

Public Document Pack

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Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol a Democraataidd



To: Cllr Ian Roberts (Chairman)

CS/NG

Councillors: Marion Bateman, Amanda Bragg,
Adele Davies-Cooke, Ian Dunbar, Ron Hampson,
Stella Jones, Colin Legg, Phil Lightfoot,
Dave Mackie, Nancy Matthews, Ann Minshull,
Paul Shotton, Nigel Steele-Mortimer and
David Williams

30 August 2013

Maureen Potter 01352 702322
maureen.potter@flintshire.gov.uk

**Carole Burgess, David Hytch, Rita Price,
Rebecca Stark and Stephanie Williams**

Dear Sir / Madam

A meeting of the **LIFELONG LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**
will be held in the **DELYN COMMITTEE ROOM, COUNTY HALL, MOLD CH7 6NA**
on **THURSDAY, 5TH SEPTEMBER, 2013** at **2.00 PM** to consider the following
items.

Yours faithfully

Democracy & Governance Manager

AGENDA

- 1 **APOLOGIES**
- 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING
DECLARATIONS)**

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The Council welcomes correspondence in Welsh or English
Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawau gohebiaeth yn y Cymraeg neu'r Saesneg

- 3 **MINUTES** (Pages 1 - 6)
To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting.
- 4 **PLAY DEVELOPMENT: SUMMER PLAY SCHEMES** (Pages 7 - 12)
Report of Director of Lifelong Learning
- 5 **PLAY PROVISION: CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS** (Pages 13 - 22)
Report of Director of Lifelong Learning
- 6 **UPDATE ON STATUTORY NOTICES FOR SCHOOL MODERNISATION**
(Pages 23 - 28)
Report of Director of Lifelong Learning
- 7 **LIFELONG LEARNING PERFORMANCE REPORTING** (Pages 29 - 36)
Report of Chief Executive
- 8 **LIFELONG LEARNING FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 37 - 44)
Report of Member Engagement Manager

LIFELONG LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE **11 JULY 2013**

Minutes of the meeting of the Lifelong Learning Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council, held at at Deeside Leisure Centre, Queensferry, Deeside, CH5 1SA on Thursday, 11 July 2013

PRESENT: Councillor Ian Roberts (Chairman)

Councillors: Marion Bateman, Amanda Bragg, Ian Dunbar, Ron Hampson, Dave Mackie, Nancy Matthews, and Paul Shotton

CO-OPTED MEMBERS: Carole Burgess, David Hytch, Rita Price, Rebecca Stark and Stephanie Williams

SUBSTITUTIONS: Patrick Heesom for Phil Lightfoot, and Ray Hughes for David Williams

APOLOGIES: Councillor C. Legg

CONTRIBUTORS: Cabinet Member for Education, Cabinet Member for Public Protection, Waste & Recycling & Leisure, Director of Lifelong Learning, and Principal Leisure Services Officer

IN ATTENDANCE: Housing and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Facilitator and Committee Officer

16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (including Whipping Declarations)

The Chairman advised Members of the need to declare a personal interest in school related items on the agenda if they were school or college governors. All Members present except Councillors R.C. Bithell and A. Bragg (who were not school governors) declared an interest as school governors.

17. MINUTES

- (i) The minutes of the call-in meeting of the Committee held on 6 June 2013 were submitted.

Councillor P.G. Heesom expressed the view that the comments made in support of each of the options proposed was not reflected in the minutes. The Cabinet Member for Education explained that the matter had been referred back to Cabinet which had reaffirmed its original decision.

Accuracy

Page 4, paragraph 6, Mrs. R. Price asked that the final sentence be amended to read "He stressed that the provision of transport to Welsh medium education was a statutory obligation".

- (ii) The minutes of ordinary meeting of the Committee held on 6 June 2013 were submitted.

Accuracy

Councillor N.M. Matthews asked that the minutes be amended to include her question on the projected numbers for the hub at Connah's Quay.

- (iii) The minutes of the meeting of the Joint Lifelong Learning and Social and Health Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 11 June 2013 were submitted.

RESOLVED:

That subject to the above the minutes be received, approved and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

18. PRESENTATION FROM ALLIANCE AND LEISURE

The Chairman welcomed the representatives from Alliance and Leisure and invited them to give a presentation to the Committee on working in partnership with Flintshire County Council. He introduced Sarah Watts, Managing Director, Paul Cluett, Commercial Director, John Lever, Partnership Manager, and Julia Goddard, Business and Development Manager. The main points of the presentation were:

- Successes and challenges in partnership working in the current leisure market
- What has been developed in Phases 1, 2 and 3
- Successes
- Challenges
- Next Steps

The Cabinet Member for Public Protection, Waste & Recycling & Leisure, welcomed the presentation. He paid tribute to the work undertaken by the late Councillor. R. Macfarlane, Cabinet Member for Leisure, and looked forward to working with the Alliance & Leisure Team to expand on the progress which had been achieved.

The Director of Lifelong Learning commented on the good partnership working arrangement with Alliance & Leisure and on the improvements and enhancements achieved in customer services. He also referred to the benefits to the community in terms of healthier lifestyles and crime prevention through participation in positive activities. He said there was a need to focus carefully across all leisure centres and management to ensure that the Service operated as efficiently as possible and provided value for money.

The Director referred to the challenges which lay ahead and advised that due to the current economic climate and financial restraints the

Committee and the Authority would need to consider which facilities across Flintshire would be affordable and sustainable for the future.

Councillor W.P. Shotton expressed disappointment on the lack of marketing of leisure facilities in the past. He suggested that local hotels which did not have their own leisure facilities could be contacted with the purpose of including the Authority's leisure services as part of their promotional material.

Alliance & Leisure advised that the quality of provision at Deeside Leisure Centre was very high and reported that £100K had been spent on marketing, however, there was still a need for local outreach and development work to be undertaken.

Councillor P.G. Heesom expressed a number of concerns around the lack of leisure facilities provided in the west side of Flintshire and welcomed the Director's comments that the Committee would be tasked with reviewing leisure provision across all Flintshire in the future.

