

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **19 JANUARY 2016** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 4**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **PROVISIONAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT
SETTLEMENT**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Cabinet is invited to provide a response to the consultation based on the outline set out in the report.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.


**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** The Council is being consulted by Welsh Government as the proposer of the Provisional Settlement. The consultation is an open public consultation.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: The implications of the Settlement for the Council are significant. The Settlement for 2016/17 is an improved position on the previously forecasted position. Refer to the separate report on the Council Fund Revenue Budget, on the agenda for this meeting, for more information and analysis.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 20 January 2016

SIGNED  **(Proper Officer)**

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **19 JANUARY 2016** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 5**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **COUNCIL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2016/17**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: To adopt the first stage – first phase of budget proposals for the Council Fund Revenue Budget 2016/17 for recommendation to Council.

To adopt the first stage – second phase proposals for the Council Fund Revenue Budget 2016/17 for referral to the respective Overview and Scrutiny Committees, and secondly to Cabinet and then final consideration by Cabinet in February.

To endorse the strategy for the ongoing work to seek to close the remaining budget ‘gap’ and recommend a balanced annual budget to Cabinet in February.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** Consultations have been undertaken internally with elected Members, senior officers and their service teams, and Trade Unions. Consultations have been undertaken externally via the publication and distribution of the MTFS, and with the public as set out in the report and in the appendices.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: The resource implications of the budget position are significant. These are explained within this report, previous reports and the MTFS.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

20 January 2016

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **19 JANUARY 2016** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 6**

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

SUBJECT: **COUNCIL TAX REDUCTION SCHEME**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Agree to adopt the CTRS and maintain the current discretionary elements for 2016-17.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS None required.

REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The cost of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme is largely covered through direct funding from Welsh Government.

This is a fixed amount and does not increase year on year to take into account of the usual inflationary increase in Council Tax.

To mitigate this the Council budgets for a provision which for 2016/2017 is £317,000 to meet the inflationary increase which assumes an annual increase in Council Tax of 3.0%.

Based on prior year trends, because of a diminishing caseload and costs, there is sufficient budget provision to meet fully the cost of CTRS.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 20 January 2016

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **19 JANUARY 2016** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 7**

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

SUBJECT: **REVIEW OF DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: For Cabinet to approve the review of DRR leading to the development of a new scheme which could be implemented from April 2017.

Approve the despatch of letters in January 2016 to all business ratepayers currently in receipt of DRR. This provides ratepayers with the statutory 12 months lead in time to revoke the current scheme and the existing level of awards before changes to DRR levels are implemented in 2017-18.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** None at this stage, although if Cabinet agree to review DRR there will be a need to consult further when a new scheme is formulated.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: To bridge the budget gap in 2017-18 and beyond, business planning proposals for the Community and Enterprise Portfolio reflect the growing need to review the existing DRR scheme and consider the implementation of a lower cost scheme from 2017-18.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: Councillor Chris Bithell and Councillor Helen Brown.

DISPENSATIONS Councillor Chris Bithell - To speak at Informal Cabinet and Cabinet meetings and answer questions. Not vote and

leave the room when voting takes place. Discuss with officers if at least 3 people are present (2 to be independent) and that the discussions are minuted. Dispensation to apply to the conclusion of the budget setting process for the financial year 2016/17 (no later than March 2016).

Councillor Helen Brown - To speak at Informal Cabinet and Cabinet meetings and answer questions. Not vote and leave the room when voting takes place. Discuss with officers if at least 3 people are present (2 to be independent) and that the discussions are minuted. Dispensation to apply to the conclusion of the budget setting process for the financial year 2016/17 (no later than March 2016).

DATE PUBLISHED:

20 January 2016

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **19 JANUARY 2016** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **WELSH LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION**
(WLGA) MANIFESTO LOCALISM 2016-21

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Cabinet is invited to formally support the Welsh Local Government Association Manifesto Localism 2016-21.

The Council to engage with the Association and fellow councils in working with a newly elected Welsh Government in May to promote adoption of the Manifesto proposals in national policy and funding plans.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.


CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: All member councils, including Flintshire, were consulted by the WLGA in the development and drafting of the Manifesto.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: None directly.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 20 January 2016

SIGNED  **(Proper Officer)**

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **19 JANUARY 2016** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 9**

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

SUBJECT: **SCHOOL ORGANISATION - YSGOL LLANFYNYDD**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: (1) Cabinet is requested to consider the responses from the statutory consultation period for Ysgol Llanfynydd.

