

# The Local Government Challenge in Wales

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### Rod Stewart was wrong as "The first cut is clearly not the deepest"

Welsh Budget 2016/17

Total managed expenditure £15.9bn

**Health and Social Services** 

Local Government (inc Schools)

**Education & Skills** 

Economy, Science & Transport

Communities

**Natural Resources** 

Central Services/Administration

£7.1bn - up 4.1%

£4.4bn - down 2%

£2.1bn – up 1.1%

£977m – up 5.9%

£677m - up 10.7%

£369m - up 2.6%

£315m - up 3%

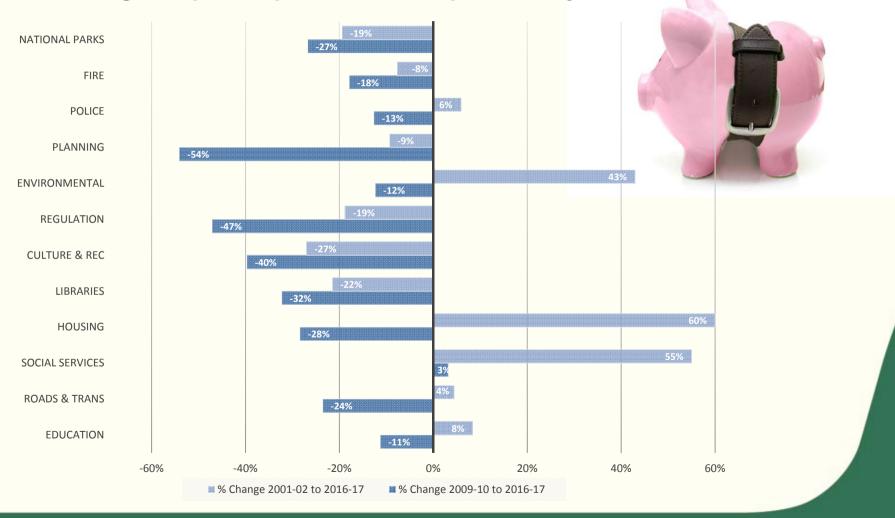
Source: Welsh Government





#### How have we fared so far?

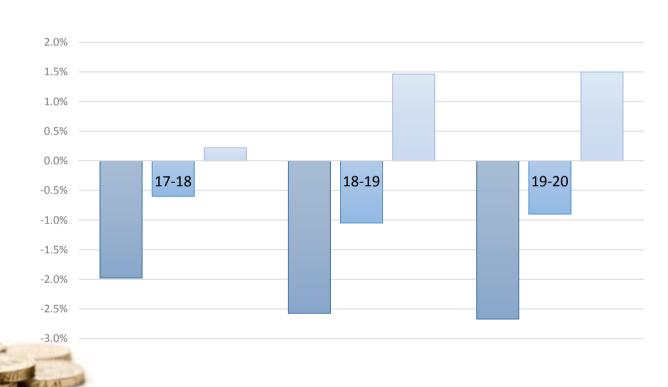
#### Change in per capita service spend (adjusted for inflation)





### What does the future hold for local government in Wales?

#### **Future Funding Outcomes, AEF 17-18 to 19-20**

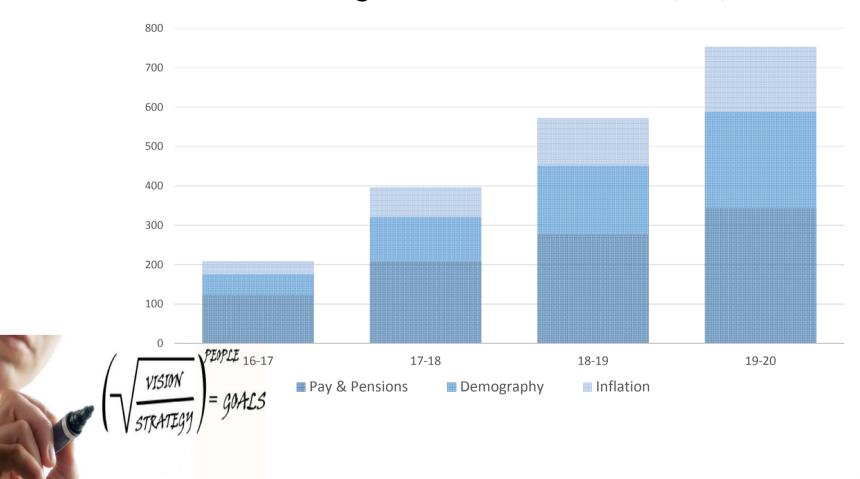


■ Strong protection non-LG ■ Medium protection non-LG ■ Weak protection non-LG



### What does the future hold for local government in Wales?

#### **Future Budget Pressures to 19-20 (£m)**





#### Tony Travers is a very busy man



### Ambition for change: Aiming higher

Independent Commission on Local Government Finance Wales





### Williams, Draft Local Government Bill – The end of the "Back to the Future" Options?

#### PROPOSED NEW COUNCIL MAP

**BASED ON 8 LOCAL AUTHORITIES** 









### New Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government

### **LGR - The thoughts of Professor Mark Drakeford**



"Not committed to any particular solution... we've got to be prepared to have a wider sort of conversation".

"People are very willing to agree that there are challenges facing local government that have to be faced up to and have to be solved,"

"Lines on a map is part of it, but only one part of it".

"The reality is that we couldn't in the last assembly - and we know that we couldn't in this assembly - summon the votes together to put that map into legislation.

"We must accommodate ourselves to that reality and find a different way forward."



#### The City Region agenda

# Cardiff Capital Region City Deal















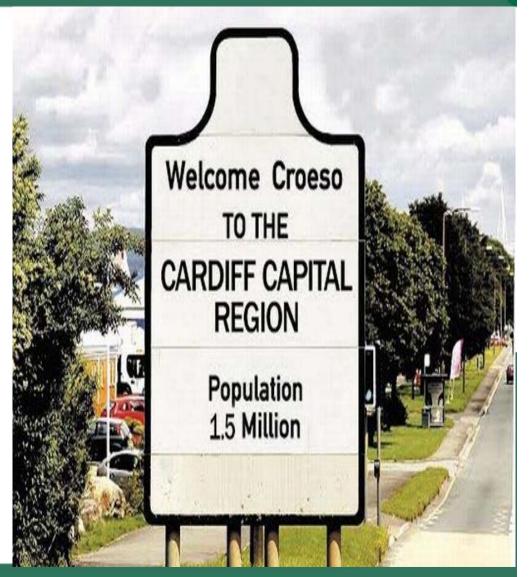














#### **Engaging with the Public**























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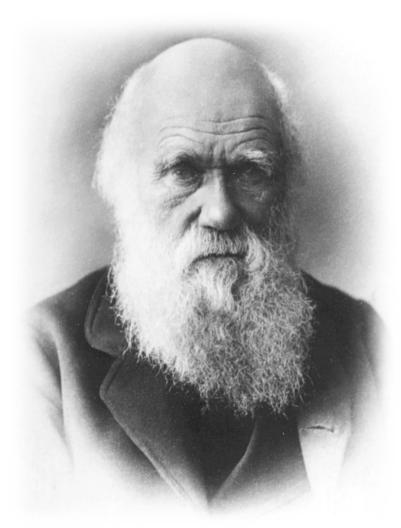


# Digitalisation – The next stage of service evolution





## Does this tell us anything about local government reform?



"It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change"



### Thanks for listening

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