The Cabinet Member for Public Protection, Waste & Recycling & Leisure, acknowledged the issues raised by Councillor Heesom and agreed there needed to be an appropriate and affordable level of leisure facilities across Flintshire.

Councillor N.M. Matthews commented on the development of links with the private sector to encourage improvement and use of leisure facilities and cited the holding of corporate events as an example. She commended Officers on the excellent facilities available in the Afon Spa.

The Chairman suggested a number of further marketing initiatives to involve schools and raise awareness of the facilities available to young people.

Mrs. R. Stark welcomed the new Afon spa website, however, she expressed a number of concerns around the Authority's website which she felt was time consuming and wearisome to navigate when sourcing information around leisure provision. She referred to the need for ease and speed of information which was important in terms of keeping young people engaged online.

In his response the Principal Leisure Services Officer referred to the Authority's corporate website and the need to adhere to Flintshire County Council guidelines. He acknowledged the concerns which were raised by Mrs. Stark and explained that the Authority had invested heavily in purchasing new software to improve its website. He said agreement had been reached which had enabled a bespoke and commercially orientated website to be created for the Afon Spa. The Director of Lifelong Learning advised that further bespoke websites would be developed in the near future for other leisure facilities. He advised that an update report would be submitted to the Committee to outline the timeframes for the launch of the websites, electronic payments, and online bookings.

Councillor D.I. Mackie commented on the need to be kept informed of issues around access to information on the Authority's website and welcomed an update report on future developments.

Mr. D. Hytch thanked Officers for the guided tour of facilities at Deeside Leisure Centre and commended staff on the high level of customer service provided. He asked whether similar training packages to enhance the customer experience could be shared with other leisure facilities in the County.

The Chairman thanked the representatives of Alliance & Leisure for the presentation and suggested it might be helpful to have a further presentation at some point in the future to provide an update on developments.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the presentation be received;
- (b) That an update report be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee to outline the timeframes for the launch of the websites, electronic payments, and online bookings; and
- (c) That thanks be passed to the staff at Deeside Leisure Centre, on behalf of the Committee, for their assistance in providing a tour of the facilities and the high level of customer service provided.

19. SPORT AND LEISURE BUSINESS PLAN 2013-2017 – A LOCAL AUTHORITY PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT WITH SPORT WALES

The Director of Lifelong Learning introduced a report to inform the Committee on the Sport Flintshire four year Business Plan with its five high level outcomes which measure the success of the 'Every Child hooked on Sport for Life' aspiration. The Plan also outlined the priorities and programme detail in delivery, monitoring, success and funding. He provided background information and introduced Sian Williams, Sports Development Officer, and invited her to report in further detail on the Plan and the outcomes.

The Sports Development Officer reported that the Plan addressed the sector wide Vision for Sport in Wales and Community Sport Strategy for Wales. The Plan also contributed to a number of Council priorities and statutory plans within the Authority, most notably Core Aim 4 within the Children and Young Peoples Plan.

The Sports Development Officer advised that the Sport Flintshire Team had planned programmes which met local need and national targets and during the last 4 years had exceeded aims set. She provided some key data on the programmes and achievements and explained that many of the programmes and projects being delivered as part of the business plan offered

local opportunities for Flintshire residents to participate in predominantly no cost or low cost activities.

Members were asked to consider the Summary Sport Flintshire Business Plan 2013-2017 which was appended to the report.

The Cabinet Member for Public Protection, Waste & Recycling & Leisure, congratulated Officers and staff on their achievements and outcomes and on maximising to best use the available funding to provide a service across the whole of the County. He also commended the work of the young volunteers at Deeside Leisure Centre.

Councillor N.M. Matthews sought further information on the provision for 0-7 year olds. In her response the Sports Development Officer advised that the current provision for 0-7 year olds had been reviewed with a view to providing a more efficient service. New programmes had been launched and further projects were to be introduced in the near future. She agreed to provide a further report to the Committee on the growth of sports development activities for that age group.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Sport and Leisure Business Plan 2013 -2017 be endorsed; and
- (b) That the Sports Development Officer, provides a further report to a future meeting of the Committee on the growth of sports development activities for 0-7 year olds.

20. DIRECTORATE PLAN

The Director of Lifelong Learning introduced a report to provide an overview of the renewed Directorate Plan for 2013/14 as part of the Council Governance Framework. Members were invited to consider the Plan and identify any issues which ought to be included in the forward work plan for the Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The Chairman referred to the detailed discussions which had taken place at the recent Forward Work Planning workshop held on 9 July 2013.

Councillor W.P. Shotton referred to the information that Flintshire was one of the highest performing local authorities in Wales on indicators at Key Stages 3 and 4. However, further improvement was required in the Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2, and specific intervention strategies for Literacy and Numeracy were working well. He also congratulated Officers on the new build of Ysgol Cae'r Nant which had been completed on time and in budget. The Director commended the work of Members who were involved in the School Performance Monitoring Group.

Councillor W.P. Shotton referred to a possible skills shortage in the labour market in the future and asked if provision was being made in terms of

apprenticeships and training opportunities to address the matter. The Director referred to a report which had recently been submitted to the Local Service Board. He advised that a dedicated internship work experience programme for graduates was to be launched and that together with neighbouring local authorities in North Wales it was hoped to introduce a Skills Academy to address the issue. He advised that a further update report would be provided to the Committee on this subject in due course.

Mr. D. Hytch referred to page 21 of the Directorate Plan and the list of key Strategic Partnerships and asked that school governors be included in the list. The Director expressed his thanks to school Governing Bodies for their support and commitment to school communities.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be noted; and
- (b) That a further update be provided to a future meeting of the Committee on developments to address a possible skills shortage in the labour market in the future.

21. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Housing and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Facilitator introduced the Forward Work Programme of the Committee. She advised that the next meeting of the Committee would be held on 5 September 2013 at County Hall. Members were also informed that the meeting of the Committee scheduled for 10 October 2013 would be held at Hawarden Records Office.

