

# Public Document Pack

Gareth Owens LL.B Barrister/Bargyfreithiwr  
Head of Legal and Democratic Services  
Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol a Democraataidd



To: Cllr Brian Dunn (Chairman)

CS/NG

Councillors: Ron Davies, Glenys Diskin,  
Chris Dolphin, Ian Dunbar, Robin Guest,  
Ron Hampson, Brian Lloyd, Dave Mackie,  
Mike Reece, Tony Sharps, Paul Shotton,  
Ian Smith, Nigel Steele-Mortimer and  
David Williams

26 September 2013

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

Dear Sir / Madam

A meeting of the **COMMUNITY PROFILE & PARTNERSHIPS OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** will be held in the **DELYN COMMITTEE ROOM, COUNTY HALL, MOLD CH7 6NA** on **THURSDAY, 3RD OCTOBER, 2013** at **10.00 AM** to consider the following items.

Yours faithfully

Democracy & Governance Manager

## **A G E N D A**

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

- 3 **MINUTES** (Pages 1 - 4)

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2013.

- 4 **PRESENTATION BY THE RNLI**

To receive a presentation from the RNLI.

---

County Hall, Mold. CH7 6NA  
Tel. 01352 702400 DX 708591 Mold 4  
[www.flintshire.gov.uk](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk)  
Neuadd y Sir, Yr Wyddgrug. CH7 6NR  
Ffôn 01352 702400 DX 708591 Mold 4  
[www.siryfflint.gov.uk](http://www.siryfflint.gov.uk)

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

5 **COMMUNITY PROFILE & PARTNERSHIPS PERFORMANCE REPORTING**  
(Pages 5 - 12)

Report of Chief Executive enclosed.

6 **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURE 2011 CONSULTATION DOCUMENT DESIGNATED PERSONS ORDER'**. (Pages 13 - 24)

Report of Member Engagement Manager enclosed.

7 **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 25 - 28)

Report of Member Engagement Manager enclosed.

**COMMUNITY PROFILE AND PARTNERSHIPS**  
**OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**25 JULY 2013**

Minutes of the meeting of the Community Profile and Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Flintshire County Council held at County Hall, Mold on Thursday, 25 July 2013.

**PRESENT: Councillor Brian Dunn (Chairman)**

Councillors: Ron Davies, Chris Dolphin, Robin Guest, Ron Hampson, Dave Mackie, Mike Reece, Ian Smith, Nigel Steele-Mortimer and David Williams

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Ian Dunbar, Brian Lloyd, Paul Shotton  
Sian Jones, Team Leader, Policy Performance and Partnerships

**CONTRIBUTORS:**

Councillor R.K. Jones, Cabinet Member for Public Protection, Waste and Recycling, Chief Executive, Dave Owens, Chief Inspector North Wales Police, Andy Jones, Assistant Chief Executive Wales Probation, Ian Vaughan-Evans, Interim Public Protection Manager, Jackie Goundrey, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Coordinator, Catherine Kelly, Substance Misuse Coordinator, and Gerwyn Davies, Anti Social Behaviour Coordinator, (for minute No.3)

**ATTENDANCE:**

Member Engagement Manager and Committee Officer

**9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**10. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 24 June 2013, were submitted.

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**11. ANNUAL COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

The Chief Executive introduced Dave Owens, Chief Inspector North Wales Police, Andy Jones, Assistant Chief Executive Wales Probation, Ian Vaughan-Evans, Interim Public Protection Manager, Jackie Goundrey Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Coordinator, Catherine Kelly, Substance Misuse Coordinator, and Gerwyn Davies, Anti Social Behaviour Coordinator, and invited them to give a brief outline of their role and responsibilities.

The Chairman invited the Chief Executive to give a presentation on the Flintshire Community Safety Partnership. The Chief Executive provided background information and referred to the establishment of the North Wales Safer Communities Board. The main points of the presentation were:

- 2012/13 Performance - Good News and Bad News
- Local Developments
- LSB Workstreams
- Flintshire County Council's Improvement Plan 2012-2017
- Delivery Team: Community Safety Team
- Regional Developments – Making a difference through collaboration

Chief Inspector Owens, commented on the steady reduction in recorded crime in Flintshire over the past four years. He reported that there had been a decrease in the number of violence against the person offences, burglary dwellings, burglary other than dwelling, criminal damage, vehicle crime, and anti social behaviour incidents. However, there was an increase in the number of sexual offences committed and crimes relating to robbery, drugs, and unauthorised taking of a vehicle.

