

Public Document Pack



Contact Officer:
Nicola Gittins 01352 702345
nicola.gittins@flintshire.gov.uk

To: Cllr Ian Roberts (Leader)

Councillors: Glyn Banks, Chris Bithell, Derek Butler, Dave Hughes, Christine Jones, Billy Mullin and Carolyn Thomas

10 July 2019

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Cabinet which will be held at 9.30 am on Tuesday, 16th July, 2019 in the Clwyd Committee Room, County Hall, Mold CH7 6NA to consider the following items

A G E N D A

1 APOLOGIES

Purpose: To receive any apologies.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Purpose: To receive any declarations and advise Members accordingly.

3 MINUTES (Pages 7 - 16)

Purpose: To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 18th June 2019.

TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING REPORTS

STRATEGIC REPORTS

4 MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY (MTFS) AND BUDGET 2020/21

Purpose: To receive a verbal update on the national position and the Council's case for improved funding for local government.

5 COUNCIL PLAN 2019/20 - PART 2 (Pages 17 - 88)

Report of Chief Executive - Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

Purpose: To approve the Council Plan Part 2.

6 ANNUAL IMPROVEMENT REPORT 2018/19 OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL FOR WALES (Pages 89 - 126)

Report of Chief Executive - Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

Purpose: To be assured by the Auditor General for Wales' Annual Improvement Report for 2018/19 and to approve the executive response to the proposals for improvement.

7 FLINTSHIRE DEPOSIT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN (2015-2030) (Pages 127 - 402)

Report of Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) - Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection

Purpose: To recommend approval of the Deposit Local Development Plan (LDP) to County Council.

8 ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY MODELS PHASE 2 (Pages 403 - 408)

Report of Chief Executive, Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) - Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

Purpose: To seek approval for the second phase of Alternative Delivery Models.

9 HOMELESSNESS UPDATE ON LOCAL ACTION PLAN (Pages 409 - 416)

Report of Chief Officer (Housing and Assets) - Cabinet Member for Housing

Purpose: To receive an update against the Local Action Plan for homelessness.

10 WELFARE REFORM UPDATE (Pages 417 - 428)

Report of Chief Officer (Housing and Assets) - Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

Purpose: To support the ongoing work to manage the impacts of Welfare Reform.

11 JOINT PROCUREMENT SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19 (Pages 429 - 450)

Report of Chief Officer (Governance) - Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

Purpose: To receive a performance update report on the Joint Procurement Service with Denbighshire County Council.

12 **FEES AND CHARGES** (Pages 451 - 480)

Report of Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) - Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

Purpose: To approve the outcomes of the review of fees and charges in support of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

OPERATIONAL REPORTS

13 **REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2018/19 (OUTTURN)** (Pages 481 - 502)

Report of Corporate Finance Manager - Cabinet Member for Finance

Purpose: To provide the revenue budget outturn position for 2018/19 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.

14 **CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2018/19 (OUTTURN)** (Pages 503 - 530)

Report of Corporate Finance Manager - Cabinet Member for Finance

Purpose: To provide the Capital Programme outturn position for 2018/19.

15 **PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS - ACTUALS 2018/19** (Pages 531 - 536)

Report of Corporate Finance Manager - Cabinet Member for Finance

Purpose: To provide the 2018/19 (actual) Prudential Indicator figures as required under the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).

16 **REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2019/20 (INTERIM)** (Pages 537 - 544)

Report of Corporate Finance Manager - Cabinet Member for Finance

Purpose: To provide an update on the budget position in-year.

17 **COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNT SCHEME FOR FLINTSHIRE FOSTER CARERS** (Pages 545 - 580)

Report of Chief Officer (Governance), Chief Officer (Social Services) - Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets, Cabinet Member for Social Services

Purpose: To approve the introduction of a Council Tax discount scheme for local authority foster carers.

18 **WELSH LANGUAGE ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2018/19** (Pages 581 - 602)

Report of Chief Executive - Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

Purpose: To receive the Welsh Language Annual Monitoring Report 2018/19.

19 **REVIEW OF STREETSCENE STANDARDS** (Pages 603 - 612)

Report of Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) - Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside

Purpose: To approve the Streetscene operational standards following review.

20 **REGIONAL POOL AGREEMENT AND APPROVAL REPORT TEMPLATE** (Pages 613 - 646)

Report of Chief Officer (Social Services) - Cabinet Member for Social Services

Purpose: To provide an update on the work of the North Wales Pooled Budget Group to meet the legal and policy requirements of Welsh Governments for pooled budgets between local government and the National Health Service.

21 **FOOD SERVICE PLAN 2019-20 FOR FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL** (Pages 647 - 692)

Report of Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) - Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection

Purpose: To approve the Food Service Plan 2019-20.

22 **EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS** (Pages 693 - 694)

Purpose: To provide details of actions taken under delegated powers.

FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME - COUNTY COUNCIL, CABINET, AUDIT AND OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY - FOR INFORMATION

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 - TO CONSIDER THE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following item is considered to be exempt by virtue of Paragraph(s) 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

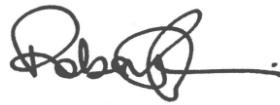
The report contains commercially sensitive information belonging to a third party and the public interest in not revealing the information outweighs the public interest in revealing the information.

23 **FLINTSHIRE FOOD ENTERPRISE AND THE FOOD POVERTY RESPONSE**
(Pages 717 - 720)

Report of Chief Officer (Housing and Assets) - Cabinet Member for Housing,
Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

Purpose: To seek approval in principle for the formation of a Flintshire Food Enterprise.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Robins', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Robert Robins
Democratic Services Manager

This page is intentionally left blank

CABINET
18th JUNE 2019

Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet of Flintshire County Council held in the Clwyd Committee Room, County Hall, Mold on Tuesday, 18th June 2019.

PRESENT: Councillor Ian Roberts (Chair)

Councillors: Glyn Banks, Chris Bithell, Derek Butler, Dave Hughes, Christine Jones, Billy Mullin and Carolyn Thomas.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive, Chief Officer (Governance), Corporate Finance Manager, Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation), Chief Officer (Education and Youth), Chief Officer (Housing and Assets, Chief Officer (Social Services), Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy), Corporate Business and Communications Executive Officer, and Team Leader – Democratic Services.

APOLOGIES:

None.

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillors: Bernie Attridge and Patrick Heesom.

11. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Banks, Jones and Thomas declared personal interests in agenda item number 5 – Discretionary Transport Policy Review – Outcome of Consultation.

Councillor Mullin declared a personal interest in agenda item number 13 – NEWydd Catering and Cleaning Ltd – Progress Review and Revised Business Plan for 2019-2022.

Councillor Banks declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item number 16 – North East Wales (NEW) Homes Business Plan 2019/2048.

Councillors Banks and Butler declared personal interests in agenda item number 17 – Theatr Clwyd Trust Model.

12. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2019 were submitted and approved as a correct record.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

All Cabinet Members paid tribute, and expressed their thanks, to all staff who had worked tirelessly the previous week during the bad weather to ensure service provision continued and that the County's most vulnerable were cared for.

13. COUNCIL PLAN 2019/20

Councillor Roberts introduced the Council Plan – Part 1 which was the guiding priorities for the Council’s remaining term. He thanked all officers involved in the production of the Plan.

The Chief Executive explained that the Plan was reported to County Council in June each year for adoption – it was a five year plan which was subject to annual review.

Workshops had been held for Members and the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee had provided feedback on the structure, format and content of the draft Plan. The main outcomes from the Member workshops were outlined in the report. Other more specific suggestions had been made to inform the content of the Plan and where agreed at the workshops, or in discussion, they had been incorporated into the Plan.

The Corporate Business and Communications Executive Officer explained that a new, seventh theme had been added to the Plan - ‘*Safe and Clean Council*’.

The Council Plan was published in two documents. Part one set out the intent. Part two would set out the performance measures, targets and milestones against which achievement would be measured and evaluated. Part two would be presented in July.

Councillor Thomas welcomed the timing of the workshops which had been held earlier in the process and the format of the document which she felt was easier to understand for members of the public.

Councillors Banks and Bithell commented on the importance of the new 7th Theme which was welcomed. On ‘*Serving Council*’, Councillor Jones was pleased to see the inclusion of ‘Measures to support and maintain a safe and healthy working environment’.

RESOLVED:

That Part 1 of the Council Plan 2019/20 be recommended to Council for adoption.

14. DISCRETIONARY TRANSPORT POLICY REVIEW – OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION

Councillor Roberts introduced the report which summarised the outcome of the consultation on discretionary school and college transport policy areas of post 16 provision and benefits entitlement which took place in December 2018.

Full details of the consultation were outlined in the report; the report had also been submitted to the Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the feedback from that meeting was also included in the report. Councillor Roberts read out the following statement:

“Members, I believe that the decision we are faced with is extremely challenging. We, as a council, have prided ourselves on making post-16 education accessible to all and in having one of the lowest ‘Not in Education, Employment or Training’ (NEET) rates in Wales. However, we know that as a local authority and following 10 years of austerity, we spend far more, in net cost, than other local authorities on transport including transport to schools and colleges. We must recognise that the results of the consultation were a call for no change to the current policy as people were inevitably reluctant to pay more for local services if it could be avoided.

Unfortunately, there is no such thing as free school or college transport – free for the user means that the council tax payer in general has to foot the bill. I recognise that there is school transport which we are required to pay for and the many anomalies on transport policy in practice which have grown up over the years. Unfortunately, post-16 transport is one of these free services, phased out in many other local authorities, which is no longer sustainable. It currently costs about £750,000 per academic year to maintain.

I thank our Head teachers and College representatives who spoke on behalf of the Secondary Heads Federation, and the colleges for recognising the financial challenge we face as a council and for reluctantly supporting a charge, with some mitigation measures. I also thank the Members of the Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Committee for the debate they had and decisions that they took which again recognised that there would have to be a charge with some mitigation measures. This leaves the decision for us today. I would therefore move the following:

- That from September 2020 the termly charge for post-16 transport should be set at a maximum of £150 per term;
- All students entitled to free school meals should receive free transport to school or college. This measure should be paid for by Council funds – not from the charge for transport – as a discretionary benefit;
- That during the year between now and the introduction of the charge, the Council should examine the possibility of operating a hardship fund for supporting families where access to education is denied due to the charge through extenuating circumstances, noting the continuation of free transport entitlement under the free school meal criterion; and
- That during the year between now and the introduction of the charge, as suggested by the Liberal Democrat group, the Council should examine the possibility of a form of ‘Oyster’ type pre-payment card which would allow residents who cannot pay the termly charge to top up their card on a regular basis.

I would hope that during the year before the introduction of the charge that we work with Coleg Cambria to maintain their share of the transport costs. I would further propose that post-16 is defined to be years 12 and 13 in school year terms, and only extended in exceptional circumstances.”

The Chief Officer (Education and Youth) concurred that this was not an easy decision for Members but the status quo was not sustainable in the current financial

climate. She stressed the importance of learners being treated with equity and reiterated the proposals that children who received free schools meals would continue to receive free transport to school or college.

The Chief Officer (Governance) added that the inability to pay should not be a barrier to education and the retention of providing free transport to those who received free school meals, plus the hardship fund, would ensure that all learners were treated the same. In addition to the exploration of a pre-payment card, the Council could also explore whether direct debit could be an option as part of 'My Account'.

The Chief Executive added that the Council would still be required to pay for a discretionary element for both free transport entitlement and for any hardship fund. Any such fund would need to be applied consistently and would be challenging for the Authority to administer. He said if Welsh Government (WG) wanted to ensure learners had access to education then transport should be fully funded by WG under a statutory instrument.

All Members agreed with the proposals by Councillor Roberts, recognising that this was a decision required due to the extremely challenging financial climate that the Council was in, and had been for a number of years.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That:
- I. From September 2020 the termly charge for post-16 transport should be set at a maximum of £150 per term;
 - II. All students entitled to free school meals should receive free transport to school or college. This measure should be paid for by Council funds – not from the charge for transport – as a discretionary benefit;
 - III. That during the year between now and the introduction of the charge, the Council should examine the possibility of operating a hardship fund for supporting families where access to education is denied due to the charge through extenuating circumstances, noting the continuation of free transport entitlement under the free school meal criterion;
 - IV. That during the year between now and the introduction of the charge, as suggested by the Liberal Democrat group, the Council should examine the possibility of a form of 'Oyster' type pre-payment card which would allow residents who cannot pay the termly charge to top up their card on a regular basis;
 - V. That post-16 is defined to be years 12 and 13 in school year terms, and only extended in exceptional circumstances; and
- (b) That negotiations be re-opened with Coleg Cambria on the level of recharged cost for the discretionary transport service.

15. THE COUNCIL'S CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION SERVICE AND A SHARED SERVICE WITH WREXHAM

Councillor Mullin introduced the report and explained that issues surrounding CCTV could be emotive. Members of the public generally felt comforted by the camera

installations, however, austerity had forced many local authorities to seriously consider the role and funding of CCTV systems.

The report set out a number of options relating to CCTV installation. Relocation of the service to Wrexham had continued to be explored for some time. This option would provide a joint CCTV service managed by Wrexham, with Flintshire remaining responsible for fibre costs and camera maintenance and replacement.

The Chief Officer (Housing and Assets) believed the option to merge services would provide the necessary resilience for both partners and would manage costs more effectively.

North Wales Police derived the most benefit from the service despite contributing the least financially. This needed to be addressed.

Members welcomed the proposals which demonstrated a good example of collaboration with a neighbouring authority and aligned with the Theme '*Safer Communities*' in the Council Plan.

RESOLVED:

That the merging of the CCTV monitoring function with Wrexham County Borough Council be supported.

16. CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT

Councillor Jones introduced the report which provided an overview of an Annual Progress Report that had been produced to assess progress against the actions, priorities and milestones identified in the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (CSA).

The Annual Progress Report identified the action/milestones that had been achieved during 2018/19 to respond to the gaps and areas for development which were detailed in full in the report. It also identified core strengths including an assessment that:

- Childcare was well located and met the needs of the majority of parents;
- Childcare was generally reliable; and
- The majority of respondents believed childcare was of good quality.

The Chief Officer (Social Services) explained that the next full CSA was due by 2022 and work was already taking place to improve provider and parental involvement and feedback in the assessment to ensure a deeper understanding of the issues to enhance the assessment of demand, sufficiency and areas for development.

Councillor Jones expressed her thanks to the team for their work in this area which saw children cared for from birth into primary school. She also recognised the development of the database used which had been designed by the team and was now being sought after by other local authorities. Members concurred with the comments of the Cabinet Member and said Flintshire recognised the importance of such care and had become a market leader in the field.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the effectiveness of the Council's strategic response to securing sufficient, sustainable, and high quality childcare within the county that is responsive to the needs of children and their families be noted; and
- (b) That the on-going work and commitment to the delivery of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment every five years and the annual Progress Report be supported.

17. SOCIAL SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT

Councillor Jones introduced the Social Services Annual Report which set out the improvement journey and evaluated Social Services' performance in providing services to people that promoted their wellbeing and supported them to achieve their personal outcomes.

The format was closely aligned to the National Outcomes Framework and demonstrated the Council's performance in meeting the wellbeing outcomes of the people of Flintshire. All improvement priorities sat under one of the six National Quality Standards which were detailed in the report.

The Chief Officer (Social Services) added that the Report would form an integral part of Care Inspectorate Wales' (CIW) performance evaluation of Flintshire Social Services. The evaluation also informed the Wales Audit Office's assessment of Flintshire County Council as part of the annual improvement report.

The Chief Officer thanked Cabinet for the support received for significant capital projects in the care sector which the Council could be proud of.

RESOLVED:

That following review, the draft Annual Report be approved ensuring it provides an accurate and clear account of Social Services for Adults and Children in Flintshire.

18. REVIEW OF THE CORPORATE DEBT RECOVERY POLICY

Councillor Mullin introduced the report which sought approval for a refreshed Corporate Debt Recovery Policy which was a single policy document with well established procedures and regulations for the collection of Council Tax, Business Rates, Sundry Debt, Housing Rents and overpayment of Housing Benefit.

The Chief Officer (Housing and Assets) said the revised policy took into account changes mainly associated with:

- Bailiff reform and the introduction of new Regulations;
- The removal of committal as a sanction for the non-payment of Council Tax;

- Revised internal working practices for the collection of sundry debt involving the development of a more robust escalation process for disputed invoices;
- Changes to the minimum monetary threshold when taking Bankruptcy action; and
- Revised working practices for the recovery of unpaid housing rent.

The Chief Officer (Governance) explained that the decision of Welsh Government (WG) to remove committal action could lead to increased losses in Council Tax in the future. As justification for the removal of committal, WG referenced that the Scottish Government had removed committal and despite that, collection rates in Scotland were still similar to those in Wales. The average Council Tax collection rates in Scotland for 2017/18 were 96.0% compared to an average of 97.4% for Wales and 98.2% for Flintshire.

RESOLVED:

That the Corporate Debt Recovery Policy, as amended, be re-approved for the collection of Sundry Debt, Council Tax, Business Rates, Housing Rents and overpayments of Housing Benefit.

19. COMMUNAL HEATING CHARGES 2019/20

The Chief Officer (Housing and Assets) introduced the report which proposed revised recharges for communal heating to avoid a deficit building on the heating reserve account. This was due to prices increasing by more than was anticipated when the charges were agreed by Cabinet in June 2018.

The table in the report set out recommended heating charges based on actual usage in 2017/18 and 2018/19, the assumption that costs increased by 18% in 2019/20, and that usage would remain at similar levels for the next 12 months. Revised charges would be introduced in August 2019 to help spread the increased cost to tenants over a longer period.

RESOLVED:

That the changes to the current heating charges at Council properties with communal heating schemes as outlined in the report be approved – all changes will take effect from 1st August 2019.

20. RIGHTS OF WAY IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2018-2028

Councillor Thomas introduced the report which sought approval of the Rights of Way Improvement Plan (RoWIP) and policy and procedures booklet.

The RoWIP was a plan for the local authority to manage and improve its rights of way network over a 10 year period. This second RoWIP assessed the 2018 network and evaluated progress made since 2008. The current policy context was examined, priority areas were identified and a new style Statement of Action proposed.

Part of the plan was a booklet containing a suite of policies and procedures associated with Rights of Way.

RESOLVED:

That the Rights of Way Improvement Plan and policy and procedures booklet be approved.

21. EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS

An information item on the actions taken under delegated powers was submitted. The actions were as set out below:-

Streetscene and Transportation

- **The Flintshire County Council – A5104 Corwen Road, Ffordd Y Rhos Treuddyn) (40mph and 50mph Speed Limit) Order 201x**

To advise Members of an objection received for the proposed 40mph and 50mph speed limit on the A5104 Corwen Road, Ffordd Y Rhos, Treuddyn.

Housing and Assets

- **Bistre Youth and Community Centre, Buckley Community Asset Transfer of the Building and Demised Area**

The Community Asset Transfer of the building and surrounding land known as Bistre Youth and Community Centre to be developed to provide sports coaching, indoor training facilities for year round use and a cafeteria. Specific fitness classes will be added to the current hall areas when not in use by current occupying parties. Former classrooms would be converted into meeting and educational/briefing rooms.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 – TO CONSIDER THE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded for the remainder of the meeting for the following items by virtue of exempt information under paragraph(s) 14 and 15 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

22. NEWYDD CATERING AND CLEANING LTD – PROGRESS REVIEW AND REVISED BUSINESS PLAN FOR 2019-2022

Councillor Mullin introduced the report which provided details of progress to date of NEWydd Catering and Cleaning Ltd.

The report allowed Cabinet the opportunity to review how the transition to an arm's length trading company had developed and the intended direction of the business over the next two years during the next phase of the project.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the progress of NEWydd Catering and Cleaning Limited during the first year of trading be noted; and
- (b) That the future Business Plan for the service be supported and endorsed.

23. AURA ANNUAL BUSINESS PLAN

Councillor Roberts introduced the report which presented the annual report of Aura and the Council's response. Overall the objectives and targets of the Business Plan had been met with a number of mutual challenges to meet to sustain performance over the coming years.

Organisational Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee considered the Plan at their recent meeting which was received positively and supported the response of the Council as detailed in the report.

RESOLVED:

That the Business Plan with Aura be supported and endorsed noting the comments of the Organisational Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

24. PAY MODEL AND PAY POLICY

Councillor Mullin introduced the report which provided an update on progress made on pay modelling review work for the implementation of the second year of the two year National Joint Council (NJC) pay agreement (2018/19 – 2019/20), and the changes made as part of the maintenance of the Single Status Agreement (2014).

RESOLVED:

That the progress made in adopting a new Policy Model be welcomed, noting the actions taken in using the delegated authority to agree with the Trade Unions, and the new Model be implemented.

25. NORTH EAST WALES (NEW) HOMES BUSINESS PLAN 2019/2048

Having earlier declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item, Councillor Banks left the room prior to the debate.

The Chief Officer (Housing and Assets) introduced the report, explaining that the Business Plan set out key elements of the company's proposed Development Strategy to increase the number of Affordable Rent Properties delivered over the next three years to 207 units.

There was an obligation on NEW Homes to seek Cabinet's approval in respect of any Business Plan that provided the strategic objectives of the company. Each year the company must comply with, and implement, the Business Plan with prior approval from Cabinet.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the NEW Homes Business Plan 2019/2048 be approved; and
- (b) That the increase in future Prudential Borrowing through the Council (up to a maximum of £20m) for on-lending to NEW Homes for the purposes of developing or purchasing affordable homes subject to NEW Homes meeting agreed lending parameters be approved.

26. THEATR CLWYD TRUST MODEL

Councillor Butler introduced the report which considered a timely review of the options for governance at Theatr Clwyd.

The Chief Executive explained that the Board of Governors of Theatr Clwyd had met on 4th June 2019 and recommended a preferred governance model with a transition ready for the start of the 2021/22 financial year. This was supported by Cabinet Members.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the recommendation of the Theatr Clwyd Board of Governors for the preferred governance model for the future be supported; and
- (b) That a full and final report on due diligence for the preferred model be brought back to Cabinet, for a final decision to be made, no later than December 2019.

27. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There was 1 member of the press and no members of the public in attendance.

(The meeting commenced at 9.30 a.m. and ended at 11.35 a.m.).

.....
Chair



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Council Plan 2019/20 – Part 2
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Report Author	Chief Executive
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council Plan is published as two documents. Part 1 sets out our intent. Part 2 sets out the performance measures, targets and milestones against which achievement will be measured and evaluated.

Part 1 of the Plan was adopted by the County Council in June 2019 and this report provides the mechanism (as Part 2) which we will be using to measure progress and achievement of our priorities. Part 2 will also be presented to Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee as the final document used by Overview and Scrutiny Committees to review progress in-year on a quarterly basis.

The published Plan (of both parts) will be available on the Council's website by the end of July as a more digitally accessible and graphical document.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To approve Part 2 of the Council Plan 2019/20 to support monitoring and assessment of the progress against the Council Plan Part 1 priorities.
---	--

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	COUNCIL PLAN 2019/20 – PART 2
1.01	<p>The achievements to be attained during 2019/20 are clearly described in Part 1 of the Council Plan.</p> <p>Part 2 ensures that these achievements can be monitored for progress and tracking.</p> <p>There are two types of measures used: firstly, qualitative milestones when plans or strategies are projected to be attained and; secondly more quantitative, numerical measures which have targets to be met.</p> <p>These numerical measures are classified under three headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improvement• Maintenance• Managed Reduction <p>Some examples of Improvement measures include performance which is below nationally recognised standards; has shown a decline in trend; is national policy or regulatory; or demonstrates improved achievement of value for money (productivity).</p> <p>Maintenance measures may include performance that has reached or exceeded national or local standards, where budget pressures indicate that further improvement cannot be achieved or has reached the capacity of the service, or where the benchmarking position is acceptable.</p> <p>Managed reduction measures include performance affected by political choice and determination, budget pressures, freedom from regulatory restrictions, or service restructures.</p> <p>Part 2 of the Council Plan identifies the classification of all numerical measures.</p>
1.02	<p>Part 2 of the Plan also includes the risks to be managed and mitigated throughout the year in achievement of our priorities. Many of these risks will continue from last year, but may have reached a new stage of risk as projects and strategies transfer into new stages.</p> <p>Risks are monitored quarterly as part of the presentations to Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny Committees and also shared at the mid and end of year stages with the Audit Committee.</p> <p>They are also going to be integrated into Overview and Scrutiny forward work programmes to ensure that due consideration is undertaken.</p>
1.03	<p>The final published Plan will also include the national policy issues will enable or limit our ability to achieve.</p>

1.04	Part 2 of the Plan will be presented to Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee later this month as the final document by which Overview and Scrutiny Committees will review in-year progress on a quarterly basis.
1.05	The published Council Plan of both Parts 1 and 2 will be more digitally accessible and graphical and be available on the Council's website by the end of July.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
-------------	------------------------------

2.01	The Council Plan ambitions are reflected in the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the annual budget setting process.
------	---

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
-------------	---

3.01	All Members have had the opportunity to consider and review the content of the draft Plan themes and priorities through the two workshops and a survey.
------	---

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
-------------	------------------------

4.01	<p>Progression of the Plan objectives is risk managed with reports made quarterly to Cabinet and the Overview and Scrutiny Committees.</p> <p>The risks to the statutory requirements of the Plan include not publishing the plan within statutory timescales and, not adhering to the prerequisite content. These risks are managed through adherence to well established procedures for publishing the Plan and ensuring that the content of the Plan reflects the requirements of the law.</p>
------	---

5.00	APPENDICES
-------------	-------------------

5.01	Appendix 1: Council Plan (Part 2) 2019-20.
------	--

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
-------------	--

6.01	<p>Contact Officer: Karen Armstrong, Corporate Business and Communications Executive Officer Telephone: 01352 702740 E-mail: Karen.armstrong@flintshire.gov.uk</p>
------	--

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
	<p>Council Plan: the document which sets out the annual priorities of the Council. It is a requirement of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to set Objectives and publish a Plan.</p> <p>Medium Term Financial Strategy: a written strategy which gives a forecast of the financial resources which will be available to a Council for a given period, and sets out plans for how best to deploy those resources to meet its priorities, duties and obligations.</p>

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Council Plan 2017/2023 In-year priorities 2019/20

PART 2

How achievements will be measured - Supporting milestones and measures

Performance Measures Categorisation 2019/20

The following 3 categories have been used when considering and setting targets for all local and national measures:

- Improvement – a planned uplift in current performance which is not satisfactory
- Maintenance – a planned maintenance of current performance which is satisfactory
- Managed Reduction – a planned reduction in current performance to a level which is still satisfactory

Performance Milestones 2019/20

Milestones have been set to monitor progress against an activity or plan. These are dated according to the target quarter for achievement. Targets set refer to the end of the quarter. Performance will be monitored by percentage progress against the milestone with supporting commentary.

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Adult Services	Extra Care Strategy	Meeting the forecast demand through a sufficient and sustainable supply of quality and adaptable provision Developing the provider market to meet demand with innovation and flexibility	Chief Officer – Social Services

Achievement Milestones:

- Opening of the Holywell Extra Care Scheme to extend supply in another community area by quarter four
- Agreement of a preferred option to further extend supply in a further community area with Buckley as the priority area by quarter four

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
The number of Holywell Extra Care (Plas yr Yrwn) units created	N/A	55	N/A	N/A
The number of Extra Care units provided across Flintshire	183	238	250	Improvement

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Adult Services	Domiciliary Care	Increasing the provision and adapting the models of domiciliary care to meet demand	Chief Officer – Social Services

Achievement Milestones:

- Implementing a Quality Framework for Microcare by quarter four
- Seed funding developed to support the startup and development of new microcare services by quarter four
- Recruitment of Microcare Development Officer by quarter three
- Adopting a new approach to Homecare recruitment using value based recruitment processes by quarter four

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Adult Services	Independent Living	Supporting people to regain their independence, reduce reliance on the statutory sector and access care closer to home.	Chief Officer – Social Services

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
The number of people who access the social prescribing / 3 rd sector service through the Single Point of access.	282	290	300	Improvement
The number of admissions to step up / step down beds.	149	149	149	Maintenance
The number of in house and independent sector domiciliary providers working towards the silver standard for Progress for Providers.	N/A	10	16	N/A
Percentage of urgent requests for equipment that meet or exceed the national 1 Day response standards	90%	98%	100%	Improvement
Percentage of requests for equipment that meet or exceed the national 7 Day standard	80%	100%	100%	Improvement
Percentage of equipment that is re-used	70%	80%	90%	Improvement

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Adult Services	Safeguarding Adults	Protecting adults who have needs for care and support and are at risk of abuse or neglect, and preventing those adults from becoming at risk	Chief Officer – Social Services

Achievement Milestones:

- Implementation of a system for collecting and evaluating feedback from adults involved in the safeguarding process by quarter four
- Include the recommendations from Strategy Meetings in the case file audit process by quarter three
- Implement electronic monitoring for recommendations from Strategy Meetings by quarter four

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
The percentage of adult protection enquiries completed within 7 days	95%	95%	95%	Maintenance
The percentage of adult safeguarding reports which proceeded to an enquiry	88%	89%	90%	Improvement

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Adult Services	Strategic Review of Care needs	Ensuring that the Council's duty to provide care and support is met within available resources	Chief Officer – Social Services

Achievement Milestones:

- Meeting the annual inflationary costs of care providers by quarter four
- Implement active use of digital mapping to assist in the brokerage of domiciliary care by quarter three
- Marleyfield House planning phase completed by quarter four
- Introduction of an online financial self-assessment to give people the opportunity to arrange their own self-funded care by quarter four

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Adult Services	Dementia Friendly Council	Flexibility in the delivery of all services to better support the needs of those living with dementia	Chief Officer – Social Services

Achievement Milestones:

- Successful application to become a Dementia Friendly Council by quarter four

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Percentage of the relevant workforce having refreshed their dementia awareness training.	N/A	50%	100%	N/A

Page 8

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Children's Services	Improving local placements for Children	Meeting the forecast demand with supply Developing the children's placement market to flexibly meet demand	Chief Officer – Social Services

Achievement Milestones:

- Implementing an agreed Placement Strategy by quarter three
- Agreed provider and implementation plan by quarter four
 - Testing and agreeing new regional models of support to extend and complement local provision by quarter four

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Children's Services	Safeguarding Children	Protecting children who are at risk of abuse and neglect, and preventing children from becoming at risk	Chief Officer – Social Services

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
% pre-birth assessments completed within timescales.	N/A	Baseline year	100%	N/A
The percentage of children who were reported as having run away or gone missing from home who had a return interview	N/A	Baseline year	100%	N/A
The percentage of reviews of children on the Child Protection Register due in the year that were carried out within the statutory timescales.	98%	98%	98%	Maintenance
The percentage of initial child protection conferences that were due in the year and were held within 15 working days of the strategy discussion	89%	95%	96%	Maintenance

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Children's Services	Fostering Service Models	Ensuring a resilient pool of in-house foster carers to provide care for local children with a variety of needs	Chief Officer – Social Services

Achievement Milestones:

- Test and evaluate the *Mockingbird Model* of Fostering in 2019/2020 with the aim to have a proposed model ready for full implementation in 2020/2021
- Approval of regional fostering manager to take forward the work on the National Fostering Framework across North Wales by quarter three

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Number of new foster carer approvals in the year	9	10	10	Improvement

Page 3

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Children's Services	Looked After Children	Reducing the numbers of children entering care and improving outcomes for those in care	Chief Officer – Social Services

Achievement Milestones:

- Agree with Welsh Government a local strategy for effective and cost-efficient *edge of care* services by quarter four
- Achievement of the actions and targets within our Corporate Parenting Strategy by quarter four

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Number of referrals to the Family Group Meeting Service	277	280	285	Improvement
Number of Special Guardianship Orders made	6	5-10	5-10	Improvement

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Adult and Children's Services	Learning Disability Service	Transforming the service for people with a learning disability, in line with the Social Services and Wellbeing Act, to give people the opportunity to live independently and have more control over their lives	Chief Officer – Social Services

Achievement Milestones:

- Opening of Hwb Cyfle, the new learning disability day service in Deeside on time, on budget and to standard by quarter two
- Achievement of the actions and targets for the regional learning disability service transformation project both regionally (as the lead authority) and locally

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
People with a learning disability accessing Project Search to improve their employability skills	N/A	Baseline year	TBC	N/A
Number of people transitioning into Hwb Cyfle	N/A	50	60	N/A

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Housing	Homelessness Strategy and Local Action Strategy	Increase early intervention and support to prevent homelessness and offer a range of options to cater for all needs when relieving homelessness	Chief Officer – Housing and Assets

Achievement Milestones:

- Delivery of key aims and goals as set out within the Local Action Plan covering the period 2019/20 specifically:-
 - Establishing a permanent emergency bed provision in Flintshire;
 - Supporting rough sleepers through the employment of an Outreach Worker;
 - Completion of a feasibility study for short term emergency provision for young people with follow-up actions; and
 - Completion of feasibility study for a Housing First approach in Flintshire for people with complex needs with follow up actions
- Increasing the number of available rented properties in the Private Rented Sector (PRS) to provide housing solutions

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Number of PRS properties available via HAWS contract for Housing Solutions	Nil	50	24	N/A
Number of additional PRS properties available via HAWS contract	Nil	50	50	N/A
Percentage of households successfully prevented from becoming homeless	79.54%	85%	90%	Improvement

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Housing	Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS)	Meet the requirements of the Welsh Housing Quality Standard which will ensure that Council tenants live in good quality homes which as far as possible suit the specific requirements of the household (e.g. specific disabilities)	Chief Officer – Housing and Assets

Achievement Milestones:

- Meeting the targets within the comprehensive capital delivery programme of modernisation and refurbishment work to our housing stock by quarter four
- Achieving WHQS for the total stock by 2020/21
- Capital Expenditure is within budget by quarter four

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
The percentage of council houses that meet the Welsh Housing Quality standards within our annual programme	100%	100%	100%	Maintenance
Tenant satisfaction level	95.8%	95%	95%	Maintenance

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Housing	Housing Strategy	Ensuring the supply of affordable and quality housing of all tenures	Chief Officer – Housing and Assets

Achievement Milestones:

- Meeting the in-year aims and targets of the Housing Strategy and Action Plan for 2019-2024

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Increase supply and variety of affordable homes	249	228	228	Maintenance

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Housing	Provision of new social and affordable homes	Ensuring the supply of affordable and quality housing of all tenures	Chief Officer – Housing and Assets Planning, Environment & Economy

Achievement Milestones:

- Providing new social and affordable housing (1) as set out in the Housing Revenue Account (2) through NEW Homes Development Plans and (3) through the commitments of our Housing Association partners drawing on Welsh Government funding where possible
- Maximising the provision of affordable housing through market led schemes and developer obligations in line with planning policy requirements

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
The number of Council homes completed or under construction through the Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP)	153	244	244	Improvement
The number of affordable homes owned and managed by NEW Homes	62	101	101	Improvement
The number of affordable homes completed or under construction through the Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP)	102	136	136	Improvement
Number of affordable homes provided through planning permission	TBC	N/A	N/A	N/A

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Housing	Housing needs of vulnerable groups	Housing which provides a range of options to enable people to be suitably housed Provision of appropriate interventions (i.e. support or adaptations) to assist people to remain in their homes wherever possible	Chief Officer – Housing and Assets

Achievement Milestones:

- The availability of suitable housing through new build social housing developments and other supported housing provision
- Effective implementation of the Welsh Government's recommended Service Standards for delivery of Housing Adaptations by quarter four
- Supporting people to remain in their homes through the provision of housing support and advice
- Adoption of a renewed strategy for our sheltered and supported housing schemes following review by quarter four
- Effective management of the Specialist Housing register in partnership with Housing Associations to ensure the housing needs of vulnerable households are met

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Average number of days taken to deliver a disabled facilities grant	299	247	230	Improvement

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Protecting People from Poverty	Food Poverty	Reducing food poverty and food insecurity in Flintshire	Chief Officer – Housing and Assets

Achievement Milestones:

- Forming a new social food enterprise with short and medium term objectives and targets by quarter four
- Mapping / detailing areas where there are gaps in provision and then developing solutions by quarter four
- Setting a food insecurity / food poverty action plan for Flintshire with partners with short and medium term objectives and targets by quarter three

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Protecting People from Poverty	Fuel Poverty	Increasing the level of funding and work/schemes to reduce fuel poverty in our communities	Chief Officer – Planning, Environment & Economy

Achievement Milestones:

- Agreeing a funded action plan to support those in greatest fuel poverty by quarter two
- Improvement of the energy efficiency ratings of current housing in Flintshire measured through Energy Performance Certificate Scores
- Implement solutions to extend gas supplies to those communities with no gas service including Ffynnongroyw by quarter two
- Increasing the take up of solar, water and electricity systems by supporting their installation in vulnerable households

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Delivery of energy efficiency measures to domestic properties in Flintshire	New Measure	1000	1000	N/A
Number of vulnerable households supported through the Healthy Homes Healthy People programme	New Measure	1000	1000	N/A

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Protecting People from Poverty	Child Poverty	Reduction in the impacts of poverty on children across Flintshire	Chief Officer – Chief Executive

Achievement Milestones:

- In-year mapping and assessment of child poverty to inform future programme and strategy development by quarter four
- Outline our commitments in working with partner agencies to target interventions to reduce levels of child poverty by quarter four
- Effective planning, performance and implementation as the 'Delivery Authority' for the Childcare Offer for Flintshire, Wrexham and Denbighshire and of its supporting capital programme

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Number of children who accessed the Childcare Offer	1900	2,500	2,600	Improvement
Number of childcare providers	360	600	610	Improvement

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Protecting People from Poverty	Period Poverty	Equal and ready access to sanitary products	Chief Officer – Education & Youth

Achievement Milestones:

- Access to sanitary products in schools and youth clubs to support wellbeing and school attendance

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Access to sanitary products in schools	New Measure	100%	100%	N/A
Access to sanitary products in youth clubs	New Measure	100%	100%	N/A
Access to sanitary products in Foodbanks	New Measure	5	5	N/A

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Protecting People from Poverty	Universal Credit / Welfare Reforms	Creating a sustainable and stable environment where tenants can continue to remain in their properties through ongoing support and management of their current tenancies	Chief Officer – Housing and Assets

Achievement Milestones:

- Residents being supported to sustain their tenancies, pay their rent and remain in their property

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Average number of days to process new claims for housing benefit and council tax reduction	25	20	20	Improvement
Average number of days to process change in circumstances for housing benefit and council tax reduction	8	8	8	Maintenance

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Protecting People from Poverty	Flexible Funding Programme	Achieve the best possible outcomes for the most vulnerable people in our communities through the most flexible use of the funding	Chief Officer – Social Services

Achievement Milestones:

- Page 44
- Effective deployment of these two new grants under new governance and management arrangements by quarter four
 - Meeting need through streamlining services and developing new methods of delivery and commissioning by quarter four
 - Successful engagement of stakeholders to inform choices on new service models by quarter two
 - Measured performance using new and meaningful performance measures by quarter four

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Total grant claim achieved	New Measure	100%	100%	N/A

Theme: Caring Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Protecting People from Poverty	Becoming Work-ready	Continued provision of an employability mentor service that covers the whole of Flintshire and focuses on the most deprived areas	Chief Officer – Planning, Environment & Economy

Achievement Milestones:

- Achievement of targets for supporting individuals to enter employment, learning or volunteering

Page 45	Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
	Number of individuals supported through the mentoring service that enter employment, learning or volunteering	366	260	260	Managed Reduction

Theme: Ambitious Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Business Sector Growth and Regeneration	Growth Deal and Infrastructure	Sustaining economic growth through local and regional business development, employment and training support Developing the transport infrastructure and employment sites and transport services, widening access to employment and training sites Meeting demand for business and housing growth through a ready supply of sites Skills and employment support enables individuals to take advantage of economic opportunities	Chief Officer – Chief Executive Planning, Environment & Economy

Achievement Milestones:

Page 46

- The Region reaching agreement of a Heads of Terms with the governments of UK and Wales to unlock a Growth Deal for the region and for Flintshire by quarter three
- Assessment of the priority needs of Flintshire for improved digital connectivity to contribute to regional digital strategy by quarter three
- Agreement and the first stage of implementation of a digital strategy for the region which improves connectivity (access and processing capacity / speed) for businesses, public sector partners and communities in Flintshire) by quarter three

Theme: Ambitious Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Business Sector Growth and Regeneration	Regional Business Growth	An environment and infrastructure where business is sustained and grown	Chief Officer – Planning, Environment & Economy Streetscene & Transportation

Achievement Milestones:

- Page 47
- The introduction of a regional hub by Welsh Government (WG) and North Wales Economic Ambition Board (NWEAB) to co-ordinate inward investment and respond to the demands of businesses by quarter four
 - Planning of new infrastructure schemes to provide business growth in Flintshire (Deeside Enterprise Zone (DEZ) etc.) for the medium-term
 - Maximise opportunities to achieve available funding for scheme improvements whilst also achieving timely grant submissions
 - Provision of a new Park and ride facility within Deeside Industrial Park by quarter four
 - Preparation of a support plan for businesses to manage the eventuality of a transition out from the European Union (Brexit) by quarter four

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Number of businesses supported through the regional hub	N/A	120	120	N/A
New jobs created through the support of the regional hub	N/A	1650	1650	N/A

Theme: Ambitious Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Business Sector Growth and Regeneration	Production of the Local Development Plan (LDP)	Identification of a portfolio of sites and policies to meet ambitions in relation to growth in the residential, commercial and industrial sectors Identification of a portfolio of sites and policies to protect and enhance the built and natural environments	Chief Officer – Planning, Environment & Economy Streetscene & Transportation

Achievement Milestones:

- Page 48
- Placing the LDP on deposit on time in quarter two for consultation with stakeholders and the public as the next step towards adoption of the Plan
 - Final preparation of the Plan for submission to Welsh Government by June 2020

Theme: Ambitious Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Business Sector Growth and Regeneration	Future of Town Centres	Town centres and their businesses which can thrive whilst adapting to changing economic circumstances	Chief Officer – Planning, Environment & Economy

Achievement Milestones:

- Adoption of a strategy by quarter one to ensure long term sustainability of town centres leading to updated bespoke local town plans
- Testing of the model of a Business Improvement District for Mold (through a local ballot of rate paying businesses) as a pilot exercise by quarter four

Theme: Ambitious Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Business Sector Growth and Regeneration	Integrated Transport Strategy	Developing the transport infrastructure and employment sites, and transport services, widening access to employment and training sites	Chief Officer – Streetscene & Transportation Planning, Environment & Economy

Achievement Milestones:

- Page 50
- Key interventions for cycleways, active travel, highway improvements, bus network and rail improvements
 - Key interventions for accessing employment, health, leisure and education facilities by accessing national funds with winning business cases
 - The LDP Deposit Plan making provision for local growth which will be supported by new or improved infrastructure

Theme: Ambitious Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Business Sector Growth and Regeneration	Social Enterprises	Supporting local communities to be resilient and self-supporting with resilient service models to sustain local public services	Chief Officer – Planning, Environment & Economy

Achievement Milestones:

- Sustainability of the social enterprises supported/created by the Council
- Implement Project Search with HFT to achieve real jobs for people with a learning disability

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Number of Social Enterprises supported	N/A	50	50	N/A
Number of employees supported through Project Search	N/A	50	50	N/A

Theme: Ambitious Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Investing in our Communities	Theatre Capital Plan	The theatre continues to be sustainable and high performing	Chief Officer – Chief Executive

Achievement Milestones:

- National financial support secured (from Welsh Government and Arts Council for Wales) for major capital investment for refurbishment of Theatr Clwyd by quarter four
- Reaching an agreement between the Board of Theatr Clwyd, the Council and the Arts Council of Wales on the most sustainable, legal, governance and financial / commercial model for the Theatr for the future from 2021/22 by quarter three
- Performance of the theatre against its adopted business plan targets (reported quarterly to the Board of Theatr Clwyd)

Theme: Ambitious Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Investing in our Communities	Future of County Hall Campus / Civic Estate	A sustainable and deliverable plan for the long term future of the campus which supports public sector partners' ambitions	Chief Officer – Housing and Assets / Planning, Environment & Economy

Achievement Milestones:

- Agreement of a Masterplan for the County Hall campus, recognising the needs of existing and future occupiers, with agreed aims and objectives, timelines and financing by quarter four
- Agreement of a preferred solution for a future civic hub to replace county hall by quarter four

Theme: Ambitious Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Investing in our Communities	Implementation of major capital Education Programmes: 21st Century Schools - Band B Welsh Medium Capital Investment	Providing high quality learning opportunities and learning environments for learners of all ages	Chief Officer – Education & Youth

Page 54 Achievement Milestones:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete construction projects at Connah's Quay High School (Phase 2) and Ysgol Penyffordd on time, to budget and to standard by quarter three • Commencement of investment projects at Ysgol Glan Aber, Ysgol Castell Alun by quarter two • Commencement of investment projects at Queensferry CP (linked to the Plas Derwen project) and Ysgol Glanrafon, Mold (Welsh Government Welsh Medium Grant) by quarter four • Successful navigation of the proposed remaining Band B through both Council democratic process and Welsh Government Business case process by quarter four
------------------------------------	---

Theme: Ambitious Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Investing in our Communities	Sustainable and Modern Archive Services	Providing high quality, accessible, responsive and cost effective public archive services	Chief Officer – Education & Youth

Achievement Milestones:

- Creation of a single joint service between Flintshire and Denbighshire County Councils by quarter four
- Securing national support from the Heritage Lottery Fund for capital funding for a new regional facility by quarter four

Theme: Ambitious Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Investing in our Communities	New Pupil Referral Unit – Plas Derwen	Providing high quality learning opportunities and learning environments for learners of all ages	Chief Officer – Education & Youth

Achievement Milestones:

- Entering a framework agreement and beginning the design and development phase of a new combined educational facility at Shotton by quarter four
- Obtain cost certainty and submit a Full Business Case to Welsh Government to release capital funding by quarter four

Theme: Learning Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Education and Skills	Core Education Offer and Performance	Supporting learners from 3 to 18 years of age to aspire to high levels of educational attainment and achievement	Chief Officer – Education & Youth

Achievement Milestones:

- Pupil performance in 2019 assessment/examination outcomes at ages 7, 11, 14, 16 and 18 years exceeding the Wales national average
- Following the Estyn inspection of the Local Authority in June, completion of the post inspection action plan and commence implementation by quarter three

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
(PAM/032) Educational Attainment at Key Stage 4- average capped 9 score for pupils in Year 11	New measure	Baseline Year	N/A	N/A
Capped 9 score for pupils entitled to Free School Meals	New measure	Baseline Year	N/A	N/A
(PAM/007) Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools	94.8%	95.0%	95.2%	Maintenance
(PAM/008) Percentage of pupil attendance in secondary schools	93.9%	94.1%	94.3%	Maintenance
(PAM/033) Percentage of pupil assessed in Welsh at the end of the Foundation Phase	6.5%	9.0%	11.0%	Maintenance

(PAM/034) Percentage of year 11 pupils studying Welsh first language	5.10%	5.5%	TBC	Maintenance
Percentage of pupils aged 16 achieving 5A*-A grades at GCSE	16.6%	18.0%	22.0%	Improvement
(PAM/009) Percentage of year 11 leavers not in education, training or employment	1.2%	1.2%	1.0%	Maintenance
Percentage of young people aged 16-18 in the youth justice system offered education, training or employment	53%	60%	65%	Improvement
Reduction in the number of fixed term exclusions	1189	1150	1000	Improvement
Reduction in the number of permanent exclusions	28	28	TBC	Maintenance

Theme: Learning Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Education and Skills	Implementation of the new National Curriculum	By 2026, all pupils from 3-16 will be taught the new curriculum which better prepares them for their future lives and employment	Chief Officer – Education & Youth

Achievement Milestones:

- Schools making suitable preparations for the transition to the new curriculum by quarter four
- Teaching staff receiving quality professional development through the self-evaluation system

Theme: Learning Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Education and Skills	Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Tribunal Act	A reform of the current legislative framework by providing a new statutory approach for supporting children with learning needs from birth to age 25 years. Implementation over three years, commencing September 2020	Chief Officer – Education & Youth

Achievement Milestones:

- Effective implementation of the new corporate and schools system to support pupils with Additional Learning Needs by quarter four
- Training completed for all key employees as part of the implementation by quarter four
- Effective implementation of the Communications Strategy as part of the implementation by quarter four

Theme: Learning Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Education and Skills	Post 16 Transport Policy	To have in place an affordable and sustainable model for post 16 transport	Chief Officer – Education & Youth

Achievement Milestones:

- Policy change agreed by quarter one and implementation of a revised and sustainable policy by quarter two

Theme: Green Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Sustainable Development and Environmental Management	Climate Change	Carbon emissions are reduced across all council activities mitigating climate change Making adaptations to our ways of working to become a plastic free Council	Chief Officer – Streetscene & Transportation Planning, Environment & Economy

Achievement Milestones:

- Establishment of an officer group by quarter three to lead on the Council's commitment to be carbon neutral by 2030
- Completion of a 'state of play analysis' of current Council activities on carbon reduction underpinned by the mapping of existing activity data by quarter four
- Completion of a greenhouse gas inventory covering scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions and greenhouse gas sequestration across the Council's land assets by quarter four
- An agreed plan to design and resource further energy efficiency and sustainable energy schemes such as the ground mounted solar PV schemes in Flint and Connah's Quay by quarter four
- Completing the renewable energy assessment through the Local Delivery Plan process in support of the future strategy
- Agreement of a strategy for fleet conversion, away from diesel and petrol vehicles, for the medium and longer-term by quarter four
- Developing a local plan to meet the need access to E- charging points across the county network by quarter four
- Completion of the Council's Leader Project to identify commercially viable sites enabling private sector uptake by quarter four
- Approval of the Council's Strategy to act as an enabler rather than a direct provider for electric charging infrastructure by quarter two
- Identification of commercially viable sites for the introduction of appropriate charging infrastructure by quarter three
- The adoption of a strategy to reduce the Council's reliance on single use plastics by quarter four

Theme: Green Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Sustainable Development and Environmental Management	Affordable and sustainable collection and treatment services for recyclable, compostable and residual waste	Maximising the recovery and rates of recyclable, re-usable and compostable waste, and reduce landfilled waste Treatment of residual waste at the regional Parc Adfer facility as a sustainable and cost-effective solution	Chief Officer – Streetscene & Transportation

Achievement Milestones:

- Page 63
- Revise the Waste Management Strategy for the medium-term with aims, objectives and targets by quarter four
 - Parc Adfer opened on time and to operational requirements with the diversion of regional and local non-recyclable domestic waste to the new facility by quarter three
 - The development and implementation of an education programme to promote behavioural change by quarter four
 - Achievement of Parc Adfer Commissioning / Environmental permit award by quarter three

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted	69.8%	70%	70%	Maintenance
Average Recycling rate across HRCs	77.55%	80%	80%	Improvement

Theme: Green Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Sustainable Development and Environmental Management	Natural Environment	A vibrant natural environment which promotes access to open and green spaces and their value in contributing to well-being	Chief Officer – Planning, Environment & Economy

Achievement Milestones:

- Effective management of our natural environment and accessible green space networks to deliver health, well-being and resilience goals
- Protecting the resilience of our natural environment by increasing the biodiversity value of council owned or managed land

Theme: Green Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Sustainable Development and Environmental Management	Local Development Plan (LDP)	Identification of a portfolio of sites and policies to meet ambitions for growth in the residential, commercial and industrial sectors, and to protect and enhance the built and natural environments	Chief Officer – Planning, Environment and Economy

Achievement Milestones:

- The success of measures to protect the built and environmental assets through the LDP process
 - The publication of policies and proposals within the Deposit Plan to protect the built and natural environment by quarter four

Theme: Green Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Safe and sustainable Travel Services	Alternative local transport arrangements	Connecting passengers to key destination hubs and enable access to education, employment, retails, health, social and leisure destinations	Chief Officer – Streetscene & Transportation

Achievement Milestones:

- The effective introduction of an in-house minibus service as an innovative and sustainable based transport scheme to meet need and demand by quarter four
- Development of area based appropriate and sustainable Local Travel Arrangements

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Provide Local Travel Arrangements in geographical areas of the County	New Measure	4	4	N/A

Theme: Green Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Safe and sustainable Travel Services	Core Bus Network	Connecting passengers to key destination hubs and enable access to education, employment, retails, health, social and leisure destinations	Chief Officer – Streetscene & Transportation

Achievement Milestones:

- The range, quality, reliability and frequency of services on the core bus network either through commercially viable services, partnership arrangements or contracted services

Page 67

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
To have in place a Quality Bus Partnership along Core Network	New Measure	2	TBC	Improvement

Theme: Green Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Safe and sustainable Travel Services	Highway Network	Improved travel connectivity across the road transport network	Chief Officer – Streetscene & Transportation

Achievement Milestones:

- Maintaining the infrastructure on the highway network to ensure the resilience, efficiency and reliability of road transport
- Delivery of the annual Highways Asset Management Plan

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
PAM/020 Percentage of A roads in overall poor condition	1.7%	2%	3%	Maintenance
PAM/021 Percentage of B roads in overall poor condition	1.4%	3%	4%	Maintenance
PAM/022 Percentage of C roads in overall poor condition	5.8%	7%	8%	Maintenance
Undertake post completion inspections of utility works	90.57%	90%	90%	Maintenance

Theme: Green Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Safe and sustainable Travel Services	Active Travel	Developing and increase active travel infrastructure; improve connectivity and enable access to education, jobs and services	Chief Officer – Streetscene & Transportation

Achievement Milestones:

- Meeting the statutory requirements of the Active Travel Act how measured by the spend on projects
- Submission of annual report on active travel development across all portfolios to Welsh Government by quarter four

Theme: Connected Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Resilient Communities	Community Resilience	Supporting local communities to be resilient and self-supporting	Chief Officer – Governance

Achievement Milestones:

- Page 70
- Achievement of the aims, objectives and targets for the four priority projects
 - The Holway, Holywell – community-led regeneration
 - Social Value – a social value framework to maximise local investment in communities (included separately below – p52)
 - Social Prescribing – a model for participation by local people with improvements in personal well-being
 - Get Flintshire Moving – participation by local people with improvements in personal health

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
The number of people who access the social prescribing / 3 rd sector service through the Single Point of access.	282	290	300	Improvement
Number of partner services accessed by residents via the new Holway Hub	New measure	Baseline Year	Baseline + 50%	N/A
Resident involvement in community activities as a measure of vibrancy	New measure	Baseline Year	Baseline + 10%	N/A

Theme: Connected Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Resilient Communities	Community Health	Improving the health of communities through our social value programmes	Chief Officer – Chief Executive

Achievement Milestones:

- Aura Leisure and Libraries activities to add social value through their community activities commissioned by the Council through our Service Agreement
 - Delivery of Aura Business Plan 2019/20

Theme: Connected Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Resilient Communities	Social Value	Securing community benefits through social value investments	Chief Officer – Governance

Achievement Milestones:

- Adopting a Social Value Framework with an action plan with aims, objectives and targets by quarter four
- Progressive impact in the following areas:-
 - the value of investment by contractors and suppliers
 - the value of non-monetary investments by contractors and suppliers
 - the geographic spread of social value investment across communities
 - positive contributions to the social policy priorities of the Council and its partners

Page 72

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Calculated monetary value* of total investment in Flintshire by contractors and suppliers	New measure	Baseline Year	Baseline + 20%	N/A
Calculated monetary value* of investment by social policy priority area	New measure	Baseline Year	TBC	N/A
Calculated monetary value* of investment by geographic area across Flintshire	New measure	Baseline Year	TBC	N/A

* Calculation will be defined within the Social Value Framework to provide transparency for investments where the value is not a cash value.

Theme: Connected Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Customer Journey	Single Integrated Contact Centre	Widening digital access to public services Provide a single, resilient, consistent point of contact for the customer	Chief Officer – Governance

Achievement Milestones:

- A seamless and successful transition to an Integrated Contact Centre by quarter three
- Improvements in customer service response and resolution times
- Extension of the range of digitised services in Social Services, Education and Revenues and Benefits

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Call abandonment rate for a combined Housing and Streetscene contact centre	32%	20%	10%	Improvement
Call answering rate for a combined Housing and Streetscene contact centre	1:14	1.00	1:00	Improvement
Satisfaction feedback with redesigned online Education Admissions process	New measure	Baseline Year	TBC	N/A
My Account sign up and usage rates	1,900	5,000	7,500	Improvement

Theme: Connected Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Customer Journey	Customer Strategy	Providing high quality, accessible, responsive and cost effective public services	Chief Officer – Governance

Achievement Milestones:

- Meeting the aims, objectives and targets of the adopted Strategy
- Meeting the set customer standards

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Reduced telephone contact where services are available digitally	New Measure	Baseline Year	TBC	N/A
Increased self-service by customers via My Account across multiple services	New Measure	Baseline Year	TBC	N/A
Extension of ability for customers to pay for services electronically in line with the roll out of digital services	New Measure	Baseline Year	TBC	N/A

Theme: Serving Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Effective Resource Management – Workforce	Sustainable Pay Policy	Continuing to be a high performing and innovative public sector organisation with ethical and social values	Chief Officer – Chief Executive

Achievement Milestones:

- Implementation of a compliant and sustainable new pay model within 2019/20 by quarter two
- Retention rates of key personnel through offering competitive pay and reward

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Percentage of permanent employees who have left within first year of employment	2.00%	1.50%	1.00%	Improvement
Percentage of employee turnover (excluding early retirement and voluntary redundancy)	10.48%	8.00%	7.00%	Improvement

Theme: Serving Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Effective Resource Management – Workforce	Health and Well-being Workforce Plan	Continuing to be a high performing and innovative public sector organisation with ethical and social values	Chief Officer – Chief Executive

Achievement Milestones:

- Adoption of a Well Being Strategy for the overall well-being of the workforce with aims, objectives and targets by quarter three
- Workforce attendance rates
- Reduction in the number of referrals to Occupational Health on the grounds of mental health

Page 76	Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
	PAM/001: The number of working days lost per full time equivalent (FTE) local authority employees lost due to sickness absence	10.44	8.00	8.00	Maintenance
	Increase in attendance of managers and employee Stress Management training	145	200	250	Improvement
	Number of accredited Mental Health First Aiders across the organisation	New Measure	10	20	N/A

Theme: Serving Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Effective Resource Management – Workforce	People Strategy	Continuing to be a high performing and innovative public sector organisation with ethical and social values	Chief Officer – Chief Executive

Achievement Milestones:

- Page 77
- Adoption of a renewed plan for effective succession planning for senior and supporting management positions by quarter three
 - Maintaining competitive pay and reward, and terms and conditions of employment
 - The number of apprenticeships which result in a positive outcome
 - Reductions in the local gender pay gap

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
PAM/044: The number of apprentices (excluding teachers) on formal recognised apprenticeship schemes within the authority during the year per 1,000 employees	New Measure	Baseline Year	TBC	N/A
The number of apprentices that complete the programme with a positive outcome	92%	95%	98%	Improvement
Achieving Foundation Living Wage for all direct employees	New Measure	100%	100%	N/A
Number of appraisals completed for eligible employees	75%	100%	100%	Improvement

Theme: Serving Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Effective Resource Management – Finance / Assets	Sustainable Annual Budgeting	Continuing to be a high performing and innovative public sector organisation with ethical and social values	Chief Officer – Chief Executive

Achievement Milestones:

Page 78

- A report on performance against the adopted set of KPI's is produced alongside the Annual Financial Outturn
 - Selected KPI's are reported monthly in the Monitoring Report.
- Achievement of a balanced annual budget which support the policy aims of the Council by March 2020

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
The percentage of planned efficiencies achieved	98%	95%	95%	Maintenance
% of income target achieved	68%	75%	100%	improvement
Maximise the collection of Council Tax	98.2%	98.2%	98.2%	Maintenance
The percentage variance between the revenue budget out-turn and the budget set	0.02%	0.5%	0.5%	Maintenance

Theme: Serving Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Effective Resource Management – Finance / Assets	Housing Revenue Account Business Plan	Provision of high quality social housing and support services to our tenants through effective business planning	Chief Officer – Chief Executive

Achievement Milestones:

- Management of a cost-effective Housing Revenue Account Business Plan for 2019/20
- Maintaining affordable service charges which achieve income targets
- Effective management of rent arrears to maintain income targets

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Level of Rent Arrears as a percentage of the Annual Rent Yield	4.9%	4.7%	4.5%	Improvement

Theme: Serving Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Effective Resource Management – Finance / Assets	Income and Concessions / Commercialisation	Providing high quality, accessible, responsive and cost effective public services	Chief Officer – Streetscene and Transportation

Achievement Milestones:

- Page 80
- Re-adoption of a fees and charges policy by September 2019
 - Agreement of a set of new commercial models as part of the collaboration sub priority below.
 - Achievement of corporate income target
 - Agreement of a model for cost recovery for application to service level agreements by December 2019

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
% of income target achieved	%	%	100%	N/A

Theme: Serving Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Effective Resource Management - Collaboration	Collaboration – Best Use of Resources	Continuing to be a high performing and innovative public sector organisation with social values Providing high quality, accessible, responsive and cost effective public services as sustainable models	Chief Officer – Chief Executive

Achievement Milestones:

- Page 81
- Maintaining the effective and cost-efficient performance of all principal regional, sub-regional and local collaborative services
 - An annual report will be produced with a set of Red/Amber/Green status' of service (1) Performance and (2) Sustainability
 - Successful transition to a combined CCTV monitoring service hosted by Wrexham County Borough Council*
 - Agreement to implement a sub-regional sustainable urban drainage system approval body as a new statutory service*
 - Successful transition to a new service model for enforcement services*
 - Agreement of the scope and objectives of the next phase of Alternative Delivery Models for Council managed services by Quarter two

*Transition report will be built into forward work programmes.

Theme: Serving Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Effective Resource Management – Digital	Digital Strategy	More people have digital access to public services and make use of digital	Chief Officer – Governance

Achievement Milestones:

- Successful implementation of priority projects within the digital programme plan
 - Procurement and design of replacement Planning & Environment system
 - New online Education Admissions process launched and evaluated
 - Additional services added to combined contact centre: Education, Social Work, Revenues and Benefits
 - Additional services added to My Account: Education, Revs & Bens, Housing Phase 2
- Agreement of a programme for upskilling communities in digital, in partnership with other public and third sector partners, for the medium and longer-term
 - Digital training delivered and available in communities

Theme: Safe and Clean Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Safe and Clean Communities	Community Safety	Reduced crime and re-offending, plus lower levels of anti-social behavior within our communities	Chief Officer – Planning, Environment and Economy

Achievement Milestones:

- Achievement against the actions of the Regional Community Safety Plan and the Flintshire Well-Being Plan
- The performance of North Wales Police in partnership with the Council as statutory Community Safety partners
- Meeting our responsibilities under the Violence Against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (VAWDASV) programme

Theme: Safe and Clean Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Safe and Clean Communities	Corporate Safeguarding	Protecting people from the risk of any form of abuse	Chief Officer – Social Services

Achievement Milestones:

Page 84

- Achievement against the actions and targets of the Corporate Safeguarding Action Plan
 - Corporate Safeguarding Policy reviewed and updated by quarter four

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Number of employees who attend AFTA Thought safeguarding training	New measure	120	120	N/A
Number of employees who complete the Corporate safeguarding e-learning modules	New measure	200	200	N/A

Theme: Safe and Clean Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Safe and Clean Communities	Public Protection (Food Safety and Standards)	Providing high quality, accessible, responsive and cost effective public Services	Chief Officer – Planning, Environment and Economy

Achievement Milestones:

- Maintaining the percentage of broadly compliant establishments within the County for public protection

Page 85	Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
		Percentage of food establishments that meet food hygiene standards	97.9%	97%	97%

Theme: Safe and Clean Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Safe and Clean Communities	Streetscene and Transportation Standards	An agreed set of standards for Streetscene services which can be monitored and provide assurance about performance of the "visible" public realm services	Chief Officer – Streetscene and Transportation

Achievement Milestones:

Page 86

- Performance against current performance standards for front-line Streetscene and Transportation
- Completion of a review and of performance standards for front-line Streetscene and Transportation Services by quarter two

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Achieve minimum level of agreed standards	85%	85%	85%	Maintenance

Theme: Safe and Clean Council

What we will do in 2019/20:

Priority	Sub - Priority	Longer term outcome / impact	Lead Officer
Safe and Clean Communities	Environmental Improvement and Enforcement	An agreed set of standards for Environmental services which can be monitored and provide assurance about performance of the "visible" public realm services	Chief Officer – Streetscene & Transportation

Achievement Milestones:

- Page 87
- Levels of enforcement against our standards for car parking, litter and dog fouling
 - Develop and implement five education programmes for environmental awareness by quarter four
 - Patrol Pay and Display Car parks and on street traffic restriction to ensure compliance, monitored via back office technology and reporting
 - Ensure that all Pay and Display infrastructure is operational utilising back office technology and reporting
 - Respond to, and monitor, environmental crime complaints (in line with Streetscene standards)
 - Ensure all Fixed Penalty Notices / Penalty Charge Notices are progressed to ensure ongoing compliance

Achievement Measures	Baseline Data (2018/19)	2019/20 Target	2020/21 Target	Measure Category
Number of targeted environmental educational campaigns	New Measure	5	5	N/A
Progress non-payment of all PCN / FPN	New Measure	100%	100%	N/A

This page is intentionally left blank



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Annual Improvement Report 2018/19 of the Auditor General for Wales
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Report Author	Chief Executive
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Annual Improvement Report (AIR) summarises the audit and regulatory work undertaken at the Council by the Wales Audit Office since the last report was published in November 2018.

Overall the Auditor General for Wales has reached a positive conclusion. *“The Council is meeting its statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement but, as with all councils in Wales, it faces challenges going forward.”*

No formal recommendations have been made during the year.

There are a number of new voluntary proposals for improvement arising from 2 of the reviews undertaken by the Wales Audit Office.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	To be assured by the Auditor General for Wales’ Annual Improvement Plan for 2018/19.
----	--

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	THE ANNUAL IMPROVEMENT REPORT
1.01	The Auditor General under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (Measure) undertakes and publishes an annual improvement report for all Welsh Councils, Fire and Rescue Authorities and National Park Authorities.
1.02	This is the ninth Annual Improvement Report for Flintshire. This year's report is a summary of the audit, regulatory and inspection work carried out in 2018/19.
1.04	Overall the Auditor General has concluded that: <i>"The Council is meeting its statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement but, as with all councils in Wales, it faces challenges going forward."</i>
1.05	The Auditor General has not made any statutory recommendations with which the Council must comply.
1.06	There are a number of new voluntary proposals for improvement in two of the reviews undertaken, namely; "Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 (WFG Act) examinations - Examination of The Green Council: maximising the recovery and recycling of waste" and "Local government use of data local report". The proposals for improvement are contained in the Appendix and the embodied link. As part of our established protocol, all proposals for improvement from regulatory reports (both local and national) are assessed to establish if further improvements need to be undertaken. The Council's response to these proposals for improvement is contained within Appendix 2.

2.0	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	There are no specific resource implications as part of this report.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	Cabinet will be receiving future reports relating to external regulatory work as part of their Forward Work programme. Audit Committee will receive this report as part of their assurance work in September. Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee will receive this report as part of their scrutiny role in September.

--	--

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	Findings from the Wales Audit Office are risk managed as part of regular monitoring.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	<p>Appendix 1: Annual Improvement Report June 2019</p> <p>Appendix 2: Proposals for Improvement and the Council's response</p>

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>Contact Officer: Karen Armstrong, Corporate Business and Communications Executive Officer</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 702740</p> <p>E-mail: karen.armstrong@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Annual Improvement Report: The Annual Improvement Report is publicised by the Wales Audit Office (WAO) on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales. It brings together, with the input of other inspectorates such as Estyn and the Care and Social Services Inspectorate for Wales (CSSIW), a summary of the regulatory work of the past year.</p>
7.02	<p>Wales Audit Office: works to support the Auditor General as the public sector watchdog for Wales. They aim to ensure that the people of Wales know whether public money is being managed wisely and that public bodies in Wales understand how to improve outcomes.</p>

This page is intentionally left blank



WALES **AUDIT** OFFICE
SWYDDFA **ARCHWILIO** CYMRU

Annual Improvement Report

Flintshire County Council

This Annual Improvement Report has been prepared on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales by Gwilym Bury, Charlotte Owen, and Jeremy Evans under the direction of Huw Rees.

Adrian Crompton
Auditor General for Wales
Wales Audit Office
24 Cathedral Road
Cardiff
CF11 9LJ

The Auditor General is independent of government, and is appointed by Her Majesty the Queen. The Auditor General undertakes his work using staff and other resources provided by the Wales Audit Office Board, which is a statutory board established for that purpose and to monitor and advise the Auditor General. The Wales Audit Office is held to account by the National Assembly.

The Auditor General audits local government bodies in Wales, including unitary authorities, police, probation, fire and rescue authorities, national parks and community councils. He also conducts local government value for money studies and assesses compliance with the requirements of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009.

Beyond local government, the Auditor General is the external auditor of the Welsh Government and its sponsored and related public bodies, the Assembly Commission and National Health Service bodies in Wales.

The Auditor General and staff of the Wales Audit Office aim to provide public-focused and proportionate reporting on the stewardship of public resources and in the process provide insight and promote improvement.

We welcome correspondence and telephone calls in Welsh and English. Corresponding in Welsh will not lead to delay. Rydym yn croesawu gohebiaeth a galwadau ffôn yn Gymraeg a Saesneg. Ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

This document is also available in Welsh.

Contents

Summary report	
2018-19 performance audit work	4
The Council is meeting its statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement but, as with all councils in Wales, it faces challenges going forward	4
Recommendations and proposals for improvement	4
Audit, regulatory and inspection work reported during 2018-19	6
Appendices	
Appendix 1 – status of this report	12
Appendix 2 – Annual Audit Letter	13
Appendix 3 – national report recommendations 2018-19	16

Summary report

2018-19 performance audit work

- 1 To decide the range and nature of the work we would undertake during the year, we considered how much we already know from all previous audit and inspection work and from other sources of information including Flintshire County Council's (the Council) own mechanisms for review and evaluation. For 2018-19, we undertook improvement assessment work; an assurance and risk assessment project and work in relation to the Well-being of Future Generations Act at all councils. At some councils, we supplemented this work with local risk-based audits, identified in the Audit Plan for 2018-19.
- 2 The work carried out since the last Annual Improvement Report (AIR), including that of the relevant regulators, is set out in [Exhibit 2](#).

The Council is meeting its statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement but, as with all councils in Wales, it faces challenges going forward

- 3 Based on, and limited to, the work carried out by the Wales Audit Office and relevant regulators, the Auditor General believes that the Council is likely to comply with the requirements of the Local Government Measure (2009) during 2019-20. However, all councils face significant financial pressures which will need continued attention in the short and medium term to enable them to reach a stable and sustainable position.

Recommendations and proposals for improvement

- 4 Given the wide range of services provided by the Council and the challenges it is facing, it would be unusual if we did not find things that can be improved. The Auditor General is able to:
 - make proposals for improvement – if proposals are made to the Council, we would expect it to do something about them and we will follow up what happens;
 - make formal recommendations for improvement – if a formal recommendation is made, the Council must prepare a response to that recommendation within 30 working days;
 - conduct a special inspection, publish a report and make recommendations; and

- recommend to ministers of the Welsh Government that they intervene in some way.
- 5 During the course of the year, the Auditor General did not make any formal recommendations. However, we have made a number of proposals for improvement and these are repeated in this report. We will monitor progress against them and relevant recommendations made in our national reports ([Appendix 3](#)) as part of our improvement assessment work.

Audit, regulatory and inspection work reported during 2018-19

Exhibit 1: audit, regulatory and inspection work reported during 2018-19

Description of the work carried out since the last Annual Improvement Report, including that of the relevant regulators, where relevant.

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Proposals for improvement
February 2019	<p>Assurance and Risk Assessment Project to identify the level of audit assurance and/or where further audit work may be required in future years in relation to risks to the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • putting in place proper arrangements to secure value for money in the use of resources; • putting in place arrangements to secure continuous improvement; and • acting in accordance with the sustainable development principle in setting wellbeing objectives and taking steps to meet them. 	<p>Arising from our review and discussions with the Council, we identified the following challenges for the Council for inclusion in our 2019-20 audit programme¹:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assurance and Risk Assessment: to identify the level of audit assurance and/or where further audit work may be required in future years in relation to risks to the Council putting in place proper arrangements to secure value for money in the use of resources. • Financial sustainability: a project common to all local councils that will assess financial sustainability in light of current and anticipated future challenges. • Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 (WFG Act) examinations: Focus on the creativity, capacity and rigour of partnership governance and management arrangements to consider the WFG Act (by using the PSB and one or more of their shared work programmes as a reference). • Rent arrears: a review to look at the Council's strategy for stabilising and recovering Council tenant rent arrears and its work on administering Discretionary Housing Payments. • Digital: A diagnostic study on the Council's overall planning and the sufficiency of resources to achieve the deliverables. 	Not applicable

¹ Subject to change should any matters of risk arise in year

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Proposals for improvement
February 2019	<p>Well-being of Future Generations Act (Wales) 2015 (WFG Act) examinations</p> <p>Examination of the extent to which the Council has acted in accordance with the sustainable development principle when taking the following step: 'Examination of The Green Council: maximising the recovery and recycling of waste'.</p>	<p>The Council has mainly acted in accordance with the sustainable development principle in setting the 'step' and has generally taken account of the five ways of working in the actions it is taking to deliver it:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council needs to do more to balance current and long-term needs within the national and local context. • The Council understands the environmental and financial impacts of inaction and has considered how its actions can prevent these problems worsening. • The Council has considered how the step supports its well-being objective of a 'Green Council' and the Welsh Government's waste strategy, but it is not clear if the Council has actively considered how the step impacts on its other well-being objectives or those of other bodies. • The Council is collaborating with key stakeholders across north Wales to deliver its objectives and recognises there is potential to work more closely. • Whilst there are positive examples of stakeholder involvement, the Council could involve the public at an earlier stage and produce comprehensive equality impact assessments for all policy decisions on major service changes. 	<p>The Council elected to undertake a number of actions as a results of the review, these are detailed in our full report.</p>

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Proposals for improvement
November 2018	<p>Annual Audit Letter 2017-18</p> <p>Letter summarising the key messages arising from the Auditor General's statutory responsibilities under the Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 and his reporting responsibilities under the Code of Audit Practice. The Annual Audit Letter is in Appendix 2 of this report.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council complied with its responsibilities relating to financial reporting and use of resources. • I am satisfied that the Council has appropriate arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources. • My work to date on certification of grant claims and returns has not identified significant issues that would impact on the 2018-19 accounts or key financial systems. • The Council has a track record of managing its finances, but the significant financial challenge will continue over the medium term. 	None

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Proposals for improvement
Local risk-based performance audit			
December 2018	Local government use of data local report	The accompanying national report to the local report concluded that local authorities across Wales are slow to develop a culture that values and uses data effectively to improve services and outcomes.	<p>P1 The Authority needs to develop a more unified and corporate approach to using data. It can do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> continuing to embed its 'tell us once' project and build on the integration of datasets as was done with the datasets which informed the Council Plan. More generally, data tool respondents feel the Authority lacks a corporate ownership of data projects. A change in culture and a stronger leadership on data will support the creation of an environment that treats data as a key resource. This will help to extend the benefits of data-led decisions to all service areas. <p>P2 The Authority collects data at almost every interaction with its citizens, whether face to face, over the phone or on social media and it needs to ensure it continues to protect the information it holds whilst making the best use of this wealth of data. Updating data sharing protocols and providing refresher training – focusing on what people can do rather than what they cannot do – will help to ensure that service managers know when and what they can share, thereby helping to make better use of shared data.</p> <p>P3 Our national report highlights Flintshire County Council's approach to building capacity and driving a more collaborative culture across the county. Whilst the Digital Flintshire 2017-2022 strategy outlines how digital information and technology will be used to support the Authority's improvement priorities and strategic plans, and ensuring customers have the digital skills to access services and information online, having the right staff with the right skills to turn its wealth of data into usable evidence remains a challenge. Indeed, ensuring adequate resources and sufficient capacity are ongoing challenges for all local authorities. A significant proportion who responded to our data tool do not believe the Authority has sufficient staff with the skills to maximise the use of data. Without upskilling staff to make better use of data the Authority risks missing opportunities to better use data to improve its efficiency and effectiveness. Investing to make better use of data will result in better outcomes for citizens and create long-term efficiencies for the Authority. The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 provides the perfect impetus for the Authority to think long term.</p>

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Proposals for improvement
Local risk-based performance audit			
December 2018	Local government use of data local report	The accompanying national report to the local report concluded that local authorities across Wales are slow to develop a culture that values and uses data effectively to improve services and outcomes.	P4 Understanding the data and the level of analysis provided to inform business planning and decision making is an area for improvement for all local authorities. The Authority should review the range and quality of the information needed by decision makers and the format it is presented in. This will enable the Authority to set corporate data reporting standards to ensure the data that is presented to senior officer and Elected Members is accessible, easily understandable and equips decision makers to fulfil their responsibilities as effectively as possible.
Improvement planning and reporting			
April 2018	Wales Audit Office annual improvement audit Review of the Council's published plans for delivering on improvement objectives.	The Council has complied with its statutory improvement planning duties.	None

Issue date	Brief description	Conclusions	Proposals for improvement
Improvement planning and reporting			
October 2018	Wales Audit Office annual assessment of performance audit Review of the Council's published performance assessment.	The Council has complied with its statutory improvement reporting duties.	None
Reviews by inspection and regulation bodies			
Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) and Estyn	There were no other published Flintshire County Council inspections in this period. However Estyn inspected a number of Flintshire schools, and care services that are registered with CiW were subject to inspection.		Not applicable

Appendix 1

Status of this report

The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (the Measure) requires the Auditor General to undertake a forward-looking annual improvement assessment, and to publish an annual improvement report, for each improvement authority in Wales. Improvement authorities (defined as local councils, national parks, and fire and rescue authorities) have a general duty to 'make arrangements to secure continuous improvement in the exercise of [their] functions'.

The annual improvement assessment considers the likelihood that an authority will comply with its duty to make arrangements to secure continuous improvement. The assessment is also the main piece of work that enables the Auditor General to fulfil his duties. Staff of the Wales Audit Office, on behalf of the Auditor General, produce the annual improvement report. The report discharges the Auditor General's duties under section 24 of the Measure, by summarising his audit and assessment work in a published annual improvement report for each authority. The report also discharges his duties under section 19 to issue a report certifying that he has carried out an improvement assessment under section 18 and stating whether (as a result of his improvement plan audit under section 17) he believes that the authority has discharged its improvement planning duties under section 15.

The Auditor General may also, in some circumstances, carry out special inspections (under section 21), which will be reported to the authority and Ministers, and which he may publish (under section 22). An important ancillary activity for the Auditor General is the co-ordination of assessment and regulatory work (required by section 23), which takes into consideration the overall programme of work of all relevant regulators at an improvement authority. The Auditor General may also take account of information shared by relevant regulators (under section 33) in his assessments.

Appendix 2

Annual Audit Letter

24 Cathedral Road / 24 Heol y Gadeirlan
Cardiff / Caerdydd
CF11 9LJ

Tel / Ffôn: 029 2032 0500

Fax / Ffacs: 029 2032 0600

Textphone / Ffôn testun: 029 2032 0660

info@audit.wales / post@archwilio.cymru

www.audit.wales / www.archwilio.cymru

Please contact us in Welsh or English.

Cysylltwch â ni'n Gymraeg neu'n Saesneg.

Councillor Aaron Shotton – Leader
Colin Everett – Chief Executive
Flintshire County Council
County Hall
Mold
Flintshire
CH7 6NB
Reference: 963A2018-19
Date issued: 30 November 2018

Dear Aaron and Colin

Annual Audit Letter – Flintshire County Council 2017-18

The Council complied with its responsibilities relating to financial reporting and use of resources

It is Flintshire County Council's (the Council's) responsibility to:

- put systems of internal control in place to ensure the regularity and lawfulness of transactions and to ensure that its assets are secure;
- maintain proper accounting records;
- prepare financial statements in accordance with relevant requirements; and
- establish and keep under review appropriate arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources.