The Facilitator advised that following the Forward Planning workshop held on 9 July 2013, the forward work programme would be populated to include the topics suggested by Members.

RESOLVED:

That the Forward Work Programme be agreed.

22. DURATION OF MEETING

The meeting commenced at 2.00 pm and ended at 4.30 pm.

23. ATTENDANCE BY MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There were no members of the press or public in attendance.

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Chairman

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **LIFELONG LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

DATE: **THURSDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 2013**

REPORT BY: **DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING**

SUBJECT: **PLAY DEVELOPMENT: SUMMER PLAY SCHEMES**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To consult the Committee about the report Play Development: Summer Play Schemes, which was considered by Cabinet on the 16th July 2013.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The report seeks to identify sustainable provision of the summer play scheme from April 2014.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The report makes recommendations about the future allocation of grant funding for the provision of the summer play scheme.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 Consider the contents of the report and respond to Cabinet.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 The recommendation would enable the Summer Play Scheme to operate within budget subject to confirmation of grant funding from *Families First* and continued match funding support from town and Community Councils.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 Summer play schemes provide free access for all.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 The Summer play schemes make provision for 'buddying' to enable disabled children to participate.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Ongoing consultation with Town and Community Councils concerning future delivery of summer play schemes.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Regular consultation has taken place with Town and Community Councils concerning the operation of summer play schemes.

12.00 APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Play Development Summer Play Schemes.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Contact Officer: Lawrence Rawsthorne
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Email: lawrence_rawsthorne@flintshire.gov.uk

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **CABINET**

DATE: **TUESDAY, 16 JULY 2013**

REPORT BY: **DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING**

SUBJECT: **PLAY DEVELOPMENT: SUMMER PLAY SCHEMES**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To report progress identification of sustainable play provision from April 2014 with reference to the summer play scheme programme.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 *Families First* (formerly *Cymorth*) grant funding has, to date, been central to the delivery of the six Priority Development Areas identified in the Flintshire Play Strategy 2011-14. The award for 2013/14 of £80,588 represents a 54% grant reduction on Year 2011/12. This has impacted significantly on the delivery of the 2013 summer play scheme programme.

2.02 In a response to the reduction in funding and to ensure that the service could operate within budget, the Head of Culture and Leisure wrote to all Town and Community Councils advising them that the number of play schemes available to them during summer 2013 would be limited to a maximum of two each and that summer play scheme provision would be reduced from five weeks to three weeks at locations to be agreed in local consultation.

2.03 At its meeting on 1 March 2013, the County Council made a one-off allocation of £12,000 for the 2013 summer play scheme to ensure that requests for additional provision by Town and Community Councils could be met on a match-funding basis.

2.04 Plans for delivery in the summer of 2013 are now advanced. The level of take up and impact of the 2013 programme will be evaluated by the Play Unit and will inform the planning for future years.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The availability of grant funding for summer play schemes in 2014/15 and beyond has not yet been confirmed by *Families First*. However, our planning assumptions are based upon continuity of funding.

3.02 In the course of consultation with Town and Community Councils about the reduced funding for 2013/14, various representations were made about the fairness of the allocation of two 3-week schemes for each Town and Community Council area. Comments included the need for additional provision in rural areas with dispersed populations at a distance from leisure and other community facilities and the need for additional provision in urban areas with high concentrations of young people. There were also references to the increased contribution being sought from Town and Community Councils as a result of the reduced grant funding. It has not proved possible to reconcile these conflicting concerns within the available grant funding.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 Subject to consultation with Scrutiny and confirmation of *Families First* funding for Summer Play Schemes in 2014/15 and beyond, to confirm the future allocation of grant funding for the provision of summer play schemes on the basis outlined in section 2.02 above with the same allocation being offered to each Town and Community Council on the present match- funding basis.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 The recommendation would enable the Summer Play Scheme to operate within budget subject to confirmation of grant funding from *Families First* and continued match funding support from Town and Community Councils.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 Summer play schemes provide free access for all.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 The summer play schemes make provision for 'buddying' to enable disabled children to participate.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Ongoing consultation with Town and Community Councils.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Regular consultation has taken place with Town and Community Councils concerning the operation of summer play schemes.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 None.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Cabinet Report (23.04.13) *Flintshire Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan*.

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **LIFELONG LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

DATE: **THURSDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 2013**

REPORT BY: **DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING**

SUBJECT: **PLAY PROVISION: CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To consult the committee about the report Play Provision: Children's Play Areas, which was considered by Cabinet on the 16th July 2013.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The report seeks to identify sustainable provision from April 2014 with reference to the maintenance and upgrading of children's play areas.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The report makes recommendations about the criteria which will be applied to ensure that investment is targeted where it is most needed.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 Consider the contents of the report and respond to Cabinet.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 The strategy will be achieved within the existing revenue budget which for 2013/14 is £139,000.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 Children's play areas provide free access for all.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 The enhancement of children's play areas contributes to improvements in the local environment.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 The match-funding improvement scheme has, over the past four years, provided the opportunity to address DDA issues in children's

play areas.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Ongoing consultation with Town and Community Councils concerning future maintenance and upgrading of children's play areas.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Consultation has taken place with all Town and Community Councils involved in upgrading as part of the match-funding scheme.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 **Appendix 1:** Play Provision : Children's Play Areas report
Appendix 2: Children's Play Areas upgraded between 2010/11 and 2013/14 via the County Council's Match- Funding Improvement Scheme

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Contact Officer: Lawrence Rawsthorne
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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **CABINET**

DATE: **TUESDAY, 16 JULY 2013**

REPORT BY: **DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING**

SUBJECT: **PLAY PROVISION: CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To report progress with the identification of sustainable play provision from April 2014 with reference to the maintenance and upgrading of children's play areas.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 During 2010/11, Leisure Services commissioned *Play Safe and Space Consultancy* to undertake a County-wide analysis of 172 fixed equipment play areas (including those maintained by Town and Community Councils) and 26 link sites (including wheeled play areas and multi-use games areas).

