.	43	100%	-				
Resources	Shared Cost AVCs	Generating Income	25	Green	The Shared Cost AVC deductions process commenced in August 2023, anticipated shortfall is expected to be £6k due to current take up is expected to increase during the financial year.	25	100%	-				
Resources	e-Billing in Revenues	Digital Strategy	7	Green	Ongoing daily mailings through Datagraphic (hybrid mail) are under review. Plan to introduce text messaging for CTax pre reminders/finals/summons and we will be able to use the same solution for promoting e-billing	7	100%	-				
Resources	Hybrid Mail - Housing Benefits	Digital Strategy	20	Green	Project has been kicked off and team have engaged with Business Improvement.	20	100%	-				
Resources	Vale proportion of Vacant Post	Workforce Review	15	Achieved - Vale share of post removed from establishment.		15	100%	-				
Resources	Vale proportion of miscellaneous supplies and services savings from budget	Service Review	2	Achieved - Vale share of budget adjusted		2	100%	-				

Appendix 10

Directorate	Description of Saving Proposal	Saving Category	Target Value £'000	Overall RAG Stat	Comments/Narrative	Value Achieved/ Expected to be Achieved	Percentage Achieved	Shortfall	Mitigation Ref	Mitigation Value Achieved	Mitigation Achieved	On Track for
			2023/24			2023/24	%	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2023/24	2024/25
Resources	Counter fraud budget reduction	Service Review	22	Achieved - budget adjusted	Service includes a high target for fraud reduction. Annual in	22	100%	-				
<b>Subtotal Directorate Corporate Resources</b>			<b>582</b>			<b>581</b>	100%	- 1		250		
<b>Policy</b>												
Policy	Mayor's hospitality budget and twin	Service Review	40	Achieved Budget Adjustment		40	100%	-				
Policy	Appropriation of Debt to HRA - Savings against borrowing costs	Service Review	25	Achieved Budget Adjustment		25	100%	-				
Policy	Temporary Capital Financing Headrc	Service Review	1,000	Achieved Budget Adjustment		1,000	100%	-				
Policy	Additional Investment Income (Tem	Generating Income	550	Dependent on Income Generation	Achieved in full	550	100%	-				
<b>Subtotal Policy</b>			<b>1,615</b>			<b>1,615</b>	100%	-		-		
<b>Total Savings</b>			<b>4,707</b>			<b>4,139</b>	88%	- 568		290		
<b>Subtotal Directorate Learning and Skills</b>			<b>564</b>			<b>474</b>	84%	- 90		-		
<b>Subtotal Directorate Social Services</b>			<b>681</b>			<b>481</b>	71%	- 200		-		
<b>Subtotal Directorate Neighbourhood and Housing</b>			<b>1,000</b>			<b>743</b>	74%	- 257		40		
<b>Subtotal Directorate Place</b>			<b>265</b>			<b>245</b>	92%	- 20		-		
<b>Subtotal Directorate Corporate Resources</b>			<b>582</b>			<b>581</b>	100%	- 1		250		
<b>Subtotal Policy</b>			<b>1,615</b>			<b>1,615</b>	100%	-		-		
<b>Total Savings</b>			<b>4,707</b>			<b>4,139</b>	88%	- 568		290		