The Public Audit (Wales) Act 2004 requires me to:

- provide an audit opinion on the accounting statements;
- review the Council's arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources; and
- issue a certificate confirming that I have completed the audit of the accounts.

Local authorities in Wales prepare their accounting statements in accordance with the requirements of the CIPFA/LASAAC Code of Practice on Local Authority Accounting in the United Kingdom. This code is based on International Financial Reporting Standards. The draft financial statements were shared with us on 15 June 2018, two weeks earlier than the statutory deadline. Despite the shorter timescale, the draft financial statements were prepared to a good standard and were supported by comprehensive and timely working papers. The key matters arising from the audit of the financial statements were reported to members of the Audit Committee and Council in my Audit of Financial Statements report on 12 September 2018.

On 14 September 2018, I issued an unqualified audit opinion on the group financial statements of the Council confirming that they present a true and fair view of the Council's financial position and transactions. I issued the certificate confirming that the audit of the accounts had been completed on 17 September 2018.

I also received draft financial statements for the Clwyd Pension Fund on 15 June 2018, two weeks ahead of the statutory deadline. The draft financial statements were also prepared to a good standard and I issued an unqualified opinion on the Clwyd Pension Fund financial statements on 7 September 2018.

I am satisfied that the Council has appropriate arrangements in place to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness in its use of resources

My consideration of the Council's arrangements to secure economy, efficiency and effectiveness has been based on the audit work undertaken on the accounts as well as placing reliance on the work completed under the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009. The Auditor General published his Annual Improvement Report in September 2018 and concluded that the Council was meeting its statutory requirements in relation to continuous improvement.

My work to date on certification of grant claims and returns has not identified significant issues that would impact on the 2018-19 accounts or key financial systems

My ongoing work on the certification of grants claims and returns has not identified any significant issues to date in relation to the accounts or the Council's key financial systems. I will report any key issues to the Audit Committee in my annual Grants Certification report once this year's programme of certification work is complete.

The Council has a track record of managing its finances, but the significant financial challenge will continue over the medium term

Austerity funding remains the most significant challenge facing local government bodies in Wales and these financial pressures are likely to continue for the medium term. The recent provisional local government funding settlement will see the Council's Aggregate External Finance (AEF) decrease by 1.0%.

In 2017-18 Council spend was £1.6 million less than budgeted which was mainly due to the change in the Council's Minimum Revenue Provision which had a positive impact of

£1.4 million. In addition, the Council reported a greater net yield from council tax of £0.5 million, resulting in an overall Council Fund underspend of £2.1 million. At 31 March 2018, the Council had useable reserves of £28.6 million, £13.7 million in the Council Fund reserve and a further £14.9 million in earmarked and locally managed schools' reserves.

In setting its 2018-19 budget, the Council identified the need to make efficiencies and savings of £5.5 million to address its annual funding gap. As at September 2018, the Council reported that it anticipated achieving £5.3 million of the identified savings and was projecting a year-end overspend of £0.2 million without any new actions to reduce cost pressures which the Council is looking to mitigate by the end of the financial year. The Council has reported social services cost pressures, largely due to continuing pressures with Out of County placements, and an overspend in Streetscene and Transportation of £1.1 million.

Since 2008, the Council has reported nearly £85 million of efficiencies and savings. Additional efficiencies and savings will be required in the future, with the Council's latest forward financial plan projecting a revenue funding shortfall of £15.2 million in 2019-20. The Council recognises the significance of its financial position and has adopted a three-stage approach for meeting the challenge, firstly identifying solutions from corporate finance budget and secondly from service budgets. The Council approved Stage 1 and 2 solutions in November 2018, leaving a remaining shortfall of £6.7 million.

The Council is now working on Stage 3 of the approach which predominantly revolves around campaigning for additional funding from the Welsh Government and considerations around the required increase in Council Tax. This represents a significant challenge to the Council in being able to meet its statutory responsibility to set a balanced budget. We will continue to monitor progress over the coming months.

The financial audit fee for 2017-18 is currently expected to be in line with the agreed fee set out in the Annual Audit Plan.

Yours sincerely



Richard Harries
Engagement Director
For and on behalf of the Auditor General for Wales

Appendix 3

National report recommendations 2018-19

Exhibit 2: national report recommendations 2018-19

Summary of proposals for improvement relevant to local government, included in national reports published by the Wales Audit Office, since publication of the last AIR.

Page 108

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
October 2018	<u>Procuring Residual and Food Waste Treatment Capacity</u>	<p>R1 The projections for the three residual waste projects in the Programme assume that, across the 14 councils involved, the overall amount of residual waste will increase through the lifetime of the contracts. If these projections are accurate then something significant would have to occur beyond 2040 to reach zero waste across these council areas by 2050. If the projections are not accurate then there is the risk that councils will pay for capacity they do not need. We recommend that the Welsh Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• in reviewing the Towards Zero Waste strategy, considers how its ambition of there being no residual waste by 2050 aligns with current projections for residual waste treatment; and• works with councils to consider the impact of changes in projections on the likely cost of residual waste projects and any mitigating action needed to manage these costs.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
October 2018	<u>Procuring Residual and Food Waste Treatment Capacity</u>	<p>R2 The Welsh Government's programme support to date has mainly focused on project development and procurement. Now that most of the projects are operational, the focus has shifted to contract management. We recommend that the Welsh Government continue its oversight of projects during the operational phase by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • building on its existing model of providing experienced individuals to assist with project development and procurement and making sure input is available to assist with contract management if required; • setting out its expectations of councils regarding contract management; • ensuring partnerships revisit their waste projections and associated risks periodically, for example to reflect updated population projections or economic forecasts; and • obtaining from partnerships basic management information on gate fees paid, amount of waste sent to facilities and quality of contractor service.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
November 2018	<u>Local Government Services to Rural Communities</u>	<p>R1 Socio economic change, poor infrastructure and shifts in provision of key services and facilities have resulted in the residualisation of communities in rural Wales. We recommend that Welsh Government support public bodies to deliver a more integrated approach to service delivery in rural areas by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • refreshing rural grant programmes to create sustainable financial structures, with multi-year allocations; and • helping people and businesses make the most of digital connectivity through targeted and more effective business and adult education support programmes. <p>R2 The role of Public Service Boards is evolving but there are opportunities to articulate a clearer and more ambitious shared vision for rural Wales (see paragraphs 2.2 to 2.9 and 2.28 to 2.31). We recommend that PSB public service partners respond more effectively to the challenges faced by rural communities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • assessing the strengths and weaknesses of their different rural communities using the Welsh Government’s Rural Proofing Tool and identify and agree the local and strategic actions needed to support community sustainability; and • ensuring the Local Well-Being Plan sets out a more optimistic and ambitious vision for ‘place’ with joint priorities co-produced by partners and with citizens to address agreed challenges.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
November 2018	<u>Local Government Services to Rural Communities</u>	<p>R3 To help sustain rural communities, public services need to think differently in the future (see paragraphs 3.1 to 3.12). We recommend councils provide a more effective response to the challenges faced by rural communities by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring service commissioners have cost data and qualitative information on the full range of service options available; and • using citizens' views on the availability, affordability, accessibility, adequacy and acceptability of council services to shape the delivery and integration of services.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
November 2018	<u>Local Government Services to Rural Communities</u>	<p>R4 To help sustain rural communities, public services need to act differently in the future (see paragraphs 3.1 to 3.12). We recommend councils do more to develop community resilience and self-help by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • working with relevant bodies such as the Wales Co-operative Centre to support social enterprise and more collaborative business models; • providing tailored community outreach for those who face multiple barriers to accessing public services and work; • enhancing and recognising the role of town and community councils by capitalising on their local knowledge and supporting them to do more; • encouraging a more integrated approach to service delivery in rural areas by establishing pan-public service community hubs, networks of expertise, and clusters of advice and prevention services; • enabling local action by supporting community asset transfer identifying which assets are suitable to transfer, and having the right systems in place to make things happen; and • improving community-based leadership by developing networks of interest, training and coaching, and encouraging volunteering.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
November 2018	<u>Waste Management in Wales: Municipal Recycling</u>	<p>R1 Benchmarking work has found that the cost of certain waste management services shows surprising variation (paragraphs 1.31-1.39). The Welsh Government should work with councils to understand better the basis of the variation in spending on waste management services that are fundamentally the same and ensure that waste management costs are accounted for in a consistent way.</p> <p>R2 The Welsh Government believes that, if applied optimally, its Collections Blueprint offers the most cost-effective overall means of collecting recyclable resources but is planning further analysis (paragraphs 1.40-1.51). When undertaking its further analysis to understand better the reasons for differences in councils' reported costs, and the impact on costs where councils have adopted the Collections Blueprint, we recommend that the Welsh Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explores how the cost of collecting dry recyclables may affect the overall cost of providing kerbside waste management services to households; and • compares the actual costs with the costs modelled previously as part of the Welsh Government-commissioned review of the Collections Blueprint for councils that now operate the Collections Blueprint.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
November 2018	<u>Waste Management in Wales: Municipal Recycling</u>	<p>R3 The Welsh Government has undertaken to consider alternatives to the current weight-based recycling targets which can better demonstrate the delivery of its ecological footprint and carbon reduction goals (paragraphs 2.38-2.45). We recommend that the Welsh Government replace or complement the current target to recycle, compost and reuse wastes with performance measures to refocus recycling on the waste resources that have the largest impact on carbon reduction, and/or are scarce. We recognise that the Welsh Government may need to consider the affordability of data collection for any alternative means of measurement.</p> <p>R4 In refreshing Towards Zero Waste, the Welsh Government needs to show that wider sustainability benefits sought through municipal recycling offer value and cannot be more readily attained in other ways and at lower cost including, but not necessarily limited to, other waste management interventions (paragraphs 2.52-2.53). The Welsh Government should demonstrate in the revised waste strategy that not only is it possible to recycle a greater proportion of municipal waste, but how doing so maximises its contribution to achieving its sustainable development objectives.</p>

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
November 2018	<u>Provision of Local Government Services to Rural Communities: Community Asset Transfer</u>	<p>R1 Local authorities need to do more to make CATs (Community Asset Transfers) simpler and more appealing, help build the capacity of community and town councils, give them more guidance in raising finance, and look to support other community development models such as social enterprises that support social value and citizen involvement. In addition, we recommend that local authorities monitor and publish CAT numbers and measure the social impact of CATs.</p> <p>R2 Local authorities have significant scope to provide better and more visible help and support before, during, and after the community asset transfer process. We conclude that there is considerable scope to improve the business planning, preparation, and aftercare for community asset transfer. We recommend that local authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify community assets transfer's role in establishing community hubs, networks of expertise and clusters of advice and prevention services; • work with town and community councils to develop their ability to take on more CATs; • identify which assets are suitable to transfer, and clarify what the authority needs to do to enable their transfer; • ensure their CAT policy adequately covers aftercare, long term support, post transfer support, signposting access to finance, and sharing the learning about what works well; and • support community-based leadership by developing networks of interest, training and coaching, and encouraging volunteering.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
December 2018	<u>The maturity of local government in use of data</u>	<p>R1 Part 1 of the report highlights the importance of creating a strong data culture and clear leadership to make better use of data. We recommend that local authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have a clear vision that treats data as a key resource; • establish corporate data standards and coding that all services use for their core data; • undertake an audit to determine what data is held by services and identify any duplicated records and information requests; and • create a central integrated customer account as a gateway to services. <p>R2 Part 2 of the report notes that whilst it is important that authorities comply with relevant data protection legislation, they also need to share data with partners to ensure citizens receive efficient and effective services. Whilst these two things are not mutually exclusive, uncertainty on data protection responsibilities is resulting in some officers not sharing data, even where there is agreement to provide partners with information. We recommend that authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • provide refresher training to service managers to ensure they know when and what data they can and cannot share; and • review and update data sharing protocols to ensure they support services to deliver their data sharing responsibilities.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
December 2018	<u>The maturity of local government in use of data</u>	<p>R3 In Part 3 of our report, we conclude that adequate resources and sufficient capacity are ongoing challenges. However, without upskilling staff to make better use of data, authorities are missing opportunities to improve their efficiency and effectiveness. We recommend that authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • identify staff who have a role in analysing and managing data to remove duplication and free up resources to build and develop capacity in data usage; and • invest and support the development of staff data analytical, mining and segmentation skills. <p>R4 Part 4 of our report highlights that authorities have more to do to create a data-driven decision-making culture and to unlock the potential of the data they hold. We recommend that local authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • set data reporting standards to ensure minimum data standards underpin decision making; and • make more open data available.

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
March 2019	<u>Waste Management in Wales - Preventing waste</u>	<p>R1 Increasing the focus on waste prevention to reflect the overall aims of Towards Zero Waste</p> <p>Available data on the amount of waste produced suggests mixed progress to deliver the Welsh Government's waste prevention targets. We recommend that the Welsh Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) revisits the relative priority it gives to recycling and waste prevention as part of its review of Towards Zero Waste; b) sets out clearly the expectations on different organisations and sectors for waste prevention; and c) revisits its overall waste prevention targets and the approach it has taken to monitor them in light of progress to date, examples from other countries and in the context of current projections about waste arising through to 2050. <p>R2 Improving data on commercial, industrial, construction and demolition waste</p> <p>The Welsh Government is a partner in initial work to assess the feasibility of developing a new digital solution to track all waste. If this preferred option does not succeed, we recommend that the Welsh Government works with Natural Resources Wales to explore the costs and benefits of other options to improve non-municipal waste data in Wales, including additional powers to require waste data from businesses.</p>

Date of report	Title of review	Recommendation
March 2019	<u>Waste Management in Wales - Preventing waste</u>	<p>R3 Enhancing producer responsibility and using more legal, financial and fiscal levers</p> <p>The Welsh Government has opportunities to influence waste prevention through legislation and financial incentives. It can also influence changes at the UK level where fiscal matters are not devolved. We recommend that the Welsh Government consider whether provisions to extend producer responsibility and the use of financial powers such as grant conditions, fiscal measures and customer charges and incentives, are needed to promote and to prioritise waste prevention.</p>

Wales Audit Office
24 Cathedral Road
Cardiff CF11 9LJ

Tel: 029 2032 0500

Fax: 029 2032 0600

Textphone: 029 2032 0660

E-mail: info@audit.wales

Website: www.audit.wales

Swyddfa Archwilio Cymru
24 Heol y Gadeirlan
Caerdydd CF11 9LJ

Ffôn: 029 2032 0500

Ffacs: 029 2032 0600

Ffôn testun: 029 2032 0660

E-bost: post@archwilio.cymru

Gwefan: www.archwilio.cymru

Wales Audit Office Annual Improvement Report

Executive Response

June 2019

The following is a progress report on the Proposals for Improvement contained in response to the Annual Improvement Report published June 2019.

Report Title	Proposals for Improvement including overall lead.	Action response	RAG Status
<p>Well-being of Future Generations: An examination of the Green Council: maximising the recovery and recycling of waste.</p>	<p>Long term There is a need to think longer term and for the Council to develop its own regional and local needs, challenges and opportunities to help it deliver its 2050 aim of zero waste.</p> <p>Chief Officer – Streetscene and Transportation</p>	<p>This is embodied within the Council's five-year Waste Strategy.</p>	G
	<p>Prevention Although the Council regularly monitors the total amount of waste generated within the county and the proportion being recycled, it could take further action to reduce overall waste volume.</p> <p>Chief Officer – Streetscene and Transportation</p>	<p>This is embodied within the Council's five-year Waste Strategy.</p>	G
	<p>Prevention Improve the customer experience at HRCs with better support from staff.</p> <p>Chief Officer – Streetscene and Transportation</p>	<p>We will work with the Wales Audit Office on their Service User perspective at our HRC sites.</p>	G
	<p>Integration The Council should give more consideration to how it can integrate its well-being objectives and assess their impact on the well-being objectives of other bodies.</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>The Council will be re-setting its well-being objectives as part of the Council Plan setting, which will include not just the work led by the Council, but also consideration of partnership working and its impact on the well-being objectives of other bodies.</p>	G

Report Title	Proposals for Improvement including overall lead.	Action response	RAG Status
	<p>Involvement Sometimes the Council may benefit from engaging with stakeholders earlier in the process. For example, by involving stakeholders in the early design stage of the HRC process, the Council may have avoided negative publicity and agreed on a final approach more quickly and easily.</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>We will review where we have been successful in other involvement exercises to apply lessons learned to future policy reviews.</p>	<p>A</p>
	<p>Involvement A more consistent approach needs to be taken to completing comprehensive equality impact assessments (EIA) and making them available to the decision-making process.</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>The work undertaken on developing the EIA approach into a fully integrated impact assessment (including the well-being goals and sustainable development principles) will be completed in-year.</p>	<p>A</p>
	<p>Involvement Members we spoke to reflected that, although they are confident that officers consider the WFG Act, this is not clearly demonstrated in the reports we receive.</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>Completion of work being undertaken to incorporate the thinking behind the WFG Act within reports to Members.</p>	<p>A</p>
	<p>Corporate arrangements The Council needs to assure itself that it is considering the five ways of working in the actions it takes to achieve its well-being objectives.</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>This will be undertaken as part of the re-setting of the Council's well-being objectives.</p>	<p>A</p>
	<p>Corporate arrangements The Council needs to consider how to include a learning cycle to help it further embed the five ways of working in setting and delivering its well-being objectives.</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>Setting and delivery of the revised set of well-being objectives will be fully integrated with the five ways of working.</p>	<p>A</p>
		<p>All the above 'Ways of working' The 'ways of working' and the Councils well-being objectives will be</p>	<p>A</p>

Report Title	Proposals for Improvement including overall lead.	Action response	RAG Status
		<p>referred to in all Strategic Cabinet (and other relevant) reports from September 2019 as a significant positive, negative or neutral contribution.</p> <p>An overview of the integrated impact assessment will also be included to inform strategic decisions.</p>	
Local government use of data local report	<p>P1 The Authority needs to develop a more unified and corporate approach to using data. It can do this by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continuing to embed its 'tell us once' project and build on the integration of datasets as was done with the datasets which informed the Council Plan. More generally, data tool respondents feel the Authority lacks a corporate ownership of data projects. A change in culture and a stronger leadership on data will support the creation of an environment that treats data as a key resource. This will help to extend the benefits of data-led decisions to all service areas. <p>Chief Officer - Governance</p>	<p>We will review and publish our Information Management Strategy so that there is a clear and understood approach to data management. As identified within the report, Tell Us Once is a key part of Digital Strategy.</p>	A
	<p>P2 The Authority collects data at almost every interaction with its citizens, whether face to face, over the phone or on social media and it needs to ensure it continues to protect the information it holds whilst making the best use of this wealth of data. Updating data sharing protocols and providing refresher training – focusing on what people can do rather than what they cannot do – will help to ensure that service managers know when and what they can share, thereby helping to make better use of shared data.</p> <p>Chief Officer – Governance</p>	<p>Following work on compliance for GDPR we are working on how best to use data and information between portfolios in the provision of services for our customers and service users. We are reviewing how we balance security with the proactive use of data.</p>	A

Report Title	Proposals for Improvement including overall lead.	Action response	RAG Status
	<p>P3</p> <p>Our national report highlights Flintshire County Council's approach to building capacity and driving a more collaborative culture across the county. Whilst the Digital Flintshire 2017-2022 strategy outlines how digital information and technology will be used to support the Authority's improvement priorities and strategic plans, and ensuring customers have the digital skills to access services and information online, having the right staff with the right skills to turn its wealth of data into usable evidence remains a challenge. Indeed, ensuring adequate resources and sufficient capacity are ongoing challenges for all local authorities. A significant proportion who responded to our data tool do not believe the Authority has sufficient staff with the skills to maximise the use of data. Without upskilling staff to make better use of data the Authority risks missing opportunities to better use data to improve its efficiency and effectiveness. Investing to make better use of data will result in better outcomes for citizens and create long-term efficiencies for the Authority.</p> <p>The Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 provides the perfect impetus for the Authority to think long term.</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>	<p>We are developing a comprehensive plan within our digital strategy programme to ensure that each project contains as standard a strong emphasis on training and the development of digital skills . We are reviewing how we can have better control, visibility of and confidence in our data to support effective design and delivery of services.</p>	<p>A</p>
	<p>P4</p> <p>Understanding the data and the level of analysis provided to inform business planning and decision making is an area for improvement for all local authorities. The Authority should review the range and quality of the information needed by decision makers and the format it is presented in. This will enable the Authority to set corporate data reporting standards to ensure the</p>	<p>Work is being undertaken around the structure of reports to ensure that risks and options are well presented. This will also cover the presentation of data.</p>	<p>A</p>

Report Title	Proposals for Improvement including overall lead.	Action response	RAG Status
	<p>data that is presented to senior officer and Elected Members is accessible, easily understandable and equips decision makers to fulfil their responsibilities as effectively as possible.</p> <p>Chief Executive</p>		

This page is intentionally left blank



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Flintshire Deposit Local Development Plan (2015 - 2030)
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection
Report Author	Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Deposit Local Development Plan (LDP) is the Council's proposed land use plan covering the period 2015 – 2030. Once adopted, and following an Examination in Public (EIP) which will be held by an independent Planning Inspector appointed by the Welsh Ministers, it will then replace the current Unitary Development Plan (UDP). The Plan will be used by the Council to guide and control development, providing the local policy basis to determine future planning applications.

Work on a revised LDP began in 2014 and the Deposit LDP represents the culmination of a considerable amount of work, including building up a robust evidence base to support and justify the plan, the pre-deposit stages i.e. the Key Messages engagement consultation in 2016, the Strategic Options stakeholder engagement process in 2016, and public consultation on the Preferred Strategy in November 2017, all of which have been informed by the technical evidence base.

To date, and in accordance with the Revised Delivery Agreement 2019, the following milestones have been completed:

- Development of a robust evidence base to support the plan
- Submission and assessment of candidate sites
- Key stakeholder and public consultation on the Key Messages from the evidence base
- Key stakeholder and public consultation on the LDP Vision, Objectives, and Strategy Growth and Spatial Options – 2016
- Consultation on the Preferred Strategy – November 2017
- Call for and assessment of Alternative Sites as part of the Preferred Strategy consultation

The Deposit Plan and accompanying proposals maps are contained in appendix 1 of this report. The plan's preparation has been reported to the Planning Strategy Group at its monthly meetings over the last 4 years, and after considerable hard work and deliberation, the Planning Strategy Group have endorsed the Deposit LDP and the Cabinet are asked to endorse that the Plan should be approved for public consultation to begin on 30th September 2019, subject to the approval of Full Council at its meeting to be held on 23rd July 2019.

Subject to the approval of Cabinet and Full Council, public consultation will run for a six week period from Monday 30th September to Monday 15th November 2019. The purpose of the consultation is to establish whether the Deposit LDP meets the tests of Soundness (see section 1.9 below). If not, objectors will be required to indicate what test(s) are not met and why, as well as indicating what changes should be made to the plan. This information will inform the Inspector's consideration of the soundness of the LDP at the Examination in Public.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Cabinet endorse the content of the Flintshire Draft Deposit Local Development Plan 2015-2030 and recommend its approval by the Full Council at its meeting on 23 rd July 2019, to go out for public consultation.
2	Authorise the Chief Officer (Planning, Economy and Environment) to make any additional minor wording, grammar, editorial or cartographic changes to the Deposit LDP which may arise or be necessary prior to formal consultation to ensure consistency with the ongoing LDP evidence base and to assist final presentation of the Plan.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	CONTEXT
1.01	The Deposit LDP represents a key milestone for the Council in relation to its statutory plan making duty, as this stage represents the culmination of the Council's deliberation of the plan's content as in effect, the Council is publishing its 'sound development plan' for public consultation. The Deposit plan will need to be accompanied by a range of documents to support the consultation referred to as the 'deposit matters', which include the Sustainability Appraisal/ Strategic Environmental Assessment, Habitat Regulations Assessment, Evidence Base, Initial Consultation Report, and Soundness Self-Assessment, and a range of other background documents.
1.02	This is an important Council Strategy and Policy Document, as it sets out the planning framework to guide development and place making in Flintshire for the period 2015-2030. In brief it sets out the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Providing opportunities to deliver between 8-10,000 jobs by maintaining

	<p>a viable portfolio of employment land, to support wider regional growth ambitions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making provision for 7950 new homes over the plan period (including a 14% flexibility) to deliver a requirement of 6,950; • Facilitates the delivery of two long standing strategic site commitments at Northern Gateway and Warren Hall; • Locates growth sustainably in the County's service centres and sustainable settlements, based on a settlement hierarchy; • Provides a pragmatic solution to affordable and specialist housing needs, including statutory provision for the accommodation needs of Gypsies and travellers; • Minimises the need to amend Flintshire's green barriers to facilitate sustainable development; • Ensuring that sites are viable and deliverable, and that infrastructure is or can be provided to accommodate the planned growth.
1.03	<p>In summary the Deposit Plan contains the following key sections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Foreword by the Lead Member for Planning and Public Protection b) Introduction – The plan's structure, how to comment, the context for how the plan has been prepared, the pan's Vision and Core Objectives c) The Growth Strategy of the plan – what the approach to assessing and locating growth in the plan has been d) Preferred Strategy – Explains the plan's overall strategy including how the growth and policy direction of the plan was arrived at. e) Strategic Policies – includes overarching policies on the amount and broad location of development, strategic sites, Green Barriers, Recreation and Heritage, The Environment and Climate Change; f) Topic, Criteria and Area Based Policies – more detailed policies that will be more commonly used in relation to general development management considerations, following the same themes as covered by the strategic policies; g) Monitoring Framework – the framework by which the performance of the plan will be monitored and reported on annually once the plan has been adopted; h) Glossary of terms.
1.04	<p>In getting the plan to this stage the Council has faced a number of significant challenges to progress which comprise;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A vulnerability to speculative housing development in its communities as it does not have an adopted development plan in place and therefore is unable to demonstrate a five year housing land supply; • Enforced delays in the timetable resulting from radical changes to national planning guidance (Planning Policy Wales 10 (PPW10)) and resource issues, which have led to slippage and timetable revisions accompanied by significant Ministerial pressure to make progress; • New requirements from PPW10 to provide detailed assessments of development site viability and deliverability, as well as an assessment of the County's renewable energy potential.
1.05	<p>Despite these pressures, the work of the Planning Strategy Group has focussed on 'getting the plan right' in order to demonstrate is soundness or</p>

	<p>fitness for purpose, and to learn the lessons experienced by other Local Planning Authorities. It is the view of officers, endorsed by the Planning Strategy Group, that the Deposit LDP attached to this report is both sound and deliverable, and represents a common sense and pragmatic approach to delivering growth and development, supporting the wider sub-regional growth vision, whilst minimising the impacts on Flintshire's communities.</p>
1.06	<p>The purpose of the public consultation is to allow those communities to view the plan in that context, and to consider whether the plan is indeed sound. In objecting to any part of the plan, objectors must identify where the plan falls short in this respect, outline why it is not sound, and set out how the plan should be changed accordingly. This will be a challenging proposition for the general public, but is nevertheless a key part of their responsibility to comment constructively on the plan, rather than simply state that they do not like the proposals within it. These submissions will be reported back to the Council following the consultation, and will also form part of the information submitted to the Inspector(s) who will conduct the Examination of the plan.</p>
1.07	<p>Of the issues contained in the plan, the ones that are likely to prove most contentious during the public consultation are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The approach to meeting the housing requirement and specifically to the location of housing allocations; • The approach to meeting the needs of Gypsies and Travellers; • The adequacy of infrastructure to support developing the allocations in the plan.
1.08	<p>In order for the public to object to the plan, they will not only have to explain what their objection is and why they make it, but also identify which of the tests of soundness the plan fails, why, and how the plan should be amended.</p> <p>These tests are set out in Welsh Government guidance and comprise:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Does the plan fit? (i.e. is it clear that the LDP is consistent with other plans?) 2. Is the plan appropriate? (i.e. is the plan appropriate for the area in light of the evidence?) 3. Will the plan deliver? (i.e. is it likely to be effective?) <p>It is important to note that the Council is essentially placing on deposit a plan which it believes to be sound in accordance with the regulations and relevant tests above. There will therefore by definition be limited opportunity for the plan to be changed significantly following Deposit consultation and prior to submission to the Inspectorate for Examination.</p>
1.09	<p>In terms of the next stages once the plan has been through the political processes of approval, there will be a six week period of public consultation from 30th September 2019 until 15th November 2019. The methods of consultation are set out in the Council's published Revised Delivery agreement 2019, with further information about the consultation provided well in advance on the Council's web site. This will include a number of manned 'drop-in' sessions focused on areas where sites are</p>

	<p>proposed. It is also worth noting that as the Plan will be put to Full Council on the 23rd July for approval, it will essentially be in the public domain from that date, allowing more time for the public to review and understand it. The Deposit consultation will not start until the end of September, in order to avoid the summer recess and holiday period, to enable preparation of supporting documents and consultation arrangements and to allow for any follow up matters that may arise on the 23rd as well as the outcome of the ongoing Renewable Energy Assessment, to be brought back to Full Council in early September.</p>
1.10	<p>It is therefore extremely important that the plan is approved to go out for consultation at the Full Council meeting on the 23rd, and that Cabinet can support the plan and make this a recommendation to full Council. Whilst some Members will have concerns, particularly those with sites in their area, there are significant risks and repercussions for the Council if the Plan is objected to by Members and/or not approved by full Council on the 23rd July. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further delays and slippage with the timetable; • The Minister’s most recent letter to the Council about the timetable, and the prospect of the Minister using her powers to intervene in the LDP process, with the Council losing control over the plan; • Continuing vulnerability to speculative development and the prospect of more sites being approved on appeal; • If objecting to sites, the need to identify sound planning reasons why sites are not appropriate or sound, and also what is a suitable alternative site to allocate and where?
1.11	<p>Following the Deposit consultation, the broad timetable for the plan to adoption is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of consultation comments and response by the Council – April/May 2020 • Submission of the LDP to Welsh Government for Examination – Summer 2020 • Formal Examination of the LDP – Autumn 2020 • Receipt of Inspector’s Report and Adoption of the LDP – Summer 2021.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	None.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	Six week public consultation period required following approval of the Deposit Plan by Cabinet and Full Council. To begin on 30 th September 2019.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	As per section 1.10 above.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	<p>Appendix 1 Deposit LDP Written statement (see attached to this report) Appendix 2 Proposals Maps (access via the following web links)</p> <p>Proposals Map 1 Proposals Map 2 Proposals Map 3 Aston/Shotton inset plan Buckley inset plan Connah's Quay inset plan Flint inset plan Holywell inset plan Mold inset plan Queensferry inset plan Saltney inset plan Map Key</p>

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>Contact Officer: Andy Roberts, Service Manager Strategy Telephone: 01352 703211 E-mail: andy.roberts@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Deposit Plan – Formal version of the LDP representing the Council's final draft plan, to be deposited or made available for formal public consultation.</p> <p>Examination in Public – Where a Planning Inspector appointed by the Welsh Government formally examines the LDP to determine its degree of compliance with the tests of soundness (see section 1.08)</p>

Flintshire Local Development Plan
2015 - 2030

Deposit Plan
September 2019

	Policy Index	4
1.	Policy Index	4
	Foreword	10
2.	Foreword	10
	Introduction	12
3.	How to View and Comment on the Deposit Local Development Plan	12
4.	How Have We Arrived at the Deposit Plan?	15
5.	How to Use/Navigate and Interpret the Plan	17
6.	Strategic Context	21
7.	County Profile / Overview	25
8.	Key Issues and Drivers for Change	28
9.	Forming the Plan’s Strategy from This Context	33
10.	The Growth Strategy of the Plan	37
	10.1 Employment Growth	37
	10.2 Housing Growth and its Sustainable Location	39
11.	The Preferred Strategy	45
	Strategic Policies	50
12.	Strategic Policies	50

Mynegai

13.	Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities	53
14.	Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy	83
15.	Strategic Policies - Meeting Housing Needs	100
16.	Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment	112
	Development Management Policies (Topic, Criteria and Area Based Policies)	
17.	Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities	128
18.	Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy	143
19.	Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs	164
20.	Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment	184
	Monitoring	
21.	Monitoring	227
	Appendices	
22.	Appendix 1	243
	Technical Terms and Glossary	
23.	Untitled	248

Policy Index 1

1 Policy Index

1 Policy Index

Table 1.1

	Page
Strategic Policies	
Creating Sustainable Places and Communities	
Policy STR1: Strategic Growth	pg nos. tbc
Policy STR2: The Location of Development	
Policy STR3: Strategic Sites	
Policy STR4: Principles of Sustainable Development, Design and Placemaking	
Policy STR5: Transport and Accessibility	
Policy STR6: Services, Facilities and Infrastructure	
Supporting a Prosperous Economy	
Policy STR7: Economic Development, Enterprise and Employment	
Policy STR8: Employment Land Provision	
Policy STR9: Retail Centres and Development	
Policy STR10: Tourism, Culture, and Leisure	
Meeting Housing Needs	
Policy STR11: Provision of Sustainable Housing Sites	
Policy STR12: Provision for Gypsies and Travellers	
Valuing the Environment	
Policy STR13: Natural and Built Environment, Green Networks and Infrastructure	
Policy STR14: Climate Change and Environmental Protection	

Policy STR15: Waste Management	
Policy STR16: Strategic Planning for Minerals	
Development Management Policies (Topic, Criteria and Area Based Policies)	
Creating Sustainable Places and Communities	
Policy PC1: The Relationship of Development to Settlement Boundaries	
Policy PC2: General Requirements for Development	
Policy PC3: Design	
Policy PC4: Sustainability and Resilience of New Development	
Policy PC5: Transport and Accessibility	
Policy PC6: Active Travel	
Policy PC7: Passenger Transport	
Policy PC8: Airport Safeguarding Zone	
Policy PC9: Protection of Disused Railway Lines	
Policy PC10: New Transport Schemes	
Policy PC11: Mostyn Docks	
Policy PC12: Community Facilities	
Supporting a Prosperous Economy	
Policy PE1: General Employment Land Allocations	
Policy PE2: Principal Employment Areas	
Policy PE3: Employment Development Outside Allocated Sites and Principal Employment Areas	
Policy PE4: Farm Diversification	
Policy PE5: Expansion of Existing Employment Uses	
Policy PE6: Protection of Employment Land	
Policy PE7: Retail Hierarchy	

1 Policy Index

Policy PE8: Development within Primary Shopping Areas	
Policy PE9: Development outside Primary Shopping Areas	
Policy PE10: District and Local Centres	
Policy PE11: Edge and Out of Town Retail Development	
Policy PE12: Tourist Accommodation, Facilities and Attractions	
Policy PE13: Caravan Development in the Open Countryside	
Policy PE14: Greenfield Valley	
Meeting Housing Needs	
Policy HN1: New Housing Development Proposals	
Policy HN2: Density and Mix of Development	
Policy HN3: Affordable Housing	
Policy HN4: Housing in the Countryside	
Policy HN4-A: Replacement Dwellings	
Policy HN4-B: Residential Conversion of Rural Buildings	
Policy HN4-C: Infill Development in Groups of Houses	
Policy HN4-D: Affordable Housing Exceptions Schemes	
Policy HN5: House Extensions and Alterations	
Policy HN6: Annex Accommodation	
Policy HN7: Houses in Multiple Occupation	
Policy HN8: Gypsy and Traveller Sites	
Policy HN9: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation	
Valuing the Environment	
Policy EN1: Sports, Recreation and Cultural Facilities	
Policy EN2: Green Infrastructure	

Policy Index 1

Policy EN3: Undeveloped Coast and Dee Estuary Corridor	
Policy EN4: Landscape Character	
Policy EN5: Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	
Policy EN6: Sites of Biodiversity Importance	
Policy EN7: Development Affecting Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows	
Policy EN8: Built Historic Environment and Listed Buildings	
Policy EN9: Development In or Adjacent to Conservation Areas	
Policy EN10: Buildings of Local Interest	
Policy EN11: Green Barriers	
Policy EN12: New Development and Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Technology	
Policy EN13: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Development	
Policy EN14: Flood Risk	
Policy EN15: Water Resources	
Policy EN16: Development on or near Landfill Sites or Derelict and Contaminated Land	
Policy EN17: Development of Unstable Land	
Policy EN18: Pollution and Nuisance	
Policy EN19: Managing Waste Sustainably	
Policy EN20: Landfill Buffer Zone	
Policy EN21: Locations for Waste Management Facilities	
Policy EN22: Criteria for Waste Management Facilities and Operations	
Policy EN23: Minerals Safeguarding	
Policy EN24: Minerals Buffer Zones	

1 Policy Index

Policy EN25: Sustainable Minerals Development	
Policy EN26: Criteria for Minerals Development	
Policy EN27: Secondary and Recycled Aggregate	

Foreword 2

2 Foreword

2 Foreword

2.1 I am very pleased to publish this deposit Local Development Plan (LDP) in order to seek the views of the communities in Flintshire, key stakeholders, land owners and developers and other interested parties.

2.2 This plan, together with relevant supporting documents and evidence, sets out the planning strategy for Flintshire up to 2030, along with the policy framework that will be used to guide how this strategy will be followed and achieved.

2.3 This is an important plan for a number of reasons. Whilst clearly fulfilling a statutory duty to meet the requirement for a plan led system in Wales, it is also a response to the vulnerable position Flintshire's communities are placed in by the lack of an adopted development plan, and the pressure for speculative development that comes from the national policy encouragement of this. Thankfully this position is currently under review, allowing the Council to invest more of the available resources in producing this plan.



2.4 I and the Council as a whole, fully recognises the need for new houses and to facilitate the creation of new jobs, but this must be done in a balanced, controlled and sustainable manner, in order to ensure that in striving to achieve the aims of the Well-Being Act, this does not happen (as has been experienced in Flintshire) in a manner that causes harm to communities. In contrast, in developing this plan the Council has been careful to plan for growth at the right level, in support of a clear sub-regional Growth Vision, and in the most sustainable locations thereby promoting positive placemaking, something that speculative piecemeal development cannot do.

2.5 It is my view that in achieving this balance, this plan represents a sensible, positive and sound expression of the way growth should be planned for in Flintshire. The Council would like to know what you think about the policies and proposals contained within this plan, before it is then submitted to the Welsh Government and Planning Inspectorate for examination.

2.6 Please remember it is important to submit your views within the time allowed for consultation and by the closing deadline of 5pm on Monday 11th November 2019.

Councillor Chris Bithell
Portfolio Holder for Planning & Public Protection

How to View and Comment on the Deposit Local Development Plan 3

3 How to View and Comment on the Deposit Local Development Plan

3 How to View and Comment on the Deposit Local Development Plan

- 3.1** The Deposit LDP consultation presents an opportunity for all interested parties to read and understand and comment on how the plan's policies and proposals will help deliver growth over the plan period. Whilst the plan is also broader ranging in its content than just enabling growth, it is ultimately just a land-use plan and not a 'plan for everything', when making comments. For example whilst the Local Health Board have been involved in the plan making process as key stakeholders, it is not the role of the LDP to provide access to health facilities or GPs: that is their role, taking account of the growth the plan makes provision for. The same applies in relation to many other areas of key infrastructure, whether education, drainage, utility supply, highways or environment.
- 3.2** The easiest and preferred way to view and comment on the plan is via the Local Development Plan online consultation portal which can be accessed via www.flintshire.gov.uk/ldp. The portal allows you to view and comment on the plan as you read it, or alternatively you can download pdf versions of the Deposit LDP and all accompanying documents. A 'How to Comment via the Portal' guide has also been produced to help you make the most of the opportunity to comment.
- 3.3** Paper copies of the consultation documents are available for viewing at all libraries and at County Hall main reception, Ty Dewi Sant, and Connects Centres. There will also be the opportunity to speak to officers at a number of 'drop in' sessions, the details of which are available on the website.
- 3.4** A standard consultation response form has also been prepared and is available on request for those unable to access the web portal. Copies are also available at local libraries, drop in sessions, County Hall, Mold and Connects Centres (One form per person requesting).
- 3.5** Please submit your comments via the online portal. Exceptionally please send completed consultation response forms to:
developmentplans@flintshire.gov.uk
- 3.6** Or to:
Andrew Farrow,
Chief Officer (Planning Environment & Economy),
Flintshire County Council,
County Hall,
Mold,
Flintshire. CH7 6NB
- 3.7** The consultation is open for 6 weeks from Monday 30th September 2019 – Monday 11th November 2019. All comments must be received by 5pm on 11th November as those received afterwards will not be considered.

How to View and Comment on the Deposit Local Development Plan 3

- 3.8** Further guidance or information can be obtained from the Planning Policy helpline 01352 703213 or by emailing developmentplans@flintshire.gov.uk

How Have We Arrived at the Deposit Plan? 4

How Have We Arrived at the Deposit Plan? 4

4 How Have We Arrived at the Deposit Plan?

- 4.1** The LDP follows on from the adopted Unitary Development Plan (2000-2015) and covers the period 2015 to 2030. The Council has prepared its deposit LDP in accordance with national Planning Policy and guidance. The plan provides a clear land use planning framework to address issues and opportunities facing Flintshire, aiming to provide certainty for its communities and a sound and consistent basis for making planning decisions.
- 4.2** The aim of the plan is to enable the delivery of sustainable development in a manner that balances all of the Well-Being requirements in a sensible and proportionate way, to allow the right development to occur in the right places.
- 4.3** Underpinning the plan is an extensive evidence base covering a wide range of considerations that are broader than, as well as just relevant to, the production of the LDP. This is a necessary foundation for the development of plan policies and proposals, and a series of topic and background papers have been produced to summarise this often complex and detailed evidence, to make sense of and explain how elements of the plan link to it.
- 4.4** The deposit LDP has also been informed by clear, open and inclusive public and stakeholder engagement undertaken throughout the key stages of plan preparation. The feedback from this engagement has helped define and refine the direction and content of the Plan.
- 4.5** The basis of the Plan is defined by a vision, strategic objectives and a growth and spatial strategy that embodies the issues and opportunities facing Flintshire. This growth and spatial strategy is explained later in this section.
- 4.6** The deposit LDP also contains and adds to the strategic policies already developed at the Preferred Strategy stage, providing where appropriate further detail to deal directly with specific matters, as well as identifying proposals for development (allocations) or where land should be protected (designations), all of which are illustrated and annotated on the Proposals Map, to be read alongside relevant policies.
- 4.7** The Plan once adopted will be monitored annually and kept under review in order to keep it up to date in relation to changing circumstances and national guidance and policy. An Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) will be produced to measure the effectiveness as the Plan, based on the monitoring framework set out later in the document.

How to Use/Navigate and Interpret the Plan 5

How to Use/Navigate and Interpret the Plan 5

5 How to Use/Navigate and Interpret the Plan

5.1 Rather than follow a traditional topic based approach, as in the UDP, the plan’s policies (strategic and detailed) and proposals are organised within a themed approach comprising the following:

- Creating Sustainable Places and Communities
- Supporting a Prosperous Economy
- Meeting Housing Needs
- Valuing the Environment

5.2 The strategic policies relate to the overarching themes of the plan, and also set the context for translating the strategic objectives into policy proposals and guidance. The strategic policies as written are capable of being used for Development Management (DM) purposes in their own right but are also supported by specific detailed policies and proposals which expand on the criteria contained in the strategic policy. In order to assist navigation and identify linkages between strategic and detailed policies, a “policy context” table is provided after each strategic policy, that signposts to the detailed policies that support it, for example:

STR1: Strategic Growth
In order to meet Flintshire’s economic ambition...
 Policy context

Table 5.1

LDP Objectives	<p>1. Ensuring that Flintshire has the right amount, size, and type of housing to support economic development and to meet a range of housing needs</p> <p>2. Ensure that housing development takes place in sustainable locations where sites are viable and deliverable and are supported by the necessary social, environmental and physical infrastructure.</p> <p>8. Facilitate growth and diversification of the local economy and an increase in skilled high value employment in key sectors</p> <p>9. Support development that positions Flintshire as an economically competitive place and an economic driver for the sub-region</p>
PPW10	<p>Paras 4.2.1 – 4.2.9</p> <p>Paras 5.4.3 – 5.4.8</p>
Well Being Goals	<p>A prosperous Wales</p> <p>A resilient Wales</p>

5 How to Use/Navigate and Interpret the Plan

Key Evidence	PPW Flintshire and Wrexham Employment Land Review Flintshire Further Employment Growth Scenarios Assessment Employment and Housing Advice Population and Household Growth Projections Background Paper Topic Paper 10 – Population, Household Growth and Housing Topic Paper 7 – Spatial Strategy Growth Vision for the Economy of North Wales (2016) North Wales Growth Deal Bid
Monitoring	The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 20 Monitoring.
Detailed Policies	HN1 New Housing Development Proposals PE1 General Employment Land Allocations PE2 Principal Employment Areas

5.3 Strategic Policies are set out in Sections 13-16 of the plan. Whilst detailed policies are cross referenced where relevant from the strategic policies, the general principle of the plan needing to be “read as a whole” will always apply. Detailed policies are set out in Sections 17 - 20 of the plan.

5.4 The plan policies should be read in conjunction with the Proposals Map, which is overlaid on an Ordnance Survey base map and the County divided into logical tiled geographical areas for ease of reference. The Proposals Map identifies the settlement boundaries, site allocations and area designations described in the associated policies and proposals. Individual policies are clearly referenced to the Proposals Map where relevant.

5.5 The Proposals Map also includes the following allocations and designations:

- Housing Sites (Non-strategic) for 10 or more units (these comprise new allocations and commitments i.e. sites with extant planning permission not yet built);
- Strategic sites (mixed use development);
- Town centre boundaries and Primary Shopping Areas;
- Employment sites and Principle Employment Areas;
- Green spaces/grassland structure;

How to Use/Navigate and Interpret the Plan 5

- Minerals safeguarding areas and buffer zones;
- Green barriers;
- Settlement boundaries.

- 5.6** Where designations are determined by other mechanisms or bodies (e.g. Natural Resources Wales (NRW)), these are not shown on the Proposals Map but are instead shown on a Constraints Map available separately. The Constraints Map will be periodically updated as and when new information is provided by the relevant statutory consultee or stakeholder.
- 5.7** The Plan is in line with, but does not duplicate, National Planning Policy and Guidance as, where relevant, this should be sufficient for use for DM purposes. Where reliance is placed on PPW in terms of specific types of development or specific issues, this will be set out in the explanatory text following on from strategic or detailed policies.
- 5.8** Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) will be published separately to the plan and will expand on certain policies providing more detail to aid interpretation. The explanatory text accompanying policies will identify whether SPG exists, need to be updated or needs to be drafted to support policies.

Strategic Context 6

6 Strategic Context

6.1 The plan sits within the framework of relevant National Planning Policy and Guidance, and other regional plans, strategies and proposals. In particular the plan is compliant with or has regard to the following:

a. National context

- Planning Policy Wales Edition 10 (Dec 2018) – amongst other things PPW requires LPAs to show how places are expected to change in land use terms, to facilitate the need for development/growth over the plan period;
- People, Places Futures: The Wales Spatial Plan 2008 – This recognises the important role that Flintshire plays in NE Wales, together with Wrexham and Denbighshire, in making a significant contribution to the Welsh and UK economies;
- Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act, 2015 – This places a duty on all public bodies in Wales to “carry out sustainable development” and to do so with the aim of achieving the seven Well-Being Goals;
- Environment (Wales) Act 2016 – This is important legislation needed to plan for and manage Wales’ national resources in a more proactive, sustainable and joined up manner.

b. Regional Context

- West Cheshire NE Wales Sub Regional Spatial Strategy (2006) – Whilst of its time, this collaborative, cross-border work recognised the lack of relevance of the national boundary where considering how the sub-regional economy functions, and gave Flintshire a principle role as a sub-regional economic hub. Many of its objectives are still relevant as a basis for the LDP, particularly as this partnership working continues as part of the Mersey - Dee Alliance.
- Mersey Dee Alliance (MDA) - The Council is also a key partner in the MDA which was born out of recognition of shared economic, social and environmental interests across the West Cheshire, Wirral and North East Wales area. The Alliance was formed in April 2007 and comprises Cheshire West and Chester, Flintshire, Wrexham and Wirral, together with Chester University, Wrexham Glyndwr University, the Welsh Government and Mersey Travel. Whilst sitting either side of a national boundary, the Mersey Dee Growth region has been recognised as a single economic sub-region, with a population close to 1 million. The MDA’s role is to enhance the profile and identity of the North East Wales / North West England border region and maintain and develop the region’s competitiveness. It has published a number of strategies

6 Strategic Context

including Sub Regional Spatial Strategy (2006- 2021). The recently published Mersey Dee Growth Prospectus – Unlocking Our True Potential sets out the transport infrastructure investment required to unlock the economic growth potential in addition to and complementary to rail investment identified in the Growth Track 360 prospectus. The prospectus identifies Strategic Development sites including Warren Hall and Northern Gateway, due to their strategic locations and potential for significant growth.

- North Wales Economic Ambition Board (Growth Vision & Development Bid) – The North Wales EAB developed a Growth Vision for the economy of North Wales in 2016 aims to:
 - Improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being.
 - Support and retain young people in the region’s communities.
 - Address worklessness and inactivity across the region.
 - Support and enable private sector investment in the region to boost economic productivity and to improve economic and employment performance.
 - These will be delivered through specific plans relating to infrastructure, skills and employment and supporting business growth. As a result the NWEAB was invited to develop a Bid by the UK Government in 2019 for capital funding to support infrastructure development to aid economic growth and the six local authorities, along with the private sector, education and third sectors, who have collaboratively adopted a growth vision for the economy of N. Wales to 2035. The North Wales Growth Vision will create thousands of jobs, boost the economy, improve transport and digital communication links, focus on renewable energy, support tourism and more. In broad terms, the vision is to grow the value of the economy by 2.8% per annum to £20 billion and to create over 120,000 new job opportunities. The Growth Deal bid seeks initial key funding from UK and Welsh Government to invest in key infrastructure enabling development to provide real impetus for the long term vision to be realised. The Bid consists of a series of projects under eight programmes and key projects in Flintshire include supporting strategic employment sites at Warren Hall, Broughton and Northern Gateway, Deeside and delivering an Advance Manufacturing Centre.
- Regional Technical Statement for Aggregates: 1st Review (2014) – The Regional Technical Statement (RTS) 1st Review, was published by the North Wales Regional Aggregates Working Party and sets out the level of need with respect to aggregates across North Wales, in line with the requirements of Minerals Technical Advice Note 1: Aggregates. The RTS recognises the dominance of Wrexham in terms of sand and gravel

Strategic Context 6

supply within the region and seeks to redress the imbalance through allocations in other authority areas. The RTS also sets out an additional need for crushed rock across Flintshire and Wrexham.

c. Local Context

- The Council Plan (2017 – 2023) – This has been prepared by the Public Service Board and sets a number of priorities for 2017-2018, some of which will have land use implications for the LDP: Resilient communities; Sustainable development and environmental management; Safe and sustainable travel services; High performing education; Effective resource management; Business sector growth and regeneration; Appropriate and affordable homes; Modern, efficient and adapted homes; Protecting people from poverty.
- Flintshire Well-Being Assessment (2017) and Plan (2017) - In April 2016 the Flintshire Public Service Board was set up (to replace the Local Service Board) to ensure a continued collaborative and partnership working approach. The Council has published a series of Area Profiles whereby the County was split into seven distinct geographic community areas and a range of information provided for each. The Council has also published its Assessment of Well-being in the form of a full document and summary document. The assessment fed into the Wellbeing Plan which sets out priorities in relation to community safety, economy and skills, environment, healthy and independent living and resilient communities.
- The Deeside Plan (2017) – sets the economic context and ambition for North Wales and the Mersey Dee Alliance (MDA) and outlines how these can be realised and harnessed to benefit people locally in Flintshire. Economic growth is one of the five themes of the plan with a key objective of emphasising Deeside's role as an economic driver for sub-regional employment growth including links to the Northern Power House.

County Profile / Overview 7

7 County Profile / Overview

- 7.1** The County of Flintshire occupies a unique border location in the North East corner of Wales, serving as the principle gateway to the North Wales Region from North West England. Flintshire boasts a significant and prosperous industrial heartland anchored by a vibrant advanced manufacturing sector which is far from typical of other areas in Wales or of the rest of the United Kingdom. The County is recognised nationally as being a key area of employment and economic activity with national and sub-regional importance in Wales but as also having wider economic importance to the North West Sub-Region.
- 7.2** The County is characterised by its diverse towns and villages, large employment parks and attractive rural, upland, estuarine and coastal landscapes. Flintshire benefits from a distinct mix of culture and language which is most apparent in the rural North, South and West as well as the towns of Holywell and Mold. The County comprises clusters of settlements such as the Deeside and Buckley areas, beyond which is a dispersed pattern of towns and villages of varying sizes and traditional and modern characters. Two thirds of the population (almost 100,000 people) live in the East of the County near the English/Welsh border. Outside the main population centres the County is relatively undeveloped and rural in character, with a broad range of important landscapes, diverse habitats and rare species of local, regional, national and international importance such as the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB and the Dee Estuary. Parts of the County are at risk from flooding and parts of the coastal strip bear the legacy of the County's mining and industrial past. The Sealand area is one of the most important agricultural resources in Wales. The County also has a rich built heritage as reflected by its 32 Conservation Areas and 1032 Listed Buildings.
- 7.3** Based on 2014 projections, the County is forecast to increase in population from 154,088 in 2015 to 156,899 in 2030. The population of the County is also ageing and this is a trend which is likely to continue. The bulk of the population is located in the eastern part of the County and along the coastal strip which reflects the key towns of Buckley, Flint, Holywell, Saltney and Mold, and the various settlements which make up what is generally known as 'Deeside'. The spatial pattern of these settlements, together with Deeside Industrial Park, forms the basis of the growth hub or triangle embodied in the Wales Spatial Plan. To illustrate the economic activity in the Flintshire area the 2011 Census recorded significant cross broader commuter flows amounting to one million journeys per month. Significant daily flows are estimated to be 24,000 comprising people coming in to work in North Wales, to Chester and Cheshire, to Merseyside and to Greater Manchester, and 20,000 commuting from North Wales / Flintshire to work outside of the County.

7 County Profile / Overview

- 7.4** Within the County there are key economic drivers which are the Deeside Industrial Park together with key employment parks, the County's town centres and Broughton Shopping Park. The economic focus of the County is located in the Deeside area, and reflects its designation as an Enterprise Zone. This part of the County is a key element in the on-going Growth Deal bid in recognition of the economic importance of North East Wales and North West England. Flintshire has developed as a major economic centre where high value advance manufacturing remains at the heart of the local economy. The Airbus UK plant at Broughton now employs 6,000 people and is an internationally important site which is a key mainstay of the local economy, and there are several other key employers such as Toyota, which together enhance the importance of Flintshire's contribution to the sub-regional and Welsh economies.

Key Issues and Drivers for Change 8

8 Key Issues and Drivers for Change

8 Key Issues and Drivers for Change

- 8.1 Whilst not repeating detailed work and consideration of key issues and options from the pre-deposit (Preferred Strategy) consultation stage, the following summary of key issues and drivers for change helps to explain the basis or starting point for the development, and purpose of the plan's strategy.

Table 8.1

Key Issues and Drivers
The County is seen as an economic driver for the economy of the North East Wales sub – region alongside the West Cheshire and Chester sub-economy, as reflected in the designation of the Enterprise Zone.
The job growth and economic development ambitions for the County should form the basis for identifying and delivering a supporting level of housing development.
The 2011 based Welsh Government household projections underestimate future housing requirements as they are based on a period of economic downturn and should be used only as a starting point, alongside a range of other considerations.
Whether, and the extent to which, the under-delivered housing over the UDP Plan period should feed into the new housing requirement figure.
The County, in conjunction with Wrexham forms a self-contained local housing market area. Although there are key movements in the north east of the County with Chester (which has also been recognised as a self-contained local housing market area and capable of meeting its own housing needs in the Inspector's Report on the Local Plan – Part One) the Plan needs to primarily provide for its own housing needs.
The Wales Spatial Plan identifies a key triangle of growth comprising the Wrexham, Deeside and Chester area.
The County has a number of market towns and a larger urban area focussed on the various settlements comprising Deeside, together with a wider rural hinterland.
The County has extensive areas of brownfield land but this is generally located in and around the River Dee and Dee Estuary, in areas at risk of flooding and / or of international nature conservation importance and this is likely to result in the need for greenfield site allocations.
The County has a range of physical and environmental constraints in the form of the AONB, Dee Estuary and areas at risk of flooding.
The County has an ageing population with particular housing needs and a continuing need for affordable housing and the implications of such a trend longer term in ensuring a supply of skilled labour to meet the needs of modern employers.

Key Issues and Drivers for Change 8

The need to assess the comments of the UDP Inspector who considered that the approach to defining settlement boundaries based on individual settlements rather than identifying urban areas was backward looking and also considered that the time was rapidly approaching whereby a fundamental review of open countryside and green barriers in parts of the County was needed.
The need for new development to be in the most sustainable locations and bring with it necessary infrastructure improvements.
The need for new housing sites to be viable and deliverable in terms of contributing to housing land supply and other Plan objectives.
The need for some development in rural communities to help retain service provision.
The provision of affordable housing to meet evidenced local needs and to continue to do this in an innovative and flexible manner.

- 8.2** In summary, Flintshire is a key gateway to Wales and an important part of a regional economic hub that transcends the national border. Flintshire is working collaboratively with its partners on either side for the border, with the North Wales Economic Ambition Board (NWEAB) on the Growth Vision and Growth Deal Bid, and with the MDA, to develop and promote a growth ambition that Flintshire can make a significant contribution to. The plan's role in a land use sense, is to help facilitate this contribution balancing aspiration with the realistic ability to deliver, as far as a plan can do this. It can also provide key infrastructure to support economic growth and an important component of this is provision of sufficient and sustainable opportunities to facilitate the delivery of new housing by the development industry, in line with market demand.
- 8.3** The plan must of course make such provision in an appropriate manner, in relation to location and type in order to both support the economic growth ambition, but at the same time providing for the housing needs of Flintshire. A challenge for the plan, even though mostly beyond its direct ability to control, is the need to 'ensure' deliverability of new housing, which must also be equally referenced in terms of market demand, completion rates and trends, and the ability and capacity of developers to deliver. Despite the positive efforts that the Council has made to work closely with developers locally on potential allocations, it is only when developers are required by the Welsh Government to properly evidence this aspect of housing 'delivery' from an industry perspective, will the full and correct position be clear.
- 8.4** Whilst a strategic economic focus for the plan is therefore the 'growth zone (triangle)' referenced in the WSP between Deeside, Wrexham and Chester, this should not be at the expense of planning for the remainder of the plan

8 Key Issues and Drivers for Change

area. The Plan needs to ensure that the benefits of economic growth can be made available to people in sustainable settlements and locations throughout the plan area.

- 8.5** Taking account therefore of the strategic context, the broad sub-regional growth ambition and the key issues and drivers for change, the plan has been prepared in this context to ensure that, in a land use sense, social, economic and environmental change is managed in a sensible and sustainable manner, and in the interests of the Well-Being of Flintshire's communities.
- 8.6** Looking forward to 2030 then, and in planning to help facilitate the economic growth ambition of the Council, the challenges that the plan must respond to are:

Table 8.2

In Flintshire, we need to plan for:
The needs of a growing but ageing population with specific housing needs, and a general need for more affordable housing.
The need to ensure a supply of diversely skilled labour to meet the job growth and economic ambitions of the County.
A strong and prosperous economy, that acts as a driver and hub for the wider economic sub-region.
Supporting infrastructure, including housing, to meet this growth ambition.
A mix and type of housing to meet the range of needs and aspirations of communities.
The need to locate development in the most sustainable locations, and for it to be viable and deliverable.
The need for some development in rural communities to help retain community vitality.
Development that is functional, well designed, reduces its carbon footprint, and mitigates and adapts to climate change.
Sustainable and cohesive communities, recognising the role and function of our urban area, market towns, villages, and rural hamlets within the sustainable settlement hierarchy, and the relationships between them.
Improved transport infrastructure and facilities which offer improved modal choice and accessibility to communities.

Key Issues and Drivers for Change 8

The protection and enhancement of our natural, built, and historic environment, its character, quality and diversity, and local distinctiveness.

Opportunities for the people in our communities to lead active, healthy, safe and secure lives.

Forming the Plan's Strategy from This Context 9

Forming the Plan’s Strategy from This Context 9

9 Forming the Plan’s Strategy from This Context

- 9.1 The LDP vision plays an important role in defining the main purpose of the Plan and in doing so, sets the framework against which the Preferred Strategy and subsequent detailed policies are developed. The vision distils the main priorities and drivers summarised above for Flintshire, as well as drawing on the priorities set by national policy and other relevant local strategies.
- 9.2 A draft vision supported by strategic objectives have already been the subject of community and stakeholder engagement and consultation via the Key Messages document in the Spring of 2016, and the feedback received from this has influenced the final vision and objectives presented below. These have also been the subject of the Integrated Impact Assessment (Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment) process (IIA/SA/SEA).
- 9.3 The LDP’s vision is:

Statement 1

LDP Vision

“The LDP is about people and places. It seeks to achieve a sustainable and lasting balance which provides for the economic, social, and environmental needs of Flintshire and its residents, through realising its unique position as a regional gateway and area for economic investment, whilst protecting its strong historic and cultural heritage”.

- 9.4 A number of strategic objectives have been developed to translate the vision into a framework which defines the broad focus for the plan. The objectives are clear statements of intent which focus in on how the LDP vision will be delivered. Like the vision, they take the key challenges facing the County and align them with the three themes of sustainable development:

Table 9.1

Strategic Objectives Themes:
Enhancing Community Life
Delivering Growth and Prosperity
Safeguarding the Environment

- 9.5 One of the key challenges of producing a sustainable Plan is to ensure that a reasonable balance is achieved between these elements of sustainability. A key part of this challenge is the Page 167

9 Forming the Plan's Strategy from This Context

that will arise from such a broad ranging set of Plan objectives, for example protecting high quality agricultural land whilst at the same time providing development opportunities beyond established settlement boundaries. This process has been aided by consideration of the objectives via the Integrated Impact Assessment (SA/SEA) process, the outcome of which has been used to refine the objectives and reduce the areas of potential conflict. The objectives will also form part of the basis for monitoring the implementation of the Plan, once adopted and operational.

9.6 The LDP Objectives are defined as follows:

Table 9.2

Enhancing Community Life	
1.	Ensure communities have access to a mix of services and facilities, such as education and health, to allow community life to flourish, and meet the needs of particular groups such as the elderly.
2.	Encourage the development of town and district centres as the focus for regeneration.
3.	Promote a sustainable and safe transport system that reduces reliance on the car.
4.	Facilitate the provision of necessary transport, utility and social / community infrastructure.
5.	Facilitate the sustainable management of waste.
6.	Protecting and supporting the Welsh Language.
7.	Create places that are safe, accessible and encourage and support good health, well-being and equality.
Delivering Growth and Prosperity	
8.	Facilitate growth and diversification of the local economy and an increase in skilled high value employment in key sectors.
9.	Support development that positions Flintshire as an economically competitive place and an economic driver for the sub-region.
10.	Redefine the role and function of Flintshire's town centres as vibrant destinations for shopping, leisure, culture, learning, business and transport.

Forming the Plan's Strategy from This Context 9

11.	Ensuring that Flintshire has the right amount, size, and type of new housing to support economic development and to meet a range of housing needs.
12.	Ensure that housing development takes place in sustainable locations where sites are viable and deliverable and are supported by the necessary social, environmental and physical infrastructure.
13.	Promote and enhance a diverse and sustainable rural economy.
14.	Support the provision of sustainable tourism development.
Safeguarding the Environment	
15.	Minimise the causes and impacts of climate change and pollution.
16.	Conserve and enhance Flintshire's high quality environmental assets including landscape, cultural heritage and natural and built environments.
17.	Maintain and enhance green infrastructure networks.
18.	Promote good design that is locally distinct, innovative and sensitive to location.
19.	Support the safeguarding and sustainable use of natural resources such as water and promote the development of brownfield land.

9.7 The intentions of the Strategic Objectives above are picked up and defined into implementable policy by the strategic policies in sections 13-16 of the plan. The 'policy context' section at the end of each strategic policy explanation, highlights the plan's objectives that the strategic policy aims to achieve, as well as the detailed policies that link from these.

The Growth Strategy of the Plan 10

10 The Growth Strategy of the Plan

10.1 A principal function of the plan is to determine how much growth it should make provision for, particularly in relation to housing, but also in relation to employment or jobs. The assessment of the appropriate level of growth for each type of development is quite different, with the assessment of the housing requirement being far more prescribed and scrutinised than for employment provision. Whilst both types of development essentially require the intervention of the market to bring forward investment and growth, again these are quite different interventions.

10.1 Employment Growth

10.2 Unlike national population and household projections, there are no national equivalents for projected job growth. Notwithstanding this, PPW places important emphasis on 'economic development' in supporting activities that generate wealth, jobs and incomes. The main emphasis in PPW is that "the growth of output and employment in Wales as a whole is not constrained by a shortage of land for economic use" (Para 5.4.1).

10.3 In line with PPW the Council has carried out an Employment Land Review (2016), jointly with the neighbouring Local Authority, Wrexham. This identified landbanks specific to each local authority, assessed existing land supply in terms of its fitness for purpose, and presented projections of sector based job growth, based on prevailing market conditions.

10.4 Given Flintshire's gateway location and established role as a sub-regional economic hub, planning policies for economic development have for the last 25 years or so focused on providing developers with scope to make choices about where to locate investment. As a consequence, Flintshire has a broad range of established employment sites and Principle Employment Areas that together add up to a comprehensive employment land portfolio.

10.5 Notwithstanding this established pattern of employment land availability, the Employment Land Review has assessed all land within the portfolio (including sites with planning permission) in terms of its continued availability, attractiveness to the market, contribution to choice, and whether there are any suitable/preferable alternative uses for the land. The Review concluded that the portfolio of sites/land in Flintshire were fit for purpose and/or there were no preferable/suitable alternative uses that should warrant the de-allocation of the land for employment purposes.

10.6 The ELR did not indicate a significant need for new employment land or significant potential for job growth. This is perhaps not unsurprising given the trend periods coincided with a significant and prolonged economic recessionary period in the UK/globally. Given the sub-regional ambition for growth and investment (including jobs) and Flintshire's commitment to this,

10 The Growth Strategy of the Plan

these low levels of growth indicated by the evidence base do not in any way represent a growth ambition within the County, or a meaningful contribution to the wider ambitions of the sub-region.

- 10.7** Given that the work involved in putting together the North Wales Economic Ambition Board (NWEAB) Growth Vision and Growth Deal Bid to the UK and Welsh Government involved the identification of key strategic sites, within Flintshire there are two strategic sites where outline consent already exists at Northern Gateway, Deeside and Warren Hall, Broughton. Both sites have already been allocated as part of the LDP Preferred Strategy in order to focus attention on these sites and to bring them forward to deliver the growth committed to them.
- 10.8** Whilst the Plan's job target of 8-10,000 jobs is ambitious in the context of job projections scenarios prepared for the Council, it is not that far in excess of the upper projection (7,200) to raise concerns about deliverability, remembering the difficulties of predicting such levels precisely. Whilst the Council's target could be provided by the potential capacity of the strategic sites, the policy of maintaining a large and varied employment land portfolio provides the safeguard to expect that for the economy as a whole, such a job target is achievable and deliverable over the plan period. Another role for the strategic sites is to act as a stimulus or catalyst for growth in general given their location within the Deeside Enterprise Zone, the Deeside Triangle referred to in WSP, and in terms of their location in proximity to other key sites within the employment land portfolio. This job growth ambition is also set in the context of the North Wales Growth Vision to create 120,000 jobs by 2035.
- 10.9** Compared to the projected employment land need in the Employment Land Review of 28.5ha and the forecast job growth/employment land need of 7,200 jobs/50.6 hectares of employment land identified by the Further Employment Growth Scenarios Assessment work, the target is deliberately more aspirational in order to reflect Flintshire's role as a sub-regional economic hub, contributor to the Growth Vision and also as a major contributor to output and growth in the Welsh economy as a whole. In relation to achieving the target, a further benefit of having a comprehensive employment land portfolio to support the strategic site commitments, is that the Plan does not need to identify 'new' land or sites, and therefore is not in conflict with key sustainability issues such as ecology, flood risk, ALC, and general environmental impacts. The emphasis in the strategy is on ensuring that already committed sites deliver their job potential hence focussing on sites within or adjacent to the DEZ, and why the Growth Deal bid incorporates significant requests for enabling funding to assist sites coming forward.
- 10.10** The ELR has also looked at the existing extent of the employment land portfolio from the perspective of identifying potential suitable alternative uses for some of the sites/locations within the portfolio. With the exception of sites already developed, or with constraints, or sites likely to be held for the

The Growth Strategy of the Plan 10

expansion of individual firms or proposed for alternative (non B-Class) uses such as Maes Gwern in Mold, Flintshire's portfolio of sites/land is not suitable for other uses such as housing, due to its location away from existing settlements, the degree to which the sites are already established employment areas, and the existence of constraints such as flood risk. Given that most of the portfolio is therefore already part of long standing established employment sites and locations, there is technically no 'over-provision' of employment land in the plan.

10.2 Housing Growth and its Sustainable Location

- 10.11** In terms of determining housing growth in the Plan, national policy is more specific/prescriptive in relation to this. Whilst PPW talks broadly about not constraining economic development through a lack of land supply, in terms of housing it requires LPAs to have a clear understanding of the factors influencing housing requirements in their area over the Plan period. PPW also requires very specifically in para 4.2.15 that an LPA must maintain a minimum 5 year supply of housing land, although the basis for and methodology for determining this is currently subject to review.
- 10.12** PPW also advises that reference should be made to the latest Welsh Government Population and Household Projections in determining the appropriate housing requirement for the Plan, alongside consideration of the outcomes of the LPA's latest Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA). The LDP Manual also advises that as part of the plan making process, the housing requirement figure or housing growth level should be arrived at through the consideration of different growth options, in order to arrive at the most sustainable or preferred option.
- 10.13** For housing these 'options' involved looking at the appropriateness of different levels of growth, as well as different approaches to distributing this growth spatially. The growth options considered were part of the consultation on the Strategic Options. The outcome of this process is central to the Plan as it sets the context for identifying the amount of development land that is required, as well as the most sustainable places to allocate this land. Whilst this is a matter of planning judgement, this has to be informed by the main purpose of the Plan, set out by the vision and strategic objectives, as well as the context and evidence for how the housing can be delivered.
- 10.14** In terms of growth options, these are informed by demographic trends and projections and the effect of different assumptions in producing options. A further consideration is the ability of the market and development industry to deliver the development that the Plan will make provision for. This is a judgement call as there are external influences that are beyond the control of the Plan or the Local Planning Authority. These influences include the economic conditions prevailing, availability of development finance, or the capacity of local and regional developers to respond to the provision made by the Plan, set against a local land bank as well as a significant amount of

10 The Growth Strategy of the Plan

land being made available by Flintshire's neighbours, in England and Wales, at a similar point in time. The key is to ensure that growth is ultimately viable and deliverable and in feedback from a number of developers operating locally to the Strategic Growth Options, there was a general consensus that the higher growth options were not appropriate or achievable.

- 10.15** In terms of the sustainable distribution of this growth, the Plan has identified a framework or hierarchy of sustainable settlements based on a comprehensive set of settlement audits. A range of spatial options were considered as to their appropriateness in bringing about a sustainable pattern of development and growth. This is again based on the drivers that influence the vision and strategic objectives of the Plan, which focus on the needs of Flintshire's economy and communities, balanced against the need to respect and protect the environment and ensure the well-being of Flintshire's current and future generations.
- 10.16** Growth and spatial options have been developed and tested that are considered to be both realistic and sustainable. These have been the subject of engagement and consultation as part of the Strategic Options consultation carried out in late 2016. These options were presented with no preference identified by the Council for any particular option, instead presenting the key assumptions and evidence behind each, as well as highlighting 'pros and cons' for each, to give guidance on the factors that may be used to judge each option. The feedback from this consultation has been assessed and used to develop a consensus view to feedback into the Council's decision making process, to assist in selecting its preferred option, as set out in the Council's Preferred Strategy published in November 2017. The growth and spatial options considered are set out in summary tables below:

Table 10.1

Growth Options				
Option	Explanation	Household Growth	Households to Dwellings	Annual Figure
1	2011 based 10 year migration trend	3,600	3,750	250
2	2014 based 15 year migration trend	4,650	4,800	320
3	2014 based 15 year migration trend – 2008 headship rates	8,000	8,250	550
4	2014 based 10 year highest migration trend	6,400	6,600	440

The Growth Strategy of the Plan 10

5	2014 based 10 year highest migration trend – 2008 headship rates	10,050	10,350	690
6	Employment-led projection 8-10,000 new jobs	6,350-7,100	6,550 – 7,350	440 - 490

Table 10.2

Spatial Options			
Option	Spatial Option	Explanation	Spatial Expression / Settlements Affected
1	Proportional Distribution	Utilising the settlement hierarchy to allow for a proportional distribution of development	Based on the 5 tier settlement hierarchy.
2	Focussed Urban Growth	Directing all development to urban centres i.e. the upper two tiers of the settlement hierarchy	Based on the top 2 tiers of the 5 tier settlement hierarchy.
3	Growth Area	Development focused by directing all development based on a rigid definition of the growth area triangle embodied in the Wales Spatial Plan.	Based on delineating a boundary in map form which is based on the growth area triangle in the Wales Spatial Plan.
4	Hubs and Corridors, Settlements along Transport Routes	Development distributed based on a strict interpretation of key road and rail transport hubs and routes.	Based on identifying the settlements at key strategic transport hubs and on corridors and would focus on both public transport and key roads.
5	Sustainable Distribution plus Refined Approach to Rural Settlements	Development focused on the first three tiers of the settlement hierarchy, based on identifying the most sustainable settlements and sites. In rural settlements a more refined policy approach would be developed to ensure a more flexible approach is taken to delivering local needs housing.	Based on the first three tiers of the settlement hierarchy.

10.17 A principal element of the Plan is to determine how much growth the Plan should make provision for, particularly in relation to housing. Local demographic, housing and economic information has been used to derive the six different growth options, based on realistic and sustainable projection

10 The Growth Strategy of the Plan

scenarios. The first of these options comprised the latest Welsh Government population and household projections (2011) for Flintshire at that time, which the Council is required to use as a starting point for considering future growth.

- 10.18** That said, the latest Welsh Government household projections showed in general, and particularly for Flintshire, a low level of population and household growth given their use of negative recession-based trend data, and were accompanied by Ministerial guidance advising authorities like Flintshire not to project recessionary trends forward throughout their plan periods. Whilst updated Welsh Government projections (2014 based) indicate slightly higher household growth than the 2011 figures, this can easily be accommodated within the options generated for assessment.
- 10.19** The Council recognises that to simply rely on a relatively low level of projected household growth would not provide a sound basis to develop and support the growth ambition for the LDP, triggered by the need for economic recovery and job growth, capitalising on Flintshire's location and role in the local and wider sub-regional economy. This is recognised through Flintshire's Enterprise Zone status, its pivotal role in both the North Wales Economic Ambition Board, as well as the ongoing cross-border collaborative ambition to highlight the growth opportunities in the wider Mersey Dee sub region, and the links and role they can play in supporting the Northern Powerhouse principle and Growth Vision.
- 10.20** Similarly, evidence from Flintshire's Employment Land Review, carried out jointly with Wrexham, does not provide reasonable or positive assessments of employment land need or job growth to support Flintshire's economic status or ambition, again due to the sector based projections of need relating to the recessionary period, with commensurate flat or negative growth trends in key sectors. The strategy instead highlights key employment sites in Flintshire, which are central to the North Wales and Sub-regional Growth Ambitions, and focusses on ensuring their delivery through the Plan period, identifying the level of jobs that will be created and the level of housing needed to support that level of growth.
- 10.21** Five of the six options that have been the subject of engagement and consultation are demographic based projections, where projected population growth is then converted into household growth, and then into dwellings. The options have been derived by varying key assumptions about migration levels and household formation rates. The sixth option is employment led and has been derived by projecting the population, households and dwellings required to produce a job growth ranging between 8,000 and 10,000 jobs. This range derives from follow up work (Flintshire Further Employment Growth Scenarios Assessment) relating to the Employment Land Review, where, guided by job growth projection scenarios, the likely job yield has been calculated from two key strategic employment sites that are part of Flintshire's sub-regional growth ambition and that the plan aims to ensure are delivered during the plan period. Whilst not derived from projections, this range is only

The Growth Strategy of the Plan 10

just above the upper job forecast and aims to reflect Flintshire's contribution to the Growth Vision for the North Wales economy to create 120,000 jobs by 2035. A separate Background Paper: Population and Household Projections, which accompanied the Strategic Options consultation, is available which explains the projections in more detail. Furthermore, a separate background paper summarises and explains how the growth and spatial options were derived and assessed, in order to arrive at the preferred growth and spatial option, is also available as part of the Preferred Strategy documentation.

The Preferred Strategy 11

11 The Preferred Strategy

11.1 The Plan’s Preferred Strategy has been developed with reference to the following:

- The Vision and Strategic Objectives;
- National Policy and Guidance;
- The Regional and Local context and main issues;
- The assessment of growth and spatial options;
- Pre-deposit consultation and engagement;
- The LDP evidence base;
- An understanding of Flintshire’s development pressures and context, including an assessment of settlement capacity.

11.2 The Strategy aims to promote economic development and the County’s contribution to the wider regional economic Growth Vision, with the need to enable the delivery of jobs, homes and where necessary, infrastructure, required to accommodate this growth sustainably. Whilst the details of the approach taken to assessing the Plan’s growth level and spatial strategy are documented in Preferred Strategy background papers, the main elements of the strategy are:

Table 11.1

Jobs Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain an employment land portfolio of 139.67 hectares to reflect Flintshire’s strategic location, historical pattern of development, and provision of a choice of investment opportunities. • Aim to facilitate Flintshire’s contribution to the regional Growth Vision job creation aspiration, by enabling 8-10,000 jobs to be created.
Housing Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring a housing land supply to provide for 7,950 dwellings to meet an LDP housing requirement of 6,950 dwellings. • This requirement is derived from the employment led growth option and provides sufficient housing to support economic growth. • This equates to an average build rate of 463 dwellings per annum over the Plan period. In comparison, the average annual build rate over the last 10 years has been 427, and 573 over the last 5 years. Completions in the first three years of the Plan period have averaged 563 (1,691 in total), showing that the Plan is on track in terms of enabling delivery.

11 The Preferred Strategy

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is capacity for a further 1771 dwellings on sites with planning permission (commitments) which are either under construction or expected to be delivered within 5 years. • The Plan makes modest allowances for windfall and small sites development and the evidence base shows that greater potential capacity exists here. • Whilst the residual requirement for new sites is 879, the Plan has allocated 1,874 dwellings on sustainable new sites, providing as a consequence for an overall flexibility of 14.4%. This is a generous over-provision and will help ensure the overall deliverability of the Plan's housing requirement.
Spatial Strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Plan has chosen a sustainable and flexible approach to distributing growth in the upper three tiers of the sustainable settlement hierarchy, within the main and local service centres, as well as the sustainable villages. • Part of the approach to enabling growth has been to allocate sufficient sites to provide a range of choice of viable development options, whilst also ensuring that the significant land bank of undelivered permissions is also brought forward. Whilst the Plan also has two strategic site allocations with significant elements of housing, the Plan is not over-reliant on these, and in any event a significant element of delivery of housing on the larger of the two sites at Northern Gateway is imminent via two applications for large phases of housing. The Plan's aim of a 15% flexibility allowance will also help balance this strategic commitment. • The spatial strategy comprising two strategic sites and a range of smaller housing allocations is considered to sit comfortably alongside the spatial strategy of Chester West and Chester Council which includes a strategic mixed use development at Wrexham Road, Chester and that of Wrexham County Borough Council which includes two strategic allocations at Wrexham town and a range of smaller housing allocations.
Managing Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Barriers (wedges) have been reviewed and designated to strategically manage growth and urban form, and to fulfil their role in maintaining the openness of the area they cover.
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council has worked with infrastructure providers in the development of the Plan to ensure that there is sufficient capacity to accommodate growth, or that capacity

The Preferred Strategy 11

	can be increased, how, and when, in order for development to take place.
Deliverability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The sites allocated in the plan to provide for growth are also deliverable, having been independently assessed in terms of their viability. There are therefore no barriers to deliverability within the Plan, and it will be for the development industry to respond positively to the opportunities offered by the Plan.