2.02 The play survey employed a traffic light system, recognised within the County Council as the 'RAG' system, to provide an instant overview of each site's survey conclusion. Out of the 172 play areas, 13 sites were identified in the 'Red' category, 141 in 'Amber' and 18 in 'Green'. The consultant's summary report suggested that without sufficient annual revenue and capital investment several play areas currently ranked 'Amber' would fall into the 'Red' zone each year.

2.03 The 2010 play survey provides the County Council with a considerable evidence base to inform its future investment programme for children's play areas, particularly in relation to the match-funding improvement scheme launched in 2010/11. This match-funding agreement between the Authority and Town and Community Councils is now in its fourth year and has resulted in more than a third of the current stock of play areas benefiting from upgrading works.

2.04 To date, the County Council has contributed £413,780 (a match-funded total of £827,560) to enhanced fixed play provision via the improvement scheme. A list of enhancements is at Appendix 1.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The play survey has not been updated (since its completion in

November 2010) to reflect the improvement works that have been completed in recent years via the match-funding scheme. However, Leisure Officers advise that individual sites have moved up within AMBER or moved from RED to AMBER.

- 3.02 For each of the four years of the match-funding improvement scheme, Leisure Services has written to all Town and Community Councils inviting them to participate in the programme, thereby offering equity of opportunity to enhance local fixed play provision. All subsequent expressions of interest received from Town and Community Councils have been met by the County Council via a budget allocation to Leisure Services.
- 3.03 However, investment is only being made in sites which are nominated for match-funding by Town and Community Councils. This is creating a lack of strategic direction, a consequence of which is that only six of the thirteen 'Red' sites have received investment (£73.5k from the County Council resulting in eleven upgrading schemes worth £147k). Seven of the thirteen 'Red' sites have neither received match-funding investment over the past four years nor been decommissioned. Moreover, the County Council has contributed £25,500 (a match-funded total of £51,000) to three 'Green' sites.
- 3.04 Whilst recognising the benefits of the match-funding approach, and promoting its continuation, play areas remain corporate assets and, therefore it is important that the County Council targets its future investment at those sites of greatest need in terms of play deprivation and strategic importance. Should further resources become available then individual play areas which are 'Red' sites may be considered for attention on an equitable basis, outside match-funding criteria.
- 3.05 Play areas that have benefited from upgrading works have proved very popular with children living in the towns and communities which they serve. This is evidenced by the increased level of wear and tear on component parts. It is important that the County Council supports its investment in children's play areas by making adequate provision for their ongoing maintenance.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 To consult with Scrutiny over renewal of the scheme for play area renewal based on the following principles:
- From 2014/15, the County Council aligns its match-funding improvement scheme to the findings of the play survey described in 2.01 above.
 - Each Town and Community Council will be invited to express an interest in participating in the match-funding improvement scheme for 2014/15 and beyond. In order to ensure that the

County Council's funding is directed at areas of need identified by the condition survey, Leisure Services will identify those play areas which will be in scope ('Red' and 'Amber' sites) and out of scope ('Green' sites). Approval of any proposed scheme will be:

- Dependent upon the level of capital funding made available by the County Council.
- Based upon a maximum contribution of £10,000 per scheme.
- Determined on a priority basis in accordance with the findings of the play survey with investment targeted to strategically important sites
- Confined to those play areas identified as red or amber

- From 2014/15, 10% of the fixed play match-funding budget will be allocated to meet the ongoing maintenance costs of the fixed play portfolio.

4.02 Officers will provide a further report on the potential decommissioning of play areas recognised as being in a poor state of repair and of low strategic importance.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 The strategy will be achieved within the existing revenue budget which for 2013/14 is £139,000.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 Children's play areas provide free access for all.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 The enhancement of children's play areas contributes to improvements in the local environment.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 The match-funding improvement scheme has, over the past four years, provided the opportunity to address DDA issues in children's play areas.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Ongoing consultation with Town and Community Councils.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Consultation has taken place with all Town and Community Councils involved in upgrading works as part of the match-funding scheme.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1
Children's Play Areas upgraded between 2010/11 and 2013/14 via the County Council's Match- Funding Improvement Scheme

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee Report (02.12.10)
Play Areas Survey.

Cabinet Report (23.04.13) *Flintshire Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan.*

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APPENDIX 1

Children's Play Areas upgraded between 2010/11 and 2013/14 via the County Council's Match-Funding Improvement Scheme

Year 1 2010/11

FCC contribution of £55k towards 7 improvement schemes, with a further sum of £6k retained for the ongoing maintenance requirements of the new works.

PLAY AREA	TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL	FCC FUNDING	PLAY SURVEY 2010 RAG STATUS & CONSULTANT'S RECOMMENDATION
Bradshaw Avenue	Saltney	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Phoenix Park	Leeswood	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
New Brighton	Argoed	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Whitford	Whitford	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
The Willows	Hope	£6,000	REVIEW FUTURE
Pontybodkin	Llanfynydd	£5,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Treuddyn	Treuddyn	£3,500	HIGH STANDARD
		£54,500*	

*The remaining capital budget provision of £500 was retained alongside the additional £6k revenue budget for minor cost over-runs and ongoing maintenance

Year 2 2011/12

FCC contribution of £93½k towards 19 improvement schemes, with a further sum of £11½k retained for the ongoing maintenance requirements of the new works.

PLAY AREA	TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL	FCC FUNDING	PLAY SURVEY 2010 RAG STATUS & CONSULTANT'S RECOMMENDATION
Ocean View	Whitford	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Clwyd Avenue	Holywell	£10,000	REVIEW FUTURE
Mount Pleasant	Buckley	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Wat's Dyke	Argoed	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Melwood Close	Penyffordd	£6,000	REVIEW FUTURE
The Willows	Hope	£6,000	REVIEW FUTURE
Brynford Village	Brynford	£5,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Ffordd Siarl, Old School Field	Leeswood	£5,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Nannerch Village	Nannerch	£5,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Wyndham Drive	Llanfynydd	£5,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Tros-y-Wern / Rec' Ground	Gwernymynydd	£4,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Gas Lane	Mold	£3,000	REVIEW FUTURE
Gladstone Playing Field	Hawarden	£3,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Trelogan	Llanasa	£3,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Victoria Road	Bagillt	£2,500	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Ysceifiog	Ysceifiog	£2,500	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Nercwys	Nercwys	£2,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Maes Pennant	Mostyn	£1,500	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Swanfields			MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
		£93,500	

Year 3 2012/13
FCC contribution of £126½k towards 21 improvement schemes.

