

MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL PLAN
SAVING PROPOSAL- BUDGET IMPACT ASSESSMENT

DIRECTORATE:	Economy and Environment
--------------	-------------------------

SERVICE AREA:	Public Protection
---------------	-------------------

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

SAVING PROPOSAL TITLE:	Temporarily hold two vacant Community Safety Warden posts during 2024-25.
------------------------	---

BUDGET AREA:	Community Safety Warden Service
--------------	---------------------------------

TOTAL BUDGET FOR THIS AREA:	£411,093
-----------------------------	----------

TOTAL SAVING:	£76,528
---------------	---------

PLEASE PROVIDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF HOW THE SAVING CAN BE ACHIEVED:	The savings will be achieved by not filling two vacant CSW posts throughout 2024-25.
---	--

2. PUBLIC IMPACT ANALYSIS

<p>PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR PLANS TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT UPON THE PUBLIC (where possible):</p> <p>Consider the 5 ways of working think about the <i>long-term</i> implications for future generations and <i>preventative services</i> while recognising that savings now will secure future services. NB* IT IS IMPORTANT TO RECOGNISE THE SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL CHALLENGE FACING THE COUNCIL.</p> <p>The service provides a uniformed response in communities dealing with low level crime and anti-social behaviour. Each officer is authorised by the Chief Constable of Gwent Police with powers that include traffic management and the issue of Police penalty notices. The service works very closely with the local Neighbourhood Policing Teams tackling issues in communities ranging from youth annoyance and disorder, persons under the influence of substances, enviro crime issues, defects in infrastructure, dog fouling and littering etc.</p> <p>CSWs proactively and reactively address anti-social behaviour, disorder, and street drinking. The CSWs also operate the mobile CCTV vehicle.</p> <p>For the 2022-2023 Financial Year the Community Safety Warden Service was deployed for 7,638 hours and provided words of advice to persons acting contrary to acceptable standards of behaviour were given on 1226 occasions. 5 items of alcohol were confiscated, 365 issues identified and referred to other departments. 292 ASB warning letters were issued, 35 Acceptable Behaviour Contracts were signed and 8 Civil Injunctions granted in Court.</p>
--

The CSW service prevents incidents escalating and through low level interventions helps to prevent the criminalisation of individuals as a result of an escalation in their offending behaviour.

The service users affected will differ depending on the nature of their involvement with the team. Residents in general will be affected by the proposals and in particular those impacted by anti-social behaviour.

STATUTORY ASSESSMENTS

DOES THE PROPOSAL HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO IMPACT MORE GREATLY ON PEOPLE WITH PROTECTED CHARACTERISTICS ? (Please tick) (Reminder- AGE, DISABILITY, GENDER REASSIGNMENT, MARRIAGE or CIVIL PARTNERSHIP, PREGNANCY AND MATERNITY, RACE, RELIGION or BELIEF, SEX, SEXUAL ORIENTATION)	Yes	
DOES THE PROPOSAL IMPACT ON PEOPLE WHO FACE SOCIO-ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE ? (Please tick) (Reminder- LOW INCOME/INCOME POVERTY, LOW WEALTH/OR NO WEALTH, MATERIAL DEPRIVATION, AREA DEPRIVATION, SOCIO-ECONOMIC BACKGROUND, and CUMULATIVE IMPACT OF THEM)	Yes	
DOES THE PROPOSAL HAVE AN IMPACT ON THE WELSH LANGUAGE ? (Please tick) (Reminder- OPPORTUNITIES TO USE THE LANGUAGE, PROMOTE THE LANGUAGE and/or TREATING THE WELSH LANGUAGE LESS FAVOURABLY THAN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE)		No

NB * If you answered 'yes' to the any of the above, please complete an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA). For further advice and guidance please see the [Integrated Impact Assessment](#) page on the Intranet. This Budget Impact Assessment, or an IIA, if relevant, must be submitted to be included as hyperlinks to all decision reports related to the proposed savings. **IAs are NOT required for nil public impact proposals.**

PLEASE DETAIL ANY CONSULTATION THAT HAS BEEN UNDERTAKEN IN CONSIDERING THIS PROPOSAL. Summarise any feedback received.