- 11.3 Whilst the focus of the strategy is on enabling job growth in support of the local and regional Growth Vision, this is adequately supported by a significant but realistic level of housing provision, which is sustainable and deliverable.
- 11.4 Whilst there is a relationship between these two elements of growth, they are not so intertwined in terms of dependence, that the Plan cannot deliver one without the other. The nature of the respective provision for each within the Strategy is such that employment investment and jobs can be generated from a number of sources within the employment land portfolio, and in terms of housing a generous over-provision in addition to a higher than projected requirement, ensures ample choice and viability of deliverable sites for the development industry to respond to.
- 11.5 To support the delivery of this Strategy, the Plan sets out clear policies and proposals aimed at defining how the growth envisaged by the Plan should take place, and where. Part of this has involved the identification of sustainable sites that also already have a significant degree of developer commitment or interest, which can only add to the certainty of their delivery.
- 11.6 The Strategy as far as it can, has included an assessment of the capacity of infrastructure to accommodate the planned growth. It is also the role of the Plan to guide and inform infrastructure providers about where development will happen, in order that they can plan from their perspectives as key statutory undertakers for the consequences of that growth on the services they need to provide.
- 11.7 Developers also have a responsibility to ensure that the impacts that new development has both on a community and the infrastructure that supports it, is adequately and reasonably mitigated for, as part of bringing development forward.
- 11.8 An Infrastructure Plan has been produced to accompany the LDP, which documents the capacity of the various infrastructure required to support development, as well as the requirements and mechanisms needed to increase this capacity where necessary. The detail of this will be developed

11 The Preferred Strategy

as part of the Plan process and at the development management stage of delivery. This will include the respective roles that CIL and S106 agreements can play, once the Plan is adopted.

- 11.9** The Plan has also been prepared with a view to minimising the impacts of the planned growth on the area's environmental assets. The Plan not only seeks to protect the natural environment but where possible enhance this through a sustainable approach to development. The Plan also seeks to support the maintenance and enhancement of a green infrastructure network both locally and strategically, recognising the shared benefits of this to biodiversity, amenity, well-being and climate change.

Strategic Policies 12

12 Strategic Policies

12 Strategic Policies

Introduction

12.1 Following the summary of the preferred strategy as set out above, this section of the Plan sets out the Strategic Policies which form the framework for implementing and delivering the Council's Preferred Strategy as well as acting as a the basis for specific policies, allocations and designations in sections 13-16 of the Plan. The Strategic Policies that follow, are logically grouped according to the three elements of Sustainable Development - Community, Economy (which is further subdivided into employment growth and housing growth) and the Environment. The four sections of the Preferred Strategy that define the Council's Strategic Policies are therefore:

- Creating Sustainable Places and Communities
- Supporting a Prosperous Economy
- Meeting Housing Needs
- Valuing the Environment

12.2 It is inevitable that there will be a degree of overlap between the themes and policies; they need to be read in conjunction with one another in order to gain an understanding of the overall policy direction of the Plan. Each section highlights the relevant strategic policy, the reasoned justification for the policy and the summary table at the end of the strategic policies provides a link back to the relevant LDP objectives. It also provides a link to and framework for the detailed policies.

12.3 The Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015, places a duty on all public bodies to 'carry out sustainable development' in order to achieve the Well Being goals of:

- A prosperous Wales;
- A resilient Wales;
- A healthier Wales;
- A more equal Wales;
- A Wales of cohesive communities;
- A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language; and
- A globally responsible Wales.

12.4 Public bodies must also apply the Five Ways of Working as detailed below:

- Collaboration - Acting in collaboration with any other person (or different parts of the body itself) that could help the body to meet its well-being objectives.
- Prevention - How acting to prevent problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives.

Strategic Policies 12

- Involvement - The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area which the body serves.
- Long term - The importance of balancing short-term needs with the needs to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.
- Integration - Considering how the public body's well-being objectives may impact upon each of the well-being goals, on their objectives, or on the objectives of other public bodies

12.5 The LDP links into these goals and provides a policy context that allows for the goals to be met. Each strategic policy is therefore cross-referenced to these Wellbeing Goals which relate most to its purpose and implementation. The strategic and detailed policies together, work towards achieving the Placemaking goals within PPW10 in terms of sustainable development, the objectives of good design, and places which in turn contribute to well-being, by creating places where people want to live, work and play (para 2.3 PPW10).

12.6 The approach to defining the spatial strategy and the choice of development allocations in conjunction with the strategic and detailed policies has also ensured that the 5 Key Planning Principles are achieved in terms of 'Achieving the Right Development in the Right Place'. These are set out below:

- Growing our economy in a sustainable manner.
- Making best use of resources.
- Facilitating accessible and healthy environments.
- Creating and sustaining communities.
- Maximizing environmental protection and limiting environmental impact

12.7 These relate closely to the structure developed for the Plan, which was drafted for the Preferred Strategy in advance of, but in anticipation of PPW10.

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities**Introduction**

- 13.1** The creation of sustainable places is an important principle that underpins the strategy of the LDP. Sustainable places are created from a balance of environmentally friendly, economically vibrant, and socially inclusive characteristics, that aim to benefit not only current inhabitants but also future generations.
- 13.2** The aim of such places is that they:
- Meet the needs of all members of their community;
 - Provide access to opportunities;
 - Make available services, infrastructure, and support;
 - Provide a range of quality, affordable housing;
 - Are resilient and adaptable to change;
 - Comprise high quality development and spaces;
 - Are distinctive and have a sense of place;
 - Are attractive, sociable, accessible, active, secure, welcoming, healthy and friendly;
 - Have considered global through to local issues and considerations;
 - Consider the context, function and relationships between a development site and its wider surroundings.
- 13.3** In seeking to create such places that are sustainable both now and into the future, it has to be acknowledged that some places have more potential than others to be sustainable. That is why the Plan has sought to identify and differentiate between the sustainability of places by developing its sustainable settlement hierarchy. This reflects Flintshire's historical and functional pattern of settlement and seeks to achieve more sustainable places in a number of ways. As such, in this section the Plan:
- Directs the majority of development to places that already have good infrastructure, services and facilities, or where this capacity can be provided, specifically through strategic policies:
 - i. STR1 Strategic Growth
 - ii. STR2 The Location of Development
 - iii. STR3 Strategic Sites
 - This does not ignore the need for sensitive development in rural locations in order to maintain communities and their future cohesion, and meet locally specific needs for growth and development. This approach to

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

rural development sits alongside the main focus for the spatial distribution of development in the first three tiers of the settlement hierarchy;

- Ensures that all development is well designed and helps deliver more sustainable places, specifically through strategic policies:
 - i. STR4 Principles of Sustainable Development and Design
 - ii. STR5 Transport and accessibility
 - iii. STR6 Services, Facilities, and Infrastructure

13.4 These policies are aimed at facilitating the delivery of all of the Plan's strategic objectives, whilst at the same time providing broad conformity with the range of Well-Being Goals.

13.5 Each of the strategic policies is accompanied by a cross reference to the relevant detailed policies. For ease of reference the relevant detailed policies are grouped under the same 'Creating Sustainable Places and Communities' theme in section 17. The relevant policies are:

- PC1: The Relationship of Development to Settlement Boundaries
- PC2: General Requirements for Development
- PC3: Design
- PC4: Sustainability and Resilience of New Development
- PC5: Transport and Accessibility
- PC6: Active Travel
- PC7: Passenger Transport
- PC8: Airport Safeguarding Zone
- PC9: Protection of Disused Railway Lines
- PC10: New Transport Schemes
- PC11: Mostyn Docks
- PC12: Community Facilities

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

Policy 1**STR1: Strategic Growth**

In order to meet Flintshire's economic ambition between 2015 and 2030, the Plan will make provision for:

- i. 8,000 – 10,000 new jobs;
- ii. 139.67 hectares of employment land;
- iii. 7,950 new homes to meet a housing requirement of 6,950.

The focus of this development will be at sustainable employment locations and in accordance with the sustainable settlement hierarchy and spatial distribution strategy.

Explanation

- 13.6** The LDP is focused on promoting and enhancing Flintshire's role as an economic hub and driver for growth both locally, regionally, and in a national context. The strategy is therefore deliberately focused on supporting employment growth, based around the need to secure continued economic recovery and resilience following a severe period of economic recession and austerity, an uncertain post-Brexit future, and to contribute to regional growth ambitions. It is about taking control of the County's future prospects and economic destiny, by creating the conditions in a land use context, to allow for growth and investment to occur.
- 13.7** The Council has defined this economic ambition via an intention to create a achievable level of new jobs over the plan period. This is based on Flintshire's strategic location and role as a sub-regional economic hub, the attractiveness of this to workers and investors, a wider recognition of the economic importance of Flintshire demonstrated for example by its Enterprise Zone status, and not least the availability of key strategic employment sites that need to be enabled to fulfil their potential.
- 13.8** Flintshire's economic aspirations are also important in the twin regional contexts that Flintshire sits between:
- Flintshire is key to the North Wales Growth Vision, North Wales Economic Ambition and the North Wales Growth Deal Bid, which are Growth Deal bid being jointly promoted supported by all of the North Wales Local Authorities. The Bid has been developed in support of the Growth Vision, which sought to create a single and ambitious programme for economic and employment growth in the region which seeks to deliver

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

strategic sites and infrastructure, based around employment, housing, and sustainable transport;

- Because of the economic role it fulfils with its neighbours in the North West of England, as part of the Mersey Dee Alliance, Flintshire is committed to ensuring that it can and should play its part in attracting strategic infrastructure funding and investment to support the mutual ambition being expressed.

13.9 The level of job growth therefore defines the strategy and sets the context for ensuring that sufficient housing is provided (above that projected by Welsh Government) to support the strategy aims. This is a robust and sensible approach for two reasons: firstly the provision of houses, whilst meeting a need for homes per se, is part of the infrastructure required to support and facilitate the achievement of economic growth; secondly, reliance on Welsh Government household projections to set a housing led strategy would fall short of providing the necessary homes to support the economic growth ambition. This is because the projected trends are low for Flintshire, based as they are on a recessionary period, and do not reflect a sufficiently positive intent over the plan period. This also places housing in a proportionate context as a Plan issue, rather than allowing it, as it often does, from becoming the sole or dominant development plan issue.

13.10 The ambition reflected in this strategic approach is also intended to be deliverable. Whether through the evidence gained from the Employment Land Review and supplementary work, or the development of a sustainable settlement hierarchy, the Plan aims to recognise the role Flintshire’s urban and rural areas can play in delivering this strategy. This will also require a partnership approach between the Council, Government, infrastructure providers, developers and investors, and communities to allow this to happen.

Policy Context

Table 13.1

<p>LDP Objectives</p>	<p>1. Ensuring that Flintshire has the right amount, size, and type of housing to support economic development and to meet a range of housing needs</p> <p>2. Ensure that housing development takes place in sustainable locations where sites are viable and deliverable and are supported by the necessary social, environmental and physical infrastructure.</p> <p>8. Facilitate growth and diversification of the local economy and an increase in skilled high value employment in key sectors</p>
-----------------------	--

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

	9. Support development that positions Flintshire as an economically competitive place and an economic driver for the sub-region
PPW10	Paras 4.2.1 – 4.2.9 Paras 5.4.3 – 5.4.8
Well Being Goals	A prosperous Wales A resilient Wales
Key Evidence	PPW Flintshire and Wrexham Employment Land Review Flintshire Further Employment Growth Scenarios Assessment Employment and Housing Advice (2019) Population and Household Growth Projections Background Paper Housing Land Supply Background Paper Topic Paper 10 – Population, Household Growth and Housing Topic Paper 7 – Spatial Strategy Growth Vision for the Economy of North Wales (2016) North Wales Growth Deal Bid
Monitoring	The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.
Detailed Policies	HN1 New Housing Development Proposals PE1 General Employment Land Allocations PE2 Principal Employment Areas

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

Policy 2**STR2: The Location of Development****New development will be directed to the following locations:**

- i. **Allocated Sites;**
- ii. **Principal Employment Areas as detailed in policy PE2;**
- iii. **Sustainable settlements based on the first three tiers of the settlement hierarchy, as detailed in the attached table:**
 - a. **Tier 1 - Main Service Centres** will be the main locations for new housing development which reinforces and contributes to sustainable settlements. Provision will include:
 - i. Allocations
 - ii. Windfall market housing
 - iii. Affordable housing on sites above an area / units threshold
 - b. **Tier 2 - Local Service Centres** will be the locations for more modest levels of new housing development. Provision will include:
 - i. Allocations
 - ii. Windfall market housing
 - iii. Affordable housing on sites above an area / units threshold
 - iv. Small Scale Exceptions Schemes for Affordable Housing adjoining settlement boundaries
 - c. **Tier 3 - Sustainable Villages** will be the locations for housing development related to the scale, character and role of the settlement. Provision will include:
 - i. Allocations
 - ii. Windfall market housing
 - iii. Affordable housing on sites above an area / units threshold
 - iv. Small Scale Exceptions Schemes for Affordable Housing adjoining settlement boundaries
 - d. **In Tier 4 Defined Villages** housing development will only be permitted within settlement boundaries related to the scale, character and role of the settlement and which delivers local needs affordable housing. Provision will include:
 - i. Windfall market housing (only permitted when essential to delivering affordable housing)
 - ii. Small Scale Exceptions Schemes for Affordable Housing adjoining settlement boundaries

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

- e. **In Tier 5 Undefined villages** housing development will be limited to sensitive small scale housing development in the form of infill or rounding off where local needs affordable housing only is provided.

The Settlement Hierarchy

Table 13.2

Settlement Tier	Main Service Centres	Local Service Centres	Sustainable Villages	Defined Villages	Undefined Villages
Description	Settlements with a strategic role in delivery of services and facilities	Settlements with a local role in the delivery of services and facilities	Settlements which benefit from some services and facilities and are sustainably located	Settlements which benefit from some services and facilities with which to sustain local needs	Settlements which have few or no services and facilities and which are not of a size or character to warrant a settlement boundary
Settlement Boundary	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Settlements	Aston & Shotton Buckley Connah's Quay Flint Holywell Mold Queensferry Saltney	Broughton Ewloe Garden City Greenfield Hawarden HCAC Mynydd Isa	Alltami Bagillt Bretton Brynford (Calcoed & Dolphin) Caerwys Carmel Coed Talon / Pontybodkin	Cilcain Flint Mountain Gwernaffield Gwernymynydd Lixwm Nannerch Nercwys Pantymwyn	Afonwen Cadole Cymau Dobs Hill Ffrith Gorsedd Gwaenysgor Gwespyr Halkyn

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

			Drury & Burntwood	Pentre Halkyn	Llanasa
			Ffynnongroyw	Pen-y-Ffordd	Llanfynydd
			Gronant	Rhosesmor	Pontblyddyn
			Higher Kinnerton	Rhydymwyn	Rhes-y-Cae
			Leeswood	Talacre	Rhewl Mostyn
			Mancot	Trelawnyd	
			Mostyn (Maes Pennant)	Trelogan & Berthengam	
			New Brighton	Whitford	
			Northop	Ysceifiog	
			Northop Hall		
			Pentre		
			Penyffordd / Penymynydd		
			Sandycroft		
			Sychdyn		
			Treuddyn		

Explanation

- 13.11** The Plan seeks to distribute development spatially across the County having regard to the Spatial Strategy. PPW emphasises the need for a settlement strategy to provide the basis for a sustainable spatial pattern of housing development, balancing social, economic and environmental needs and being resilient to the effects of climate change. Most development will be directed to the top three tiers of the settlement hierarchy as it is these settlements which are evidenced as being the most sustainable settlements in terms of the settlement audits i.e. size, form, character, role and level of services and facilities. In the remaining two tiers of the settlement hierarchy a more refined approach is taken towards providing for predominantly local

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

needs based housing in rural areas. The spatial location of development will enable the Plan’s strategy in terms of the amount of growth, to be realised in a sustainable manner.

13.12 A key element in providing for new development is the identification of allocations, and this includes housing, employment, retail, waste and minerals. In the case of housing, only those sites which are capable of accommodating 10 or more units will be allocated, as this ensures consistency with the Joint Housing Land Availability Study definition of large and small sites. In addition, the Plan identifies Principal Employment Areas which are based on existing employment development and where opportunities exist for further employment development. Further guidance on PEA’s is set out in policy PE2.

13.13 The Plan does not seek to apportion development spatially by the use of numerical or mechanistic methods relating to growth bands, rates, targets or quotas. Rather, the Plan seeks to distribute development in a sustainable manner having regard to the settlement hierarchy and by identifying the most sustainable settlements and sites. The Plan intentionally avoids creating a perception that every settlement in every tier must contribute towards growth through having a housing allocation. Instead, the Plan looks at each settlement on its merits to determine whether it is able to sustainably accommodate an allocation. The Main Service Centres are the main locations for growth whereas Local Service Centres are where more modest levels of growth are located. Sustainable Villages are the locations for housing development which is related to the scale, character and role of the settlement. The degree to which these three tiers interrelate is also important. The Preferred Strategy detailed a broad brush distribution of housing, based on the settlement and spatial strategy, and is set out below. This compares well with the actual apportionment of growth as set out in the table below, taking into account completions during the first three years of the LDP period, commitments as at April 2018, the housing allocations and anticipated windfalls. A more detailed breakdown is set out in the Housing Land Supply Background Paper.

Table 13.3

Tier	Preferred Strategy Breakdown	Deposit Plan Breakdown
Tier 1 Main Service Centres	40-45%	47%
Tier 2 Local Service Centres	35-40%	36%
Tier 3 Sustainable Villages	15-20%	14%
Tier 4 Defined Villages	1-2%	2%

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

Tier 5 Undefined Villages	0-1%	1%
---------------------------	------	----

- 13.14** The policy provides broad guidance on the scale and type of development in each tier. All of the upper three tiers provide for allocations, windfall market housing and affordable housing on sites above thresholds of units / area that are set by policies in the Deposit Plan. Local Service Centres and Sustainable Settlements are also potential locations for small scale exceptions schemes for affordable housing on the edge of defined settlement boundaries.
- 13.15** A more refined approach is taken towards the bottom two tiers of the settlement hierarchy, which are predominantly rural villages. In Defined Villages new development is related to meeting proven local needs for housing, whether on windfall sites within a settlement boundary or small scale exceptions schemes on the edge of defined settlement boundaries. However, in the case of windfall sites, scope exists for limited market housing where it can clearly facilitate local needs affordable housing. The additional flexibility arising from allowing market housing should help improve the viability of local needs affordable housing.
- 13.16** In Undefined Villages new development is limited to small scale infill development or rounding off where local needs affordable housing is provided. As these settlements do not have a defined settlement boundary the policy allows for both infill development and rounding off in the form of small scale development. In these lower tier settlements, development needs to be sensitively conceived and designed so as to meet local needs for affordable housing and to respect the character and appearance of the site and its surroundings.

Policy Context

Table 13.4

LDP Objectives	<p>8. Facilitate growth and diversification of the local economy and an increase in skilled high value employment in key sectors</p> <p>9. Support development that positions Flintshire as an economically competitive place and an economic driver for the sub-region</p> <p>11. Ensuring that Flintshire has the right amount, size, and type of housing to support economic development and to meet a range of housing needs</p> <p>12. Ensure that housing development takes place in sustainable locations where sites are viable and deliverable and are supported by the necessary social, environmental and physical infrastructure</p> <p>13. Promote and enhance a diverse and sustainable rural economy</p>
----------------	---

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

PPW10	Paras 3.37 – 3.44 Paras 5.4.9 – 5.4.18 Para 4.3.8
Well Being Goals	A prosperous Wales A resilient Wales
Key Evidence	PPW Topic Paper 7 – Spatial Strategy Settlement Audit Reports
Monitoring	The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.
Detailed policies	PC1 The Relationship of Development to Settlement Boundaries PE1 General Employment Land Allocations PE2 Principal Employment Areas HN1 New Housing Development Proposals HN3 Affordable Housing HN4-C Infill Development in Groups of Houses

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

Policy 3**STR3: Strategic Sites**

The majority of new development in Flintshire during the Plan period will be provided by a combination of commitments and new sites located in accordance with the sustainable settlement hierarchy. Two key strategic sites will make an important contribution to the overall provision for growth in Flintshire over the Plan period:

STR3A Northern Gateway Mixed Use Development Site: Employment, housing, commercial, community facilities:

- i. Approximately 1,300 new homes, including affordable
- ii. Approximately 72.4 hectares of B2/B8 employment land
- iii. Commercial development hub adjacent to A550
- iv. District Centre(s) to serve local convenience needs
- v. Strengthened and raised River Dee flood defences
- vi. Provision of internal road infrastructure
- vii. Provision of land and a contribution to extending Sealand CP School
- viii. Sustainable drainage/flood management solution
- ix. Provision of green infrastructure network
- x. Sensitive re-use of John Summers Listed buildings and grounds

STR3B Warren Hall Mixed Use Development Site: Employment and housing:

- i. Approximately 300 new homes, including affordable
- ii. Approximately 22.7 hectares of B1 and high quality B2 employment land
- iii. Commercial hub involving hotel, leisure, local centre and retail
- iv. Strategic landscaping and green infrastructure network
- v. Sustainable transport links with nearby settlements and a link with the section of the Mold – Deeside Active Travel route between Penymynydd and Broughton.

Explanation

- 13.17** The settlement audit work which underpins the settlement hierarchy reflects the geographic diversity of the County, ranging from larger towns to small rural hamlets. The County is unlike many others in Wales as there is no single settlement which is dominant in terms of size and function. Instead there are several main towns and the urban area of Deeside where a number of settlements are in close proximity to one another. Given the polycentric settlement and development pattern, and as a general rule the lack of suitable

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

new strategic sites, the Council's focus in the Plan is on ensuring that the existing strategic site commitments are fully enabled to deliver development, before considering further strategic scale allocations.

- 13.18** The relative lack of strategic sites, compared to other LDP's in Wales, should not necessarily be seen as a weakness. The experience of other large sites in Wales suggests they can be difficult to get off the ground and are not delivering development as anticipated. This can have a negative effect on securing and maintaining a 5 year housing land supply from adoption onwards despite the purpose and intention of such sites being soundly based. The adjoining LPA's of Wrexham and Cheshire West and Chester (CWAC) both have planned strategic urban extensions delivering the bulk of new housing in Wrexham and as part of the green belt release on the south western edge of Chester. Further afield, Denbighshire also has a large urban extension at Bodelwyddan. The bulk of the 'new allocations' or residual requirement element of the Plan's overall housing provision will therefore be delivered by a range of deliverable housing allocations that are below the scale of strategic sites. This should enable sites to be delivered and ensure a 5 year housing land supply at adoption and through the Plan period.
- 13.19** The two strategic allocations are both sites where the principle of development has been secured through outline planning consents but where it is vital to revisit both sites in different ways to ensure that they come forward and contribute to the economic growth of the County and also contribute to meeting its housing needs. The Northern Gateway site is a mixed use strategic site at the heart of the Enterprise Zone. The mix and quantum of development has changed since the allocation in the UDP because the two halves of the site are in separate ownership and are being promoted separately and market demand has changed since the site was first allocated. It is considered that a renewed allocation as part of the LDP is required to re-promote the sites which will result in increased market confidence in the scheme, on the back of considerable public sector infrastructure investment.
- 13.20** The Warren Hall site has had planning permission for a business park for a number of years and has seen considerable public sector investment comprising junction improvements at the interchange of the A5104 and A55(T). The delivery of the site has been held up by the effects of the global recession and also the availability of sites elsewhere. However, the site is in a strategic location and is important in contributing economic growth over the Plan period. In order to improve the viability and deliverability of the development, the site is being re-presented as an allocation for mixed use development comprising employment, housing and commercial hub as well as an extension to the site area .
- 13.21** The Northern Gateway site represents a large area of brownfield and under-utilised land adjacent to Deeside Industrial Park and Garden City. The site is located adjacent to the A494 Trunk Road and in close proximity to the Wrexham Bidston and North Wales Coast railways lines. It therefore sits at

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

the heart of a sub-regional economic hub and at the Gateway to Flintshire and Wales. The site forms a key part of the Deeside area, being designated as an Enterprise Zone. The promotion of the site as a mixed use development enhances the sustainability credentials arising from its location.

- 13.22** The mixed use site provides for 1,300 new homes and will include affordable housing. The site benefits from two outline permissions and is a 'commitment' but the 1,300 dwellings will be included as a strategic allocation within the housing balance sheet, rather than as a commitment, in order to avoid double counting. In terms of employment land the site will deliver some 72.4ha of B2 and B8 employment land, which reflects the general nature of employment development in the locality and the fact that B1 high quality employment land is available elsewhere in the County. In order to support the employment and housing development the scheme will provide a commercial hub and district centre adjacent to the A550. Land will also be provided along with a financial contribution to enable the provision of an extension to the existing primary school. Infrastructure investment has taken place by strengthening and raising the River Dee flood defences and internal access roads are also being delivered by Welsh Government. A sustainable drainage and flood management scheme will also be secured as part of the detailed design of the scheme.
- 13.23** The Warren Hall site is located on the south side of the A55(T) and Broughton and is located on the south side of the A5104 which runs between Chester and Penyffordd / Penymynydd. The site presently has outline planning consent for a 76,395 sqm business park comprising of B1 units as well as a hotel and leisure facilities. As part of this allocation the mix of land uses has been amended and site area extended to 74ha to also include housing development and a broader range of supporting uses including retail as part of a commercial hub. The mixed use element will improve the viability and deliverability of the site. The employment element will still comprise B1 development and will need to be of high quality in terms of siting, form, design and materials which respects the setting of the site.
- 13.24** The Warren Hall strategic site provides a unique opportunity to embody placemaking principles in creating a large scale, high quality mixed use development. Although the Northern Gateway strategic site is progressing within the context of its outline and subsequent permissions, there is still an opportunity for the principles of placemaking to be applied as subsequent phases come on stream.

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

Policy Context

Table 13.5

LDP Objectives	<p>8. Facilitate growth and diversification of the local economy and an increase in skilled high value employment in key sectors.</p> <p>9. Support development that positions Flintshire as an economically competitive place and an economic driver for the sub-region.</p> <p>10. Ensure that housing development takes place in sustainable locations where sites are viable and deliverable and are supported by the necessary social, environmental and physical infrastructure.</p>
PPW10	<p>Para 4.1.37</p> <p>Para 4.8.4</p> <p>Paras 5.4.14 – 5.4.15</p>
Well Being Goals	<p>A prosperous Wales</p> <p>A resilient Wales</p>
Key Evidence	<p>Flintshire and Wrexham Employment Land Review Study</p> <p>Flintshire Further Employment Growth Scenario Assessment</p> <p>PPW</p> <p>TAN23</p> <p>Deeside Plan</p> <p>Topic Paper 7 – Spatial Strategy</p> <p>Topic Paper 8 – Economy and Employment</p> <p>Topic Paper 10 – Population, Household Growth and Housing</p> <p>Northern Gateway Masterplan and Development Statement</p> <p>Warren Hall Masterplan and Delivery Statement</p>
Monitoring	<p>The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.</p>
Detailed Policies	<p>This strategic policy will need to be read alongside a broad range of detailed policies on relevant and specific issues.</p>

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

Policy 4**STR4: Principles of Sustainable Development, Design and Placemaking**

To promote and create new sustainable places, all development will be designed to a high standard in line with the sustainable placemaking design principles and should achieve local distinctiveness, be inclusive and accessible, and mitigate and adapt to climate change.

To achieve this, all development should:

- i. Be designed to be adaptable, safe and accessible, to respond to climate change, and for housing, adapt to changing needs over time;
- ii. Respond to local context and character, respect and enhance the natural, built and historic environment, and be appropriate in scale, density, mix, and layout;
- iii. Be accessible and connected, allowing ease of movement;
- iv. Make the best use of land, materials and resources;
- v. Contribute to the well-being of communities, including safeguarding amenity, the public realm, provision of open space and recreation, landscaping and parking provision in residential contexts;
- vi. Incorporate new, and connect to existing green infrastructure, promoting biodiversity;
- vii. Incorporate where possible on-site energy efficiency and renewable energy generation;
- viii. Ensure there is capacity and availability of infrastructure to serve new development;
- ix. Manage water and waste sustainably;
- x. Ensure that it supports and sustains the long term well being of the Welsh language.

Explanation

- 13.25** Sustainable development is in essence, development that meets the needs of the present, without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Sustainable development can be interpreted in many different ways, but the key principle is that development should seek to balance different, and often competing needs, against an awareness of environmental, social and economic limitations. The implications of not living within environmental limits can be seen with the increasing impacts of climate change and planning has a role to play in minimising and mitigating these impacts. Whilst the environment is a key factor, sustainable development is also about ensuring a strong, prosperous, healthy and fair society which meets the needs of all.

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

- 13.26** The LDP is subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment incorporating a statutory Sustainability Appraisal (SA), the purpose of which is to appraise the environmental, social and economic impacts of the LDP and to find ways to mitigate these to improve the Plan's overall sustainability. It is an on-going process carried out at various stages and looks at the overall plan strategy and individual policies and proposals to ensure that these fit in with the principles of sustainable development. The SA also incorporates a Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA) which enables the LDP to be formally assessed in order to manage the impact on the environment.
- 13.27** It is therefore a fundamental principle that sustainable development should form the basis of planning policy. In a planning context Planning Policy Wales defines sustainable development as the process of improving the economic, social and cultural well-being of Wales by taking action, in accordance with the sustainable development principle, aimed at achieving the well-being goals. The Well Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 contains seven goals that public bodies must work towards and are integral to planning policies and decisions as it brings an enhanced duty for Local Planning Authorities. These goals are set out in para 12.3 and each strategic policy sets out which goals are relevant to that policy.
- 13.28** Taking into account sustainable development and the purposes of the Well-Being Goals, the LDP policies seek to ensure that development takes place in locations that are appropriate for its scale and nature, and that development is built to ensure positive economic, social, environmental and cultural outcomes. Development should be delivered in such a way that it provides a safe, attractive, cohesive and inclusive environment which is sustainable and minimises that impact on the environment, as well as mitigating the impacts of climate change.
- 13.29** This strategic policy, and the more detailed policies that support it, are intended to ensure that development proposals can achieve positive economic, social, environmental and cultural outcomes, and can minimise adverse ones. They will form the basis of all planning decisions.
- 13.30** It is important that people live in places which are attractive and distinctive, and incorporate the changing requirements of those living there. This means that high quality, well thought out and sustainable design which improves the environment and people's health and well-being is essential. This can be achieved by ensuring that new developments incorporate the objectives of good design and sustainable development, and that the character of existing built development is conserved or enhanced. Development should achieve high standards of design and layout, incorporating basic principles such as parking requirements, whilst supporting local distinctiveness, character and sense of place.

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

- 13.31** Flintshire contains many historic settlements and a rural landscape with a high quality built environment which it is important to protect. The LDP contains detailed policies relating to the protection of heritage assets from loss and damage. These historic assets include listed buildings, conservation areas, archaeological sites, historic parks, gardens and landscapes, as well as unprotected assets which add character and significance to the County. The design of new development should reflect this and be of a good design which has regard to local distinctiveness and site context.
- 13.32** There are national targets for the production of energy from renewable sources which need to be met. In terms of resources and energy, development should seek to minimise the use of these, both during construction and afterwards, and should take into consideration the embodied energy of materials. Site locations and layout should take into account such matters as solar gain and microclimate in order to reduce the energy needed for light and heating. In some instances it might be appropriate to install renewable energy technologies on a site which serves the development as a whole. In other cases, the incorporation of renewable energy technologies should be considered, and in all instances, development should seek to attain the highest level of energy efficiency possible.
- 13.33** Similarly, measures to reduce water use and to conserve water should be incorporated into new developments. It should also be ensured that developments do not increase run off and flooding, decrease water quality or affect water courses detrimentally. Development also requires infrastructure in the form of roads, community facilities, open space etc. and there can be infrastructure constraints which inhibit the scale and location of development. In order to meet the well-being and sustainable development goals it is important that new development is well served by infrastructure.
- 13.34** The Welsh language is part of the social and cultural fabric of Flintshire and is spoken on average by 13.2% of the population (2011 Census) although the language is more prevalent in certain parts of the County. The Plan's strategy recognises the need for new development to support and sustain local linguistic and cultural identity. The Plan's evidence base and approach to the Welsh language is set out in a Welsh Language Background Paper.

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

Policy Context

Table 13.6

<p>LDP Objectives</p>	<p>15. Minimise the causes and impacts of climate change and pollution. 16. Conserve and enhance Flintshire’s high quality environmental assets including landscape, cultural heritage and natural and built environment. 17. Maintain and enhance green infrastructure networks. 18. Promote good design that is locally distinct, innovative and sensitive to location. 19. Support the safeguarding and sustainable use of natural resources such as water and promote the development of brownfield land.</p>
<p>PPW10</p>	<p>Inclusivity & Accessibility 3.5 – 3.6 Environmental sustainability 3.7 - 3.8 Character 3.9 – 3.10 Community Safety 3.11 Movement 3.12 – 3.13 Appraising context 3.14 Considering Design Issues 3.15 – 3.16 Promoting healthier places 3.21 Open space 4.5.3 – 4.5.6 Car parking 4.1.51 Adaptable 5.11.7 Mix 4.2.1 Energy efficiency 5.7.14, 5.7.17 Infrastructure 3.57 Water resources 6.6.5 Renewable energy 5.7.14, 5.7.15, 5.7.5</p>
<p>Well Being Goals</p>	<p>A globally responsible Wales A healthier Wales A Wales of cohesive communities A more equal Wales</p>
<p>Key Evidence</p>	<p>TAN12 Design Flintshire Renewable Energy Assessment 2019 Welsh Language Background Paper</p>
<p>Monitoring</p>	<p>The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.</p>

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

Detailed Policies	PC2 General Requirements for Development PC3 Design PC4 Sustainability and Resilience of New Development PC5 Transport and Accessibility HN2 Density and Mix of Development EN1 Sports, Recreation and Cultural Facilities EN2 Green Infrastructure EN6 Sites of Biodiversity Importance EN8 Built Historic Environment and Listed Buildings EN12 New Development and Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Technology
-------------------	---

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

Policy 5**STR5: Transport and Accessibility**

Sustainable economic growth and development can only be delivered by the maintenance and enhancement of an integrated, accessible, usable, safe and reliable transport network. The development of Flintshire's transport infrastructure therefore underpins the Council's economic ambition and in turn, informs the provision of a sustainable pattern of development. Where appropriate new development and associated transport infrastructure should therefore:

- i. Facilitate accessibility to employment, homes, services, and facilities by locating development in places with access to integrated transport infrastructure, thereby reducing the need to travel;
- ii. Promote the implementation of an integrated transport solution in Flintshire, involving road, rail, bus, park and ride / share and active travel improvements;
- iii. Promote road and rail improvements to support Flintshire's sub-regional role as a strategic gateway and hub;
- iv. Ensure that the local highway network either has, or can be upgraded, to provide capacity to accommodate sustainable levels of development;
- v. Facilitate improvements to the quality, attractiveness and availability of public transport options;
- vi. Provide walking and cycling routes, linking in with active travel networks and green infrastructure networks;
- vii. Adopt a sustainable approach to the design, function and layout of new development, including providing appropriate levels of parking;
- viii. Support the movement of freight by rail or water.

Explanation

13.35 Land use planning and development is closely linked with transport and PPW requires development plans to set out an integrated planning and transport strategy. The location of development can have a significant influence on transport choice in terms of the way in which people go about their everyday lives. However, the historic pattern of development and the accompanying transport network and infrastructure is a given in that it cannot change so the Plan cannot start afresh, therefore it must work with what exists now, or is planned to happen during the Plan period. The role of the Plan is therefore to identify sustainable locations for new development and to control the siting, layout and design of development in order to work towards achieving an integrated and efficient transport system and pattern of land use.

13.36 The Plan is being prepared at a time of change with the focus on achieving growth and economic prosperity both at County level and at sub-regional and regional levels. Deeside is designated as an Enterprise Zone and the

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

County is involved in a number of economic growth initiatives including Northern Powerhouse, the Mersey Dee Alliance, Growth Track 360 and the Growth Deal bid. A key part of the Enterprise Zone is the Northern Gateway Strategic Site (see policy STR3) and this is receiving transport infrastructure investment by Welsh Government along with a range of other transport improvements in the Deeside area to improve accessibility to employment opportunities. The sub-regional and regional initiatives, as well as the Deeside Plan, recognise the need for investment in transport to help deliver continued economic growth. In the longer term Welsh Government has announced plans for a Metro system for North East Wales involving a network approach across a range of transport modes and projects.

13.37 In March 2017 Welsh Government consulted on options for a blue route (which involves widening the A494 and A55 with junction improvements at Ewloe, and a range of associated improvements) and a red route (which involves increased capacity along the existing A548 and a new road between the A55 and A548 and modifications / improvements to junctions). Welsh Government announced in September 2017 its intention to pursue the red route and the Council has more recently been instructed to protect the line of the preferred route. The Deeside Plan, recently published by the Council, is useful in setting out a range of transport measures in the short, medium and long term.

13.38 The Transport objectives for the Deeside area are to:

- Maximise benefits of regional transport infrastructure investment.
- Use transport infrastructure investments to unlock economic growth opportunities.
- Support modal shift from the private car to more sustainable means of movement.
- Devise solutions to reduce congestion and ensure transport, economic growth and housing are considered in parallel.
- Encourage active travel through green infrastructure corridors and investment in cycling and pedestrian infrastructure.

13.39 Some of the key transport proposals in the Deeside Plan include:

- Deeside Parkway – development of a lorry park, new railway station and bus station to serve the northern part of DIP.
- Garden City – new bus interchange to serve Northern Gateway and southern part of DIP.
- Shotton / Hawarden Bridge – improvements to railway stations.
- DIP / Northern Gateway – shuttle bus services.
- Wrexham – Bidston line – service improvements and light rail / tram service.
- Active travel – pedestrian and cycling infrastructure improvements.

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

- 13.40** The Deeside Plan provides further detail on each aspect of the key transport proposals and references the need for a forward looking transport solution which captures available funding opportunities and ensures that all transport interventions lead towards the central goal of an integrated transport system.
- 13.41** Most of these initiatives will and are being undertaken as transport schemes in the context that they can be delivered through other mechanisms and legislation and for instance are within adopted highways land. The role of the LDP is to identify those instances where there are schemes which require land to be safeguarded and protected to enable them to be delivered during the Plan period. The Plan's detailed policy, PC10 New Transport Schemes, identifies those projects which require safeguarding. In Broughton further assessment is underway to examine how junction 36a can be upgraded, or other options investigated, to improve access to the settlement, the shopping park and Airbus. As part of a wider cross-border assessment of the Chester Broughton Growth Corridor consultants have been employed jointly by Welsh Government, Highways England, Flintshire and CWAC to investigate options to deliver improved vehicular access to Chester and Broughton.
- 13.42** The focus on Deeside in the commentary above is not to divert attention away from the rest of the County. Rather, it reflects the fact that it is Deeside which has the most challenging transport issues whereby the performance of strategic through routes is being affected by congestion which is hampering journey to work times. It also reflects the fact that schemes and projects are being drawn up in the Deeside area as part of existing and emerging economic initiatives. Transport interventions and schemes throughout the County are set out in the North Wales Joint Local Transport Plan 2015. In the rural part of the County a key concern is that of social exclusion in terms of accessing services, facilities and employment, which can be difficult in the absence of a private car. This is particularly so in the context of continuing budget pressures for the Council and the impact on bus services. Although other transport initiatives are being pursued such as community based transport schemes, this emphasises the need for new development to be located in those rural settlements which are genuinely accessible by means other than the private car and which have the necessary services and facilities to sustain everyday needs.
- 13.43** The Council is also developing its Active Travel initiative. A network of walking and cycling routes has been identified and proposals formulated to add missing links to or extend this network. These routes seek to improve linkages between homes and employment and facilities and services. Walking and cycling routes will also assist in creating healthy lifestyles and will have health benefits. New development may have a role to play in delivering some of these proposals. Paragraphs 4.1.25 – 4.1.34 of PPW provide guidance on making new development highly accessible by walking and cycling.

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

13.44 The policy therefore sets out general transport principles to be considered both in preparing the Plan and subsequently in determining planning applications. The underlying principle is ensuring that both the Plan as a whole and individual planning allocations and decisions have regard to the goal of an integrated transport system and supported by improvements to the highways and transport infrastructure. The strategic policy is supplemented by detailed policies, as set out in the table below.

Policy Context

Table 13.7

LDP Objectives	<p>1. Ensure communities have access to a mix of services and facilities, such as education and health, to allow community life to flourish, and meet the needs of particular groups such as the elderly.</p> <p>3. Promote a sustainable and safe transport system that reduces reliance on the car</p> <p>4. Facilitate the provision of necessary transport, utility and social / community infrastructure</p> <p>7. Create places that are safe, accessible and encourage and support good wealth, well-being and equality</p> <p>8. Facilitate growth and diversification of the local economy and an increase in skilled high value employment in key sectors</p> <p>9. Support development that positions Flintshire as an economically competitive place and an economic driver for the sub-region.</p> <p>15. Minimise the causes and impacts of climate change and pollution.</p>
PPW10	<p>Para 3.45 – 3.48 Accessibility</p> <p>Paras 4.1 – 4.1.55</p>
Well Being Goals	<p>A healthier Wales</p> <p>A Wales of cohesive communities</p> <p>A more equal Wales</p>
Key Evidence	<p>Welsh Government Transport Plan and Strategy</p> <p>Welsh Government Transport Strategy</p> <p>North Wales Joint Local Transport Plan 2015</p> <p>Deeside Plan</p> <p>Topic Paper 16 – Transport</p> <p>Topic Paper 7 – Spatial Strategy</p> <p>FCC Active Travel</p>
Monitoring	<p>The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.</p>

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

<p>Detailed Policies</p>	<p>PC5 Transport and Accessibility PC6 Active Travel PC7 Passenger Transport PC8 Airport Safeguarding Zone PC9 Protection of Disused Railway Lines PC10 New Transport Schemes PC11 Mostyn Docks</p>
--------------------------	---

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

Policy 6**STR6: Services, Facilities and Infrastructure**

An essential element in planning for sustainable places is to ensure that the physical and social infrastructure exists, or can be provided, to ensure that when and where development occurs, it can be sustainably accommodated within communities.

Delivered through a combination of recognised infrastructure providers, public organisations, and private investment, new development will contribute to the provision of a range of key infrastructure, where necessary to mitigate the impacts of new development, comprising:

- i. Affordable housing;
- ii. Green infrastructure including open space and play space;
- iii. Education and health facilities;
- iv. Highways, walking and cycling and public transport improvements and electric vehicle charging points;
- v. Ecological mitigation;
- vi. Water management (supply, drainage, treatment);
- vii. Electricity and gas;
- viii. Telecommunications and Broadband;
- ix. Community and town centre facilities;
- x. Public realm and public art.

Explanation

13.45 It is important that the Plan directs new development to locations that benefit from good access to appropriate services and facilities. This is key to the successful implementation of the Plan's ambition, strategy and policies.

13.46 PPW advises in para 3.57 that 'Adequate and efficient infrastructure, including services such as education and health facilities along with transport, water supply, sewers, sustainable waste management, electricity and gas (the utilities) and telecommunications, is crucial for economic, social and environmental sustainability'. Development proposals should enable opportunities for residents to have good access to a range of services and facilities within their local area. However, it must be recognised that there are some facilities such as the provision of certain health services, which have to be in locations that have a wider catchment and cannot be provided locally e.g. Primary Health Facilities. The physical and social infrastructure and services that are needed to make places function efficiently and sustainably must be fully understood. Consultation with other infrastructure providers as part of the preparation of the Deposit plan has helped identify

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

those capacity issues. The provision of necessary infrastructure improvements will require the Council to work in partnership with public and private investment and strategically with the Welsh Government. Any requirements must be reasonable and developers will only need to address the needs arising from their specific development. As part of the LDP process the Council has created an Infrastructure Plan which sits alongside the LDP and identifies the infrastructure required to support and sustain the County's projected level of growth.

- 13.47** A key principle in planning for sustainable development is the well-being of communities. Development will only be permitted where there is adequate existing physical and social infrastructure, or where there are suitable proposals to increase provision to accommodate any additional demand deriving from proposed development and, where reasonable, to address deficiencies.
- 13.48** Planning obligations are useful arrangements to overcome obstacles which may otherwise prevent planning permission from being granted. Contributions from developers may be used to offset negative consequences of development, to help meet local needs or to secure benefits which will make development more sustainable. It is essential that arrangements are fair to both the developer and the community, that the process is as transparent as possible and that development plans provide guidance on the types of obligations which authorities may seek from developers. Further guidance on Education Contributions is contained in a Supplementary Planning Guidance Note. When granting planning permission local planning authorities may seek to enter into a planning obligation with a developer to:
- restrict development or use of the land;
 - require operations or activities to be carried out in, on, under or over the land;
 - require the land to be used in a specified way; or
 - to require payments to be made to the authority either in a single sum or periodically.
- 13.49** The Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Regulations came into force on 6th April 2010 and is a system of development tax to be paid by all developers on a £ per square meter basis on developments with Gross Internal Areas of more than 100sq m. The contributions are pooled and are used for all types of infrastructure needs in the county. For the simple reasons of time, resources and practicality, the Local Authority will examine the viability of developing, once the LDP is adopted, a workable CIL Schedule, setting out the infrastructure priorities for the county to guide how those contributions will be spent. The practicality and level of a CIL charge will depend on the viability of the development market and will vary across the County, and the CIL schedule will need to take that into account.

13 Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

13.50 The options for the delivery of infrastructure through Planning Obligations (Section 106 agreements) and / or Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and the pros and cons of each will be considered as part of this process, following LDP adoption. The Council will explore the suitability of establishing a CIL to clarify the required financial contributions from developers to help fund infrastructure provision. The mechanism for determining and prioritising infrastructure needs, whether strategic or local, will be a key part of assessing the options for CIL.

Policy Context

Table 13.8

LDP Objectives	1. Ensure communities have access to a mix of services and facilities, such as education and health, to allow community life to flourish, and meet the needs of particular groups such as the elderly 17. Maintain and enhance green infrastructure networks
PPW10	Paras 3.57 – 3.59
Well Being Goals	A healthier Wales A Wales of cohesive communities A more equal Wales A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language
Key Evidence	PPW TAN2 Planning and Affordable Housing TAN4 Retail and Commercial Development TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning TAN16 Sport Recreation and Open Space TAN18 Transport TAN20 Planning and Welsh Language Topic Paper 4 - Open Space Topic Paper 7 - Spatial Strategy Topic Paper 9 - Health, Well-being and Cohesion

Strategic Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 13

	<p>Topic Paper 11 - Retailing and Town Centres</p> <p>Topic Paper 12 – Infrastructure</p> <p>Topic Paper 16 – Transport</p> <p>Flintshire Infrastructure Plan</p>
Monitoring	The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.
Detailed Policies	<p>PC3 Design</p> <p>PC5 Transport and Accessibility</p> <p>PC6 Active travel</p> <p>PC7 Passenger Transport</p> <p>PC12 Community Facilities</p> <p>HN3 Affordable Housing</p> <p>EN1 Sports, Recreation and Cultural Facilities</p> <p>EN2 Green Infrastructure</p> <p>EN6 Sites of Biodiversity Importance</p> <p>EN15 Water Resources</p>

Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 14

Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 14

14 Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy**Introduction**

- 14.1** Economic growth and resilience are key priorities for Flintshire driven by the need to shake off the effects of a global economic recession and the need to plan for recovery and an economic upturn. These effects are not limited to Flintshire and, with its neighbours both in North Wales and the North West of England, Flintshire is part of a common ambition to attract investment, create jobs, improve strategic infrastructure, and increase prosperity. The County's economy will obviously be subject to the influence and impacts of the national and international economies. At the present time the impact of Brexit cannot be predicted but this plan has set out a strategy and robust policies to create the right conditions for growth and/ or recovery which will be flexible enough to deal with any economic changes in the future.
- 14.2** Flintshire's role in this wider ambition is significant – both in terms of its strategic location as an economic hub and gateway, and in the strength of its economic base and sectoral mix, making it a significant generator of GVA (Gross Value Added) locally, regionally, and nationally. Part of this ambition is based on the availability of strategic sites on Deeside and within and adjacent to the Enterprise Zone. The key point is that their potential for growth is real and immediate, and the role of the LDP will be to create the land use conditions to facilitate this.
- 14.3** The Joint Employment Land Review (Oct 2015) carried out with Wrexham CBC, presented sectoral growth forecasts for Flintshire to 2030, based on Cambridge Econometrics and Institute of Employment Research data. Given that the trend period that informed these forecasts coincided with the recessionary period, and that there was negative growth nationally within key sectors such as manufacturing, neither of these factors give a positive basis to look ahead and plan for economic recovery and upturn. Further work was commissioned to examine the job creation potential of Flintshire's strategic sites located at Northern Gateway on Deeside and Warren Hall, Broughton. This demonstrated a cumulative potential for the two sites to yield between 8,000 – 10,000 jobs over the plan period. Both sites are already commitments in that they both benefit from outline planning permissions, but it is a central role of the LDP to ensure that these sites can be fully implemented and for this reason both sites are allocated as strategic allocations by policy STR3 .
- 14.4** The ELR examined Flintshire's extensive portfolio of existing employment sites and did not conclude that there was either a need or indeed significant opportunity to consider other uses for undeveloped employment land. Where this can be done it has, but in the main it is appropriate, given Flintshire's economic context, to maintain a significant range and choice of locations for employment development.

14 Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

- 14.5** The LDP also recognises the contribution that service sector employment can make, particularly in relation to retail and commercial jobs within Flintshire's town, district, and local centres. That said there is pressure on these traditional service centres from recession and from alternative ways of shopping, and the Plan provides a sufficiently flexible but positive framework for the development of town centre uses. Equally, sustainable tourism development is and has the potential to be a significant contributor to Flintshire's economy. Tourism development also has the potential to contribute positively to the range of social, economic, and environmental objectives of the Plan, as well as many of the Well Being Goals. There are opportunities that can arise from the AONB and Flintshire's attractive rural landscape, its significant heritage assets, attractive villages and market towns, and a growing demand for outdoor activities and recreational development.
- 14.6** In this section the Plan's strategy in relation to supporting economic growth is defined by the following strategic policies:
- i. STR7 Economic Development, Enterprise, and Employment
 - ii. STR8 Employment Land Provision
 - iii. STR9 Retail Centres and Development
 - iv. STR10 Tourism, Culture, and Leisure
- 14.7** Each of the strategic policies is accompanied by a cross reference to the relevant detailed policies. For ease of reference these detailed policies are grouped under the same 'Supporting a Prosperous Economy' theme in section 18. The relevant policies are:
- PE1 General Employment Land Allocations
 - PE2 Principal Employment Areas
 - PE3 Employment Development Outside Allocated Sites and Principal Employment Areas
 - PE4 Farm Diversification
 - PE5 Expansion of Existing Employment Uses
 - PE6 Protection of Employment Land
 - PE7 Retail Hierarchy
 - PE8 Development within Primary Shopping Areas
 - PE9 Development outside Primary Shopping Areas
 - PE10 District and Local Centres
 - PE11 Edge and Out of Town Retail Development
 - PE12 Tourist Accommodation, Facilities and Attractions
 - PE13 Caravan Development in the Open Countryside
 - PE14 Greenfield Valley

Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 14

Policy 7**STR7 Economic Development, Enterprise, and Employment**

In order to sustain Flintshire's role as a sub-regional economic hub, the Plan will support this by:

- i. Facilitating the delivery of jobs from key strategic sites at Northern Gateway, Deeside, and Warren Hall, Broughton;
- ii. Providing a range of general employment sites to enable a range of businesses to start-up, invest, innovate, expand and grow, benefitting from Flintshire's strategic location and positive quality of life;
- iii. Emphasising Deeside and its area of influence as the economic focus for Flintshire's long term economic ambition;
- iv. Providing the opportunity to realise the creation of 8-10,000 jobs in key sectors, over the plan period;
- v. Supporting the role of Flintshire's main towns as Main Service Centres, providing a range of employment, retail, leisure development, and services and facilities that are accessible to the wider communities they serve;
- vi. Supporting development related to the provision of higher/further education facilities which offer vocational skills training and direct links to key employers;
- vii. In rural areas, recognise the continued contribution agriculture makes to the rural economy, whilst also supporting wider rural enterprise, tourism and diversification;
- viii. Supporting the widespread provision of high speed broadband infrastructure across Flintshire, as well as consistent telecommunications connectivity.

Explanation

14.8 The Flintshire economy is a key contributor of GVA to the Welsh Economy and the planning system needs to continue supporting economic development in the County so that it can aim to achieve prosperity at the regional and national level. Economic prosperity is fundamental to creating well-being across a range of demographic groups in Flintshire and in order for Flintshire to continue to be a prosperous County, a strong local economy is required with a sound knowledge and skills base which will provide the foundation for building success. It is therefore right to plan ahead for economic recovery and growth and build upon the County's economic strengths.

14.9 Flintshire acts as a key focal point for the wider regional economy of North Wales and the North West, providing, for example, 'high-value' manufacturing employment at Deeside Industrial Park and Airbus at Broughton. Flintshire's economy has a positive outlook relative to the backdrop of global recession with some of the key economic indicators suggesting that Flintshire's economy

14 Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

is currently strong and performing well: unemployment is relatively low, GDP (Gross Domestic Product) and economic activity are relatively high. This positivity is also demonstrated by the designation of Enterprise Zone status for the area from Deeside Industrial Park, south eastwards to Hawarden Industrial Estate. This area has the highest concentration of manufacturing jobs in the UK and a level of innovation that attracts highly skilled, advance manufacturing jobs. The extension of the time period for the Enterprise Zones is further evidence of the success this has already brought in terms of economic activity and job creation and the opportunity for the LDP to assist this further.

- 14.10** In this context the LDP strategy is about looking forward with a growth ambition that is realistic, achievable and deliverable in order to make a sustained and long term positive contribution to Flintshire's economy. In achieving this, the Northern Gateway and Warren Hall mixed use development sites are important to the economic growth ambitions of the region and have the potential to help deliver up to 10,000 new jobs and up to 1,600 new homes. The Council in partnership with the owners, developers and the public sector have a shared interest in maximising the economic impact of these sites, the quality and range of jobs created and the quality and value of development secured.
- 14.11** The Plan needs to consolidate and build upon that economic role by providing for a level of economic growth that is aspirational but credible. This needs to be supported by an appropriate amount of housing development which is appropriate in terms of location and type in order to support economic growth whilst at the same time providing for the housing needs of the County. A strategic focus for the Plan is therefore the growth zone between Deeside, Wrexham and Chester, but this should not be at the expense of the remainder of the Plan area. The Plan also needs to ensure that the benefits of economic growth are distributed to sustainable settlements and locations throughout the County, by maintaining a wide portfolio of employment sites.
- 14.12** In economic terms, town centres are critical to the perception and image of Flintshire as well as the focus of social and economic activity and as vital providers of services and employment. The LDP follows PPW10 advice and seeks to ensure that Flintshire town centres are vibrant and attractive with successful businesses serving the needs of the local community through a 'town centres first' approach. Given that much of the County is rural the Plan must ensure that the economic and housing needs of rural areas are provided for in a sustainable and innovative manner. Agriculture will inevitably remain the major user of land however the need to sustain rural communities has focused attention on ways of improving and diversifying the rural economy. In rural areas it is difficult to match demand with supply, e.g. through advance provision of business premises, as many rural businesses are embryonic in nature. Therefore a positive policy approach to rural diversification initiatives is taken where this is sustainable and contributes to general wellbeing.

Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 14

Policy Context

Table 14.1

LDP Objectives	<p>1. Ensure communities have access to a mix of services and facilities, such as education and health, to allow community life to flourish, and meet the needs of particular groups such as the elderly</p> <p>2. Encourage the development of town and district centres as the focus of regeneration</p> <p>8. Facilitate growth and diversification of the local economy and an increase in skilled high value employment in key sectors</p> <p>9. Support development that positions Flintshire as an economically competitive place and an economic driver for the sub-region</p> <p>10. Redefine the role and function of Flintshire’s town centres as vibrant destinations for shopping, leisure, culture, learning, business and transport</p> <p>13. Promote and enhance a diverse and sustainable rural economy</p> <p>14. Support the provision of sustainable tourism development</p>
PPW10	<p>5.2.19 addressing the need for broadband infrastructure</p> <p>5.4.1 – 5.4.18 Economic Development</p> <p>5.6.2, 5.6.6, 5.6.8 employment activities in rural areas; agricultural development proposals and rural diversification</p>
Well Being Goals	<p>A prosperous Wales</p> <p>A resilient Wales</p>
Key Evidence	<p>Technical Advice Note 6, Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities (2010)</p> <p>Technical Advice Note 23, Economic Development (2014)</p> <p>Flintshire Regeneration Strategy 2009 – 2020</p> <p>Deeside Plan (2017)</p> <p>Wrexham and Flintshire Employment Land Review Study</p> <p>Flintshire Further Employment Growth Scenarios Assessment (October 2015)</p> <p>Employment and Housing Advice (April 2019)</p> <p>LDP Topic Paper No. 8 Economy and Employment</p> <p>LDP Topic Paper No. 11 Retailing and Town Centres</p> <p>LDP Topic Paper No. 14 Rural Affairs</p> <p>LDP Topic Paper No. 18 Tourism</p>
Monitoring	<p>The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.</p>

14 Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

Detailed Policies	<p>Policies referred to in STR8: Employment Land Provision</p> <p>Policy PE1: General Employment Land Allocations</p> <p>Policy PE2: Principal Employment Areas</p> <p>Policy PE3: Employment Development Outside Allocated Sites and Principal Employment Areas</p> <p>Policy PE4: Farm Diversification</p> <p>Policy PE5: Expansion of Existing Employment Uses</p> <p>Policy PE6: Protection of Employment Land</p> <p>Policy PE7: Retail Hierarchy</p> <p>Policy PE8: Development within Primary Shopping Areas</p> <p>Policy PE9: Development outside Primary Shopping Areas</p> <p>Policy PE10: District and Local Centres</p> <p>Policy PE11: Edge and Out of Town Retail Development</p> <p>Policy PE12: Tourist Accommodation, Facilities and Attractions</p> <p>Policy PE13: Caravan Development in the Open Countryside</p> <p>Policy PE14: Greenfield Valley</p>
-------------------	--

Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 14

Policy 8**STR8: Employment Land Provision**

A strategic and local supply of employment land is identified to satisfy the County's employment needs. Economic development will be guided to the most appropriate locations by providing a range and choice of sites in terms of location, quality, type and size which will comprise:

- i. Land currently committed for employment uses;
- ii. Undeveloped land and existing premises within Principal Employment Areas;
- iii. Employment land allocations including two key strategic sites of sub-regional significance referred to in Policies STR3, and STR7;
- iv. The safeguarding of existing employment sites and premises, where they play an important role in meeting future economic needs;
- v. Land and sites outside settlement boundaries, allocated sites, and Principal Employment Areas which can deliver sustainable employment development through the re-use of suitable buildings and land.

Explanation

- 14.13** It is important that the LDP supports and underpins the local and wider regional economic ambition by promoting a strategy that promotes growth beyond Employment Land Review estimates. The LDP also has a role in supporting higher value employment sectors which can result in higher returns for businesses, higher wages for workers, job growth in the County and increased GVA for the local and national economy. It is essential therefore that Flintshire has an adequate employment land provision to accommodate future market demand while allowing choice and flexibility to meet the varying nature of future employment needs and demands.
- 14.14** A robust review of existing sites alongside an assessment of the amount and the type of sites likely to be required over the Plan period has been undertaken in order to determine whether existing sites are still capable of meeting the needs of modern employers. An Employment Land Review was jointly commissioned with Wrexham CBC to inform the Councils respective LDPs. The review assessed the supply, need and demand for employment land and premises (Use Class B) and found that the employment land supply in Flintshire was 223.94 ha. Historically the average long term take up levels in Flintshire have been 12 ha a year but since 2000 the average take-up rate has reduced to just over 9 ha. Over the recession, less than 1 ha a year was taken up. Using the projected growth of employment in industry sectors as the main measure of future land needs for the period up to 2030 the ELR indicated that there was a minimum need for 1.9 ha/year or 28.50 ha overall. On the face of it this shows that there appears to be a substantial surplus of

14 Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

employment land in the County, and thus there is no immediate need to identify new land allocations for B1, B2 and B8 uses. Further detail on the plan's supply of employment land is set out in the explanation to PE1.

- 14.15** As TAN23 notes, employment sites should only be retained if they are viable and deliverable. However after reviewing the suitability and viability of the sites in Flintshire's land supply the ELR recommended that the Council should be looking to protect (and in some locally specific circumstances increase) their land supply rather than release land for alternative uses to cater for future demand. The ELR also found that in the vast majority of cases there were no suitable alternative uses for existing employment sites within the Council's portfolio of land. The LDP therefore seeks to safeguard existing sites and premises where appropriate and necessary to ensure retention of the employment land portfolio and ensure that economic growth is not constrained by a lack of choice of land. All areas for employment development, local or strategic, are identified in the LDP by the same designation of Principal Employment Area.
- 14.16** Where demand for employment development falls outside settlement boundaries, employment allocations, or Principal Employment Areas the LDP takes a positive approach to proposals, provided they represent sustainable development. In assessing employment proposals the LPA will apply the sequential test where preference is given to locations within settlement boundaries, then edge of settlement sites, and finally land in the open countryside. Market forces do not always conform to land use designations or boundaries and accordingly the LDP has a criteria based policy which caters for this. In rural areas the Plan recognises that economic uses can bring benefits provided that they are sustainably located and where benefits outweigh any adverse impacts of the development.
- 14.17** Employment development in rural areas can make rural communities more sustainable by providing jobs closer to where people live, reducing the distance people travel for their work, and stemming the loss of economic activity from rural areas. The locational requirements of businesses may also be very specific but opportunities should exist through the LDP for other forms of employment and economic activity such as tourism, leisure, services and facilities, and agriculture related. It is not always possible to identify those rural areas where the need for employment diversification will arise in the future. Therefore, rather than allocating specific employment sites where demand may never materialise, the LDP sets out criteria to assess small-scale enterprises and rural employment development proposals, as and when they arise. The important role the re-use and adaptation of existing rural buildings has in meeting the economic needs of rural areas is recognised with a positive approach taken to the conversion of rural buildings for employment re-use. The emphasis will be on those employment uses which genuinely require a rural location given that other employment uses should be located within the settlements.

Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 14

14.18 The Council also recognises that to support the level of growth proposed in the LDP, access and infrastructure improvements will be necessary during the Plan period to support and facilitate economic growth, including employment and housing provision.

Policy Context

Table 14.2

LDP Objectives	8. Facilitate growth and diversification of the local economy and an increase in skilled high value employment in key sectors 9. Support development that positions Flintshire as an economically competitive place and an economic driver for the sub-region
PPW10	5.4.3, 5.4.4 supporting the provision of employment land to meet strategic and local level needs 5.4.7 – 5.4.8 Economic evidence and Employment Land Review 7.1.3 economic development proposals utilising underused, vacant and previously developed land 7.1.4, 7.1.5 employment sites 7.3.2, 7.6.5 re-use of buildings in rural areas
Well Being Goals	A prosperous Wales A resilient Wales
Key Evidence	Technical Advice Note 23, Economic Development (2014) Flintshire Regeneration Strategy 2009 - 2020 Deeside Plan (2017) Wrexham and Flintshire Employment Land Review Study Flintshire Further Employment Growth Scenarios Assessment (Oct 2015) Employment and Housing Advice (April 2019) LDP Topic Paper No. 8 Economy and Employment
Monitoring	The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.
Detailed Policies	Policy PE1: General Employment Land Allocations Policy PE2: Principal Employment Areas Policy PE3: Employment Development Outside Allocated Sites and Principal Employment Areas Policy PE5: Expansion of Existing Employment Uses Policy PE6: Protection of Employment Land

14 Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

Policy 9**STR9: Retail Centres and Development**

Retail developments will be guided by the County Retail Hierarchy. This approach will seek to maintain and enhance the vibrancy, viability and attractiveness of Flintshire's town, district, and local centres, supporting the delivery of appropriate comparison and convenience retail, office, leisure, entertainment and cultural facilities.

Retail centres will be the preferred location for new retail, leisure, office, social and other town centre uses. Major development will need to comply with the 'town centres first' principles within PPW in terms of the Needs Test, Sequential Test and Retail Impact Assessment.

Given the changing role of town centres, both Town Centre and Primary Shopping Areas are defined in recognition of the need for a degree of flexibility in maintaining occupancy and footfall, and to enable a tailored approach to be taken for each centre having regard to health checks, masterplans and action plans.

Explanation

- 14.19** The LDP includes a range of social, economic and environmental objectives relating to Flintshire's communities who use town and other service centres for a variety of purposes. Planning Policy Wales (PPW) recognises that the most appropriate location for retail and complimentary uses are within town and other local service centres. In essence they may be multifunctional in respect of retail, commercial, leisure and residential uses and the plan adopts a town centre first approach. This plan, as advised by PPW10, seeks to steer new development to town centres and thereby protect and enhance the viability and vitality of such locations and the businesses within them.
- 14.20** Unlike some of our neighbours Flintshire does not have one principal town centre which functions as a major shopping destination, although the retail and commercial provision at Broughton Shopping Park does perform a sub-regional role. Instead there are a number of towns (Main Service Centres) within the Plan area which have relatively small and sometimes overlapping shopping catchment populations such as Buckley and Mold. All of Flintshire's town centres compete for comparison goods retail with the large shopping park at Broughton and retail draw from surrounding centres at Chester, Ellesmere Port and Wrexham. The Flintshire Retail Study (2019) carried out by Peter Brett/Stantec consultants showed that Broughton Shopping Park is the main comparison shopping destination within the study area, achieving

Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 14

a market share of 21.7%. Broughton Shopping Park therefore retains a good proportion of expenditure within the County which would otherwise leak out to adjoining authority areas.

- 14.21** Town centres are evolving centres of economic activity and are located in the heart of the County's largest towns serving community needs in the town and the wider catchment areas. Flintshire's town centres are important centres of employment that also provide access to shopping, food and drink, social and health facilities. There is variety in terms of their individual history and character and differences in role and function which suggests that it is necessary to tailor the retail strategy to recognise their different functions. That said it is accepted that the town centres can be vulnerable to out of centre/out of town retail competition such as Broughton and Chester as well as to modern ways of shopping via the internet.
- 14.22** Amongst other things PPW requires Local Planning Authorities to identify a retail hierarchy for the Plan area. Consequently the "town centres first" principle in tandem with a sequential approach to the selection of sites has been used to promote town centres as the main locations for new retail, office, leisure, social and health facilities. In doing so the aim is to create more reasons why people should visit such centres with a resultant increase in social and economic activity thereby retaining its viability. The Retail Hierarchy comprises three tiers. The upper tier comprises the traditional Town Centres where there is a recognisable town centre and a wide range of uses such as retail, leisure, office, cultural and transport facilities. The middle tier comprises District Centres where there are distinct groupings of retail and other uses but on a smaller scale and with less variety and offer. The lowest tier is that of Local Centres which range from small shopping parades in residential areas to loose clusters of retail including local convenience, and other uses in village centres. The retail hierarchy is set out in policy PE7.
- 14.23** In many respects the biggest retail and leisure offering within the County is that of Broughton Shopping Park. This out of town shopping park has been omitted from the retail hierarchy in previous development plans, in order to reinforce its 'out of town' location and to prevent it attracting smaller scale retail and other uses which might compete with nearby defined centres, by controlling the scale and nature of retail and other proposals which arise. Although the scale and composition of the shopping park has changed since its inception with the sub-division of retail units and a broader shopping and leisure 'offer', concerns remain about the effect of further retail development and the effect it could have on nearby traditional retail centres. For this reason, Broughton Shopping Park remains outside the retail hierarchy.
- 14.24** Core Retail Areas (CRA) have previously been used in the UDP to delineate the primary shopping areas where retail development is encouraged and non- A1 development is controlled to ensure the availability of premises for retailing. In recognising the dynamic and changing trends in retailing such as

14 Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

increases in home delivery services and internet retailing can impact upon the role of town and other centres, the CRA policy and their associated boundaries have been reviewed to assess whether it is still an effective means of ensuring that a focus of retail uses is retained in key parts of Flintshire's town centres. In order to ensure greater consistency with PPW10 it is proposed that the policy tool be retitled 'Primary Shopping Areas'. The Retail Study identifies that there is only a small need for further comparison retail floorspace over the Plan period and a negative need for convenience retail floorspace. However changes to the retail industry in recent years have made it difficult to predict the most appropriate areas to allocate for retail uses. Since there are options for comparison retail sites within the plan area, the council is also working to encouraging appropriate retail uses and the plan has a flexible approach to retail windfall sites it is considered that no retail allocation is needed. The implementation of the Plan's retail policies will be informed by its evidence base for example health checks, and existing town centre masterplans and the up to date Retail Study.

- 14.25** There are also a number of district shopping centres within the County as well as smaller local centres and in some instances village shops. All of these perform an important role for top up shopping particularly for those people without access to a car. Pubs can also provide an economic and social role as a hub of community activity.
- 14.26** The strategic policy should be read in conjunction with STR5 Transport and Accessibility and STR7 Economic Development, Enterprise and Employment and is also supported by a suite of detailed policies.

Policy Context

Table 14.3

LDP Objectives	<p>2. Encourage the development of town and district centres as the focus of regeneration</p> <p>3. Promote a sustainable and safe transport system that reduces reliance on the car</p> <p>10. Redefine the role and function of Flintshire's town centres as vibrant destinations for shopping, leisure, culture, learning, business and transport</p>
PPW10	Paras 4.3.1 – 4.3.42 Retail & Commercial Development
Well Being Goals	<p>A prosperous Wales</p> <p>A resilient Wales</p>

Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 14

<p>Key Evidence</p>	<p>Technical Advice Note 4 Retailing and Town Centres (2016) Technical Advice Note 23 Economic Development (2014) Flintshire Town Centre Surveys and Health Checks (2003 and 2008) Flintshire Retail Capacity Assessment (2010) Buckley Masterplan (2011) Connah’s Quay & Shotton Masterplan (2010) Deeside Plan (2017) Flint Strategy and Masterplan (2012) Holywell Town Centre Assessment (2010) Queensferry Streetscape Environmental Improvements and Design Guidelines (2010) Mold Sense of Place Study (2010) Mold Town Plan (2017) Mold Strategic Sites Assessment (2014) Annual Town Centre Benchmarking Reports (2011 – Present) LDP Topic Paper No 11 – Retailing and Town Centres Flintshire Retail Study (2019)</p>
<p>Monitoring</p>	<p>The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.</p>
<p>Detailed Policies</p>	<p>PE7 Retail Hierarchy PE8 Development within Primary Shopping Areas PE9 Development outside Primary Shopping Areas PE10 District and Local Centres PE11 Edge and Out of Town Retail Development</p>

14 Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

Policy 10**STR10: Tourism, Culture, and Leisure**

The intrinsic appeal of Flintshire's natural and built environment makes the County an attractive destination for sustainable tourism development. Development that capitalizes on these assets and creates a year round broad appeal will be supported.

Particular emphasis will be placed on:

- i. Supporting new and extended tourism development which is appropriate to its location and enhances the existing offer within Flintshire;
- ii. Support development that promotes accessibility to Flintshire's landscape, cultural and historic assets, including the Clwydian Range AONB, coastline, rights of way, cycling and active travel networks;
- iii. Promote and enhance the maintenance and diversification of a sustainable rural economy;
- iv. Conserving and enhancing Flintshire's natural, built and cultural heritage;
- v. Enabling a range and choice of tourism accommodation to meet a variety of needs from short visit to long stay.

Explanation

14.27 Tourism has a key role to play in the economy of Flintshire and in particular it is important in supporting and diversifying rural communities and the rural economy. Welsh Government recognises that tourism is 'vital to economic prosperity and job creation' and 'can be a catalyst for regeneration, improvement of the built environment and environmental protection' (Para 5.5.1 PPW10). Tourism in Flintshire covers a range of attractions, such as, historic market towns like Mold and Holywell/ Greenfield Valley, coastal caravan holidays at Talacre, walking and cycling along the coastal path or more active pursuits throughout the AONB. In terms of cultural identity and cultural attractions, Flintshire has a relatively small but strong and distinctive Welsh speaking community. This cultural identity manifests itself through the demand for Welsh language education, a wide variety of Welsh language or bilingual community groups and events throughout the year from the Cadi Ha Springtime Festival in May to the Taith y Fari Llwyd in December and many more in between.

14.28 Tourism has the potential to increase economic activity, assist regeneration and conservation, and raise general health and well-being. There can also be some negative impacts of tourism, as a result of visitor pressure, in terms of traffic congestion, harm to sensitive natural environments (for example in undeveloped coastal areas and protected areas), and to local communities.

Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 14

Detailed policies later in the Plan aim to direct tourism development to locations to avoid such impacts, or seek to control development to reduce negative impacts.

- 14.29 The LDP provides the framework for the provision and protection of well-located, good quality, tourism, sport, recreation and leisure facilities and to diversify tourism in the County. The LDP seeks to ensure that proposals for new tourism related development are located in sustainable and accessible locations and that local communities are not adversely affected.
- 14.30 Any proposed development for tourism, sport and recreation uses located on previously used land will be encouraged where appropriate. All proposed development must be appropriate to its location and surrounding environment and not have negative landscape or environmental impact with particular regard to the Clwydian Range Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) and European Designated Sites. Development which is likely to generate high levels of traffic and which is more akin to retail development, should be located within town centres where possible. Unlike housing or employment uses, it is more difficult to allocate land for specific tourism /leisure uses as the industry is more trend based and footloose.

Policy Context

Table 14.4

LDP Objectives	13. Promote and enhance a diverse and sustainable rural economy 14. Support the provision of sustainable tourism development 18. Promote good design that is locally distinct, innovative and sensitive to location
PPW10	Paras 5.5.1 – 5.5.7 Tourism
Well Being Goals	A Wales of cohesive communities A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language
Key Evidence	Flintshire Tourism Strategy Active Travel Survey, Topic Paper 1 - Biodiversity and Nature Conservation, Topic Paper 3 - Built and Historic Environment, Topic Paper 4 - Open Space, Topic Paper 14 - Rural Affairs, Topic Paper 18 - Tourism, TAN 5 Nature Conservation and Planning. TAN 6 Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities TAN 13 Tourism TAN16 Sport Recreation and Open Space
Monitoring	The monitoring framework set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.

14 Strategic Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

Detailed Policies	PE12: Tourist Accommodation, Facilities and Attractions PE13: Caravan Development in the Open Countryside PE14: Greenfield Valley EN1: Sports, Recreational and Cultural Facilities EN2: Green Infrastructure
-------------------	---

Strategic Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 15

15 Strategic Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

15 Strategic Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

Introduction

- 15.1** This section of the Plan focusses on meeting housing needs both as a need in itself, generated from changing population characteristics, and also from the perspective that housing is an important part of the support infrastructure necessary to achieve the Council's economic ambitions. The range of policy responses to this need includes sustainable provision for both market and affordable housing, as well as the provision of accommodation for the Gypsy and Traveller community.
- 15.2** Housing is central to people's lives. Quality, affordable housing contributes directly to community cohesion and sustainability, and to people's health and well-being. The LDP aims to strike the right balance between sustainability, community cohesion and growth, by directing the right amount and type of new housing development to the most sustainable sites and settlements. This will be balanced with the commitments that the County already has within the land bank, which need to come forward and deliver the homes they are intended for. In this context, existing commitments have been the subject of a rigorous review whereby only those which are capable of being delivered within the Plan period are included. For instance, a number of UDP allocations are not carried over into the LDP as they are at this point in time not considered to make a realistic contribution to supply.
- 15.3** The physical delivery of new housing is the responsibility of housing developers and it is the role of the LDP to ensure that sufficient provision of sites is made to meet a genuine demand from the industry, in the most sustainable and viable locations. This includes the need to ensure that the infrastructure is in place, or can be provided, to accommodate development and also that the impacts that development can have on communities is properly assessed and mitigated through the provision of developer obligations.
- 15.4** In setting out to achieve this, the LDP draws from a number of sources or key drivers which include demographic trends at work in Flintshire, the need to support economic growth and create jobs, the evidence of need for affordable housing set out in the Local Housing Market Assessment, and the Flintshire Local Housing Strategy. The latter focusses on three key priorities:
- Increase the supply to provide the right type of homes in the right location
 - Provide support to ensure people live and remain in the right type of home
 - Improve the quality and sustainability of our homes.

Strategic Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 15

- 15.5** The Council commissioned a Local Housing Market Assessment jointly with its Wrexham County Borough Council neighbours in 2015. For Flintshire, this identified a need for 246 affordable units per annum (over the life of the assessment), for both social rented and intermediate affordable tenures. The Local Housing Market Assessment for Flintshire was updated in 2018, which has shown an annual need for 228 affordable units. This evidence informs the detailed policies for affordable housing, including the appropriate level of affordable housing to be sought via the planning system, the identification of viable thresholds and proportions, as well as the contribution from other sources including the Registered Social Landlords and the Council's own initiatives, specifically the Strategic Housing And Regeneration Programme (SHARP) where the delivery of 500 new council affordable homes on surplus Council land is already underway.
- 15.6** In this section the Plan's strategy in relation to meeting housing needs is defined by the following strategic policies:
- STR11 Provision of Sustainable Housing Sites
 - STR12 Provision for Gypsies and Travellers
- 15.7** Each of the strategic policies is accompanied by a cross reference to the relevant detailed policies. For ease of reference the relevant detailed policies are grouped under the same 'Meeting Housing Needs' theme in section 19:
- HN1: New Housing Development Proposals
 - HN2: Density and Mix of Development
 - HN3: Affordable Housing
 - HN4 Housing in the Countryside
 - HN4-A Replacement Dwellings
 - HN4-B Residential Conversion of Rural Buildings
 - HN4-C Infill Development in Groups of Houses
 - HN4-D Affordable Housing Exceptions Schemes
 - HN5: House Extensions and Alterations
 - HN6 Annex Accommodation
 - HN7 Houses in Multiple Occupation
 - HN8: Gypsy and Traveller Sites
 - HN9 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation

15 Strategic Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

Policy 11**STR11: Provision of Sustainable Housing Sites**

As part of implementing the Sustainable Settlement Hierarchy, and to ensure that communities have access to sufficient, good quality, affordable housing to meet a range of needs and support economic growth, new housing will be directed to sustainably located, economically viable and deliverable housing sites.

The delivery of new housing on these sites will be expected to:

- i. Facilitate the provision of affordable housing relative to local needs and viability;
- ii. Making the most efficient use of land through appropriate density of development;
- iii. Provide balanced developments through a mix of housing units;
- iv. Make provision for specific housing needs, where appropriate, including for example small family and elderly housing, extra care and supported accommodation, live-work units;
- v. Provide or contribute to physical, environmental and social infrastructure necessary to integrate new development into communities;
- vi. Ensure in rural areas, that genuine and proportionate needs for housing are met in a sustainable manner.

The availability of housing land will be monitored and maintained over the plan period as part of the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) process, to ensure a continuous and adequate supply to enable the delivery of the overall housing requirement. This will involve maximizing the delivery of sustainable and viable commitments already within the landbank, balanced against the allocation of sustainable, viable and deliverable new sites.