PLAY AREA	TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL	FCC FUNDING	PLAY SURVEY 2010 RAG STATUS & CONSULTANT'S RECOMMENDATION
Bradshaw Avenue	Saltney	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Brooks Avenue	Broughton	£10,000	HIGH STANDARD
Cilcain	Cilcain	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Groesffordd	Holywell	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Pentre Halkyn	Halkyn	£10,000	REVIEW FUTURE
Pontybodkin	Llanfynydd	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Princess Avenue	Buckley	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Ocean View	Whitford	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Whitford (Glebe Field)			MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
The Willows	Hope	£10,000	REVIEW FUTURE
Gladstone Playing Fields	Hawarden	£6,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Dobshill	Penyffordd	£5,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Melwood Close			REVIEW FUTURE
Phoenix Street	Queensferry	£5,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Various Play Areas in Mold	Mold	£5,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Gwespyr	Llanasa	£3,000	n/a
Sealand Manor	Sealand	£2,500	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Nercwys	Nercwys	£2,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Former School Field	Higher Kinnerton	£2,000	HIGH STANDARD
Ysceifiog	Ysceifiog	£2,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
		£122,500*	

* Gwernymynydd Community Council decided not to proceed with an £8,000 match-funding scheme during 2012/13 and FCC subsequently re-allocated its £4,000 contribution to project overspends on the remaining 20 schemes.

Year 4 2013/14

FCC contribution of £139,280 towards 19 improvement schemes.

PLAY AREA	TOWN & COMMUNITY COUNCIL	FCC FUNDING	PLAY SURVEY 2010 RAG STATUS & CONSULTANT'S RECOMMENDATION
Brooks Avenue	Broughton	£10,000	HIGH STANDARD
Central Park	Friends of Central Park (grant dependent)	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Coed Talon	Treuddyn	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Ffrith	Llanfynydd	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Mancot	Hawarden	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Plough Lane	Hawarden	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
<i>New Site (Shotton Lane)</i>	Shotton	£10,000	<i>Not Surveyed</i>
Princess Avenue	Buckley	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Rhosesmor	Halkyn	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Penrhyn	Holywell	£10,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
The Willows	Hope	£10,000	REVIEW FUTURE
Flint Mountain	Flint	£5,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Gas Lane	Mold	£5,000	REVIEW FUTURE
Kingsley Road	Sealand	£5,000	REVIEW FUTURE
Trebor Avenue	Bagillt	£5,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Argoed	Argoed	£3,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Gwespyr	Llanasa	£3,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Nercwys	Nercwys	£2,000	MAINTAIN & IMPROVE
Former School Field	Higher Kinnerton	£1,280	<i>Not Surveyed</i>
		£139,280	

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **LIFELONG LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

DATE: **THURSDAY, 5 SEPTEMBER 2013**

REPORT BY: **DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING**

SUBJECT: **UPDATE ON STATUTORY NOTICES FOR SCHOOL MODERNISATION**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To update members of the LLOSC on the progress since the publication of statutory notices relating to the 21st Century Schools Programme.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.02 Cabinet approved the publication of statutory notices relating to School Modernisation projects in Holywell, Connah's Quay, Queensferry and Buckley in March 2013.

2.03 The notices were published in accordance with Welsh Government requirements, and a period of a month was given for the lodging of written objections. In the event of valid objections being received during the statutory period, a determination of the proposal is made by the Welsh Government Minister with responsibility for Education and Skills. In order that Civil Servants at the Department of Education and Skills can advise the Minister, the Authority must provide a range of background data and written information to support the proposal.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 Considering the number and wide-ranging proposals, the level of objections has been relatively few. Twenty seven valid individual objections were submitted broken down as follows:

Area	No. of objections received
Reduction in age range at Elfed High School	19
Reduction in age range at Connahs Quay High School	6
Closure of Croft Nursery	2

One objection was received which dealt with the separate planning related issue of establishing a new school on the Holywell High School site.

A response to each of these objections has been made to the objector, and a copy sent with the other supporting information to the Welsh Government as required for Ministerial consideration. A summary of the correspondence is attached at Appendix 1.

- 3.02 Specific objections were not received in response to the statutory notices relating to the proposed primary amalgamation and the new secondary school in Holywell, neither were any received in relation to the proposal to establish a new 3-16 School at Queensferry. However, as valid objections were received in relation to the proposed closure of the Croft nursery and to the change in age range from 11-18 to 11-16 in Connah's Quay and Buckley, it is likely that the Welsh Government will call-in all of the proposals related to secondary schools due to the close interdependencies for post-16 provision. It is not expected that the proposal to amalgamate Ysgol Perth y Terfyn infants and Ysgol y Fron Juniors will be called in. Written confirmation of this will be sent from the Welsh Government in due course. In the meantime, the design process of the buildings and submission of business cases is progressing to support the receipt of grant funding from the Welsh Government.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 That members note this update, which will be followed by further updates when ministerial decisions have been made.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 None as a result of this update.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

- 6.01 None as a result of this update.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 7.01 None as a result of this update.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 8.01 None as a result of this update.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.01 None as a result of this update.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None required for this update.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Consultation complete in accordance with Welsh Government Guidance.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1: Summary of Objections to Statutory Notices.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Report to Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny on 14th March 2013 updating Members on the progress made in relation to the School Modernisation Strategy.

Report to Cabinet on 19th March 2013 with proposals and seeking Members agreement to progress the development of the preferred options for each of the areas and that Statutory Notices be prepared for publication when appropriate.

