

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JULY 2018** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 5**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN ANNUAL REPORT
2016/18 AND WELSH LANGUAGE ANNUAL
MONITORING REPORT 2017/18**

- RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**
- (1) Cabinet is assured that progress has been made during the year to meet our statutory duties;
 - (2) Cabinet approve to the publication of the reports on the Council's website; and
 - (3) That the Strategic Equality Plan Annual Report and Welsh Language Annual Report are included on the forward work programme of Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

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 monitoring reports.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: A training programme is required to ensure employees have the skills and knowledge to meet these statutory duties. A budget for equalities and Welsh language training is held by the Learning and Development Team.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

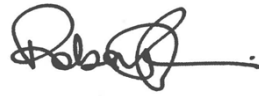
DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

18th July 2018

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JULY 2018** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 6**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Housing and Assets)**

SUBJECT: **UPDATE ON THE MANAGEMENT OF THE
HOMELESS LEGISLATION WITHIN THE HOUSING
(WALES) ACT 2014**

- RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**
- (1) Cabinet supports the update on the management of the new legislation within the Housing (Wales) Act 2014;
 - (2) Cabinet supports the emerging themes within the Regional Homeless Strategy, and notes the challenges that the Council has faced finding suitable housing options for households and the plans to mitigate further risks; and
 - (3) Cabinet approves the proposals to alleviate homelessness in the county.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

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

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: Welsh Government recognised that the implementation of the new homelessness prevention duties would lead to increased costs for Local Authorities. Therefore, in 2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18 they made transitional funding available to assist Local Authorities to meet these additional costs on a sliding scale. The funding was providing some key functions within the Housing Solutions Service and therefore a pressure was submitted to maintain these important posts when the funding

ended in 2018/19. As this report demonstrates the demand on the service is growing and the service would be unable to prevent homelessness with reduced capacity.

New developments are being wholly funded from available in year grant and will include robust exit strategies to mitigate and financial burden for the Council.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.


DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

18th July 2018

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 17 JULY 2018 AGENDA ITEM NO. 7
REPORT OF: Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy)
SUBJECT: TOURISM PROMOTION AND DESTINATION
MANAGEMENT

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Members discuss the current and emerging approaches to visitor promotion and destination management.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: Both services consult regularly with relevant stakeholders.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: There are no new resource requirements arising from the report. All activity highlighted is provided for within core budgets and staff resources or is externally funded.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 18th July 2018

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 17 JULY 2018 AGENDA ITEM NO. 12

REPORT OF: Corporate Finance Manager

SUBJECT: PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS - ACTUAL 2017/18

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Members note and approve the report.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: No consultation is required or carried out.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: There are no resource implications as a result of this report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 18th July 2018

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JULY 2018** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 13**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Social Services), Chief Officer
(Strategic Programmes)**

SUBJECT: **CARE LEAVERS DISCOUNT SCHEME**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

(1) Approve the introduction of a Council Tax Discretionary Discount Scheme for eligible care leavers, to take effect from 1st April 2018. The aim is to provide discounts of up to 100% to care leavers who reside in Flintshire, up to the age of 25. This Scheme includes all eligible care leavers living in Flintshire irrespective of care providing authority; and

(2) Support the new Financial Policy for care leavers and the production of user friendly information for care leavers to ensure they are clear about the financial support they are entitled to from the Council.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** At full Council on 19th June 2018, the introduction of the Council Tax Discretionary Discount Scheme for care leavers received unanimous support.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: We forecast that at least 5-10 young adults may qualify for a discount, including care leavers who reside in Flintshire but have previously been in the care of another local authority.

Although it is difficult to accurately predict the level of 'take-up', the initial analysis

indicates that the cost of providing this discount could be £14k per annum.

Unlike other Council Tax discounts and exemptions which are absorbed into the Tax Base, the cost of operating this scheme would be met from the Council's General Fund and therefore will marginally reduce the level of funding available to support the Councils Revenue Budget in 2018/19. It is important that the proposals as set out in the report are seen in the context of the overall package of support offered to prepare care leavers for independence.

The cost of providing the scheme in 2019/20 will be built into future budget projections.

The number of eligible care leavers fluctuates so average assumptions have been made to calculate the budget implications of the proposed Policy (paragraph 2.05 of the report provided anticipated aggregate costs).

The total costs for both initiatives is anticipated to be £27k.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

18th July 2018

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JULY 2018** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 14**

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

SUBJECT: **OUTCOME OF PUBLIC CONSULTATION ON
PUBLIC TRANSPORT AND SCHOOL TRANSPORT
ANOMALIES**

- RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**
- (1) That Cabinet notes the work undertaken for the bus network review and consultation exercise and approves the adoption of Option 3 (support subsidised routes on the core bus network and implement alternative, sustainable local travel arrangements in communities not on the core network) within all four geographical areas of the County;
 - (2) That Cabinet approves the proposed service levels on the strategic core bus network;
 - (3) That Cabinet approves the provision of an in-house minibusservice to support the local travel arrangements – where it is cost effective to do so;
 - (4) That Cabinet approves the proposed approach for dealing with the historical non-statutory school transport arrangements that have been identified during the service review; and
 - (5) That Cabinet approves the preferred pricing structure for concessionary bus passes.