Explanation

- 15.8** A home is a vital part of people's lives as it affects their health and well-being, quality of life and the opportunities open to them. The Welsh Government's approach, set out in the National Housing Strategy is to: provide more housing of the right type and offer more choice; improve homes and communities, including the energy efficiency of new and existing homes; and improve housing-related services and support, particularly for vulnerable people and people from minority groups.
- 15.9** A key function of the Plan is to provide an appropriate and sustainable supply of housing land. PPW and TAN1 specifically requires that the Council secures and maintains a 5 year supply of housing land. Para 4.2.15 of PPW states

Strategic Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 15

‘This means that sites must be free, or readily freed, from planning, physical and ownership constraints, and economically viable in order to support the creation of sustainable communities’.

15.10 As set out in policy STR1 the Plan seeks to meet a requirement of 6,950 dwellings by making provision for 7950 units, through applying a 14.4% flexibility allowance. This requirement will be met in practice through a variety of sources of supply. This will include commitments (existing planning permissions) that are genuinely capable of being delivered, new allocations and realistic allowances for windfalls (unidentified small and large sites coming forward during the Plan period). Of the new allocations policy STR3 identifies two existing key strategic mixed use allocations and the remainder will be small to medium allocations. This mix of delivery, and the lack of over-reliance on new strategic sites, backed up by evidence from developers relating to viability and deliverability, will enable a 5 year supply to be secured and maintained. The deposit Plan is supported by a housing trajectory setting out (as best it can) how and when housing will be delivered through the Plan period.

15.11 A Housing Balance Sheet is set out below which shows how the Plan’s housing requirement figure is met through a mix of commitments, completions to date, allowances for small sites and windfalls, strategic allocations and detailed allocations.

Table 15.1

Element	Amount	Notes
REQUIREMENT	6950	
Less completions 15-16	662	Includes large and small site completions.
Less completions 16-17	421	Includes large and small site completions.
Less completions 17-18	608	Includes large and small site completions.
Revised Requirement:	5259	
Less commitments	1771	This reflects a review of large sites whereby only sites with planning permission as at 01/04/18 which are considered to be realistically capable of development, are included. The figures do not include the 1325 consented units at Northern Gateway, nor sites at Well Street, Buckley and Highmere Drive and Broad Oak Holding, Connah’s Quay as these are included in the strategic sites and allocations figures. Housing commitments are detailed in Appendix 1 and shown on the proposals map.
Revised Requirement	3488	Page 237

15 Strategic Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

Less Small sites allowance (<10 units) 60 pa	720	Small sites allowance represents a conservative but realistic allowance of 60 units per annum (as per UDP) over the remaining Plan period.
Less Windfall allowance (>10 units) 50 pa	600	Windfalls allowance (large sites) represents a conservative but realistic allowance of 50 units per annum (as per UDP) over the remaining Plan period.
Residual Requirement	2168	
Less LDP Strategic Allocations	1294	Includes Northern Gateway 1325 units and Warren Hall 300. However, Northern Gateway discounted by 331 units which may be delivered beyond the Plan end date – 131 units on Praxis and 200 units on Pochin.
New allocations Requirement	874	
LDP Allocations	1874	See policy HN1
Overallocation / flexibility	1000/14.4%	

15.12 The policy highlights that new housing will be distributed in accordance with the settlement hierarchy and spatial strategy in policy STR2 to sustainable locations and settlements having regard to accessibility, services, facilities which can support economic growth areas. The aim is to ensure that communities have access to sufficient, good quality, affordable housing to meet a range of needs by ensuring that new housing is economically viable and deliverable. The provision of new sites has also been informed by the amount and distribution of existing commitments, particularly where 'speculative' sites have been granted planning permission on the back of TAN1.

15.13 In identifying detailed new allocations in the Plan a site search sequence has been followed in line with the advice in para 3.39 of PPW '...In developing their spatial strategy planning authorities must prioritise the use of suitable and sustainable previously developed land and/or underutilised sites for all types of development. When identifying sites in their development plans planning authorities should consider previously developed land and/or underutilised sites located within existing settlements in the first instance with sites on the edge of settlements considered at the next stage'. Given the lack of suitable brownfield land in Flintshire particular regard has to be had to para 3.40 of PPW which states 'Where there is a need for sites, but it has been clearly demonstrated that there is no previously developed land or underutilised sites (within the authority or neighbouring authorities), consideration should then be given to suitable and sustainable greenfield sites within or on the edge of settlements'.

Strategic Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 15

- 15.14** The delivery of affordable housing is also an integral part of the general provision of housing in the Plan. The Local Housing Market Assessment Update identified a need of 228 units per annum and consideration is given in the detailed policies as to the affordable housing target to be met by the Plan, recognising that the LDP will not be the only delivery mechanism for bringing about affordable housing. Detailed policies set the thresholds at which development will be required to provide affordable housing and the quotas to be applied within different housing market areas, having regard to viability considerations. The approach is set out in policy HN3.
- 15.15** As a general principle, in line with para 4.2.2 of PPW, the Plan seeks to ensure that the most efficient use is made of land. The role of the Plan is to set a housing density which is challenging but which is also sympathetic in terms of not harming the amenity standards of residents nor harming the character and appearance of the locality. Alongside achieving the highest appropriate density on a development is the requirement to ensure an appropriate mix of housing on developments in terms of house types and sizes. For instance the Local Housing Market Assessment identifies a need for smaller one bedroom properties and two bedroom properties and this needs to be balanced against developer preferences for predominantly larger dwellings. This will help work towards achieving inclusive, balanced cohesive communities.
- 15.16** In circumstances where a need has been established (and on appropriate sites), new development will also be required to provide for more specialist needs housing. In particular this is required to take account of the ageing population and the strong messages about the need for bungalows, or other forms of housing suited to meeting the general housing needs of elderly residents, or more specialist forms of accommodation such as sheltered housing. However, it would not be appropriate for specialist housing to be required on every development, as this will depend on the location of the site, the type of development and whether a need exists. The Local Housing Strategy identifies the need for specialist housing and sets out the Council's approach to meeting these needs.
- 15.17** As set out in policy STR6 the Plan will seek to ensure that appropriate and necessary infrastructure will be secured alongside new development. The key planning principles in fig. 3 of PPW recognizes 'Our communities need the right mix of good quality/well designed homes, jobs, services, infrastructure and facilities so that people feel content with their everyday lives'.
- 15.18** A significant part of the County is rural in character with a large number of small settlements. The revised settlement hierarchy seeks to take a more sensitive approach to categorising settlements based on their relative sustainability. The Plan's spatial strategy seeks to accommodate the majority of built development in the upper three tiers of the settlement hierarchy but recognises the need for smaller scale sensitive development to take place

15 Strategic Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

in rural settlements. The focus is still on meeting local needs housing i.e. for specific rural enterprise based needs or for affordable housing in Tier 4 Defined Villages and Tier 5 Undefined Villages, but additional flexibility is built into policy STR2 to allow for potential 'cross subsidy' on windfall sites in Tier 4 Defined Villages by allowing small amounts of market housing where it is necessary on viability grounds to deliver local needs housing.

- 15.19** In addition to affordable housing being delivered through LDP mechanisms, the Council is also delivering affordable housing through a variety of other initiatives and projects. Principal amongst these is the Council's Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP) whereby the Council is working with a preferred development partner Wates Residential to build innovative and high quality new affordable homes. The scheme will deliver 500 new homes across the County by 2021 of which 300 will be affordable rent (owned and managed by North East Wales Homes Ltd) and 200 social rent (managed by FCC). The Affordable Housing Background Paper provides further detail on Flintshire's approach to affordable housing delivery alongside the LDP. A further Background Paper on Housing Land Supply sets out how the Plan will seek to facilitate the delivery of the housing requirement figure. The Background Paper will include a detailed housing trajectory alongside a 5 year housing land supply calculation. It will also contain a detailed apportionment of the housing development having regard to the settlement hierarchy.

Policy Context

Table 15.2

LDP Objectives	11. Ensuring that Flintshire has the right amount, size, and type of housing to support economic development and to meet a range of housing needs 12. Ensure that housing development takes place in sustainable locations where sites are viable and deliverable and are supported by the necessary social, environmental and physical infrastructure
PPW10	Spatial Strategy and Site Search Sequence Paras 3.37 – 3.44 Housing Delivery Paras Para 4.2.2, 4.2.10 – 4.2.24 Affordable Housing Paras 4.2.25 – 4.2.34
Well Being Goals	A more equal Wales A globally responsible Wales
Key Evidence	Local Housing Market Assessment 2015 Local Housing Market Assessment Update 2019 Affordable Housing Background Paper Page 240

Strategic Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 15

	<p>Housing Land Supply Background Paper</p> <p>New Housing Occupancy Survey</p> <p>Study Concerning the Economic Viability of Providing Affordable Housing Across Flintshire (District Valuer Services) 2019</p> <p>Housing Land Monitoring Statement, April 2018</p>
Monitoring	The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.
Detailed Policies	<p>HN1 New Housing Development Proposals</p> <p>HN2 Density and Mix of Development</p> <p>HN3 Affordable Housing</p>

15 Strategic Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

Policy 12**STR12: Provision for Gypsies and Travellers**

The accommodation needs of Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople has been assessed and addressed appropriately, as part of Flintshire's overall needs for housing.

Under the duty identified in the Housing Act (Wales) 2014, Flintshire has assessed the future accommodation needs which informs the basis for detailed policies. The Plan makes site specific provision for permanent and transit pitches, and a criteria based policy to judge the appropriateness of planning applications for new sites as they arise.

The Council will seek to work with the Welsh Government and with neighbouring Authorities on key travelling routes, to ensure that the wider regional needs of Gypsies and Travellers are being consistently and responsibly met.

Explanation

- 15.20** The accommodation of Gypsies and Travellers is often a contentious issue, not just in Wales but UK wide. Nevertheless an important role of planning is to ensure accessibility for all members of the community to key facilities such as housing, health, education and leisure. When making provision for housing the LDP needs to recognise the specific accommodation needs of Gypsies and Travellers. These groups follow a particular lifestyle often associated with travelling. A common perception is that there are insufficient sites for people who wish to pursue a nomadic lifestyle. North Wales is a popular location for "stop overs" for Gypsies and Travellers as a principal travelling route passes through all the local authority areas in North Wales.
- 15.21** Part 3 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014 places a duty on all local authorities to assess the accommodation needs of gypsy families by undertaking a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA). In recognition of this National Planning Guidance requires LDP's to make adequate provision for the unmet accommodation needs of Gypsy and Traveller families. To meet this duty the Council commissioned a GTAA study to identify the housing needs from across Flintshire, and a further update of the GTAA was commissioned in 2018.
- 15.22** The GTAA data has been used to identify the number of Gypsy and Traveller households which require additional pitches, within five years of the date of the Study and also over the Development Plan period. In terms of provision across Flintshire, there was one Local Authority site, six private authorised sites, one private temporary authorised site and three unauthorised sites. Two of the authorised sites are being redeveloped.

Strategic Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 15

- 15.23** The GTAA update identifies an unmet need over a 5 year period of 8 pitches and over the Plan period an unmet need of 26 pitches as well as the need for a small site for transit provision. No need for pitches for travelling showpeople was identified in the Study and any need that does arise over the Plan period can be assessed against a criteria based policy.
- 15.24** In relation to this evidence of need, the Council has made site specific provision by extending existing authorised sites and by a detailed criteria based policy in order to meet any future or unexpected demand. Site and service provision to Gypsies and Travellers in Flintshire is the responsibility of a number of Council functions (housing, education and environment) together with external partners and stakeholders. The Council will work with its partners and neighbouring authorities over the Plan period to ensure appropriate accommodation for Gypsies and Travellers is provided within the County. In identifying sites for allocation, or dealing with subsequent proposals, the ability of Gypsies and Travellers to access services and facilities has been an important consideration in terms of ensuring cohesive communities.

Policy Context

Table 15.3

LDP Objectives	<p>1. Ensure communities have access to a mix of services and facilities, such as education and health, to allow community life to flourish, and meet the needs of particular groups such as the elderly</p> <p>7. Create places that are safe, accessible and encourage and support good health, well-being and equality</p> <p>11. Ensuring that Flintshire has the right amount, size, and type of housing to support economic development and to meet a range of housing needs</p> <p>12. Ensure that housing development takes place in sustainable locations where sites are viable and deliverable and are supported by the necessary social, environmental and physical infrastructure</p>
PPW10	Gypsies and Travellers para 4.2.35
Well Being Goals	A more equal Wales
Key Evidence	<p>Housing (Wales) Act 2014</p> <p>Welsh Assembly Government Circular 30/2007 – Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Caravan Sites</p> <p>Gypsy and Traveller Site Selection Background Paper</p> <p>Flintshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment 2016</p>

15 Strategic Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

	Flintshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Update 2018 LDP Topic Paper No 10 – Population, Household Growth and Housing
Monitoring	The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.
Detailed Policies	HN8 Gypsy and Traveller Sites HN9 Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation

Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment 16

16 Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment

16 Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment

Introduction

- 16.1** Flintshire has a high quality natural and built environment which is one of its primary assets. This provides a context for protecting important landscapes, biodiversity and habitats, attracting investment, promoting tourism and ensuring the County is a sustainable place to live and work. Clearly it also plays a key role in the health and well-being of its communities. Protecting and enhancing the mineral, natural and historic resources which make Flintshire special is key to the role the LDP will play, and is particularly important in the context of climate change.
- 16.2** The County contains significant areas of international and national statutory environmental designations, as well as many sites of local wildlife importance, which the Plan identifies to ensure their protection and where possible, enhancement. In parts of Flintshire, important towns, urban areas and employment uses sit side by side with these sensitive assets, and where development needs to happen in proximity to this context, the Plan ensures that all reasonable steps are taken to balance the need for protection, whilst providing for sustainable economic growth and development.
- 16.3** The Plan must also seek to reduce the causes and adapt to the consequences of climate change and have due regard to issues such as flood risk, the need for greater energy efficiency in development, sustainable water management, air quality and reducing the need to travel by car in planning for the location of development safely and sustainably.
- 16.4** The Plan also has an important role to facilitate the provision of sustainable waste management facilities that allow the waste we generate to be managed as high up the waste hierarchy as possible.
- 16.5** Flintshire is also a key location for important mineral resources that are important not only in a local or regional economic sense, but nationally, as these resources can only be worked where they occur. As part of the wider regional assessment of supply, on top of reserves Flintshire currently has, a relatively modest additional provision is identified in the LDP to maintain the contribution the County makes.
- 16.6** In this section the Plan's strategy in relation to valuing the environment is defined by the following policies:
- STR13 Natural and Built Environment, Green Networks and Infrastructure
 - STR14 Climate Change and Environmental Protection
 - STR15 Waste Management
 - STR16 Strategic Planning for Minerals

Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment 16

16.7 Each of the strategic policies is accompanied by a cross reference to the relevant detailed policies. For ease of reference the relevant detailed policies are grouped under the same 'Valuing the Environment' theme in section 20. The relevant policies are:

- EN1 Sports, Recreation and Cultural Facilities
- EN2 Green Infrastructure
- EN3 Undeveloped Coast and Dee Estuary Corridor
- EN4 Landscape Character
- EN5 Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
- EN6 Sites of Biodiversity Importance
- EN7 Development Affecting Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows
- EN8 Built Historic Environment and Listed Buildings
- EN9 Development In or Adjacent to Conservation Areas
- EN10 Buildings of Local Interest
- EN11 Green Barriers
- EN12 New Development and Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Technology
- EN13 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Development
- EN14 Flood Risk
- EN15 Water Resources
- EN16 Development on or near Landfill Sites or Derelict and Contaminated Land
- EN17 Development of Unstable Land
- EN18 Pollution and Nuisance
- EN19 Managing Waste Sustainably
- EN20 Landfill Buffer Zone
- EN21 Locations for Waste Management Facilities
- EN22 Criteria for Waste Management Facilities and Operations
- EN23 Minerals Safeguarding
- EN24 Minerals Buffer Zones
- EN25 Sustainable Minerals Development
- EN26 Criteria for Minerals Development
- EN27 Secondary and Recycled Aggregate

16 Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment

Policy 13**STR13: Natural and Built Environment, Green Networks and Infrastructure**

Environmental networks can, and do, have a variety of roles in protecting and enhancing biodiversity, defining the landscape setting of places, defining the transition from urban to countryside, and facilitating well-being through amenity, recreation and active leisure. The key is to balance these sometimes conflicting roles, achieving a sustainable balance.

Development will identify, respect, protect, enhance and connect Flintshire's environmental assets, to create a multifunctional network of natural and historic resources.

To achieve this all development will:

- i. Protect open countryside and the undeveloped coastline;
- ii. Protect the open character and appearance of green barriers;
- iii. Conserve, protect and enhance the quality and diversity of Flintshire's natural environment including landscape, biodiversity, the Dee Estuary and the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB;
- iv. Promote opportunities to enhance biodiversity and ensure resilience;
- v. Maintain, enhance, and contribute to green infrastructure;
- vi. Create and protect green spaces and open space / play environments that encourage and support good health, well-being, and equality;
- vii. Conserve, protect and enhance the local distinctiveness and quality of Flintshire's built and historic environment including listed buildings, conservation areas, registered historic parks, gardens and landscapes, scheduled ancient monuments and other locally important historic assets;
- viii. Make financial contributions where appropriate, to facilitate and maintain the favourable conservation status of key environmental assets;
- ix. Support measures to minimise the consequences of climate change;
- x. Protect playing fields and open space from development; and
- xi. Ensure adequate new open space and playing fields are provided as part of new housing development.

Explanation

- 16.8** This policy covers a wide range of differing, but often inter-connected, elements of the natural and built environment in Flintshire. Achieving an environment that is both attractive and ensures the protection and enhancement of the historic and natural environment requires an understanding of the issues involved and needs to take a long term holistic view.

Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment 16

- 16.9** This policy recognises the intrinsic character and beauty of the countryside and coastline of Flintshire, and aims to conserve and enhance the natural environment and local landscape. It also aims to protect natural features and green spaces within urban environments. One way of doing this is to protect and enhance green infrastructure and this is assisted by the Green Infrastructure Plan. This is a network of green spaces in both urban and rural areas, which are capable of delivering a wide range of environmental benefits. It can include parks, open spaces, playing fields, woodlands, allotments and gardens, as well as land along water courses and hedgerows. Many of the elements which make up green infrastructure also help improve the quality of life and well-being of communities and it is important that these individual elements are also protected and new facilities such as allotments and playing fields are provided.
- 16.10** Linked into the protection of the green infrastructure is the protection and enhancement of biodiversity, which includes wildlife and habitats. This is a core theme which supports the sustainable development principle and the protection of some species is enshrined in law. Development should be undertaken in a way that respects designated nature conservation sites and ensures the protection and enhancement of the diversity and abundance of wildlife habitats and protected species. It should also conserve and enhance natural resources such as geodiversity, and water, soil and air quality.
- 16.11** All of the above have a role to play in minimising the causes of climate change and to mitigate the effects of it. For example, the planting of trees in river basins can reduce run off and therefore reduce flooding further downstream.
- 16.12** In terms of the historic environment, the conservation of historic assets is essential. These assets can range from historic landscapes and castles through to smaller features such as water pumps which provide a sense of history and character to places. The archaeology of the area is also important and Flintshire's long and interesting history means that there are many important archaeological sites and features which are known about, and many which have not yet been discovered. Historic assets are irreplaceable resources and their conservation provides social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits. Historic assets include listed buildings, conservation areas, historic parks, gardens and landscapes, and also many undesignated assets which provide character to the area. They are not only affected by change and neglect, but also by changes to their setting and this is an important consideration in making decisions on proposals which affect this. The historic environment can also be susceptible to the impacts of climate change and taking action to minimise the potential damaging effects of this is essential. Development which affects the historic environment should enhance and protect both historic assets and their settings. Taken together, the various elements which make up the natural and built environment can ensure that local distinctiveness, character and sense of place are retained, or created in new developments.

16 Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment

16.13 The Plan seeks to ensure that existing playing fields and open space are protected from development. Furthermore, as part of new residential development, open space and play facilities are required to be provided at a scale and type related to the location, scale and type of development. This links in with ensuring distinctive and high quality residential environments which provide the basis for play and healthy lifestyles. The policy does not include reference to the protection of best and most versatile agricultural land as this is set out as national policy in paras 3.54 and 3.55 of PPW10.

Policy Context

Table 16.1

LDP Objectives	<p>17. Maintain and enhance green infrastructure networks</p> <p>18. Promote good design that is locally distinct, innovative and sensitive to location</p> <p>19. Support the safeguarding and sustainable use of natural resources such as water and promote the development of brownfield land</p>
PPW10	<p>Para 6.5.9 Development on the Coast</p> <p>Para 3.56 Development in the Countryside</p> <p>Paras 3.60 – 3.74 Managing Settlement Form – Green Belts and Green Wedges</p> <p>Para 6.1 Historic Environment</p> <p>Para 6.4.5 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty</p> <p>Paras 4.5.3 & 4.5.5 Open Space</p> <p>Para 6.02 Distinctiveness</p> <p>Paras 2.7 and 3.33 Climate Change</p> <p>Paras 6.3 Landscape and AONB</p>
Well Being Goals	<p>A healthier Wales</p> <p>A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh Language</p> <p>A globally responsible Wales</p>
Key Evidence	Welsh National Marine Plan: Draft Nov 2015

Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment 16

	Green Infrastructure Plan 2019
Monitoring	The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.
Detailed Policies	<p>PC1 The Relationship of Development to Settlement Boundaries</p> <p>EN1 Sports, Recreation and Cultural Facilities</p> <p>EN2 Green Infrastructure</p> <p>EN3 Undeveloped Coast and Dee Estuary Corridor</p> <p>EN4 Landscape Character</p> <p>EN5 Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty</p> <p>EN6 Sites of Biodiversity Importance</p> <p>EN7 Development Affecting Trees, Woodland and Hedgerows</p> <p>EN8 Built Historic Environment and Listed Buildings</p> <p>EN9 Development In or Adjacent to Conservation Areas</p> <p>EN10 Buildings of Local Interest</p> <p>EN11 Green Barriers</p>

16 Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment

Policy 14**STR14: Climate Change and Environmental Protection**

The Council will seek to mitigate the effects of climate change and ensure appropriate environmental protection in the County through:

- i. Ensuring new development is sustainably located and designed so as to reduce the need for travel by private car;
- ii. Supporting the use and development of appropriate or suitable brownfield land;
- iii. Adopting a sustainable approach to water resource management including supply, surface water run-off and waste water treatment;
- iv. Directing development away from flood risk areas, assessing the implications of development in areas at risk of flooding and ensuring that new development does not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere;
- v. Encouraging energy efficient development, environmentally acceptable renewable and zero / low carbon energy generation and combined heat and power and communal / district heating networks;
- vi. Ensuring that new development has regard to the protection of the environment in terms of air, noise and light pollution, unstable and contaminated land and former landfill sites;
- vii. Designing development to be adaptable and resilient to future effects of climate change.

Explanation

16.14 One of the themes embodied in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act is the need for 'a resilient Wales' whereby there is capacity to adapt to change such as climate change. A key principle of sustainable development, as recognised in PPW is the sustainable development of land, and the need for new development to be resilient to climate change and para 5.0.2 of PPW10 states 'Our homes, businesses and communities need to be powered and heated by low carbon energy sources, which also includes reducing and optimising our use of energy within them. Use of non renewable sources of energy will need to be curtailed if we are to meet our carbon reduction targets and international obligations on climate change'. Welsh Government advises that 'climate change will have potentially profound environmental, economic and social justice implications and failure to address it will make planning for sustainability impossible'.

16.15 Climate change is being experienced in many forms. Typical 'events' include increasingly intense rainfall, more severe storms, rising sea levels and increasing average temperatures. These have a number of effects including flash flooding and storm damage, changes to landscape and wildlife habitats

Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment 16

and the health impacts of increasing average temperatures. Parts of Flintshire are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change particularly along the Dee Estuary and River Dee where there is the risk of flooding but there are also more localised risks to property and life as a result of fluvial and surface water flooding.

- 16.16** The planning system has a role to play in planning to minimise the underlying causes of climate change and planning for the consequences of climate changes. A key role of the LDP is to ensure a spatial strategy put in place that reflects ‘resilient locational choices which embed considerations of climate change, biodiversity and ecological resilience, sustainable use of resources and protecting the health, amenity and wellbeing of communities’ (PPW10 3.43). Put simply this means locating development in settlements which are accessible to a range of services and facilities whereby people can reduce private car usage and thereby reduce the harmful effects of carbon emissions. The development of brownfield land, where suitable, can also reduce the need for greenfield sites to be developed.
- 16.17** Despite the County having a large amount of brownfield land this is generally not suitable for development due to its location or because of other constraints. Much of this brownfield land is along the coastal strip and is constrained by flood risk, nature conservation and contamination, as well as being poorly related to the existing pattern of development. The County has a number of market towns and a large number of smaller villages. Within these settlements there are not significant amounts of brownfield land. Rather, the opportunity for the redevelopment of brownfield land is achieved through small site or windfall developments, and as part of the Council’s Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme. The Employment Land Review undertook a review of existing employment allocations in terms of whether sites should be retained for employment or developed for other purposes and with the exception of Maes Gwern, Mold little potential was identified. The Plan’s strategy in the context of identifying new sites, is focused on edge of settlement greenfield sites.
- 16.18** As set out above a key effect of climate change is the risk of flooding and this brings with it issues relating to the likelihood of flooding as well as the intensity of flooding. The Development Advice Maps accompanying TAN15 identify the flood risk zones as set out in the TAN and this has been supplemented by a Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment. This information has had an important influence on where development allocations are located, along with the type of development, and also informed policies on flood risk whereby subsequent development proposals, in the form of planning applications can be assessed. The approach of the Plan is to steer highly vulnerable development away from flood risk areas, to assess the implications of development in areas at risk of flooding and to ensure that new development does not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere. Neither of the strategic sites involve areas of C2 flood risk and whilst Northern Gateway is within a C1 flood risk area, this has been and will be mitigated

16 Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment

through the recent flood defence embankment strengthening and raising along the River Dee and on-site drainage and land raise mitigation measures. A Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment has informed the identification and assessment of subsequent housing allocations for the Plan as a whole.

- 16.19** It is also necessary for the Plan to have regard to the whole water environment as an important resource. Ensuring a reliable water supply is an important component of everyday life but needs to be balanced with effects on ground water and surface water in terms of levels and quality and any associated ecological effects. In locating and designing new development it is also necessary to ensure that the waste water network and treatment capacity is adequate to serve development and to ensure that surface water run-off from new development is adequately managed. Given the implementation of schedule 3 of the Flooding and Water Management Act, the Council now operates as a SuDS Approving Body (SAB) and all relevant development must first seek SAB approval for its approach to surface water management before any development can commence.
- 16.20** The principles of energy efficiency measures and renewable energy in new development are now incorporated into Building Regulations. However, the LDP will ensure that new development has regard to broader principles of sustainable design in order to reduce energy usage and carbon emissions. The Plan also encourages, where appropriate renewable energy generation technology, subject to a range of material planning considerations. An assessment of the potential for renewable energy generation, using the Welsh Government Toolkit, is being undertaken in terms of identifying specific areas of search or the potential for particular types of renewable and low / zero carbon energy. Such policy approaches can also help ensure that new development is designed to be resilient to future climate change effects.
- 16.21** The County has an industrial heritage which has resulted in large areas of brownfield land and associated environmental risks such as contamination and pollution. Parts of the County also experienced coal mining and this has left a legacy of potential risks associated with unstable land. Landfill operations have taken (and continue to take) place, resulting in problems associated with leachates and gas emissions. The Plan therefore recognises the need to have regard to environmental protection and this has been set out more fully in subsequent detailed policies. These policies will also address general environmental protection associated with noise, air, water and light pollution.

Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment 16

Policy Context

Table 16.2

LDP Objectives	<p>1. Ensure that housing development takes place in sustainable locations where sites are viable and deliverable and are supported by the necessary social, environmental and physical infrastructure</p> <p>14. Minimise the causes and impacts of climate change and pollution</p> <p>19. Support the safeguarding and sustainable use of natural resources such as water and promote the development of brownfield land</p>
PPW10	<p>Paras 3.45 – 3.46 Accessibility</p> <p>Paras 3.51 – 3.52 Previously developed land</p> <p>Paras 3.6 Flood Risk</p> <p>Paras 4.2.2 / 5.0.2 / 5.7 Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy</p> <p>Paras 6.7.1 Air Quality and Soundscape</p> <p>Para 6.9 Lighting</p> <p>Paras 6.9.16 – 6.9.21 Land Contamination</p> <p>Paras 6.9.22 – 6.9.28 Physical Ground Conditions and Land Instability</p>
Well Being Goals	<p>A globally responsible Wales</p> <p>A healthier Wales</p> <p>A resilient Wales</p>
Key Evidence	<p>TAN 15 Development and Flood Risk (2004)</p> <p>Development Advice maps (TAN15)</p> <p>Flintshire Local Flood Risk management Plan (2015)</p> <p>Dee Catchment Flood management Plan (2010)</p> <p>NW England and N Wales Shoreline Management Strategy</p> <p>Welsh Water Surface Water Management Strategy</p> <p>Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment</p> <p>Topic Paper 2 - Flooding and environmental protection</p> <p>Topic Paper 15 - Energy</p>
Monitoring	<p>The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.</p>
Detailed Policies	<p>EN12 New Development and Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Technology</p> <p>EN13 Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Development</p> <p>EN14 Flood Risk</p> <p>EN15 Water Resources</p> <p>EN16 Development on or near Landfill Sites or Derelict and Contaminated land</p> <p>EN17 Development of Unstable Land</p> <p>EN18 Pollution and Nuisance</p>

16 Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment

Policy 15**STR15: Waste Management**

The LDP will facilitate the sustainable management of waste by:

- i. Securing opportunities to minimise the production of waste in all development and ensuring the sustainable management of waste once it has been produced;
- ii. Supporting proposals for waste management which move the management of waste up the waste hierarchy;
- iii. Supporting proposals which reduce the impacts of existing waste management on communities and the environment;
- iv. Directing new waste management facilities towards existing and allocated industrial sites which are suitable for waste management facilities;
- v. Recognising that some types of waste facility may need to be located outside development boundaries;
- vi. Protecting strategically important sites through the use of buffer zones where necessary; and
- vii. Encouraging the co-location of heat producers and the development of heat networks through the identification of appropriate sites.

Explanation

16.22 Waste reduction is a cross cutting issue and opportunities to prevent or reduce the generation of waste should be made in all development, in line with guidance in PPW paragraph 5.11.4. Despite efforts to encourage waste reduction at the national level, there are still significant quantities of waste being produced within the County. Taking a 'circular economy' approach at the design stage would help minimise the use of resources and ensure that they can be reused in future.

16.23 Flintshire accommodates a range of waste facilities across the waste hierarchy with a number of facilities which are of strategic importance, including Parc Adfer on Deeside Industrial Park, which will manage North Wales local authority collected residual waste. The sustainable management of waste can bring economic benefit and given Flintshire's location in the sub-region, it is well located to accommodate strategic facilities which serve a wider area. It is important, however, that provision does not compromise the amenity enjoyed by communities through careful location and siting of new facilities or result in the overprovision of disposal and recovery capacity since this may encourage wastes being managed further down the waste hierarchy than they could be.

Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment 16

- 16.24** National policy and guidance has moved away from requiring LDPs to identify prescriptive land areas for waste management and now requires that waste management needs are considered as part of wider employment land surveys. Any specific needs of Flintshire as a Waste Collection and Disposal authority and any need arising from local authority procurement programmes should also be considered. There is no identified need for further recovery or disposal infrastructure within the County given the progress which has been made in terms of Parc Adfer which will manage residual waste from across North Wales and the Anaerobic Digestion facility developed at the Waen in Denbighshire which manages food waste arising in Flintshire, Denbighshire and Conwy. Planning permission has also been secured and is in the process of being implemented for landfill at Parry’s Quarry. Therefore, no strategic allocations for waste management are identified within the LDP.
- 16.25** Flintshire has met its statutory recycling targets, landfill allowance scheme targets and Parc Adfer will enable targets for landfill diversion to be met when it becomes operational in 2019. The majority of wastes arising in Flintshire are now recycled or recovered in some way which is a distinct contrast to the position when the UDP was being prepared. Planning permissions have recently been granted for a number of merchant waste management facilities in Flintshire which would move the management of waste up the waste hierarchy. In 2015 Flintshire had more permitted waste facilities than any other authority in North Wales and makes a significant contribution towards the sustainable management of waste. Whilst significant progress has been made, a policy approach is being developed as part of the LDP to ensure the County can respond to changing technologies and changing demand, optimising the economic benefits that sustainable waste management can bring.

Policy Context

Table 16.3

LDP Objectives	5. Facilitate the sustainable management of waste
PPW10	Paras 5.12 Design Choices to Prevent Waste Paras 5.13 Sustainable Waste management facilities
Well Being Goals	A globally responsible Wales
Key Evidence	North Wales Regional Annual Monitoring Report (April 2016) Topic Paper 5: Waste
Monitoring	The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.
Detailed Policies	EN19 Managing Waste Sustainably

16 Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment

	<p>EN20 Control of Waste Development and Operations</p> <p>EN21 Locations for Waste management Facilities</p> <p>EN22 Criteria for Waste Management Facilities and Operations</p>
--	---

Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment 16

Policy 16**STR16: Strategic Planning for Minerals**

Flintshire's important mineral resources will be sustainably managed by:

- i. Protecting minerals from unnecessary sterilization by directing new development away from areas underlain by mineral of economic importance or where this is not possible through the requirement for prior extraction;
- ii. Reducing the conflict between mineral development and sensitive development through the use of buffer zones;
- iii. Contributing towards the regional supply of mineral through the allocation of 1.4 million tonnes of sand and gravel and 3.84 million tonnes of crushed rock through the extension to existing quarries, in collaboration with Wrexham County Borough Council;
- iv. Ensuring new mineral extraction is located so as minimise impacts on communities and the environment;
- v. Securing appropriate restoration which can deliver specific environmental and community benefits;
- vi. Maximising the use of secondary and recycled aggregate.

Explanation

16.26 Flintshire is underlain by a wealth of minerals where many settlements have historically been shaped by mining. The mineral industry is still very active in the County with limestone and sand and gravel still being worked at a number of different sites. Minerals are an important resource which should be protected for future generations by locating non-mineral development away from areas which are underlain by mineral of economic importance. Given the distribution of mineral within Flintshire and the location of existing settlements it is considered inevitable that there will be some loss of mineral, however this will be minimised through careful site selection. A detailed safeguarding policy is included to ensure that the need to protect the mineral resource is considered prior to any non-mineral development, outside allocated sites or identified development boundaries. Within development boundaries the need to undertake prior extraction to address issues of instability is also addressed.

16.27 The North Wales Regional Technical Statement identifies the level of need for mineral at the regional level and then apportions this to individual local authorities. A need for additional sand and gravel has been identified in Flintshire as well as a need for crushed rock shared between Flintshire and Wrexham (see Statement of Common Ground – Crushed Rock). It is proposed to meet the shared need for crushed rock within Flintshire through the extension of existing quarries rather than through the allocation of a new site, since the tonnage required would not support the creation of a new

16 Strategic Policies - Valuing the Environment

quarry site and this has been formally agreed with Wrexham, forming part of their LDP Strategy. Detailed allocations are identified in the Plan and on the proposals map.

- 16.28** The LDP will seek to minimise the impact of mineral extraction on communities and the environment by directing mineral extraction towards those locations which have the least impact and ensuring that high quality restoration is undertaken. Buffer zones will be identified around existing quarries, in line with Minerals Technical Advice Note 1: Aggregates, and proposals for new quarries / extensions to existing quarries will be required to identify a suitable buffer between mineral extraction and sensitive development. Detailed policies set out the criteria against which proposals will be assessed.

Policy Context

Table 16.4

LDP Objectives	9. Support development that positions Flintshire as an economically competitive place and an economic driver for the sub-region 13. Promote and enhance a diverse and sustainable rural economy 19. Support the safeguarding and sustainable use of natural resources such as water and promote the development of brownfield land
PPW10	Para 5.14 Minerals
Well Being Goals	A globally responsible Wales
Key Evidence	BGS Mineral Resource Maps BGS Aggregate Safeguarding Maps Topic Paper 6: Minerals Regional Technical Statement 2014
Monitoring	The monitoring framework is set out in Chapter 21 Monitoring.
Detailed Policies	EN23 Minerals Safeguarding EN24 Minerals Buffer zones EN25 Sustainable Minerals Development EN26 Criteria for Minerals Development EN27 Secondary and Recycled Aggregates

Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and
Communities 17

17 Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

17 Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

Policy 17

PC1: The Relationship of Development to Settlement Boundaries

New development will be generally permitted within settlement boundaries as defined on the Proposals Maps, on allocations and within Principal Employment Areas subject to complying within other Plan policies.

Outside settlement boundaries new development will be permitted for:

- a. the specific forms of housing development as set out in policy HN4-A/B/C/D;
- b. the specific forms of employment development as set out in employment policies;
- c. development related to agriculture, minerals extraction, rural diversification, tourism, leisure and recreation, and existing educational and institutional establishments, provided there is no unacceptable impact on the social, natural and built environment and subject to complying with other Plan policies;
- d. other development which is appropriate to the open countryside and where it is essential to have an open countryside location, rather than being sited elsewhere.

17.1 Settlement boundaries are designed to set clear limits to towns, villages and urban areas by defining the extent of land where in principle new development will be permitted subject to policies in the plan and material planning considerations. The settlement boundaries are shown on the proposals maps. The Plan also permits development on allocated sites and Principal Employment Areas, both of which are identified on the Proposals Maps.

17.2 Outside settlement boundaries land is usually referred to as open countryside. Planning Policy Wales paragraph 3.56 directs that 'new building in the open countryside away from existing settlements or areas allocated for development in development plans must continue to be strictly controlled'. The Plan therefore seeks to strictly control new development by identifying a number of specific types of development which may be acceptable in open countryside.

17.3 'Appropriate' development in the open countryside will include those types of development which by virtue of their scale and nature, can sit comfortably in an open countryside location without harming its character and appearance. 'Essential' development will include those types of development where there is a locational or resource requirement to be sited within open countryside.

Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 17

Policy 18**PC2: General Requirements for Development**

All development should, where appropriate:

- a. harmonise with or enhance the character, local distinctiveness and appearance of the site, existing building(s) and surrounding landscape/ townscape;
- b. not have a significant adverse impact on the safety and living conditions of nearby residents, other users of nearby land/property, or the community in general, through increased activity, disturbance, noise, dust, vibration, hazard, or the adverse effects of pollution;
- c. take account of personal and community safety and security in its design and layout;
- d. maximise sustainable travel choice by having safe and convenient access by foot, cycle, public transport and vehicles;
- e. not have an unacceptable effect on the highway network or highway safety as a result of problems arising from traffic generation, inadequate and poorly located parking spaces, servicing and manoeuvring;
- f. not result in or be susceptible to problems related to foul and surface water drainage, land stability, contamination, flooding, or pollution of light, air and water, either on or off site.

17.4 This policy provides a comprehensive set of development considerations that can generally be applied to all development proposals. It needs to be specifically read in conjunction with the following two policies which cover design (PC3), and sustainability and resilience considerations (PC4).

17.5 The policy criteria should also be read in conjunction with the Plan's policies as a whole as it seeks to provide a single reference point for commonly used criteria. This prevents the need for such criteria to be repeated in other detailed policies throughout the Plan.

17 Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

Policy 19

PC3: Design

All new development should, where appropriate:

- a. be of a high quality, distinctive and inclusive design which respects and enhances the site and its surroundings in terms of its siting, layout, scale, height, design, density, use of materials and landscaping, and creates a sense of place;
- b. retain existing landscape and nature conservation features and incorporate opportunities to enhance biodiversity and ecological connectivity;
- c. ensure that new materials are appropriate, durable and sympathetic to the character and context of the site;
- d. protect and enhance the townscape, architectural, historic and cultural built environment;
- e. incorporate suitable provision of space about dwellings, amenity space, landscaping and planting;
- f. create attractive, accessible and safe and healthy places with natural surveillance, visibility and sensitive lighting;
- g. incorporate Sustainable Urban Drainage Schemes to bring about multiple benefits as an integral part of the development.

17.6 Following on from the General Requirement for Development policy, this policy focuses on ensuring that good design is a key consideration in all new development proposals.

17.7 The policy accords with the principles in PPW and TAN12 Design, by seeking to deliver good sustainable design. Para 2 of PPW10 emphasises that 'Design is not just about the architecture of a building but the relationship between all elements of the natural and built environment and between people and places. To achieve sustainable development, design must go beyond aesthetics and include the social, economic, environmental, cultural aspects of the development, including how space is used, how buildings and the public realm support this use, as well as its construction, operation, management, and its relationship with the surroundings area'. The design of new development is important in defining the quality of the County's natural and built environment. This goes hand in hand with creating distinctive development which enables a sense of place, quality of life and well-being.

17.8 The policy sets out a number of criteria which, when read together, will ensure a logical and robust checklist to ensuring that new development embraces the objectives of good design, and is sustainable. It recognizes that there will be some forms of development where not all of the criteria will be

Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 17

applicable, such as simple utilitarian buildings. Nevertheless, the policy should ensure that such development is still respectful of its context in terms of siting, scale, form and materials.

- 17.9** Applicants are encouraged to take advantage of the Council's pre-application advice service, as a means of ensuring that design and placemaking considerations can be raised at the earliest opportunity in the schemes progression. Further guidance on Space Around Dwellings is contained in a Supplementary Planning Guidance Note.
- 17.10** The requirement for Sustainable Urban Drainage Schemes should be incorporated at the outset into the design process for new development from the earliest stages. This will ensure that that SuDS is considered as an integral part of the scheme in conjunction with open space and green infrastructure and bring about multiple benefits such as recreation, health, sense of place, air quality, reduced noise, biodiversity and flood management.

Policy 20

PC4: Sustainability and Resilience of New Development

Development should ensure that:

- a. it is sustainably located and accessible to non – private car means of travel, so as to reduce carbon emissions;
- b. it is designed so as to be resilient and adaptable to the effects of climate change;
- c. it incorporates planting, landscaping and design features which mitigate the effects of climate change such as increased rainfall events and high temperatures;
- d. it makes efficient use of resources through sustainable construction techniques and materials, including layout, siting and orientation to maximise solar gain, water conservation and waste reduction; and
- e. it incorporates renewable energy technologies and carbon sinks where appropriate.

- 17.11** The principles of sustainable development are intended to reduce resource use and address the causes and effects of climate change. It is a fundamental principle that underpins all development and this policy is intended to set out how new development can ensure that this principle is taken into account and incorporated from an early stage of the design process. This Policy provides a framework for new development by identifying all the issues associated with sustainable growth that mitigates the causes of climate change and which is able to adapt to its likely effects. It would be expected that developments use the Design and Access Statements (DAS)

17 Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

accompanying relevant applications to demonstrate how proposals deliver the intentions of this policy by explaining how the design of the proposal responds to environmental sustainability. This long-term approach is part of the Council's commitment to achieve a sustainable and lasting balance which provides for the economic, social, and environmental needs of the county as set out in the Plan's Vision.

- 17.12** In the first instance, the location of new development close to services and facilities will help to reduce car use and therefore carbon emissions. Layout, siting and orientation to achieve optimal solar gain will help to reduce energy use in new development. Also resilient design, adapting to the implications of climate change will provide buildings which are able to cope with the likely increased temperature ranges, more frequent and severe flooding and increased extreme weather events. Buildings and related infrastructure should be designed to be flexible not only to climatic change, but also to accommodate a variety of uses over their lifetime rather than being suitable for one sole application.
- 17.13** Landscaping will be a critical issue which can mitigate against extreme weather, trees can provide protection by shading and active cooling in hot weather and open green space can provide soakaways for high rainfall events. The County's open spaces, trees and soils play a crucial role in mitigating the effects of climate change at the local level.
- 17.14** High standards of energy efficiency in new development will be required in accordance with national guidance and as further amplified in other relevant Plan policies and supporting guidance. The incorporation of renewable energy generation, will also reduce carbon emissions.

Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 17

Policy 21**PC5: Transport and Accessibility**

New development proposals must be supported by appropriate transport infrastructure, and depending on the nature, scale, location and siting of the proposal, will be required to:

- a. Reduce reliance on the car by incorporating more sustainable modes of travel first by walking and cycling, then by public transport and finally by private motor vehicle;
- b. mitigate any significant adverse effects upon the transport network that arise from the proposed development including improvements to transport infrastructure and traffic management where required;
- c. do not compromise the safe, effective and efficient use of the highway network and do not have an adverse impact on highway safety or create unacceptable levels of traffic generation;
- d. provide appropriate levels of parking, servicing and manoeuvring space and in non-residential development, a minimum of 10% of parking spaces to have electric vehicle charging points;
- e. create well designed people orientated streets and make provision for people with restricted mobility including those with characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010;
- f. safeguard, enhance and expand the active travel network, particularly by means of improving connectivity to and from the proposed development.

17.15 The policy seeks to ensure that the new development proposals are assessed in terms of the transport hierarchy. Para 4.1.8 of PPW10 explains that 'The Welsh Government is committed to reducing reliance on the private car and supporting a modal shift to walking, cycling and public transport. Delivering this objective will make an important contribution to decarbonisation, improving air quality, increasing physical activity, improving the health of the nation and realising the goals of the Well-being of Future Generations Act'.

17.16 It is inevitable that new development leads to an increase in demand for travel and place additional pressure on existing transport services and infrastructure. The policy reflects the hierarchy by ensuring that new development will in the first instance be accessible by walking and cycling, then public transport and then the private car. It seeks to ensure that sufficient transport infrastructure either exists or can be provided so that the development can function and be accessed in a sustainable manner. New development should create well-designed people friendly streets by responding to the urban design principles in Manual for Streets and the Active Travel Design Guidance

17 Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

- 17.17** The policy recognises the role of Active Travel whereby everyday essential journeys, such as to work, can be undertaken by walking and cycling. It also recognises the need for new developments to be inclusive in terms of being accessible to all members of society. All developments will be required to provide appropriate levels of parking, manoeuvring and servicing space in accordance with the maximum parking standards approach embodied in para 4.1.53 of PPW10 which stresses that 'Parking standards should be applied flexibly and allow for the provision of lower levels of parking and the creation of high quality places'. The Council's parking standards are set out in Supplementary Planning Guidance.

Policy 22

PC6: Active Travel

New development proposals should ensure that people have access to employment, education, healthcare and other essential services and facilities as a result of:

- a. the provision of appropriate walking and cycling routes being an integral part of the scheme and connecting the development with key destinations;
- b. the provision of infrastructure and facilities that promote walking and cycling such as signing, lighting, secure and convenient cycle storage and parking and where appropriate, shower and changing facilities;
- c. the provision of appropriate travel choice information relating to cycling and walking for all or part of journeys as part of Travel Plans;
- d. the incorporation of measures to reduce the dominance and speed of vehicles affording increased priority to pedestrians and cyclists;
- e. the development and enhancement of the Active Travel routes identified on the Integrated Network Map connecting communities to essential services including public transport, employment and education opportunities;
- f. the incorporation of existing public rights of way as an integral part of the design and layout of the development.

- 17.18** The Council has invested considerable time and resources into developing its Active Travel network. The Council has produced an Active Travel Existing Route Map which focuses on 15 defined settlements, rather than the whole County. This is supplemented by the Active Travel Integrated Network Map which is a 15 year vision to improve infrastructure for walkers and cyclists across the County. It aims to encourage people to walk or cycle for short journeys to access a workplace or to access key services and facilities such as education and health. This is expressed in the form of 6 'area' maps and an 'overview' map.

Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 17

- 17.19** The purpose of this policy is twofold. Firstly it seeks to ensure that new development does not impinge on the Active Travel programme and where possible, can dovetail with its findings in terms of creating missing links and new routes. Secondly, it adds more detail to the previous policy in terms of setting out how new development will be required to incorporate proposals for pedestrian and cycling links. The policy also seeks to ensure that existing public rights of way are sensitively incorporated into new development. Where new development has a role in delivering elements of the Active Travel Network, the provision of infrastructure will be secured through planning conditions, planning obligations, Community Infrastructure Levy (once adopted) and matching transport funding.
- 17.20** In this manner, new development should bring about improved accessibility by foot and cycle and contribute to the Active Travel network. New development will therefore contribute to health and well-being goals.

Policy 23

PC7: Passenger Transport

New development proposals should seek to promote the use of passenger transport services and depending on the nature, scale, location and siting of the proposal, will be required to:

- a. ensure enhanced or new passenger transport facilities and services connecting communities to areas of opportunity including employment, education, health facilities, retail, leisure and social activities;
- b. ensure appropriate new highway infrastructure improvements that afford priority to bus based passenger transport over the private car;
- c. provide appropriate pedestrian and cycling infrastructure that improves connectivity to and from rail and bus stations;
- d. provide strategically sited park and ride infrastructure where appropriate, supported by attractive, frequent and reliable bus services on key bus routes, and
- e. promote and market public transport alternatives to the private car through travel plans.

- 17.21** The second strand of the Welsh Government Transport Hierarchy is public transport. The Plan is not able to directly influence existing public transport facilities and services. However, the Plan is able to ensure that new development is accessible by and to public transport. This policy sets out a number of measures by which new development will have good links with public transport and can facilitate, where appropriate, infrastructure improvements which will be beneficial to public transport services.

17 Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

- 17.22** The policy must be read and implemented in the context of budgetary pressure on public transport services, particularly bus services. Recent years have seen services removed or the frequency reduced, and this can make it difficult for some parts of society to be able to access work and essential services and facilities.
- 17.23** An integrated and co-ordinated bus network is essential to the vitality of the County's key settlements and improved connectivity has a vital role to play in accessing work, and for access to services and facilities such as education and health. The effects of improved bus services in terms of travel times, reliability, comfort and fares, will help in providing a realistic alternative to the car.

Policy 24

PC8: Airport Safeguarding Zone

Development will not be permitted which would prejudice the safe and efficient operation of Hawarden Airport.

- 17.24** Airbus owns the airport and is the main user. However, other uses include Police, Air Ambulance and Military helicopters, Military Training Jets and Private Business Jets, as well as flight training. Alongside Airbus other companies based at Hawarden include Aerocare, Raytheon UK and NWMAS all of whom provide aircraft maintenance facilities on site. Aviation Park Group offer a range of services including Aircraft handling, overnight parking, hangarage and passenger services. There is a need to control the location and scale of development in the vicinity of the flightpaths of aircraft in order to prevent physical obstacles or distraction. A Safeguarding Zone has been identified for Hawarden Airport within which development proposals will be closely scrutinised to ensure that they would not affect the safe and efficient operation of the airport and airfield. Consultation will be carried out with the Civil Aviation Authority.

Policy 25

PC9: Protection of Disused Railway Lines

Development proposals should not prejudice the re-use of a disused railway line for a walking, cycling, horse riding or other transport schemes, unless it can be demonstrated that the re-opening of the line is either necessary or realistic.

Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 17

- 17.25** The County has a number of former railway lines, some of which are already in use as walkways or cycleways but there are others which have potential. This policy aims to protect disused railway lines to allow for the possibility of returning them to a transport function such as walking, cycling or horse riding routes or other forms of transport such as light rail. The on-going Active Travel work may result in proposals for some of these routes. Any planning applications for development on or affecting a disused railway line should be accompanied by an assessment in order to establish whether there is any reasonable prospect of the line being brought back into use.

Policy 26

PC10: New Transport Schemes

The following transport schemes are safeguarded on the proposals maps:

1. A494(T) / A55(T) / A548 Northop to Shotwick Interchange Improvement;
2. Plough Lane link road;
3. A548 Greenfield to Ffynnongroyw;
4. A5104 Penyffordd Station to Padeswood Junction;
5. A494(T) Improvement Ewloe to River Dee.

- 17.26** The Primary highway network in the County comprises the A494(T), A55(T), A548 and the A550 / A541. This is supported by a core highway network of the A5119, A543, A5151, A5104, A549, A5118 and A5026. The following highway improvement schemes have been safeguarded in the Plan and on the proposals map to enable them to be delivered over the Plan period.

- 17.27 A494(T) / A55(T) / A548 Northop to Shotwick Interchange Improvement-** Following a consultation on the red or blue route, Welsh Government has announced its intention to pursue the red route. This involves a new road from the A548 Dee Bridge at Kelsterton linking with the A55(T) at the A5119 Northop junction and also a new section of road at the junction of the A548 and A494(T) at Deeside Industrial Park. The new dual carriageway road will take pressure of the existing A494 / A55 particularly at Aston Hill which experiences congestion frequently and experiences more traffic than it was designed for, and is below modern standards. The aims of the scheme are to:

- improve capacity, reliability and journey times;
- improve safety;
- improve connections for businesses;
- improve access between residential areas and places of employment;
- reduce carbon emissions along the road; and
- make more efficient use of the existing transport infrastructure.

17 Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

- 17.28** Welsh Government directed on 26/07/18 that the route should be protected. Any planning application within 67m of the proposed route should be referred to Welsh Government. The Plan therefore safeguards the protected route on the proposals maps in order to prevent development from prejudicing its progression and implementation. The scheme is being promoted by Welsh Government.
- 17.29 Plough Lane Link Road** - Land is safeguarded for a possible road improvement from the A494(T) via Plough Lane and Aston Park Road and alongside the railway line to the B5129 Chester Road West. The scheme would remove traffic from the B5129 through Shotton. It has 'Preferred Route' status but planning permission has lapsed. The B5129 through Deeside is identified as a Strategic Route for transport improvements within the Local Transport Plan. The scheme can be considered further as part of the present A494(T) / A55(T) / A548 improvements, and as part of a number of current studies and works including the Chester Broughton Growth Corridor study and the Flintshire Integrated Transport Proposals. The route also has fallback potential as a sustainable transport corridor such as a walking / cycling route.
- 17.30 A548 Greenfield to Ffynnongroyw** - The A548 coast road is an important route through the Plan area, linking many of the main centres of population with major employment sites. It carries an increasing volume of industrial and holiday traffic, and during summer months is prone to severe congestion in places. The careful design of limited improvements can ensure the safe and efficient movement of traffic along its length. Stage 1 of the scheme extends the dual carriageway at Greenfield to Llannerch y Mor and has Preferred Route status. The National Transport Plan 2015 has identified a proposal to potentially Trunk the A548 from Connahs Quay to Mostyn and is also listed as a Strategic Route for Transport improvement in the Local Transport Plan. The improvement should remain as a protected route until a decision on the trunking of the A548 is made by Welsh Government. Stage 2 is not in the road programme at present, but aims to extend through to Ffynnongroyw, including a link to Mostyn Docks.
- 17.31 A5104 Penyffordd Station to Padeswood Junction** - A small part of the A550 road improvements which were completed in the 1980's remains unimplemented. This is a short section of improved road alignments on the A5104 to the west of Penyffordd Station. The scheme links in with the Mold to Broughton Cycleway Study and Flintshire's Integrated Transport Proposals.
- 17.32 A494(T) Improvement Ewloe to River Dee** – In order to ensure improvements by Welsh Government to the existing bridge which carries the A494(T) over the R. Dee, land is safeguarded on the proposals maps in the form of a preferred route. In the UDP land was safeguarded from Drome Corner to Ewloe, although only a small section from the Queensferry Interchange northwards to the R. Dee has been carried over to be safeguarded in this Plan.

Policy 27

PC11: Mostyn Docks

Development proposals which enhance the transport and employment role of the docks will be permitted provided that such proposals do not have a significant adverse effect on the ecological, landscape, historic, recreational integrity and water and air quality of the Dee Estuary.

- 17.33** The development of Mostyn Docks offers an opportunity to increase the volume of goods which are moved by sea and rail, thereby reducing the impacts of heavy lorries on the local community. Mostyn Docks is also an important source of existing and proposed employment as recognised by the Principal Employment Area designation and employment allocation. New development should therefore seek to enhance the transport and employment role of the docks whilst not harming the Dee Estuary which is important for its wildlife, landscape, historic and recreational interests.

17 Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities

Policy 28

PC12: Community Facilities

The development of new education, health and community facilities will be permitted on suitable sites within settlement boundaries. Outside settlement boundaries such developments will only be permitted:

- a. through the conversion of existing buildings; or
- b. by extension to an existing facility; or
- c. adjoining a settlement boundary or on suitable brownfield or previously developed land;

provided that no suitable facility, land or building exists within a settlement boundary which could accommodate the proposed use.

The following sites are allocated for new community facilities:

1. Community Centre at Wood Lane, Ewloe.
2. Land for a cemetery extension at Greenfield;
3. Land for a cemetery extension at Treuddyn.

The loss of neighbourhood or village shops, halls, public houses and other community facilities (or parts thereof) will only be permitted where:

- a. the local community would continue to be served by accessible alternative facilities; or
- b. the facility has been vacant or un-used for a minimum of one year; and
- c. genuine attempts to market the facility for a community use for a minimum of one year have been unsuccessful.

17.34 Community facilities are an essential part of the sustainability and well-being of local communities and new development or a change of use should not result in the loss of community facilities. For communities to be sustainable, they need to contain or have access to a range of community facilities and services such as shops, public houses, village halls etc. This policy seeks to protect and retain community facilities and allow the creation of new facilities in appropriate and sustainable locations. Community facilities are those which:

- i. play an important role in meeting an identified need;
- ii. benefit, and are of value to, the community;
- iii. contribute to the character of the local area;
- iv. provide a location for social functions and meetings; and
- v. benefit the local community.

Development Management Policies - Creating Sustainable Places and Communities 17

- 17.35** The Council wishes to encourage the development of new social and community facilities, but is keen to ensure that any new development is located close to where people live and work, and does not place unnecessary demands on undeveloped land. The preference is clearly for sites to be located within a settlement boundary. However, there may be circumstances where new community facilities can be located outside settlement boundaries and these will involve the conversion of existing buildings, a site adjoining a settlement boundary, the extension of an existing community facility, or through the development of suitable brownfield or previously developed land. In each case it will be necessary to ensure that there are no existing opportunities within a nearby settlement and that the proposal is on a suitable site or building and in a sustainable location. New community facilities should normally be proportionate to, and appropriate for, the locality in which they are proposed.
- 17.36** Where proposals for the loss of change of use of part of a community facility would prejudice the long term-viability and sustainability of the facility as a whole, they will not be permitted, unless certain criteria are met. In respect of the marketing of community facilities, these criteria apply whether the facility is still in use or vacant. Applicants will have to demonstrate that the facility has been actively marketed at a realistic price based on an appropriate market value which reflects the existing use. An SPG provides further information and guidance on the retention of local facilities.
- 17.37** A site has been identified at Wood Lane, Ewloe, as shown on the proposals map for a community centre to serve Ewloe, and two sites have been identified for cemetery extensions at Greenfield and Treuddyn respectively and these are also identified on the proposals map.

Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 18

Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 18

18 Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

Policy 29

PE1: General Employment Land Allocations

The following sites, as defined on the proposals map, are allocated for B1, B2 and B8 employment uses:

Table 18.1

Ref No.	Site		Area (ha.)
STR3A	Northern Gateway Mixed Use Development Site		72.40
STR3B	Warren Hall Mixed Use Development Site		22.70
Ref No.	Settlement / Location	Site	Area (ha.)
1	Broughton	Chester Aerospace Park	5.72
2	Broughton	Manor Lane/Hawarden Park Extension	18.20
3	Buckley	Drury New Road	1.40
4	Greenfield	Greenfield Business Park, Phase II	1.20
5	Greenfield	Greenfield Business Park, Phase III	4.40
6	Mold	Broncoed Industrial Estate	0.70
7	Mold	Mold Business Park	3.90
8	Mostyn	Adjacent Mostyn Docks	3.00
9	Queensferry	Chester Road East	3.15
10	Rhydymwyn	Antelope Industrial Estate	1.10
11	Saltney	River Lane	1.10
12	Shotton	Rowley's Drive	0.70
Total			139.67

18 Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

18.1 The Employment Land Review (2015) found that there was a realistic employment land supply of 223.94 hectares when constrained land was removed from the supply. This is explained in the reasoned justification to the Plan's strategic policy STR1 Strategic Growth. At the start of the Plan period Flintshire's realistic employment land supply was made up of employment allocations and unconstrained commitments. However at the time of deposit Flintshire's employment land supply has reduced to 139.67 hectares due to sites being developed, having constraints or being proposed for alternative (non B-Class) uses as shown in the table below.

Table 18.2

Site	Cumulative Total Land Supply (ha.)	Justification for Site Exclusion from Supply
Baseline	223.94	-
<i>Sites Already Developed or With Constraints</i>		
Land to the East of Shotton Paper	-9.37	Site developed for an Energy Recovery Facility
St David's Park, Ewloe	-0.80	Site developed for offices Wales & West and Anwyl Homes
Greenfield Business Park (III) Extension	-6.60	Site is within an area of C2 flood risk
Land East of Saltney Ferry Road, Saltney	-14.60	Site is within an area of C2 flood risk
Prince William Avenue, Sandycroft	-1.80	Site developed for industrial/business units
Chester Aerospace Park, Broughton	-3.28	3.28 ha of this 9.00 ha site developed for industrial units
Land to the North West of Garden City	-25.60	25.60 ha of this 98.00 ha site has been removed from the supply of employment land on the site because of increased provision of housing across the whole site.
Chester Road East, Queensferry	-0.35	0.35 ha of this 3.50 ha site has been lost to development of an embedded Short Term Operating Reserve generating plant.

Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 18

Unconstrained commitments	-4.62	These sites have been developed.
Reduced Supply Total	156.92	-
Sites Proposed for Alternative (Non B-Class) Uses		
Crumps Yard, Connah's Quay	-3.45	Site allocated for a solar farm.
Warren Hall, Broughton	-13.80	13.80 ha of this 36.5 ha site has been removed from the supply of employment land on the site because of increased provision of other uses across the whole site.
Final Reduced Supply Total (Realistic Supply)	139.67	-

Policy 30

Policy PE2: Principal Employment Areas

Within principal employment areas, as defined on the proposals map and listed below, the following types of employment development will be permitted:

- a. B1 business use;
- b. B2 general industry;
- c. B8 storage and distribution

provided that the proposal is of an appropriate type and scale for both the site and its surroundings.

18.2 This policy seeks to identify on the proposals map the areas where most employment development is likely to take place. The Principal Employment Areas, which are listed in table 18.3, comprise a mixture of:

- existing employment land and buildings;
- land or buildings with planning permission (commitments);
- undeveloped employment allocations;
- other undeveloped / unannotated land.

18.3 Although the Plan aims to be flexible to employment proposals through policy PE3 it is considered that by identifying key areas where new employment development will generally be acceptable, the Plan aims to provide a greater

18 Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

degree of certainty and consistency and avoid the need to identify numerous small allocations or commitments. The policy is applicable to the use of land, new build, conversion, redevelopment and extension or expansion. Within these areas, employment development will generally be acceptable, unless it is allocated for a specific use by virtue of another policy. However, it will still be necessary for proposals to be of a type and scale which respects the local environment and amenity of other land uses and residents.

Table 18.3

Principal Employment Areas	
Ref No.	Area
PE2.1	Ewloe Barns (Industrial Estate), Alltami
PE2.2	Alltami Depot, Alltami
PE2.3	Manor Industrial Estate, Bagillt
PE2.4	Broughton Mill, Broughton
PE2.5	Catheralls Industrial Estate and Pinfold Industrial Estate, Buckley
PE2.6	Drury Lane Industrial Estate, Buckley
PE2.7	Little Mountain Industrial Estate, Buckley
PE2.8	Spencer Industrial Estate, Buckley
PE2.9	Evans Business Centre, Chester West
PE2.10	Dock Road, Connah's Quay
PE2.11	Deeside Industrial Park and DARA
PE2.12	St Davids Park, Ewloe
PE2.13	Ashmount Industrial Estate, Flint
PE2.14	Castle Park/Ashmount Industrial Centre, Flint
PE2.15	Greenfield Business Park, Greenfield

Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 18

PE2.16	Hawarden Industrial Park, Chester Aerospace Park and Hawarden Airport, Hawarden
PE2.17	Broncoed Industrial Estate, Mold
PE2.18	Mold Business Park, Mold
PE2.19	Mold Industrial Estate, Mold
PE2.20	Mostyn Docks, Mostyn
PE2.21	Pentre Industrial Estate, Pentre
PE2.22	Queensferry Industrial Estate, Pentre
PE2.23	Expressway Business Park, Queensferry
PE2.24	Antelope Industrial Park, Rhydymwyn
PE2.25	Brynmau One, Two, and Three Estates and Glen Industrial Estate, Saltney
PE2.26	The Borders Industrial Park, Chesterbank Industrial Park and Brynmau Four Estate, Saltney
PE2.27	Engineer Park and St Ives Park, Sandycroft
PE2.28	Glendale Business Park, Sandycroft
PE2.29	Sandycroft Industrial Estate, Sandycroft
PE2.30	Rowley's Drive, Shotton

18 Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

Policy 31**PE3: Employment Development Outside Allocated Sites and Principal Employment Areas**

New industrial, office and warehousing development proposals will be permitted within settlement boundaries where there are no suitable or available allocated sites or sites within Principal Employment Areas and which conform to Policies PC2, PC3 and PC4.

Outside settlement boundaries new industrial, office and warehousing development will be permitted through the:

- i. conversion of existing buildings provided that:
 - a. the building is structurally sound and capable of conversion without major or complete reconstruction, tantamount to the erection of a new building; and
 - b. the building is suitable for the specific re-use; and
 - c. any inherent traditional historic or architectural features of merit in the building are retained;
- ii. development of land on the edge of settlement boundaries of tier 2 local service centres, tier 3 sustainable villages, and tier 4 defined villages provided that:
 - a. there are no more suitable sites or buildings available either within a nearby settlement boundary or on brownfield land; and
 - b. it is specifically for a rural activity which cannot be located elsewhere; and
 - c. the development is of an appropriate scale and well related to the form of the settlement and does not exacerbate ribbon development or result in a fragmented pattern of development; and
 - d. a logical new site boundary is formed, utilising existing features wherever possible, or suitable boundary treatment, supplemented by sensitive landscaping measures.

In all cases the development should not involve external storage or operations which would be harmful to residential amenity or to the character and appearance of the area.

- 18.4 Most employment development will take place on employment allocations and in Principal Employment Areas, however there will be instances where proposals need to be located on other land and buildings in settlement

Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 18

boundaries. Outside settlement boundaries employment development can help to create a more diverse range of jobs to offset those that may be lost from agriculture. However, it is essential that proposals do not impair the quality of the local environment, and that access and parking facilities are satisfactory. The scale of development permissible under this policy will depend on its location and it will generally need to harmonise with its immediate surroundings and avoid detriment to local quality of life. However, there are likely to be circumstances particularly in main service centres, where larger scale developments may be acceptable provided there is no detrimental impact on the locality.

- 18.5** Outside of settlement boundaries new employment development in the countryside can help strengthen and diversify the rural economy, however such benefits must be balanced against the need to protect rural areas from inappropriate development. The conversion of existing buildings can provide opportunities to support new employment development, including home based working, whilst minimising the impact of development upon the countryside. The plan takes a flexible approach to new employment developments on the edge of tier 2, 3 and 4 settlements by allowing the development of land adjoining settlement boundaries. Proposals will need to demonstrate that there are no prospects of suitable sites within identified settlement boundaries becoming available for employment purposes and that it genuinely requires a rural or open countryside location.

Policy 32

PE4: Farm Diversification

Proposals for farm diversification comprising the conversion and / or the limited extension of existing buildings, or in exceptional circumstances sensitively located and designed new build, will be permitted where:

- a. the proposed diversification activity is run in conjunction with the main farm enterprise; and
- b. any retail proposals are small scale, and specifically related to the farm operation or farm diversification scheme, and do not unacceptably harm local shops or facilities; and
- c. the proposal does not involve external storage or operations which would be harmful to residential amenity or the character and appearance of the area; and

In the case of new build the buildings are of a scale, siting, design and materials appropriate to the site and surroundings and are well related to existing buildings in the main farm complex.

In the case of conversions the building is suitable for the specific re-use and any inherent traditional historic or architectural features of merit are retained.

18 Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

- 18.6** In order to ensure long term viability, many farm holdings are embarking on farm diversification schemes as a way of supplementing farm income. This can take many forms such as providing serviced or self-catering accommodation, food and timber related commercial activities, business uses, storage and distribution, and tourist attractions such as outdoor activities or arts and crafts.
- 18.7** The policy is aimed at facilitating genuine farm diversification schemes and speculative proposals which do not have a specific use or user will not be considered acceptable. The policy intentionally does not attempt to define 'small scale' as each proposal must be assessed on its own merits taking into account location, characteristics of the site (including buildings) and surroundings, the nature and intensity of the proposal.
- 18.8** The preference will be for proposals which involve the conversion of existing buildings or the limited extension of existing buildings. It is essential that in the case of conversions, existing buildings are suitable for the specific re-use proposed. Proposals which involve poor quality, prefabricated or temporary buildings and structures will not be considered acceptable for conversion. However, where an existing building is considered acceptable for re-use, the Council will seek to secure improvements to the external appearance of such buildings as part of the scheme.
- 18.9** Where there are no existing buildings which can be extended or converted, then consideration may be given to new build proposals of a sensitive and appropriate design. Any new buildings must be well related to existing buildings in the main farm complex and sensitive in terms of scale, siting, design and materials to the site and surroundings. The diversification element must be run in conjunction with the main use of the farm and applicants may be requested to submit a 'farm plan' in order to demonstrate how the proposal fits in to the operation of the farm and the contribution the activity will make to the viability of the farm. The inclusion in a 'farm plan' of details of the proposed diversification will make it easier for the pros and cons of the proposal to be assessed, and possibly speed up the decision making process. Notwithstanding that the opportunities for reducing car use and increasing the use of public transport, walking and cycling are more limited in rural areas, it is considered that wherever possible, diversification schemes should be accessible by means of travel other than the car.
- 18.10** In certain instances, retailing may be permissible where it is related to either the farm operation or to the diversification activity e.g. the sale of farm produce or value added food products, the sale of arts and crafts or the sale of equipment in association with a particular outdoor activity. The retailing element should remain ancillary to the main farm operation and the proposed use should not harm either existing local or village shops or district shopping centres.

Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 18

Policy 33**PE5: Expansion of Existing Employment uses**

Outside allocated sites or Principal Employment Areas the expansion of employment uses will be permitted only where:

- a. it is located on land within or abutting the boundary of existing premises; and
- b. the resultant scale of development is in keeping with the existing operation, site and its surroundings; and
- c. any new site boundary is logical, utilising existing features wherever possible, or incorporates suitable boundary treatment, supplemented by sensitive landscaping measures.

- 18.11** In many circumstances it will be appropriate to allow employment businesses to extend their existing operation, particularly as expansion on site is cheaper than relocation and makes the best use of existing infrastructure thereby conserving resources. Such an approach forms a key part of the Council's current Economic Development Regeneration Strategy. Within Principal Employment Areas there is unlikely to be a problem with the expansion of existing firms, but in other locations such as mixed use areas, small settlements or rural locations, it will be necessary to assess more carefully the impacts of the expansion. Proposals will be resisted if the continued expansion of a firm would lead to an intensification of use resulting in an unacceptable impact on residential amenity, access, landscape, townscape or environment.

Policy 34**PE6: Protection of Employment Land**

The loss of existing, designated, or allocated employment land and buildings to other uses will only be permitted if:

- a. no other suitable site is available for the development proposed; and
- b. the site or building is no longer considered to be suitable for employment purposes; and
- c. it would not result in an unacceptable reduction in the supply and range of employment sites in the area; or
- d. the proposal would bring about the removal or satisfactory relocation of a non-conforming or potentially polluting use from the site or building.

18 Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

- 18.12** It is important to maintain an adequate supply of B1, B2 and B8 employment land and buildings in the Plan area. Its loss can result in a cumulative reduction in local job opportunities, forcing people to travel further in search of work and harm existing business linkages and support networks. This policy aims to prevent the loss of employment land for uses such as housing and retail which can be located elsewhere.
- 18.13** However, the policy recognises that there will be circumstances where it would be unreasonable to prevent other uses or development. A number of criteria would need to be satisfied such as the availability of other suitable sites for the proposal and whether the existing site or building is still considered to be suitable for employment uses given factors such as its location, accessibility, size, configuration and condition. A further criterion is whether the loss of the site or building would harm the ability of the locality or settlement to attract employment development due to a lack of a range of sites or premises. A final scenario is where the existing use of the site or building is 'nonconforming' or 'potentially polluting' i.e. it has the potential to, or already is, harming the amenity of local residents or land uses or the environment through noise pollution, traffic level or other impact. In such cases, the removal, or relocation of the nonconforming use to a suitable site, enabled by an alternative use, may bring about overall benefit.

Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 18

Policy 35

PE7: Retail Hierarchy

Retail, leisure and commercial development will be directed towards the following hierarchy as identified on the proposals map:

Table 18.4

Tier	Centre	
Town Centres	Buckley, Flint, Holywell, Mold, Shotton	
District Centres	Connah’s Quay, Queensferry, Saltney	
Local Centres	Bagillt – High Street Broughton – Broughton Hall Rd Buckley – Lane End Caergwrle – village centre Caerwys – village centre Connah’s Quay – Thornfield Ave Connah’s Quay – Englefield Ave Connah’s Quay – Ffordd Llanarth Ewloe – The Highway Ewloe – Holywell Road Flint – Northop Road	Garden City – Welsh Road Greenfield – Parade Hawarden – village centre Holywell - Holway Hope – village centre Mostyn – Maes Pennant Mynydd Isa – The Square Penyffordd / Penymynydd – village centre Shotton – Aston Park Road Shotton Central Drive

Proposals will be supported where they are appropriate in scale and type for a particular centre.

18 Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

- 18.14** Shopping is an important aspect of everyone's life and the provision of an adequate range of shops is particularly important if an area is to be an attractive place in which to live and work. Retail can also contribute towards the local economy and if located sustainably, reduce the need to travel and help maintain cohesive communities. Retail provision within the County is predominantly located at Broughton Shopping Park and the town and district centres. The policy reflects the 'town centre first' principles embedded within PPW10, but recognises the difficulty facing town and district centres as a result of the retailing climate and on line shopping.
- 18.15** In accordance with national planning guidance this policy defines a retail centre hierarchy which recognises the specific role and function of the current retail offer within Flintshire and is a framework for determining the location and acceptability of future development proposals. Such developments include changes of use, redevelopment and extensions for retail, leisure and commercial uses. This policy aims to sustain and enhance the vitality and viability of the town, district and local centres by identifying these centres as the most appropriate locations for retail and other complementary uses such as leisure and other commercial uses.

Policy 36

PE8: Development within Primary Shopping Areas

Within the Primary Shopping Areas, as designated on the proposals map, retail development is the preferred ground floor use. Proposals that seek to diversify from A1 retail uses and activities, will be considered in terms of:

- a. the nature of the use and how it positively complements the existing retail offer; and
- b. the level and distribution of existing non- A1 retail uses; and
- c. whether, and for how long the premises has been vacant and actively marketed (at least 12 months); and
- d. whether the proposal is for the conversion of an upper floor; and
- e. the amount of retail floor space and frontage that will be lost.

All proposals for development within the Primary shopping Areas, must demonstrate how they will enhance the vibrancy, viability and attractiveness of that centre.

- 18.16** Primary Shopping Areas have been identified in all of the town centres in the retail hierarchy. The Primary Shopping Areas are where there is a concentration of primarily A1 shops along the most important shopping streets. The purpose of these areas is to ensure that retail units located in these key shopping streets are retained for A1 uses (shops) by ensuring that

Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 18

non-retailing uses such as offices, residential, financial, betting shops, hot food take-aways and other similar uses do not become concentrated in the Primary Shopping Areas and displacing shops to more peripheral locations.

- 18.17** This policy encourages retail occupation at ground floor level in the Primary Shopping Areas and provides an enhanced level of protection for the most important shopping streets whilst preventing too many non-retail uses which could harm the vitality and viability of the retail centres. Proposals should seek to enhance the attractiveness of these centres therefore conversions to residential use on a ground floor unit will not be supported in a Primary Shopping Area and is unlikely to be supported elsewhere in centres. Proposals for residential conversions on first floor level and above will generally be supported in line with relevant development management policies.
- 18.18** Whilst it is important to protect the retail function of these areas it is also recognised that there has to be some degree of flexibility to address vacancy levels and gaps in town centre 'offer' for example in under-represented services such as cafes and restaurants. These and other leisure uses can attract visitors and shoppers to the centres, support the retail function and help make qualitative improvements to the town centres. This policy provides an opportunity where there can be flexibility for allowing non-retail uses within Primary Shopping Areas provided they do not impact on vitality and viability.
- 18.19** Long term (12 months or greater) vacant shop floor space is a clear indicator of decline which could result in the deterioration of the physical appearance of the street scene. As a consequence this may adversely impact upon perceptions of shoppers and potential investors. Proposals which seek to bring back into beneficial use retail premises which have remained vacant for a long time, despite active marketing for a retail use, will be more favourably considered.

Policy 37

PE9: Development outside Primary Shopping Areas

Within town centre boundaries, but outside the Primary Shopping Areas, (as identified on the proposals map) proposals for ground floor retail, professional services, food and drink and other commercial proposals that would enhance a towns vitality and viability, will be supported.

- 18.20** Flintshire's retail centres are the most sustainable locations to live, work, shop and conduct business, in line with the 'town centres first' principles embodied in PPW10. A concentration of uses in the town centre can help sustain and enhance retail and commercial centres vibrancy, viability and

18 Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

attractiveness supporting the primary retail function. In recent years a number of the town centres in Flintshire have seen an increase in vacancies and a reduction in retail occupiers, and the LDP retail policies and other Council initiatives will seek to assist in regenerating and sustaining those town centres.

- 18.21** This policy balances the positives a mix of uses can bring to the town centres whilst also protecting against the harmful impacts that can arise from the loss of shops. For example the conversion of a ground floor unit to residential is often permanent and rarely converts back to retail/commercial uses. Not only would this lose potential footfall on a street but would also create a dead frontage, unattractive to shoppers and visitors alike.
- 18.22** Consequently in locations outside of the Primary Shopping Areas and within town centre boundaries, ground floor residential uses may only be supported where it would not harm the viability and vitality of the street and retail centre and satisfactorily comply with relevant development management policies.

Policy 38

PE10: District and Local Centres

Within the designated District Centres of Connah's Quay, Queensferry and Saltney proposals which maintain or improve the range and quality of shopping provision or complimentary commercial and leisure facilities will be supported provided it is appropriate in scale and enhances the centre.

Small scale retail and other commercial uses intended to meet the day to day needs of the local neighbourhood will be directed towards suitable sites or premises within the Local Centres identified in Policy PE7.

- 18.23** The District Centres defined in the Policy are designated on the Proposals Map. It is important that District Centres continue to represent vibrant and attractive locations which can support the communities they serve. This includes providing for an appropriate range and choice of convenience shopping facilities to meet day to day needs.
- 18.24** District Centres also provide opportunities for an appropriate mix of non-retail uses that can play an important role in sustaining vitality and viability. The purpose of this policy is to promote and protect the retail role of the centres whilst supporting a mix of appropriate uses to deliver an offer and balance of facilities in order to encourage the use of these centres by shoppers and investors. A flexible approach will be taken to the consideration of proposed changes of use particularly if it would fill long term vacant units and help address long term decline in a centres performance and attractiveness.

Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 18

- 18.25** Local Centres are generally smaller in size than District Centres, more residential in nature, and do not typically have the scale or variety of retail and non- retail uses. As a consequence proposals other than A1 may be more difficult to satisfactorily accommodate in such Local Centres, and the importance of safeguarding residential amenity will be a key consideration.
- 18.26** The boundaries of those Local Centres defined in the policy vary, ranging from a tightly arranged terrace of units at Northop Road, Flint and Central Drive, Shotton to more dispersed arrangements of a similar number of units that cover a larger local neighbourhood area in several locations in Connah's Quay. Whilst the general locations of the Local Centres are shown on the Proposals Map their individual boundaries are not delineated. Applications will be considered on their merits as to whether the proposal can reasonably be described as being sited within the Local Centre in a suitable unit or site, for example having regard to the prevailing arrangements of existing units and the land uses surrounding the site.