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Objections to Statutory Notices**Elfed High, Connah's Quay High, John Summers, Holywell High, Ysgol Perth y Terfyn, Ysgol y Fron, St. Ethelwolds and The Croft Nursery**

Area	Channel	Date	Mail Reference	Detail	Response	Channel of response	Date Sent
Elfed High School	Email	10.07.2013		Objection to the change in age range	IB emailed response	Email	06.08.2013
Elfed High School	Letter	11.07.2013	LL00622	Closure of Elfed 6th Form	Letter	Letter	06.08.2013
Elfed High School	Email	15.07.2013		Closure of Elfed 6th Form	IB emailed response	Email	07.08.2013
Elfed High School	Letter	15.07.2013	LL00598	Objection to the change in age range	Letter	Letter	01.08.2013
Elfed High School	Email	15.07.2013		Closure of Elfed 6th Form	IB emailed response	Email	07.08.2013
Elfed High School	Email	16.07.2013		Close of Elfed 6th Form	IB emailed response	Email	19.07.2013
Elfed High School	Letter	17.07.2013	LL00601	Objection to closure Elfed 6th Form	Letter	Letter	06.08.2013
Elfed High School	Letter	17.07.2013	LL00602		Letter	Letter	06.08.2013
Elfed High School	Letter	17.07.2013	LL00603		Letter	Letter	06.08.2013
Elfed High School	Email	18.07.2013		Closure of Elfed 6th Form	IB emailed response	Email	18.07.2013
Hub based in Connah's Quay	Email	19.07.2013	LL00569	Same as LL00617			
Elfed High School	Letter	19.07.2013	LL00568	Objection to the change in age range		Letter	01.08.2013
Elfed High School	Contact Centre	19.07.2013	LL0619 and CC 0713 09760, CC 0713 098284 (L00613 and LL0623)	Objection to the change in age range - Elfed High School	Letter	Letter	24.07.2013
Croft Nursery	Letter	19.07.2013	LL00610	Various objections to proposal to relocate the Croft Nursery	Mrs Joughin enclosed previous objections prior to the issue of statutory notice.	Letter	08.08.2013
Connah's Quay High School	Letter	19.07.2013	LL00614	Decrease in age range at CQHS	Letter	Letter	07.08.2013
Connah's Quay High School	Letter	19.07.2013	LL00615	Decrease in age range at CQHS	Personal Objection - not GB	Letter	08.08.2013
Hub based in Connah's Quay	Letter	19.07.2013	LL00617	Various objections to Hub	Letter	Letter	08.08.2013
Elfed High School	Letter	22.07.2013	LL00620	Closure of Elfed 6th Form		Email	01.08.2013
Connah's Quay High School	Email	22.07.2013	LL00624	Closure of CQHS 6th Form	IB emailed response	Email	08.08.2013
Elfed High School	Letter	23.07.2013	LL00629	Closure of Elfed 6th Form	Letter	Letter	06.08.2013
Elfed High School	Letter	23.07.2013	LL00626	Closure of Elfed 6th Form	Letter	Letter	05.08.2013
Elfed High School	Letter	24.07.2013	LL00630	Closure of Elfed 6th Form	Letter	Letter	07.08.2013
Elfed High School	Letter	24.07.2013	LL00631	Closure of Elfed 6th Form	Letter	Letter	05.08.2013
Connah's Quay High School	Letter	24.07.2013	LL00627	Closure of CQHS 6th Form	Letter	Letter	05.08.2013
Elfed High School	Letter	26.07.2013	LL00633	Closure of Elfed 6th Form	Letter	Letter	31.07.2013
Elfed High School	Email	26.07.2013	LL00650	Closure of Elfed 6th Form	Email	Email	08.08.2013
The Croft Nursery	Letter	25.07.2013	LL00648	Closure of The Croft Nursery	Letter	Letter	08.08.2013

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: LIFELONG LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

DATE: THURSDAY, 05 SEPTEMBER 2013

REPORT BY: CHIEF EXECUTIVE

SUBJECT: PERFORMANCE REPORTING

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To explain the improving corporate approach to performance reporting.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The Council adopted the Improvement Plan for 2013/14 on 25 June 2013. The Improvement Priorities of the previous Council have been thoroughly reviewed and challenged to streamline and reset them and to be clearer over the impacts and how performance will be measured.

2.02 The Improvement Plan focuses on the priorities which are going to have the most impact during 2013/14. This helps the organisation to concentrate on the things where sustained corporate attention is needed during 2013/14, with the remaining priorities being managed as more routine performance management.

2.03 The introduction of the new style Improvement Plan has presented the opportunity to review and streamline our current reporting arrangements so that they in turn focus and concentrate on the achievement of our priorities and the impacts which they seek to deliver.

2.04 The alignment of the new three year Outcome Agreement (starting in 2013/14) with the Improvement Plan allows for further streamlined reporting as part of the Improvement Plan monitoring.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 Future reporting arrangements will include:

1. Monitoring of Improvement Plan activity and progress reported each quarter. This will include progress against the achievement measures, risks and the Outcome Agreement. This will start in October with a single report to Cabinet, followed by quarterly updates. The Improvement Priorities are to be monitored by appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees according to the priority area of interest.

Most of these are straight forward e.g. the Housing priorities will be reported to Housing Overview and Scrutiny; others are more complex e.g. Social Enterprise is led by the Director of Community Services, but will be reported to the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee as the content is mainly regeneration and business related. Appendix 1 is a mapping document showing accountability and reporting lines.

2. Twice annually (at quarters 2 and 4) performance highlight reports will be presented from the Heads of Service. These will be similar to those previously produced for quarterly reporting with a focus on performance exceptions, both good and poor. This ensures that the 'business as usual' is still being monitored and reported against.

3.02 The contents of these half yearly Head of Service reports will include:

- Improvement Priorities that do not have an in-year priority
- Service Plan progress
- Corporate measures e.g. absence management
- Reporting against findings from external regulatory bodies e.g. Wales Audit Office, Care and Social Services Inspectorate Wales or Estyn
- Improvement Targets
- National Strategic Indicators (NSIs) – as part of the new Outcome Agreement.