Appendix 5 Detailed Reserves Analysis

Reserve Category	Reserve Name	2023/24 Opening	Drawdown Capital	Budget Revenue	Revenue Movement on Reserves	Surplus Transfer into Reserves	Reallocation of Reserves	2023/24 Closing
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
General Fund	General Fund	11,523	0	-496	0	80	0	11,107
Insurance	Insurance	4,878	0	0	0	0	0	4,878
Service Reserves	Education Improvement	3,549	0	0	-1,812	94	0	1,831
Service Reserves	Libraries and Community	397	0	0	0	0	0	397
Service Reserves	Catering Equipment	185	-47	0	-190	164	0	112
Service Reserves	SS Donation	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Service Reserves	Social Services	10,012	0	0	-7,201	0	3,000	5,811
Service Reserves	Neighbourhood Services	2,404	-11	0	0	0	0	2,393
Service Reserves	Bad Weather	470	0	0	0	0	0	470
Service Reserves	Civil Parking Enforcement	3	0	0	0	0	0	3
Service Reserves	Waste Management Contract	200	0	0	0	0	0	200
Service Reserves	Place Donation	57	0	0	0	9	0	66
Service Reserves	Place Reserve	1,902	-23	0	-160	202	0	1,921
Service Reserves	Porthkerry	67	0	0	0	56	0	123
Service Reserves	Cosmeston	70	0	0	0	94	0	164
Service Reserves	Corporate Resources	733	0	0	-205	0	0	528
Service Reserves	Building Services	802	0	0	0	231	0	1,033
Service Reserves	Electoral Registration	296	0	0	-45	42	0	293
Service Reserves	Holton Road	46	0	0	0	11	0	57
Service Reserves	Strong Communities	221	-80	0	0	19	0	160
Service Reserves	IASS Reserve	261	0	0	0	61	0	322
Service Reserves	Building Control	121	0	0	-60	0	0	61
Service Reserves	Regulatory	101	0	0	0	0	0	101
Service Reserves	Trainee Appointments	521	0	0	-97	0	0	424
Service Reserves	Child Burial	85	0	0	0	14	0	99
Service Reserves	Mayors Foundation Grant	9	0	0	0	0	0	9
Service Reserves	Staff Employment Reserves	4	0	0	0	0	0	4
Risk and Smoothing Reserves	Homelessness and Homelessness	4,358	0	-200	0	1,193	0	5,351
Risk and Smoothing Reserves	Asylum Seekers	98	0	0	0	0	0	98
Risk and Smoothing Reserves	Cost of Living	854	0	-200	-283	0	0	371
Risk and Smoothing Reserves	Pay Pressures	4,168	0	0	-360	61	0	3,869
Risk and Smoothing Reserves	Energy Pressures	3,885	0	-2,400	0	0	0	1,485
Risk and Smoothing Reserves	Legal Claims	2,000	0	0	-160	0	0	1,840
Risk and Smoothing Reserves	Energy Management Fund	159	-41	0	0	322	0	440
Risk and Smoothing Reserves	Social Services Vehicle	408	0	0	0	0	-67	341
Risk and Smoothing Reserves	Ash Die Back	335	0	0	-208	0	0	127
Risk and Smoothing Reserves	Project Zero	1,423	-9	0	0	0	-614	800
Risk and Smoothing Reserves	Investment and Growth	2,353	0	0	0	0	-2,353	0

Risk and Smoothing R	Reshaping Risk and In	2,523	0	0	-200	0	251	2,574
Risk and Smoothing R	Corporate Landlord	5,707	-760	0	0	0	0	4,947
Risk and Smoothing R	Digital Reshaping	1,531	-130	0	0	11	0	1,412
Risk and Smoothing R	Budget Risk	0	0	0	0	0	1,000	1,000
Capital Reserves	School Investment Stra	1,896	-1,054	0	0	290	0	1,132
Capital Reserves	Vehicles Repair and R	1,973	-1,346	0	0	1,355	0	1,982
Capital Reserves	ICF Capital	259	-87	0	0	0	0	172
Capital Reserves	Telecare	1,043	0	0	-30	0	0	1,013
Capital Reserves	Waste Transfer Station	891	0	0	0	0	-626	265
Capital Reserves	WG Schools Capital	2,334	-2,334	0	0	0	0	0
Capital Reserves	FSM Capital Grant	1,593	-1,593	0	0	0	364	364
Capital Reserves	Capital Scheme Comm	5,839	-1,264	0	0	0	-1,015	3,560
Capital Reserves	City Deal	1,898	0	0	0	0	-1,898	0
Capital Reserves	Independent Living Re	0	0	0	0	0	500	500
Capital Reserves	Capital Regeneration a	0	0	0	-40	40	1,458	1,458
Schools	Schools	6677	0	0	-4368	0	0	2,309
Schools	Temporary Reserve BF	300	0	0	-300	0	0	0
Schools	ICT hwb	353	0	0	0	320	0	673
Schools	3g Pitch Renewals and	50	0	0	0	25	0	75
Schools	Additional Needs Fund	174	0	0	-174	0	0	0
Schools	School Deficits	0	0	0	0	2,000	0	2,000
Housing Revenue Accd	Housing Revenue Accd	16486	0	-12961	0	0	0	3,525
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>110,489</b>	<b>-8,779</b>	<b>-16,257</b>	<b>-15,893</b>	<b>6,694</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>76,254</b>