Policy 39

PE11: Edge and Out of Town Retail Development

Retail development will only be permitted outside the Town, District and Local Centres, provided that:

- a. There is a need for the proposed floor-space (Needs Test);
- b. That the need cannot satisfactorily be accommodated within or adjacent to the Town and District and Local Centres (Sequential Test); and
- c. The proposal would not cause unacceptable harm to the vitality, attractiveness or viability of the Town District and Local Centres (Retail Impact Assessment).

- 18.27** The vitality and viability of many town centres is currently under significant pressure. Vitality describes how busy a shopping area is and viability refers to its ability to attract continued investment. The ability of existing centres to continue to serve the interests of the whole community in the long term must not be undermined by new retail developments elsewhere.
- 18.28** Planning Policy Wales (PPW) states that the most appropriate locations for retail and other complimentary uses are within town, district and local centres. This approach of focussing such uses within established shopping centres provides the opportunity to enhance the vitality, attractiveness and viability of these centres. However, in the present retail climate and having regards to the findings of the Retail Study, the focus is equally on the protection, retention and minimising the further reduction in retail offer.

18 Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

- 18.29** This Policy seeks to protect and enhance the designated shopping centres and resist out-of-centre retail developments that could be harmful to their vitality and viability. The sequential test as detailed in PPW aims to direct retail developments to existing centres wherever possible or to the edge of such centres if sites within the centres are not available. Only where need for additional retail floor space has been demonstrated and there are no locations in or adjacent to designated centres that could accommodate that need, should out of centre locations be considered.
- 18.30** All proposals for edge and out-of-centre development that satisfy the tests of retail need and the sequential approach must demonstrate that they would not harm designated shopping centres either in their own right, or in conjunction with other recent developments or unimplemented permissions. Retail Impact Assessments will be required for developments of 2500m² or more. Any proposals that introduce additional retail floor-space, including redevelopment, extensions (including mezzanine floors, where permission for this is required) subdivision, and changes of use would be relevant to this policy.

Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 18

Policy 40**PE12: Tourist Accommodation, Facilities and Attractions**

The development of new or extensions to existing self-catering and serviced tourist accommodation and tourist attractions and facilities will be permitted within defined settlements where proportionate in scale to the site and its surroundings.

Outside defined settlement boundaries development will be permitted in the form of:

- a. the extension to existing tourist accommodation and facilities; or
- b. the conversion of existing buildings whereby in accordance with TAN6:
 - i. the building is structurally sound and capable of conversion without extensive rebuilding, extension or alteration tantamount to the erection of a new dwelling;
 - ii. any traditional historic or architectural features of merit are retained; and
 - iii. any curtilage included to provide amenity space or associated parking or other facilities should not harm the character and appearance of the area;
- c. non-permanent accommodation such as chalets, pods, glamping and tent camping sites;
- d. new build tourist attractions and facilities outside settlement boundaries if:
 - i. an open countryside location is essential;
 - ii. the proposal cannot be accommodated within an existing building or within a defined settlement boundary;
 - iii. the development is based upon a geographically restricted resource or activity.

The occupancy of tourist accommodation will be restricted to holiday use only.

18.31 For the purposes of this policy tourist accommodation includes serviced visitor accommodation such as, hotels as well as self-catering visitor accommodation, chalets, cabins, and glamping pods. Tourist facilities and attractions include non-accommodation related tourism development.

18.32 As a general rule tourism developments, whether accommodation or attractions, will be acceptable within defined settlement boundaries provided the proposal is in keeping with the site and its surroundings and satisfies other Plan policies. Developments that include large – scale year-round

18 Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

all-weather facilities that can also be utilised by local people are most appropriately located in existing defined settlements, as these benefit from existing infrastructure and accessibility. Tourism developments in a Main or Local Service Centre should be appropriate in terms of supporting the settlement's role, function and character. Visitors can use existing facilities and services within a settlement which in turn helps to support the local economy through spending and employment.

- 18.33** It is also necessary to provide clear guidance in respect of tourism proposals arising outside settlement boundaries. This recognises that new tourist development is encouraged because of its contribution to the economy in terms of visitor spending, supporting local business and employment generation, but it can also benefit residents in terms of health and well-being. The Council seeks to ensure that developments are sustainable and do not have an unacceptably adverse impact and effect upon the character and appearance of an area, the natural and historic environment or existing amenities, assets or designations. Non-permanent developments may, for example, include dark skies observatories or eco-friendly woodland camping sites. Outside settlement boundaries, tourism accommodation should comprise the extension to existing buildings or the conversion of existing rural buildings. Guidance on the latter is contained within TAN6. A further form of tourism accommodation acceptable in open countryside will be non-permanent accommodation such as camping pods, glamping units and tent camping sites. These proposals will be assessed against the Plan's other policies in terms of being appropriate for the site and surroundings and not harming landscape, nature conservation or historic environment.
- 18.34** New build tourism attractions or facilities in the open countryside may be acceptable provided that an open countryside location is essential. For instance if a proposal cannot be located within an existing settlement boundary or accommodated within existing buildings, then consideration can be given to new build. In other cases it may be that the development is based on a geographical resource or activity which means that it has to take place in a particular open countryside location. This might relate to water based recreation or some other land based recreational activity.
- 18.35** Tourist accommodation shall not be used for permanent residential accommodation and this will be controlled by a conditional planning consent specifying 'holiday' use only.

Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy 18

Policy 41**PE13: Caravan Development in the Open Countryside**

- a. The development of static caravan accommodation will be permitted outside the Talacre, Gronant and Gwespyr area (as defined on the proposals map) where:
 - i. there would be no material harm to the landscape character and environmental quality of the surrounding area, either individually or cumulatively with other sites in the vicinity; and
 - ii. the scale of the proposal together with the number, siting and layout of units, circulation roads and service buildings is appropriate to the characteristics of the site and locality; and
 - iii. the scheme incorporates substantial internal and structural landscaping; and
- b. New touring caravan sites will be permitted, in addition to the criteria in a. only where:
 - i. it is used for touring caravan purposes and any touring caravans are removed from the site for periods when not in use; and
 - ii. any essential service buildings that are needed can be provided within existing buildings or appropriately sited and designed small new buildings.
- c. The extension of existing caravan related sites will be permitted only where:
 - i. any increase in the number of pitches or units is modest;
 - ii. any physical extension of the site is modest;
 - iii. the scheme incorporates substantial internal and external structural landscaping, demonstrates significant improvement to the environment of the site and a reduction of its impact on the surrounding landscape;
 - iv. the proposal involves improved on-site facilities;
 - v. any touring caravans are removed when not in use.

The occupancy of caravan related developments will be restricted to holiday use only.

- 18.36** Static caravans play an important role in Flintshire's visitor economy, however some static caravan sites can be visually intrusive on the landscape and as such may be detrimental to the overall quality and viability of tourism in Flintshire. To protect Flintshire's landscape and its visitor economy the policy seeks to assess proposals for new static caravan sites and extensions to

18 Development Management Policies - Supporting a Prosperous Economy

existing sites to ensure that there will be no material harm to the landscape, either individually or cumulatively, with other sites in the vicinity. In particular, there is a concentration of holiday static caravan development in the Talacre, Gronant and Gwespyr area which has compromised the open and undeveloped character of the coast. It is therefore proposed that the policy approach of not permitting new static caravan development within the area defined on the proposals maps is carried over from the UDP into the LDP.

- 18.37** Touring units are defined as touring caravans, tents, trailer tents and camper vans/motor homes. The purpose of the policy is to enable an increase in the number of touring pitches provided that it has no adverse landscape, environmental or amenity impacts.
- 18.38** Extensions will depend on the individual characteristics of each site. Extensions are not quantified as each site has a different site area, unit densities and landscape characteristics and what can be considered as 'modest' extensions will vary. Each will be considered on its merits, but must be in proportion to the existing site.

Policy 42

PE14: Greenfield Valley

Development proposals within or adjoining the Greenfield Valley, as designated on the proposals map, will be permitted where they do not detract from the tourism potential of the Valley or harm areas or features of landscape, nature conservation or historic value.

- 18.39** The Greenfield Valley is a significant tourist attraction based principally on the historic interpretation of the Valley. It is in a highly accessible location, which makes a considerable contribution to the cultural resources of the area. It also performs as a local green infrastructure corridor and has further potential to develop its role as a recreational route. The County Council will therefore favourably consider any proposals which support its continued development as a visitor destination and do not harm the landscape, nature conservation and historic features which contribute to its special character. Other development proposals may be permitted in or adjacent to the Valley provided that they do not harm its special character and features.

Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 19

19 Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

19 Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 19

Policy 43

HN1: New Housing Development Proposals

Land is allocated in the following locations as shown on the proposals map to contribute to the delivery of the identified housing requirement over the plan period:

- **Northern Gateway Mixed Use Development Site** (Policy STR3A and Northern Gateway Masterplan and Delivery Statement)
- **Warren Hall Mixed Use Development Site**(Policy STR3B and Warren Hall Masterplan and Delivery Statement)

Table 19.1

Ref.	Site Location	Area (ha.)	Units	Summary Guidance
Tier 1 – Main Service Centres				
1	Well Street, Buckley	5.3	159	Access onto Well Street to be designed so as to prevent right turn and use of rural roads to the south / retention and enhancement of strong hedgerow and landscaped boundaries.
2	Broad Oak Holding, Mold Rd, Connah’s Quay	1.3	32	n/a – residual of UDP Fair Oaks Drive allocation – site now has resolution to grant planning permission subject to s106 being signed.
3	Highbury Drive, Connah’s Quay	5.0	150	Access off Highbury Drive with a secondary access at Courbet Drive / provision can be made available to provide improved cycle, pedestrian and emergency access linking onto Courbet Drive / appropriate ecological avoidance and mitigation measures.
4	Northop Road, Flint	9.1	170	Single access off Northop Rd / pedestrian linkages to Halkyn Road / retention of strong hedgerow boundaries / ecological mitigation measures.

19 Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

5	Maes Gwern, Mold	5.7	160	n/a - site has planning permission and is under construction but unable to be recorded as a commitment as at 01/04/18.
6	Land between Denbigh Road and Gwernaffield Rd, Mold	12.1	246	New access onto Denbigh Road / retention and enhancement of strong site boundaries particularly along western edge of site / facilitate delivery of Mold flood alleviation scheme / no residential development on land between Denbigh Rd and Pool House Lane.
Tier 2 – Local Service Centres				
7	Holywell Rd / Green Lane, Ewloe	9.9	298	Access off Holywell Rd and Green Lane but no through route / improvements to junction of Holywell Rd and Old Mold Road and junction of Green Lane and Old Mold Rd / retention of field boundary hedgerows and trees / ecological mitigation measures.
8	Ash Lane, Hawarden	10.9	288	Access onto Gladstone Way and Ash Lane / strategic landscaping buffer to provide setting to listed building / retention of hedgerows and mature trees / link to active travel route.
9	Wrexham Road, HCAC	3.5	80	Retention of hedgerows / creation of attractive development frontage / layout to be sensitive to wildlife and break of slope along western edge of site.
Tier 3 – Sustainable Villages				
10	Cae Isa, A5119, New Brighton	3.5	105	New Brighton Road / Bryn Lane Signalised Junction / new section of footway along the western side of New Brighton Road to the south East of site to improve pedestrian access / SuDs pond to collect all surface water run-off via gravity piped networks / retention of boundary trees and new planting / appropriate ecological avoidance and mitigation measures.

Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 19

11	Chester Road, Penymynydd	7.7	186	n/a - site has planning permission and is under construction but unable to be recorded as a commitment as at 01/04/18.
----	-----------------------------	-----	-----	--

- 19.1** Policy STR1 identifies that the Plan will seek to provide 7,950 new homes to meet a housing requirement of 6,950 homes, through the application of a flexibility allowance of nearly 15%. Policy STR11 sets out the strategic approach to providing sustainable housing sites. The explanation to policy STR11 includes a housing balance sheet which explains how the Plans overall housing provision will be met in terms of different elements of housing supply. These include the completions secured during the first 3 years of the Plan period, commitments i.e. sites with planning permission, allowances for small sites and windfalls, and the two strategic sites. The remainder, or residual is made up new housing allocations.
- 19.2** The Plan only allocates land where it is capable of accommodating 10 or more units in order to ensure parity with the definition of a 'large' site in the Joint Housing Land Availability Study. The Plan includes a number of housing allocations as identified in the above table and as shown on the proposals map. The allocations comprise greenfield sites on the edge of settlements which have been assessed as suitable to deliver future housing need in accordance with the sustainable settlement hierarchy, following a detailed assessment of candidate sites and alternatives sites. There is a lack of suitable and appropriate brownfield land in the County given issues relating to flood risk, nature conservation and contamination. The detailed assessment of candidate sites and alternative sites is presented in Background Paper Candidate and Alternative Site Assessment.
- 19.3** The detailed design and delivery of the allocations is key to meeting a number of the Plan's objectives, particularly in relation to health and wellbeing, promoting active travel and climate change. Brief Design guidance is set out in the table above and policies PC2, PC3, PC4 and PC5 provide guidance in terms of designing each allocation as part of subsequent planning applications.
- 19.4** The delivery of new housing allocations, as well as existing commitments, will be closely monitored over the Plan period through the plan's Monitoring Framework, Joint Housing Land Availability Study (JHLAS) and Annual Monitoring Framework (AMR).

19 Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

Policy 44**HN2: Density and Mix of Development**

New housing development should aim to provide a density of at least 30 dwellings per hectare and incorporate a mix of dwellings by type and size in order to make the most efficient use of available land and to meet the needs of residents for a range of house types thereby creating mixed and socially inclusive communities. A lower density of development will only be permitted where:

- a. site constraints prevent the minimum density from being achieved
- b. the minimum density would harm the character and appearance of the sites surroundings

In all cases, housing developments should use high quality design principles to maximise the density of development without compromising the quality of the living conditions provided and make adequate provision for privacy and space about dwellings.

19.5 All land utilised for development should be regarded as a precious resource and used as efficiently as possible. Higher density developments can help to reduce the amount of land needed to meet future housing needs but this must be balanced against the need to ensure a quality living environment which embraces placemaking principles. On all sites of 10 units or more a general minimum net housing density of 30 dwellings per hectare is required but it is acknowledged that individual circumstances will vary according to the site location and the character of the surrounding area. In most housing developments it should be possible to reference the objectives of good design to achieve this density whilst still meeting space about dwellings standards, provision of SuDS and creating a pleasant living environment. In some cases though, either due to site constraints or the character of its surroundings, a lower density of development may be justified but this will need to be justified as part of a Design and Access Statement.

19.6 In order to meet the variety of needs in Flintshire, a range of housing must be provided on sites. The Local Housing Market Assessment identified a particular need for smaller one and two bed units to meet the increasing need from single person households. A significant part of this need is driven by the growing older population (65+), therefore the housing needs of older people should be reflected in residential development proposals, which could include the development of bungalows. To ensure that mixed and balanced communities are created the Council will expect developers to provide an appropriate mix of dwelling size and type to meet local housing needs, making reference to the evidence within the latest Local Housing Market Assessment

Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 19

and avoiding residential schemes that are dominated by larger properties with four or more bedrooms. Through careful design and layout it should be possible to avoid a distinction between different types of housing and tenures.

Policy 45

HN3: Affordable Housing

Affordable housing contributions will be sought on developments of 10 or more units in accordance with the following quotas which should be taken as a starting point for negotiation on a site by site basis subject to detailed viability considerations:

- 40% in the Central sub market area;
- 35% in the Connahs Quay, Queensferry and Broughton sub market area;
- 15% in the Flint and Coast sub market area;
- 20% in the Garden City sub market area;
- 40% in the Mold and Buckley sub market area;
- 30% in the South Border sub market area.

Affordable housing will be expected to be delivered on site in the first instance and only in exceptional circumstances will off site or commuted sum contributions be accepted in lieu of on-site provision.

- 19.7** This policy seeks to secure affordable housing on both allocated (policy STR3 and HN1) as well as windfall housing sites. National planning policy recognises that a community's need for affordable housing is a material planning consideration. The policy will assist the Council in delivering the shortfall of affordable housing in the County by seeking an appropriate affordable housing contribution as part of new residential developments. Any attempts to deliberately sub divide or phase sites to avoid the need to deliver affordable housing will not be acceptable. Sites will also be expected to be developed at an appropriate density, in line with the advice in policy HN2, in order to avoid sites coming forward at a density which is below the threshold.
- 19.8** Affordable housing in this context has the same definition as that contained in Technical Advice Note (TAN) 2: Planning and Affordable Housing i.e. housing where there are secure mechanisms in place to ensure that it is accessible to those who cannot afford market housing, both on first occupation and for subsequent occupiers. It includes social rented housing (provided by local authorities and registered social landlords) and intermediate housing (where prices or rents are above those of social rent but below market housing prices or rents).

19 Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

- 19.9** The Plan's approach to securing affordable housing is based on the findings of the Local Housing Market Assessment and the District Valuer 'Study Concerning the Economic Viability of Providing Affordable Housing Across Flintshire'. Differing affordable housing requirements are based on the relative strengths of the housing sub market areas in terms of viability. Further details on the approach is set out in the Affordable Housing Background Paper. Detailed guidance on the scale, tenure and nature of affordable housing to be sought, along with information regarding what will be required as part of independent viability assessments, will be set out in the Affordable Housing SPG, following adoption of the Plan. The policy will normally be implemented by the use of a planning obligation in line with policy STR6.
- 19.10** Delivery of affordable housing via the planning system is one of the core indicators contained in the plans monitoring framework as expressed through the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR).

Policy 46

HN4: Housing in the Countryside

Proposals for housing development outside defined settlement boundaries will only be permitted where:

- a. it is for the purposes of agriculture, forestry or other rural enterprise as defined in TAN6,
- b. it involves the replacement of an existing dwelling (see policy HN4-A), or
- c. it involves the subdivision of an existing dwelling, provided the dwelling is capable of subdivision without major extensions tantamount to the erection of an additional dwelling or dwellings, or
- d. it involves the conversion of an existing non-residential building (see policy HN4-B), or
- e. it involves sensitive infill development within an appropriate group of dwellings in the countryside (see policy HN4-C)
- f. it is for affordable housing rural exception sites on land adjoining the settlement limits (see policy HN4-D), or
- g. it is for a One Planet Development as defined in TAN6.

- 19.11** The purpose of this policy is to protect the open countryside from inappropriate housing development but to ensure that in exceptional circumstances specific types of new housing will be allowed. It reflects the guidance in Planning Policy Wales and TAN6 whereby new housing development in open countryside i.e. outside settlement boundaries is strictly controlled. Welsh Government provides detailed guidance on new rural enterprise dwellings and One Planet dwellings and it is not considered that this needs be repeated within detailed policies in the Plan. The Council has

Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 19

a published Advice Note on One Planet developments which aims to assist potential applicants in submitting the necessary supporting information and documentation as part of a planning application. In the case of the other specific types of housing development, the policy criterion are supplemented by a series of detailed specific policies below.

Policy 47

HN4-A: Replacement Dwellings

The replacement of a dwelling outside settlement boundaries will only be permitted if:

- a. the existing building has lawful use rights as a dwelling;
- b. the existing dwelling is habitable or capable of being made habitable without works which are tantamount to the construction of a new dwelling;
- c. the existing dwelling does not have significant local historical or architectural interest;
- d. the new dwelling is not significantly larger than the existing dwelling and reflects the character and traditional building style of the locality in terms of its siting, design, form, and the materials used;
- e. the replacement dwelling should be located on the site of the existing dwelling, or in exceptional circumstances where an alternative siting within the curtilage will address an existing site constraint or bring about an overall environmental improvement; and
- f. there is no extension to the existing residential curtilage.

19.12 It is accepted that there may be occasions when an existing dwelling outside settlement boundaries is inappropriately sited or lacks facilities which makes it unsuited to modern living. Often such dwellings are of poor quality and nondescript and there may be opportunities to permit a new dwelling which is better designed and makes a positive contribution to the rural character of the County.

19.13 In all circumstances, to satisfy the requirements of this policy an existing dwelling must have lawful use rights as a dwelling and habitable in its present state, or be capable of being made habitable according to modern standards without recourse to work amounting to substantial reconstruction. The replacement of derelict dwellings which have been abandoned for a long period of time and have become ruinous will not be permitted under this policy, nor will the replacement of dwellings that have been used as holiday accommodation, or other temporary uses.

19 Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

- 19.14** The new dwelling should be positioned on the footprint of the existing dwelling unless there are planning constraints which would support re-siting of the dwelling elsewhere within the curtilage. In such cases there will be a requirement that the original dwelling is demolished on occupation of the new dwelling. The replacement dwelling should not be significantly larger than the existing dwelling and must respect the character of the locality. The new dwelling should improve the appearance of the site and its surroundings by careful attention to scale, form, materials and design appropriate for its rural setting.
- 19.15** Many old houses, although not listed buildings, are of local historic interest and make a significant contribution to local distinctiveness by virtue of their age, use of traditional materials or vernacular design and past association with economic and cultural matters. Proposals for the replacement of such buildings will generally be resisted.

Policy 48

HN4-B: Residential Conversion of Rural Buildings

The change of use to a dwelling of an existing non-residential building outside settlement boundaries will only be permitted where:

- a. if suitable for employment use, the building has been advertised at a reasonable price for sale or lease for an employment generating use, for a period of at least one year without success; or
- b. residential conversion is a subordinate part of a scheme for business re-use; or
- c. the resultant housing would contribute to an identified need for affordable housing to meet local needs.

provided that:

- i. the building is structurally sound and capable of conversion without significant extension, extensive rebuilding, or external alteration, as evidenced by an independent structural survey;
- ii. the building has a traditional character due to its form, bulk and general design, in keeping with its surroundings, and is worthy of retention and re-use;
- iii. the scheme of conversion does not prejudice the character of the building or the rural character of the locality and retains any inherent traditional architectural and historic features which merit retention;
- iv. The creation of a residential curtilage does not have a harmful effect on the character of the countryside;
- v. reasonable standards of living conditions are provided by the proposal.

Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 19

- 19.16** The policy gives preference to the conversion of rural buildings to employment related uses except where residential conversion is a subordinate part of a scheme for business re-use, or is contributing to an identified need for affordable housing. This policy seeks to distinguish between rural buildings which have an existing economic use whose conversion to residential may have a detrimental effect on the local economy, and those buildings which have ceased to have an economic use. Given the need to diversify the rural economy, proposals must be supported by a statement from the applicant of the genuine efforts made to advertise the property for sale or lease as an employment related use, with recognised estate agents and/or in appropriate property journals, at a reasonable price, for a minimum period of one year. This will only be required when the building is considered suitable for employment generating uses having regard to the characteristics of the building, the site and surroundings, and the vehicular access and local highway network.
- 19.17** Not all rural buildings will be suitable for a change of use. Those radically altered since their original construction or of insufficient architectural merit may not be worthy of retention or too small to adapt without significant extension. Buildings must be traditional rural buildings which are in keeping with their surroundings and where they merit retention, rather than modern utilitarian buildings. The original building must be structurally sound, or capable of being made so, by works that are not tantamount to rebuilding. A structural survey will be required with all proposals to verify the condition of a building. The existing building must be capable of accommodating a residential use without significant extensions or alterations which might destroy its character. Any features of architectural or historic interest should be retained as part of the conversion scheme. The emphasis should be on retaining existing openings with only minor alterations which complement the scheme of conversion and do not detract from it. Further guidance on the 'Conversion of Rural Buildings' is contained in Supplementary Planning Guidance.

19 Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

Policy 49**HN4-C: Infill Development in Groups of Houses**

Outside settlement boundaries infill development for one or two housing unit(s) may be permitted, provided that the proposal is to meet a proven local housing need and:

- a. comprises a small gap which is not an important landscape, nature conservation, historic or other amenity feature within a clearly identifiable small group of houses within a continuously developed frontage;
- b. does not constitute, or extend existing ribbon development which would be detrimental to the character and appearance of open countryside, and does not create fragmented development; and
- c. respects adjacent properties and the surrounding area in terms of its siting, form, design and scale, and does not represent overdevelopment of the site.

- 19.18** In the absence of significant housing allocations in the rural areas, and recognising the need to strictly control housing development outside settlement boundaries, there is also a need to ensure some opportunities exist for small-scale development to take place to meet the social and economic needs of rural areas. Any new development in rural areas should be well related to the existing pattern of settlements, reducing the pressure for sporadic and isolated development.
- 19.19** In order to meet the requirements of this policy, a group of houses must form a continuous built-up frontage and/or a focus of dwellings, for example on a cross roads, and should comprise six or more dwellings. A group of houses must not be interspersed by individual field parcels. Similarly, an infill housing plot is defined as a small gap capable of accommodating a single housing unit or two semi-detached units where this is the prevailing house type in the group or frontage, within a continuous line of built up frontages. The proposed infill dwelling must be of comparable scale, character and size to surrounding properties, and must not represent an overdevelopment of the infill plot.
- 19.20** These groups of houses are not defined in the Plan and each development proposal under this policy will be considered on its own merits. Any new houses permitted in the form of infill development in small groups of houses will be required to a meet local housing need i.e. a local person(s) in need of affordable housing with a strong local connection to the community or an essential worker in need of a rural enterprise dwelling. If the proposal seeks to provide a home for an essential worker whose employment requires that they live in a specific locality then it will be necessary for the applicant to

Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 19

submit details of their employment in support of their application and meets the tests set out in TAN6. The LPA will consider the need for a functional and financial test to establish that the need is genuine and whether a person engaged in the enterprise is required to live at or very close to the place of work. If the proposal seeks to provide a home or homes to satisfy an affordable housing need then it will be necessary for the applicant to provide the information relating to the specific housing need to be met and the arrangements to be put in place for that need to be provided for. In both cases where the LPA resolves to grant planning permission it will seek to apply conditions and where appropriate legal requirements to ensure that local needs housing delivered is retained in perpetuity. Further guidance on Infill Development is contained in a Supplementary Planning Guidance Note.

Policy 50

HN4-D: Affordable Housing Exceptions Schemes

Outside settlement boundaries for tier 2, 3 and 4 settlements, proposals to develop affordable housing in rural areas will only be permitted, where:

- a. there is evidence of genuine local need for affordable housing;
- b. there are no suitable alternative sites or properties within settlement boundaries to meet the need;
- c. schemes abut settlement boundaries and form logical extensions to settlements, avoiding ribbon and fragmented development and incorporating suitable boundary treatment and landscaping measures;
- d. the scale, design, and layout of the proposed development are sympathetic and appropriate to the size and character of the settlement and its landscape setting, and reflect the scale of need identified; and
- e. houses will remain affordable in perpetuity for those in need, managed by a housing association, the County Council, a bone fide trust or similar management organisation.

- 19.21** The need for affordable housing is particularly important in rural areas where building rates are lower and houses are generally more expensive. However, in these areas there may be insufficient housing sites available to provide an element of affordable housing as part of larger developments. This policy is an exception to the general principle that new housing will not be permitted outside settlement boundaries, and makes special provision to release small housing sites in rural areas outside settlement boundaries, which would not otherwise be allocated in the LDP, provided that there is a proven local need. The policy applies to the following tiers in the Settlement Hierarchy: Tier 2 Local Service Centres; Tier 3 Sustainable Villages; Tier 4 Defined Villages.

19 Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

- 19.22** Sites must be located immediately adjacent to the edge of the settlement and represent a logical extension to the settlement. Proposals must respect the character and appearance of the site and its surroundings. It is not envisaged that the scale of provision on these sites will be large or out of balance with the character, form and function of the settlement. Proposals must demonstrate that there is an evidenced need for affordable housing and that this need cannot be met elsewhere in the locality either through the development of buildings or sites within settlement boundaries. Initially this will be with the Community Council area in which the settlement sits but in some circumstances it may be appropriate to widen this to adjoining Community Council areas.
- 19.23** This policy applies to housing schemes that can remain affordable in perpetuity, and does not apply to proposals by local people for individual self-build dwellings where satisfactory proposals cannot be made to ensure that the dwelling remains affordable in the same way. The most practical way this can be achieved is by involving an organisation such as the County Council, a housing association or by the formation of a local trust. The organisation or the developer will be expected to enter into a Section 106 agreement to ensure homes remain affordable.

Policy 51

HN5: House Extensions and Alterations

Extensions or alterations to existing dwellings will be permitted provided that the proposal:

- a. is subsidiary in siting, scale and form to the existing dwelling, and does not represent an overdevelopment of the site;
- b. respects the existing dwelling and surroundings in terms of design and materials;
- c. will not have an unacceptable impact on the living conditions of occupiers of adjoining developments.

- 19.24** Over time it is necessary for extensions and improvements to be made to dwellings in order to meet for instance the needs of a growing family or a particular specialist housing need. The aim of this policy is to ensure that extensions and alterations to existing dwellings, whether in the open countryside or built-up area, are designed to respect the existing dwelling and its surroundings. Extensions should be subsidiary in scale to the existing dwelling and should not unacceptably harm the amenity of residents or occupiers of adjoining developments. Particular care will be needed when considering proposals to extend a building that has already been previously

Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 19

extended in order to ensure the resultant dwelling is in keeping with the original dwelling, site and surroundings and which retains a legible design character.

- 19.25** In considering applications the amenity considerations (of adjoining residents and of the application property) will be paramount. Whilst the planning system does not, for example, have the right to protect people's views, this policy will prevent any detrimental impact on neighbouring properties and on the character of the property and its surroundings. Further guidance is contained in Supplementary Planning Guidance.

Policy 52

HN6: Annex Accommodation

Annex accommodation will only be permitted where it is:

- a. an extension to an existing dwelling; or
- b. a conversion of an existing building within the curtilage of an existing dwelling;

provided that:

- i. its usage is ancillary to the residential use of the existing dwelling and is reliant in part on the main dwelling for facilities;
- ii. it is limited in terms of size, scale and floor area to be reflective of the needs of the user;
- iii. it involves no separate garden area, vehicular access, or car parking area; and
- iv. it is in the same ownership as the main dwelling, with future occupancy controlled by means of a condition or legal agreement.

- 19.26** Annex accommodation can play a useful role as part of a flexible housing stock, by enabling elderly relatives or older children to remain living at the family home, whilst enjoying a degree of independence. A residential annex is additional accommodation linked to and ancillary to an existing dwelling. An annex can be in the form of an extension to an existing dwelling or the conversion of an existing building within the curtilage of the existing dwelling.

19 Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

In both cases, the proposal must by virtue of its siting, design, scale, height, form, materials be subordinate to, and respect and enhance the character of the existing main dwelling.

- 19.27** Usually such annexes are used to augment the living or sleeping accommodation of the main house where the main residential rooms will remain. Proposals should set out the proposed occupation of the annex and the relationship with the existing dwelling. An annexe should not contain a full range of facilities which would enable it to be used as a self-contained dwelling. If the facilities in the annex are such that it can be used separately from the original dwelling the Council will assess it as a separate dwelling. Garden space, parking and vehicular access for an annex should be on a shared basis. The annex should remain in the same ownership as the existing dwelling and controls will be placed on the occupation of an annex as part of any planning permission. The policy is specifically relevant to proposals outside settlement boundaries, where new development should be strictly controlled, but is equally applicable to annex proposals within settlement boundaries.

Policy 53

HN7: Houses in Multiple Occupation

Within defined settlement boundaries, proposals to convert an existing building into self-contained accommodation, bedsits or houses in multiple occupation (HMO) will only be permitted if:

- a. Conversion is possible without major alterations or extensions which would significantly alter the character and appearance of the building and locality;
- b. The scale and intensity of use would be compatible with the existing building and adjoining and nearby uses;
- c. the proposal includes on-site parking or it can be demonstrated that it does not have an adverse effect on local parking provision;
- d. the proposal includes a drying area, bin storage and cycle parking, and provides for the amenity of future occupants;
- e. The cumulative impact of development would not lead to the over concentration of HMO's in the locality to the detriment of community cohesion or residential living standards;
- f. The proposed HMO does not result in either more than two HMO's side by side or an existing residential property sandwiched between HMO's.

- 19.28** This policy adds greater detail to Strategic policies STR6 Services Facilities and Infrastructure, and STR11 Provision of Sustainable Housing Sites. With recent legislative changes relating to HMO's the County has seen a significant increase in the number of planning applications for HMO's. A HMO is a

Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 19

dwelling or other building which is converted into letting rooms which are occupied by 3 or more unrelated persons who share facilities such as kitchen and bathroom.

- 19.29** The Local Housing Market Assessment identified a need for accommodation for smaller households across the County. Where this includes the conversion of an existing property the preference will be for the conversion of properties into self-contained accommodation. However it is recognised that HMO's can form an important part of the housing stock and meet particular housing needs. That said, HMO's are a more intensive form of accommodation which can have impacts on a building, locality and community. This is particularly the case where certain areas of the County are seeing a growing number of properties converted to HMO's and this can give rise to cumulative impacts. Too many flats / HMOs in one area can alter the character of established residential areas, resulting in an impact on community cohesion and residential amenity. For example large numbers of flats or HMO's can lead to problems such as a shortage of on street parking and bin storage issues. Applicants should therefore calculate the requirement for off street car parking using the figure of 0.4 car parking spaces per unit. This figure is based on Residential Car Parking Research carried out by the Department of Communities and Local Government in 2007 and is used by Inspectors when considering appeals. Also such areas are often associated with low levels of owner occupation which in some instances can lead to lower standards of property maintenance and associated environmental degradation issues. Furthermore, the cumulative impact of flats/HMO's can have a detrimental impact on creating mixed and balanced communities by reducing the number of family homes available within an area.
- 19.30** In the case of business premises it must be established that the building is no longer required for employment purposes and Policy PE6 provides further guidance on this. In line with national planning guidance the conversion of upper floors above retail and commercial properties can add to the vitality and viability of town centres but in the case of ground floor premises within Primary Shopping Areas, proposals will need to be assessed against Policy PE8. A building should be capable of being converted into a HMO without the need for alterations or extension which would lead to the over intensification of the use or harm the character and appearance of the building and locality.
- 19.31** The policy therefore seeks to ensure that proposals for HMO's are assessed as to their appropriateness. The building itself must be suitable for conversion without extensions or alterations that would change its character and appearance. The scale and intensity of the proposal relative to the building itself and the locality needs to be compatible and not give rise to harmful impacts. Proposals should ideally have on-site car parking or where this is not possible, the proposal should demonstrate that there would be no adverse impact on local parking provision. Consideration should be given by the applicants to the sustainability of the location in terms of availability and

19 Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

proximity to public transport and public off street parking. Proposals should make on-site provision for clothes drying area, bin storage and cycle parking as well as appropriate amenity space for residents. Further detail is set out in a Supplementary Planning Guidance Note.

Policy 54

HN8: Gypsy and Traveller Sites

Land is allocated in the following locations as shown on the proposals map to meet the identified needs of Gypsy and Travellers as detailed in the Flintshire Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment Update over the plan period:

Table 19.2

Ref.	Site Location	Type of Site	No. of Pitches
HN8-1	Magazine Lane, Ewloe (extension)	Permanent	6-8
HN8-2	Gwern Lane, Cae Estyn, Hope (extension)	Permanent	6-8
HN8-3	Riverside, Queensferry (extension)	Permanent	10
HN8-4	Castle Park Industrial Estate	Transit	6

- 19.32** The Housing (Wales) Act 2014 (and Welsh Office Circular 005/2018 'Planning for Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople Sites') requires all local authorities in Wales to identify the housing needs of Gypsies and Travellers in their areas and make provision for any needs identified. The Housing Act places a duty on local authorities to provide sites where a need has been identified. All local authorities are required to complete a Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) every 5 years, which identifies pitch requirements. Para 4.2.35 of PPW10 states 'Local authorities are required to assess the accommodation needs of Gypsy and Traveller families and to allocate sites to meet the identified need'.
- 19.33** The GTAA (2016) for Flintshire covers the 5 year period 2015-2020 as well as the 15 year Plan period 2015 to 2030 and was approved by the Welsh Government in accordance with Section 102 of the Housing (Wales) Act 2014) on 28/03/17. The approved GTAA identified a need for -5 pitches over the over the 5 year period and 19 pitches over the Plan period, plus a need for a small transit site. However, at the time the original GTAA was prepared, the position was complicated by a number of temporary permissions and

Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs 19

undetermined planning applications. In order to provide greater clarity an update of the GTAA was commissioned in June 2018. This update has identified:

- A need over the 5 year period for 8 pitches
- A need over the 15 year Plan period for 26 pitches
- A need over the 15 year Plan period for a small transit site.

19.34 On the basis of the need identified in the updated GTAA for permanent pitches, the Council have allocated 3 sites as identified above and as shown on the proposals maps. The Riverside extension proposals will involve a reconfiguration of the existing site (20 pitches) to provide a new layout for 30 pitches i.e. a net increase in 10 pitches. The other two allocations for permanent pitches both seek to extend existing sites and pitches. Both of which have planning permission and have either been implemented or is being implemented. The updated GTAA was also accompanied by an assessment of Council owned sites for both permanent and transit site(s). An earlier focussed Call for Candidate Sites for gypsy sites and minerals / waste sites was undertaken in August 2017 and whilst sites came forward for the latter none were submitted for the former. It has therefore been necessary and practical to evaluate Council owned land and privately owned land in order to identify sites suitable to meet the identified need. The approach is set out in a Gypsy and Traveller Site Selection Background paper.

19.35 The sites identified above have been selected taking into consideration guidance contained in WG circular 005/2018. Neither the initial Call for Candidate Sites nor the subsequent focussed Call for Sites for Gypsy and Traveller and Minerals and Waste developments resulted in any sites being submitted, despite the latter 'Call' involving consultation with the Gypsy and Traveller Community. A review of Council owned land was therefore undertaken but this did not identify any suitable sites. As a result of on-going work by the Council's Gypsy Liaison officer, a number of approaches have been made by the owners of existing sites with the intention to extend those sites. This has the benefit that the principle of development has already been established and monitoring has been undertaken in relation to the existing use of the sites.

19.36 The design and management of the sites will need to accord with guidance set out in the Welsh Government's Designing Gypsy and Traveller Sites in Wales (May 2015) and Managing Gypsy and Traveller sites in Wales (May 2015) as well as Circular 005/2018.

19 Development Management Policies - Meeting Housing Needs

Policy 55**HN9: Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation**

Proposals for new Gypsy and Traveller sites, or the extension of existing sites, including land outside of defined settlement limits will be permitted provided:

- a. There is a clearly identified unmet need in accordance with the most recently undertaken Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment;
- b. There are no suitable alternative sites either with planning permission or allocated for such uses which could accommodate the need;
- c. The site is well related to suitable community facilities and services for the prospective occupants;
- d. The site is capable of being served by utilities including sustainable waste disposal and recovery and emergency services;
- e. The site affords satisfactory amenity standards both for its occupants and for neighbouring land uses;
- f. The site is not in an area at high risk of flooding given the particular vulnerability of caravans.

- 19.37** Despite provision being made in the Plan through allocations, there may be development proposals for Gypsy and Traveller sites submitted during the Plan period, particularly in order to meet a specific need. This policy takes the form of a criteria based policy for assessing such proposals and should be read alongside the Plan's framework of policies. It will be necessary for each applicant to demonstrate that there is a specific need which cannot be met on existing sites or sites with planning permission.
- 19.38** Sites should be located on or close to main travelling routes for ease of access, and should be capable of being serviced with appropriate infrastructure and be well located in respect of accessing services and facilities to meet residents needs. Sites should not be in areas of high flood risk given that caravan development is a highly vulnerable form of development. Proposals should be designed in accordance with advice in Welsh Government Circular 005/2018: Planning for Gypsy, Traveller and Showpeople Sites.
- 19.39** Prior to the submission of an application, applicants are strongly advised to seek advice on the suitability of a potential site, via the LPA's pre-application advice service.

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment**Policy 56****EN1: Sports, Recreation and Cultural Facilities**

Proposals which would adversely affect or result in the loss of existing open space, sports and recreation facilities will only be permitted where:

- a. it can be demonstrated that the need for the facility has ceased; and
- b. it can be demonstrated that there are alternative facilities of at least an equivalent standard and availability in a sustainable and easily accessible location within the settlement or community;
- c. the facility no longer has significant functional, amenity value or quality; and
- d. the loss of the facility would not result in or worsen a deficiency in open space and recreation provision.

All new residential developments will be required to include provision for public open space or sports and recreational facilities in accordance with the Council's adopted standards and be well related to the development it is intended to serve.

Where it is not reasonably practical to meet these standards on site or where there is already sufficient provision, a financial contribution will be sought for off-site provision and / or the improvement of existing local provision.

20.1 This policy aims to protect, enhance and provide opportunities for new open space, sports and recreation facilities and will be supported by a SPG which sets out the relevant requirements and details.

20.2 For the health and well-being of a community, it is essential to provide and retain opportunities for sport and recreation, and this can also help promote opportunities for tourism. Outdoor sport and recreation requires facilities such as public open space, children's play space, sports pitches and more specialist facilities such as athletic tracks, tennis courts and bowling greens. Children's play facilities can range from formal equipped play grounds and multi-use games areas, to more informal areas such as kickabout space. These facilities assist in providing attractive environments in which to live and work and contribute to achieving a healthy lifestyle. The provision of open space, amenity and green space as part of new development needs to be an early and integral part of the design process so that it lies at the heart of the development in terms of use, linkages and sensitivity to noise and air quality and creating appropriate soundscapes.

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

- 20.3 In some instances where a loss or change of use of such facilities is proposed, it might be appropriate to re-locate the facilities. In these cases, the replacement facility should at least be comparable in terms of size, accessibility and convenience. As part of new residential development proposals it will be necessary to ensure that open space is provided in a manner which meets the needs arising from the development. In some cases this will involve on-site provision and in other cases will involve commuted sums to improve existing facilities nearby. Further details on Open Space Requirements is set out in a Supplementary Planning Guidance Note.
- 20.4 Proposals for new sports and recreation facilities and activities not required as part of new residential development will be assessed under the general policy framework within the Plan.

Policy 57

EN2: Green Infrastructure

Development proposals will be required to protect, maintain and enhance the extent, quality and connectivity of the green infrastructure network, including designated green spaces (as shown on the proposals maps), and where appropriate:

- a. create new green infrastructure linkages from the proposed development to the existing network;
- b. fill in gaps in the existing network to improve connectivity.

Where the loss or damage of existing green infrastructure is unavoidable, appropriate mitigation and compensation will be required.

Table 20.1

Ref. No.	Green Space	Settlement	Ref. No.	Green Space	Settlement
EN2.1	Old Railway	Afonwen	EN2.88	East of Gronant Hill	Gronant
EN2.2	Common Land within Settlement Boundary	Alltami	EN2.89	Land at east end of village	Gronant
EN2.3	Llys Maesteg	Bagillt	EN2.90	Land adjacent To St. Mary's Church	Gwaenysgor
EN2.4	Victoria Road	Bagillt	EN2.91	Cae Rhug Lane	Gwernafield
EN2.5	Adjacent St. Mary's Church	Bagillt	EN2.92	Opposite the Miners Arms	Gwernafield
EN2.6	Land between Wern Ucha and Bryn Dyrys	Bagillt	EN2.93	Village Centre	Halkyn

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

EN2.7	Adjacent Bryn Merlyn School	Bagillt	EN2.94	Overlea Drive	Hawarden
EN2.8	Broughton Park landscape buffer	Bretton (Broughton Retail Park)	EN2.95	Truemans Hill / Motte	Hawarden
EN2.9	Village Green at Bretton Road/Bretton Lane junction	Bretton	EN2.96	The Chase	Higher Kinnerton
EN2.10	Brookes Avenue	Broughton	EN2.97	Main Road Football Pitch	Higher Kinnerton
EN2.11	Landsdown Road	Broughton	EN2.98	Top of Greenfield Valley	Holywell
EN2.12	Areas around Broughton Hall Road underpass	Broughton	EN2.99	Pen y Maes Road	Holywell
EN2.13	Ffordd Cledwen	Broughton	EN2.100	Fron Park	Holywell
EN2.14	Adjacent St. Michael's Church	Brynford	EN2.101	North of The Beeches	Holywell
EN2.15	Common Land within settlement boundary	Buckley	EN2.102	Pistyll	Holywell
EN2.16	Etna Park	Buckley	EN2.103	Land between Queensway and Kiln Lane	HCAC
EN2.17	Mount Pool	Buckley	EN2.104	Recreation ground, Hawarden Road	HCAC
EN2.18	West of Elfed Park	Buckley	EN2.105	High Street	HCAC
EN2.19	West of Elfed Drive	Buckley	EN2.106	Crossways	HCAC
EN2.20	Mill Lane	Buckley	EN2.107	Sycamore Drive	Leeswood
EN2.21	The Flash	Buckley	EN2.108	Maes y Meillion	Leeswood
EN2.22	East of The Brackens	Buckley	EN2.109	Llys Ann	Leeswood
EN2.23	Princess Avenue	Buckley	EN2.110	Adjacent To Ffordd Siarl	Leeswood
EN2.24	West View	Buckley	EN2.111	Adjacent Capel y Berthan	Lixwm
EN2.25	Laurel Drive	Buckley	EN2.112	Mancot Way	Mancot
EN2.26	Lane End Cricket Club	Buckley	EN2.113	Hawarden Way	Mancot
EN2.27	Chester Road	Buckley	EN2.114	Leeches Close	Mancot
EN2.28	Meadow View, Little Mountain	Buckley	EN2.115	Leaches Lane	Mancot
EN2.29	Forest Walk (1)	Buckley	EN2.116	East of Synthite	Mold
EN2.30	Forest Walk (2)	Buckley	EN2.117	Maes y Dre	Mold
EN2.31	Adjacent to St. Michael's Church	Caerwys	EN2.118	Former Railway Line	Mold
EN2.32	Adjacent Celyn Farm	Caerwys	EN2.119	East of Park Avenue	Mold

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

EN2.33	Carmel Road	Carmel	EN2.120	Bailey Hill	Mold
EN2.34	Tan y Coed	Carmel	EN2.121	Alyn Meadow	Mold
EN2.35	Area around Byr Brook	Coed Talon & Pontybodkin	EN2.122	Parc Alun off King Street	Mold
EN2.36	North of Church Street	Connah's Quay	EN2.123	County Hall	Mold
EN2.37	Land to rear of Bryn Road Cemetery	Connah's Quay	EN2.124	Adjacent Maes Bodlonfa	Mold
EN2.38	Central Park	Connah's Quay	EN2.125	Victoria Park	Mold
EN2.39	Land to rear Ffordd Llanarth/Maengwyn Avenue	Connah's Quay	EN2.126	North of Gas Lane	Mold
EN2.40	Land at Barmouth Close	Connah's Quay	EN2.127	Gas Lane	Mold
EN2.41	Former Princes's Tip	Connah's Quay	EN2.128	Ffordd Dolgoed	Mold
EN2.42	Granby Court	Connah's Quay	EN2.129	West of Ffordd Dolgoed	Mold
EN2.43	Adjacent Broadoak Wood	Connah's Quay	EN2.130	Upper Bryn Coch Lane	Mold
EN2.44	West of Wepre Drive and Richmond Road	Connah's Quay	EN2.131	Maes Gwern	Mold
EN2.45	Henry Taylor Street allotments	Connah's Quay	EN2.132	Land between Llys y Foel and Bromfield Industrial Estate	Mold
EN2.46	Ffordd Cae Llwyn	Connah's Quay	EN2.133	Ffordd Ysgubor	Mostyn
EN2.47	Llwyni Drive	Connah's Quay	EN2.134	Y Gerddi, Maes Pennant	Mostyn
EN2.48	Land adjacent Daulwyn Road	Drury & Burntwood	EN2.135	North of Bryn Road, Bryn-y-Baal	Mynydd Isa
EN2.49	Land between Burntwood Road and Meadow Avenue	Drury & Burntwood	EN2.136	Adjacent to Bryn Road, Bryn-y-Baal	Mynydd Isa
EN2.50	Carlins Avenue	Ewloe	EN2.137	Heol Fammau Park	Mynydd Isa
EN2.51	Chester Road pond	Ewloe	EN2.138	Moelwyn Close	Mynydd Isa
EN2.52	Former railway trackbed	Ewloe	EN2.139	South of Moel Gron	Mynydd Isa
EN2.53	Disused railway cutting north of Chester Road	Ewloe	EN2.140	Wat's Dyke Infants School	Mynydd Isa
EN2.54	Parkland between business park and housing	Ewloe	EN2.141	Vale Drive	Mynydd Isa
EN2.55	Village Green, St. David's Park	Ewloe	EN2.142	Chamber's Lane and Alyndale Avenue	Mynydd Isa
EN2.56	Site east of Level Road (opposite Village Green)	Ewloe	EN2.143	Land adjacent to A494	New Brighton
EN2.57	Land west of Level Road	Ewloe	EN2.144	St. Peter's Park allotments	Northop
EN2.58	East of Level Road	Ewloe	EN2.145	Ffordd Glyndwr	Northop
EN2.59	South of Bronte Grove	Ewloe	EN2.146	Ffordd Gwynedd	Northop

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

EN2.60	West of Longfellow Avenue	Ewloe	EN2.147	South of Vicarage	Northop
EN2.61	Maple Crescent	Ewloe	EN2.148	Llys y Wennol	Northop Hall
EN2.62	Windsor Drive	Flint	EN2.149	Community Centre	Pentre Halkyn
EN2.63	Old London Road Greenspace	Flint	EN2.150	Lon y Fron	Pentre Halkyn
EN2.64	Swinchiard Brook	Flint	EN2.151	Green Park	Penyffordd & Penymynydd
EN2.65	Chapel Street	Flint	EN2.152	Rhos-y-brwyner	Penyffordd & Penymynydd
EN2.66	Allt Goch allotments	Flint	EN2.153	Melwood Close	Penyffordd & Penymynydd
EN2.67	Knights Green	Flint	EN2.154	Adjacent Ebenezer Chapel	Rhes-y-cae
EN2.68	Off Henry Taylor Street	Flint	EN2.155	South of Old School House	Rhes-y-cae
EN2.69	Henry Taylor Street allotments	Flint	EN2.156	East of Mold Road	Rhosesmor
EN2.70	Opposite Chester Road School	Flint	EN2.157	North of St. John's Church	Rhydymwyn
EN2.71	Maes Afon allotments	Flint	EN2.158	Chester Road and the drainage channel	Saltney
EN2.72	Pen Goch Hill	Flint	EN2.159	Balderton Brook	Saltney
EN2.73	Pentre Recreation Ground	Flint	EN2.160	Tegid Way	Saltney
EN2.74	Croes Atti Lane	Flint	EN2.161	Garden Village, off High Street	Saltney
EN2.75	Tudor Avenue	Flint	EN2.162	Park Avenue	Saltney
EN2.76	Village Green	Flint Mountain	EN2.163	Factory Road	Sandycroft
EN2.77	School Lane / Y Waun	Flint Mountain	EN2.164	Crofters Park	Sandycroft
EN2.78	Off Kingsley Road	Garden City	EN2.165	Alexander Street	Shotton & Aston
EN2.79	Bridge View allotments	Garden City	EN2.166	Shotton Lane	Shotton & Aston
EN2.80	Adjacent Vicarage	Gorsedd	EN2.167	North Street	Shotton & Aston
EN2.81	Junction off A548 Mostyn Road and B5121	Greenfield	EN2.168	Central Drive	Shotton & Aston
EN2.82	Park Hall Road	Greenfield	EN2.169	North of Vownog	Sychdyn
EN2.83	Junction of Tan-y-Felin and B5121	Greenfield	EN2.170	South of Vownog	Sychdyn
EN2.84	Cairnton Crescent	Greenfield	EN2.171	Bryn Hyfryd	Sychdyn
EN2.85	Rear of Rayon Road and Clwyd Avenue	Greenfield	EN2.172	Queen Street	Treuddyn

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

EN2.86	Bagillt Road	Greenfield	EN2.173	Opposite Fox Inn	Ysceifiog
EN2.87	Bethesda Street	Gronant			

20.5 Green infrastructure is a network of high quality natural and managed green spaces and other environmental and ecological features which benefit the local community, biodiversity and the environment. These networks can be in either urban or rural locations and include both established green spaces and new sites. It also encompasses blue infrastructure such as river systems and coastal environments.

20.6 LDP strategic policies STR4, STR6 and STR13 recognise the role that green infrastructure can play and the need to ensure that it is already in place or can be provided as and when opportunities arise. It forms part of the wider infrastructure needed to deliver sustainable development and communities. It benefits health and well-being, biodiversity resilience and, adds to the distinctiveness of the County. It exists in wide ranging forms, from the strategic level such as Wepre Park and the Dee Estuary down to the local level such as green spaces and pathways. A significant amount of work has been undertaken in respect of identifying and assessing green infrastructure networks in the County and identifying opportunities for enhancement as well as the provision of missing links. Key studies include the Green Infrastructure Framework Strategy, Flintshire Coastal Park Green Infrastructure Action Plan and the Green Infrastructure Framework for NE Wales, Cheshire and the Wirral.

20.7 The green infrastructure network in Flintshire comprises:

- Rivers, watercourses, valleys and floodplains;
- Biodiversity interests including designated sites and the connectivity of priority habitats and species;
- Trees, woodlands, and hedgerows;
- Strategic and local recreational routes, cycleways and the public rights of way network;
- Parks, playing fields, green play areas, and open spaces;
- Common land;
- Designated green spaces generally within settlement boundaries (as delineated on the proposals maps);
- Growing spaces including allotments, community orchards and larger gardens; and
- Holistic integrated surface water management systems such as Sustainable Urban Drainage and Water Sensitive Urban Design.

20.8 Green infrastructure should be regarded as a single resource to be safeguarded, managed and enhanced to deliver a wide range of environmental, economic and quality of life benefits for the community. To this end development proposals will be expected to protect, conserve and enhance existing green infrastructure. Such schemes will be of an appropriate

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

size, type and standard to ensure no fragmentation or loss of connectivity. In some instances it may be necessary to create new green infrastructure and create connections to the existing green infrastructure network. Development proposals should ensure that green infrastructure is considered as an integral part of the design process. The provision of all infrastructure requires the appropriate funding and investment to either improve existing infrastructure or to provide new infrastructure. As with other forms of infrastructure, new development may be required to provide or contribute to green infrastructure and this may extend to its future management and maintenance.

- 20.9** Development should have regard to the social and economic benefits of having a good quality green infrastructure as well as the environmental benefits. Where on-site provision is not possible, contributions may be sought to make appropriate provision off site.
- 20.10** Green infrastructure should be planned so that it integrates with existing rights of way and pedestrian and cycle routes (including Active Travel Routes), as well as other identified nature conservation and green space assets. This policy will be supported by an SPG on green infrastructure.

Policy 58

EN3: Undeveloped Coast and Dee Estuary Corridor

Within the undeveloped coast development will only be permitted where:

- a. it can be demonstrated a coastal location is essential;
- b. it conserves and enhances the open character of the coast;
- c. it would not unacceptably harm areas of nature conservation, landscape or biodiversity;
- d. it would not harm existing or proposed recreational or active travel routes;
- e. extensive coastal protection measures are not required; and
- f. it would not be potentially at risk of flooding nor unacceptably increase erosion or flooding or interfere with natural coastal processes.

- 20.11** The undeveloped coast and Dee Estuary Corridor is defined generally as the undeveloped land to the north of the A548 which runs parallel with the coast and estuary. The strip of land along the coast and estuary is a vital feature of the County not only for its historic, archaeological, nature conservation and landscape value, but also for the range of recreational opportunities it provides.

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

- 20.12** New development will only be permitted where it can be proven that a coastal location is essential and the activity cannot be carried out elsewhere. Development should seek to retain the open character of the area and protect or enhance the recreational role of the area in terms of strategic and local walking, cycling and horse riding routes.
- 20.13** Most of the land adjacent to the estuary is protected by an embankment. However in the north of the area the dune system at Talacre forms a natural sea defence barrier. This is part of the last remaining semi-natural dune system on the North Wales coast. It is therefore particularly important to ensure its function is not impaired by any new proposals within or in the vicinity of the dunes.

Policy 59

EN4: Landscape Character

New development, either individually or cumulatively, must not have a significant adverse impact on the character and appearance of the landscape. Landscaping and other mitigation measures should seek to reduce landscape impact and where possible bring about enhancement.

- 20.14** Flintshire's landscape is the result of centuries of past human activity and as such is a non-renewable resource which should be safeguarded for future generations. The policy recognises that undesignated landscapes are important, and Plan policy will seek to ensure that the particular character and features of a particular landscape will be protected from development or to ensure that those identified character features are protected or retained within new development. In some instances where landscape harm would arise from the proposal it will be necessary to mitigate the effects of development on the landscape character through landscaping and other mitigation measures such as careful siting, orientation, design and materials.
- 20.15** This policy seeks to ensure that new development sits comfortably in its landscape setting and takes into consideration the landscape features which make up its particular character and local distinctiveness. Where development proposals are likely to significantly harm the landscape, applicants must demonstrate that a landscape impact assessment has been carried out and taken into consideration in informing the development proposals. In these cases the effect of the development on the surrounding landscape should be minimised through landscaping and other mitigation measures. Where possible, landscaping and other mitigation measures should seek to enhance the landscape.

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

- 20.16** The implementation of the policy will be informed by the LANDMAP system, as recognised in para 6.3.11 of PPW10. This is a landscape assessment methodology which evaluates landscape in terms of its component parts (Geological Landscape, Landscape Habitats, Visual and Sensory Landscape, Cultural Landscape and Historic Landscape) to create an information database which forms a basis for management, conservation and planning decisions.

Policy 60

EN5: Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Within the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB, development will only be permitted where it conserves or enhances the natural beauty of the designated area and its setting. In assessing the likely impact of development proposals on the natural beauty of the AONB, cumulative impact will also be taken into consideration.

Development must:

- a. not have an adverse impact on the special character and qualities of the AONB; and
- b. contribute to the social, economic and cultural well-being of the local community; and be of a scale, form, density and use that is compatible with the character of the AONB and local area; and
- c. be of an appropriately high standard of design and use appropriate materials that are compatible with the character of the AONB.

- 20.17** Flintshire has an attractive and important rural landscape which is recognised in the designation of part of the County within the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). This covers a large part of the western extent of the County, as well as a considerable amount of rural Denbighshire and part of Wrexham. This means that all development within the AONB should be appropriate and of a high quality to ensure that it does not affect the special qualities of the landscape and cultural and natural environments, such as tranquility.
- 20.18** The Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB is a landscape of national importance and as such is protected for the purpose of conserving and enhancing its natural beauty. This policy seeks to ensure this protection is implemented through the planning process, whilst at the same time allowing appropriate sustainable development which meets the needs of the local community and economy.

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

- 20.19** Proposals for development outside the AONB that would detract unacceptably from its setting will not be permitted. All proposals should include details of the extent of landscaping proposed, and reflect the importance of protecting features which are identified as important. Developers are encouraged to use LANDMAP to assist in assessing the character of the local area.
- 20.20** In assessing the potential impact of development proposals, the cumulative impact of developments will be taken into consideration, as will the extent to which proposals will generate additional traffic and a need to improve the existing highway and road network, including un-adopted lanes.
- 20.21** The three Local Planning Authorities have worked jointly in adopting a Supplementary Planning Guidance Note to assist in the implementation of this policy, and to work towards improving the quality of development in and around the AONB. Each of the Local Planning Authorities also contributes to the adoption and regular review of the AONB Management Plan.

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

Policy 61**EN6: Sites of Biodiversity Importance**

Development likely to significantly affect any site of international importance, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects, will be subject to a Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA). Development will only be permitted where it is possible to ascertain no adverse effect on the integrity of the Site or where there are Imperative Reasons of Overriding Public Interest and compensatory measures are secured.

Development likely to impact the special features of a Nationally Designated Site will only be granted in exceptional circumstances where appropriate compensation can be provided.

Development proposals that would have a significant adverse effect on locally designated sites or site with other biodiversity and / or geological interest, including priority species, will only be permitted where:

- a. it can be demonstrated that the need for the development outweighs the biodiversity or geological importance of the site; and
- b. it can be demonstrated that the development cannot reasonably be located elsewhere; and
- c. any unavoidable harm is minimised by effective mitigation to ensure that there is no reduction in the overall biodiversity value of the area. Where this is not feasible compensation measures designed to create, restore and enhance biodiversity must be provided.

Development that results in the restoration, enhancement and creation of habitats will be supported especially where this promotes the resilience of ecosystems.

20.22 Flintshire has a significant number of wildlife habitats and species which are important internationally, nationally and locally. These sites and associated species are under pressure for a variety of reasons such as from development, farming techniques and land management practices as well as climate change. The importance of protecting and enhancing these sites for biodiversity, sustainability and climate change interests is recognised, as is the importance of creating enhancing and restoring habitats where opportunities arise. Some sites are recognised as important in an International and European context, some are nationally important and others are locally important, but together they all contribute towards the biodiversity richness of the County. The purpose of an Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) is to avoid a plan or project having a significant effect on European sites, either alone or in combination with other plans of projects.

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

- 20.23** This policy is intended to protect, maintain and enhance Flintshire's biodiversity value. Resilient biodiversity and associated ecosystems can be achieved by protecting sufficient scales and connectivity, of and between, landscapes and habitats. Policy EN2 Green Infrastructure is also relevant as it recognises the importance of green networks in creating and maintaining this connectivity. There is clear guidance and legislation with regard to the protection of species and habitats recognised in European, UK and Welsh law in PPW10 and TAN5 Nature Conservation and Planning. The most relevant statutory requirements are set out in Section 61 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017, Environment (Wales) Act 2016 Section 6 Biodiversity and Resilience of Ecosystems Duty and Section 7 Priority Habitats and Species, Section 11 of the Countryside Act 1981 and Section 28G of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. Annex 1 of TAN5 lists all the other relevant legislation.
- 20.24** Given the clear framework above, the policy therefore focusses on locally designated sites including Local Nature Reserves, Local Wildlife Sites and Regionally Important Geological / Geomorphological Sites (RIGS). Where development is permitted that would adversely affect biodiversity value of a local site or feature, this will be minimised by the use of planning conditions or obligations to require mitigation to create, restore and enhance biodiversity.
- 20.25** When considering the impact of development, the cumulative impact of developments will be taken into account. Further guidance is contained in Supplementary Planning Guidance on Nature Conservation and Development and Great Crested Newt Mitigation Requirements.

Policy 62

EN7: Development Affecting Trees, Woodlands and Hedgerows

Development proposals that will result in significant loss of, or harm to, trees, woodlands or hedgerows of biodiversity, historic, and amenity value will not be permitted.

Where the impact of development affecting trees, woodlands or hedgerows is considered acceptable, development will only be permitted where:

- a. the development maximises their retention through sensitive design measures; and
- b. where the removal of trees is considered necessary, suitable replacements shall be provided elsewhere within the site; and
- c. it results in a net gain in biodiversity.

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

- 20.26** Trees, woodlands and hedgerows are a vital part of the urban and rural landscape and form an essential part of wider ecosystems and green infrastructure networks. They provide wildlife habitats and shelter, shade and recreational and tourism opportunities. Hedgerows, particularly older hedgerows, often contain a great diversity of plant and animal species and have an important role in conserving and enhancing biodiversity. Some trees and hedgerows are protected by Tree Preservation Orders or Hedgerow Regulations, but many aren't and therefore need protection, which is the intention of this policy.
- 20.27** Within Flintshire there are also a number of ancient woodlands which are areas which have had woodland cover for centuries, been relatively undisturbed by human activity and contain precious woodland habitats. Each one is unique and irreplaceable and requires protection. Semi-natural woodlands are also important and should be protected from development.
- 20.28** Native hedgerows are a distinctive feature of the countryside which contribute to the character and interest of the landscape. Many date back to the first enclosure of the land and are therefore also of historic interest. The Hedgerow Regulations 1997, which came into force on the 1st June 1997, conferred new powers on Local Planning Authorities to protect important hedgerows in the countryside through the application of a series of criteria. The Council will seek to prevent and where necessary refuse development proposals which would lead to significant loss or damage to such hedgerows. Where the removal of a hedgerow is essential, a suitable replacement must be provided. The policy will also seek to protect hedgerows which do not qualify for protection under the Hedgerow Regulations, but can still form a valuable part of the landscape character of the County and make an important contribution to biodiversity. The Council will therefore ensure that, wherever possible, native hedgerows are retained and sympathetically managed.
- 20.29** The incorporation of existing trees and hedgerows into new development can help its integration into the landscape and provide visual, nature conservation and biodiversity interests. Conditions and planning obligations will be applied to ensure their protection and retention during the construction period and in the long term.
- 20.30** Further guidance on Trees and Development is contained in a Supplementary Planning Guidance Note.

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

Policy 63**EN8: Built Historic Environment and Listed Buildings**

The County's buildings and features of special architectural and historic importance, and their settings, will be preserved.

- a. Development proposals affecting listed buildings will be permitted only where:
 - i. the alteration and/or extension to a listed building or its curtilage ensures that the special architectural character or historic interest is preserved;
 - ii. the change of use of a listed building or its curtilage contributes towards the retention of a building or its sustainable re-use without having an adverse effect on its character, special interest or structural integrity;
 - iii. the total or substantial demolition of a listed building, is accompanied by the strongest justification and convincing evidence that the proposal is necessary and unavoidable.
- b. Development should preserve Scheduled Ancient Monuments and their settings and where appropriate the preservation of other archaeological remains, having regard to the intrinsic importance of the remains and the need for the proposed development.
- c. Development should protect and conserve historic landscapes, parks and gardens.

20.31 Listed buildings are designated by Cadw who maintain the statutory 'List of Buildings with Special Architectural or Historic Interest'. National Planning Policy and Guidance contains a general presumption in favour of the preservation of listed buildings. Works (internal and external) that would affect the character or historic fabric of a listed building and its curtilage must not be implemented without authorisation of a listed building consent. Listed buildings are shown on the Constraints Map.

20.32 The Policy seeks to ensure that where a development proposal affects a listed building or its setting, the primary material consideration is the statutory requirement to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the building, or its setting, or any features of special architectural or historic interest which it possesses. Applications should be fully justified by means of a Heritage Impact Assessment and Statement in accordance with National Planning Policy and Guidance.

20.33 The register of SAMs is maintained by Cadw, the Welsh Government's Historic Environment Service. The Council maintains an Index of Ancient Monuments which lists all SAM's located within the County and these are

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

shown on the Constraints Map. Scheduled Monuments consent is required for all proposals that would potentially damage, demolish, remove, repair, alter, add to, flood or cover up a SAM. The policy highlights the desirability of preserving a Scheduled Ancient Monument and its setting and also sets out the approach to considering development proposals which potentially affect other 'lesser' archaeological remains. The Council will consult and work with Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (CPAT) on all development proposals affecting archaeological remains.

- 20.34** The register of Historic Parks and Gardens in Wales identifies parks and gardens and their settings which make an important contribution to the character of the county and which are deemed important to preserve or enhance. The policy seeks to ensure that they are given appropriate consideration when development is proposed which affects these assets. The Register of Historic Landscapes in Wales should be taken into account in considering the implications of developments, which meet the criteria for Environmental Impact Assessment, or are of a sufficient scale to have more than a local impact on the historic landscape.

Policy 64

EN9: Development In or Adjacent to Conservation Areas

Development within or adjacent to a conservation area will only be permitted if it would preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area or its setting. New development in such locations must also be of a high standard of design, respond to the area's special characteristics, and pay particular regard to:

- a. important views, vistas, street scenes, roofscapes, trees, open spaces, gaps and other features that contribute to the character or appearance of the conservation area;
- b. the retention of historically significant boundaries or other elements that contribute to the established form of development;
- c. the relationship to existing buildings and spaces, and pattern of development;
- d. scale, height and massing, architectural design and detailing, the use of materials, boundary treatment, and public realm materials.

- 20.35** A conservation area is an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. The policy is intended to provide protection from developments, which can harm the character and appearance of a conservation area. There are 32

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

conservation areas in the County, all of which are shown on the Constraints Map and they range from the centres of market towns to small villages, historic parks, and collections of historic buildings.

- 20.36** Conservation area appraisals identify the essential architectural or historic elements to be protected. Appraisals help inform a judgement as to whether development proposals meet the aims of preservation or enhancement of the special character of the conservation area. Subject to resource availability, the Council will seek to prepare further Conservation Area Appraisals. Once appraisals have been completed, periodic reviews should be carried out and consideration given to preparing management / enhancement plans where necessary to tackle identified problems.
- 20.37** Development in or affecting the setting of conservation areas will only be permitted if it preserves or enhances the character or appearance of the designated area. Applicants must demonstrate how development proposals within or affecting conservation areas will preserve or enhance the special character or appearance of the area. This should be undertaken through a Heritage Impact Assessment and can be presented in a Heritage Impact Statement or, where one is required, as part of a Design and Access Statement. Such assessments should be proportionate both to the significance of the historic asset and to the degree of change proposed, and should include sufficient information to enable both the significance of the asset and the impact of change arising from the development, to be understood. In considering development proposals, the Council will seek to resist new development or the demolition of existing buildings unless it would preserve or enhance the character and appearance of the conservation area.

Policy 65

EN10: Buildings of Local Interest

The demolition or alteration of a Building of Local Interest will only be permitted where:

- a. in the case of demolition that the building is structurally unsound, it cannot be made safe without extensive alteration or rebuilding and is incapable of refurbishment at a cost which is reasonable in relation to its degree of interest. The design and quality of the replacement building should be equivalent to that which has been demolished; or
- b. in the case of alteration and extension that the works do not adversely affect the architectural or historic character of the building.

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

- 20.38** This policy aims to protect buildings or structures which are not statutorily listed, but which are nevertheless considered worthy of retention because of the significant contribution that they make to the local environment. Buildings of Local Interest are considered to fall within the definition of 'Historic Assets of Special Local Interest' as defined in TAN24. These might include: buildings or groups of buildings formerly listed at Grade 3 (which afforded no statutory protection), buildings associated with important local historical events, people or activities and buildings contributing to the setting of a listed building.
- 20.39** The Council maintains a list of all such "buildings of local interest", which gives reasons for their inclusion. Their demolition will be allowed only if their condition and cost of repair would significantly outweigh their historic or architectural value. The Council will require that the replacement building is of an equivalent standard and quality of design. In the exceptional circumstance that demolition is allowed, detailed records must be taken of the building prior to the commencement of works.

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

Policy 66

EN11: Green Barriers

The following areas have been designated as green barriers on the proposals map:

Table 20.2

1. Gronant – Talacre – Gwespyr	9. Mold – Gwernymynydd
2. Gorsedd – Carmel	10. Mold – Mynydd Isa / Sychdyn / New Brighton
3. Flint – Bagillt	11. Connah’s Quay – Northop Hall / Ewloe / Shotton
4. Flint – Connah’s Quay	12. Shotton – Mancot – Hawarden – Ewloe
5. Flint – Flint Mountain	13. Hawarden – Mancot – Hawarden Airport – Saltney (S of R. Dee)
6. Flint Mountain – Northop	14. Broughton – Hawarden Airport – Saltney – Cheshire Border
7. Gwernaffield – Pantymwyn	15. Sealand – Cheshire Border (N of R. Dee)
8. Holywell - Greenfield	16. Buckley – Little Mountain – Dobshill – Drury – Hawarden – Ewloe

Within the designated green barriers development will only be permitted for:

- a. justified rural enterprise needs;
- b. essential facilities for outdoor sport and outdoor recreation, cemeteries, and other uses of land which maintain the openness of the green barrier and which do not conflict with the purpose of including land within it;
- c. limited extension, alteration or replacement of existing dwellings;
- d. small scale diversification within farm complexes where this is run as part of the farm business; or
- e. the re-use of buildings provided that:
 - i. the original building is substantial, permanent and capable of conversion without major reconstruction;

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

- ii. the new use will not have a greater impact on the openness of the green barrier and the purposes of including land within it; and
- iii. the building is in keeping with its surroundings.

Certain other forms of development may be appropriate in the green barrier provided they preserve its openness and do not conflict with the purposes of including land within it. These are: mineral extraction; renewable and low carbon energy generation; engineering operations; and local transport infrastructure.

Other forms of development would be inappropriate development unless they maintain the openness of the green barrier and do not conflict with the purposes of including land within it.

- 20.40** Green barrier designations are drawn to ensure protection of the openness of key areas of land in strategic or key locations over the Plan period. Whilst there are other policies in the Plan to control development in the countryside, it is considered important to give added protection to some areas via designation as green barriers as they protect key areas of open countryside between and around settlements.
- 20.41** The green barriers designated in the UDP have been the subject of a robust review as to their fitness for purpose, details of which can be found in a Background Paper: Green Barrier Review. The review involved each green barrier being assessed against the criteria within Planning Policy Wales i.e. that the purpose of a green barrier is to:
- prevent the coalescence of large towns and cities with other settlements;
 - manage urban form through controlled expansion of urban areas;
 - assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment;
 - protect the setting of an urban area; and
 - assist in urban regeneration by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.
- 20.42** The review has also had regard to whether each existing green barrier has been the subject of previous or current development pressure. Proposals for new green barriers or extensions to existing green barriers which were put forward as part of Candidate Site submissions have also been assessed in the same manner. The objective is to ensure that in each case a green barrier designation is necessary and justifiable over and above settlement boundary and open countryside policies and fulfils the purpose of green barriers in PPW. The approach to the review and designation of green barriers is in line with guidance with Planning Policy Wales. Although PPW uses the term 'green wedges' rather than 'green barriers', para 3.60 of PPW10 advises

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

'Local planning authorities need to consider establishing Green Belts and making local designations, such as green wedges'. The term green barrier is therefore appropriate and in line with national guidance.

- 20.43** Planning Policy Wales provides specific guidance on the consideration of planning applications within green barrier designated areas. It emphasises the importance of maintaining the openness of the land, provides a presumption against inappropriate development and outlines the very exceptional circumstances when other considerations outweigh the importance of protecting the openness of the land. Given that PPW provides such clear and detailed advice it is not considered necessary for it to be repeated within this policy. Any proposals for inappropriate development in a green barrier will be treated as a departure from the Plan.

Policy 67

EN12: New Development and Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Technology

New development will be required to maximize the potential for renewable or low carbon energy technology to meet the energy needs of the proposal.

Residential development sites of 100 units or more and non-residential developments with a floorspace of 1000sqm or more, will be required to submit an Energy Assessment to determine the feasibility of incorporating low carbon or renewable energy technology or connecting to nearby renewable or low carbon energy sources and networks.

- 20.44** This policy should be read in conjunction with strategic policies STR4 Principles of Sustainable Development and Design and STR14 Climate Change and Environmental Protection. The Council is undertaking a Renewable Energy Assessment which evaluates the potential energy capacity of renewable and low carbon technologies in the County. Anticipated findings suggest that there is potential within the whole of the County for larger scale new development proposals to incorporate renewable and low carbon technologies and developers are encouraged to explore all options to contribute to lowering carbon emissions within the energy sector.
- 20.45** Larger development proposals will need to be accompanied by an 'Energy Assessment' which investigates the potential to incorporate on-site zero and low carbon equipment and/or establish connections to existing sources of renewable energy. Opportunities for linking with district heating networks and where appropriate sharing renewable energy should also be explored.

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

The Energy Assessment will be required to set out how the proposal can make a contribution towards increased levels of energy generation from renewable or low carbon sources.

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

Policy 68**EN13: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy Development**

Renewable or low carbon energy generation development will be permitted for:

- a. Solar farms (5 MW to 50MW) within the solar local search area identified on the proposals map;
- b. Wind farms (5MW to 25MW) within the wind local search area defined on the proposals map;
- c. Small scale and/or community based proposals (less than 5MW) for wind, solar, biomass, energy from waste, anaerobic digestion and hydropower in appropriate locations.

Land is specifically allocated for solar farms at Crumps Yard, Connah's Quay and at Castle Park, Flint, as shown on the proposals map.

All renewable or low carbon energy proposals will be permitted provided that:

- i. the siting, design, layout, type of installation and materials used do not have a significant adverse effect on the character and features of the proposed location;
- ii. there would not be unacceptable loss of public amenity or accessibility to the area;
- iii. the impact of the development upon agriculture, forestry, recreation and other land uses is minimised to permit existing uses to continue unhindered;
- iv. there would be no individual or cumulative significant adverse effect on the landscape, particularly the AONB;
- v. any associated ancillary buildings or structures are sensitively sited and designed to minimize their impact on the character and quality of the locality;
- vi. in sensitive areas where above ground connections will have an unacceptable adverse effect on the landscape, connection lines and pipes should be located underground;
- vii. adequate provision has been made in the scheme for the restoration and aftercare of the site on the cessation of use.

In the case of wind energy proposals,

- i. the turbines are appropriately designed so as to avoid, or mitigate against, unacceptable environmental impacts, including noise, light reflection and shadow flicker;
- ii. sufficient steps are taken to avoid or, where possible, to mitigate electro-magnetic interference to any existing transmitting or receiving systems.

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

- 20.46** The Council is undertaking a Renewable Energy Assessment (REA), in line with the Welsh Government guidance to identify the potential for renewable energy generation. This will help work towards achieving the Welsh Governments targets for Renewable Energy Generation as set out in para 5.7.16 of PPW10 and also contribute to reducing carbon emissions.
- 20.47** The County does not fall within one of the Strategic Search Areas (SSAs) identified by Welsh Government on the basis of substantial empirical research, and considered to be the most appropriate locations for large scale on-shore wind farm development (over 25MW (megawatts)). The REA will therefore focus on the potential for identifying Wind Local Search Areas (WLSA) which are suitable to accommodate smaller scale wind farms of between 5MW and 25MW. This will be established through an evidence based GIS mapping assessment which considers the resource potential for wind within the County and a series of strategic and local planning constraints.
- 20.48** The County has seen in recent years a number of proposals for large scale solar farm developments. The REA will focus on the potential for identifying Solar Local Search Areas (SLSA) which are suitable to accommodate solar farms of between 5MW and 50MW. The REA will adopt a similar GIS mapping assessment as for wind. Although the REA focusses on wind and solar it will also consider the potential from other sources of energy, such as energy from waste and heat, particularly considering the industrial activity in parts of the County.
- 20.49** The Council has adopted a pro-active approach in respect of its own land assets and has developed two solar farms on former landfill sites. Two further proposals are being developed at Crumps Yard, Connah's Quay and Castle Park, Flint and these are allocated in the Plan.
- 20.50** The policy also sets out a criteria based approach which will enable detailed development proposals to be assessed against a robust set of criteria. This will be particularly useful to enable the assessment of smaller or community based renewable energy proposals of less than 5MW which may arise over the Plan period.

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

Policy 69**EN14: Flood Risk**

In order to avoid the risk of flooding, development will not be permitted:

- a. in areas at risk of fluvial, pluvial, coastal and reservoir flooding, unless it can be demonstrated that the development can be justified in line with national guidance and is supported by a technical assessment that verifies that the new development is designed to alleviate the threat and consequences of flooding;
- b. where it would lead to an increase in the risk of flooding on the site or elsewhere from fluvial, pluvial, coastal or increased surface water run-off from the site;
- c. where it would have a detrimental effect on the integrity of existing flood risk management assets: or
- d. where it would impede access to existing and proposed flood risk management assets for maintenance and emergency purposes.

20.51 The Plan adopts a sustainable and precautionary approach to managing flood risk by avoiding development in areas at risk of flooding, or ensuring that the risks and consequences of flooding can be satisfactorily managed and mitigated. It has sought to locate highly vulnerable development allocations such as for housing, outside of flood risk areas. This has been informed by the findings of the Strategic Flood Consequences Assessment. The policy does not seek to repeat national planning policy in respect of flooding which is clearly set out in PPW and TAN15 Development and Flood Risk and emphasises the need for new development proposals to meet these requirements. PPW clearly sets out that government resources for flood alleviation works are only directed at existing development and not for areas of future development.

20.52 Fluvial and coastal flood risk areas are identified on the TAN 15 Development Advice Maps (DAM). These maps are regularly updated and are based on the latest and best available information to determine where flood risk issues need to be taken into account in planning future development. DAM zones C1 and C2 show flood risk areas based on extreme outlines for coastal and fluvial flooding. These areas are shown on the Constraints Map. Development will only be considered in areas at a risk of flooding where it can be demonstrated that the site can comply with the justification test and flood consequence assessment requirements set out in TAN 15. Only less vulnerable development, as defined by TAN15, will be permitted within zone C2.