During discussion Members raised questions and concerns around internet crime and electronic fraud, deployment of extra police officers and PCSOs, arrangements for the policing of local communities, and response times to 101 calls. Chief Inspector Owens acknowledged the points made and responded to the matters raised. He explained that incidents relating to online fraud were in general addressed by a central unit and agreed to source information on the level of internet crime and fraud statistics involving North Wales. He also agreed to provide further detail on the deployment of 51 extra police officers/PCSOs and seek improved communication with local Members and Town and Community Councils to inform of changes in the policing of local areas.

Further concerns were raised by Members around the recording of crime data and the use of percentages only which it was felt could create a misleading perspective on crime levels. In his response Chief Inspector Owens agreed that for clarity future data would include absolute numbers and percentage changes per crime category. He reiterated his comments that there had been a reduction in recorded crime in Flintshire during the last few years and said Flintshire remained a safe area to live, work and visit.

Officers gave an overview of the local and regional activities and progress made to reduce violent crime including domestic and sexual violence, anti social behaviour, acquisitive crime, re-offending, substance misuse, and hate related crime and disorder, and referred to the key priorities for the year ahead.

The Chief Executive commented on the pressures, key developments, and decisions taken by the newly established North Wales Safer Communities Board during the first year.

It was agreed that an interim report on the work of the Community Safety Partnership, to include more detail on the work of the Neighbourhood Wardens, be provided to the meeting of the Committee to be held on 28 October 2013.

The Chairman thanked the Chief Executive for his presentation and Chief Inspector Owens, Andy Jones, Ian Vaughan-Evans, Jackie Goundrey, Catherine Kelly, and Gerwyn Davies, for their detailed and informative responses to Members' questions.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report be received subject to the following:

- (a) That information be sought on the level of internet crime/electronic fraud statistics involving North Wales,
- (b) That information be sought on the deployment of the 51 extra police officers/PCSOs;
- (c) That data reporting be improved to record absolute numbers and percentage changes per crime category;
- (d) That an interim report on the work of the Community Safety Partnership, to include more detail on the work of the Neighbourhood Wardens, be made to the meeting of the Committee to be held on 28 October 2013; and
- (e) That the Police be asked to improve their communication of changes in the police assigned to specific areas to assist local Members.

**12. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The Member Engagement Manager introduced the Forward Work Programme of the Committee. He advised that the meeting of the Committee scheduled for 23 September 2013 had been postponed until 3 October 2013 to enable a representative from RNLI Flint to attend.

Members reviewed the current programme and agreed that an interim report on the work of the Community Safety Partnership, to include more detail on the work of the Neighbourhood Wardens, be made to the meeting of the Committee to be held on 28 October 2013.

The Member Engagement Manager provided an update on the scrutiny of designated persons and advised that guidance from the Welsh Government had been received and that the position would be reported at the next meeting.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the Forward Work Programme be agreed subject to the above;  
and
- (b) That an interim report on the work of the Community Safety Partnership, to include more detail on the work of the Neighbourhood Wardens, be made to the meeting of the Committee to be held on 28 October 2013

**13. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS IN ATTENDANCE**

There was one member of the press in attendance and no members of the public in attendance.

(The meeting started at 10.00 a.m. and ended at 11.45 a.m.)

.....  
**Chairman**

## FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** **COMMUNITY PROFILE & PARTNERSHIPS  
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** **THURSDAY 03 OCTOBER 2013**

**REPORT BY:** **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**SUBJECT:** **PERFORMANCE REPORTING**

### **1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01 To provide an update on the streamlined and 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 risk register 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. Cabinet members have been consulted. Wales Audit Office has been advised.

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**

**Contact Officer: Vicki Robarts**  
**Telephone: 01352 701457**  
**Email: [vicki.c.robarts@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:vicki.c.robarts@flintshire.gov.uk)**



## 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
---------	--------------------	---	--------------	--------------------------------	-----------------	---------

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
Page 11  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	
			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:** **COMMUNITY PROFILE & PARTNERSHIPS  
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** **THURSDAY, 3 OCTOBER 2013**

**REPORT BY:** **MEMBER ENGAGEMENT MANAGER**

**SUBJECT:** **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURE 2011  
CONSULTATION DOCUMENT 'DESIGNATED  
PERSONS ORDER' (NUMBER 1).**

### **1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

To enable the committee to consider the draft response to the Welsh Government Consultation Document number WG17306, Designated Persons Order (Number 1) which has been made to provide specific external scrutiny powers under section 59 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.

