






**DATE PUBLISHED:**

16<sup>th</sup> November 2016

**SIGNED**

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**(Proper Officer)**

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECORD OF DECISION**

**DATE OF MEETING:**            **15 NOVEMBER 2016**            **AGENDA ITEM NO. 6**

**REPORT OF:**                    **Corporate Finance Manager**

**SUBJECT:**                        **REVIEW OF MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION (MRP)**

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**    (1)    Members approve and recommend to County Council for Council Fund (CF) outstanding debt that:-

- Option 3 (Asset Life Method) be used for the calculation of the MRP in financial years 2016/17 and 2017/18 for the balance of outstanding capital expenditure funded from supported borrowing as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016. The calculation will be the 'straight line' method over 50 years. This represents an in year change of the approved and adopted policy for 2016/17 which was previously to use Option 1 (Regulatory Method);
- Option 3 (Asset Life Method) be used for the calculation of MRP in 2017/18 for all capital expenditure funded from supported borrowing from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 onwards. The calculation will be the 'straight line' method over an appropriate number of years, dependent on the period of time that the capital expenditure is likely to generate benefits. This represents a change of policy which was previously to use Option 1 (Regulatory

Method); and

- Option 3 (Asset Life Method) be used for the calculation of the MRP in 2017/18 for all capital expenditure funded from unsupported (prudential) borrowing or credit arrangements. This represents a continuation of the approved and adopted policy for 2016/17.

(2) That Members approve and recommended to County Council for Housing Revenue Account (HRA) outstanding debt:

- Option 2 (Capital Financing Requirement Method) be used for the calculation of the HRA's MRP in 2017/18 for all capital expenditure funded by debt. This represents a continuation of the approved and adopted policy for 2016/17.

(3) Members approve and recommend to County Council that MRP on loans (which qualify as capital expenditure) from the Council to NEW Homes to build affordable homes be as follows:

- No MRP is made during the construction period. The first loan to NEW Homes to be a short term loan of approximately 18 months which will be refinanced once construction is completed. This represents a continuation of the approved and adopted policy for 2016/17; and
- MRP is equal to the repayments made by NEW Homes once capital repayments are being made. The second loan to NEW Homes to be a long term loan which will be repaid from rent from the

affordable homes. The repayments made by NEW Homes will be classed, in accounting terms, as capital receipts, which can only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt which is a form of MRP. It is proposed to set aside the capital receipts (the capital repayments) made by NEW Homes to repay debt, being the Council's MRP policy for repaying the loan. This represents a continuation of the approved and adopted policy for 2016/17.

**DECISION:**

As detailed in the recommendations.

**REASON FOR DECISION:**

As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS  
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:**

The proposed changes have been recommended following detailed discussions with the Council's treasury management advisors, senior internal officers and key Cabinet Members. Wales Audit Office is also being consulted as external auditors. The proposed changes will be referred to the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee for comment before being discussed at County Council as part of Stage 2 of the budget in December.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

The table in the report shows the difference in the MRP charge for outstanding council fund capital expenditure funded from supported borrowing as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016 using the current reducing balance method and the recommended revised straight line method for the next 5 years. The table shows the significant savings that result from changing the MRP method in the earlier years, and the graph below plots the differences in MRP charges between the 2 methods over time.

A full 100 year analysis of the implications

is shown at appendix 1. This demonstrates that there are savings in years 1 – 17, additional costs in years 18 - 50 and further savings in years 51 – 100. It also takes into account that £4.217m of debt which would still remain outstanding under the current method at year 100. When all of these savings and costs are discounted to allow for the time value of money it results in a positive Net Present Value of £5.019m.

The savings in the earlier years will result in lower cash balances than currently forecast in the MTFs and therefore there will be an additional interest cost pressure to be considered. Conversely in later years, the higher MRP results in interest savings. The implications of which will be factored into future cash-flow and interest cost computations within the central loans and investment account.

The estimated additional interest costs for the next 3 years were detailed in the table in the report.

For future capital expenditure incurred from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 onwards which is funded from supported borrowing, the MRP calculation will involve splitting into groups with similar useful lives which are then used to calculate the MRP charge on a straight line basis. This means that the MRP charge for each year will vary dependent on what the useful life of the expenditure is. The table showed the differences in MRP charges for both methods and varying useful lives, based on the 2016/17 supported borrowing allocation of £4.183m from Welsh Government.

Going forward for each financial year a recurring pressure for MRP will be built into the MTFs dependent on; the supported borrowing allocation from Welsh Government for the previous year and the useful life of that capital expenditure.

There are no resource implications other than financial.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None.

