

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **15 SEPTEMBER 2015** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 4**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Education and Youth)**

SUBJECT: **SCHOOL MODERNISATION - SCHOOL
STANDARDS AND ORGANISATION ACT 2013 -
JOHN SUMMERS HIGH SCHOOL**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: (1) That Cabinet is reassured by the plans for transition and the openness to consider home to school transport options explored by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

(2) That Cabinet reaffirm their commitment to reviewing in detail options for home to school transport.

(3) That Cabinet direct the officer and head teacher planning group to plan in detail for transition taking into account the feedback of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

(4) That a commitment is made to a full public consultation exercise on the future use of the site, should the school be closed, including the options for open space and fields in trust protection.

(5) That Cabinet reaffirms the previous decision to refer the proposal of closure of the Sixth Form at John Summers high School from 31 August 2016 and closure of the School from 31 August 2017 to the Welsh Government.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** If the Cabinet decision is to proceed, the consultation report is issued to the Welsh

Minister and the Council will publish a Statutory notice providing a 28 day notice period for objections. If objections are received, the Council must publish an objection report providing a summary of the objections and their responses to them within 28 days of the end of the objection period. This report is also forwarded to the Minister to support final adjudication.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The estimated cost of transport options will be included in the forthcoming transport report to Cabinet. Actual transport costs will be assessed once all families have chosen their preferred school. There is sufficient staff capacity to prepare the detailed transition plans for students.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillors H. Brown, D. Butler, K. Jones, W. Mullin and A. Shotton declared a personal interest.
Councillor C. Jones declared a personal and prejudicial interest.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

16 September 2015

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **15 SEPTEMBER 2015** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 5**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

(1) The second and concluding part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) titled *Meeting the Financial Challenge* is adopted for consultation and development as the first step towards setting balanced budgets for 2016-17 and 2017-18;

(2) The specific proposals set out for service reform, corporate financing options, and national support and relief, be approved in principle for more detailed consultation and development;

(3) Early engagement with Welsh Government, with the support and involvement of the Welsh Local Government Association as our representative body, on the case for national support and relief as set out in *Meeting the Financial Challenge*; and

(4) That the Medium Term Financial Strategy be referred for debate to the County Council meeting on 24th September 2015.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As outlined in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** Members of the Council have been invited to two workshops in July where the financial broadcast and the developing strategy have been shared and explored. Group Leaders and Overview and Scrutiny Chairs have also been engaged over a period of time by the Leader. Part

1 of the Strategy has been formally reported to Cabinet and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee for comment and adoption. Chief Officers, the Finance Team, and many service managers and teams have been involved in developing the business plans and corporate finance options which are featured in Part II of the Strategy.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The Medium Term Financial Strategy involved planning the use of the financial resources of the Council for a three year period. The implications and risks are therefore significant. The report and the appendices are self-explanatory in presenting the risks to the Council of the major annual reductions in Government funding it is facing. The three part Funding Strategy is in itself a set of proposed solutions.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

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(Proper Officer)

other Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are no specific resource implications for this report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

16 September 2015

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **15 SEPTEMBER 2015** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 7**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN ANNUAL REPORT**
2014/15 AND WELSH LANGUAGE SCHEME
ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2014/15

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: (1) To be assured that adequate progress has been made during the year to meet our statutory duties.

(2) To recommend that Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee monitor progress of the revised SEP and the implementation of the new Welsh Language Standards as part of their forward work programme.

(3) To agree to the publication of the reports on the Council's website and the submission of the Welsh Language Scheme annual report to the Welsh Language Commissioner.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: Equality Representatives and relevant officers were consulted in order to update both the action plans and provide information for the annual reports.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: Implementing the recommendations of this report will have implications for employees. Chief Officers will need to ensure that:

- Equality and Welsh Language impact assessments are undertaken; and

- Employees have the time and are supported to complete the Bilingual Customer Care training, equality e-learning modules and the Welsh Language skills and diversity audit

Financial resources are available through the Corporate Training budget to meet training costs.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

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contractors, WHQS, 21st Century Schools and SHARP programmes.

