

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 16 OCTOBER 2012 AGENDA ITEM NO. 4

REPORT OF: Chief Executive

SUBJECT: IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2012 - 2017

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: To re-set the Improvement Priorities within the Improvement Plan for endorsement by County Council.

To note the addition of the three additional Improvement Priorities in line with the Leadership's Programme for Change and provide the populated details of all three to a Cabinet meeting before the end of the calendar year.

DECISION: As per the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Consultation will be required to inform the ongoing review of these priorities.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: The priorities have been shaped by all Councillors in the previous Council across the Executive and Overview and Scrutiny functions and been subject to review by the new Council and Corporate Management Team.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: None directly related to this report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17 October, 2012

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 OCTOBER 2012** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 5**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **CITIZEN CONSULTATION AND ENGAGEMENT -
STRATEGIC APPROACH**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Cabinet approve the core principles attached at Appendix 1.

That Cabinet approve the development of a Corporate Activity Forward Work Plan (FWP), in consultation with relevant services, portfolio holders and other interested parties, for further approval by Cabinet in order to start a programmed activity of work.

That Cabinet approve the development of Directorate Activity Forward Work Plans, at Head of Service Business Level or Directorate Plan Level, in consultation with relevant portfolio holders and other interested parties, in order to begin a programmed activity of work.

That Cabinet approve the development of a central database/calendar of activity to identify who is doing what and when, consider potential areas for collaboration, avoidance of duplication and over consultation with specific groups of people.

DECISION: As per the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Consultation with relevant Council officers, portfolio holders and other interested parties in the development of both Corporate and Directorate Activity Forward Work Plans.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN:

Consultation on the development of Forward Work Plans will commence following the agreement of Cabinet to proceed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

No identifiable implications at this stage.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

17 October, 2012

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 16 OCTOBER 2012 AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

REPORT OF: Head of Finance

SUBJECT: MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN 2013/14-2017/18
AND BUDGET 2013/14

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Members are asked to note the contents of the report.

DECISION: As per the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: None at this stage.


CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: None at this stage.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The overall implications for the Council's financial position are set out in the report. However, there are no implications directly as a result of this report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17 October, 2012

SIGNED  (Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 OCTOBER 2012** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 7**

REPORT OF: **Director of Community Services**

SUBJECT: **SUPPORTING PEOPLE OPERATIONAL PLAN**
2012/13

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Cabinet notes the achievements against the updated action plan for 2011-2012.

Cabinet approves the proposals in the SPOP for 2012-2013.

Cabinet approves the Supporting People Operational Plan as a final version.

DECISION: As per the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: No further consultation is envisaged.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Supporting People has held a forum to consult with providers of housing related support services. The team has also held one to one meetings with Senior Managers from within Flintshire County Council and Provider Organisations. The Supporting People Planning Group has agreed the draft.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The Supporting People Grant is a specific grant for funding housing related support services. For 2012-2013 Flintshire County Council have been informed of a reduction to the grant of £172K, with further reductions anticipated over the next 5 years as a result of Redistribution.

The SPOP highlights new services for priority development; however, services will only be developed according to available funding as a result of any

cuts/redistribution. The priority for development has been agreed with the Supporting People Planning Group and is contained within the Action Plan for 2012-2013.

Flintshire Supporting People Planning Group plans to meet the reductions in 2012/13 without cutting any services by carrying out the continuation of planned realignment of Social Services budgets by ensuring that all existing funding is eligible for Supporting People Grant. In addition, in anticipation of a future grant reduction, Flintshire had taken a prudent approach to the allocation of the grant in 2011/12 which had led to unallocated grant of £150K which can be utilised as part of our strategy to manage the actual reductions in grant in future years.

A further explanation of how Flintshire Supporting Planning Group plan to manage the reduction of funding for future years can be found within the Financial Strategy section of the SPOP (Appendix 1 – Page 6).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor R.C. Bithell declared a personal interest in this item.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

17 October, 2012

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 OCTOBER 2012** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8**

REPORT OF: **Head of Finance**

SUBJECT: **WELFARE REFORM UPDATE**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Flintshire County Council continues to engage in local and national discussion on the issues arising from Welfare Reform and that Members and Officers are proactive through relevant government and professional groups to make representations to mitigate the impacts on the Council and the people in the community of Flintshire.

DECISION: As per the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: A Welfare Reform Member Briefing will take place during early November – the date to be confirmed. This will be an opportunity for all Members to be briefed on the Welfare Reform Agenda.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The financial pressures upon the authority that could be created by the full impact of the welfare reforms are significant. These pressures range from an increase in expenditure upon temporary accommodation for homeless households through to a potential 20% reduction in the current level of Central Government revenue that will be paid to the authority in respect of council tax rebate for low income households.

There are approximately 1008 Council tenants who will be affected by changes to Housing Benefit. This will mean that

the Council will have approximately £650,000 more to collect in rent during 2013/14.

The Council could potentially have an extra £2m to collect in Council Tax directly from taxpayers.

Full financial assessments are still being undertaken as more detail of the changes is issued.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

17 October, 2012

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 OCTOBER 2012** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 9**

REPORT OF: **Director of Environment**

SUBJECT: **COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER SCHEME**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Members support and endorse the report and attached policy.

DECISION: As per the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Cabinet Members and Officers.