**DISPENSATIONS**

None.

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16<sup>th</sup> November 2016

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**(Proper Officer)**







**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECORD OF DECISION**

**DATE OF MEETING:**            **15 NOVEMBER 2016**            **AGENDA ITEM NO. 9**

**REPORT OF:**                    **Chief Officer (Social Services)**

**SUBJECT:**                        **FOSTER FRIENDLY EMPLOYER**

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**    This report is presented for information. A 'Foster Friendly' Employment Policy has been through the Council's processes for employment policy development, consultation and agreement.

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

**REASON FOR DECISION:**            As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS  
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:**            Consultation on the employment policy has been through due process.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**            This proposals forms part of the Fostering Services strategy to recruit more foster carers. Foster care is significantly more cost effective in providing care to children than residential care, and costs less than commissioning placements through independent fostering agencies (IFA).

It is anticipated that the impact of the Foster Friendly Policy will be managed within services. There are currently 3 foster carers who also work for the Council.

This policy will help to recruit and retain foster carers as well as helping to ensure that our foster carers are financially stable and good role models by being in employment.

Employees wishing to take leave under the Foster Friendly Policy must produce written evidence to their manager to show that they are actively applying to become

foster carers or are required to attend meetings or training.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None.

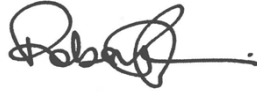
**DISPENSATIONS**

None.

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16<sup>th</sup> November 2016

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**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECORD OF DECISION**

**DATE OF MEETING:**            **15 NOVEMBER 2016**            **AGENDA ITEM NO. 12**

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

**SUBJECT:**                        **COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2017-18**

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**

- (1) Approve the Tax Base of 63,543 band D equivalent properties for the financial year 2017-18; and
- (2) Continue to set a 'nil' discount for properties falling within any of the Prescribed Classes (A, B or C) and for this to apply to the whole of the County area.

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

**REASON FOR DECISION:**            As in the report.

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

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**            Setting the Tax Base is part of an annual process of determining Council Tax charges for the next financial year as part of the Councils overall 2017-18 budget preparations.


The Tax Base is also used by the Police & Crime Commissioner and Town/Community Council's to set their Council Tax precepts for 2017-18, which will be included in the bills sent to every Council Tax payer in March 2017.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**            None.

**DISPENSATIONS**                        None.

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**(Proper Officer)**

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**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECORD OF DECISION**

**DATE OF MEETING:**            **15 NOVEMBER 2016**            **AGENDA ITEM NO. 13**

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

**SUBJECT:**                        **CAPITAL INVESTMENT IN THE STREETLIGHTING  
INFRASTRUCTURE AND UPGRADING TO LED  
LANTERNS**

**RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**    That Cabinet approves the Wales Funding Programme submission for Capital Funding to replace the appropriate Street Lighting lanterns with new and more energy efficient LED lighting units.

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

**REASON FOR DECISION:**            As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS  
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:**            With the Cabinet Member.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**        The Financial Case for the project is detailed in the appendix. A request will be made to Salix to suspend the repayments on the loan for a period of two years to allow time for the installation work to be completed and for associated energy savings to be realised. Repayments will commence in year 3, with equal repayments being made in each of the subsequent 8 years.

The installation work will be carried out by the Council's own Street Lighting teams.

The total potential 20 year financial benefit of the project will be between £3.2m and £5.9m – depending on future energy levels.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**    None.

**DISPENSATIONS**                        None.

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**REASON FOR DECISION:**

As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS  
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:**

With the Cabinet Member. With the project team detailed in the report.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

The cost of the programme has been covered by utilising staff within the service and has not created a financial pressure against budgets. The cost of removing the waste in the area would have fallen on the service in differing ways e.g. from litter picking and other cleansing duties. Longer term, the programme will be cost neutral to the Council.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None.

**DISPENSATIONS**

None.

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**(Proper Officer)**

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**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECORD OF DECISION**

**DATE OF MEETING:**            **15 NOVEMBER 2016**            **AGENDA ITEM NO. 16**

**REPORT OF:**                    **Chief Officer (Organisational Change.)**

**SUBJECT:**                        **LEISURE AND LIBRARIES ALTERNATIVE  
DELIVERY MODELS – IMPLEMENTATION PLAN  
DEVELOPMENT**

- RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**
- (1) To agree that the Museums Service is part of the proposed Leisure and Libraries Alternative Delivery Model;
  - (2) To agree the senior management structure for the Alternative Delivery Model detailed in the report, subject to minor changes that might need to be made under delegated authority;
  - (3) That recruitment starts to this senior management structure during November and December 2016, but that finalising appointments is subject to agreement of the implementation plan by both Cabinet and the staff vote in December 2016;
  - (4) That recruitment starts to the shadow board in line with the final Board structure outlined in this report with the aim that the shadow board is in place by the end of January 2017, after December 2016 Cabinet and the staff vote; and
  - (5) To agree that the final implementation plan for the new organisation be brought back to the December Cabinet, that the staff vote follows Cabinet in December

2016, and that a revised date of establishment of the organisation is July 2017.