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

- 20.53** Flood risk from local sources arises from ordinary watercourses, surface water runoff and groundwater. Areas at risk of flooding from surface water runoff are identified in the latest NRW surface water flood maps. The Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) is responsible for taking the lead in managing flood risk from local sources. LLFA roles and responsibilities include assessing and approving drainage strategies for all new development.
- 20.54** The management of surface water for development is a material consideration for planning. This matter is further emphasised in Wales following the implementation of Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act (FWMA) 2010 from Jan 7th 2019. The Act requires surface water drainage for new developments to be designed and built in accordance with the mandatory National Standards for sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) published by Welsh Government. All new developments with an area of construction works in excess of 100m² must comply with the National Standards. Further guidance on SuDS and the Management of Surface Water in New Development is contained in a Supplementary Planning Guidance Note.
- 20.55** Surface water drainage systems must be approved by the local authority acting in its SuDS Approving Body (SAB) role before construction work begins. This approval is independent of the planning system but alignment of the two processes is essential to achieve sustainable development. The SAB will have a duty to adopt and maintain compliant SuDS schemes. [Further information is available online](#)

Policy 70

EN15: Water Resources

Development affecting water resources will only be permitted if:

- a. it would not have a significant adverse impact on the capacity and flow of groundwater, surface water, or coastal water systems;
- b. it would not pose an unacceptable risk to the quality of groundwater, surface water, or coastal water; and
- c. it would have access to adequate water supply, sewerage and sewage treatment facilities which either already exist, or will be provided in time to serve the development, without detriment to existing abstractions, water quality, fisheries, amenity or nature conservation.

- 20.56** The responsibility for the aquatic environment lies with Natural Resources Wales (NRW). The NRW has a statutory role to secure the proper use of water resources in Wales and the quality of fresh, marine surface and underground water. **Page 342** should contact NRW in relation to

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

development proposals which have the potential to adversely affect the flow and/or quality of water to avoid potential delay and/or refusal of a planning application.

- 20.57** Global warming is likely to have a significant impact on Wales' climate with longer periods of warm dry weather with less frequent rainfall but more intense rainfall events. The likelihood of declining rainfall during the summer months is a significant issue and will place greater pressure on existing water supplies, particularly during long dry summers. To ensure security for the future water supply the development plan should consider proposals in light of the existing hydrological system, and future potential changes. When considering the impacts on hydrology of new development proposals, special attention should be given to the flows within existing water channels and the nature conservation value of these systems.
- 20.58** New development proposals which place pressure on the capacity of the existing water supply and the water and sewerage treatment infrastructure will only be permitted provided the necessary infrastructure is in place, or will be provided to serve them. The increasing pressure on the infrastructure and on nature is an important consideration and new development will be expected to demonstrate that adequate consideration is given to the conservation of water resources and the protection of water quality. Development will not be permitted where the sewage effluent flow generated by the development is likely to be above the capacity of the relevant sewage treatment facility. The installation of private facilities (e.g. septic tanks and cesspits) will not normally be permitted where public facilities are available. When such installations are acceptable in unsewered areas, ground conditions must be suitable and there must be sufficient land to provide an adequate subsoil drainage system. Discharges from private installations will normally require a formal consent from NRW. The responsibility for public sewage treatment systems rests with Dwr Cymru Welsh Water (DCWW).
- 20.59** In addition to improving waste water infrastructure provision, water quality can be improved through a number of measures including: effective design; the use of wetlands/greenspace for flood alleviation; the use of SuDS; sustainable water use in design; the planting of native species; the removal of invasive non-native species; and good agricultural practice. Some of these measures can be taken forward through the planning system whereby other policies in the Plan work in combination with the protection of water resources policy to contribute to managing the water quality issues. Proposals seeking to enhance and increase the capacity of the water and sewerage infrastructure, including those of a small scale serving individual buildings, are likely to be permitted provided they do not conflict with other environmental, landscape or other amenity policies.

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

Policy 71**EN16: Development on or near Landfill Sites or Derelict and Contaminated Land**

Development proposals on or adjacent to either active or former landfill sites or derelict and contaminated land will be permitted if:

- a. an appropriate investigation has been undertaken to determine the actual or potential presence of landfill gases, leachates and/or other pollutants on the land to be developed;
- b. appropriate measures are taken to deal with any contamination which exists on the site prior to the development commencing;
- c. the development of the site is for a vulnerable use, including residential use, then it must be demonstrated that the site is inert, safe and no longer gassing and ensuring that no residual risk remains on site for future receptors;
- d. the off-site disposal of contaminated waste material is minimised as far as possible; and
- e. measures can be taken to identify and safeguard any significant nature conservation and historic interest which exist on the site.

20.60 The County has a legacy of existing and former landfill sites and this policy is intended to ensure that any new development proposals either on or near to landfill sites are properly assessed as to their appropriateness. Landfill gas problems on a site will need to be investigated and taken into account when development proposals are being considered. If landfill gas is or may become a problem on the site to be developed, suitable remedial or precautionary measures would need to be implemented before the development begins. It is essential that appropriate professional advice is sought and that planning applications are accompanied by the necessary technical evidence.

20.61 The historical importance of the County for heavy industry and manufacturing, has left behind it derelict and contaminated land. Derelict land can be both unattractive and a disincentive to investment but a key principle in Planning Policy Wales is that preference should be given to the reclamation of derelict and waste land, thereby reducing the need for greenfield sites, bringing facilities closer together, reducing the need to travel, and helping to overcome blight.

20.62 Derelict land often bears a legacy of contamination, and before determining planning applications for sites which are known, or strongly suspected to be affected by land contamination, the Council will require the developer to carry out a site investigation in order to: assess the nature and degree of the problem; identify specific remedial measures to deal with any hazard; and

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

to safeguard future development and neighbouring uses. Planning conditions will specify all the necessary and appropriate measures to overcome contamination and these must be carried out prior to the occupation of the site. It is important that any developer considering the reuse of derelict land needs to take a de-risking approach to the site and work closely with all the relevant agencies early on in the development process.

- 20.63** Derelict and contaminated land can become important for nature conservation and often has buildings or structures of built heritage importance. Before determining planning applications on such sites it will be necessary for technical survey work to be carried out to identify the nature conservation and built heritage importance in the site, and investigating how provision could be made for its retention and enhancement.

Policy 72

EN17: Development of Unstable Land

The development of land subject to instability will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that appropriate measures have been or will be taken to ensure long term safety.

New development which would create a risk of land instability will only be permitted if:

- a. steps are taken to negate the risk of instability; and
- b. it would not put adjacent land users and the general public at risk.

- 20.64** The Plan seeks to prevent development being permitted on sites which are at risk from instability due to mining, landfill, landslides, erosion, or other subsidence. The legacy of mining in the County means that this is a particular issue in parts of the County. Development proposals will need to be supported by technical evidence to establish the degree of risk and whether appropriate mitigation measures can be put in place.

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

Policy 73**EN18: Pollution and Nuisance**

New development which is sensitive to the effects of existing noise, vibration, odour, dust, light or other pollution or nuisance, will be permitted only if it can be demonstrated that appropriate measures can be taken to mitigate any potential adverse effects.

New development which would create an increased risk of noise, vibration, odour, dust, light or other pollution or hazard will only be permitted if:

- a. it would not unacceptably harm general amenity or living conditions; and
- b. it would not impose significant restrictions on the use or development of surrounding land.

If new external lighting is proposed, particularly in or near to the AONB, this should be considered as part of an overall landscaping scheme and kept to a minimum to avoid light pollution.

20.65 The Plan seeks to put in place measures to minimise and control pollution and nuisance. Whilst the processes and substances used in certain developments are controlled by other legislation and enforced by other agencies, the planning system can play an important role in ensuring that polluting or hazardous development does not affect or restrict other uses of land, either now or in the future. Certain types of development, such as schools, hospitals and housing, may be particularly sensitive to environmental hazards and this policy seeks to protect these from such risks in two ways.

20.66 Firstly, it seeks to minimise the conflicts between existing sources of pollution or hazard, and other interests. As a precaution, sensitive developments will be resisted in the vicinity of affected areas. For example, development will not be allowed in locations where it would result in the need for a higher standard of pollution control. Secondly, it seeks to ensure that any new potentially polluting or hazardous activities are sensitively located, and that full consideration is given to the protection both of existing land users, and potential future users of the site. It is likely therefore that only a limited number of locations will be considered appropriate for the siting of such development. As part of assessing existing or proposed sources of noise, consideration should be given as part of designing new development to the concept of soundscapes. Measures to reduce or minimise exposure to noise could include good design and the use of open space and green infrastructure. The creation of 'quiet areas' as part of new development can bring about health and well-being benefits to residents and users as well as benefits for wildlife.

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

- 20.67** The policy covers a wide range of sources of pollution and nuisance such as noise, vibration, smell and dust as these can have a detrimental impact on quality of life, and can cause damage both to the built and natural environment. Whilst it is not possible to eliminate sources of nuisance completely, this policy seeks to ensure that, wherever practicable, nuisance sensitive development is separated from bad neighbour activities. In certain circumstances it may be possible to take appropriate steps to mitigate any detrimental impacts. Hours of operation can be limited, landscape and other physical barriers can be installed, and technology can be introduced to ensure that quality of life is not undermined.
- 20.68** The policy also addresses the issue of light pollution which can be harmful in residential areas and open countryside but also important in terms of public safety and reducing crime. Light pollution is of particular concern in the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB given that it is seeking to achieve Dark Skies status. Excessive and poorly located and designed lighting can produce glare and glow which can impact on the sense of tranquillity at night and harm general amenity. However, it is possible through design measures to minimise the impact of lighting and details of lighting schemes should be submitted as part of development proposals in or near the AONB.

Policy 74

EN19: Managing Waste Sustainably

Proposals for new development should:

- a. demonstrate how the production of waste will be minimised during all stages of the development and how wastes which do arise would be managed in a sustainable way, in accordance with the waste hierarchy.
- b. demonstrate, where relevant, that adequate facilities and space for collection, composting and recycling of waste materials has been made.

- 20.69** The purpose of this policy is to ensure that adequate provision is made for waste management facilities within new developments, to prevent the generation of waste where possible, and ensure that it is sustainably managed where it is generated, thereby helping Flintshire achieve the targets set within the National Waste Strategy.
- 20.70** All development generates waste so considering what wastes would be generated by a development and how they would be managed at an early stage is vital. The level of information which would be required to demonstrate that the requirements of the policy have been met will depend upon the scale of the development proposed, the nature of the site, i.e. previously developed or greenfield, and the nature of the development.

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

Policy 75**EN20: Landfill Buffer Zone**

There will be a presumption against sensitive development within the landfill buffer zone. Proposals for new sensitive development within 250m of Parry's Quarry Landfill will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that there would be no adverse effects from the consented landfill site.

- 20.71** Any potential conflict between sensitive development and the consented Parry's Quarry Landfill will be minimised by the application of a 250 metre landfill buffer zone around the Landfill. Natural Resources Wales generally advises that development should be a minimum of 250 metres away from landfill sites. The greatest danger to development near to landfill sites is that of migrating landfill gas travelling through underlying rock and entering premises from underground. Problems also do arise from time to time in respect of odour, dust, noise and pests. The landfill buffer zone is a separate designation to the landfill site and it serves two purposes. One is to protect the amenity of residents and other sensitive land users (consequently, no additional landfilling is permitted within the buffer zone); the other is to ensure that the landfill operators can carry out their normal activities without being constrained by the undue presence of sensitive land users. A 250 metre buffer zone around the landfill site has therefore been designated to ensure that non-sensitive development only is located in this area. All applications for residential (except householder), employment, tourism development and community facilities within the buffer zone should be brought to the attention of the Council's Environmental Health Officer and Natural Resources Wales. Proposals which would result in significant detriment to amenity or safety, or which would unacceptably restrict the operation of the landfill site will not be permitted.

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

Policy 76**EN21: Locations for Waste Management Facilities**

Proposals for the management of waste, excluding landfill and open windrow composting will generally be permitted on existing or allocated employment sites for B2 uses subject to meeting the criteria detailed in Policy EN22. Sites which are considered to be suitable in principle for waste management uses include:

- Parry's Quarry, Alltami
- Ewloe Barn Industrial Estate, Alltami
- Pinfold Lane Quarry/Stoney Beach Quarry, Alltami
- Alltami Depot, Alltami
- Manor Industrial Estate, Bagillt
- Broughton Mill Industrial Estate, Broughton
- Spencer Industrial Estate
- Catheralls Industrial Estate and Pinfold Industrial Estate, Buckley
- Old Power Station Site, South of Flintshire Bridge, Connah's Quay
- Dock Road, Connah's Quay
- Deeside Industrial Park (Excluding the Northern Gateway and DARA)
- Greenfield Business Park, Greenfield
- Mostyn Docks, Mostyn
- Chester Road East, Queensferry
- Pentre Industrial Estate, Pentre, Queensferry
- Queensferry Industrial Estate, Pentre, Queensferry
- Glendale Business Park, Sandycroft, Queensferry
- River Lane Industrial Estate, Saltney
- Prince William Avenue, Sandycroft

Proposals for the management of waste outside of land not listed above for Waste management uses, or allocated for B2 uses, or land within an Employment Allocation or a Principal Employment Area, may be permitted within settlement boundaries provided:

- i. The proposed development cannot be located on principal employment sites, land allocated for employment uses or within development boundaries due to the scale or nature of the proposed development, or
- ii. The proposal is intended to manage wastes arising entirely on site, or
- iii. There is a demonstrable need for the waste management facility type concerned and there are no allocated sites within a reasonable distance, taking into account the catchment of the waste, and
- iv. The site is outside the AONB; and
- v. There is provision for restoration upon cessation of the approved use.

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

Proposals outside of settlement boundaries will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that there are no available or suitable sequentially preferable sites.

Proposals for the treatment of biodegradable waste by means of composting, including anaerobic digestion and in-vessel composting will generally be acceptable on sites within existing agricultural use to deal with biodegradable waste arising from that use, or on sites outside the AONB.

- 20.72** The purpose of this Policy is to provide a framework for the assessment of planning applications for waste management facilities. This Policy expands on Strategic Policy STR15.
- 20.73** Waste management facilities covers a range of different facility types with potentially very different impacts. In order to provide certainty for communities and the waste industry most waste uses will be directed towards existing and allocated employment sites with a B2 use. However, not all employment sites will be suitable for all types of waste management and it is important to ensure that those uses which have the potential to generate nuisance are located away from sensitive receptors. Employment sites which are particularly sensitive due to the visual character of the area have not been identified in the policy. Where it is demonstrated that existing or allocated employment sites identified under Policies PE1 and PE2 are not suitable for the proposed use, other sites may be considered, including sites outside the settlement boundary. Conversely, there may be some highly technical waste management uses that would entirely be suitable to take place within the higher quality business parks not listed within Policy EN21. The impacts of such waste management uses may be negligible should they take place within the confines of a building and should they have no adverse impacts on other surrounding land uses.

Policy 77

EN22: Criteria for Waste Management Facilities and Operations

Proposals for waste management will be permitted provided:

- a. the proposal would move the management of waste up the waste hierarchy; or
- b. there is an identified need for the facility type at the regional level, in accordance with Technical Advice Note 21; and
- c. there would be no significant adverse visual impacts; and
- d. any visual impacts can be satisfactorily mitigated through the use of landscaping and appropriate storage of wastes; and
- e. compliance with other policies in the plan.

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

- 20.74** Technical Advice Note 21 advises that Planning Authorities should take into account the ability of Environmental Permits to control operations of waste facilities. At the planning application stage it must be demonstrated by the Applicant that it is possible to adequately control the operations taking into account the location of the proposed facility and its proximity to sensitive receptors.

Policy 78

EN23: Minerals Safeguarding

Non-mineral development within Mineral Safeguarding Areas as defined on the proposals map will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that:

- a. the mineral underlying the site does not merit extraction, or
- b. the need for the non-mineral development outweighs the need to protect the resource, or
- c. the mineral can be satisfactorily extracted prior to the non-mineral development, or
- d. the development is of a temporary nature or can be removed within the timescales within which the mineral is likely to be needed, and
- e. essential infrastructure that supports the supply of minerals would not be compromised or would be provided elsewhere.

All applications for development, with the exception of householder applications, in these areas shall be supported by a Mineral Safeguarding Assessment.

Proposals for non-mineral development on sites of 4ha or more, which are underlain by Category 1 sand and gravel shall be supported by a Prior Extraction Assessment.

- 20.75** This policy expands on Strategic Policy STR16, protecting potential resources from development and accords with national planning policy contained in PPW 10 which requires Mineral Planning Authorities to safeguard access to mineral deposits which society may need in the future.
- 20.76** Flintshire is underlain by a wealth of minerals which society may need, now or in the future. Minerals are a finite resource and can only be worked where they occur whereas there is often choice regarding the location of non-mineral development. This policy safeguards undeveloped land underlain by mineral from unnecessary sterilisation. The mineral resources safeguarded include sand and gravel, limestone, and clay. PPW 10 states that the safeguarding of primary coal resources is not required. As there are no specific circumstances within Flintshire to warrant the safeguarding of coal resources, the Minerals Safeguarding Area does not safeguard coal resources. Rail heads and the Port of Mostyn are also safeguarded under this policy in

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

accordance with PPW 10 which requires the safeguarding of mineral infrastructure and are also identified under the Mineral Safeguarding Areas on the proposals map.

- 20.77** Due to the extent and distribution of mineral within Flintshire, and the need for non-mineral development such as housing, it is inevitable that some sterilisation will occur and this is accepted and established through the allocation of sites underlain by mineral in the LDP. Where mineral is confirmed as being of economic importance it will be expected that the potential for extraction of the mineral prior to the non-mineral development will be explored, this is defined as 'prior extraction'. Any loss should be minimised through prior extraction where feasible. Although the policy includes provision for prior extraction, even where prior extraction is required it is likely that there will still be some sterilisation of mineral since there will be a need to ensure that development can occur over a reasonable timescale and without prejudicing the viability of the non-mineral development.
- 20.78** The Mineral Safeguarding Assessment should contain sufficient information to enable the Local Planning Authority to establish whether the proposed development meets any of the criteria identified within the policy above. The information used to establish Mineral Safeguarding Areas was produced at a strategic level and there may be instances where mineral underlying a site does not merit safeguarding. Mineral produced as a result of prior extraction will be considered to be a windfall and need for the mineral concerned does not need to be demonstrated against regional needs.
- 20.79** The need for mineral underneath sites which are allocated for non-mineral development has already been considered through the development of the LDP and the need for the non-mineral development is considered to outweigh the need to protect the resource in its entirety. Nevertheless, prior extraction should be undertaken where possible and applications for non-mineral development should be supported by a Prior Extraction Assessment. The level of prior extraction which can be undertaken will depend upon the nature of mineral concerned, the size of the site, the phasing, timing, design and delivery of the non-mineral development. The sites which are considered to offer the greatest potential for prior extraction are those which are at least 4ha in size and applications on these sites should be supported by a Prior Extraction Assessment. Prior extraction on smaller sites is considered much less likely to be feasible or desirable. Nevertheless, an advisory will be included on any pre-application advice issued in respect of such sites confirming the likelihood of the site being underlain by mineral of economic importance and the potential benefits of prior extraction.

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

Policy 79

EN24: Minerals Buffer Zones

Development in the minerals buffer zones as identified on the Proposals Map will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that it would not compromise current or planned mineral extraction.

Applications for mineral extraction within buffer zones will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that a sufficient buffer between mineral extraction and sensitive development can be maintained.

20.80 This policy expands on Policy STR16 and aims to protect existing mineral reserves from development which would conflict with its extraction, and to reduce the impact of quarrying on sensitive land uses.

20.81 Flintshire has a number of operational quarries, including hard rock quarries which utilise blasting to extract the material. The impact of quarrying will vary from site to site and the impact of blasting will depend upon the precise location of a blast and on blast design. Minerals Technical Advice Note 1 advises minimum distances of 100m for sand and gravel and 200m for hard rock. However, where sensitive development has already encroached closer to quarry workings it is not possible to retain this distance. Nevertheless, where it is possible to secure a 100m or 200m buffer, depending on the mineral type, it has been applied. Proposals for sensitive development within buffer zones will generally not be supported since the developer of the non-mineral development is unlikely to be able to control the mineral workings in any way and therefore ensure that there would be no adverse impact from quarrying operations. Exceptions to this include infill development, householder development or development on the far side of a built up area which already encroaches into a buffer zone. Proposals for less sensitive development, such as employment uses, may be acceptable and would be considered on a case by case basis.

20.82 Buffer zones have been applied around operational quarries and those quarries which have an extant planning permission but may not be currently working. Buffer zones have also been applied to the proposed allocations of new mineral workings. The Minerals Background Paper provides details of the approach which has been taken with respect to the different mineral sites.

Table 20.3

Site Name	Mineral Type	Buffer	Comments
-----------	--------------	--------	----------

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

Aberdo/Bryn Mawr	Limestone/Chertstone	200m	Active
Cefn Mawr	Limestone	200m	Active
Grange	Limestone	200m	The site has not worked since the 1970's and the owner has shown no intention of working the site. Although the site is a candidate for prohibition a buffer shall be retained until such time as an Order is confirmed.
Hendre	Limestone	200m	Active
Hendre Quarry Extension	Limestone	200m	Proposed Allocation – extension to existing quarry
Pant	Limestone	200m	Mineral has not been extracted at the site for a number of years. Stability issues have been cited. Although the site is a candidate for prohibition a buffer shall be retained until such time as an Order is confirmed.
Pant y Pwll Dŵr	Limestone	200m	Active
Pant y Pwll Dŵr extension	Limestone	200m	Proposed Allocation – extension to existing quarry
Pen yr Henblas, Pen-y-Garreg and Bryn Blewog	Limestone	200m	The sites have not worked since 1996. Although the site is a candidate for prohibition a buffer shall be retained until such time as an Order is confirmed.
Liverpool Road/Catheralls	Clay/Shale	100m	The site is inactive and is the subject of a stalled ROMP which is linked with Parry's Quarry. The site has been put forwards for inclusion in the LDP for housing. Although the site is a candidate for

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

			prohibition a buffer shall be retained until such time as an Order is confirmed.
Pinfold Lane	Clay/Shale	100m	The operator did not comply with a request for further information in respect of the ROMP application and is now considered to have lapsed. Although the site is a candidate for prohibition a buffer shall be retained until such time as an Order is confirmed.
Stoney Beach	Clay/Shale	100m	Planning permission has been granted for a waste facility at the quarry which is subject to a S106 which prevents mineral extraction. Although the site is being developed for an alternative use a buffer shall be retained until such time as the planning permission is implemented.
Ruby	Shale	100m	The site has not been worked for a number of years and has naturally regenerated. Although the site is a candidate for prohibition a buffer shall be retained until such time as an Order is confirmed.
Ddol Uchaf	Sand and Gravel	100m	The site is dormant but the operator has indicated that they intend to work the site in the near future.
Ddol Uchaf extension	Sand and Gravel	100m	Proposed Allocation – extension to existing quarry
Fron Haul	Sand and Gravel	100m	Active
Sandy Lane Farm, Kinnerton	Sand and Gravel	100m	Active

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

Maes Mynan	Sand and Gravel	100m	Active
------------	-----------------	------	--------

Policy 80

EN25: Sustainable Minerals Development

To contribute towards the sustainable supply of minerals the following extensions to existing quarry sites are allocated, as defined on the proposals map:

- EN25.1 Extension to Hendre Quarry (Limestone)
- EN25.2 Extension to Pant y Pwll Dwr Quarry (Limestone)
- EN25.3 Extension to Ddol Uchaf Quarry (Sand and Gravel)
- EN25.4 Extension within Fron Haul Quarry (Sand and Gravel)

20.83 The North Wales Regional Technical Statement (RTS) 1st Review has identified a requirement for Flintshire to allocate at least 1.4 million tonnes of sand and gravel and at least 3.84 million tonnes of crushed rock. The allocations identified in Policy EN25 are sufficient to meet the identified need over the Plan Period. In relation to crushed rock, the allocations could each, in isolation, meet the requirement identified in the RTS. The decision to allocate both sites has been made in recognition of the economic importance of these sites to Flintshire and the region and to help support their viability over the longer term. In both cases, the mineral would be extracted over a period beyond the LDP and would release mineral which, although currently consented, is currently unavailable due to the practicalities of removing it.

20.84 Fron Haul is an operational sand and gravel quarry with existing permitted reserves. The allocation would enable reserves to be removed which are currently within the site boundary but which are not currently consented. Ddol Uchaf is a dormant site which has not been worked for a number of years. The allocation includes an area to the west which is not currently consented but which would, together with the consented area, form one large quarry. The site is to the north of the AONB and has the potential to impact the AONB. Progressive restoration will therefore be important to minimise any impacts on the setting of the AONB.

Table 20.4

Site	Mineral	Area	Tonnage	Comments
Extension to Hendre Quarry	Limestone	8ha.	11 million tonnes	The operator advises that an additional 11 million tonnes could be provided by the proposed extension, comprising 10 million tonnes loggerheads limestone and

Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment 20

				1 million tonnes Cefn Mawr limestone (which is typically a poorer quality limestone with a higher level of impurities). It's likely that some form of application would need to come forwards prior to the adoption of the LDP to ensure that mineral extraction can continue on the site uninterrupted.
Extension to Pant Y Pwll Dŵr Quarry	Limestone	14ha.	13 million tonnes	Proposed extension of 16.6ha of which 8.8ha would be subject to mineral extraction supplying up to 13 million tonnes of limestone. Proposed extension is within area already consented either by the mineral permission or the overburden storage mound. Annual output limit of 1.2 million tonnes which it is understood would not change as a result of the proposed extension.
Extension to Ddol Uchaf Quarry	Sand and Gravel	9.95ha.	1.4 million tonnes	Site originally put forward by operator was too close to residential properties. The gradient of the site was too steep to allow extraction to its northern extent. Boundary of the proposed allocation was changed to account for this.
Extension within Fron Haul Quarry	Sand and Gravel	3.2ha.	900,000 tonnes	Proposed extension within the existing footprint of the consented Fron Haul underneath plant/buildings.

20 Development Management Policies - Valuing the Environment

Policy 81**EN26: Criteria for Minerals Development**

Proposals for mineral extraction will be permitted on allocated sites subject to meeting other Plan Policies and:

- i. There would be no significant adverse visual impact from the development that could not be satisfactorily mitigated through landscaping during the development and following the completion of the development; and
- ii. Satisfactory provision can be made for the management of any mineral wastes which would be generated by the proposal; and
- iii. Where blasting is proposed, vibration would be within acceptable limits as defined by MTAN 1 at nearby sensitive receptors; and
- iv. Satisfactory provision is made for progressive restoration; and
- v. A satisfactory after-use is identified for the site.

Proposals for mineral extraction outside allocated sites will be supported, outside of the AONB, where there is a demonstrable need for the mineral concerned and where allocated sites are not available to meet that need, subject to meeting the criteria identified above and where a satisfactory buffer between mineral extraction and sensitive development can be achieved.

- 20.85** There are other minerals within the County which could be exploited such as clay and sandstone. Although there is currently no pressure or need to work these minerals, Policy EN26 is sufficiently flexible to enable a site to come forward, subject to meeting the criteria identified above. Proposals for borrow pits will also be considered against national policy and the criteria above.
- 20.86** Whilst there are coal deposits within the County, PPW 10 states that proposals for opencast, deep-mine or colliery spoil disposal should not be permitted, except in wholly exceptional circumstances where there is a demonstrable need in the context of climate change emissions reduction targets and for reasons of national energy security.
- 20.87** However, the Welsh Government has set challenging targets for decarbonisation and increased renewable energy generation. Therefore the continued extraction of all fossil fuels, including coal, shale gas and coal bed methane and underground coal gasification, are not compatible with those targets. The Welsh Government's Policy objective is therefore to avoid the continued extraction and consumption of fossil fuels. Should proposals be submitted to the Local Planning Authority for the extraction of on-shore oil and gas, robust and credible evidence will need to be provided to the effect that the proposals conform to the energy hierarchy.

Policy 82

EN27: Secondary and Recycled Aggregate

Proposals for the management of secondary and recycled aggregates will be supported outside settlement boundaries provided they meet the following criteria:

- i. they are temporary and would enable wastes arising from an identified development site/s to be managed in a sustainable way,
- ii. they would not have an adverse impact on residential amenity through noise or dust,
- iii. the development would not result in the loss of permanent features such as trees and hedgerows, and
- iv. the site can be satisfactorily restored to its original condition following the cessation of the use.

20.88 The need to minimise the production of waste and to encourage the reuse of materials is recognised in national policy and promoted through the LDP. Because of the nature of development sites there may be a short term, temporary requirement for space to manage demolition and construction wastes and this should be considered and planned for at an early stage. In some cases, the management of construction and demolition wastes arising from a development could constitute permitted development. Where planning permission is required, land may only be required for a temporary period of time and could be supported outside development boundaries where there are identifiable benefits relating to a particular development. Permanent facilities should be directed towards sites which are allocated for waste uses, in line with policy EN21.

Monitoring 21

21 Monitoring

Monitoring Framework

- 21.1** The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act requires authorities to keep under review those matters that may affect the planning and development of their areas. This process of monitoring constitutes the regular, continuous and systematic collection and analysis of information to measure and assess policy implementation, effectiveness and impact through the use of a monitoring framework. Welsh Government require that all LDP's include a monitoring framework.
- 21.2** The monitoring framework will allow for an ongoing assessment of whether the underlying LDP objectives remain valid or whether the prevailing economic, social, environmental or cultural circumstances have significantly altered since the preparation of the plan. In essence, the monitoring framework will allow an assessment of the implementation of the LDP strategy, policies and proposals. The monitoring will feed into an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) and this will also help inform a subsequent Plan Review, which will take place within 4 years of the Plan's adoption.

Annual Monitoring Report

- 21.3** The Council is required to produce an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) on its LDP to be submitted to Welsh Government for approval by 31st October each year. The AMR will identify whether the objectives of the Plan are being achieved and whether policies are being implemented as anticipated. If necessary, the AMR will outline steps that the Council intends to take to address any underperforming policies and proposals. The AMR will identify a series of monitoring indicators and these will be presented in terms of targets, trigger points and actions.

Monitoring Indicators

- 21.4** The monitoring framework sets out a number of indicators which form the basis for assessing the Plan's performance. These comprise indicators required by legislation such as housing land supply, key indicators applicable to all Plans such as employment land take up and other local indicators proposed by the Council.
- 21.5** The monitoring framework clearly sets out which objectives and which policies / proposals are relevant to each of the indicators. This will enable both the broad strategy of the Plan and its strategic and detailed policies, where

21 Monitoring

necessary, to be monitored. Not all policies will be monitored as some will be generic criteria based development management policies and will not provide any useful feedback.

Targets

- 21.6** All of the above Indicators have a corresponding target and this is either a numerical target or a particular direction of travel where it is not possible to be specific. The targets are written so as to be specific, measurable and realistic. Generally the targets are presented as numerical (e.g. homes to be provided), spatial (e.g. % growth to particular settlement tiers) or contextual (e.g. demographic trends).

Trigger Points

- 21.7** This sets out the point at which particular Indicators and the associated targets are not being met and therefore identifies the need to take action on a particular aspect of the Plan Strategy, or a policy. Trigger points are written so as to be measurable and specific to enable concerns to be identified. In cases where trigger points are numerical it will be necessary for them to be measured over two consecutive years to establish whether it is a one year 'blip' or a longer trend.

Actions

- 21.8** If trigger points are hit then it will be necessary to investigate the reasons why policies or proposals are not being implemented as intended or objectives not being met. The process of reflection will help determine what action might be necessary to take. The Monitoring Framework seeks to include the options from what action might be taken. These include:

- Continue monitoring
- Training required for Officers / Members
- Further supplementary planning guidance required
- Further investigation / research required
- Policy Review required
- Plan review required

Table 21.1

LDP Objective	Strategic Policy	Policies to Monitor	Monitoring Indicator	Target	Trigger Point	Justification for Target and Trigger	Implementation	Source of Data	Action
Indicators required by Legislation									
SO11	STR1 STR11 [HN1]	STR1 STR11	MI1 Housing land Supply	Min 5 year supply	Below 5 year supply for at least two consecutive years	PPW10 TAN1 LDP Reg 37	FCC / Developers / Infrastructure Providers	JHLAS	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO11	STR1 STR11 [HN1] [HN3]	STR1 STR11 [HN1] [HN3]	MI2 Number of net additional market and affordable houses	Total annual build rate of 463 per annum / LHMA target of 228 affordable units per annum and Affordable Housing Background Paper	Delivery below Plan's annual build rate / target for at least two consecutive years	PPW10 TAN1 To determine whether housing completions are in line with Plan.	FCC / Developers / Infrastructure Providers	JHLAS	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
Key Indicators applicable to all Plans									
SO12	STR2	STR2	MI3 Spatial Distribution of Housing	Spatial Distribution to settlement tiers as set out in explanation to STR2	Variation of +/- 10% from the expected distribution for at least two consecutive years	PPW10 The Plan Strategy sets out an apportionment of growth to each tier in the settlement hierarchy in terms of	FCC / Developers / Infrastructure Providers	JHLAS	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required

21 Monitoring

SO11	STR1	STR1 HN1 HN3	MI4 The level of housing completions (private and affordable) monitored against the housing requirement.	Annual build rate as per the Housing Trajectory (market and affordable)	Delivery of market / affordable housing below trajectory for at least two successive years	completions, commitments and allocations	FCC / Developers / Infrastructure Providers	JHLAS	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO11 SO12	STR11	HN1	MI5 Housing Allocations – number of dwellings delivered.	Annual completions figure as per Housing Trajectory	Annual completions falling below levels in Trajectory for at least two consecutive years	The Plans detailed housing allocations are an important part of the Plans housing provision	FCC / Developers / Infrastructure providers?	JHLAS	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required SO1
SO11 SO12	STR3	STR3 HN1	MI6 Warren Hall – number of dwellings delivered	Annual completions figure as per Housing Trajectory	Annual completions falling below levels in Trajectory for at least two consecutive years	Strategic Sites form an important part of Plans housing provision and the Plans strategy to deliver strategic mixed use sites	FCC / Developers / Infrastructure providers	JHLAS	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO11 SO12	STR3	STR3 HN1	MI7 Northern Gateway – number of dwellings delivered	Annual completions figure as per Housing Trajectory	Annual completions falling below levels in Trajectory for at least two consecutive years	The Northern Gateway Strategic Sites form a significant part of Plans housing provision and the Plans strategy to deliver strategic mixed use sites	FCC / Developers / Infrastructure providers	JHLAS	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required

SO11 SO12	STR11	STR11	STR11	M18 Small Sites Allowance – number of dwellings delivered	60 dwellings per annum for each year of the remaining Plan period	Small sites completions either above or below 60 dwellings per annum for at least two consecutive years	Ensure contribution of small sites allowance to plans overall housing provision, is being achieved.	FCC / Developers	JHLAS	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO11 SO12	STR11	STR11	STR11	M19 Windfall Allowance – number of dwellings delivered	50 dwellings per annum for each year of the remaining Plan period	Windfall sites completions either above below 50 dwellings per annum for at least two consecutive years	Ensure contribution of windfall sites allowance to plans overall housing provision, is being achieved.	FCC / Developers	JHLAS	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO11	STR11	HN3	HN3	M10 Level of affordable housing completions against Plans overarching affordable housing target	Target of affordable houses in Affordable Housing Background Paper.	Deviation of delivery by number from Affordable Housing Background Paper for at least two consecutive years	Ensure that the Plan is delivering sufficient amount of affordable housing.	FCC Planning / FCC Housing Strategy	JHLAS Housing Strategy monitoring	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO11	STR11	HN3	HN3	M11 Tenure of affordable housing completions	Tenure split (social rented and intermediate) in line with the need identified in LHMA and the Affordable	Deviation of delivery by tenure from Affordable Housing Background Paper for at least two consecutive years	Ensure that the Plan is delivering appropriate tenure of affordable housing.	FCC Planning / FCC Housing Strategy	Planning Register Affordable Housing returns	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required

21 Monitoring

S08	STR1	PE1	MI12	Housing background paper	No take up on employment land allocations for at least two consecutive years	Ensure that development is being achieved on the Plans employment allocations	FCC Planning	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
S09	STR8		Employment Land Take up on Allocations	Take up on employment land allocations					
S08	STR1	STR1	MI13	8-10,000 jobs	No trigger	To monitor whether job growth over the Plan period meets the aspirational target	FCC Regeneration	ONS	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
S09	STR7		Job Growth						
S011	STR1	HN3	MI14	Delivery as per HN3 and Affordable Housing Background Paper	Deviation above or below the target for at least two consecutive years	Ensure that the Plan is delivering affordable housing	FCC Planning Service / FCC Housing Strategy	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
	STR11		Delivery of affordable housing thresholds and percentage targets for each sub-market area						
SO11	STR1	HN3	MI15	Scheme viability and delivery of planning obligations in line with Viability Study	Deviation (positive or negative in terms of a 5% change in house prices) compared to Viability Study for at least two consecutive years	To ensure that housing development remains viable in delivering planning obligations in the context of changing financial parameters	FCC Planning / District Valuer		Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO1	STR11	HN1	Viability – trends in house prices, land values, build costs.						
SO4									

SO11	STR1 STR11	HN1	MI16 Rate of development on key local housing allocations (completions, take up and infrastructure schemes)	Delivery as per housing trajectory	Deviation (positive or negative) compared to housing trajectory for at least two consecutive years	To ensure local housing allocations in HN1 are delivering at the rate specified in the housing trajectory	FCC Planning	Planning Register JHLAS	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO11 SO12	STR12	HN8	MI17 Gypsy and Traveller sites / pitches built on allocated sites	Identified need to be fully met by 2030	No planning permission on allocated site	To ensure that the Plan is meeting identified needs through site implementation	FCC Planning Service / FCC Housing Strategy	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
'Locally Specific and Contextual Indicators'									
SO11 SO12	STR12	HN9	MI18 Gypsy and Traveller sites / pitches built on 'windfall' sites	No target	Any permission for gypsy and traveller site which is not allocated	To monitor whether allocated sites are sufficient to cater for need over the Plan period and to inform future GTAA	FCC Planning / FCC Housing Strategy	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required Feed into future GTAA
SO16	STR13	EN2	MI19 Loss of green barrier	No loss of green barrier unless considered to be in line with national policy	Any permission granted contrary to policy and national policy	To ensure no development which would lead to loss of green barrier or harm to its openness	FCC Planning	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required

21 Monitoring

SO1 SO2 SO7 SO10	STR9	PE8	MI20 Loss of retail units in Primary Shopping Areas	No loss of retail units which are contrary to policy	Granting of permission contrary to policy	To ensure that Primary Shopping Areas retain a mix of retail and other uses which contribute to the centres vitality and viability	FCC Planning / FCC Regeneration	Planning Register Health Checks	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO1 SO2 SO7 SO10	STR9	PE7	MI21 New major retail development within defined centres	All major retail development to be within defined centres	Granting of permission outside of defined centres	To ensure that major retail development takes place within defined centres	FCC Planning	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO1 SO2 SO7 SO10	STR9	PE11	MI22 New major retail development outside of defined centres	No major retail permissions contrary to national policy	Granting of permission contrary to national policy	To ensure that major retail development takes place within defined centres	FCC	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO1 SO2 SO7 SO10	STR9	STR9	MI23 Take up on retail commitments	Implementation of existing retail planning permission	Expiry of planning permissions	The non – take up of existing retail commitments may allow scope for other retail development	FCC	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required

Monitoring 21

SO1 SO2 SO7 SO10	STR9	PE9	MI24 Vacant retail units	Vacancy levels improving or no worse than levels in 2019 Retail Study	Vacancy levels increase	To ensure that the vitality and viability of town and district centres is not prejudiced by vacant units	FCC Planning / FCC Regeneration	Town and District Centre Surveys	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO1 SO4	STR6	PC12	MI25 Loss of community facilities	No loss of community facilities unless in accordance with policy	Granting of permission not in accordance with policy.	To ensure the retention of local community facilities where possible	FCC Planning	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO9 SO13 SO19	STR16		MI26 The extent of primary land won aggregates permitted as a % of the total capacity required.	No target	No trigger	Ensuring that the Plan delivers necessary aggregates.	FCC Operators	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO9 SO13 SO19	STR16	STR16	MI27 Amount of sand and gravel / hard rock reserves	Maintain a landbank of 10 years for hardrock and 7 years for sand and gravel	Landbank falls below 7 / 10 years	Ensuring that sufficient mineral reserves can be maintained	FCC / WCBC Operators	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO9 SO13 SO19	STR16	EN25	MI28 Extraction of minerals from allocated sites	No target	No trigger	Ensuring that the allocated sites are brought forward	FCC / WCBC Operators	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required

21 Monitoring

SO9 SO13 SO19	STR16	EN23	MI29 Area of land lost to non-mineral development within Minerals Safeguarding Areas	No loss of mineral unless in accordance with the policy	Any land lost to inappropriate development not in accordance with the policy	To monitor the effectiveness of the policy in safeguarding minerals reserves.	FCC Planning	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO9 SO13 SO19	STR16	EN24	MI30 Number of planning permissions granted for sensitive development in buffer zones	No planning permissions for sensitive development within a buffer zone unless in accordance with national policy	One or more planning permission for sensitive development not in accordance with national policy	To monitor effectiveness of the policy	FCC Planning	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO9 SO13 SO19	STR16	EN27	MI31 Number of planning permissions for the management of secondary and recycled aggregates.	No target	No trigger	To provide evidence on the requirement for such facilities	FCC Planning	Planning Reg Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO5	STR15	EN20	MI32 Development within landfill buffer zone	No planning permission for sensitive / inappropriate development within landfill buffer zone	Planning consent for sensitive development	To ensure that the operation of the consented landfill site at Alltami is not compromised	FCC Planning	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required

Monitoring 21

SO5	STR15	EN21	MI33 Take up of sites identified for waste management	No target	No trigger	To monitor whether the identified sites are delivering waste management development	FCC Planning	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO5	STR15	EN22	MI34 Take up other sites not identified for waste management	No target	No trigger	To monitor whether waste management proposals are arising outside of the identified sites.	FCC Planning	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO17	STR13	EN2	MI35 Green Infrastructure	No target	No trigger	To ensure new development protects, enhances or creates green infrastructure	FCC Planning	Planning Register Green Infra. Assess't Update	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO7 SO17	STR5	PC6	MI36 Amount of walking and cycling infrastructure implemented as part of planning permissions	Increase in number of schemes implemented	No delivery of schemes over two successive years	To monitor whether planning permissions are delivering the improvements sought by policies	FCC Planning Service and Local Highway Authority	Planning Register Active Travel Review	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required

21 Monitoring

SO4 SO7	STR5	PC10	MI37 Implementation of road schemes	No target	No trigger	To monitor whether the road schemes (as safeguarded in the Plan) are being delivered	Welsh Gov. Highways / FCC Highways	Planning Register Local Transport Plan review Welsh Gov transport programme	Keep monitoring
SO8	STR7 STR8	PE6	MI38 Employment land lost to other uses	No loss unless in accordance with policy	Permission granted for loss of employment land not in accordance with policy	To retain key areas of the County available as potential or existing employment land	FCC	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO9	STR7 STR8	PE3	MI39 Employment Development outside allocations / PEA's	No target	No trigger	To monitor employment development against the aim of ensuring that the Plans primary focus for new employment development is allocations / PEA's	FCC	Planning Register	Keep monitoring
SO1 SO4 SO7 SO17 SO18	STR13	EN1	MI40 Open space, sport and recreation lost to new development	No loss unless in accordance with policy	Permission granted contrary to policy	To ensure that existing open space, sport and recreation facilities are protected	FCC / AURA	Planning Register Open Space Survey	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required

SO1 SO4 SO7 SO17 SO18	STR13	EN2	MI41 Open space provided as part of new housing development	Provision of open space in accordance with policy / SPG	Permission granted without sufficient provision of open space	To ensure that new residential development is delivering appropriate open space	Planning Service / AURA	Planning Register Open Space Survey	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO16 SO17	STR13	EN6	MI42 Loss of SAC / SPA / Ramsar	None, unless appropriate mitigation in line with national policy	Any permission granted without appropriate mitigation or contrary to advice of NRW	To ensure the protection of international nature conservation designations	Planning Service	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO16 SO17	STR13	EN6	MI43 Loss of SSSI	None, unless appropriate mitigation in line with national policy	Any permission granted without appropriate mitigation or contrary to advice of NRW	To ensure the protection of national nature conservation designations	Planning Service	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO16 SO17	STR13	EN6	MI44 Loss of wildlife site / RIG	None, unless appropriate mitigation in line with national policy	Any permission granted without appropriate mitigation or contrary to advice of the County Ecologist	To ensure the protection of national nature conservation designations	Planning Service	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required

21 Monitoring

SO16 SO17	STR13	EN7	M145 Loss of protected trees and ancient / semi ancient woodlands	No net loss of protected trees and woodland	Any permission granted without appropriate mitigation or contrary to the Arboricultural Officer	To ensure the protection of trees and woodland	Planning Service	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO16 SO17 SO18	STR13	EN5	M146 Permissions granted in AONB contrary to Officers recommendation	None, unless appropriate mitigation measures have been agreed	Any permission granted contrary to AONB JAC advice / Officer recommendation	To ensure protection of the AONB	FCC Planning	Planning Register	Continue monitoring / revision (or supplement) to SPG
SO15	STR14	EN13	M147 The number and capacity (MW) of renewable, low or zero carbon energy developments approved / implemented.	Renewable Energy Assessment	No permissions granted or implemented within a 5 year period	To identify whether the Plans policies are contributing to renewable energy generation	FCC Planning	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
SO15	STR14	EN13	M148 Installed capacity of wind / solar PV within the 'Local Search Areas'	Renewable Energy Assessment		To identify whether the Plans policy approach to identifying 'Local Search Areas' is delivering additional capacity	FCC Planning	Planning Register / Operators	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required

SO15	STR14	EN14	MI49 Development in DAM flood risk zone C	None unless in accordance with local and national policy	Any permission granted which does not accord with local / national policy	To ensure that new development is not permitted in locations where it would not meet the tests in TAN15	FCC Planning / NRW	Planning Register	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required
Contextual Indicators									
SO6	STR4	STR4	MI50 Welsh speaking % in county	Increase in number of Welsh speakers	Any decrease over two successive years?	To monitor levels of Welsh speaking over the Plan period	FCC Planning Service	Office National Statistics	Keep monitoring
SO8	STR1	STR1	MI51 Unemployment / employment	Decreased unemployment	Increase in unemployment for two successive years	To monitor the strength of the local economy and performance of LDP policies	FCC Planning Service	Labour Market Statistics	Keep monitoring Further investigation / review required

Appendix 1 22

22 Appendix 1

Housing Commitments

Table 22.1

Map Ref	Site	Units Remaining (1 April 2018)
PRIVATE SECTOR		
Afonwen		
HC.1	Wilcox Coach Works	19
Bagillt		
HC.2	Central Garage	2
HC.3	Former British Legion Club	10
Buckley		
HC.4	Land at Brook Farm	16
HC.5	Mount Pool (rear of Hillcrest)	15
HC.6	F G Whitley's Depot	39
HC.7	Adj Aldans and Langdale	3
HC.8	Side of 61 Brunswick Road	10
HC.9	Jubilee Rd./West of Manor Drive	14
Caerwys		
	Summerhill Farm	67
Coed Talon / Pontybodkin		
	Station Yard / Depot	49
Connah's Quay		
	Adj Fairoaks Drive	46
	Territorial House, High Street	11
Ewloe		
	South of the Larches	3

22 Appendix 1

	Greenhill Ave / Springdale	15
	Boar's Head Inn, Holywell Rd	13
Ffynnongroyw		
	Crown Inn, Main Road	11
Flint		
	Croes Atti	378
	Flint Working Men's Club	15
	Earl Lea Site	73
Gronant		
	East of Gronant Hill	41
Gwernymynydd		
	Rainbow Inn, Ruthin Road	11
Hawarden		
	Land at Friar's Gap	4
Higher Kinnerton		
	Land at Kinnerton Lane	56
Holywell		
	Lluesty Hospital	89
HCAC		
	Ty Carreg, Stryt Isa	19
Mold		
	Former Bromfield Timber Yard	122
	Former Broncoed Works	18
	94 Wrexham Road	2
Mynydd Isa		
	Issa Farm	59
New Brighton		

Appendix 1 22

	New Brighton Service Station	23
Northop Hall		
	Cae Eithin, Village Rd	9
Pen y ffordd		
	Llys Dewi	27
	Off Rhewl Fawr Road	8
	Land north of Coed Mor	23
Penyffordd / Penymynydd		
	Rhos Road, Penyffordd	40
	Hawarden Rd., Penyffordd	32
Queensferry		
	1-3 Pierce Street	16
Rhes y Cae		
	The Stores House	7
Saltney		
	Allied Bakeries	71
Sychdyn		
	Sewage Works, Wats Dyke Way	43
Whitford		
	Altbridge House	41
PUBLIC SECTOR		
Buckley		
	Buckley Health Centre, Padeswood Rd North	24
Flint		
	Ystrad Goffa Court	19
Holywell		
	East of Halkyn Rd	45

22 Appendix 1

	Ysgol Fabanod, Perth y Terfyn	55
Mynydd Isa		
	Rose Lane / Sunnyside	58
Total Commitments		1771

Untitled 23

23 Untitled

23 Untitled

Table 23.1

A	
Accessibility	The ease with which development or facilities can be reached by people wishing to use them.
Active travel	The Active Travel Wales Act 2013 aims to make it easier for people in Wales to walk and cycle between homes and employment and facilities and services. The Council has identified a network of walking and cycling routes and proposals formulated to add missing links to or extend this network. These routes seek to improve linkages.
Acre	An area of land the equivalent of 0.4047 hectares or 4047 sq m (43563 sq ft).
Affordable housing	Housing where there are mechanisms in place to ensure housing is available for rent or purchase for those who cannot afford market levels, both for initial and subsequent occupiers. The two key types are i) social rented housing which consists of housing provided by Councils and registered social landlords where rent levels have regard to Welsh Government's guideline rents and benchmark rents and ii) intermediate housing where prices or rents are above social rented but below market levels and can include shared equity housing schemes. This is different from low cost market housing which is not recognized by Welsh Government as affordable housing.
Affordable housing exception sites	Housing permitted adjoining defined settlement limits for the specific purpose of providing affordable housing for people who need to live in the locality but who cannot reasonably be accommodated through the area's general housing market.
Afteruse	The use which mineral or waste sites are either returned to or put to when operations cease.
Aggregates	Mining and processing of local material to be used for fill or construction e.g. crushed rock, sand and gravel.

Untitled 23

<p>Agricultural land classification</p>	<p>The process used by Welsh Government to determine the quality of agricultural land. Best and most versatile land, which is to be conserved as a national resource, is classified as grade 1, 2 and 3a.</p>
<p>Agriculture</p>	<p>Land used for dairy and livestock farming, horticulture, fruit growing, seed growing, the breeding and keeping of livestock (including any creature kept for the production of food, wool, skins or fur, or for the purpose of its use in the farming of land).</p>
<p>Allocation</p>	<p>Land identified, zoned or safeguarded for a particular use or type of development in a development plan.</p>
<p>Amenity</p>	<p>The perceived quality of life in terms of the value attached to a place or space or a persons home in terms of ensuring adequate living standards.</p>
<p>Ancient woodland</p>	<p>Ancient woods have been around for many centuries – long enough to develop as ecosystems that are rich, complex, and irreplaceable. Any of the UK’s woodland habitats, with the exception of plantations, could be ancient woodland – woodland that has existed since 1600AD in England and Wales. It can include Ancient Semi Natural Woodlands, which have developed naturally, or Plantations on Ancient Woodland Sites where the original tree cover has been felled and replaced by planting but where the Ancient Woodland qualities of the site can be restored.</p>
<p>Ancillary</p>	<p>Uses of land and buildings which technically differ from the main use, but which are of lesser importance and are permitted by reason of their association with the primary use.</p>
<p>Annual Monitoring Report</p>	<p>A report submitted annually to Welsh Government by the local planning authority which assesses the effectiveness of the LDP against a set of monitoring indicators and targets.</p>
<p>Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)</p>	<p>An AONB is statutorily designated as being of national importance for its natural beauty which should be conserved and enhanced.</p>
<p>Archaeology</p>	<p>The study of the past through the analysis of remains. Archaeological features in the County are identified by Clwyd Powys Archaeological Trust (see also Scheduled Ancient Monument).</p>

23 Untitled

B	
Biodiversity	The richness and variety of all living things which exist in a particular area and the habitat that supports them.
Brownfield	Otherwise known as previously developed land - a site which is or was occupied by a permanent structure available for development.
C	
Cadw: Welsh Historic Monuments	The Welsh Government, executive agency has responsibility for protecting, conserving and promoting an appreciation of the historic environment of Wales.
Change of use	Certain changes in the use of land or buildings require planning permission as set out in the Use Classes Order 1987 (see Use Classes Order).
Climate change	Long-term changes in temperature, precipitation, wind and all other aspects of the Earth's climate. Often regarded as a result of human activity and fossil fuel consumption.
Combined Heat and Power (CHP)	Schemes which utilise technology to recover energy, whether in the form of heat or power, from waste or other biomass sources.
Commitments	Sites where a planning permission exists, usually referred to in the context of housing and employment figures.
Common land	Land where the ownership has traditionally been the subject of 'rights of common' held by individuals known as 'commoners' over the same area, to use that land.
Community infrastructure levy (CIL)	A charge that local authorities can choose to place on new developments in their area. The money is used to fund infrastructure to support development.
Commutated sum	The payment of a one off sum by a developer to a local authority to contribute towards the cost of providing a facility off site, such as car parking or open space, where it is impracticable to provide on site.
Comparison shopping	Shopping for higher value or durable goods such as furniture, clothing and electrical, where the customer makes comparisons between products and outlets.

Untitled 23

Completions	When a planning permission is fully implemented, usually referred to in recording and monitoring house building i.e. when a dwelling is fully constructed.
Conservation area	An area designated for its special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.
Contaminated land	Land which is polluted as a result of past industrial, chemical uses, waste disposal or naturally occurring radiation, which makes it unsuitable for development without appropriate remediation works to reduce or negate hazards to subsequent occupiers and users.
Convenience shopping	Shopping for lower value, perishable goods such as food and newspapers which are bought on a frequent basis.
Conversions	When a new use is put to an existing building e.g. an agricultural building being converted for residential use.
Countryside	All land that lies outside the defined settlements, as identified on the Proposals Map, where new development will be carefully managed.
Curtilage	The definable area around a building by virtue of ownership, use and physical layout, within which land and structures associated with the building are contained e.g. the garden around a house (in relation to a listed building, any other building or structures within its curtilage are also deemed to be listed).
D	
Demography	The study and analysis of population, usually involving statistical tools and modelling or forecasting techniques.
Density	Usually referred to in the context of the number of dwellings on a development site as dwellings per hectare (30 per ha / 12 per acre is recommended by the government as a minimum).
Derelict land	Land or buildings which have been previously developed but have been allowed to fall into disrepair and are no longer used or capable of use without remediation measures.

23 Untitled

Designation	The formal designation of an area defined by statute e.g. site of special scientific interest or a general term used for policies which can be plotted geographically on a proposals map e.g. green barrier, conservation area etc.
Development	Section 55 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990 defines development as 'The carrying out of building, engineering, mining or other operations in, on, over or under land, or the making of any material change in the use of any buildings or other land'.
District Centre	A grouping of shops with appropriate supporting non-retail facilities and services, which collectively form a coherent centre and a focus for a community, but which are of a smaller scale than the town centres.
E	
Ecology	The relationship of living things in relation to their environment or surroundings.
Economic development	The process whereby a local authority works to strengthen and diversify the economy of a region or area, usually in the light of an economic development strategy.
Ecosystem resilience	Resilience is the capacity of an ecosystem to respond to a perturbation or disturbance such as climate change. The objective is for ecosystems to be better able to deal with disturbances – either by resisting them, recovering from them or adapting to them. In order to achieve this, net biodiversity loss needs to be reversed and for ecosystems to have greater diversity and connectivity, with protected sites buffered and managed as a coherent network as part of the wider natural environment in Wales.
Employment Land Review	An assessment of the supply, need and demand for employment land and premises (Use Class B). Undertaken jointly by Wrexham and Flintshire.
Enterprise zone	The Welsh Government has designated areas with support designed to attract and support businesses. Each area promotes specialist skills and sectors associated with the local area. Deeside Enterprise Zone is a 2,000-hectare (4942 acre) Zone whose heritage means it has the highest concentration of

Untitled 23

	manufacturing jobs in the UK and whose innovation means it is home to highly skilled, advanced manufacturing.
Environmental impact assessment	The process by which information about the likely environmental effects of certain types of development (by virtue of size, type and nature) is collected, assessed and taken into account in deciding whether planning permission should be granted.
Environmental statement	The document which is produced following an environmental impact assessment and which accompanies the planning application.
Equalities Impact Assessment	The Equality Act 2010 includes a public-sector equality duty which requires public organisations and those delivering public functions to show due regard to the need to i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment, victimization, ii) advance equality of opportunity; and foster good relations between communities.
European Sites	These consist of Special Protection Areas (SPAs), Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), European Marine Sites (EMS) which are made up of Marine SPAs and Marine SACs. All European Sites are designated under European laws.
F	
Farm diversification	The broadening of agricultural enterprises to take on new commercial activities in order to improve or at least maintain the viability of existing holdings.
Fauna	The animal life present in an area or region.
Finite resource	A resource which when used up is lost forever.
Flexibility allowance	A practice applied to a Plan's housing provision to account for those elements of the housing supply which come forward at a slower rate than predicted or do not come forward at all as a result of ownership, physical, infrastructure or marketing problems.
Floodplain	An area of low lying ground alongside a watercourse or sea which floods either naturally or by design.

23 Untitled

Flood risk	The likelihood of an existing or proposed development being flooded is usually based on assessment carried out by Natural Resources Wales (NRW).
Flora	The plants of an area or region.
Fluvial flooding	Flooding from rivers.
Footfall	The number of people who go into a shop or business in a particular period of time, it is an important indicator of how successful a company's advertising is at bringing people into its shops.
Forecast	A statistical exercise to estimate the likely growth in, and changes in population and households as one of the factors taken into account in determining the level of housing needed over the Plan period.
Freight	The movements of goods whether by road, rail, water or air.
G	
Geodiversity	The variety of earth materials, forms and processes that constitute and shape the Earth. It covers geology, rocks and the process by which they change and geomorphology, landforms and topography.
Geological	The structure of a specific region of the earth.
Geomorphological	The form or surface features of the earth.
Global warming	The process, often referred to as climate change, whereby global weather patterns are changing and becoming more unpredictable along with long term sea level rises.
Green barrier	A local or non - statutory policy designation identifying areas of open land, the character and appearance of which it is important to protect in order to prevent settlements merging and to protect open countryside, where normal planning policies do not provide sufficient protection.
Green belt	A statutory policy seeking to protect the open character of countryside around built up areas for a period of at least 30 years before review.

Untitled 23

Green infrastructure	The network of multi-functional green space, encompassing both land and water (blue space). The Green Infrastructure areas include existing and new (created) features in both rural and urban areas. The Green Infrastructure network delivers a wide range of ecosystem benefits including environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities.
Green space	Areas of land usually within or adjacent to urban areas which are protected by virtue of their amenity, recreation or nature conservation value.
Greenfield	Land which has not previously been built on.
Gross domestic product (GDP)	The market value of all final goods and services from a nation in a given year.
Gross value added (GVA)	The measure of the value of goods and services produced in an area, industry or sector of an economy.
Groundwater	Water held in aquifers which is used for drinking water, the quality of which should be protected.
Growth Bid	As part of the Growth Deal, the six North Wales Councils have formally submitted a joint Growth Bid to the UK and Welsh Governments.
H	
Habitat	A site or area inhabited by and supporting the existing of a particular plant or animal (often referred to in the context of protected species).
Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)	A requirement of European Directive 92/43/EEC which assesses the potential effects a Local Development Plan may have on one or more European sites (Natura 2000 sites). The assessment should conclude whether or not a proposal or policy in a Development Plan would adversely affect the integrity of the site in question.
Hazardous installation / substance	A building or process which contains or utilises substances which are explosive, toxic, flammable or carcinogenic and regulated by the Health & Safety Executive.
Health checks	The assessment of a town centre against a wide variety of criteria in order to measure its vitality, attractiveness and viability.

23 Untitled

Health Impact Assessment (HIA)	An overarching high level assessment that considers impacts on health, both positive and negative, that will result from the implementation of the Plan.
Hectare	An area of land the equivalent of 2.471 acres or 10,000 sq m (107642 sq ft).
Historic park / garden / landscape	A non-statutory Cadw designation involving parks, gardens and landscapes which should be protected by virtue of their historic or other interest.
Households	The number of persons living within a dwelling as a single unit i.e. sharing domestic facilities and housekeeping arrangements (recent trends have shown increasing numbers of small or even single person households).
House in multiple occupation (HMO)	A house occupied by a number of unrelated persons who do not live together as a single household (bedsit type accommodation but with shared kitchen and bathroom facilities).
Housing association	A non-profit making organisation which provides housing on a rent, sale or shared equity basis at below market prices (often referred to as registered social landlords).
Housing Land Monitoring Statement	An informal monitoring of housing land supply, in the absence of being able to formally undertake a JHLAS in the context of TAN1.
I	
Infill development	Development of a vacant or gap site in a substantially developed frontage within settlement boundaries or within small groups of houses in open countryside.
Infrastructure	The provision of roads, sewers, power, lighting and water supply at the most basic level but also the provision of services and facilities including education, health and community.
Infrastructure Plan	A plan setting out the infrastructure, either existing or necessary to be provided, to deliver the Plans policies and proposals.
Integrated Impact Assessment	A combined assessment looking at the social, economic and environmental impacts of a development plan and to assist in bringing about sustainable

Untitled 23

	development. It includes Sustainability Appraisal (SA), Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) and can also include Health, Equalities and Welsh Language impact assessment.
Integrated transport	A comprehensive transport system where journeys are able to be carried out easily by and between different modes of transport.
Intermediate housing	See 'affordable housing'.
J	
Joint housing land availability study (JHLAS)	An annual study of housing land supply undertaken by the Ipa in consultation with a Study Group involving the HBF, public utility providers and house builders, to monitor the take up of and future availability of housing land, in accordance with TAN1.
L	
Landbank	A stock of land intended for a particular purpose (such as maintaining a 5 year supply of land for housing) or in the case of minerals the number of permissions for the winning and working of reserves often expressed in terms of the number of years supply.
Landfill	The disposal of waste in holes in the ground e.g. former quarries.
LANDMAP	A Wales-wide landscape assessment that is organised by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) in partnership with the local authorities. LANDMAP ensures a nationally consistent resource for landscape planning and decision making. LANDMAP information is collected in a structured and rigorous way that is defined by five methodological chapters, the Geological Landscape, Landscape Habitats, Visual & Sensory, Historic Landscape and Cultural Landscape.
Landscape	An area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors.
Landscape character	An expression of pattern, resulting from particular combinations of natural (physical and biological) and cultural factors that make one place different from another.

23 Untitled

Large Site	Housing sites of 10 or more units in the context of the Joint Housing Land Availability Study).
Listed building	A building, or any other structure within its curtilage, of special architectural or historic interest which should be preserved, contained in a list compiled by Cadw. Consent is required for works affecting listed buildings or their settings, irrespective of the need for planning permission.
Local Centre	A small clustering of shops and other commercial businesses which either take the form of a traditional village centre or a local shopping parade within a residential area.
Local housing market assessment (LHMA)	An assessment which provides a robust evidence base to inform the Local Housing Strategy (LHS) and the provision of affordable housing within the Local Development Plan (LDP). It also informs strategic housing priorities and can also be used as a tool for negotiating affordable housing provision when determining planning applications.
Local Housing Strategy (LHS)	Sets out a vision and strategic priorities for tackling housing issues over a five year period.
Local nature reserve (LNR)	A site or area declared by the Ipa as making a valuable contribution to nature conservation, local wildlife or geological interest, providing opportunities for education and enjoyment by the local population.
Local Planning Authority (LPA)	A planning authority responsible for the preparation of the LDP.
Local transport plan (LTP)	A plan which sets out the Council's transport strategy, priorities and implementation programme to improve the transport system of the County.
M	
Material planning consideration	Factors to be taken into account when determining planning applications, which fairly and reasonably relate to the proposal and which are planning issues such as social, economic and environmental.
Mersey Dee Alliance (MDA)	A partnership that supports strategic economic activity spanning the North Wales/North West England border. Its geographical area of focus is North East Wales, West Cheshire and Wirral.

Untitled 23

Migration	The permanent movement of residents between areas, Counties or Countries is a factor in determining forecasts for the provision of future housing.
Mitigation	Measures which will serve to alleviate or improve a situation, problem or impact.
Mixed use development	A development comprising a mix of commercial, retail and residential uses, amongst others.
Modes	Different methods of transport such as car, cycle, bus, train, boat etc
Monitoring	There is a statutory requirement to monitor the effectiveness of the Plan to implement its policies. The Council is required to submit an Annual Monitoring Framework (AMR) to the Welsh Government.
N	
National Planning and Policy Guidance	The context for planning policy in Wales is set out by the Welsh Government in 'Planning Policy Wales' (PPW), 'Minerals Planning Policy Wales' and supplemented by a series of topic based 'Technical Advice Notes' (TANs), Minerals Technical Advice Notes (MTANs) and policy clarification letters providing advice and guidance on specific issues.
National playing fields association (NPFA)	A body whose aim is to acquire, protect and improve playing fields and other recreational space for the benefit of local communities.
Natural Resources Wales (NRW)	The body appointed by the Welsh Government which is responsible for environmental regulation to ensure air, water and soil quality.
Nature conservation	A general term applied to the protection and enhancement of the natural environment (both flora and fauna).
The North Wales Economic Ambition Board (NWEAB)	A collaborative group of private and public organisations in North Wales committed to promoting economic growth in Anglesey, Conwy, Denbighshire, Flintshire, Gwynedd and Wrexham. The Board works closely with Welsh Government, and the key objectives include encouraging business investment into North Wales, helping local firms tap into supply chain opportunities, and encouraging work-related skills in the region. Page 393

23 Untitled

O	
Obligations	A legal agreement (usually referred to as a section 106 agreement) between the lpa and a developer used to control matters of planning concern which cannot be achieved by conditions attached to planning permission.
One planet developments	Development that through its low impact either enhances or does not significantly diminish environmental quality. One Planet Developments should initially achieve an ecological footprint of 2.4 global hectares per person or less in terms of consumption and demonstrate clear potential to move towards 1.88 global hectares over time.
Open countryside	A term used to describe land lying beyond a defined settlement boundary where development will be strictly managed.
Outline application / consent	A planning application / consent for outline planning permission to establish only the principle of a particular development, with subsequent approval of reserved matters by the lpa.
Overdevelopment	Development which cannot be accommodated satisfactorily within a site and which would unacceptably impact on both occupiers or users of the development proposed and surrounding development or land uses.
Over intensification	When a particular use or activity increases to the extent that it results in unacceptable impacts to highway, amenity, environmental or other interests.
P	
Placemaking	Is both a process and a tool to collectively design and manage the public realm to create quality places that people want to live and work in, that are appealing, accessible, safe and support social interaction and amenities.
Plan period	The Plan covers a 15 year period commencing on 01/04/15 and ending on 31/03/2030.
Planning application	An application submitted to the lpa for permission to carry out development accompanied by a fee (where

Untitled 23

Precautionary approach / principle	The assumption that a development or activity might be damaging to the environment unless it can be proven otherwise.
Planning condition	In granting planning permission it is often necessary for aspects to be controlled or undertaken in a certain manner, or where the subsequent approval of the lpa is necessary and these are set out in conditions attached to the decision certificate.
Planning obligations	This can be a legal undertaking by a developer only, or a legally binding agreement with the Local Planning Authority. Planning obligations are finalised before planning permission is granted and are used to ensure a development is carried out in a certain way.
Planning permission	Where the lpa approves a development as set out in a decision certificate which may or may not set out planning conditions which the development will need to satisfy.
Pluvial flooding	Surface water flooding which occurs when heavy rain saturates drainage systems and excess water cannot be absorbed.
Primary health care	The first point of contact for health care for most people which is mainly provided by GPs (general practitioners), but community pharmacists, opticians and dentists are also primary health care providers.
Primary shopping areas	Streets or frontages in town centres where there is a predominance of retail uses which it is considered desirable to retain.
Principal employment areas	Existing clusters of employment land and buildings which are defined by a designation on the proposals maps and where further employment development is generally acceptable in principle.
Projection	The analysis of previous trends as a basis for projecting future trends, e.g. population or household growth.
Protected species	A species of animal or plant which is protected on the basis of either a UK or EU statutory basis for its rareness or particular importance.
Q	

23 Untitled

Qualitative need	The requirement for an improved retail offer and enhanced shopping facilities to provide adequate consumer choice and an attractive mix of shops, services and other land uses. Qualitative indicators can include: diversity of retail, leisure and service provision; accessibility by a range of transport; quality of buildings and shopfronts; and the availability of public open space and seating.
Quantitative need	The requirement for additional retail floorspace to meet a shortfall in provision, based on objective evidence relating to existing and forecast populations and levels of available expenditure in relation to the classes of goods to be sold.
R	
Ramsar site	A wetland / coastal site of international importance (especially as a waterfowl habitat) designated by the Assembly under the European Ramsar Convention of Wetlands of International importance.
Recycling	The process of sorting waste by type so that it can be re-used for other purposes.
Refurbishment	The process of investing in the physical fabric of a building to bring it up to scratch.
Regeneration	The process of giving new life to an area by investing in refurbishment of existing buildings, new development and the provision of new infrastructure, sometimes referred to as urban renewal.
Regionally important geomorphological site (RIGS)	Local non - statutory sites which are considered to contain important geological or geomorphological features.
Renewable energy	For the purposes of planning policy, renewable energy is defined as those sources of energy, other than fossil fuels or nuclear fuel, which are continuously and sustainably available in our environment. This includes wind, water, solar, geothermal energy and plant material (biomass). Low carbon energy is the term used to cover technologies that are energy efficient (but does not include nuclear).

Untitled 23

Reserved matters	Those matters which were not considered as part of an outline application must be considered as part of a subsequent reserved matters application and may include siting, design, external appearance, access and landscaping.
Residual requirement	The additional houses required to be built in a Plan period having taken into account existing permissions, and any allowance for small sites or conversions of existing buildings.
Restoration	The process of restoring a development or activity such as quarrying or landfill, following the end of its useful life, either back to its original state or to another use or appearance using sub soil, top soil and landscaping measures.
Retail impact assessment	A technique for assessing the quantitative and qualitative impacts of a proposed retail development on existing and/or proposed retail floorspace/centres including assessing the significance of the impact on the current and future vitality and viability of the centres.
Retail study	As part of the LDP evidence base a retail study of Flintshire was produced by Peter Brett / Stantec Consultants which included an assessment of the need for additional retail floorspace and assessed the health of town and district shopping centres across the County.
Ribbon development	Linear development which continues the line of existing dwellings along a road into open countryside, with individual accesses off that road.
Rounding off	Development which forms a logical extension to a settlement, in keeping with its existing form and character. It should result in a logical and defensible boundary and not represent a significant incursion into open countryside.
Rural enterprise dwellings	One of the few circumstances in which new isolated residential development in the open countryside may be justified is when accommodation is required to enable rural enterprise workers to live at, or close to, their place of work.

23 Untitled

Safeguarded	The protection of a site, area or characteristic, either in its present use or for a future use.
Scheduled ancient monument (SAM)	An archaeological site or feature of national importance which is included in a schedule prepared by Cadw. Irrespective of the need for planning permission, development which is likely to impact on a SAM will also require scheduled ancient monument consent from Cadw.
Section 106 agreement	A legal agreement between a Council, and applicant (and sometimes third parties) to ensure that certain actions, relevant to the development, are carried out satisfactorily, where these are not capable of being enforced through a planning condition.
Secondary resources	Any recycled material which can be used as a substitute for primary resources or aggregates.
Sequential approach	A test applied primarily to retail development proposals but also to other forms of development to ensure that no suitable alternative sites exist within or on the edge of the town centre.
Settlement audit	The purpose of the Settlement Audit is to establish what services and facilities exist in which settlements across the County. The Settlement Audit is a fact based document based on evidence that was available at the time the assessment was undertaken.
Settlement hierarchy	A classification of settlements based on an assessment of factors such as size, configuration, facilities and services which provides an indication of the level of growth to be accommodated over the Plan period.
Shared equity / ownership housing	Housing for those wanting to buy a home but who cannot afford the purchase of 100% the home at full market value. Purchasers buy a share of the home (between 25% and 75%) and pay rent on the remaining share. Such housing falls within the definition of intermediate housing. (see affordable housing).
Site of special scientific interest (SSSI)	A protected area identified by Countryside Council for Wales as being of national importance in terms of wildlife, flora, fauna, geological or physiological features.
Small sites	Housing sites of 9 or less units in the context of the Page 398 County Council Land Availability Study).

Untitled 23

Spatial	The expression of trends, policies or proposals as they appear on the ground e.g. identifying areas of restraint or growth.
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	A SSSI additionally designated under the European Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and Wild Fauna and Flora, in order to maintain or restore priority natural habitats and species, which together with SPA's comprise the EU's 'Nature 2000' network of habitats of pan - European nature conservation importance.
Special Protection Area (SPA)	A SSSI additionally designated under the European Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds, because of the need to protect threatened birds and their habitats.
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)	A formal process for assessing the effect of a larger scale plan or programme on the environment where its implementation could have significant environment consequences.
Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP)	A partnership between Flintshire County Council and Wates Residential to build 500 affordable homes by 2021.
Strategic sites	Large scale mixed use developments which were identified in the Preferred Strategy.
Supplementary planning guidance (SPG)	Supplementary planning guidance produced by a lpa to supplement development plan policies and proposals with the intention of being a material planning consideration in the determination of planning applications. May include design guides, topic based guidance or site planning briefs.
Surface water run off	Water which runs off a development e.g. from hardstandings or roofs.
Sustainable development	Development which meets the needs of present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.
Sustainable urban drainage system (SUDS)	All new developments of more than 1 dwelling house or where the construction area is 100m ² or more, will require Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) for surface water - providing drainage systems in a more natural and environmentally friendly manner, by reducing the quantity of run off, slowing the speed of

23 Untitled

	run off and filtering of water in order to help reduce food risk and reduce pollutants affecting ground water quality.
SUDS Approval Body (SAB)	SuDS on new developments must be designed and built in accordance with the Statutory SuDS Standards published by the Welsh Ministers and SuDS Schemes must be approved by the local authority acting in its SAB role, before construction work begins.
Sustainability appraisal	A process of systematically assessing a development plan against a variety of criteria to ensure that it will achieve sustainable development (see Integrated Impact Assessment).
T	
Take - up	Usually referred to in the context of monitoring the rate at which land for employment is developed.
Technical advice note (TAN)	Documents produced by the NAW to provide additional advice on key aspects of policy set out in Planning Policy Wales.
Townscape	The combined mix of buildings, spaces and other features which together create a sense of place.
Transport Assessment	To provide the information necessary to assess the suitability of a proposed development in terms of travel demand and impact.
Travel plan	A plan drawn up with the objective of reducing car based travel either in existing or proposed development in order to bring about economic, environmental and health benefits.
Tree preservation order (TPO)	A legal protection given to a tree which is considered to be of significant amenity value with the effect that permission or the lpa will be needed to lop, top or fell a tree.
Trunk road	Trunk roads are the responsibility of the National Assembly for Wales and are high quality roads carrying large quantities of long distance traffic between towns and cities.
U	

Untitled 23

Unitary development plan (UDP)	A statutory development plan which will be replaced by the Local Development Plan (LDP).
Undeveloped coast	The undeveloped coast is regarded as being the undeveloped land and estuary to the north of the A548.
Use classes order	The Town and Country Planning Use Classes Order 1987 (amended) places the main uses of land into different categories based on the nature and characteristics of each. Generally speaking, planning permission will not be required for the change of use of land or a building within a class, but will be required between different classes.
V	
Vernacular	Where an area has a particular identifiable style of architecture, use of materials or features which gives it a unique sense of place.
Viability	Used in expressing the health of a town centre in terms of its ability to continue trading, to attract investment and to improve and adapt over time / used to establish whether a particular development is commercially viable to take place.
Vitality	A measure of how busy or lively a town centre is at different times of the day in terms of being attractive to both businesses and shoppers.
W	
Wildlife site	A non-statutory local wildlife site or area.
Windfall site	A site which comes forward for development within the plan period but which is not allocated in a development plan (usually referred to in the context of residential development).





CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Alternative Delivery Models Phase 2
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Report Author	Chief Executive Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council adopted a programme of transferring selected services from direct delivery models to Alternative Delivery Models (ADM) in 2014. The programme was a big part of a renewed strategy for organisational change, and was designed to make significant annual revenue savings as a contributor to the Medium-Term Financial Strategy, whilst ensuring the protection of those services into the future. This initial programme has been completed successfully.

The Council is now ready for a second phase of the programme. This phase of the programme is more expansive with a wide range of concepts for alternative service delivery models for existing services and new models for new service innovations.

The report seeks support for the second phase of the programme, with each of the proposed service models detailed in this report to be explored further with progress reports to follow.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Cabinet approves the second phase of the Alternative Delivery Model programme and refer this report to the Organisational Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee in September for review and comment.
2	That Cabinet requests further reports, evaluating each of the proposed service models for more detailed consideration prior to any formal decision on their future, noting that several of the models are well advanced and that one (the CCTV Monitoring Service) has been given a separate and prior approval.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	THE ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY MODEL (ADM) PROGRAMME
1.01	<p>The Council adopted a programme of transferring selected services from a direct delivery model to an alternative delivery model in 2014. The programme was a key part of a renewed strategy for organisational change and was designed to make significant annual revenue savings, as a contributor to the Medium-Term Financial Strategy, whilst ensuring the protection of those services. This programme has been completed successfully.</p> <p>The completed service transfers are: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leisure and Library Service – Aura Leisure and Libraries Ltd • Catering and Facility Management Services – Newydd • Valuation, Estates, Highways, Engineering and Property • Social Services Day Services and Work Opportunities – HFT • the Corporate Asset Transfer (CAT) programme (various transfers out)
1.02	<p>The Council is now ready for a second phase of the programme. This phase of the programme is more expansive with a wide range of concepts for alternative service delivery models for existing services and new models for new service innovation.</p> <p>The services currently in scope are: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCTV monitoring and control service • Theatr Clwyd • Micro Care (Community based domiciliary care services) • Streetscene and Transportation Trading Services • Housing Revenue Account Trading Services • Food Poverty Enterprise • Green Energy Company
1.03	<p>There are four stages in the development and implementation of alternative or new delivery models: -</p> <p>Stage 1: Proof of concept Stage 2: Planning, due diligence and approvals Stage 3: Transition to the new model Stage 4: Settlement period for the new model</p> <p>The outline details of each proposal, together with a progress assessment against the above 4 stage process, are shown in the following paragraphs:</p>
1.04	<p>CCTV Monitoring and Control Service.</p> <p>Current Position: At Stage 3. Proposals presented to Cabinet and approved in June 2019.</p> <p>Details: Relocation of the CCTV monitoring service to Wrexham County Borough Council (WCBC) to be managed under a joint services. Flintshire will retain responsibility for fibre costs, camera maintenance and replacement costs.</p>

	<p>Cabinet 18 June Decision: Cabinet supports the merging of the CCTV monitoring function with Wrexham.</p>
1.05	<p>Theatr Clwyd</p> <p>Current Position: At Stage 2. Proposals for a preferred future model presented to and approved by Cabinet in June 2019.</p> <p>Details: the proposed transition of the theatre from a Council-run entity to an independent trust model.</p> <p>Cabinet 18 June Decision: Preferred governance model for the future was supported with a full and final report on the preferred model be brought back to Cabinet for a final decision to be made no later than December 2019.</p>
1.06	<p>Micro Care (Community-based Domiciliary Care Services)</p> <p>Current Position: Mid-Stage 2. Included in the Council Plan for 2019/20.</p> <p>Details: Micro Care is as an innovative approach to develop locally based care support models through co-operatives or social enterprises, as a way of strengthening the wider provision of home care due to shortages in independent provision.</p>
1.07	<p>Streetscene and Transportation Trading Services</p> <p>Current Position: Stage 1. No approvals sought to date.</p> <p>Details: To explore the possibility of trading in certain specific areas of service where the Council has the expertise and extendable capacity e.g. private vehicle MOTs, Streetlighting.</p>
1.08	<p>Housing Revenue Account Trading Services.</p> <p>Current Position: Stage 1. No approvals sought to date.</p> <p>Details: To explore the possibility of trading in certain specific areas of service where the Council has the expertise and extendable capacity within its Direct Labour Organisation (DLO) e.g. domestic property gas servicing and electrical service.</p>
1.09	<p>Food Poverty Enterprise</p> <p>Current Position: At Stage 2. Report due to Cabinet July 2019.</p> <p>Details: The Council and its two foundation partners have been exploring a number of options to create a food preparation and distribution hub in Flintshire to address food poverty. The proposed business model is a new social enterprise business.</p>
1.10	<p>Green Energy Company</p> <p>Current Position: Stage 1. No approvals sought to date.</p> <p>Details: A local authority owned green energy company could have a number of</p>

	functions including becoming a private sector energy supplier, developing renewable community energy generation assets, and providing energy advice for company audits and statutory compliance requirements. Opportunities will be provided in this field by the North Wales Economic Growth Bid.
--	--

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The concept and initial scoping work for the individual projects has been undertaken to date by colleagues within the individual portfolios. Specific project development capacity will be provided through invest to save and national funding sources as required.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	Individual and specific consultation processes will apply to each project. This will include Cabinet Member and the respective Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
3.02	Progress of the overall ADM programme will be reviewed by the Organisational Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
3.03	The developing proposals and final agreements will be subjected to workforce and Trade Unions consultation.