It is suggested through the National Skills Academy Client Based Approach to have an Academy Training Lead to manage and administer the full operation. The lead officer will be supported through existing administrative support and also by the Tenant Liaison Officers within the existing Capital Works team. Resourcing requirements to manager and administer the academy will be monitored throughout the project and reviewed as the academy establishes itself to ensure that adequate resource is in place to fully meet the potential of the proposal. These costs will be funded by a contribution from contractors, WHQS, 21st Century Schools and SHARP programmes.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **15 SEPTEMBER 2015** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 9**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)**

SUBJECT: **VEHICLE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM POLICY**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Cabinet approves the Vehicle Management System Policy and its adoption by the Authorities operations.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** Consultations have taken place with:

- Human Resources and Organisational Development regarding policy design and integration
- Trades Unions in respect of workforce engagement
- Operational departments, union representatives and stakeholders
- Cabinet Member
- Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee who supported the recommendation for Cabinet to approve this report

The unions were supportive of a policy that outlined the operational advantages of the best use of vehicle technologies. They requested that the policy encouraged managers to embrace opportunities for operational efficiencies, and clearly set out the obligations of the drivers. It was specifically requested that the policy is broad in content and concise.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: Any additional costs and subscription fees are offset within the Fleet Review savings

and have previously been presented within the previous Fleet Review report.

Overview of fleet savings that will be achieved through the Fleet Review:

- Vehicle Ownership: Hire / Lease of LIGHT fleet - £213k
- Vehicle Ownership: Hire / Lease of HGV / Specialist Fleet - £132.8k
- Logistics Model – Utilisation Management LIGHT – £243k
- Logistics Model – Utilisation Management HGV / Specialist - £44k
- Fleet & Maintenance Management £231k
- RCV / Recycling - £32k
- Waste Transfer - £155k
- Small Waste Vehicles £24k
- Sweepers £82.5k
- Verge Mowing - £35k
- Gully Emptiers - £34.5k
- Mowers - £8.7k
- Fuel Trackers - £75k
- Voids Process - £25k
- Vehicle Size / Specification - £0k
- “People Transport” - £13.3k

Total savings £1.3m

These savings were captured in the Fleet Review, but were linked to improved efficiencies gleaned from information provided by vehicle management systems. The Logistics Model element of the Fleet Review identified savings of £141k in the reduction of fleet ownership, in part due to improved monitoring and utilisation of fleet. This had a lead-on saving of £102k from service benefits (a newer fleet attends the workshop less often) and a full time equivalent (FTE) mechanic reduction in the workshop.

This report does not impact on staffing levels.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

16 September 2015

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(Proper Officer)

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **15 SEPTEMBER 2015** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 11**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Community and Enterprise)**

SUBJECT: **BUSINESS RATES - WRITE OFF**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Cabinet approves the write off of these business rate debts, amounting to £486,063 for Milvus Ltd and £52,800 for Midcomb Ltd.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** All write offs must be approved by the Corporate Finance Manager, but in the case of write offs over £25,000, Cabinet must be consulted before a decision is taken to write off debts.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: There are no direct financial implications for the Council or local taxpayers as business rates which are collected (or not collected) are borne by the National Collection Pool for Wales. As the Collection Pool is supported by Welsh Government, non-payment of rates and rates avoidance does though have a wider impact on the Welsh taxpayer.

Writing off these two debts, amounting to losses of £539,063, is being recommended as a last resort but in the context of the £0.43b collected from ratepayers over the period these debts have accrued, amounts to a total loss of just 0.0013% of all collectable balances.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **15 SEPTEMBER 2015** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 12**

REPORT OF: **Corporate Finance Manager**

SUBJECT: **TREASURY MANAGEMENT ANNUAL REPORT**
2014/15

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Cabinet approves and recommends to the Council the Annual Treasury Management Report for 2014/15.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.


CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: Arlingclose Ltd. As Treasury Management Advisors.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: As set out in the Annual Report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 16 September 2015

SIGNED  **(Proper Officer)**