### **2.00 BACKGROUND**

**2.01** Members will be aware that the Local Government (Wales) Measure has introduced a number of changes within local authority democratic services functions. One of the most eagerly anticipated changes is the specific legal power to scrutinise 'designated persons' – public service providers who are outside the authority.

**2.02** Flintshire has always been keen to exercise external scrutiny, and over the last 13 years has achieved a number of 'scrutiny firsts'. These include being the first to invite ELWa (the former education and Learning Wales) to attend a meeting, extensive health service scrutiny (including a productive meeting with the then chief executive of the Countess of Chester NHS trust) and, most recently, the newly elected police & crime commissioner for North Wales. These activities have been carried out using the broad powers available to us utilising section 21 (2) (e) of the Local Government Act 2000.

**2.03** In 2002, it was widely thought that health service scrutiny would become a specific area for local authority scrutiny: whilst this was so in England, it did not become so in Wales. On a number of occasions subsequently, Members in committee have resolved that representations be made to the Welsh Ministers for health scrutiny powers, but to no avail.

**2.04** During discussions between the Welsh Government and Welsh local authorities prior to the consultation on what became the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011, it became apparent that more

focussed external scrutiny was to become a requirement for local authorities. When we last reviewed the Overview & Scrutiny committee structure in 2010, we acknowledged this by creating the 'Community Profile & Partnerships Overview & Scrutiny Committee', the terms of reference of which concentrate predominantly on external scrutiny. Members of this committee have often expressed frustration at the lack of progress with statutory guidance as to which public service organisations will become 'designated persons' under section 59 of the Measure.

### **3.00 CONSIDERATIONS**

**3.01** The consultation which has been published refers to the expectation that all local authorities and their partners will have a Single Integrated Plan, as set out in *Shared Purpose Shared Delivery* which was published last December. As part of placing integrated planning on a statutory basis 'organisations need to ensure that strong accountability is in place, including arrangements for collective scrutiny'.

**3.02** The statutory basis for designated persons means that they

- Provide the public (or a section of the public) with services, goods or facilities of any description (whether on payment or not);
- Provide those services, goods or facilities in the exercise of functions of a public nature;
- (are) wholly or partly funded by public money;
- (are) not a local authority (meaning a county or county borough council).

**3.03** The bodies being considered for the first designation phase are:

- Local Health boards
- NHS Trusts
- Fire & Rescue Authorities
- National Park Authorities
- Registered social landlords
- Third sector organisations delivering services to the public

The majority of those being designated had been anticipated, but the designation of the health bodies is a welcome departure from the previous Welsh Government stance. The committee may find the inclusion on the list of all of the above acceptable.

**3.04** Paragraph 5.2 of the Consultation document states that the 'Welsh Government's policy is for public services, in the future, to be subject to effective scrutiny'

However, further and higher education providers have not been included on the draft list for the first Designated Persons Order. This is surprising: paragraph 5.2 of the Consultation Document observes



that:

The first Designation Order under the 2011 Measure is likely to have the practical effect of placing a major focus of local authority scrutiny of 'designated persons' on the contribution their Local Service Board (LSB) partners make to the delivery of shared outcomes in SIP.

**3.05** Flintshire Overview & scrutiny committees have engaged with both Glyndwr University and Deeside College (now a part of Coleg Cambria) in the past and will certainly continue so to do. Both the college and the university are part of Flintshire's LSB. It is suggested that education providers otherwise meet the criteria (as referred to in paragraph 3.02, above) and should be included. The omission is because Welsh Government had only identified those bodies which were listed in section 38 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to be included for the draft first designation order.

**3.06** The consultation document also goes on:

Town and community councils are also named community planning partners. Given their existing democratic mandate, we are seeking views on whether and how they could contribute to local collaborative scrutiny and if it is necessary to designate them in the this first phase.

**3.07** The obvious difference between the other proposed designated persons and town and community councils is that of direct, democratic election. Members may feel that it would be inappropriate to bring a community council before a scrutiny committee for that very reason, especially as many of the town and community council also have sitting or former county councillors amongst their membership which could make Members of the committee feel very uncomfortable. A more effective role for town and community councillors within the scrutiny process would be as co-optees or contributors on local issues where their knowledge of local demography and geography may be invaluable.