3.03 This approach is more streamlined and will remove some of the duplication experienced with the previous approach, e.g. separate Improvement Plan and SARC reporting.

3.04 The first full Improvement Plan progress report will be presented to Cabinet's October meeting.

3.05 Each Overview and Scrutiny Committee will receive this report and will be briefed on the changing arrangements.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 Members support and help develop the new approach to performance reporting.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 There are no specific financial implications for this report, however the Council's Medium Term Financial Plan is aligned to resource the priorities of the Improvement Plan.

5.02 In addition, the alignment of the Outcome Agreement to the Improvement Plan may have financial implications. These will be detailed in a future report once the Outcome Agreement is more fully developed.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 There are no specific anti poverty implications for this report, however poverty is a priority within the Improvement Plan 2013/14.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 There are no specific environmental implications for this report, however the environment is a priority within the Improvement Plan 2013/14.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 There are no equalities implications for this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 There are no personnel implications for this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Each of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees will receive this report as part of their September forward work programme which explains the new approach to performance reporting.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Corporate Management Team and the Performance Leads from across the Authority have contributed to help shape the new approach to reporting.

11.02 Informal Cabinet received a copy of this report 3 September 2013.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1 – Improvement Priorities Mapping Document

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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Council Priorities - Accountability Mapping

Council Priority	Lead Accountability	Portfolio Holder	Sub-Priority	Impact	Lead Accountability	O&S Scrutiny Committee
Housing	Director of Community Services	Cabinet Member for Housing	Extra Care Housing	Helping more people to live independently and well at home	Head of Housing	Housing
			Modern, Efficient and Adapted Homes	Improving the choice and quality of local housing		
			Achieve the Wales Housing Quality Standard	Improving quality of life for our tenants through improved housing		

Council Priority	Lead Accountability	Portfolio Holder	Sub-Priority	Impact	Lead Accountability	O&S Scrutiny Committee
Living Well	Director of Community Services	Cabinet Member for Social Services	Independent Living	Improving people's quality of life	Head of Adult Social Services / Head of Children's Social Services	Social & Health
			Integrated Community Social and Health Services	Helping more people to live independently and well at home	Head of Adult Services	

Council Priority	Lead Accountability	Portfolio Holder	Sub-Priority	Impact	Lead Accountability	O&S Scrutiny Committee
Economy and Enterprise	Director of Environment	Council Leader	Business Sector Growth in Deeside	Creating jobs and growing the local economy	Head of Regeneration	Environment
			Town and Rural Regeneration	Making local communities viable		
	Director of Community Services		Social Enterprise	Supporting and creating new forms of local business	Head of Regeneration	Environment

Council Priority	Lead Accountability	Portfolio Holder	Sub-Priority	Impact	Lead Accountability	O&S Scrutiny Committee
Skills and Learning	Director of Lifelong Learning	Cabinet Member for Education	Modernised and High Performing Education	Improving standards in schools to get the best learner outcomes	Primary, Secondary and Inclusion Lead Officers	Lifelong Learning
			Places of Modernised Learning	Improving places of learning to get the best learner outcomes	Head of Development & Resources (LLL)	Lifelong Learning
		Council Leader & Cabinet Member for Finance	Apprenticeships and Training	Meeting the skills and employment needs of local employers	Director of Lifelong Learning / Head of Regeneration	Lifelong Learning / Environment

Council Priority	Lead Accountability	Portfolio Holder	Sub-Priority	Impact	Lead Accountability	O&S Scrutiny Committee
Safe Communities	Chief Executive / Director of Environment	Cabinet Member for Public Protection, Waste & Recycling	Community Safety	Keeping people and communities safe	Head of Public Protection	Community Profile and Partnerships
		Cabinet Member for Environment	Traffic and Road Management	Improving road safety	Head of Assets and Transportation	Environment

Council Priority	Lead Accountability	Portfolio Holder	Sub-Priority	Impact	Lead Accountability	O&S Scrutiny Committee
Poverty	Director of Community	Cabinet Members for Social Services / Housing / Leader	Welfare Reform	Protecting people from poverty	Head of Finance / Head of Housing	Housing / Corporate Resources

Poverty	Community Services	Housing / Leader & Cabinet Member for Finance	Fuel Poverty	Protecting people from poverty	Head of Housing	Housing
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Council Priority	Lead Accountability	Portfolio Holder	Sub-Priority	Impact	Lead Accountability	O&S Scrutiny Committee
Environment	Director of Environment	Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Environment / Cabinet Member for Public Protection, Waste & Recycling	Transport Infrastructure and Services	People being able to access employment, local services and facilities	Head of Assets and Transportation	Environment
			Carbon Control and Reduction	Reducing our carbon impact on the natural environment		

Council Priority	Lead Accountability	Portfolio Holder	Sub-Priority	Impact	Lead Accountability	O&S Scrutiny Committee
Modern and Efficient Council	Chief Executive	Cabinet Member for Corporate	Organisational Change	Managing services well to achieve our priorities	Chief Executive / Head of ICT & Customer Services / Head of Housing	Corporate Resources
		Cabinet Member of Finance	Matching Resources to Priorities	Protecting local front-line public services through the best use of our resources	Chief Executive / Head of Finance	
			Achieving Efficiency Targets			
		Cabinet Member for Corporate	Procurement Strategy	Making our money go further through smart procurement	Head of ICT & Customer Services	
Asset Strategy	Having the right buildings in the right places for the right uses		Head of Assets and Transportation			

		for Corporate	Access to Council Services	Improving Customer Services	Head of ICT & Customer Services
			Single Status	Achieving a fair and affordable pay and grading structure	Head of HR and OD

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **LIFELONG LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

DATE: **THURSDAY, 5TH SEPTEMBER 2013**

REPORT BY: **HOUSING AND LEARNING OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY FACILITATOR**

SUBJECT: **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Lifelong Learning Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 Items feed into a Committee's Forward Work Programme from a number of sources. Members can suggest topics for review by Overview & Scrutiny Committees, members of the public can suggest topics, items can be referred by the Cabinet for consultation purposes, or by County Council or Directors. Other possible items are identified from the Cabinet Work Programme and the Strategic Assessment of Risks & Challenges.