4.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT												
4.01	Each proposed model will be risk assessed as it progresses. There will be a detailed report on each prior to any formal decision being recommended to adopt each new model. These reports will explore due diligence, risks, benefits and impacts in detail.												
4.02	Under the five delivery principles of the Well-being of Future Generations Act a successful Alternative Delivery Programme can have the following impacts as demonstrated with the first phase of our own local programme: - <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ways of Working Principle</th> <th>Impact</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Long-term</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive impact on longer-term service planning with greater independence </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prevention</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some new models will include services which have positive preventative impacts for people </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Integration</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New models can include collaborative models with partners which integrate like services under on model </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Collaboration</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Involvement</td> <td> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New models can have more inclusive management and community engagement governance arrangements </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ways of Working Principle	Impact	Long-term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive impact on longer-term service planning with greater independence 	Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some new models will include services which have positive preventative impacts for people 	Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New models can include collaborative models with partners which integrate like services under on model 	Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above 	Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New models can have more inclusive management and community engagement governance arrangements
Ways of Working Principle	Impact												
Long-term	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive impact on longer-term service planning with greater independence 												
Prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some new models will include services which have positive preventative impacts for people 												
Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New models can include collaborative models with partners which integrate like services under on model 												
Collaboration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As above 												
Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New models can have more inclusive management and community engagement governance arrangements 												

	Impacts will be evaluated in the specific reports which will follow.
4.03	A successful programme will also have multiple impacts on the seven well-being goals of the Act for a Wales which is prosperous; resilient; healthier, more equal, cohesive, vibrant and globally responsible. Impacts will be evaluated in the specific reports which will follow.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS AND CONTACTS
6.01	Contact Officer: Colin Everett Telephone: 01352 702101 E-mail: chief.executive@flintshire.gov.uk stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	Alternative Delivery Models (ADMs) – different service models, to the current, for the future of Council services e.g. trading companies, social enterprises, contracting-out Well-being of Future Generations Act – legislation of the National Assembly for Wales which requires devolved public bodies to plan sustainably for the future

This page is intentionally left blank



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Homelessness Update on Local Action Plan
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Housing
Report Author	Chief Officer (Housing and Assets)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

North Wales' councils have together developed a regional strategy and action plan.

The Homelessness Strategy objectives are to prevent homelessness and ensure suitable accommodation and satisfactory support is available for those who are homeless. The region has agreed to the common themes of People, Homes and Services.

Each council has developed its own local action plan based on the themes within the regional strategy but which reflect local priorities. The local plan in Flintshire has identified priority actions to tackle and prevent homelessness in the county.

The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on progress on our Local Action Plan.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Cabinet supports the updates provided against the Local Action Plan for Homelessness.
---	---

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	BACKGROUND
1.01	<p>The Local Action Plan for Flintshire follows the Regional Homelessness Strategy with three main themes People, Homes and Services. Each theme is broken down further into priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People - Youth Homelessness, Rough Sleepers, Complex Needs and Prison Leavers • Homes - Housing First, Improved access to accommodation supply and Temporary accommodation • Services – Prevention / Intervention, welfare reform and health
1.02	<u>People</u>
1.03	<p>Youth Homelessness In 2018/19, 244 young people (age 16 to 24) presented to Flintshire’s Housing Solutions Service either homeless or threatened with homelessness. Work is currently underway to further analyse this data to understand the reasons behind these presentations.</p>
1.04	<p>Work is also underway with colleagues in Youth Services to develop a theatre production for schools so as to raise the profile of the risks of homelessness for young people.</p>
1.05	<p>Flintshire’s Housing Solutions Team currently have a Youth provision within the service consisting of a dedicated Housing Solutions Officer and a Children’s Services worker. Working with colleagues in Education, a joint funding bid has been submitted to also include a Youth Worker to the team. This will enable us to create a more integrated youth provision to enable wider support to youth’s that are faced with homelessness and enable a more joined up service that is seamless for the young person with one point of access and a wide range of support options available to them.</p>
1.06	<p>Rough Sleepers In December 2018 Flintshire County Council piloted an Emergency Bed provision to help those who were rough sleeping. This pilot has been successful and provision was extended until March 2020. Work is underway to evaluate all the findings from this project to inform a more permanent provision in terms of both support needs and premises.</p>
1.07	<p>Flintshire has also commissioned an Outreach Worker to work with those who are street homeless or accessing the Emergency Bed Provision and this is working well. The Outreach workers key objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a more flexible service with support being available outside of normal working hours including weekends. • Link in with residents who are accessing the emergency bed provision to offer support and assistance to reintegrate into mainstream services. • Conduct regular welfare checks where rough sleepers have refused assistance.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor and conduct regular reviews of hot spots to enable to service to provide assistance at the earliest point. 																												
1.08	<p>Flintshire's outreach worker is now signed up to Streetlink. This service enables members of the public to report people rough sleeping to local services that can support them. If a person is concerned about someone they have seen rough sleeping they can use Streetlink to make the initial report. The details provided are sent direct to Flintshire Outreach worker to help them find the individual and connect them to support.</p> <p>When a report is made the person reporting will receive confirmation that the report has been received and information on what will happen next and a further update if possible/appropriate.</p> <p>https://www.streetlink.org.uk/</p>																												
1.08	<p>One of the actions in the local action plan was to gain a better understanding of why tenancies are ending and the reasons behind homelessness in our County. The statistics show that the reasons behind homelessness or risk of homelessness for cases closed in 2018/19 were as follows:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Parent no longer willing or able to accommodate</td> <td>14.49%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other relatives or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate</td> <td>7.25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Breakdown of relationship with partner - Non Violent</td> <td>9.14%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Breakdown of relationship with partner - Violent</td> <td>11.59%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Violence or harassment</td> <td>2.56%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mortgage arrears (repossession or other loss of home)</td> <td>2.34%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rent arrears on Social Sector Dwellings</td> <td>2.79%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Rent arrears on Private Sector Dwellings</td> <td>4.79%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Loss of rented or tied accommodation</td> <td>23.19%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Current property unaffordable</td> <td>1.00%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Current property unsuitable</td> <td>3.68%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prison Leaver</td> <td>8.70%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>In institution or care (e.g. hospital, residential home, army etc.)</td> <td>1.67%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other (including homeless in emergency, returned from abroad, sleeping rough or in hostel)</td> <td>6.80%</td> </tr> </table>	Parent no longer willing or able to accommodate	14.49%	Other relatives or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate	7.25%	Breakdown of relationship with partner - Non Violent	9.14%	Breakdown of relationship with partner - Violent	11.59%	Violence or harassment	2.56%	Mortgage arrears (repossession or other loss of home)	2.34%	Rent arrears on Social Sector Dwellings	2.79%	Rent arrears on Private Sector Dwellings	4.79%	Loss of rented or tied accommodation	23.19%	Current property unaffordable	1.00%	Current property unsuitable	3.68%	Prison Leaver	8.70%	In institution or care (e.g. hospital, residential home, army etc.)	1.67%	Other (including homeless in emergency, returned from abroad, sleeping rough or in hostel)	6.80%
Parent no longer willing or able to accommodate	14.49%																												
Other relatives or friends no longer willing or able to accommodate	7.25%																												
Breakdown of relationship with partner - Non Violent	9.14%																												
Breakdown of relationship with partner - Violent	11.59%																												
Violence or harassment	2.56%																												
Mortgage arrears (repossession or other loss of home)	2.34%																												
Rent arrears on Social Sector Dwellings	2.79%																												
Rent arrears on Private Sector Dwellings	4.79%																												
Loss of rented or tied accommodation	23.19%																												
Current property unaffordable	1.00%																												
Current property unsuitable	3.68%																												
Prison Leaver	8.70%																												
In institution or care (e.g. hospital, residential home, army etc.)	1.67%																												
Other (including homeless in emergency, returned from abroad, sleeping rough or in hostel)	6.80%																												
1.09	<p>Prison Leavers</p> <p>As you can see from the above, last year 8.70% of homelessness was directly linked to prison leavers.</p>																												
1.10	<p>The Regional Homelessness Strategy Group have increased resource across the region and created a Regional Prisoner Pathway which aims to relieve homelessness for prison leavers. Flintshire has a dedicated worker that works with Prisoners before their release to reduce the risk of them becoming</p>																												

	<p>homeless on release. There are many barriers to finding suitable accommodation for this client group but figures are showing that this work is providing some good outcomes.</p> <p>In 2018/19 Flintshire worked with 42 applicants that would otherwise be homeless on their release without intervention, of these 42:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Clients went straight from custody directly into their own tenancy • 10 Clients went from custody to approved premises or family then onto their own accommodation
1.11	<p>Complex Needs</p> <p>One of the main areas of focus in this area has been on clients with mental health. In 2018/19, just over 41% of triages completed indicated the applicant had mental health concerns. The service is working with colleagues in Adult Social Services to secure the provision of a Mental Health Worker in the Housing Solutions Team. This will help the service to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better understand the issues our customers are faced with; • Understand how this may impact the way we deliver our services; • Provide better support to those suffering a mental health issue and faced with homelessness; • Create better integration with Health and primary care services where required.
1.12	<p><u>Homes</u></p>
1.13	<p>Housing First</p> <p>Work has commenced on securing funding for a Housing First Pilot in Flintshire and a bid for additional funding has also been submitted to enhance this.</p>
1.14	<p>There are many good practice projects across Wales and The Homeless and Advice Team Manager and Housing Strategy Manager will be visiting some of these in the coming months to identify good practice and where strategic partners have contributed. This will enable the completion of a draft business model for Flintshire's Housing First pilot.</p>
1.15	<p>Improved access to accommodation</p> <p>This covers a wide spectrum of work including the Council's commitment to building more social housing, and in doing so, increasing the availability in the private rented sector.</p>
1.16	<p>One of main areas to update on for this area is that the contract with HAWS commenced in May 2019. HAWS will be working with The Housing Solutions Team on a number of key areas including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of applicants currently in temporary accommodation and assistance to move onto suitable accommodation;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce Landlord drop in sessions for Flintshire's Private Landlords to understand what the reasons behind the barriers our clients face in accessing Private Rented Sector (PRS) accommodation; • Develop a PRS policy and suite of incentives to encourage buy in from this sector; • Increase access to PRS in Flintshire.
1.17	<p>Temporary Accommodation</p> <p>This year there will be a full review of temporary accommodation used by the Housing Solutions Team for homeless applicants to include:</p> <p>Leased PRS accommodation – The Council leases a number of Houses in Multiple Occupation's (HMO) and individual properties from private Landlords. This review will look at each of these leases to determine:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cost effectiveness • Location of property • Terms of lease • Quality of accommodation • Outcomes for individuals accessing this accommodation
1.18	<p><u>Services</u></p>
1.19	<p>Prevention / Intervention, Welfare Reform and Health</p> <p>To be able to improve the outcomes for clients who become homeless or are at risk of homelessness through the breakdown of relationships with parents/family (21.75% in 2018/19) mediation services can prove very effective as a prevention tool. Training is being arranged for The Housing Solutions Team to ensure staff are skilled in this area for all cases where this is appropriate.</p>
1.20	<p>The Preventing Evictions pilot was launched in November 2018 to prevent as many evictions as possible through early intervention on low level arrears and more collaborative working between rent collection and support teams to resolve rent arrears and prevent escalation via notice of possession/eviction. This has proven very successful and of the 93 cases reviewed last financial year only 21.50% were escalated within the collection teams processes. The remaining 78.50 were all resolved through a combination of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed repayment plan • Payment in full • Benefit awards • DHP applications • Third party deductions • Ongoing support where necessary
1.21	<p>As a result of this successful work, this way of working will now be rolled out to all of the Income Team and Supporting People Team to ensure the success of the pilot is shared across services and becomes an established way of working.</p>

1.22	As described previously in this report, steps are being made to bridge gaps between Housing Services and Social Care services such as the collaborative working to provide a Mental Health Worker based within Housing Solutions.
------	---

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	None at this time.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	Report presented to Community and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny on 26 June 2019, report supported.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	N/A.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>Contact Officer: Jenni Griffiths Job Title: Homeless and Advice Team Manager Telephone: 01352 702415 E-mail: jenni.griffiths@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Housing Solutions: This is the service that carried out the statutory homeless functions and supports customers facing homelessness.</p> <p>Housing First: Housing First is an approach that offers permanent, affordable housing as quickly as possible for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, and then provides the supportive services and connections to the community-based supports people need to keep their housing and avoid returning to homelessness.</p> <p>Homes in Multiple Occupation (HMO): House in Multiple Occupation: Houses in Multiple Occupation (including self-contained flats where relevant) provide small, affordable, flexible and safe accommodation for a wide variety of people including single people, students, low paid and seasonal workers, those on short term contracts and are an essential part of the housing market. They can also offer temporary accommodation for people who are saving to purchase a home. Houses that provide accommodation for at least 3 people</p>

who are not all members of the same family are known as 'Houses in Multiple Occupation' (HMOs).

Private Rented Sector (PRS): The Private Rented Sector (PRS) is a classification of housing in the UK. The basic Private Rented Sector definition is: property owned by a landlord and leased to a tenant. The landlord, in this case, could be an individual, a property company or an institutional investor.

This page is intentionally left blank



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Welfare Reform Update
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management & Assets
Report Author	Chief Officer (Housing & Assets)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Welfare Reform will, by 2020, have reduced expenditure on social security benefits available to low income working-age households by around £31¹ billion per annum.

Since 2012, Flintshire County Council, together with its partners, have attempted to mitigate the full impacts of the reforms from falling upon vulnerable Flintshire residents and the report considers how to continue managing the impacts of the reforms introduced under the provisions of the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016.

This report provides an update to Cabinet on the impacts that Universal Credit 'Full Service' and other welfare reforms are having on Flintshire residents and the work that is ongoing to mitigate and support these households. It also includes details of plans for the work that is required to support Flintshire residents.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Cabinet to support the report and the ongoing work to manage the impacts that Welfare Reforms has and will continue to have upon Flintshire's most vulnerable households.
---	---

¹ The Welfare Reform Act 2012 introduced reforms that reduced expenditure on social security benefits by £19 billion pa and the Welfare Reform and Work Act 2016 is introducing reforms which will reduce expenditure by a further £12 billion pa.

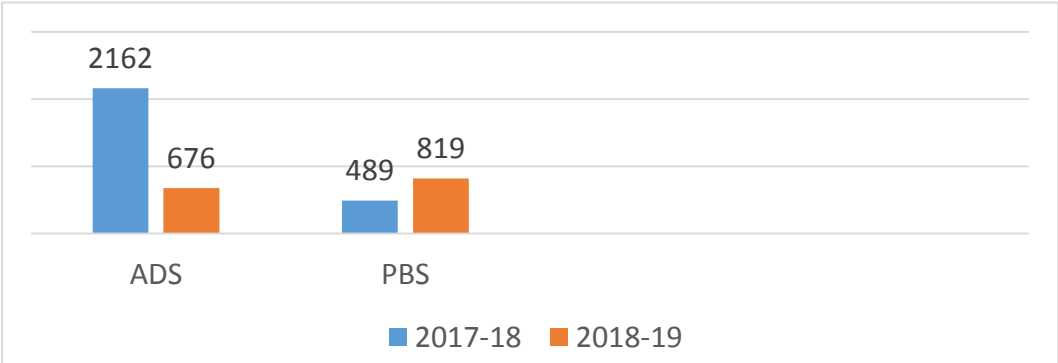
REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXISTING WELFARE REFORMS – THE WALES PICTURE
1.01	<p>Removal of the Spare Room Subsidy (Flintshire specific is referred to later in this report). – More commonly referred to as the Bedroom Tax, this reform relates to restrictions to Housing Benefit or Universal Credit where the claimant is under occupying the property. The restrictions are:</p> <p>14% reduction to the eligible rent where a person has one or more “spare bedroom” 25% reduction to the eligible rent where a claimant has two or more “spare bedrooms”</p>
1.02	According to a Welsh Government Report – “Impact of welfare reform on households in Wales 2019” (link at 6.02), as at August 2018, 25,890 (12 per cent) recipients of Housing Benefit in Wales had a reduction to their weekly award.
1.03	The majority of those affected recipients (81 per cent) in Wales were deemed to be under-occupying their property by one room. The means weekly spare room reduction amount in Wales in August 2018 was £15.83 per person.
1.04	Benefit Cap (Flintshire specific is referred to later in this report)
1.05	At August 2018, 2,870 households in Wales had their Housing Benefit capped; 90 per cent of those had between 1 and 4 children and 10 percent of those had 5 or more children. 77 per cent of households in Wales that had their Housing Benefit capped at August 2018 were single-parent families.
1.06	All of the households in Wales that had their Universal Credit (UC) capped as at August 2018 were households with children. At August 2018, the majority (71 per cent) of households in Wales that had their UC capped were capped by the equivalent of £50 or less a week.
1.07	Universal Credit (Flintshire specific is referred to later in this report).
1.08	As at February 2019 the DWP confirmed 87,000 customers in Wales were in receipt of UC of which 34% were working. The number of customers working are comparable with those working in the rest of the United Kingdom.
1.09	Welfare Reform Impact – Flintshire
1.10	Bedroom Tax

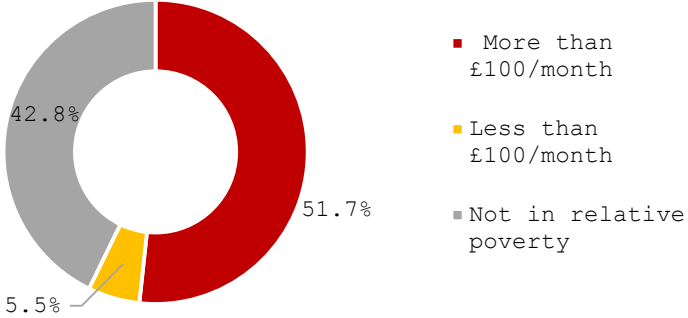
1.11	<p style="text-align: center;">Households Affected by "Bedroom Tax"</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>14% Reduction</th> <th>25% Reduction</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>LA</td> <td>405</td> <td>118</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RSL</td> <td>124</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Boarders</td> <td>5</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category	14% Reduction	25% Reduction	LA	405	118	RSL	124	25	Boarders	5	0
Category	14% Reduction	25% Reduction											
LA	405	118											
RSL	124	25											
Boarders	5	0											
1.12	<p>At March 2019, a total of 677 households were impacted by the Bedroom Tax as detailed below:-</p> <p>534 households are affected by a 14% reduction. These households comprise of:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 405 LA properties totalling a weekly reduction of £5508.84; • 124 Registered Social Landlord households totalling a weekly reduction of £1798.13 and; • 5 private boarders totalling a weekly reduction of £88.37. <p>The above deduction is at a cost of £7395.34 per week and equates to £384,557.68 per annum.</p>												
1.13	<p>143 households are affected by a 25% reduction. These households comprise of :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 118 LA properties with a weekly reduction of £2933.21 and; • 25 Registered Social Landlords households with a weekly reduction of £629.91 <p>The above deduction is at a cost of £3563.12 per week and equates to £185,282 per annum.</p>												
1.14	<p>Below shows the Flintshire locations with the highest proportion of this welfare reform impact.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 34 LA properties within CH4 • 99 LA properties within CH5 • 71 LA properties within CH6 • 79 LA properties within CH7 • 100 LA properties within CH8 												
1.15	<p>Benefit Cap</p>												

1.16	<p>The total amount of annual 'out of work' benefit income which a 'working-age' household can receive is set at (figures for households outside of greater London):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ £20,000² for couples and lone parents (£383.56pw) ▪ £13,400 for single claimants (£256.99pw)
1.17	<p>Comparing data from June 2017 to December 2018, the number of households affected by the benefit cap has reduced by 18% from 114 households to 93 households. (This reduction is likely to be due to customers having a change in their circumstances that may provide them with an exemption from the Cap, such as starting work or entitlement to a disability related benefit) However, those who are affected by this reform tend to experience a greater reduction in their weekly income.</p>
1.18	<p>49 of these households have been identified as being at financial risk and there is support available by the Welfare Reform Response Team within the Council, to ensure where possible, they don't reach crisis point.</p>
1.19	<p>Universal Credit</p>
1.20	<p>As at April 2019 the caseload for Flintshire customers in receipt of UC was 5,790 compared to a caseload of 3,623 in June 2018 which equates to a 59.81% increase.</p>
1.21	<p>In Flintshire the current UC caseload confirms 41.39% of those customers (3,623) are working which is slightly higher than the national average which stands at 34%.</p>
1.22	<p>There has been a decrease of 8% in the total caseload for Housing Benefit (HB) and Council Tax Reduction (CTRS). This is likely to reflect households moving onto UC and not claiming CTRS.</p>
1.23	<p>However to mitigate against the reduction in CTRS claims we are actively promoting CTRS and there is a working group focused on this area. This group is working on a range of activities such as cross referencing Free School Meal data to identify any potential entitlement, the creation of promotional material, leaflets, the use of Social Media, attending community events etc. to promote CTRS. The results of this campaign will be available later in the year.</p>
1.24	<p>As at April 2019 there were 546 Flintshire Council House tenants in receipt of UC and the total amount of rent arrears for these tenants was approximately £567,000.</p> <p>As Flintshire was a pilot area for UC the impacts of this change have been more pronounced at an early stage when compared with other areas that moved onto UC later in the rollout programme. This reflects changes to UC as it was being developed in a 'live' environment, as such these impacts are likely to be more pronounced for the early pilot areas.</p>

² For information - in Greater London area the benefit cap is set at £23,000 for couples/lone parents and £15,410 for single claimants.

1.25	The impacts on rent arrears are also being experienced by other Social Landlords. One Housing Association confirmed that as at the end of March 2019, 760 tenants were in receipt of UC and that the arrears for these tenants was around £321,000.									
	Update on Our Continuation of the Local / Internal Service									
1.26	Without prior announcement, on 1 st October, DWP published their decision that from 1 st April 2019 they would no longer fund Local Authorities to provide Universal Support (which consisted of personal budgeting and digital assistance) but instead Citizens Advice (England and Wales) and Citizens Advice Scotland would take on the responsibility for delivering the replacement service which is called “help to claim process”.									
1.27	<p>The provision in Flintshire is being delivered by neighbouring Chester West Citizens Advice for 18.5hrs per week as follows:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Monday</td> <td>Mold Job Centre</td> <td>9.30 to 2.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday</td> <td>Shotton Job Centre</td> <td>9.30 to 2.30</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday</td> <td>Flint Job Centre</td> <td>9.30 to 2.30</td> </tr> </table> <p>These sessions are to provide face to face, telephone and webchat support.</p> <p>This support does not include the personal budgeting support element and is only available to customers up to the date they receive their first full UC payment</p>	Monday	Mold Job Centre	9.30 to 2.30	Tuesday	Shotton Job Centre	9.30 to 2.30	Wednesday	Flint Job Centre	9.30 to 2.30
Monday	Mold Job Centre	9.30 to 2.30								
Tuesday	Shotton Job Centre	9.30 to 2.30								
Wednesday	Flint Job Centre	9.30 to 2.30								
1.28	<p>There are concerns about this model due to the limited support that is available to customers specifically around the support required with personal budgeting, which in UC is particularly significant to customers who may be entering work for the first time, or have been in receipt of benefits for some time, and for whom moving to one combined monthly payment poses a real challenge.</p> <p>Since the start of UC, the council has seen unprecedented demand on services in relation to managing their finances, navigating the UC online systems and supporting customers to understand their claims and challenge where necessary.</p> <p>The chart below shows the volumes of customers supported by Flintshire services, with personal budgeting and with their online claim (not limited to the beginning of their UC journey) since 2017.</p>  <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Service</th> <th>2017-18</th> <th>2018-19</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ADS</td> <td>2162</td> <td>676</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PBS</td> <td>489</td> <td>819</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Service	2017-18	2018-19	ADS	2162	676	PBS	489	819
Service	2017-18	2018-19								
ADS	2162	676								
PBS	489	819								

1.29	<p>The Welfare Reform Response team will continue to provide the personal budgeting support element and continue to support our residents.</p> <p>Work will be carried out to assess any further negative impacts due to the withdrawal of universal support funding and the new “help to claim” model to enable the council to direct our residents to alternative services.</p>																
1.30	Welfare Reform Response Team																
1.31	The Welfare Reform Response Team has been in place for the last two years and combines the administration of discretionary housing payment with both financial and holistic support for those customers impacted by Welfare Reforms.																
1.32	We have analysed the impact of Welfare Reforms for Flintshire residents. This detailed analysis has modelled impacts ‘as is’ and as it would be in 2020, both under the current benefit system and Universal Credit.																
1.33	The analysis has identified a number of households that continue to be highly impacted by welfare reform, and has evaluated individual circumstances using two measures of living standards; relative poverty (based on the UK Poverty Line) and financial resilience.																
1.34	This data and information is being used to form a proactive action plan for the welfare reform response team to target support to these households in order to help alleviate the impacts and also assist households to plan and prepare now for future changes.																
1.35	<p>The team support customers who have wide and varied issues and as a measure the table below provides this in more detail:</p> <p>Table 1</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Safeguarding tenancy/prevent homelessness</td> <td>337</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Immediate Needs, DAF, Foodbank, Advance</td> <td>243</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Money Advice</td> <td>218</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Benefit check/maximise income</td> <td>204</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Priority bills/debts</td> <td>234</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Non Priority bills/debts</td> <td>208</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total outcomes</td> <td>1445*</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total number of customers</td> <td>396*</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>*This reflects customers being supported with multiple issues</i></p>	Safeguarding tenancy/prevent homelessness	337	Immediate Needs, DAF, Foodbank, Advance	243	Money Advice	218	Benefit check/maximise income	204	Priority bills/debts	234	Non Priority bills/debts	208	Total outcomes	1445*	Total number of customers	396*
Safeguarding tenancy/prevent homelessness	337																
Immediate Needs, DAF, Foodbank, Advance	243																
Money Advice	218																
Benefit check/maximise income	204																
Priority bills/debts	234																
Non Priority bills/debts	208																
Total outcomes	1445*																
Total number of customers	396*																
1.36	According to our current analysis as at December 2018, 51% of Flintshire residents (equating to 5,879 households) who currently receive either Housing Benefit and/or CTRS are in relative poverty by more than £100 per																

	<p>month. The chart below provides more detail in relation to household poverty status.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Flintshire residents by relative poverty status</p>  <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Percentage</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>More than £100/month</td> <td>51.7%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less than £100/month</td> <td>5.5%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Not in relative poverty</td> <td>42.8%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Category	Percentage	More than £100/month	51.7%	Less than £100/month	5.5%	Not in relative poverty	42.8%
Category	Percentage								
More than £100/month	51.7%								
Less than £100/month	5.5%								
Not in relative poverty	42.8%								
1.37	<p>Due to the ongoing challenges of welfare reform and the impact on other services the Welfare Reform Response Team will continue to focus on supporting residents impacted by welfare reform and facing poverty to achieve financial savings and improve resilience.</p>								
1.38	<p>The Welfare Reform Team consider that their objectives include but are not exclusive to providing support to :-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Those in crisis by improving income and employment opportunities • Providing advice about reducing expenditure by Discretionary Housing Payment application and maximising income/benefit entitlement. • Help to provide short term solutions such as Discretionary Housing Payments to move home (where circumstances are appropriate). • Assist those with longer term solutions through budgeting advice and access to specialised support. 								
1.39	<p>Using the analysis, future work planning has been identified and the Welfare Reform Response Team are currently focussing support on two groups of Flintshire households who are impacted by recent changes in Welfare Reform.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 44 Mixed aged couples who are eligible for Pension Credit but are not claiming; • 28 lone parents whose youngest child will turn 5 in the next 6 months. 								
1.40	<p>Further plans have been identified which include providing targeted support to the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted employment support to 5,218 households who are out of work with low barriers to work of which 111 households in crisis have been identified as potentially benefiting from Discretionary Housing Payments. • Encourage take up of available support for free childcare to 129 households in Flintshire who are eligible. 								

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Target support to 101 households with two children who are at risk of losing support if they have a 3rd child. • Target support to 38 households at financial risk who are affected by the two-child limit. • Following changes to work allowances within Universal Credit, identify 194 households who are in self-employment and not already on Universal Credit who may face reductions. • Focus on households (equating to 1,487) who are, or will be, worse off under Universal Credit. • Target support to 93 households subject to the Benefit Cap.
1.41	Proactive work is undertaken by the Welfare Reform Response Team for cases where Discretionary Housing Payments are due to end this is to review whether ongoing continued support is required.
1.42	Flintshire's response to the implementation of Universal Credit has been seen as a model of good practice by other Welsh Local Authorities and the Welsh Government and the Benefit Department have been providing support and advice to other Welsh Local Authorities ahead of the roll out in their respective areas.
1.43	Flintshire are actively engaged with Registered Social and private landlords, Financial Inclusion Forum and Flintshire's Tackling Poverty Group to help provide support and advice for households affected by Welfare Reform.
1.44	DWP announced in March that Harrogate was going to be the pilot area for a major trial of 'managed migration' due to its diverse range of customers. We anticipate that learning from this pilot area will be shared in advance of 'managed migration' being introduced in Wales so that the team can support those customers in readiness for the move to Universal Credit.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	Reduction in the Discretionary Housing Payments Fund provided by DWP of £38,851 for 2019-20 means there is less DWP funding for residents in need of assistance (for HB and UC). This will be monitored in year to highlight any potential pressures which will be reported through budget monitoring processes.
2.02	Delivery of Personal Budgeting Support is no longer funded by DWP. However, Welfare and budgeting support will continue to be provided by the Welfare Reform Response Team due to the extra resources that have been secured for the next two years and a further financial pressure has been highlighted for year three.

2.03	The latest welfare reforms will impact on new Flintshire households, for example, working households, who may also seek advice and support on how to manage their loss of income.
2.04	To manage the increased demand from Flintshire households experiencing social welfare problems, the Council has supported the development of the Flintshire Local Advice and Housing Support Gateways.
2.05	Both Gateways aim to reduce pressures on internal and external providers by effectively triaging referrals to ensure a person is referred to the most appropriate service provider.
2.06	The team will, with the additional resources, be able to identify, plan support and undertake pro-active activities to assist residents in order to mitigate welfare reforms in 2019/20.
2.07	There are clear risks to the Council around increasing rent and council tax arrears.
	Financial Implications
2.08	From April 2019, the DWP no longer fund the Council to provide Universal Credit customers with Personal Budgeting Support and Assisted Digital Support.
2.09	Demand for budgeting support continues to increase and will continue to be provided by the Welfare Reform Response Team to all residents who are affected by Welfare Reform not just those receiving Universal Credit.
2.10	Flintshire Connects will continue to respond to ongoing demand for digital support for Universal Credit customers.
2.11	There are concerns with the Help to Claim model surrounding the date of contact versus date of claim. As previously the date the customer made contact with the Local Authority could be taken as the start date for Universal Credit entitlement. However, under the revised model this provision does not exist. The implication here could be an increase in rent arrears, access to food banks, pay day lenders etc. We will be monitoring the impacts of this model and will share our findings with both DWP and Welsh Government.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	Not applicable with this report.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	For some Flintshire households the financial impacts of Universal Credit is yet to be fully felt in terms of the time taken to receive the first payment of Universal Credit. However, the activities that have taken place and are underway to mitigate the negative impacts, as far practicably possible, have been noted in the main report.
4.02	The increase in the Welfare Reform Response Team will assist residents in dealing with the financial pressures felt as a result of the implementation of Universal Credit. The team work to directly target advice and support for households throughout Flintshire whom, due to the impact of the ongoing welfare reforms, are at most risk of losing household income, those facing increasing difficulties in maintaining their rent payments, and those at an increased risk of homelessness.
4.03	The team will, with the extra resources be able to identify, plan support and undertake pro-active activities to assist residents in order to mitigate welfare reforms in 2019/20.
4.04	<p>The DWP announcement regarding the removal of funding for the Local Authority to provide Universal Support from 1st April 2019 will put the work of the team at risk in terms of providing “wrap around” support from a single point of contact from this date.</p> <p>It is too early at this stage for an assessment to be made in relation to this change.</p> <p>However, the Welfare Reform Team will work proactively to identify the gaps in provision and provide the support to mitigate the impacts on the customers.</p>

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2019-03/impact-of-welfare-reform-on-households-in-wales.pdf
6.02	https://www.gov.uk/government/news/citizens-advice-to-provide-support-to-universal-credit-claimants?utm_source=4f4a9ae5-2d1e-4c58-acad-f05b19d5849e&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=govuk-notifications&utm_content=immediate
6.03	<p>Contact Officer: Jen Griffiths</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 – 702929</p>

E-mail:	Jen.Griffiths@flintshire.gov.uk
----------------	--

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Eligible Rent – this is the amount of rent (net of any ineligible services) that a claim for housing benefit or universal credit is calculated from.</p> <p>Financial Resilience - A household's financial resilience is measured by comparing its income with its costs, which are based on figures taken from the Living Costs and Food survey for low income households. Each household is grouped into one of four categories based on their income after costs are accounted for.</p> <p>Coping = income after costs is more than £100 per month Struggling = income after costs is between £0 and £100 per month At risk = household costs exceed income In crisis = a household's income is less than their rent</p> <p>Housing Benefit - helps tenants pay all, or part of their rent if they have a low income. Housing Benefit is administered by Local Authorities.</p> <p>Ineligible Services – These are charges that may be included in rent that are not eligible for support through either housing benefit or universal credit. Such as: heating; lighting; hot water; meals.</p> <p>UK poverty line - Each year, the UK Government publishes a survey of income poverty in the UK called Households Below Average income (HBAI). In other words, if a household's income is less than 60 per cent of this average, HBAI considers them to be living in poverty.</p> <p>Spare Bedroom – in the context of the spare room subsidy (or bedroom tax) this is where there are more bedrooms in the property than the household need. For example, a single person living in a two bedroom house would be deemed as having one “spare” bedroom.</p> <p>Universal Credit (UC) – is an integrated means-tested benefit for people of working age whose income is below a specified minimum amount. UC can be claimed by working age people in and out of employment.</p> <p>UC Full Service – in a full service area, UC will be claimed by all working age claimants who make a new claim for a means-tested benefit.</p> <p>UC Live Service - access to UC within a live service area is controlled by an ‘eligibility gateway’ which, predominantly, restricts new UC claims being made unless the claimant is a newly unemployed single person.</p> <p>Universal Support – Helps claimants through every step of making a UC claim. Offers people comprehensive and practical support they need to get their first payment on time and be ready to manage it when it arrives. It has a focus on personal budgeting advice and digital support.</p>

<p>Working Age – for social security benefits ‘working age’ ends for both men and women at the female statutory retirement pension age. In May 2016 this is 63 years old. The female statutory retirement age is gradually increasing to equalise with men (65 year old) in October 2018. The pension age for both men and women will then increase to 66 in 2020.</p>

<p>Welfare Reforms – changes being introduced to a range of social security benefits and tax credits, which aim to ensure that the United Kingdom has an affordable benefit system.</p>
--



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Joint Procurement Service Annual Report 2018/19
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Report Author	Chief Officer (Governance)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council has a joint procurement service with Denbighshire County Council, which acts as the host authority. The joint service has been in place since 2014 and Cabinet agreed to renew the Service Level Agreement (SLA) for that service with Denbighshire last year.

The renewed SLA includes an obligation for the service to produce an annual report on activity and performance against targets which are derived from the Procurement Strategy. The first such annual report is attached.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Cabinet note the annual performance report, and endorses the proposed actions to improve performance (where required).
---	---

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE JOINT PROCUREMENT SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19
1.01	The Council entered into a shared service arrangement in 2014 with Denbighshire County Council (“DCC”) for the delivery of procurement advice. DCC is the host body and employs the team who deliver the service. Cabinet agreed to renew that arrangement last year.
1.02	There is a Service Level Agreement (“SLA”) governing how the service is delivered. That SLA established a Procurement Joint Management Board (“PJMB”) consisting of senior officers and the Cabinet Member from each council. The PJMB holds the service to account, monitors performance and resolves issues relating to the delivery of the service.
1.03	The SLA also requires the service to report annually on its performance and the Councils’ achievement of their aims in the Procurement Strategy. The report for 2018/2019 is attached.
1.04	The report covers all aspects of the service such as budget and structure, as well as performance against its Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). Although the report currently shows that the service cost £4,000 more than budget, an adjustment is due that will reduce spend to within budget.
1.05	The service has recently reviewed its KPIs, keeping some and replacing others. The retained KPIs have an existing benchmark and so are measured against targets. The new KPIs do not yet have a benchmark so the Service is recording performance (from which targets will be set). The full performance tables are at Appendix 3 of the Annual Report, with the main indicators below.

Outcome 1 - The Council achieves value for money from the goods, works and services it procures

PI No	DESCRIPTION	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	COMMENTS
CPS2	Number of Procurement Challenges	0	0	0	0	
CPS3	% of contracts delivering anticipated savings	50%	50%	60%	22%	Q1 - 3 of the 6 contracts awarded Q2 - 7 of the 14 contracts awarded Q3 - 3 of the 5 contracts awarded Q4 - 4 of the 18 contracts awarded
CPS 4	% of Procurements AWARDED collaboratively	17%	14%	40%	6%	Q1 - 1 of 6 Contracts Awarded Q2 - 2 of the 14 Contracts Awarded Q3 - 2 of 5 contracts awarded Q4 - 1 of 18 contracts awarded

Outcome 2 - The Council improves the contribution its procurement activity has on the local economy

PI No	DESCRIPTION	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	COMMENTS
CPS5	% of spend with suppliers based within Mersey Dee Alliance area	37%	27%	37%	34%	

CPS6	% of spend with suppliers based within Wales	52%	44%	50%	51%	
CPS8	% of spend with suppliers based within Denbighshire	11%	11%	10%	13%	
CPS9	% of spend with suppliers based within Flintshire	28%	22%	29%	24%	
CPS7b	% of Flintshire contracts between £25,000 and £1,000,000 containing Community Benefits	83%	53%	33%	25%	Q1 - 5 of the 6 contracts awarded Q2 - 8 of the 15 contracts awarded Q3 - 1 of the 3 contracts awarded Q4 - 3 of the 12 contracts awarded
	% value of Flintshire Contracts awarded collaboratively	0%	27%	70%	27%	Q1 – None Q2 - £968,730 awarded collaboratively out of total £3,650,570 Q3 - £3,200,000 awarded collaboratively out of total £4,601,109 Q4 - £1,000,000 awarded collaboratively out of total £3,757,776
1.06	Procuring collaboratively should generate savings for both Councils by saving on procurement activity and increasing purchasing power. As such the overall level of collaborative activity is deemed to be insufficient and so the presumption is that henceforth all contracts will be procured collaboratively unless a business case to do otherwise is approved by the Chief Officer for that service. It may be necessary to extend some contracts in order to align expiration dates with DCC.					
1.07	The proportion of contracts above £25,000 (but less than £1m) in value containing community benefit clauses dropped towards the end of 18/19. This reflects the transition to social value as a more sophisticated way of achieving added benefit from procurement spend. Following the approval of the social value strategy by Cabinet in March that proportion will begin to rise as understanding of how to apply the new policy increases, and the new monitoring methods capture the activity being undertaken.					

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The SLA states that the Council's will split the costs based on their share of the combined overall spend of both Councils. That spend will vary from year to year depending on capital projects but Flintshire broadly spends 55% and so its share of the running costs is 55%.
2.02	As mentioned within the report the service is within budget (after adjustments). DCC has recently changed the establishment for the structure which will reduce the cost of the service overall and so will further reduce Flintshire's contribution under the SLA.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	The report has been considered by the Procurement Joint Management Board.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	The PJMB meets quarterly to monitor performance of the joint service. Corrective actions are reported back to and agreed at the respective management teams by officers.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Procurement Service Annual Report 2018/19.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None. Contact Officer: Gareth Owens, Chief Officer Governance Telephone: 01352 702344 E-mail: Gareth.legal@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	Key Performance Indicator - a type of performance measurement used to evaluate the success of an organisation or of a particular activity in which it engages.

Annual Review Collaborative Procurement Unit 2018-19

BACKGROUND

- 1 The Collaborative Procurement Unit (the “CPU”) was established on 1 July 2014. It is a collaboration between Denbighshire CC and Flintshire CC. The original 3 years agreement has been renewed by each council for another 5 years.
- 2 The structure of the CPU is set out in Appendix 1 (reflecting the redundancy of the Strategic Procurement Business Partner in 2018/2019 financial year). Services provided by the CPU are set out in Appendix 2.
- 3 The CPU is part of the Legal, HR and Democratic Service at DCC, which is the host authority.
- 4 The Legal and Procurement Operations Manager manages a team of Procurement Business Partners and Procurement/Legal Support Officers whose duties are to ensure that all third party spend is commissioned and procured in accordance with each Council’s Procurement Strategy (the “Strategy”). Each Council has its own Strategy but the current versions are the same document. There is a specific section below on the Strategy.
- 5 The annual spend data for Denbighshire CC is set out below:
 - Total spend for goods services and works - £131,861,104
 - Amount of spend for Denbighshire businesses within the total spend for DCC - £43,126,045 (33%)
 - Amount of spend for third sector within the total spend for DCC - £9,168,522 (7%)
 - Amount of spend for third sector in Denbighshire within the total spend for DCC - £2,606,022 (6%)
5. The annual spend data for Flintshire CC is set out below
 - Total spend for goods services and works – £197,714,082
 - Amount of spend for Flintshire businesses within the total spend for FCC - £51,090,377 (26%)
 - Amount of spend for third sector within the total spend for FCC - £12,536,784 (6%)
 - Amount of spend for third sector in Flintshire within the total spend for FCC - £2,677,401 (5%)

PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

- 6 The Strategy was approved by each Council in 2016 to
 - a) Have a clear approach as to how each Council undertakes its procurement activities and
 - b) Adopt the principles of the Welsh Procurement Policy Statement and obligations placed upon it by the Future Generations Act, the Social Services and Well Being Act and Procurement Legislation.

- 7 The general principles contained within the Strategy are:
 - a) An integrated procurement strategy setting out the vision and objectives in relation to all third party delivered goods, services and works.
 - b) A 'one-council' approach recognising the importance of the CPU working in partnership with Services throughout the Council.
 - c) ensuring due compliance and consideration of the Public Contracts Regulations, Welsh Government Procurement Policy, the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, and other associated legislative requirements.
 - d) Considers how the Council can actively improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the local area in accordance with the sustainable development principles

- 8 An Action Plan had been developed as part of the Strategy. The Action Plan has now been completed.

- 9 An updated procurement strategy is being drafted and will be adopted in 2019-2020 following an internal consultation and subsequent approval by Cabinet. The changes to Strategy cover a change in emphasis away from the use of external frameworks and a change to each Council's use of frameworks set up by the National Procurement Service, enhanced local supplier opportunities and reference to local policies and initiatives. KPIs have also been updated (see next section). The revised strategy will also include the Council's commitments under the Ethical Procurement Code.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

10. The Legal and Procurement Manager has undertaken a review of the KPIs in place in August 2017, and has revised the KPIs after discussions with Joint Procurement Board and Strategic Planning at DCC. The new KPIs are fewer in number and relate to each Council's Corporate Plan/objectives. Some KPI's are carried forward and a target has been set for these. For the new KPI's, benchmark data is being collected and will be used to set targets in future years.
11. Appendix 3 contains the yearly figures for the KPIs. There has been a drop in the number of contracts (value over £25,000 up to £1m) where community benefits have been obtained. Flintshire CC has been re-examining its policies on the

achievement of community benefits/social value and the transition from one approach to another is believed to have impacted on delivery. FCC approved its Social Value Strategy in April 2019, and DCC is looking at setting up a Community Benefits Hub (subject to funding and project approval from Corporate Projects Board and CET). Performance is therefore expected to improve during 19/20.

PROCUREMENT ACTIVITY FOR CONTRACTS VALUED OVER £25,000 AND COLLABORATIVE PROCUREMENTS

12. Appendix 4 contains the details of the number of contracts awarded via a procurement process .It does not contain specific details about contracts awarded under the transport DPS for DCC and FCC nor call-off contracts under frameworks set up by either Council nor contracts awarded after an exception report.

14. Whilst the two Councils have agreed a collaborative approach to procurement, in practice, this has been difficult to achieve. Appendix 5 contains details of the collaborative procurements completed, in progress and those being discussed. The reason for not pursuing a collaborative procurement usually relate to different timings, different requirements or differing approaches to the procurement process. Reasons are stated in Appendix 5. It has been agreed that regular reports will be made to Chief Officers/Heads of Service so that they can see and influence the number of collaborative contracts actually being agreed.

SAVINGS

15. Appendix 6 contains the savings document agreed by Strategic Performance, Procurement/Legal Services and Finance, and which has been agreed by the Chief Executive at DCC and the Chief Officer Governance for FCC. This was an action from the 2018 Audit report into CPU.
16. Discussions are on-going across each Council as to how the savings figures will be collated and reported.
17. A spreadsheet is kept recording anticipated savings expected at contract award. It also identifies projects where a tender cost exceeds the estimated budget. The top 7 of savings is set out below:

Contract Description	Description of Savings	Estimated Value (over contract period)
Supply of lanterns for the highway (FCC)	Cost below budget following a fully	£432,323 total

	compliant procurement process	
Insurance cover (DCC)	Cost below budget following a fully compliant procurement process	£900,000
Average speed cameras (DCC)	Cost below budget following a fully compliant procurement process	£90,000
Renewal of school roof (FCC)	Cost below budget following a fully compliant procurement process	£61,400
Ventilation system Unity House (FCC)	Cost below budget following a fully compliant procurement process	£101,913
Re-wire Hawarden Records Office (FCC)	Cost below budget following a fully compliant procurement process	£57,070
Telephony maintenance (FCC)	Cost below budget following a fully compliant procurement process	£50,794

SPEND ANALYSIS

18. The annual spend across Services for each Council is attached in Appendix 7.
19. There are sums which have not been allocated across Services. This is because entries have either not been coded on P2P or are coded incorrectly and cannot be assigned to a Service. These non-allocated sums are a substantial proportion of the total spend for each Council.
20. Data is processed via Atamis spend analytics software made available and fully funded by Welsh Government.
21. An improvement in spend analysis is required to help improve Service planning for the re tender of expiring contracts, reduce the number of direct awards or extensions and identify similar spend across Services which can be amalgamated rather than undertaken separately by individual Services.

LOCAL AND ETHICAL SUPPLY CHAINS

22. All tender exercises are advertised on the Sell2Wales website and local SMEs are encouraged to register on the site by Services, and also when requests are received direct from suppliers. The use of local companies is built into the tender award criteria within legislative constraints in the form of quality considerations that are proportionate to the contract.
23. Amount of spend for Denbighshire businesses within the total spend for DCC - £43,126,045 (33%). Amount of spend for Flintshire businesses within the total spend for FCC - £51,090,377 (26%).
24. Contracts are broken down into smaller 'lots' of work where possible to allow SMEs to compete and sub contract opportunities are promoted, where possible in supply chains.
25. FCC has adopted the Welsh Government's Ethical Code of Employment in Supply Chains and an action plan is being implemented. DCC are taking a report to Cabinet in June 2019 recommending that the Code is adopted in Denbighshire. The action plan sets out the steps to be taken to implement the Code and how to imbed the principles into procedures and documentation.
26. The use of frameworks as the preferred procurement route is considered more carefully now, as it is likely that national frameworks, even those across Wales, exclude local suppliers. In addition, DCC and FCC have set up some of their own frameworks as an alternative to using national frameworks, and local suppliers have been encouraged to apply to be awarded a place on the framework. Both Councils have set up separate dynamic purchasing systems for their integrated transport services, which focus on local suppliers for local routes, and which allow new suppliers to apply to be appointed to the DPS during its lifetime.

HORIZON PROJECTS/CONTRACTS DUE FOR RENEWAL

27. Until recently, contracts have not been pushed through to the contract management module of the e procurement system. This means that there is no centralised point for contracts to be stored and monitored. This has now started to happen, but it is a Service responsibility to monitor contracts and complete tasks in the contract management module, and whilst CPU can prompt and chase, the onus is on Services to undertake contract management and monitoring. This means there is no accurate and centralised point which records contracts and their end date. Preparing for a procurement to start prior to the expiry of a contract relies upon the Service or CPU being aware that a contract is due to expire.
28. Lack of contract management processes means that some procurement planning is done late requiring a rushed procurement, or some contracts miss an expiry date and require an exception or variation form to ensure service continuity. Contract management is currently being reviewed in DCC as part of the Support Service Review.

REGIONAL PROJECTS

29. There are some regional projects on-going, but this type of activity is slowing down. There may be an upsurge as the Welsh Local Government Association propose a National/Regional approach to procurement in Wales, in the wake of the review of the National Procurement Service. This is still being discussed and is at draft proposal stage.
30. Current regional procurement projects relate to the Domiciliary Care Framework and the Learning Disability Transformation (audit of strategic plan).

NATIONAL PROCUREMENT SERVICE

31. The Councils continue to consider the National Procurement Service Frameworks (£xx million spend directed via NPS Frameworks in 2018/19) and will continue to procure from them where sourcing strategies evidence provision of value for money requirements against the Council's needs. The breakdown of spend against Service area is contained in Appendix 8.
32. As mentioned above, there is a current review on going around the National Procurement Service. Active engagement to the current and ongoing review of the National Procurement Service (and Value Wales) will ensure that any developments potentially having influence on the way that the Councils operate are considered and discussed at a Regional/National level.

BUDGET

33. Details of the budget for CPU are set out in Appendix 9. In 2018/19 one post was made redundant due to budget savings at DCC. This will be operative from 6 April 2019.

AUDIT REPORT PROGRESS

34. There continues to be progress against the actions from the 2018 Audit report. Appendix 10 contains the updated report which went to Corporate Governance Committee at DCC on 5 June. The Audit report gives a follow up score of medium assurance, with some tasks outstanding, but the majority have been completed. It indicates the direction of travel for CPU as "up".

Appendix 1 Structure of CPU



Procurement
Structure april 2019

Appendix 2

Services offered by CPU

CPU provides the following services to DCC and FCC:

Policy

- Provide advice on legislation and regulatory framework policies, that impact on procurement e.g. Contract Procedure Rules and European Procurement Directives.
- Develop, maintain and implement the Council's respective Corporate Procurement Strategies.
- Implement the Wales Procurement Policy Statement objectives as developed by Welsh Government.
- Develop and promote guidance reflecting procurement best practice.

Day-to-day Management of Procurement Matters

- Champion procurement in the Councils.
- Provide the strategic lead covering all procurement activities.
- Work with service areas to identify opportunities for co-ordination and co-operation.
- Co-ordinate initiatives aimed at improving purchasing power and lowering prices.
- Lead on corporate procurement initiatives and projects (e.g. e-procurement and joint procurement initiatives with other organisations).
- Undertake performance measurement, monitoring and comparison of the procurement function as well as suppliers or contractors.
- Carry out procurement research and Intelligence (including market intelligence).
- Report on spend across Services.
- Report on savings achieved through the procurement process.

Advice

- Advise and support service areas on the preparation of tender and pre-qualification documents including drafting specifications and terms and conditions.
- Develop and deliver a corporate procurement training programme for each Partner.
- Develop and produce clear, user-friendly guidance and information on procurement rules and best practice.
- Develop, maintain and disseminate through regular communication procurement best practice.

Appendix 3

KPIs



DCC&FCC KPI Data
18.19.xlsx

Schedule 4 Contracts Awarded by Directorate



DCC.FCC
Procurement by Dep

Appendix 5 Collaborative Procurements



Collaborative
Procurements Recor

Appendix 6

Savings methodology



Procurement
Efficiency Savings M

Appendix 7

Spend Analysis



DCC.FCC Spend by
SVC Area 18.19 (002)

Appendix 8

Budget



FCCPROCUREMENT
EST18.19(11.12.18).xl

Please note if this document has a wider circulation than Procurement Board, this appendix needs to be redacted to remove personal information

Appendix 9 Use of NPS Frameworks



NPS Tracker with Spend.xlsx

Appendix 10

Audit Update Report



D171814FJointCorp
orateProcurementRe

This page is intentionally left blank



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Fees and Charges
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Report Author	Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transport)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In late 2017 the Cabinet adopted an Income Generation Policy which set the rationale for charging and proposed an annual review of all fees and charges. The Income Generation Policy, including fees and charges and the new income streams identified in this report, forms part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

This outcome of the annual review of fees and charges is set out in Appendix A. For each charge the extent to which full cost recovery is being met – one of the objectives of the policy where desirable and achievable – is shown. Further work is required in this area. The report also proposes an approach to the annual indexation of all fees and charges.

This report proposes a policy framework that includes a consistent charging structure across all areas of service.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Cabinet approves the fees and charges documented in Appendix A.
2	That Cabinet approves the Consumer Prices Index, including owner occupiers' housing costs (CPIH), as the annual inflation index to be used for uplifting fees and charges where it is appropriate to do so (or market rate comparable/choice where applicable) along with the proposed inflationary implementation period documented in Appendix A.
3	That Cabinet support further work to establish whether full cost recovery (direct and indirect cost recovery) is being achieved for all services, where it is permissible for them to do so and/or comparable market rates are applied.

4	That Cabinet approve a three year staged approach to achieving full cost recovery (or market price comparison) for all services where it is permissible for them to do so.
5	That Cabinet approve a further review of the current Income Generation Policy, with a view to developing a policy framework for income generation to include a consistent charging and cost recovery structure.
6	That Cabinet approve the annual review of fees and charges format and request an annual report in July of each year, setting out the proposed fees and charges for all services, which will be introduced from the 1st October of the same year.
7	That Cabinet notes the additional income projects identified in Appendix B and approves the project commencement dates for each.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE LATEST POSITION ON INCOME GENERATION
1.01	With continued central funding reductions under austerity, changes in sources of funding and increasing demand for many services, Local Authorities are experiencing unprecedented financial change and challenge. By 2020, APSE predict that local government spending "...will be lower than at any time since before 1948." ¹
1.02	Despite these challenges, and in many cases as a direct response to them, there is a growing wealth of research that demonstrates Local Authorities are being innovative and taking a more commercial approach to securing sustainable income streams and financial position. This includes selling services in a commercial market where buyers have a choice of who to buy from, reviewing fees and charges for services (in many cases to reduce the subsidy required to continue to deliver them) and implementing alternative delivery models. ²
1.03	Local Authorities are required by law to have a balanced budget. That is a financial plan that demonstrates how income will equate to expenditure over the short and medium-term. The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy currently forecasts a funding gap of £13.3m for 2020/21.
1.04	The generation of additional income from fees and charges, along with specific projects to explore the feasibility of new income streams, are two of the solutions available to the Council to help meet the budget shortfall. As such, income generation forms part of the strategy of options to meet the

¹ APSE (2016) Sustainable local government finance and liveable local areas: Can we survive to 2020? Available from: <https://www.apse.org.uk/apse/index.cfm/research/current-research-programme/sustainable-local-government-finance-and-liveable-local-areas-can-we-survive-to-2020/>

² See for example: Localis (2015) Commercial Councils: The rise of entrepreneurialism in local government. Available from: <https://www.localis.org.uk/research/commercial-councils-the-rise-of-entrepreneurialism-in-local-government/> and LGA (2017) Enterprising councils: Supporting council's income generation activity. Available from: <https://www.local.gov.uk/enterprising-councils-supporting-councils-income-generation-activity>

	challenge of the Medium Term Financial Strategy with an income target of £200,000 for 2018/19, which increased to £300,000 in 2019/20.
1.05	The income target for 2018/19 was not achieved in full and there remains in the region of £170,000 of additional income to generate (once income related business planning efficiencies have been taken into account) to achieve the 2019/20 target. It is therefore imperative to maintain a focus on income generation and those fees and charges that can be reviewed, or introduced, as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy to protect Council finances.
1.06	The Council provides a wide range of services some of which customers are required to pay a fee or charge for. Good practice says that Local Authorities should have a clear rationale for charging. This should include what services are charged for, how much is charged and how charging supports the delivery of corporate priorities ³ .
1.07	The Council's rationale for fees and charges is set out in its Income Generation Policy which was previously endorsed by Cabinet. The objectives and principles of this policy include:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximisation of revenue generation with full cost recovery wherever possible; • Ensuring that charges reflect the ability to pay (affordability); • Comparability within the public sector and market; • Adopting differential pricing where warranted; • Ensuring fees and charges complement wider policy goals; • Having, as a minimum, annual increases in line with inflation; and • Transparency in charging.
1.08	The Policy identifies the role income generation plays in contributing and supporting the continuation of key frontline services. Maximising income generation streams is also a key activity and measure to support the Council priority of "Effective Resource Management" as contained in the Council Plan 2017 to 2023 under the theme of "Serving Council".
1.09	The Income Generation Policy requires an annual review of fees and charges with annual cycles of resetting fees and charges and appropriate delegations for enacting changes.
1.10	When setting fees and charges we should be aware of the complexities around charging, including Local Authorities ability to set fees and charges locally. Broadly speaking fees and charges fall under two categories – statutory fees and discretionary charges. Statutory fees are governed by legislation/regulation and may be set by Government with little or no local discretion to alter. For example, Penalty Charge Notices, Enforcement Agent fees, environmental permitting and most Planning fees. Whereas discretionary charges generally allow for greater local discretion in setting

³ Wales Audit Office (2016) Charging for services and generating income by local authorities. Available from: <https://www.audit.wales/system/files/publications/income-generation-2016-eng.pdf>

	charges. For example, allotments, Bereavement Services, market stalls and pest control. However, some discretionary service charges may be restricted to recovering the cost of service delivery only, such as Building Control and Taxi Licensing.
1.11	In line with the Income Generation Policy an annual review of fees and charges has been conducted. This review aimed to identify all of the fees/charges applied by services; the level of fee/charge applied in 2018/19, as of 1 st April 2019 and the proposed fee/charge from 1st October 2019 (including any new fees/charges). Alongside this, services were asked to identify if fees/charges are statutory or discretionary and whether the income generated from the fee/charge recovered the full cost of service delivery. The result of this review can be found at Appendix A. Identifying and capturing all fees and charges across all services is a complex piece of work to verify and the latest draft list of fees and charges is provided. Please note that whilst every effort has been made to capture a full, accurate and up to date list of fees and charges, work is ongoing and as such the list of fees and charges is subject to verification and minor change.
1.12	For ease of reference, the list of fees and charges captured in Appendix A to this report have been risk rated on a RAG (red, amber, green) basis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red indicates fees/charges which are identified as not achieving cost recovery where it is permissible for them to do so. • Amber indicates further work required to verify whether full cost recovery is being achieved (56% of the total fees/charges captured in Appendix A) • Green indicates statutory fees where there is limited or no scope to alter the amount charged. <p>In addition, cells highlighted in yellow indicate a new fee or charge and cells highlighted blue indicate where information is yet to be confirmed.</p>
1.13	The information contained within Appendix A to this report indicates that of the 605 fees/charges listed, 36% are statutory where the Authority has no or limited discretion in setting the price and 64% are discretionary where there is more room for local discretion when setting the price.
1.14	In addition to income from fees and charges a number of income projects have been identified for further exploration. An overview of these projects and the indicative commencement date can be found at Appendix B to this report.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	Additional income generated through fees and charges, and the income projects, will be tracked and monitored against the income target for

	2019/20. Failure to achieve the income target will lead to a budget shortfall, which may lead to funding from alternative sources being required.
2.02	<p>Whilst further work is required to calculate income projections for all the proposed fee/charge increases from 1st October 2019, some indicative figures have been calculated, for reference.</p> <p>It is proposed to raise the charge for the garden waste collection service by between £2 and £5 per season, depending on the chosen payment method (detailed in para 4.09 of this report) and the date the payment is received by the Council. This reflects the rising cost of delivering the service and will increase the projected income levels by between £70,000 and £130,000 per year.</p> <p>The proposed charge for the new Food/Drink Ceremony Packages under Registration Services has been projected to generate additional income in the region of £580 in 2019/20 and £850 in 2020/21.</p> <p>The new charge for the transfer of grave ownership administration is yet to be confirmed. However, comparable charges in other Councils varies from £30 to £55 for this service. Based on current service demand, implementing a £30 charge for this service would generate in the region of £15,600 per annum and a £55 charge £28,600 per annum.</p>
2.03	Further work is required to verify that the services identified as operating at cost recovery in Appendix A (those highlighted as amber) are recovering the full costs of service delivery, where it is permissible for them to do so. That is both the direct and indirect costs associated with service delivery. This work will ensure due diligence and will be undertaken by Finance Managers and the Income Generation and Marketing Manager.
2.04	Discretionary services, where the Council has a power but not a duty to provide the service, are most at risk. Achieving cost recovery wherever possible for these services is therefore a necessity for service sustainability. Where the charge applied for these services does not cover the cost of service delivery, or it is not permitted to, this raises strategic questions for the Council to consider. For example, should these services continue to be provided? If so, how will they be funded? If they are to be subsidised where will the funding come from?
2.05	As outlined in the Income Generation Policy, it is proposed that the annual review of fees and charges is overseen by Programme Boards, with any changes implemented from 1 st October each year following reporting to Cabinet in July.
2.06	Where in-year changes are required to fees and charges, i.e. statutory fee changes or other extenuating circumstances, these should be made in line with the delegated authority process (respective Chief Officer and Cabinet Member).

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	The Income Generation Policy was previously endorsed in October 2017.
3.02	It is proposed that the annual review of fees and charges is reported to Cabinet in July each year to ensure appropriate accountability.
3.03	For the purposes of transparency, a detailed list of all the fees and charges applied by the Council will, going forward, be published.
3.04	The schedule of fees and charges (Appendix A) has been considered by the Corporate Resources and Overview Scrutiny Committee on 11 th July 2019, with feedback to be provided to Cabinet as part of this agenda item.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	Maximising income generation and the annual review of fees and charges is not simply a case of increasing the fee/charge applied for services. For example, increasing fees/charges for services that operate in a commercial market to above the market rate may reduce demand for services, negatively impacting on income. Similarly, raising fees/charges to a level where customers can no longer afford them is likely to have the same effect. However, the Council does need a consistent approach to reviewing fees and charges and ensuring charging reflects the objectives and principles of the Income Generation Policy, as summarised above.
4.02	It is therefore proposed that a staged approach is adopted to raise fees and charges to a level where they achieve market rate comparison, or full cost recovery, where they are not already doing so and it is permissible for them to. To balance this with considerations of affordability, it is proposed that this is achieved over a period of three years (by 1 st October 2022).
4.03	Once services have reached the benchmark of full cost recovery, or market rate comparison, there needs to be an agreed process/formula for ensuring annual increases in line with inflation.
4.04	<p>There are three inflation indexes that the Council needs to consider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council's inflation rate, which would require a calculation of the annual increases in direct and indirect costs for each service where a fee/charge is applied; 2. Market rate comparison/choice; and 3. The Consumer Prices Index including owner occupiers' housing costs (CPIH) <p>The Council has no scope to increase statutory fees, which are set in legislation/by regulations, in line with inflation.</p>

4.05	The CPIH is an extension of the Consumer Price Index (CPI), which is used for the government's target for inflation and meets both international and European standards and regulations. CPI is used for increasing pensions and benefits, amongst other things. The CPIH is more comprehensive than the CPI as it includes housing associated costs for owner occupiers and as such it became the lead inflation index for government in March 2017 ⁴ .
4.06	It is therefore recommended that the CPIH is used as the normative annual inflation index, with market rate comparison/choice used for services where this is warranted, i.e. those that are delivered in a commercial market.
4.07	The CPIH 12-month inflation rate was 2.0% in April 2019 ⁵ and in most cases this can be applied as an annual uplift to fees and charges as part of the annual review. However, for some fees/charges, implementing an annual inflation increase of around 2% is not practical due to the minimal fee/charge in place (i.e. a 2% increase on a £2 car boot space equates to 4p). In these circumstances it is proposed that inflation increases are implemented every three years and rounded up/down accordingly. The proposed inflation uplift period for each fee and charge has been captured as part of Appendix A.
4.08	Currently, some services seek payment in arrears of service delivery, meaning recovery of fees and charges is not guaranteed. To protect income, and prevent non-payment for services, there will be greater focus on securing upfront payments for applicable services in future. This will be supported through digital mechanisms, such as online payments, wherever possible.
4.09	<p>Online payments are a less costly transaction when compared to payments made over the telephone or face-to-face. As such, the use of online payment reduces the cost of service delivery. These 'savings' in service delivery costs may then be passed on to the customer through a slightly reduced charge.</p> <p>An example would be the proposal for garden waste charges, whereby if customers pay online, and before the season commences, the charge will be £32. For those who join the scheme late in the season, or wish to pay over the phone or face-to-face at local Connects Centres, the charge will be £35 per season.</p> <p>Take up of this reduced charge will however impact on the additional income projection provided in 2.02. For example, if 25% of existing customers renew at £32 and 75% at £35, the projected additional income will be £136,000. If 75% of existing customers renew at £32 and 25% at £35, the projected additional income will reduce further to £88,000.</p>

⁴ Office for National Statistics (2017) Consumer Price Inflation (includes all 3 indices – CPIH, CPI and RPI) QMI. Available from: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/methodologies/consumerpriceinflationincludesall3indicescpihcpiandrpiqmi>

⁵ Office for National Statistics (2019) Consumer price inflation, UK: April 2019. Available from: <https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/inflationandpriceindices/bulletins/consumerpriceinflation/april2019>

4.10	The Income Generation Policy should be reviewed with a view to becoming a policy framework that incorporates a consistent charging structure, as outlined above and to include differential charging/concessions. To ensure potential economic, social, and environmental ramifications are considered this should be subject to an Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA).
------	---

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix A: List of fees and charges
5.02	Appendix B: Overview of income projects and indicative commencement date

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>Flintshire County Council's Income Generation Policy can be accessed online: https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/PDFFiles/Digital-Customer-and-Community-Resilience/Income-Generation-Policy.pdf</p> <p>The Council Plan 2017-2023 can be accessed online: https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/PDFFiles/Policy-and-Performance/COUNCIL-PLAN-2018-23-Final-English.pdf</p> <p>Contact Officer: Kelly Oldham-Jones – Income Generation and Marketing Manager Telephone: 01352 702143 E-mail: kelly.oldham-jones@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Alternative delivery models – refers to services that are not delivered in-house by the Council but through a different model of delivery such as a Local Authority Trading Company or mutual.</p> <p>Commercialisation – for the purposes of this report commercialisation is defined as “...the development of trading relationships where there is an intention to generate additional funds to ease financial pressure on council services...” APSE⁶, p5</p> <p>Differential pricing – charging different prices for the same product or service. For example, offering concessions (a reduced price) for people in receipt of certain benefits.</p>

⁶ APSE Taking a commercial approach: A guide for local councils in Wales to income generation, trading and charging. Available from:
[https://www.apse.org.uk/apse/assets/File/Taking%20a%20commercial%20approach%20-%20a%20guide%20for%20local%20councils%20in%20Wales\(2\).pdf](https://www.apse.org.uk/apse/assets/File/Taking%20a%20commercial%20approach%20-%20a%20guide%20for%20local%20councils%20in%20Wales(2).pdf)

Direct costs – costs that are completely associated with the delivery of a service or production of a product. They include things like employee costs, transport and supplies and materials.

Indirect costs – these are also known as overheads and are the costs that are incurred by organisations as part of their operations but which are not directly attributable to a specific service or product. For example, premises costs such as utilities (water, lighting, heating).

Inflation index – is a tool that measures the rate of inflation (rises in prices).

Market rate – is the usual price charged for goods and services.

Medium Term Financial Strategy – The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy covers a period of three years and collates information on things that affect the financial position of the organisation. This enables objectives to be balanced against the available resources.