Flintshire Local Voluntary Council.

Corporate Management Team.


CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Corporate Management Team.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Positive in that it will assist in the generation of capital receipts where disposal of the freehold interest is an option and reduce ongoing revenue costs for the Council. Where leasehold interest, intended to be of a long duration are taken, revenue liabilities will reduce as a result of transfer of a property/asset.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Councillors R.C. Bithell and H. Brown declared a personal interest in this item.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17 October, 2012

SIGNED  **(Proper Officer)**

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 OCTOBER 2012** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 10**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2011/12**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: To approve the 2011/12 draft Annual Performance Report.

DECISION: As per the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Not applicable.


CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Consultation is undertaken throughout the year by Overview and Scrutiny Committees of our Quarterly performance reports.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: There are no specific financial implications within this report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17 October, 2012

SIGNED  **(Proper Officer)**

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 OCTOBER 2012** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 11**

REPORT OF: **Head of Finance**

SUBJECT: **REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2012/13 (MONTH 4)**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Members are recommended to:-

- (a) Note the overall report and the management actions being taken to address the projected overspend.
- (b) Note the Council Fund contingency sum (overdrawn balance) as at 31st March 2013 (paragraph 5.03).
- (c) Note the projected final level of balances on the Housing Revenue Account (paragraph 6.03).

DECISION: As per the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: None.


CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The financial implications are as set out in Sections 3.00 – 6.00 of the report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17 October, 2012

SIGNED  **(Proper Officer)**

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 16 OCTOBER 2012 AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

REPORT OF: Head of Finance

SUBJECT: CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2012/13 (QUARTER 1)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Cabinet is requested to note and approve the report.

DECISION: As per the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: None.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: As set out in sections 2 and 3 of the report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17 October, 2012

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 16 OCTOBER 2012 AGENDA ITEM NO. 13

REPORT OF: Head of Finance

SUBJECT: COUNCIL TAX AND LONG TERM EMPTY HOMES IN WALES

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: For Members to support the principles of the proposals and authorise officers to respond appropriately to the consultation.

Assuming that Members support the proposals, the recommended responses to several consultation questions, are detailed in Appendix 1 to this report.

DECISION: As per the recommendations.

Officers to take cognisance of WLGA's response in preparing Flintshire County Council's reply to the consultation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

Add a comment in the response that similar powers would be welcomed in respect of non-domestic properties which can also present problems for the Community.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: The purpose of the report is to provide Members with the opportunity to comment on the consultation proposals.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: This Welsh Government consultation is part of the wider housing programme and is in conjunction with the consultation on Homes for Wales: "A White Paper for Better Lives and Communities".

A Member briefing seminar, led by colleagues from the Community Services Directorate, was held on 5th September,

2012 to look at the need for tackling empty property in the private sector and ways in which the Council is addressing the problem. The seminar covered this consultation paper and explored how the Council Tax system could, if the proposals are made law, provide a mechanism to provide a financial incentive for owners to bring their empty properties back into use.

Members present at the seminar were broadly in support of the proposed changes providing that adequate safeguards are implemented to assist those taxpayers who might face difficulties in paying additional Council Tax.

This report was presented to the Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 27 June, 2012 where the following was resolved:-

- (a) That the comments provided by Members are considered when responding to the Welsh Government consultation; and
- (b) That any additional comments or views be forwarded by Members to the Head of Housing Services or Head of Planning by Friday 13 July 2012.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Local authorities would be free to retain any additional funding generated by the flexibility to set an additional levy on long term empty properties, including how it might use the funding raised from additional council tax on long term empty homes.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

17 October, 2012

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 OCTOBER 2012** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 14**

REPORT OF: **Head of Finance**

SUBJECT: **TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID YEAR UPDATE**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That the Cabinet approves and recommends to the Council the Treasury Management Mid Year Report 2012/13.

DECISION: As per the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Sterling Consultancy Services as Treasury Management Advisers.


CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Sterling Consultancy Services as Treasury Management Advisers.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: As set out in the Mid Year Report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17 October, 2012

SIGNED  **(Proper Officer)**

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 OCTOBER 2012** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 15**

REPORT OF: **Director of Community Services**

SUBJECT: **TENANCY AGREEMENT FOR COUNCIL HOUSING**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Cabinet are asked to approve the final draft of the Tenancy Agreement and timetable for implementation.

DECISION: As per the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Addressed in the body of the report.


CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Informal consultation with Tenants Federation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Printing cost of the tenancy agreement will be met from existing budgets. Translation cost will be met from existing corporate budgets.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17 October, 2012

SIGNED  **(Proper Officer)**

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 16 OCTOBER 2012 AGENDA ITEM NO. 16

REPORT OF: Director of Environment

SUBJECT: WEPRE PARK 10 YEAR MANAGEMENT PLAN

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That the Cabinet approves the content of the draft Management Plan and delegates authority to the Director of Environment, following consultation with the Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Enterprise and Leisure to make any changes deemed necessary to meet the future needs of the Park.

DECISION: As per the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: None.


CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: The list of projects outlined in the Management Plan has been developed from extensive community and stakeholder consultation.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Any increase in management costs will be met by Flintshire Countryside Service and will be offset by greater use of community groups and income generation, both through continued grant applications and making more use of the facilities.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17 October, 2012

SIGNED  (Proper Officer)