(2) Cabinet is requested to consider comments from the Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the evidence and analysis provided by officers within the reports.

(3) Cabinet is requested to determine the next steps for school organisational change for Ysgol Llanfynydd.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation numbers 1 and 2 and 3 being replaced with:

(3) That Cabinet proceed to a formal statutory consultation on the closure of Ysgol Llanfynydd.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** In addition to consultation undertaken in line with the School Organisation Code, consultation has also been undertaken with the Council's Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

If the Cabinet decision is to proceed, 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.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There is sufficient staff capacity to prepare the detailed transition plans for pupils.

Should the current proposals be implemented, the Council will work with the current members of staff at Ysgol Llanfynydd, including teaching and support staff, should they seek redeployment opportunities. Staff displaced by the proposals may have the opportunity to be employed in the primary school network.

The estimated net saving that could be achieved if the proposal to close Ysgol Llanfynydd goes ahead is as follows:

Savings/Costs	Amount
Formula Funding Saving	£94,542 pa
Transport Costs	-£16,150 pa
Catering Saving	£5,000
Net Saving	£83,392 pa
Backlog Maintenance Saving	£102,935 (5 year cycle estimate)

The estimated annual costs of transport as a result of the proposal are £16,150. However, actual transport costs can only be fully assessed once all families have chosen their preferred school.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillors: Helen Brown, Derek Butler, Christine Jones, Kevin Jones and Aaron Shotton.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

20 January 2016

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **19 JANUARY 2016** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 10**

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

SUBJECT: **SCHOOL ORGANISATION - YSGOL MAES EDWIN**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: (1) Cabinet is requested to consider the responses from the statutory consultation period for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain.

(2) Cabinet is requested to consider comments from the Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the evidence and analysis provided by officers within the reports.

(3) Cabinet is requested to determine the next steps for school organisational change for Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation numbers 1 and 2 and 3 being replaced with:

(3) That Cabinet proceed to a formal statutory consultation on the closure of Ysgol Maes Edwin, Flint Mountain.

And the addition of number 4 as:

(4) If a detailed business case for a federation is received before the end of February 2016 Cabinet will consider it alongside the outcome of the statutory consultation process at its meeting on 19 April 2016.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS In addition to the consultation undertaken

REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

in line with the School Organisation Code, consultation has also been undertaken with the Council's Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

If the Cabinet decision is to proceed, 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.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There is sufficient team capacity to prepare the detailed transition plans for students.

Should the current proposals be implemented, the Council will work with the current members of staff at Ysgol Maes Edwin, including teaching and support staff, should they seek redeployment opportunities. Staff displaced by the proposal may have the opportunity to be employment in the local primary network.

The estimated net saving that could be achieved if the proposal to close the Ysgol Maes Edwin goes ahead, is as follows:

Saving/Costs	Amount
Formula Funding Saving	£106,606 pa
Transport Costs	-£9,120 pa
Catering Saving	£5,000 pa
Net Saving	£102,486 pa
Backlog Maintenance Saving	£129,694 (5 year cycle estimate)

The estimated annual costs of transport as a result of the proposal are £9,120. However, actual transport costs can only be confirmed once all families have chosen their preferred school.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillors: Helen Brown, Derek Butler, Christine Jones, Kevin Jones and Aaron Shotton.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

20 January 2016

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **19 JANUARY 2016** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 11**

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

SUBJECT: **STRATEGIC HOUSING AND REGENERATION
PROJECT (SHARP)**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: To approve the development of 12 new Council homes on Custom House School site, Connah's Quay at a total cost of £1,548,936.

To approve the standard scheme development assumptions as identified in the report.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** There has been community consultation throughout Flintshire County Council for the site. The proposed scheme was subject to a further community consultation on Monday 5 October at St David's Institute from 2pm until 7pm.

For the event Halliday Clark provided 8 information boards on the proposal. The consultation was attended by officers from Flintshire County Council, Halliday Clark Architects and Wates Living Space. A register was taken with 16 names signed. Consultation comments were submitted along with the presentation and register as part of this application. Planning approval was granted on 16 December 2015.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: £14,757m borrowing approval is available for a council house building programme. Each scheme will require individual Cabinet approval and each scheme will

be assessed against the scheme development criteria identified in 1.20 of the report. The process for doing this will provide for total scheme costs plus financing costs and management costs to be offset against rental income over 50 years.

