



**Bryniau Clwyd a  
Dyffryn Dyfrdwy**  
Clwydian Range  
and Dee Valley

Ardal o Harddwch Naturiol Eithriadol  
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

**JOINT COMMITTEE  
Of the  
CLWYDIAN RANGE & DEE VALLEY  
AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY**

**Held on: 25<sup>th</sup> November 2016**

**Lead Member / Officer: Gareth O Williams**

**Report Author: Paula O'Hanlon /Huw Rees**

**Title: Joint Committee Budget and Outturn 2016/17**

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**1. What is the report about?**

The report gives details of the AONB's revenue budget outturn position for 2016/17.

**2. What is the reason for making this report?**

The purpose of the report is to provide an update on the AONB's financial position for 2016/17.

**3. What are the Recommendations?**

Members are asked to note the financial outturn for 2016/17 (Appendix 1) and progress against the agreed budget strategy.

**4. Report details.**

The report provides a summary of the AONB's revenue budget for 2016/17 and Reserve balances as detailed in Appendix 1. The AONB's gross expenditure budget is £440,135. The current forecast outturn is to show a very small net overspend of £40 but there is a high degree of confidence that this will be clawed back over the remaining months.

The report also provides a copy of the signed Welsh Audit Office Annual Return for the Year Ended 31 March 2016 (Appendix 2).

**5. How does it contribute to the Clwydian Range & Dee Valley AONB Management Plans Priorities?**

Effective management of the AONB's revenue budgets will help the delivery of the agreed management plan priorities for the current year and underpins activity in all areas, particularly our relationships with funding partners and our joint priorities.

**6. What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

There are no direct costs associated with this report.

**7. What are the main conclusions of the Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) undertaken on the decision? The completed EqIA template should be attached as an appendix to the report.**

N/A

**8. What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**

The proposed budget for 2016/17 was brought to the JC meeting in February and approved.

**9. Chief Finance Officer Statement**

This report outlines the financial position for the AONB for 2016/17. Currently a small overspend is projected but confident that this will be clawed back from within existing budget.

Due to the better than expected draft revenue settlement from the Welsh Government Denbighshire CC is not proposing to make any reductions to the funding levels for the AONB programme for the 2017/18 financial year. At this stage we are still awaiting confirmation from Flintshire and Wrexham as to their intentions. Notwithstanding this however the period of public sector austerity is likely to continue and it must still be recognised that the budgets of all public sector bodies will continue to come under increasing pressure over the coming years.

**10. What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

The current budget is dependent on income from NRW and the three Local Authorities. NRW have confirmed their funding level for the AONB Programme 2016-2018.

Any changes to these income levels will pose a risk to the future delivery of projects and our ability to deliver against the priorities in the AONB Management Plan.

**11. Power to make the Decision**

Local authorities are required under Section 151 of the Local Government Act 1972 to make arrangements for the proper administration of their financial affairs.