

CYNGOR SIR POWYS COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council

2 March 2023

REPORT AUTHOR: County Councillor David Thomas
Cabinet Member for Finance and Transformation

SUBJECT: Question from Nigel Williams

How, at time when the council is struggling to cover its statutory obligations, does the council justify spending £300,000 of tax payers money on “reimagining” the council? The public want services not snappy catch phrases which mean nothing.

Response

Growing financial and workforce pressures are having an impact on the ability of public services to meet the needs of the population. A radical transformation of Powys County Council is needed, making use of a reduced number of assets across the County, breaking down silos between services and reducing fragmentation in service delivery.

We must become more effective, perform better and be more connected to the population we serve.

We need to reimagine Powys County Council in 2025, the type and volume of services that we can offer to put the organisation on a more sustainable footing, moving away from annual service cuts.

There is no doubt the organisation will be smaller and more efficient using technology where appropriate to improve service delivery. It will need to hold less assets whilst providing accessible services across community areas.

Once we have identified the type and volume of service that the Council will provide, we will ensure it is of quality whilst also being the best value option for the people of Powys.

It is for these reasons it is felt necessary to use the COVID recovery fund to put in the temporary additional capacity. This will mean the appointment, into temporary roles, to programme manage, support and cost the future Council.