FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

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

REPORT OF: Chief Officer (Education and Youth)

<u>SUBJECT:</u> <u>SCHOOL MODERNISATION - SCHOOL</u>

STANDARDS AND ORGANISATION ACT 2013 -

JOHN SUMMERS HIGH SCHOOL

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: (1

(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

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.

DATE PUBLISHED: 16 September 2015

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 15 SEPTEMBER 2015 AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

REPORT OF: Chief Executive

SUBJECT: QUARTER 1 IMPROVEMENT PLAN MONITORING

REPORT

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

(1) To agree the following:

 The levels of progress and confidence in the achievement of high level activities which seek to deliver the impacts of the Improvement Plan;

 The performance against improvement plan performance indicators; and

 The current risk levels for the risks identified in the Improvement Plan.

(2) Cabinet Members be assured by plans and actions to manage the delivery of the 2015/16 Improvement Priority impacts.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONSThe Improvement Priorities are monitored by the appropriate Overview and Scrutiny

Committees according to the priority area

of interest.

Chief Officers have contributed towards

reporting of relevant information.

It was agreed during the Member

Workshop in May, which consulted on the Improvement Plan for 2015/16, that a 'how to guide' for the Improvement Plan

would be produced. This will be

presented to the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee in September prior to being shared with the 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

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

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

REPORT OF: Chief Executive

STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN ANNUAL REPORT SUBJECT:

> 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.

As detailed in the recommendations. **DECISION:**

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS Equality Representatives and relevant **REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:**

officers were consulted in order to update

both the action plans and provide information for the annual reports.

Implementing the recommendations of **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

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 elearning 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.

DATE PUBLISHED: 16 September 2015

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 15 SEPTEMBER 2015 AGENDA ITEM NO. 8

Chief Officer (Community and Enterprise) REPORT OF:

THE DEVELOPMENT OF A COMMUNITY BENEFIT SUBJECT:

TRAINING ACADEMY

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: (1) Approve the creation of the

Community Benefit and Training Academy (CBTA) to manage the

implementation of the community benefit

commitments.

(2) Approve a new post to manage and administer the function and services of the academy. The lead officer will be supported initially through existing resource in terms of administration and support. These posts will be funded by a contribution from contractors, WHQS, 21st

Century Schools and SHARP

programmes.

As detailed in the recommendations. **DECISION:**

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS

Internal stakeholders to be consulted prior REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: to implementation including HR. Key

partners such as contractors.

Communities First, the college and other relevant agencies will all be consulted and engaged with as part of the Academy launch to ensure full commitment from all to maximise the potential of the proposal.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: The creation of the Community Benefit

and Training Academy will require an operating budget to cover printing / branding and promotional costs. These costs will be funded by a contribution from 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.

DATE PUBLISHED: 16 September 2015

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.

REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

CONSULTATIONS 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: N

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

16 September 2015

SIGNED

K->-

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 15 SEPTEMBER 2015 AGENDA ITEM NO. 10

REPORT OF: Corporate Finance Manager

SUBJECT: REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2015/16 (MONTH

3)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: (1) Note the overall report and the

projected Council Fund contingency sum

as at 31 March 2016;

(2) To approve the transfer from Social Services of £0.300m of budget for

Independent Living Fund (ILF) to be held within Central and Corporate Finance as

a one off in year efficiency;

(3) Note the projected final level of balances on the Housing Revenue

Account: and

(4) Approve an allocation of £0.210m from the Contingency Reserve for the costs of

the speed limit review which is an

improvement plan priority.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS

REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

None.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: The Budget Monitoring Report reflects the

planned use of the financial resources of the Council for the current financial year and details the variations occurring to

date.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

16 September 2015

SIGNED

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

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

REPORT OF: Chief Officer (Community and Enterprise)

<u>SUBJECT:</u> <u>BUSINESS RATES - WRITE OFF</u>

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.

REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

CONSULTATIONS 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.

DATE PUBLISHED:

16 September 2015

<u>SIGNED</u>

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 Arlingclose Ltd. As Treasury Management

REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: Advisors.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: As set out in the Annual Report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 16 September 2015