**3.08** In terms of which other organisations should be designated, referring to the order as 'Number 1' presupposes that other orders will follow, incorporating other public service bodies. The omission of further and higher education institutions is obvious, and should be suggested for inclusion now. For the future, it could be reasonable to include public service broadcasters, such as the BBC and S4C as they appear to meet the criteria and exert huge influence over public opinion within Wales. Transport providers who receive public subsidies could also be considered.

**3.09** The consultation paper also touches on 'What is good scrutiny?' and 'How can good scrutiny be ensured?' These rehearse approaches which are in accord with how we have always operated Overview & Scrutiny in Flintshire and therefore support.

**3.10** This recommendations from this committee will be reported to the Constitution Committee at its meeting on 16th October.

**4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS**

- (1) That the committee considers and comments on the proposals for Designated Persons order (Number 1);
- (2) That the suggestion for the inclusion of further and higher education providers in the first order be specifically considered;
- (3) That the inclusion of public service broadcasters and public funding subsidised transport providers be considered for a second designated Persons Order.

**5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

None directly from this report.

**6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

None directly from this report.

**7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

None directly from this report.

**8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

None directly from this report.

**9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

None directly from this report.

**10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED**

Publication of this report constitutes consultation.

**11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

Publication of this report constitutes consultation

**12.00 APPENDICES**

Consultation Response Form.

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

None, other than published material.

**Contact Officer:** Robert Robins  
**Telephone:** (01352) 702320  
**Email:** [robert.robins@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:robert.robins@flintshire.gov.uk)

This page is intentionally left blank

## Consultation on Designated Persons Order (Number 1)

### Consultation Response Form

Please note that the consultation ends on 21/11/2013

<b>Name:</b>	Robert Robins
<b>Your organisation:</b>	Flintshire County Council
<b>Your address:</b>	County Hall, Mold, Flintshire CH7 6NR
<b>Email/telephone no.:</b>	robert.robins@flintshire.gov.uk 01352 702320

Please feel free to make any comment you wish on this document, the proposed designated bodies, issues highlighted in the Consultation Document. However, we would particularly welcome comments on the attached questions:

Do you agree that the following bodies should be designated in the first Order? (please tick)	Agree	Disagree
Local Health Boards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
NHS Trusts	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire and Rescue Authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
National Park Authorities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Registered Social Landlords	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Third sector organisations that are delivering services to the public.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>How could Town and Community Councils best participate in local collaborative scrutiny? Is it necessary to designate them?</b>		
It is not considered necessary or appropriate to designate Town & Community Councils. Their members are democratically elected and there are already close		

working arrangements which include regular meetings of the Flintshire County Forum to discuss matters of mutual interest. It should be left to individual Town or Community Councils to contribute or participate in local collaborative scrutiny as and when they wish to do so and where their local knowledge will provide added value to the scrutiny process.

**If you disagree with a body being designated please tell us about it below.**

<i>Designated body</i>	<i>Your concerns</i>

**Do you think there are other organisations that should be recommended for designation in the *first* Order? Please say why.**

<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Reason for recommended designation</i>
Further and higher education bodies	Flintshire has already established mutually beneficial, collaborative scrutiny relationships with the local college of further education (Deeside College, now Coleg Cambria) and Glyndwr University and would wish to continue that relationship within the framework of the Local Governemnt (Wales) 2011.
Public Service broadcasters	These are publically funded bodies which can greatly influence how the public, with whom we are engaged, perceive the Authority. Whilst it would not be appropriate to fetter journalistic freedom, it would be indicative of a mature relationship if public service broadcasting

	executives could be held to account for how they operate within and portray an area.
--	--

<b>Do you think there are other organisations that should be recommended for designation in any <i>future</i> Order? Please say why.</b>	
<i>Organisation</i>	<i>Reason for recommended designation</i>
Commercial bus and train operators within a county/county borough council's area	Any organisation which receives public money for the delivery of a service, even if it is a commercial organisation should be able to account locally for their services. This would not impinge upon commercial services, but would give a voice to local people.