Consider the 5 ways of working, in particular, *involvement*.

Update following a period of public consultation:

The council's public consultation on the draft budget proposals for 2024/25 ran from Monday 22nd January 2024 until Tuesday 13th February 2024.

Residents and other stakeholder groups were invited to offer their views on the proposals in a number of ways. This included a survey (available online and in paper formats), attending face-to-face engagement sessions, using the council's online digital engagement platform and targeted stakeholder engagement with potentially impacted groups.

337 responses to the consultation were received by the closing date. A low response rate such as this comes with the caveat of self-selecting bias in the response and local media has focused attention on a small number of issues.

Face-to face conversations have had low levels of attendance (less than 10 visitors per session) with the exception of Caerphilly where over 40 people attended. A meeting was held with 9 Viewpoint Panel members and one person attended an online drop-in session.

The full consultation feedback report will be available at [Council Budget Setting 2024-2025 | The Caerphilly Conversation](#)

Through the consultation survey, 71 responses indicated an agreement with the proposal, while 20 disagreed. Through face-to-face engagement, there was a discussion at the Viewpoint Panel on how highly the Community Safety Wardens are considered across the community.

IS FURTHER CONSULTATION REQUIRED BEFORE THIS PROPOSAL CAN BE IMPLEMENTED?	No
NB* Please seek guidance from the Insights and Intelligence Team , who can advise on whether a formal consultation is required and adherence to the Gunning Principles.	

TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE ABOVE, THE IMPACT RATING DEFINITIONS, AND THE MITIGATION YOU ARE PLANNING, PLEASE INDICATE THE PUBLIC IMPACT RATING APPLICABLE TO THIS SAVING PROPOSAL (please tick):				
NIL IMPACT	MINOR IMPACT	MODERATE IMPACT	SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	CRITICAL IMPACT
		√		

3. ORGANISATIONAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR PLANS TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT UPON THE ORGANISATION (where possible) : e.g. gradual reduction in service, alternative delivery models, managing demand, more efficient use of assets, income generation, transferrable skills of staff, commercialisation of the service etc. In addition, consider the 5 ways of working, in particular, acting in <i>collaboration</i> with other service areas or partners. Future service provision will be much reduced. There may be negative feedback to the Council from residents and businesses. There may be an impact upon other services of the Council where anti-social behaviour goes unaddressed.
--

PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR PLANS TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT UPON MEMBERS OF STAFF :
There are currently 10 FTE posts in total, including one Supervisor and 9 CSWs. 2 posts are currently vacant.

NUMBER OF FULL-TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) STAFF IN THE PROJECT:	10
---	----

NUMBER OF POSTS IN THE PROJECT: (Reminder- PLEASE ENSURE YOU HAVE SOUGHT THE ADVICE OF PEOPLE SERVICES IN HOW TO MANAGE ANY STAFFING CHANGES)	10
---	----

PLEASE SPECIFY HOW THIS WILL BE MANAGED:	HOW MANY POSTS?
POST(S) ALREADY VACANT:	2
VOLUNTARY SEVERANCE:	
RETIREMENT:	
REDEPLOYMENT:	
REDUNDANCY:	

PLEASE PROVIDE DETAILS OF WHEN THIS WILL BE IMPLEMENTED:	1 st April 2024 (however the posts are vacant as the time of writing this report).
--	---

WILL THE PROPOSED SAVING HAVE AN IMPACT ON ANOTHER DIRECTORATE, SERVICE AREA OR TEAM WITHIN THE COUNCIL? (please tick)	Yes	
WILL THE PROPOSED SAVING HAVE AN IMPACT ON ANOTHER PUBLIC SECTOR PARTNER, OR VOLUNTARY SECTOR PARTNER? (please tick)	Yes	

If yes to either of the above, please consider the 5 ways of working, in particular *integration*.