Scheme costs and financial analysis are attached to the report as appendix 5. This shows total scheme costs of £1,548,936 and how the scheme performs against scheme development assumptions identified in paragraph 1.20. The scheme achieves pay back in year 50 with additional investment costs of £51,964 which are required due to the nature of the site, the council's quality standard and changes to CDM regulations.

The scheme has been assessed as providing best value for the Council by qualified cost control staff.

The scheme requires acquisition of a Council fund site by the HRA and this can be achieved in a cost neutral manner.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

20 January 2016

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 19 JANUARY 2016 AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

REPORT OF: Chief Officer (Organisational Change)

SUBJECT: MEDIUM TERM LIBRARIES PLAN: HOPE, MYNYDD
ISA AND SALTNEY LIBRARIES

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

To consider the assessment of the feasibility of community asset transfers for the libraries in Hope, Mynydd Isa and Saltney in particular reviewing the formal consultation with communities and the draft notes from Organisational Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

To proceed with community asset transfers in Hope and Mynydd Isa, with a target date range of April-June 2016 for completion and, with the final basis for transfer to be brought back to Cabinet.

In Saltney, based on the formal community consultation, to give to the end of February 2016 for further consideration by the community to express an interest with a final date of the end of June 2016 for any final transfer.

That if no interest is expressed by the community of Saltney by the end of February 2016 that provision of a library service is ceased from 31 March 2016.

DECISION:

As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION:

As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:

Informal consultation has taken place with parties interested in CAT's including Town and Community Councils, school and community groups.

Formal consultation with Town and

Community, schools and library users as detailed in appendix A.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications

The cost of current library provision in each area are as follows:

Library	Cost £
Hope	£13,000
Mynydd Isa	£34,000
Saltney	£41,000
Total:	£88,000

A CAT of these libraries or a cessation of service would, on an annual basis, save the amounts indicated above.

As part of a CAT consideration would be given to a one off revenue start-up funding for the first year and a one off capital grant towards capital building costs associated with the condition survey. These amounts being capped at the maximum figure as outlined in the report to Cabinet on 15 June 2015.

Human Resource Implications

If either CAT's are progressed as identified in option 1 in 1.05 of the report or a cessation of service occurs then no library staff will be required in future.

The total number of staff employed at these libraries at present are 5 people or 1.08 ftes. The way forward for this is to follow normal Human Resource procedure including staff consultation. It is likely in this instance that staff will be redeployed/assimilated into vacant posts in the library network.

If communities did identify funding to continue a professional library service then posts would be retained, however, this is considered unlikely.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

20 January 2016

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **19 JANUARY 2016** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 13**

REPORT OF: **Corporate Finance Manager**

SUBJECT: **REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2015/16 (MONTH 7)**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Note the overall report and the projected Council Fund contingency sum as at 31 March 2016.

Note the projected final level of balances on the Housing Revenue Account.

To agree a contribution from the contingency reserve of £0.800m to meet the estimated increase in levy required to meet past and future claim liabilities in relation to the former Municipal Mutual Insurance company.

To agree a contribution from the contingency reserve of £0.100m to meet the resource requirements for specialist social work for child protection.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** None required.

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:

20 January 2016

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **19 JANUARY 2016** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 14**

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

SUBJECT: **PARKING PROVISION IN TALACRE**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Cabinet approves the proposed plan for providing improved parking in Talacre.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** Consultation has taken place with the Cabinet Member, Ward Member, Natural Resources Wales and ENI.

Consultations are on-going with the group that hold the long term lease for the community centre to gain agreement to the proposals.

A local publicity event will be held in the village in January to allow local businesses and the local community to comment on the proposals.

Further consultation will be required to take place when the Traffic Regulation Order for on-street parking is developed.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: There are a number of costs associated with the parking proposals outlined in the report:

- Improvements to Lighthouse Inn car park to maximise capacity and install parking ticket machines.
- Improvements to the beach car park.
- Improvements to the rear of the community centre (once agreement has been reached with the organisation operating the

centre).

- Installation of parking ticket machines.
- Advertising of off street parking place order and on street TRO, including signing and lining works.
- Cleaning and maintenance of car park areas and parking enforcement

The costs will be offset by income from annual parking revenues.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

20 January 2016

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)