<b>You may wish to offer a view on the following issues outlined in the Consultation Document .</b>	
<i>Issue</i>	<i>Your concerns</i>
<i>Maintaining clear accountability</i>	<p>In Flintshire we have a long tradition of inviting public bodies to our Overview &amp; Scrutiny committees. This has enabled our Members to gain a greater insight into particular issues. It has also meant that the representatives of those services are able to benefit from the views expressed by a wide cross-section of people who, by their very nature, are committed enthusiasts for the delivery of high quality, responsive public services.</p> <p>Early on we invited representative of the former ELWa to attend a meeting of the Lifelong Learning O&amp;SC and have also had all of the bodies included within the designated persons proposals as well as the Police &amp; Crime Commissioner at scrutiny meetings. This has worked well and we would hope that putting the relationship on a 'stronger' statutory basis than s 20(2) (e) would not diminish the co-operative and collaborative nature of our scrutiny. We are keen to be and to remain 'critical friends', which implies a closeness of relationship.</p>
<i>Forward work programmes – ensuring impact is maximised</i>	<p>Within North Wales we established a scrutiny officers network some 10 years ago. This has proved invaluable in promoting a close working relationship amongst the officers who have been able to bring shared knowledge and experience to the attention of their Members and thus ensure that an undue burden is not placed on organisations which cross boundaries. Proportionality has always been a feature of our effective scrutiny, but there will be occasions when a body such as the Local Health Board needs to attend</p>



	<p>each local authority on an individual basis in order to engage them effectively.</p>
<p><i>Capacity, capability and co-option</i></p>	<p>The contribution to effective scrutiny which has been made by the statutory co-optees on Lifelong Learning has shown how the knowledge and life experience of people who are not members of the committee through the democratic process can enrich its collective knowledge. There is scope to make greater use of the knowledge of both lay and professional people within Overview &amp; Scrutiny. The role of the town or community councillor, with their indepth knowledge of 'their patch' is a good case in point (see earlier comments about town and community councillors)</p>

**We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues or concerns which we have not specifically addressed, please use this space to report them:**

The scrutiny of designated persons is an important step in making Overview & Scrutiny more relevant to the general public with whom we wish to engage. We already know how effective Overview & Scrutiny can be in holding the Executive to account and making services run better. However, until there is a problem, such as a service failure, the public with their expectations that things will be run effectively, are not likely to want to become engaged. When there is a problem, the public are able to approach their local member - the organisation has a 'local face'. The majority of public service providers are not locally elected and thus , by their nature, tend to be 'faceless'. Greater scrutiny powers brings more public services into the public arena which can only be beneficial, as long as it is done responsibly and propotionately.

Responses to consultations may be made public – on the internet or in a report. If you would prefer your response to be kept confidential, please tick here:

## FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**REPORT TO:** **COMMUNITY PROFILE & PARTNERSHIPS  
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** **THURSDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER 2013**

**REPORT BY:** **MEMBER ENGAGEMENT MANAGER**

**SUBJECT:** **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

### **1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT**

**1.01** To consider the Forward Work Programme of the 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 or 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**

None as a result of this report.

**6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

None as a result of this report.

**7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

None as a result of this report.

**8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

None as a result of this report.

**9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

None as a result of this report.

**10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED**

N/A

**11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

Publication of this report constitutes consultation.

**12.00 APPENDICES**

Appendix 1 – Forward Work Programme

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

None.

**Contact Officer:** Robert Robins  
**Telephone:** 01352 702320  
**Email:** robert.robins@flintshire.gov.uk

**Community Profile & Partnerships Overview & Scrutiny Committee**  
**FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2013/14**

**Appendix 1**

<b>DATE</b>	<b>TOPIC</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>	<b>RESPONSIBLE / CONTACT OFFICER</b>
Thursday, 7 <sup>th</sup> November 2013 2pm (meeting changed from scheduled 28 <sup>th</sup> October)	Community Safety Partnership update	The update was requested at the July meeting and this part of the agenda is considered to be a statutory crime and disorder meeting	Chief Executive Sian Jones Robert Robins
	Strategic Partnerships mid year update	Progress and monitoring.	Chief Executive Karen Armstrong
	Forward Work Programme	Development & confirmation	
Monday 2nd December 2013 10.00 a.m.	Forward Work Programme	Development & confirmation	
Monday 20th January 2014 10.00 a.m.	Forward Work Programme		
Monday 17th February 2014 10.00 a.m.	Forward Work Programme		

**Community Profile & Partnerships Overview & Scrutiny Committee**  
**FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2013/14**

**Appendix 1**

Monday 24th March 2014 10.00 a.m.	Forward Work Programme		
Monday 28th April 2014 10.00 a.m.			
Monday 9th June 2014 10.00 a.m.			
Monday 7th July 2014 10.00 a.m.			
	<p><b>Items to be scheduled</b>                  Deeside College/Coleg Cambria                  WLGA national overview                  LSB                  Outcome Agreement                  Local Partnership governance arrangements                  County Forum and the Charter</p>		