DECISION: As detailed in recommendations 1-3.
Recommendations 4 and 5 to be

amended to read:

- (4) For the forthcoming academic year the Council applies its current transport policies in full and addresses the historic anomalies as set out in the report;
- (5) That the cost for concessionary bus passes for 2018/19 be £300 (option 2), as per the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendation, with a review of the cost for subsequent years to be undertaken.

And an additional recommendation of:

- (6) That officers bring a further report on how to address the issue of sibling entitlement, as per the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION:

As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:**

With Cabinet Member (Streetscene and Countryside); elected Member workshops in April and May 2018 and letter invite to consultation; Town and Community Council via letter invite to consultation and attendance at monthly meetings and County Forum; Assembly Members and Members of Parliament via letter invite to consultation; with members of the public and community groups and forums; bus operators; neighbouring authorities; and Welsh Government / North Wales Metro Steering Group.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There are no additional resource implications for implementing the proposals and work is expected to be undertaken by the existing Programme Manager for the project with support from a Technical Officer, which is already underway.

It is anticipated that drivers for the in-

house minibus operation will be recruited from within existing resources where feasible and the incumbent Fleet Manager will take on the responsibility of managing the PSV Operator's Licence, supported by the ITU Manager.

The existing service bus vehicles employed on the Deeside Shuttle service will be disposed of in accordance with the Council's Constitution and other relevant policies and legislation.

It is important to note that, from the outset, the Bus Service Support Grant (and its predecessor equivalents) has been intended to supplement Local Authorities' own expenditure, not replace them. Welsh Government has indicated that it continues to be recognised that it is for each Local Authority to determine how to spend its own un-hypothecated funding. Nevertheless, reflecting the fact that BSSG exists to supplement Local Authorities' own expenditure, and Welsh Ministers' discretion in relation to the scheme, it should be expected that future BSSG allocations, from April 2019, will be determined to reflect in part local authorities' own expenditure on supporting bus and community transport services. Any potential reduction in Flintshire's own revenue support funding could therefore result in a reduction of the grant received from Welsh Government.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cllrs Christine Jones, Billy Mullin, Carolyn Thomas and Aaron Shotton.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

18th July 2018

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JULY 2018** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 15**

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

SUBJECT: **ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: (1) That Cabinet supports the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committees recommendation that the current arrangement with Kingdom for the provision of low level environmental enforcement should end once an alternative delivery option can be established; and

(2) That a further scoping report is submitted to Cabinet in September 2018 detailing the proposed delivery model for the service, once all of the available options have been assessed and a sustainable business model produced. The report should also confirm the timelines for delivering the new operating model and a date for ending the current arrangement.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** The Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee reviewed the current arrangement in June 2018 and made the following recommendation to Cabinet:

“That the Council extend the in-house provision, through recruitment or regional working to provide the same level of enforcement coverage as the existing contractor without maintaining a zero

tolerance approach be recommended to the Cabinet for consideration”.

Further consultation on both the new delivery model and the support for the zero tolerance approach will be required and detailed within the September Cabinet report.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

TUPE may apply to those staff currently providing the service if a decision to transfer the work in-house or to tender the work is made. This assumes the existing contractor is not successful in retaining the contract if this option is chosen following the September report to Cabinet.

During the notice period, the Council enforcement officers will continue to support the contract and also enforce side waste and fly tipping events during the interim period.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.


DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

18th July 2018

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 17 JULY 2018 AGENDA ITEM NO. 16

REPORT OF: Chief Officer (Housing and Assets)

SUBJECT: HOUSING ASSET MANAGEMENT - PROCUREMENT FOR VOIDS AND REPAIRS SUPPORT SERVICE

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Cabinet approve the Housing Asset Management Team to procure a framework of contractors; to support the Internal Repairs team on Void and Repairs work, to Council owned properties.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: Customer representatives, such as volunteers from the Tenant's Federation, will be involved in the procurement process at the interview stage.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: Officers from Capital Works will be involved in the procurement process.

Annual budgets are set and approved annually by Cabinet members.

Spend on void services for Flintshire County Council in 2017/18 was approximately £2,265,000.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 18th July 2018

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(Proper Officer)

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:**

Internal consultations with officers in Finance, Planning, Contaminated Land, Legal, Procurement, Valuation and Estates and Ecology have been completed as part of the business case development.

Previous Cabinet reports in July 2017 and January 2018 detailing progress made on identifying and prioritising sites for renewable energy.

On 28th November 2017 initial business cases were presented to: the Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy), the Chief Officer (Housing and Assets), and the Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation), where it was decided to progress with Crumps Yard and Flint Landfill only.

Consultation with local Councillors and the local community will be required.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The information is commercially and financially sensitive and is therefore confidential and has been appended as a confidential appendix.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

18th July 2018

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)