2.02 In identifying topics for future consideration, it is useful for a 'test of significance' to be applied. This can be achieved by asking a range of questions as follows:

1. Will the review contribute to the Council's priorities and/or objectives?
2. Are there issues of weak or poor performance?
3. How, where and why were the issues identified?
4. Do local communities think the issues are important and is there any evidence of this? Is there evidence of public dissatisfaction?
5. Is there new Government guidance or legislation?
6. Have inspections been carried out?
7. Is this area already the subject of an ongoing review?

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 Overview & Scrutiny presents a unique opportunity for Members to determine the Forward Work Programme of the Committees of which they are Members. By reviewing and prioritising the Forward Work Programme Members are able to ensure it is Member-led and includes the right issues. A copy of the Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1 for Members' consideration which has been updated following the last meeting.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That the Committee considers the draft Forward Work Programme attached as Appendix 1 and approve/amend as necessary.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 None as a result of this report.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 None as a result of this report.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None as a result of this report.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 None as a result of this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None as a result of this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 N/A

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Publication of this report constitutes consultation.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1 – Forward Work Programme

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

None.

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CURRENT FWP

Date of meeting	Subject	Purpose of Report	Scrutiny Focus	Responsible / Contact Officer	Submission Deadline
10 October 2013 Meeting to be held at Hawarden Records Office	Quarterly Performance Reporting	To consider Quarter 1 performance outturns for improvement targets	Performance Monitoring	Director of LLL	2 October 2013
	Hill Review Local Implications	To consider the implications for Flintshire of the Hill Review.	Monitoring Report	Director of LLL	
	Apprenticeship and training opportunities	Update on the Apprenticeships and Training opportunities projects.	Monitoring Report	Director of LLL	
	Formula Review – ideas and principles	To provide an update on how schools are funded and the recommendations arising from the Formula Review.	Monitoring Report	Director of LLL/Lucy Morris	
14 November 2013	Quarterly Performance Reporting	To consider Quarter 2 performance outturns for improvement targets	Performance Monitoring	Director of LLL	6 November 2013
	School Performance Report – including attendance and exclusions	To provide Members with details of overall School Performance and Inspection outcomes	Monitoring report	Director of LLL	

	Annual Report – School Performance Monitoring Group	To provide Members with the Annual Report from the School Performance Monitoring Group	Monitoring report	Director of LLL	
	School Balances	To provide Members with details of the closing balances held by Flintshire schools at the end of the financial year	Monitoring report	Director of LLL	
19 December 2013	Health & Safety Annual Report	To receive a summary report on accidents and incidents in schools and other services during the year and the actions taken to achieving healthy and safe environments	Monitoring report	Director of LLL	11 December 2013
	Community Events Strategy	To receive and consider the Community Events Strategy	Service Improvement	Director of LLL	
30 January 2014	Pupil Attainment	To provide Members with a summary of pupil attainment across primary and secondary school phases for the school year	Monitoring Report	Director of LLL	22 January 2014
	Annual School Modernisation Report	Annual update report to review progress	Monitoring Report	Director of LLL	

6 March 2014	Quarterly Performance Reporting Incidents of arson, vandalism and burglaries in Flintshire schools	To consider Q3 performance outturns for improvement targets Annual update report to review progress	Performance Monitoring Monitoring Report	Director of LLL Director of LLL	26 February 2014
10 April 2014	Regional School Effectiveness and Improvement Service (GwE)	To provide Members with details of the performance of GwE in its first year	Performance Monitoring	Director of LLL	2 April 2014
15 May 2014	Lifelong Learning Directorate Plan 2014/15 Development and Resource Service Plan School Improvement Strategy Culture & Leisure Plan	To provide Members with an overview of the Directorate Plan 2014/15 as part of the Council's Governance Framework To consider the Development and Resource Service Plan To consider the School Improvement Strategy To consider the Culture & Leisure Plan	Service Planning Service Planning Service Planning Service Planning	Director of LLL Director of LLL Director of LLL Director of LLL	7 May 2014

19 June 2014	Quarterly Performance Reporting	To consider Q4/Year End performance outturns for improvement targets	Performance Monitoring	Director of LLL	11 June 2014
24 July 2014	Presentation from Alliance & Leisure	To receive an update presentation from Alliance & Leisure	Performance Monitoring	Director of LLL	16 July 2014

Items to be scheduled

- Update report on the timescales of the bespoke websites for all Leisure Facilities
- Update on the growth of sports development activities for 0 – 7 year olds

Joint meeting with Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee – March, 2014

- Corporate Parenting
- Children & Young People Plan
- Educational Attainment of Looked After Children
- Safeguarding
- Services for the blind / partially sighted in Flintshire

REGULAR ITEMS

Month	Item	Purpose of Report	Responsible / Contact Officer
February	Pupil Attainment	To provide Members with a summary of pupil attainment across primary and secondary school	Director of Lifelong Learning
February / March	Incidents of arson, vandalism and burglaries in Flintshire schools	Annual update report to review progress	Director of Lifelong Learning
March	Children & Young People Plan	Monitoring Report	Director of Lifelong Learning
March	Educational Attainment of Looked After Children	To receive the annual educational attainment report (joint meeting with Social & Health Care)	Director of Lifelong Learning
November 2010 onwards	School Balances	To provide the Committee with details of the closing balances held by Flintshire schools at the end of the financial year	Director of Lifelong Learning
November	School Exclusions	Annual monitoring report to ensure effective mechanisms remain in place for exclusions, together with appropriate levels of intervention and support	Director of Lifelong Learning
December	Health & Safety in Schools	To receive a summary report on accidents and incidents in schools during the academic year and the actions taken to support schools in achieving healthy and safe environments.	Director of Lifelong Learning
Quarterly	Performance Monitoring	To enable Members to fulfil their scrutiny role in relation to performance monitoring	Director of Lifelong Learning
	School Meal Service	To receive an update on the key project milestones of changes to the School Meal Service	Director of Lifelong Learning

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