PLEASE DESCRIBE HOW THE SAVING CAN BE ACHIEVED IN A WAY THAT WILL MITGATE THE IMPACT ON OTHER SERVICE AREAS OR PARTNERS (**where possible**)

There may be an impact upon other services of the Council where anti-social behaviour goes unaddressed. This may have implications for services such as Housing, Highways, Education, Environmental Health, Education, Parks, and the Youth Offending Service.

The shift rota will continue to operate, however some shifts will have less numbers of CSWs patrolling.

The public will be advised to contact Gwent Police regarding issues of anti-social behaviour and hate crime etc. for which the CSWs are unable to accommodate.

There will be impacts on local neighbourhood policing teams as they will need to pick up the work in relation to anti-social behaviour etc. that will no longer be delivered by as many CSWs.

TAKING ACCOUNT OF THE ABOVE, THE IMPACT RATING DEFINITIONS, AND THE MITIGATION YOU ARE PLANNING, PLEASE INDICATE THE ORGANISATIONAL IMPACT RATING APPLICABLE TO THIS SAVING PROPOSAL (please tick):				
NIL IMPACT	MINOR IMPACT	MODERATE IMPACT	SIGNIFICANT IMPACT	CRITICAL IMPACT
		X		

4. LINKS TO POLICY AND CORPORATE OBJECTIVES

DOES THE SAVINGS PROPOSAL LINK TO ANY OF THE FOLLOWING?

POLICY AREA	WHAT IS THE LINK?
CORPORATE PLAN and WELL-BEING OBJECTIVES (please state which objectives)	<p>Well-being Objective 1 Enabling Our Children to Succeed in Education</p> <p>Well-being Objective 2 Enabling Our Residents to Thrive</p> <p>Well-being Objective 3 Enabling Our Communities to Thrive</p> <p>Well-being Objective 4 Enabling Our Economy to Grow</p> <p>Well-being Objective 5 Enabling Our Environment to be Greener</p> <p>The proposal will reduce the contribution that the Community Warden Service can make to the Well-being Objectives in the Corporate Plan, by making our communities feel safer, supporting the vulnerable, and protecting our communities, environment, town centres, and transport infrastructure from the impacts of crime and disorder.</p>
STATUTORY DUTIES	<p>Section 17 Crime & Disorder Act 1998</p> <p>There is no statutory duty to provide a Community Safety Warden Service. The Act requires the Council in exercising its various functions to have regard to the likely effect on, and the need to do all that it reasonably can to prevent, crime and disorder in its area (including anti-social and other behaviour adversely affecting the local environment); and the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances in its area; and re-offending in its area.</p> <p>The 1998 Act also makes it the legal responsibility for chief executives of local authorities and health boards, chief constables and chief fire officers and chief officers of probation services to work in partnership to address the above.</p>
WELSH GOVERNMENT GUIDANCE or STRATEGY	<p>There is a range of UK Government and Welsh Government policy and guidance in relation to community safety. Anti-social behaviour in particular is an area in which Police and Crime Commissioners, local authorities, and other agencies have tools to tackle the blight of anti-social behaviour facing communities across England and Wales.</p> <p>The service supports individuals and communities in a number of ways to make them feel safer. Anti-social behaviour remains a concern across the county borough and this proposal will reduce the Council's ability to respond to those concerns using available tools and powers including the 4 strike ASB process.</p>

5. OTHER RISK(S) AND SENSITIVITIES

HAVE ANY <u>OTHER</u> RISKS/SENSITIVITIES BEEN IDENTIFIED IN CONNECTION WITH THIS SAVING PROPOSAL?	Yes	
--	------------	--

PLEASE DESCRIBE ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION (Risks and Sensitivities) WHICH YOU FEEL HAS NOT BEEN CAPTURED.
There is a risk that some service users will experience anti-social behaviour as a result of the service being reduced. There is a preventative element to the service as described above. This is a small service addressing some anti-social behaviour issues and low level crime. Other services and agencies also address these issues.

HEAD OF SERVICE: ...Rob Hartshorn.....

DATE OF COMPLETION: ...19/12/2023.....