**DECISION:**

As detailed in the recommendations.

**REASON FOR DECISION:**

As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS  
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:**

Informal consultation has taken place with staff and trade unions as well as formal Co-operative Transitional Board meeting involving front line staff, service managers and Council leaders. Consultation with Leisure and Libraries senior management team will be undertaken in relation to this specific recruitment process.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

If the posts are appointed as outlined in the report there will be a one off cost of £0.0392m from January 2017 – July 2017. All ADMs are bringing implementation plans to the December 2016 Cabinet meeting and as part of those reports a total one off cost for implementation can be identified across all work. Final recruitment to any post will not be approved prior to the identification of how this one off cost will be funded.

The appointment of a new senior management structure for the new ADM six months in advance of the new organisation to manage the shadow period as outlined in the report.

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None.

**DISPENSATIONS**

None.

**DATE PUBLISHED:**

16<sup>th</sup> November 2016

**SIGNED**



**(Proper Officer)**

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**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECORD OF DECISION**

**DATE OF MEETING:**            **15 NOVEMBER 2016**            **AGENDA ITEM NO. 17**

**REPORT OF:**                    **Chief Officer (Organisational Change)**

**SUBJECT:**                        **HOLYWELL LEISURE CENTRE : COMMUNITY  
ASSET TRANSFER UPDATE**

- RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**
- (1) To agree that the Community Asset Transfer be phased over the period 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016 to 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017;
  - (2) That as part of the phasing the Council agrees to implement changes in opening hours at Holywell Leisure Centre summarised in the report and appendix;
  - (3) That as part of this phasing the Council agrees to implement the changes in the staffing structure summarised in the report and detailed in the appendix;
  - (4) That delegated authority be given to the Chief Officer (Organisational Change) in consultation with the portfolio holder for Waste Strategy, Public Protection and Leisure to finalise the changes detailed in recommendation 2 and 3 including the final date for implementation;
  - (5) That the budgetary savings estimated for this transfer are adjusted to take into account the completed transfer date of 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017; and
  - (6) To agree that the Council support in principle (subject to financial diligence) the entry of the

community group into the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), which would include acting as a guarantor for the new company.

**DECISION:**

As detailed in the recommendations.

**REASON FOR DECISION:**

As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS  
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:**

Consultations have and are currently taking place with staff. Holywell Town Council has been engaged with considering proposals during 2016 and has a member of the staff as a member of the working group. Public meetings were held in 2015 to ask for public involvement in developing the proposal and a further public meeting is planned for later this year.

**RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:**

The delay in the implementation of the Holywell Leisure Centre CAT could cause an in-year budget pressure of between £70k – £100k, depending on the actual date of transfer.

Financial due diligence is being undertaken and there may be a potential financial implication of underwriting the LGPS for the Holywell Leisure Centre CAT.

Restructuring and consultation will be managed using the principles and processes of the Council's Organisational Change and Redundancy Policy and implemented by the Council. Trade union and employee (group and individual) consultation is underway. Any affected employees will have access to the Council's redeployment opportunities. To mitigate the impact of the changes and achieve reductions in the contracted hours required by the business plan for other posts volunteers for redundancy were sought elsewhere in the service. IF required we will consult on a criteria to select employees to remain at Holywell Leisure Centre and redeploy elsewhere in



the service. Redundancies will only apply where there is no suitable alternative employment and payments will be funded by the Council and be based on the Councils discretionary compensation (redundancy payments) policy. The new structure will be implemented on 1<sup>st</sup> January 2017.

All employees who are in the new structure and assigned to Holywell Leisure Centre will transfer on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2017 under TUPE. This means that individual employee's service will be continuous and main terms and conditions including pay will transfer when employees will become employees of the new CIO organisation. Consultation with Trade Unions and employees in relation to TUPE and Pensions is underway and is being jointly undertaken by the Council (the "transferor") and representatives from the Holywell Leisure Centre Community Group (the "transferee").

**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:**

None.

**DISPENSATIONS**

None.

**DATE PUBLISHED:**

16<sup>th</sup> November 2016

**SIGNED**



**(Proper Officer)**

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