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix A: List of fees and charges

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period	
Allotments										
Allotments 1/2 Plot	Discretionary	£25	£30	20	£30	0	Y		3 years	
Allotments - Full Plot	Discretionary	£50	£60	20	£60	0	Y		3 years	
Bed and Breakfast/Emergency Accommodation										
Weekly charge for breakfast as part of homeless payments for bed and breakfast/emergency accommodation	Discretionary	£16	£16	0	£16	0	N	Contribution charge towards breakfast costs. Not intended to recover full costs/costs of accommodation	3 years (next increase 01.10.20)	
Building Control										
Local Land Searches	Discretionary	£8.12	£8.12	0	£8.12	0	N	Competitive market prices	3 years	
Building Control Regulation Notices/Certificates	Discretionary	£8.12	£10.82	33	£10.82	0	N		3 years	
Buy with Confidence Scheme										
Application Fee - 0 to 5 employees	Statutory		£125		£125	0	N	The fee structure of this scheme has been revised, in line with current Buy With Confidence guidelines. These fees have been adopted across North Wales Trading Standards' Departments, and will be subject to annual review. All prices are exclusive of VAT	No/limited local discretion	
Annual Subscriptions fee - 0 to 5 employees	Statutory	£150	£250	67	£250	0	N			
Application Fee - 6 to 20 employees	Statutory		£167		£167	0	N			
Annual Subscriptions fee - 6 to 20 employees	Statutory	£300	£375	25	£375	0	N			
Application Fee - 21 to 49 employees	Statutory		£208		£208	0	N			
Annual Subscription fee - 21 to 49 employees	Statutory	£450	£500	11	£500	0	N			
Application Fee - 50 plus employees	Statutory		POA		POA		N			
Annual Subscription fee - 50 plus employees	Statutory		POA				N			
Cemeteries										
Earth Graves - Resident										
Plot Reservation/Cost	Discretionary	£285	£285	0	£294	3	Y	Cost recovery based on operatives hourly rate + equipment. Will not cover lifetime maintenance or corporate costs	Annual	
New Grave single depth 4'6"	Discretionary	£786	£786	0	£810	3	Y		Annual	
New Grave double depth 6'0"	Discretionary	£865	£865	0	£891	3	Y		Annual	
New Grave triple depth 8'0"	Discretionary	£926	£926	0	£954	3	Y		Annual	
Re-open Existing Grave to depth 4'6"	Discretionary	£559	£559	0	£576	3	Y		Annual	
Re-open Existing Grave to depth 6'0"	Discretionary	£643	£643	0	£662	3	Y		Annual	
Re-open Existing Grave to depth 8'0"	Discretionary	£722	£722	0	£744	3	Y		Annual	
Earth Graves - Non-Resident										
Plot Reservation/Cost	Discretionary	£570	£570	0	£587	3	Y		Annual	
New Grave single depth 4'6"	Discretionary	£1,572	£1,572	0	£1,619	3	Y		Annual	
New Grave double depth 6'0"	Discretionary	£1,730	£1,730	0	£1,782	3	Y		Annual	
New Grave triple depth 8'0"	Discretionary	£1,852	£1,852	0	£1,908	3	Y		Annual	
Re-open Existing Grave to depth 4'6"	Discretionary	£1,118	£1,118	0	£1,152	3	Y		Annual	
Re-open Existing Grave to depth 6'0"	Discretionary	£1,286	£1,286	0	£1,325	3	Y		Annual	
Re-open Existing Grave to depth 8'0"	Discretionary	£1,444	£1,444	0	£1,487	3	Y	Annual		
Burial of Casket After Cremation - Resident										
Plot Reservation/Cost	Discretionary	£113	£113	0	£116	3	Y	Annual		
New Cremation Plot/Burial	Discretionary	£227	£227	0	£234	3	Y	Annual		
Each ashes interment (re-open)	Discretionary	£141	£141	0	£145	3	Y	Annual		
Burial of Casket After Cremation - Non-Resident										
Plot Reservation/Cost	Discretionary	£226	£226	0	£233	3	Y	Annual		
New Cremation Plot/Burial	Discretionary	£454	£454	0	£468	3	Y	Annual		
Each ashes interment (re-open)	Discretionary	£282	£282	0	£290	3	Y	Annual		
Interments for Persons of No Fixed Abode										
Common grave space (no exclusive right of burial) Resident	Discretionary	£299	£299	0	£308	3	Y	Annual		
Common grave space (no exclusive right of burial) Non Resident	Discretionary	£598	£598	0	£616	3	Y	Annual		
Bricked Graves										
Plot Reservation	Discretionary	£602	£602	0	£620	3	Y	Annual		
New Bricked Single Depth 4' 6"	Discretionary	£1,796	£1,796	0	£1,850	3	N	Annual		
New Bricked Double Depth 6'	Discretionary	£1,962	£1,962	0	£2,021	3	N	Annual		
New Bricked Triple Depth 8'	Discretionary	£2,096	£2,096	0	£2,159	3	N	Annual		
Re Open Bricked Single Depth 4' 6"	Discretionary	£1,259	£1,259	0	£1,297	3	N	Annual		
Re Open Bricked Double Depth 6'	Discretionary	£1,566	£1,566	0	£1,613	3	N	Annual		
Re Open Bricked Triple Depth 8'	Discretionary	£1,736	£1,736	0	£1,788	3	N	Annual		

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period
Bricking of Whole Chamber & Concrete Slab (in addition to above excavation) Breeze Block - Single Depth 4' 6"	Discretionary	£1,154	£1,154	0	£1,189	3	N		Annual
Bricking of Whole Chamber & Concrete Slab (in addition to above excavation) Breeze Block - Double Depth 6'	Discretionary	£1,337	£1,337	0	£1,377	3	N		Annual
Bricking of Whole Chamber & Concrete Slab (in addition to above excavation) Breeze Block - Triple Depth 8'	Discretionary	£1,577	£1,577	0	£1,624	3	N		Annual
Conventional Brick - Single Depth 4' 6"	Discretionary	£1,412	£1,412	0	£1,454	3	N		Annual
Conventional Brick - Double Depth 6'	Discretionary	£1,693	£1,693	0	£1,744	3	N		Annual
Conventional Brick - Triple Depth 8'	Discretionary	£2,052	£2,052	0	£2,114	3	N		Annual
Whitewash Charges - Single Depth 4' 6"	Discretionary	£78	£78	0	£80	3	Y		Annual
Whitewash Charges - Double Depth 6'	Discretionary	£97	£97	0	£100	3	Y		Annual
Whitewash Charges - Triple Depth 8'	Discretionary	£120	£120	0	£124	3	Y		Annual
Other Fees									
Right to erect headstone	Discretionary	£143	£143	0	£147	3	Y		Annual
Right to erect tablet	Discretionary	£74	£74	0	£76	3	Y		Annual
Additional inscription	Discretionary	£35	£35	0	£36	3	Y		Annual
Saturday burials (in addition to normal charge) Resident	Discretionary	£345	£345	0	£355	3	Y		Annual
Saturday burials (in addition to normal charge) Non Resident	Discretionary	£690	£690	0	£711	3	Y		Annual
Saturday ashes interment (in addition to normal charge) Resident	Discretionary	£90	£90	0	£93	3	Y		Annual
Saturday ashes interment (in addition to normal charge) Non Resident	Discretionary	£180	£180	0	£185	3	Y		Annual
Use of chapel (1 hr)	Discretionary	£130	£130	0	£134	3	Y		Annual
Supply & Fix Memorial Bench (Monmouth)	Discretionary	£965	£965	0	£994	3	Y		Annual
Supply & Fix Memorial Bench (Colwyn)	Discretionary	£965	£965	0	£994	3	Y		Annual
Supply & Fix Memorial Bench (Cavendish)	Discretionary	£1,016	£1,016	0	£1,046	3	Y		Annual
Supply & Fix Memorial Bench (Westminster)	Discretionary	£1,102	£1,102	0	£1,135	3	Y		Annual
Memorial Plaque (Kelsterton Garden of Remembrance)	Discretionary	£197	£197	0	£203	3	Y		Annual
Memorial Plaque (space reservation)	Discretionary	£143	£143	0	£147	3	Y		Annual
Child's Memorial Plaque (Row 1)	Discretionary	£113	£113	0	£116	3	Y		Annual
Child's Memorial Plaque (Row 2)	Discretionary	£119	£119	0	£123	3	Y		Annual
Child's Memorial Plaque (Row 3)	Discretionary	£125	£125	0	£129	3	Y		Annual
Child's Memorial Plaque (Row 4)	Discretionary	£132	£132	0	£136	3	Y		Annual
Child's Memorial Plaque (Row 5)	Discretionary	£139	£139	0	£143	3	Y		Annual
Transfer of grave ownership - admin fee	Discretionary	N/A	N/A	N/A	TBC	N/A	Y	New fee/charge	Annual
Carelink									
Alarm installation	Discretionary	£25 + VAT	£25 + VAT	0	£25 + VAT	0	N		TBC
Alarm Monitoring - weekly charge	Discretionary	£2.20 + VAT	£2.20 + VAT	0	£2.20 + VAT	0	N		TBC
Alarm monitoring - concessionary weekly charge (in receipt of housing benefit)	Discretionary	£1	£1	0	£1	0	N		TBC
Civil Parking Enforcement									
Higher rate Penalty Charge Notice	Statutory	£70	£70	0	£70	0			No/limited local discretion
Higher rate Penalty Charge Notice - payment within 14 days	Statutory	£35	£35	0	£35	0			
Higher rate Penalty Charge Notice - no payment/challenge after 56 days	Statutory	£105	£105	0	£105	0			
Lower rate Penalty Charge Notice	Statutory	£50	£50	0	£50	0			
Lower rate Penalty Charge Notice - payment within 14 days	Statutory	£25	£25	0	£25	0			
Lower rate Penalty Charge Notice - no payment/challenge after 56 days	Statutory	£75	£75	0	£75	0			
Countryside									

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period
Hire of Wepre field	Discretionary	£260	£350	35	£400	14			Annual
Hire of Buckley field	Discretionary	£260	£350	35	£400	14			Annual
Hire of Garden Room (per hour)	Discretionary	N/A	£15	N/A	£15.50	3			Annual
Hire of Garden Room Half Day (4 hours)	Discretionary	£30	£50	67	£51.50	3			Annual
Hire of Garden Room Full Day (8 hours)	Discretionary	£50	£80	60	£82.50	3			Annual
Education Visit Wepre Half Day - per child	Discretionary	£1.50	£2.50	67	£3	20		Minimum £30 for 2 hours in 2018/19; minimum £40 1st April 19 and £60 1st October 19	Annual
Education Visit Wepre Full Day - per child	Discretionary	£2.50	£3.50	40	£4	14		Minimum £50 for 2 hours in 2018/19; minimum £60 1st April 19 and £80 1st October 19	Annual
Evening ranger talk	Discretionary	£25	£30	20	£33	10			3 years
Domestic Energy Efficiency Project (DEEP)									
LA Flex Declarations	Discretionary	£100	£100	0	£100	0	N	Fee is subject to VAT which is in addition to the charge quoted	TBC
Electoral Services									
Full register of electors and the notice of alteration (data format)	Statutory	£20	£20	0	£20	0	Y		No/limited local discretion
For each 1,000 entries (or part thereof) of full register (data format)	Statutory	£1.50	£1.50	0	£1.50	0	Y		
Full register of electors and the notice of alteration (printed format)	Statutory	£10	£10	0	£10	0	Y		
For each 1,000 entries (or part thereof) of full register (printed format)	Statutory	£5	£5	0	£5	0	Y		
List of overseas electors (data format)	Statutory	£20	£20	0	£20	0	Y		
For each 100 entries (or part thereof) overseas electors (data format)	Statutory	£1.50	£1.50	0	£1.50	0	Y		
List of overseas electors (printed format)	Statutory	£10	£10	0	£10	0	Y		
For each 100 entries (or part thereof) of overseas electors (printed format)	Statutory	£5	£5	0	£5	0	Y		
Edited register (data format)	Statutory	£20	£20	0	£20	0	Y		
For each 1,000 entries (or part thereof) edited register (data format)	Statutory	£1.50	£1.50	0	£1.50	0	Y		
Edited register (printed format)	Statutory	£10	£10	0	£10	0	Y		
For each 1,000 entries (or part thereof) edited register (printed format)	Statutory	£5	£5	0	£5	0	Y		
Marked electoral registers and absent voters' lists	Statutory	£10	£10	0	£10	0	Y		
Per 1,000 entries (or part thereof) marked electoral registers (printed)	Statutory	£2	£2	0	£2	0	Y		
Per 1,000 entries (or part thereof) marked electoral registers (data)	Statutory	£1	£1	0	£1	0	Y		
Overseas pensions - proof of life confirmation (at County Hall)	Statutory	N/A	£20	N/A	£20	0	Y		
Overseas pensions - proof of life confirmation (at home)	Statutory	N/A	£40	N/A	£40	0	Y		
Enforcement Agent fees									
Compliance Notice	Statutory	£75	£75	0	£75	0	Y		No/limited local discretion
Enforcement Visit	Statutory	£235	£235	0	£235	0	Y		
Enforcement Visit - debt over £1,500	Statutory	Plus 7.5%	Plus 7.5%		Plus 7.5%		Y		
Removal Fee	Statutory	£110	£110	0	£110	0	Y		
Removal Fee - debt over £1,500	Statutory	Plus 7.5%	Plus 7.5%		Plus 7.5%		Y		
Environmental Permitting									

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period
The local authority permits for part B installations and mobile plant and solvent emission activities (fees and charges)(Wales) scheme 2016	Statutory	Up to date information on fees are available at: https://gweddill.gov.wales/legislation/subordinate/nonsi/epwales/2016/local-authority-permits-b/?lang=en					N		No/limited local discretion
Explosives and Petroleum									
Storage of explosives up to 2000kg	Statutory	The schedule of fees can be found under Schedule 7; Part 3; of the Health and Safety and Nuclear Fees Regulations 2016. Available from: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2016/253/made					N		No/limited local discretion
Petroleum (Consolidation) Regulations 2014	Statutory	The schedule of fees can be found under Schedule 7; Part 5; Regulation 6 and 14 of the Health and Safety and Nuclear Fees Regulations 2016. Available from: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2016/253/made					N		No/limited local discretion
Food Export Certificate									
Food Export Certificate	Discretionary	£35	£35	0	£50	43	Y		Annual
Food Export Certificate visit (if required) - per hours	Discretionary	£64	£64	0	£67	4	Y		Annual
Food Hygiene Rating Scheme - Re-rating									
Re-rating inspection	Statutory	£160	£180	12.5	£180	0	N	This fee is set nationally by Wales Heads of Environmental Health Group	No/limited local discretion
Food Safety Business Advice									
Food Safety Business Advice - up to two hours	Discretionary	N/A	N/A	N/A	£150	N/A	Y	New fee/charge	Annual
Food Voluntary Surrender Certificate									
Food Voluntary Surrender Certificate	Discretionary	£35	£35	0	£50	43	Y		Annual
Food Voluntary Surrender Certificate visit (required) - per hour	Discretionary	£64	£64	0	£67	4	Y		Annual
Health and Safety									
Factual Statement - per hour	Discretionary	£64	£64	0	£67	4	Y		Annual
Highway Network									
Section 50 licence	Statutory	£464	£487	5			Y		No/limited local discretion
Emergency road closure	Statutory	£735	£771	5			Y		
Temporary traffic order	Statutory	£1,785	£1,874	5			Y		
Switching off of traffic lights (during working day)	Statutory	£120	£126	5			Y		
Switching off of traffic lights (out of hours)	Statutory	£179	£188	5					
Bus stop closure (during working day)	Statutory	£120	£126	5			Y		
Bus stop closure (out of hours)	Statutory	£179	£188	5					
Skip and Scaffold Licence	Statutory	£40	£42	5			Y		
Unauthorised Scaffolding/Skip	Statutory	£140	£147	5			Y		
Consent to temporarily deposit building materials etc.	Statutory	£40	£42	5			Y		
Unauthorised consent to temporarily deposit building materials etc.	Statutory	£140	£147	5			Y		
Land Charges									
Full Search	Statutory	£115.20	£115.20	0	£115.20	0	N	Land Charges fees calculations are set by legislation and were reviewed recently in line with the correct calculation in terms of number of searches and officer rates. Therefore no plans to review currently	No/limited local discretion
Land Charges - LLC1	Statutory	£6	£6	0	£6	0	N		
Land Charges - CON29	Statutory	£91	£91	0	£91	0	N		
Land Charges - CON29 per additional question	Statutory	£10.80	£10.80	0	£10.80	0	N		
Expedited Search	Statutory	£142.80	£142.80	0	£142.80	0	N		
Additional Parcel of land	Statutory	£13	£13	0	£13	0	N		
Applicant's additional question	Statutory	£23.40	£23.40	0	£23.40	0	N		
Liability Orders									

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period
Council Tax	Statutory	£70	£70	0	£70	0	Y		No/limited local discretion
Business Rates	Statutory	£70	£70	0	£70	0	Y		
Licensing									
HMO/Housing									
HMO Licence application fee for the first five units:	Discretionary	£307	£307	0	£319	4	Y		Annual
HMO each additional unit:	Discretionary	£29	£29	0	£30	4	Y		Annual
Service of an Improvement/Prohibition/Emergency Prohibition Notice under Housing Act 2004	Discretionary	£300	£300	0	£312	4	Y		Annual
Immigration Housing Inspections	Discretionary	£100	£100	0	£104	4	Y		Annual
Caravan Site									
New Site Licences Application 0-14 units	Discretionary	£330	£330	0	£343	4	Y		Annual
New Site Licences Application 15-49 units	Discretionary	£391	£391	0	£407	4	Y		Annual
New Site Licences Application 50+ units	Discretionary	£412	£412	0	£428	4	Y		Annual
Variation of existing licence	Discretionary	£206	£206	0	£214	4	Y		Annual
Private Hire/ Hackney Carriage Driver Licence									
Pre Licensing Checks for new Driver	Discretionary	N/A	N/A		£184	N/A	Y	New fee/charge	Annual
Grant of 3 year Joint Driver Licence - New	Discretionary	N/A	N/A		£118	N/A	Y	New fee/charge	Annual
Grant of 12 month Joint Driver Licence - New	Discretionary	N/A	N/A		£63	N/A	Y	New fee/charge	Annual
New 1 year	Discretionary	£155	£155	0	N/A	N/A		Revised charging for driver licence	Annual
Renewal 1 year	Discretionary	£129	£129	0	£154	19	Y		Annual
New 3 year	Discretionary	£216	£216	0	N/A	N/A		Revised charging for driver licence	Annual
Renewal 3 year	Discretionary	£196	£196	0	£209	7	Y		Annual
Vehicle Plate Deposit	Discretionary	£14	£14	0	£15	7	Y		Annual
Replacement Plate	Discretionary	£14	£14	0	£15	7	Y		Annual
Enhanced DBS Check (Set by DBS)	Discretionary	£44	£44	0	£44	0	Y		Annual
Change of Vehicle Reg.	Discretionary	£29	£29	0	£30	3	Y		Annual
Missed Appointment	Discretionary	£25	£25	0	£26	4	Y		Annual
Private Hire and Hackney Carriages									
Private Hire Operator Licence (grant or renewal) 5 year	Discretionary	£587	£587	0	£610	4	Y		Annual
Private Hire Operator Licence (grant or renewal) 1 year	Discretionary	£237	£237	0	£247	4	Y		Annual
Transfer of Licence	Discretionary	£77	£77	0	£80	4	Y		Annual
New vehicle	Discretionary	£194	£194	0	£202	4	Y	£101 every 6 months	Annual
Renewal vehicle	Discretionary	£165	£165	0	£172	4	Y	£86 every 6 months	Annual
Animal Licensing									
Animal Boarding	Discretionary	£136	£136	0	£141	4	Y		Annual
Home Boarding of Dogs	Discretionary	£96	£96	0	£100	4	Y		Annual
Animal Breeding	Discretionary	£211	£211	0	£219	4	Y		Annual
Dangerous Wild Animals	Discretionary	£202	£202	0	£210	4	Y	Plus vet fees for first inspection	Annual
Pet Shops	Discretionary	£131	£131	0	£136	4	Y		Annual
Riding Establishments	Discretionary	£131	£131	0	£136	4	Y		Annual
Zoos	Discretionary	£145	£145	0	£155	7	Y		Annual
Other Licences									
Sex Establishments and Sexual Entertainment Venues	Discretionary	£942	£942	0	£980	4	Y		Annual
Scrap Metal Dealer 3 year - Site (not due until 2020)	Discretionary	£565	£565	0	£588	4	Y		Annual
Scrap Metal Dealer 3 year - Collector (not due until 2020)	Discretionary	£219	£219	0	£228	4	Y		Annual
Sunday Trading - Loading Control Area	Discretionary	£75	£75	0	£78	4	Y		Annual
Gaming Establishments									
Bingo Premises Licence fees									
New	Statutory	£3,500	£3,500	0	£3,500	0	Y		No/limited local discretion
Annual Fee	Statutory	£800	£800	0	£800	0	Y		
Variation	Statutory	£1,400	£1,400	0	£1,400	0	Y		
Transfer	Statutory	£960	£960	0	£960	0	Y		
Re-instatement Fee	Statutory	£1,200	£1,200	0	£1,200	0	Y		
Provisional Statement	Statutory	£3,500	£3,500	0	£3,500	0	Y		
Provisional Statement Holders	Statutory	£1,200	£1,200	0	£1,200	0	Y		
Copy Licence	Statutory	£25	£25	0	£25	0	Y		
Notification of Change	Statutory	£50	£50	0	£50	0	Y		
Adult Gaming Premises Licence fees									

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period
New	Statutory	£2,000	£2,000	0	£2,000	0	Y		No/limited local discretion
Annual Fee	Statutory	£800	£800	0	£800	0	Y		
Variation	Statutory	£800	£800	0	£800	0	Y		
Transfer	Statutory	£960	£960	0	£960	0	Y		
Re-instatement Fee	Statutory	£1,200	£1,200	0	£1,200	0	Y		
Provisional Statement	Statutory	£2,000	£2,000	0	£2,000	0	Y		
Provisional Statement Holders	Statutory	£1,200	£1,200	0	£1,200	0	Y		
Copy Licence	Statutory	£25	£25	0	£25	0	Y		
Notification of Change	Statutory	£50	£50	0	£50	0	Y		
Betting Track Premises Licence fees									No/limited local discretion
New	Statutory	£2,500	£2,500	0	£2,500	0	Y		
Annual Fee	Statutory	£800	£800	0	£800	0	Y		
Variation	Statutory	£1,000	£1,000	0	£1,000	0	Y		
Transfer	Statutory	£760	£760	0	£760	0	Y		
Re-instatement Fee	Statutory	£950	£950	0	£950	0	Y		
Provisional Statement	Statutory	£2,500	£2,500	0	£2,500	0	Y		
Provisional Statement Holders	Statutory	£950	£950	0	£950	0	Y		
Copy Licence	Statutory	£25	£25	0	£25	0	Y		
Notification of Change	Statutory	£50	£50	0	£50	0	Y		
Betting Shop Premises Licence fees									No/limited local discretion
New	Statutory	£3,000	£3,000	0	£3,000	0	Y		
Annual Fee	Statutory	£480	£480	0	£480	0	Y		
Variation	Statutory	£1,200	£1,200	0	£1,200	0	Y		
Transfer	Statutory	£960	£960	0	£960	0	Y		
Re-instatement Fee	Statutory	£1,200	£1,200	0	£1,200	0	Y		
Provisional Statement	Statutory	£3,000	£3,000	0	£3,000	0	Y		
Provisional Statement Holders	Statutory	£1,200	£1,200	0	£1,200	0	Y		
Copy Licence	Statutory	£25	£25	0	£25	0	Y		
Notification of Change	Statutory	£50	£50	0	£50	0	Y		
Family Entertainment Centre Premises Licence fees									No/limited local discretion
New	Statutory	£2,000	£2,000	0	£2,000	0	Y		
Annual Fee	Statutory	£600	£600	0	£600	0	Y		
Variation	Statutory	£800	£800	0	£800	0	Y		
Transfer	Statutory	£760	£760	0	£760	0	Y		
Re-instatement Fee	Statutory	£950	£950	0	£950	0	Y		
Provisional Statement	Statutory	£2,000	£2,000	0	£2,000	0	Y		
Provisional Statement Holders	Statutory	£950	£950	0	£950	0	Y		
Copy Licence	Statutory	£25	£25	0	£25	0	Y		
Notification of Change	Statutory	£50	£50	0	£50	0	Y		
FEC Machine Permit									No/limited local discretion
New	Statutory	£300	£300	0	£300	0	Y		
Fast Track (Clubs)	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Annual Fee	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Renewal	Statutory	£300	£300	0	£300	0	Y		
Renewal if holder of CPC	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Variation	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Transfer	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Change of name	Statutory	£25	£25	0	£25	0	Y		
Copy of permit	Statutory	£15	£15	0	£15	0	Y		
Club Gaming Permit									No/limited local discretion
New	Statutory	£200	£200	0	£200	0	Y		
Fast Track (Clubs)	Statutory	£100	£100	0	£100	0	Y		
Annual Fee	Statutory	£50	£50	0	£50	0	Y		
Renewal	Statutory	£200	£200	0	£200	0	Y		
Renewal if holder of CPC	Statutory	£100	£100	0	£100	0	Y		
Variation	Statutory	£100	£100	0	£100	0	Y		
Transfer	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Change of name	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Copy of permit	Statutory	£15	£15	0	£15	0	Y		
Club Machine Permit									No/limited local discretion
New	Statutory	£200	£200	0	£200	0	Y		
Fast Track (Clubs)	Statutory	£100	£100	0	£100	0	Y		
Annual Fee	Statutory	£50	£50	0	£50	0	Y		
Renewal	Statutory	£200	£200	0	£200	0	Y		
Renewal if holder of CPC	Statutory	£100	£100	0	£100	0	Y		
Variation	Statutory	£100	£100	0	£100	0	Y		
Transfer	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Change of name	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Copy of permit	Statutory	£15	£15	0	£15	0	Y		
Licensed Premises 2 Machines									No/limited local discretion
New	Statutory	£50	£50	0	£50	0	Y		
Fast Track (Clubs)	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Annual Fee	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Renewal	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Renewal if holder of CPC	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Variation	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Transfer	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Change of name	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Copy of permit	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period
Licensed Premises More than 2									
New	Statutory	£150	£150	0	£150	0	Y		No/limited local discretion
Fast Track (Clubs)	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Annual Fee	Statutory	£50	£50	0	£50	0	Y		
Renewal	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Renewal if holder of CPC	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Variation	Statutory	£100	£100	0	£100	0	Y		
Transfer	Statutory	£25	£25	0	£25	0	Y		
Change of name	Statutory	£25	£25	0	£25	0	Y		
Copy of permit	Statutory	£15	£15	0	£15	0	Y		
Prize Gaming									
New	Statutory	£300	£300	0	£300	0	Y		No/limited local discretion
Fast Track (Clubs)	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Annual Fee	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Renewal	Statutory	£300	£300	0	£300	0	Y		
Renewal if holder of CPC	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Variation	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Transfer	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Y		
Change of name	Statutory	£25	£25	0	£25	0	Y		
Copy of permit	Statutory	£15	£15	0	£15	0	Y		
Listed Building Consent									
Pre-application service	Discretionary	N/A	N/A	N/A	TBC	N/A	Y	New fee/charge	Annual
Pre-purchase health check	Discretionary	N/A	N/A	N/A	TBC	N/A	Y	New fee/charge	Annual
Markets									
Connahs Quay - Thursday	Discretionary	£5.15	£5.25	2	£5.25	0	Y		Annual
Holywell - Thursday up to 3m x 3m	Discretionary	£7.70	£7.80	1	£7.80	0	Y		Annual
Holywell - Thursday up to 6m x 3m	Discretionary	£10.90	£11.05	1	£11.05	0	Y		Annual
Holywell - Thursday over 6m x 3m	Discretionary	£14.30	£14.50	1	£14.50	0	Y		Annual
Flint - Friday up to 3m x 3m	Discretionary	£9.15	N/A		N/A			Market has now closed	
Flint - Friday up to 6m x 3m	Discretionary	£10.15	N/A		N/A				
Flint - Friday over 6m x 3m	Discretionary	£11.15	N/A		N/A				
Mold High St - Weds & Sat	Discretionary	£15.45	£15.75	2	£15.75	0	Y		Annual
Mold Daniel Owen Sq - Weds & Sat	Discretionary	£14.10	£14.30	1	£14.30	0	Y		Annual
Public Liability Insurance	Discretionary	£4	£4	0	£4	0	Y		3 years
Community Pitch	Discretionary	£5.15	£5.25	2	£5.25	0	Y		Annual
Registration Fee (all markets)	Discretionary	£9	£9	0	£9	0	Y		3 years
Car Boot Space, Love Lane, Mold - Car	Discretionary	£6	£6	0	£6	0	Y		3 years
Car Boot Space, Love Lane, Mold - Van	Discretionary	£10	£10	0	£10	0	Y		3 years
Car Boot Space, Love Lane, Mold - Charity (Car)	Discretionary	£2	£2	0	£2	0	Y		3 years
Mold Indoor - Unit 1	Discretionary	£111.18	£112.84	1	£112.84	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 2	Discretionary	£175.59	£178.22	1	£178.22	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 3	Discretionary	£48.81	£49.54	1	£49.54	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 4	Discretionary	£85.04	£86.31	1	£86.31	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 5	Discretionary	£76.69	£77.94	2	£77.94	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 6	Discretionary	£131.55	£133.52	1	£133.52	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 7A	Discretionary	£63.55	£64.50	1	£64.50	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 7B	Discretionary	£84.58	£85.84	1	£85.84	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 7C	Discretionary	£63.55	£64.50	1	£64.50	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 8	Discretionary	£128.95	£130.88	1	£130.88	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 9	Discretionary	£68.50	£69.52	1	£69.52	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 10	Discretionary	£74.47	£75.58	1	£75.58	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 11	Discretionary	£51.59	£52.36	1	£52.36	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 12	Discretionary	£85.19	£86.46	1	£86.46	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 13	Discretionary	£154.85	£157.17	1	£157.17	0	Y		Annual
Mold Indoor - Unit 14	Discretionary	£139.74	£141.83	1	£141.83	0	Y		Annual
Licence Events/Car Boot Sales - Commercial	Discretionary	£85	£85	0	£85	0	Y		3 years
Licence Events/Car Boot Sales - Charity	Discretionary	£8.50	£8.50	0	£8.50	0	Y		3 years
Licence Local Produce/Craft	Discretionary	£21.50	£21.50	0	£21.50	0	Y		3 years
Licence Permits - Commercial	Discretionary	£8	£8	0	£8	0	Y		3 years
Licence Permits - Charity/Community	Discretionary	free	free		free				Annual
Parking, Parking Permits and Parking Dispensations									
Buckley									
Black Horse, Buckley	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour, 50p for up to 2 hrs	30p for 1 hour, 50p for up to 2 hrs	0	30p for 1 hour, 50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y		TBC
Brunswick Road, Buckley	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour, 50p for up to 2 hrs	30p for 1 hour, 50p for up to 2 hrs	0	30p for 1 hour, 50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y		TBC

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period
Argoed Road, Buckley	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y	The collective income from car parking tariffs are to enable full cost recovery of the service	TBC
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC
Precinct Way, Buckley	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC
Bistre Avenue, Buckley	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC
Lane End, Buckley	Discretionary	No charge	No charge	0	No charge	0	Y		TBC
Coppa View, Buckley	Discretionary	No charge	No charge	0	No charge	0	Y		TBC
Connahs Quay				0					
Maude Street, Connahs Quay	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y	The collective income from car parking tariffs are to enable full cost recovery of the service	TBC
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC
Sommerfield, Connahs Quay	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC
Millennium Cycleway	Discretionary	No charge	No charge	0	No charge	0	Y		TBC
Dock Road	Discretionary	No charge	No charge	0	No charge	0	Y		TBC
Dock Road Layby	Discretionary	No charge	No charge	0	No charge	0	Y		TBC
Flint				0					
Pavilion Leisure Centre, Flint	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y	The collective income from car parking tariffs are to enable full cost recovery of the service	TBC
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC
Allt Goch, Flint	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC
Bolingbroke Heights, Flint	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC
Richard Heights, Flint	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y	TBC	
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y	TBC	
Feather Street, Flint	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour, 50p for up to 2 hrs	30p for 1 hour, 50p for up to 2 hrs	0	30p for 1 hour, 50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y	TBC	
Swan Street, Flint	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y	TBC	
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y	TBC	
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y	TBC	
Railway Station, Flint	Discretionary	£2.00 for all day	£2.00 for all day	0	£2.00 for all day	0	Y	TBC	
Castle Street, Flint	Discretionary			0		0	Y	TBC	
Holywell				0					
Leisure Centre / Sommerfield, Holywell	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y	TBC	
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y	TBC	
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y	TBC	
	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y	TBC	

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period	
Plas yn Dre, Holywell	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y	The collective income from car parking tariffs are to enable full cost recovery of the service	TBC	
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC	
Bevans Yard, Holywell	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y		TBC	
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y		TBC	
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC	
Halkyn Road, Holywell	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y		TBC	
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y		TBC	
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC	
Mold				0						
New Street, Mold	Discretionary	£1 for up to 3 hrs	£1 for up to 3 hrs	0	£1 for up to 3 hrs	0	Y	The collective income from car parking tariffs are to enable full cost recovery of the service	TBC	
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC	
Griffiths Square, Mold	Discretionary	£1 for up to 3 hrs	£1 for up to 3 hrs	0	£1 for up to 3 hrs	0	Y		TBC	
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC	
Love Lane, Mold	Discretionary	£1 for all day	£1 for all day	0	£1 for all day	0	Y		TBC	
King Street, Mold	Discretionary	£1 for up to 3 hrs	£1 for up to 3 hrs	0	£1 for up to 3 hrs	0	Y		TBC	
Grosvenor Street, Mold	Discretionary	£1 for up to 3 hrs	£1 for up to 3 hrs	0	£1 for up to 3 hrs	0	Y		TBC	
Meadow Place, Mold	Discretionary	£1 for up to 3 hrs	£1 for up to 3 hrs	0	£1 for up to 3 hrs	0	Y		TBC	
Town Hall, Mold	Discretionary	£300 / year	£300 / year	0	£300 / year	0	Y		TBC	
County Hall Campus, Mold	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y	TBC		
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y	TBC		
Queensferry				0						
Pierce Street, Queensferry	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y	The collective income from car parking tariffs are to enable full cost recovery of the service	TBC	
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y		TBC	
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC	
Station Road, Queensferry	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y		TBC	
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y		TBC	
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y		TBC	
Shotton				0						
Plymouth Street, Shotton	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y		The collective income from car parking tariffs are to enable full cost recovery of the service	TBC
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y			TBC
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y	TBC		
Charmleys Lane, Shotton	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y	TBC		
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y	TBC		
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y	TBC		
King George Street, Shotton	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y	TBC		
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y	TBC		
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y	TBC		
Ash Grove, Shotton	Discretionary	30p for 1 hour	30p for 1 hour	0	30p for 1 hour	0	Y	TBC		
	Discretionary	50p for up to 2 hrs	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	50p for up to 2 hrs	0	Y	TBC		
	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y	TBC		
Alexandra Street (P&R), Shotton	Discretionary	£1.50 for all day	£1.50 for all day	0	£1.50 for all day	0	Y	TBC		
Bridge Street, Shotton	Discretionary	No charge	No charge	0	No charge	0	Y	TBC		
Talacre				0						

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period
Gamfa Wen, Talacre	Discretionary	20p for up to 2hrs	20p for up to 2hrs	0	20p for up to 2hrs	0	Y	The collective income from car parking tariffs are to enable full cost recovery of the service	TBC
	Discretionary	£2 for up to 4hrs	£2 for up to 4hrs	0	£2 for up to 4hrs	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	£4.00 for all day	£4.00 for all day	0	£4.00 for all day	0	Y		TBC
Community Centre, Talacre	Discretionary	20p for up to 2hrs	20p for up to 2hrs	0	20p for up to 2hrs	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	£2 for up to 4hrs	£2 for up to 4hrs	0	£2 for up to 4hrs	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	£4.00 for all day	£4.00 for all day	0	£4.00 for all day	0	Y		TBC
Lighthouse Inn, Talacre	Discretionary	20p for up to 2hrs	20p for up to 2hrs	0	20p for up to 2hrs	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	£2 for up to 4hrs	£2 for up to 4hrs	0	£2 for up to 4hrs	0	Y		TBC
	Discretionary	£4.00 for all day	£4.00 for all day	0	£4.00 for all day	0	Y		TBC
Permits									
Trader Parking Permit (per annum)	Discretionary	N/A	N/A	0	£48	N/A	Y	New fee/charge	Annual
Designated and Other Parking Permit (per annum)	Discretionary	£300	£300	0	£300	0	Y	The collective income from car parking tariffs are to enable full cost recovery of the service	Annual
Resident Parking Permit (per annum)	Discretionary	£25	£25	0	£25	0	Y		Annual
Staff Parking Permit (per annum)	Discretionary	£12	£12	0	£48	300	Y		Annual
Parking Dispensations									
Daily Permit - per day	Discretionary	£10	£10	0	£12	20	N	Charge for vehicles who need to park on a traffic restriction	Annual
Weekly Permit - per week	Discretionary	£25	£25	0	£35	40	N		Annual
Pest Control									
Rats & Mice – Private Household. Potential Disease Vectors.	Discretionary	£50	£50	0	£52	4	N	£62.50 incl. VAT	Annual
Fleas – Private Household.	Discretionary	£54	£54	0	£56	4	N	£67 incl. VAT	Annual
Wasps – Private Household.	Discretionary	£45	£45	0	£47	4	N	£56.50 incl. VAT	Annual
Ants – Private Household.	Discretionary	£41	£41	0	£43	5	N	£51.50 incl. VAT	Annual
Bees - Private Household	Discretionary	£15	£15	0	£30	100	N	£36 incl. VAT	Annual
Rats, Mice, Wasps, Ants, Fleas – Commercial Business Premises & Internal Council Depts	Discretionary	£48	£48	0	£50	4	N	£60 incl. VAT	Annual
Missed calls Home Owner / Tenant not available at appointment	Discretionary	£25	£25	0	£30	20	N		Annual
Concessionary rate	Discretionary	£30	£30	0	£31.20	4	N	£37 incl. VAT	Annual
Planning									
Planning Pre -Application (Cat A - major development up to 10 dwellings)	Discretionary	£1,200	£1,200	0	£1,200	0	Unknown	Plus £160 per additional dwelling	Annual
Planning Pre -Application (single dwelling)	Discretionary	£80	£80	0	£80	0	Unknown		Annual
Planning Pre -Application (two to nine dwellings) - per dwelling	Discretionary	£120	£120	0	£120	0	Unknown		Annual
Planning Pre-Application (non-residential)	Discretionary	£80	£80	0	£80	0	Unknown		Annual
Planning Pre-Application (householder)	Discretionary	£65	£65	0	£65	0	Unknown		Annual
Compliance and confirmation letter - per hour	Discretionary	£65	£65	0	£130	100	Unknown		Annual
Planning research - per hour	Discretionary	£65	£65	0	£130	100	Unknown		Annual
Rights of Way legal order	Discretionary	Variable, approx. £2,250	Variable to cover full costs		Variable to cover full costs		Unknown		Annual
Road adoption Section 38 agreement	Discretionary	6% of bond figure	10% of bond		10% bond		Unknown		Annual
Section 278	Discretionary	6% of bond figure	10% of bond		10% bond		Unknown		Annual
Vehicular Crossings	Discretionary	£100	£200	100	£200	0	Unknown		Annual
Stopping Up Orders (minimum charge)	Discretionary	£1,800	£1,800	0	£1,800	0	Unknown		Annual
Road & Traffic Scheme Info	Discretionary	£3.00	£3	0	£3.00	0	Unknown		Annual
Search Highways	Discretionary	£12	£45	275	£45	0	Unknown		Annual
Other Planning fees	Statutory	All other Planning fees are set in legislation. Details of current fees can be found at: https://ecab.planningportal.co.uk/uploads/welsh_application_fees.pdf							No/limited local discretion
"The Planning, Environment and Economy Portfolio requires any applicant, agent or relevant third party to pay for any costs incurred by the portfolio when commissioning specialist consultant's to appraise evidence submitted to justify a development proposal".									

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period	
Primary Authority										
Primary Authority - hourly rate	Discretionary	£64	£64	0	£67	4	Y		Annual	
Private Water Supply										
Private water supply sampling and testing	Statutory	Individual priced on the basis of cost recovery including officer time, testing, and all other associated activities. Details of the statutory upper fee levels can be found at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2017/1041/schedule/6/made						Y		No/limited local discretion
Property Rental										
Licence to allow farmers to use land	Discretionary	Variable	Variable		Variable		Y		Annual	
Rental of adhoc plots of land	Discretionary	Variable	Variable		Variable		Y		Annual	
Adhoc buildings that are rented out to external clients	Discretionary	Variable	Variable		Variable		Y		Annual	
Recharge of services from Enterprise Centre	Discretionary	Variable	Variable		Variable		N	Scheduled for review with view to achieve full cost recovery	Annual	
Rental from industrial units	Discretionary	Variable	Variable		Variable		Y		Annual	
Service charges for Industrial units	Discretionary	Variable	Variable		Variable		?		Annual	
Building Insurance for Industrial units	Discretionary	Variable	Variable		Variable		Y		Annual	
Rental from farms	Discretionary	Variable	Variable		Variable		Y		Annual	
Charge for setting up Tenancies	Discretionary	£75	£75	0	£75	0	Y		Annual	
Quarry's and Landfill										
Inspection/monitoring	Statutory	Fees are set in legislation and price per site is dependent on the number of visits required. Fee legislation can be found at: http://www.legislation.gov.uk/wsi/2015/1522/regulation/14/made (paragraph 14)								No/limited local discretion
Records Office										
Reprographics (minimum charge for postal order)	Discretionary	£5	£5	0	TBC	0	Y	Fees and charges subject to future review	Annual	
Photocopies - B&W A4	Discretionary	£0.25	£0.25	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Photocopies - B&W A3	Discretionary	£0.30	£0.30	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Prints from microfilm/fiche - A4	Discretionary	£0.70	£0.70	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Scan or digital photograph by FRO Staff - A4 100gsm paper	Discretionary	£1	£1	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Scan or digital photograph by FRO Staff - A3 100gsm paper	Discretionary	£1.50	£1.50	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Scan or digital photograph by FRO Staff - A4 photographic paper	Discretionary	£5	£5	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Scan or digital photograph by FRO Staff - A3 photographic paper	Discretionary	£7	£7	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Scan or digital photograph by FRO Staff - CD of images - first image	Discretionary	£5	£5	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Scan or digital photograph by FRO Staff - CD of images - additional images	Discretionary	£1	£1	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Self Service Photography Permit - Daily	Discretionary	£5	£5	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Self Service Photography Permit - Weekly	Discretionary	£12.50	£12.50	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Self Service Photography Permit - Monthly	Discretionary	£30	£30	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Self Service Photography Permit - Annually	Discretionary	£50	£50	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Research and other professional services - per hour	Discretionary	£25	£25	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Abandoned mine plan search - per site searched	Discretionary	£50	£50	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Facilities Fee (use of FRO premises for Filming) - per hour	Discretionary	£40	£40	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Reproduction fees - in a book or periodical - per item	Discretionary	£30	£30	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Reproduction fees - Television/Internet Broadband Broadcast - per item	Discretionary	£50	£50	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Reproduction fees - Internet usage - per item	Discretionary	£50	£50	0	TBC	0	Y		Annual	
Meeting room hire - per hour	Discretionary	£40	£40	0	TBC	0	Y	Annual		
Group visits	Discretionary	No charge but donation requested	No charge but donation requested		TBC		Y		Annual	
Conservation work - per hour	Discretionary	£30	£30	0	TBC	0	Y	Plus cost of materials	Annual	
Readers Ticket	Discretionary	No charge	No charge		TBC	N/A				

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period
Registration Services (births, deaths and marriages)									
Change of forename added within 12 months of birth registration	Statutory	N/A	£40	N/A	£40	0	N		No/limited local discretion
Consideration by Registrar / Superintendent Registrar of a correction	Statutory	N/A	£75	N/A	£75	0	N		
Consideration by the Registrar General of a correction	Statutory	N/A	£90	N/A	£90	0	N		
Standard certificate for birth, death, marriage or civil partnership	Statutory	£11	£11	0	£11	0	N		
Certificate issued after registration from an archived register - priority service (24 hours)	Statutory	£35	£35	0	£35	0	N		
Certificate postage and packaging	Statutory	£3	£3	0	£3	0	Y		
Short birth certificate on the day of registration	Statutory	FREE	FREE	0	FREE	0	N		
Fee for Notice of Marriage or Civil Partnership - per person	Statutory	£35	£35	0	£35	0	N	Charge from 01/04/2020	
Deposit for Register Office Ceremonies (non refundable but deducted from full ceremony fee)	Discretionary	£30	£30	0	£30	0	N	£30	Fees set up to and including 2020/21 5% annual inflation increase
Deposit for Ceremony Room (non refundable but deducted from full ceremony fee)	Discretionary	£50	£120	140	£120	0	Y	£125	
Deposit for Approved Premises Ceremonies (non refundable but deducted from full ceremony fee)	Discretionary	£120	£120	0	£120	0	Y	£125	
Advance Booking Fee for all ceremonies between 12-24 months in advance	Discretionary	£75	£75	0	£75	0	Y		
Ceremony at Flintshire Register Office, Mold - Superintendent Registrars Office (Mon - Wed only)	Statutory	£46	£46	0	£46	0	N		No/limited local discretion
Ceremony at The Ceremony Room Llwynegrin Hall (Mon - Thurs)	Discretionary	£140	£195	39	£195	0	Y	£205	Fees set up to and including 2020/21 5% annual inflation increase
Ceremony at The Ceremony Room Llwynegrin Hall (Fri)	Discretionary	£175	£240	37	£240	0	Y	£250	
Ceremony at The Ceremony Room Llwynegrin Hall (Sat)	Discretionary	£175	£260	49	£260	0	Y	£275	
Ceremony at The Ceremony Room Llwynegrin Hall (Sun or Bank Hol)	Discretionary	N/A	£290	N/A	£290	0	Y	£305	
Ceremony at Secular Approved Premises (Mon - Thurs)	Discretionary	£360	£400	11	£400	0	Y	£420	
Ceremony at Secular Approved Premises (Fri)	Discretionary	£435	£485	11	£485	0	Y	£505	
Ceremony at Secular Approved Premises (Sat)	Discretionary	£455	£505	11	£505	0	Y	£530	
Ceremony at Secular Approved Premises (Sun or Bank Hol)	Discretionary	£510	£565	11	£565	0	Y	£590	
Marriage at Place of Worship (Registrars attendance to register marriage)	Statutory	£86	£86	0	£86	0	Y		No/limited local discretion
Celebrants attendance at Celebratory Services at the Ceremony Room (Mon - Thur)	Discretionary	Not applicable - changes in classifications	£120	N/A	£125	4	Y	£125	d including 2020/21 inflation increase
Celebrants attendance at Celebratory Services at the Ceremony Room (Fri)	Discretionary		£220	N/A	£220	0	Y	£230	
Celebrants attendance at Celebratory Services at the Ceremony Room (Sat)	Discretionary		£270	N/A	£285	6	Y	£285	
Celebrants attendance at Celebratory Services at the Ceremony Room (Sun or Bank Hol)	Discretionary		£315	N/A	£330	5	Y	£330	
Celebrants attendance at Celebratory Services at an Approved Premises (Mon - Thur)	Discretionary		£205	N/A	£205	0	Y	£215	

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period	
Celebrants attendance at Celebratory Services at an Approved Premises (Fri)	Discretionary	No	£240	N/A	£240	0	Y	£250	Fees set up to an annual increase of 5%	
Celebrants attendance at Celebratory Services at an Approved Premises (Sat)	Discretionary		£315	N/A	£315	0	Y	£330		
Celebrants attendance at Celebratory Services at an Approved Premises (Sun or Bank Hol)	Discretionary		£380	N/A	£380	0	Y	£400		
Approved Premises Applications - Secular Premises - New application	Discretionary		£1,050	£1,450	38	£1,450	0	Y		£1,520
Approved Premises Applications - Secular Premises - Renewal application	Discretionary		£950	£1,340	41	£1,340	0	Y		£1,400
Approved Premises Applications - Religious Premises - New application	Discretionary		£830	£830	0	£830	0	Y		
Approved Premises Applications - Religious Premises - Renewal	Discretionary		£567	£567	0	£567	0	Y		
Ceremony Drink/Food Package - non-refundable deposit (packages 1 to 5)	Discretionary	N/A	N/A	N/A	£60	N/A	Y	New fee/charge Food and drink packages are additional	Annual	
Ceremony Drink/Food Package - non-refundable deposit (package 6)	Discretionary	N/A	N/A	N/A	£16	N/A	Y	New fee/charge Food and drink packages are additional	Annual	
Rights of Way										
Temporary closures and extensions by Order	Discretionary	£1,670	£1,720	3	£1,772	3			Annual	
Closure by notice	Discretionary	£500	£515	3	£530	3			Annual	
Permanent closures and diversions	Discretionary	£1,500	£1,545	3	£1,591	3		Advert costs are charged in addition	Annual	
Follow up Property Search queries - per request	Discretionary	£70	£72	3	£74	3			Annual	
Authorisation for rallies - per request	Discretionary	£100	£103	3	£106	3			Annual	
Room Hire										
Greenfield Enterprise Centre										
Mill Suite	Discretionary	£30	£30	0	£30	0	Y		Annual	
Abbey Room	Discretionary	£40	£40	0	£40	0	Y		Annual	
Room 80 & 81	Discretionary	£40	£40	0	£40	0	Y		Annual	
Chater Room	Discretionary	£95	£80	-16	£80	0	Y		Annual	
Deeside Enterprise Centre										
Gloucester Room	Discretionary	£80	£80	0	£80	0	Y		Annual	
Meeting Room 1	Discretionary	£30	£30	0	£30	0	Y		Annual	
Meeting Room 2	Discretionary	£30	£30	0	£30	0	Y		Annual	
Meeting Room 33	Discretionary	£45	£45	0	£45	0	Y		Annual	
Roundabout Sponsorship										
Sponsorship of a Band A Roundabout	Discretionary	£2,500	£2,500	0	£2,500	0	Y		Annual	
Sponsorship of a Band B Roundabout	Discretionary	£3,500	£2,500	-29	£2,500	0	Y		Annual	
Ship Sanitation Certificate										
Up to 1000 tonnes	Statutory	£85	£85	0	£95	12	N	The fee for inspecting a vessel and issuing a Ship Sanitation Certificate is set by the Association of Port Health Authorities and follows a sliding scale dependant on the gross tonnage of the vessel	No/limited local discretion	
Up to 3000 tonnes	Statutory	£120	£120	0	£130	8	N			
Up to 10,000 tonnes	Statutory	£180	£180	0	£200	11	N			
Up to 20,000 tonnes	Statutory	£235	£235	0	£255	9	N			
Up to 30,000 tonnes	Statutory	£305	£305	0	£330	8	N			
Over 30,000 tonnes	Statutory	£360	£360	0	£390	8	N			
Vessels with 50 – 1000 persons	Statutory	£375	£375	0	£390	4	N			
Vessels with over 1000 persons	Statutory	£640	£640	0	£665	4	N			
Skin Piercing Registration										
Skin Piercing Registration - Premises	Discretionary	£126	£126	0	£131	4	Y	These fees will change in year (legislative changes)	No/limited local discretion	
Skin Piercing Registration - Person	Discretionary	£63	£63	0	£66	4	Y			
Social Care										
Day Care - flat rate meal charge	Discretionary	£5	£5	0	£5	0	Y		Annual	

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period
Non-residential Care (domiciliary) - Per week	Statutory	max. £80	max. £90		max. £90		N	This is the maximum cost for non-residential care and short term care stays that are no longer than 8 weeks. If service users have over £24,000 then they will automatically pay this charge. Any service user with capital less than this will be financially assessed based on their ability to pay.	No/limited local discretion
Night care (non-residential) - per week	Statutory	max. £80	max. £90	12.5	max. £90		N		
Adult placement scheme	Statutory	max. £80	max. £90	12.5	max. £90		N		
Short-term care (Stays less than 8 weeks)	Statutory	max. £80	max. £90	12.5	max. £90		N		
Residential care - Local Authority	Statutory	£542	£562	4	£562	0	N	If an individual has capital in excess of £50,000 then they are required to fund their own care home fees. Any service user with capital less than this will be financially assessed based on their ability to pay.	Annual
Residential EMI care - Local Authority	Discretionary	£564	£585	4	£585	0	N		
Residential care - private/independent	Statutory						N	If an individual has capital in excess of £50,000 then they are required to fund their own care home fees. Any service user with capital less than this will be financially assessed based on their ability to pay.	No/limited local discretion
Temporary Residential Care - LA/Private	Statutory	£0	£0		£0		N		
Residential care - private/independent (self-funded)		Determined by the provider							
Day Centre full day	Discretionary	£22	£25	13	£25	0	N	All Social Services fees and charges are reviewed in April	Annual
Day Centre half day	Discretionary	£11	£12	13	£12	0	N		Annual
Deferred Payment Agreed Charges - Valuations (one-off)	Discretionary	£85	£85	0	£85	0	Y		Annual
Deferred Payment Agreed Charges - Legal Fees (one-off)	Discretionary	£400	£400	0	£400	0	Y		Annual
Deferred Payment Agreed Charges - Set Up Fees (one-off)	Discretionary	£250	£250	0	£250	0	Y		Annual
Deferred Payment Agreed Charges - Annual Administration Fee	Discretionary	£92	£92	0	£92	0	Y		Annual
Deferred Payment Agreed Charges - Interest Charge	Discretionary	0.15% above the 'relevant rate'	0.15% above the 'relevant rate'		0.15% above the 'relevant rate'		N	Interest will be charged from day 1 of the Deferred Payment Agreement and will be compounded plus an additional charge of 0.15% above the 'relevant rate'. The relevant rate is the Market Gilt Rate which is provided on the Determinants of the fiscal forecast table which can be accessed on the following website - http://budgetresponsibility.org.uk/	TBC
									TBC
Telecare Monitoring Charge - per week	Discretionary	£2	£2	0	£2	0	N		TBC
Telecare Installation Cost (on-off)	Discretionary	£50	£50	0	£50	0	N	This fee is only relevant to an individual who requires Telecare but who has no other social care needs.	TBC
Court of Protection fees - Set up fee (One off)	Statutory	£745	£745	0	£745	0	N	All Court Of Protection fees are set by the Office of the Public Guardian	No/limited local discretion
Court of Protection fees - Annual Management Fee	Statutory	£650	£650	0	£650	0	N		
Court of Protection fees - Preparation and Lodgement of COP Report	Statutory	£216	£216	0	£216	0	N		
Court of Protection fees - Annual Property Management Fee	Statutory	£300	£300	0	£300	0	N		
Court of Protection fees - Capital Under 16k	Statutory	Annual fees are 3.5% of balance held in all accounts on the anniversary of the order							
Training - non-attendance charge half day	Discretionary	N/A	N/A	N/A	£25	N/A	Y	New fee	Annual
Training - non-attendance charge full day	Discretionary	N/A	N/A	N/A	£50	N/A	Y		Annual
Stray Dogs									
Return direct to Owners	Discretionary	£21	£21	0	£30	43	N		Annual

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period
Kennel fees (per day)	Discretionary	£43	£43	0	£45	5	Y		Annual
Street Naming and Numbering									
House Name Change	Discretionary	£70	£70	0	£70	0	Unknown		Annual
Re-name of street where requested by residents	Discretionary	£112	£112	0	£112	0	Unknown	Plus £36 per additional property	Annual
Re-numbering Houses/Buildings	Discretionary	£112	£112	0	£112	0	Unknown	Plus £36 per additional property	Annual
Confirmation of addresses for Conveyancing purposes	Discretionary	£35	£35	0	£35	0	Unknown		Annual
Conversion of Buildings to form Dwelling/Flats	Discretionary	£100	£100	0	£100	0	Unknown	Plus £10 per additional unit	Annual
New road	Discretionary						Unknown		Annual
Single Dwelling, Self Build plots on existing Road/Street	Discretionary	£100	£100	0	£100	0	Unknown	Plus £10 per additional unit	Annual
New Development 2-5 plots	Discretionary	£150	£150	0	£150	0	Unknown	Plus £25 per additional unit	Annual
New Development 6-10 plots	Discretionary	£250	£250	0	£250	0	Unknown	Plus £20 per additional unit	Annual
New Development over 10 plots	Discretionary	£500	£500	0	£500	0	Unknown	Plus £15 per additional unit	Annual
Industrial - Allocation of addresses to commercial units (1 unit)	Discretionary	£150	£150	0	£150.00	0	Unknown	Plus £25 for each additional unit	Annual
Talks and Presentations									
Environmental Health, Trading Standards and Licensing	Discretionary	£64	£64	0	£67	4	Y		Annual
Trading Standards									
Measuring Instruments Directive									
Automatic discontinuous totalisers, automatic rail weighbridges, automatic catchweighers, automatic gravimetric filling instruments and beltweighers	Statutory	£64	£64	0	£67	4	Y	Minimum one hour. In order to reflect additional cost associated with examination, testing and documentation, and maintenance of MID Notified Body Status, certain classes of instrument covered by MID will be subject to additional charges.	No/limited local discretion
Cold water meters	Statutory	£64	£64	0	£67	4	Y		
Measuring instruments for liquid fuel and lubricants	Statutory	10% surcharge on top of officer hourly rate	10% surcharge on top of officer hourly rate	0	10% surcharge on top of officer hourly rate (minimum 1 hour)	4	Y		
Measuring instruments for liquid fuel delivered from road tankers	Statutory	10% surcharge on top of officer hourly rate	10% surcharge on top of officer hourly rate	0	10% surcharge on top of officer hourly rate (minimum 1 hour)	4	Y		
Special Weighing and Measuring Equipment									
Examining, testing, certifying, stamping, authorising or reporting on special weighing or measuring equipment at the place where the service is provided. 1. Automatic or totalising weighing machines 2. Equipment designed to weigh loads in motion 3. Bulk	Statutory	£64	£64	0	£67	4	Y	Fees are based on the Welsh Heads of Trading Standards Specialist Legal Metrology Cymru Group Annual Fees Guidance. Additional charges for officer travel time and equipment hire may apply where necessary.	No/limited local discretion
Weighing Instruments Non-NAWI									
Not exceeding 1 tonne - per item	Statutory		£67		£69.25	3	Y		cretion
Exceeding 1 tonne to 10 tonne - per item	Statutory		£108		£112.18	4	Y		

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period
Exceeding 10 tonnes	Statutory	Yes, unless under the Measuring Instruments (EEC Requirements) Regs 1988	£227		£234.28	3	Y		No/limited local dis
Weighing Instruments NAWI									
Not exceeding 1 tonne - per item	Statutory	£111	£111	0	£115.26	4	Y	Fees are based on the Welsh Heads of Trading Standards Specialist Legal Metrology Cymru Group Annual Fees Guidance.	No/limited local discretion
Exceeding 1 tonne to 10 tonne - per item	Statutory	£172	£172	0	£178.39	4	Y		
Exceeding 10 tonnes - per item	Statutory	£377	£377	0	£390.51	4	Y		
When testing instruments incorporating remote display or printing facilities, and where completion of the test requires a second person or a second series of tests by the same person, an additional fee may be charged	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	50% surcharge on officer hourly rate plus travel costs				No/limited local discretion
Measuring Instruments for Liquid Fuel and Lubricants									
Single/multi-outlets (nozzles):									
First nozzle tested, per site	Statutory	£125	£125	0	£129.87	4	Y	Additional charges for officer travel time and equipment hire may apply where necessary.	No/limited local discretion
Each additional nozzle tested	Statutory	£84	£84	0	£79.78	-5	Y		
Testing of peripheral electronic equipment on a separate visit (per site)	Statutory	£64	£64	0	£67	4	Y		
Testing of credit card acceptor (per unit, regardless of no. of slots/nozzles/pumps)	Statutory	£64	£64	0	£67	4	Y		
Road Tanker Fuel Measuring Equipment (Above 100 Litres)									
Wet hose with two testing liquids - per item	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	£278.75	N/A	Y	New Fee Additional charges for officer travel time and equipment hire may apply where necessary.	No/limited local discretion
Wet hose with three testing liquids - per item	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	£325.21	N/A	Y		
Dry hose with two testing liquids - per item	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	£309.69	N/A	Y		
Dry hose with three testing liquids - per item	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	£356.33	N/A	Y		
Wet/dry hose with two testing liquids - per item	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	£433.59	N/A	Y		
Wet/dry hose with three testing liquids - per item	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	£463.52	N/A	Y		
Certificate of errors									
For supplying a certificate containing results of errors found on testing	Statutory	£64	£64	0	£56.49	-12	Y	Upon request and where no other fee is payable Additional charges for officer travel time and equipment hire may apply where necessary.	No/limited local discretion
Traffic Regulation Orders									
Traffic Regulation Orders - Internal	Discretionary	£2130 - £3150	£2130 - £3150	0	£2130 - £3150	0	Y		Annual
Traffic Regulation Orders - External	Discretionary	£3605 - £4605	£3605 - £4605	0	£3605 - £4605	0	Y		Annual
Transport									
Concessionary Seat	Discretionary	£300	£400	33	£450	12.5	N	£150 per term from September 19	Annual
Replacement concessionary Bus Pass	Discretionary	£5	£5	0	£10	100	Y		3 years
Arriva Scholar Passes	Discretionary	£25	£25	0	£25	0	N		Annual
Adult Social Services - concessionary Seat (per day)	Discretionary	£7	£7	0	£7	0	Y		3 years
MOT	Statutory	N/A	N/A	N/A	TBC	N/A		New fee/charge Max fee set in legislation	Annual
Waste									
Bulky Waste Collection - Collection of 1 - 5 items	Statutory	£40	£40	0	£40	0	N		Annual

	Statutory or Discretionary	Fee/Charge 2018/19	Fee/Charge 1st April 19	%age Change 18/19 to Apr 19	Fee/Charge 1st Oct 19	%age Change Apr to Oct	Full Cost Recovery	Notes	Proposed Inflation Increase Period
Bulky Waste Collection - Each additional item	Statutory	£5	£5	0	£5	0	N		3 years
Bulky Waste Collection - Concessions for persons in receipt of benefits/OAPs *	Statutory	£20	£20	0	£20	0	N		Annual
Garden Waste Collection	Discretionary	£30	£30	0	£35	17	N		Annual
Garden Waste Collection - early bird online payment discount	Discretionary	£30	£30	0	£32	7	N	New fee/charge	
Greenfield Household Recycling Centre - small trader green waste tipping gate fee	Discretionary	£30	£30	0	£35	17			Annual
Youth and Community Services - Room Hire									
Room Hiring - 11-25 age group organisations - per hour	Discretionary	£3.66	£3.66	0	£3.66	0	N		3 years
Room Hiring - Organisations outside 11-25 - per hour	Discretionary	£4.83	£4.83	0	£4.83	0	N		3 years
Room Hiring - Profit making organisations - per hour	Discretionary	£8.00	£8.00	0	£8.00	0	N		3 years
Room Hiring - Hire on Saturdays - per hour	Discretionary	£10.33	£10.33	0	£10.33	0	N		3 years
Room Hiring - Hire on Sundays - per hour	Discretionary	£13.33	£13.33	0	£13.33	0	N		3 years

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix B: Income Projects

Indicative Project Start Date	Service
April to July 2019	Insourcing of Energy Performance Certificates for Council owned buildings with scope to offer to an external market in future
	Listed Building Consent (LBC) – enhancement of discretionary services and implementation of charge to recover costs
	Develop Depot to conduct MOTs – offered to both the internal and external market
	Transfer of grave ownership – introduce administration fee to recover cost of service delivery
	Household Recycling Centre – review of gate fee – (completed as part of 2019 fees and charges annual review)
	Reciprocal arrangement for out of county debt recovery – collaborative agreement with other Local Authorities
	Registration Services – enhanced service offering. Drinks, canapes and/or afternoon tea packages for ceremonies held at LLwynegrin Hall in collaboration with Theatr Clwyd
	Graphic Design – undertake chargeable graphic design services
	Room Hire – review of fees and charges and development of policy
Aug to Nov 2019	Carelink/Telecare – service review with potential to offer as part of a new package of at home services
	Community Centres, sports pitches and grounds – service review with an aim of implementing an updated charging policy
	North Wales Minerals and Waste Service – extend to new markets
	Explore potential of an alternative delivery model for energy services. For example an Energy Trading Company – energy supply, energy advice, audits and renewable energy solutions
	Training – offer the existing internal training to the external market
	Ashes scattering service
	Headstones – repairs and safe removal and reinstatement
	External training/consultancy charging policy
Dec 2019 to March 2020	Energy Service (domestic team) – explore range of options, incl. management fee
	Tree advisory service – offer to external market and/or potential collaboration with other Local Authorities
	Tenant liable repairs/Operational Works – service review to include exploration of potential to extend to new markets
	Enforcement Agents – notice processing
	End to end funeral packages
	Woodland Burials – marketing/promotional plan
2020/21	Suite of at home services (domestic).
	Suite of facility management services (commercial).
	Suite of business support services – HR, payroll, customer services, etc.

This page is intentionally left blank



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Revenue Budget Monitoring 2018/19 (Outturn)
Portfolio Holder	Cabinet Member for Finance
Report Author	Corporate Finance Manager
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides the outturn revenue budget monitoring position (subject to audit) for 2018/19 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.

The final year end position was as follows;

Council Fund

- An operating surplus of £0.608m (£0.931m at Month 11).
- A Contingency Reserve balance as at 31 March 2019 of £8.252m which, when taking into account the agreed contributions for the 2019/20 budget reduces to £6.031m.

Housing Revenue Account (HRA)

- Net in year expenditure was £0.067m lower than budget.
- A closing un-earmarked balance as at 31 March 2019 of £1.165m.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	<p>Members are requested to:</p> <p>Note the overall report and the Council Fund contingency sum as at 31 March 2019.</p>
---	---

2	Note the final level of balances on the Housing Revenue Account as at 31 March 2019.
3	Approve the carry forwards requested (paragraph 1.21).

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING POSITION (OUTTURN 2018/19)																																																																		
1.01	<p>Council Fund Overall Position</p> <p>The final position for 2018/19 is an operating surplus (subject to audit) of £0.608m which is a decrease of £0.323m on the operating surplus previously reported in month 11.</p>																																																																		
1.02	<p>The table below shows the outturn position by portfolio:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>TOTAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME</th> <th>Revised Budget</th> <th>Final Outturn</th> <th>In-Year Over / (Under) spend</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Social Services</td> <td>65.075</td> <td>64.163</td> <td>(0.912)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Out of County</td> <td>7.274</td> <td>9.007</td> <td>1.733</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education & Youth</td> <td>8.254</td> <td>8.073</td> <td>(0.181)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Schools</td> <td>89.706</td> <td>89.706</td> <td>0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Streetscene & Transportation</td> <td>29.879</td> <td>31.423</td> <td>1.544</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning & Environment</td> <td>5.641</td> <td>5.589</td> <td>(0.051)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>People & Resources</td> <td>4.403</td> <td>4.387</td> <td>(0.016)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governance</td> <td>8.134</td> <td>7.963</td> <td>(0.172)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strategic Programmes</td> <td>4.198</td> <td>4.179</td> <td>(0.020)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Housing & Assets</td> <td>14.640</td> <td>14.499</td> <td>(0.140)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chief Executive</td> <td>2.990</td> <td>2.554</td> <td>(0.437)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Central & Corporate Finance</td> <td>24.135</td> <td>22.178</td> <td>(1.958)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>264.328</td> <td>263.721</td> <td>(0.608)</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			TOTAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME	Revised Budget	Final Outturn	In-Year Over / (Under) spend		£m	£m	£m	Social Services	65.075	64.163	(0.912)	Out of County	7.274	9.007	1.733	Education & Youth	8.254	8.073	(0.181)	Schools	89.706	89.706	0.000	Streetscene & Transportation	29.879	31.423	1.544	Planning & Environment	5.641	5.589	(0.051)	People & Resources	4.403	4.387	(0.016)	Governance	8.134	7.963	(0.172)	Strategic Programmes	4.198	4.179	(0.020)	Housing & Assets	14.640	14.499	(0.140)	Chief Executive	2.990	2.554	(0.437)	Central & Corporate Finance	24.135	22.178	(1.958)					Total	264.328	263.721	(0.608)
TOTAL EXPENDITURE AND INCOME	Revised Budget	Final Outturn	In-Year Over / (Under) spend																																																																
	£m	£m	£m																																																																
Social Services	65.075	64.163	(0.912)																																																																
Out of County	7.274	9.007	1.733																																																																
Education & Youth	8.254	8.073	(0.181)																																																																
Schools	89.706	89.706	0.000																																																																
Streetscene & Transportation	29.879	31.423	1.544																																																																
Planning & Environment	5.641	5.589	(0.051)																																																																
People & Resources	4.403	4.387	(0.016)																																																																
Governance	8.134	7.963	(0.172)																																																																
Strategic Programmes	4.198	4.179	(0.020)																																																																
Housing & Assets	14.640	14.499	(0.140)																																																																
Chief Executive	2.990	2.554	(0.437)																																																																
Central & Corporate Finance	24.135	22.178	(1.958)																																																																
Total	264.328	263.721	(0.608)																																																																
1.03	<p>The negative movement of £0.323m from the previous month is due to a further increase in Out of County Placements, adjustments to the Council Tax collection account and various other minor changes. The reasons for all</p>																																																																		

	changes are summarised in Appendix 1 and the reasons for the projected variances in all portfolio areas are summarised within Appendix 2.
1.04	<p>Achievement of Planned In-Year Efficiencies</p> <p>The 2018/19 budget included £5.511m of specific efficiencies which were closely tracked and monitored. In 2017/18 the level of efficiency achievement was 94% which was an improvement on the 91% achieved during the previous year. The Council aimed to achieve a 95% rate in 2018/19 as reflected in the Medium Term Financial Strategy's key performance indicators.</p> <p>Within the year £5.405m (98%) of planned efficiencies were achieved which is above the target and further details on the achievement of the efficiencies are included in Appendix 3.</p>
1.05	<p>Brief Overview of the Year – Council Fund</p> <p>The Council set its 2018/19 budget on 20 February 2018 and were advised of a number of risks that could impact on the financial position. These related in particular to a potential reduction in the Single Environment Grant and further information awaited from Welsh Government over future funding of the Minor Ethnic and Language Achievement Grant (MEAG). In addition, the outcome of national pay award negotiations had not been included at the budget setting stage and this was highlighted as a significant risk to be dealt with in year which would need to be funded from the Contingency Reserve. A subsequent allocation of just under £1m was transferred to meet the one off impact of this.</p>
1.06	<p>Month 4 was the first detailed Revenue Monitoring Report for 2018/19 and an initial operating deficit of £0.660m was forecast. The actual net in year expenditure forecast was a £2.680m surplus once the positive impact of a £1.400m contribution due to the agreed change to the accounting policy for Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) and receipt of a VAT rebate for £1.940m are included. The Month 4 report recommended that both these amounts be allocated to the Contingency Reserve to support the Medium Term Financial Strategy.</p>
1.07	<p>The Month 4 report detailed a number of positive and negative variances with pressure on the Children's Services budget due in particular to the increased demand on Out of County Placements. Early projections showed an overspend of £1.577m although this was partly mitigated by other underspends within the Social Services portfolio.</p>
1.08	<p>A delay in the development of the new Rockcliffe Household Recycling site and a shortfall in the income gained from recycling contributed to a projected overspend in Streetscene and Transportation, together with a shortfall in car parking income and additional school transport costs.</p>
1.09	<p>Within the Central and Corporate budget a projected underspend in pensions and auto enrolment was reported to be kept under review throughout the year.</p>
1.10	<p>At Month 6 the position improved with the in-year working deficit reduced to £0.222m due in the main to an improvement in a number of areas including</p>

	demand levels of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme mainly due to a review of single person discounts.
1.11	At Month 8 the Council received additional grant funding of £0.611m from Welsh Government to support costs associated with Supporting Sustainable Social Services which enabled additional costs of Out of County Placements to be mitigated within the month and contributed to a projected surplus of £0.026m.
1.12	At Month 10, the reduction of a number of Out of County Placements together with some additional one off windfall income from non-domestic rates led to an increase projected surplus of £0.743m.
1.13	The final outturn is an operating surplus of £0.608m.
1.14	<p>Reserves and Balances</p> <p><u>Un-earmarked Reserves</u></p> <p>The 2017/18 outturn reported to Cabinet in July showed un-earmarked reserves at 31 March 2017 (above the base level of £5.769m) of £7.928m.</p> <p>As agreed in the 2018/19 budget an amount of £1.945m was approved as part of the strategy to balance the budget and in addition County Council on 1 March approved a one off amount of £0.460m for schools, on a temporary basis. The available Contingency Reserve at the start of the year after taking account of these contributions was therefore £5.523m.</p>
1.15	At Month 4 it was agreed that the financial impact due to a change in accounting policy for the Minimum Revenue Provision of £1.400m and a VAT rebate on some sporting exemptions for £1.940m would be transferred to the Contingency Reserve.
1.16	Taking into account the current projected underspend (subject to audit), and previously agreed allocations, the balance on the Contingency Reserve at 31 March 2019 is £8.252m as detailed in appendix 4.
1.17	<p>As agreed at Council on 18 February 2019, an additional amount of £2.2321m was used from the Contingency Reserve, on a one-off basis to contribute to the 2019/20 budget leaving a total available balance of the Contingency Reserve which can be drawn upon of £6.031m.</p> <p>In addition The Month 11 report recommended allocations from the Contingency Reserve for investment in change and to operate a Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) Approving Body (SAB). These allocations will be transferred in the new financial year and when taken into consideration the available reserve reduces to £4.969m.</p>
1.18	The table below gives a summary of earmarked reserves as at 31 March 2019. A full analysis of the movement in reserves from 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 is contained within the Statement of Accounts.

1.19 Council Fund Earmarked Reserves 2018/19

Reserve Type	Balance as at 01/04/18	Balance as at 31/03/19
Service Balances	1,515,041	855,075
Schools Balances	1,284,798	1,335,087
Single Status/Equal Pay	1,620,888	1,184,187
Investment & Organisational Change	1,439,029	1,039,115
Budget Strategy	208	208
Benefits Equalisation	318,370	318,370
County Elections	170,144	204,561
Local Development Plan (LDP)	180,000	180,000
Building Control	54,427	0
Waste Disposal	129,300	82,648
Enterprise Centres	107,918	52,554
Design Fees	200,000	200,000
Winter Maintenance	215,000	250,000
Car Parking	47,531	47,440
Insurance Reserves	1,805,026	2,113,852
Cash Receipting Review	83,625	568
Flintshire Trainees	475,662	540,766
Rent Income Shortfall	150,000	70,000
Customer Service Strategy	103,000	33,000
Capita One	18,827	18,827
Supervision Fees	48,798	48,798
Transportation Review	170,200	84,200
LMS Curriculum	779,262	383,440
Restoration of Ewloe Offices	830,000	0
Organisational Change/ADM	155,000	99,965
Emergency Remediation	50,000	0
Solar Farms	0	42,440
Tribunal Costs	0	150,000
Property Claims	0	45,000
Grants & Contributions	2,924,390	3,933,806
Total	14,876,443	13,313,906

1.20 As part of the 2018/19 closedown work it was identified that there was a requirement to set aside earmarked reserves for ongoing legal cases.

The earmarked reserves set aside were to fund two current employment tribunal cases, the amount set aside was £0.150m, and a property claim for £0.045m.

The funding for the employment tribunal cases was transferred from the Contingency Reserve and the property claim was funded from the service.

1.21 Request for Carry Forward of Funding

	A number of requests to carry forward revenue funding into 2019/20 are included in Appendix 6 and are recommended for approval.
1.22	<p>Housing Revenue Account (HRA)</p> <p>The 2017/18 Outturn Report to Cabinet on 17 July 2018 showed an un-earmarked closing balance at the end of 2017/18 of £1.116m and a closing balance of earmarked reserves of £0.802m.</p>
1.23	The 2018/19 budget for the HRA is £34.805m which includes a movement of £0.018m from reserves.
1.24	<p>The final outturn for the HRA reports expenditure to be £0.067m lower than budget (subject to audit) meaning £0.049m was transferred into un-earmarked reserves. This gives a closing balance as at 31 March 2019 of £1.165m, which at 3.3% satisfies the prudent approach of ensuring a minimum of 3%.</p> <p>£0.078m was transferred to earmarked reserves for self-insurance during the year and £0.176m of the Solar PV feed in tariff was transferred to earmarked reserves for energy efficiency works bringing the balance on earmarked reserves to £1.056m as at 31 March 2019.</p> <p>The total increase in HRA reserves for 2018/19 was therefore £0.303m.</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The Revenue Budget Monitoring Report reflects the planned use of the financial resources of the Council for the current financial year and details the variations in the first four months and the risks as known.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	None Required.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	As we are reporting the final outturn position there are no further risks for 2018/19. Any known risks with an impact on 2019/20 were included within the 2019/20 budget which was approved at Council on 18 February 2019.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	<p>Appendix 1: Council Fund – Movement in Variances from Month 11</p> <p>Appendix 2: Council Fund – Budget Variances</p> <p>Appendix 3: Council Fund – Programme of Efficiencies</p> <p>Appendix 4: Council Fund – Movement on Un-earmarked Reserves</p> <p>Appendix 5: Housing Revenue Account Variances</p>

	Appendix 6: Carry Forward Requests
--	------------------------------------

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>None required</p> <p>Contact Officer: Sara Dulson Telephone: 01352 702287 E-mail: sara.dulson@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Budget: a statement expressing the Council's policies and service levels in financial terms for a particular financial year. In its broadest sense it includes both the revenue budget and capital programme and any authorised amendments to them.</p> <p>Council Fund: the fund to which all the Council's revenue expenditure is charged.</p> <p>Financial Year: the period of twelve months commencing on 1 April.</p> <p>Housing Revenue Account: the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a local authority account showing current income and expenditure on housing services related to its own housing stock. The account is separate from the Council Fund and trading accounts and is funded primarily from rents and government subsidy.</p> <p>Projected Outturn: projection of the expenditure to the end of the financial year, made on the basis of actual expenditure incurred to date.</p> <p>Reserves: these are balances in hand that have accumulated over previous years and are held for defined (earmarked reserves) and general (general reserves) purposes. Councils are required to regularly review the level and purpose of their reserves and to take account of the advice of the Chief Finance Officer.</p> <p>Revenue: a term used to describe the day-to-day costs of running Council services and income deriving from those services. It also includes charges for the repayment of debt, including interest, and may include direct financing of capital expenditure.</p> <p>Underspend: when referring to expenditure the actual expenditure incurred is less than budget. Shown as a –ve. When referring to income the actual income achieved exceeds the budget. Shown as a –ve.</p> <p>Variance: difference between latest budget and actual income or expenditure. Can be to date if reflecting the current or most up to date position or projected, for example projected to the end of the month or financial year.</p>

<p>Virement: the transfer of budget provision from one budget head to another. Virement decisions apply to both revenue and capital expenditure heads, and between expenditure and income, and may include transfers from contingency provisions. Virements may not however be approved between capital and revenue budget heads.</p>
--

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Movement between Periods (£m)	Narrative for Movement between Periods greater than £25k
Social Services		
Older People		
Localities	-0.054	Residential and Nursing Care £0.027m due to reduction in service users, Domiciliary Care £0.026m reduction due to re-categorisation of expenditure previously costed to PDSI.
Minor Variances	-0.006	
Disability Services		
Resources & Regulated Services	-0.028	Reduction in costs of PDSI Residential Care
Disability Services	0.035	Increased costs of Day Care
Minor Variances	0.018	
Mental Health Services		
Residential Placements	-0.049	Additional internal allocation of Supporting People grant £0.035m, plus reduction of Direct payments costs £0.014m.
Minor Variances	-0.044	
Children's Services		
Legal & Third Party	0.065	Additional court costs and legal fees
Residential Placements	0.060	Costs of additional therapeutic services commissioned through Action for Children
Professional Support	0.068	Income previously assumed for Reflect Grant not realised £0.040m, plus Leaving Care £0.047m due to additional expenditure on prepaid cards and historic invoices for Accommodation costs, offset by other favourable movements
Minor Variances	0.028	
Development & Resources		
Minor Variances	-0.006	
Total Social Services (excl Out of County)	0.090	
Out of County		
Children's Services	0.141	Additional costs for 8 new and emerging placements
Education & Youth	-0.011	Minor movement in variance from across service area.
Total Out of County	0.130	
Education & Youth		
Inclusion & Progression	0.006	Minor movement in variance from across service area.
Integrated Youth Provision	-0.015	Minor movement in variance from across service area.
School Improvement Systems	0.004	Minor movement in variance from across service area.
Archives	0.001	Minor movement in variance from across service area.
Minor Variances	-0.000	
Total Education & Youth	-0.005	
Schools	0.000	
Streetscene & Transportation		
Other Minor Variances	0.001	
Total Streetscene & Transportation	0.001	

Planning, Environment & Economy		
Business	-0.015	Minor Variances across the Service
Community	0.014	Minor Variances across the Service
Access	0.057	A number of smaller variances across the Service each less than £0.025m; the largest being £0.024m being additional works carried out at a number Countryside Projects.
Regeneration	-0.022	Minor variances.
Management & Strategy	-0.014	Minor Variances across the Service
Minor Variances	-0.012	
Total Planning & Environment	0.008	
People & Resources		
HR & OD	0.030	Lower than expected physiotherapy recharges £0.008m, agreed movement to reserves for training £0.013m.
Corporate Finance	-0.055	Additional SLA income £0.034m.
Total People & Resources	-0.025	
Governance		
Legal Services	-0.019	Minor variances.
Democratic Services	0.026	Due to software maintenance costs £0.011m, unexpected additional translation costs from Conwy £0.005m and additional IT licenses for Members' Blackberry handsets £0.008m.
Internal Audit	-0.005	Minor variances.
Procurement	-0.003	Minor variances.
ICT	0.020	Minor variances.
Customer Services	-0.012	Minor variances.
Revenues	0.112	Movement on Council Tax Collection Fund due to the increase in the Bad Debt Provision £0.083m. Reduction in projected fines income for 18/19 £0.050m. Minor variances £0.021m reduction.
Total Governance	0.121	
Strategic Programmes		
Minor Variances	-0.009	
Total Strategic Programmes	-0.009	
Housing & Assets		
Property Asset And Development	-0.058	Contractor underspend of £0.050m. Other minor variances £0.008m reduction.
Industrial Units	0.095	£0.144m unachieved rental income offset by a £0.050m contractor underspend.
Housing Programmes	0.027	Transfer of £0.045m to reserves as a provision for the estimated costs of property claims. Minor variances £0.018m underspend.
Disabled Facilities Grant	0.028	Adjustment for Management Fees for 17/18 & 18/19 £0.024m. Minor variances £0.004m.
Minor Variances	-0.031	
Total Housing & Assets	0.062	
Chief Executive's	0.012	Minor variances.
Central and Corporate Finance	-0.062	Central Loans Investment Account reduced variance £0.135m. Windfall Income of £0.065m relating to Non Domestic Rate Revaluations, which related to Education portfolio. Increased Coroners costs £0.024m. Minor variances £0.015m.
Grand Total	0.323	

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Social Services						
Older People						
Localities	16.920	16.540	-0.379	-0.325	Domiciliary Care reflects an underspend of £0.228m based on existing service users, however there are challenges due to capacity of external supply markets which are currently having to be met within Provider Services. Other underspends include £0.065m on Locality team - staffing, £0.042m on day care due to reduced demand, £0.022m on Intake/First Contact due to vacancy savings and £0.012m on Minor Adaptations. Other minor underspends amount to a net £0.010m.	Future budget monitoring will reflect changes in demand for care and market capacity issues
Community Equipment Contribution	0.473	0.326	-0.148	-0.144	Following review and implementation of an updated Section 33 partnership agreement for the North East Wales Community Equipment Store (NEWCES), the contribution levels of partners have reduced. In the longer term this saving has been earmarked for funding of some of the revenue costs for the new extra care facilities.	This underspend is earmarked for use in 2019/20 and beyond to fund some of the additional budget required for new extra care facilities.
Resources & Regulated Services	6.602	6.461	-0.141	-0.133	The main influence on the net projected underspend of £0.141m is extra care schemes where there is a projected underspend of £0.433m due mostly to the delay to the opening of the new Llys Raddington extra care facility and additional grant income. This is offset by a projected overspend of £0.125m on Home Care due to the need to cover capacity gaps in purchased Domiciliary Care. There are also overspends amounting to a total of £0.166m on Residential Care and Day Centres.	
Minor Variances	0.877	0.837	-0.041	-0.048		
Disability Services						
Resources & Regulated Services	23.078	22.937	-0.141	-0.114	There are underspends of £0.090m on PDSI services, due to a number of service users having passed away, and £0.057m for In-house Supported Living, due to additional income from Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) offset by a net overspend of £0.006m from externally provided Supported Living and LD Work Opportunities/Day Centres.	
Disability Services	0.533	0.410	-0.122	-0.158	The underspend is mainly due to increased levels of contributions from BCUHB for two service users.	
Administrative Support	0.194	0.141	-0.053	-0.066	The underspend is influenced by a combination of vacancy savings and budget provision at the top of grades for staff who are currently paid below the top of grades.	
Minor Variances	0.787	0.753	-0.033	-0.038		
Mental Health Services						
Residential Placements	1.184	1.471	0.286	0.335	Ongoing pressure due to the numbers of long term residential placements, including four new placements, despite maximisation of opportunities to secure joint funding contributions from BCUHB. The overspend is offset by £0.150m additional WG grant income.	
Professional Support	0.774	0.721	-0.053	-0.037	Underspend due to some staff being below the top of grade and additional income from BCUHB	
Minor Variances	1.841	1.788	-0.052	-0.025		

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Children's Services						
Family Placement	2.564	2.702	0.138	0.116	The overspend is due to the number of children in care. There has been an increase in the number of children who are subject to Foster Care/Special Guardianship/Adoption who have moved through the age barriers. Other influences include new adoption and Special Guardianship Order (SGO) payments and new Foster Carers entering the system, foster carers progressing from Level 1, 2, 3 and 4. Travel costs and Christmas and birthday allowances. These costs are offset by £0.150m additional Welsh Government (WG) grant income.	
Family Support	0.364	0.452	0.087	0.074	Staff costs are higher than budget and some of these costs are associated with the carrying out of statutory duties to support looked after children in external placements. We have many strategies to resolve this in the longer term but in the short term we need to fulfil our duties to oversee the care of our younger people.	
Legal & Third Party	0.178	0.364	0.186	0.120	Additional numbers of court cases resulting in increased court costs	
Residential Placements	0.462	0.540	0.078	0.018	Costs of additional therapeutic services commissioned through Action for Children	
Professional Support	4.983	5.192	0.209	0.141	The overspend is due mainly to ongoing service pressures particularly within Prevention and Support, and is influenced by the need to support wider regional work on child protection issues which has been partly mitigated by an allocation of £0.100m from the contingency reserve.	
Minor Variances	0.668	0.660	-0.009	-0.001		
Development & Resources						
Charging Policy income	-2.469	-2.595	-0.126	-0.132	The underspend is due to surplus income which is mainly caused by changes to disregard rules on financial assessments which came into effect from August 2016. The additional budget which arises from this surplus is earmarked for future use in funding some of the revenue costs for the new Holywell extra care facility.	
Business Support Service	1.139	1.032	-0.107	-0.100	The underspend of £0.100m is due to a number of short term vacancy savings and some posts currently occupied by staff who are below top of grade.	
Commissioning	0.631	0.575	-0.056	-0.056	The underspend is mainly due to funding of a post from a grant in the short term, plus some reductions of hours following staff returning from maternity leave.	
Vacancy Management	0.417	0.000	-0.417	-0.426	Short term vacancy savings transferred from across portfolio.	
Minor Variances	2.874	2.856	-0.018	-0.004		
Total Social Services (excl Out of County)	65.075	64.163	-0.912	-1.001		

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Out of County						
Children's Services	4.191	5.161	0.970	0.830	There is an overspend of £0.970m in Social Services Children's Services which is based on current clients and packages and which is likely to be subject to variation during the year. These costs are offset by £0.311m from additional WG grant income.	
Education & Youth	3.083	3.846	0.763	0.774	Variance relates to Out of County placements. A substantial increase in the number of new educational placements for 2018/19.	Continue close monitoring arrangements.
Total Out of County	7.274	9.007	1.733	1.603		
Education & Youth						
Inclusion & Progression	3.817	3.784	-0.034	-0.040	Variance largely relates to delays in recruitment, includes other minor variances from across service area.	
Integrated Youth Provision	1.251	1.206	-0.045	-0.030	Minor variances from across service area. Variance includes delays in recruitment.	
School Improvement Systems	1.736	1.646	-0.091	-0.095	Variance largely relates to Early Entitlement, a reduction in maintained and non-maintained setting payments as a result of demography and a reduction of the number of settings requiring funding. Includes hourly reductions in established staff. Includes other minor variances from across service area.	
Business Change & Support	0.414	0.402	-0.013	-0.013	Minor variances from across service area.	
Minor Variances	1.035	1.036	0.001	0.000		
Total Education & Youth	8.254	8.073	-0.181	-0.177		
Schools	89.706	89.706	0.000	0.000		

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Streetscene & Transportation						
Ancillary Services & Performance	3.908	4.107	0.199	0.196	Delay in the development of the new Rockcliffe HRC site resulting in additional running costs of two existing sites continuing to operate until October, 2018 totalling £0.050m. Shortfall in Recycling Income due to falling plastic, card and paper recycling prices resulting from external market factors £0.210m. Additional income of £0.100m above the original projections following the rollout of brown bin charges. Minor Variances £0.039m.	
Highways Network	8.019	8.351	0.332	0.343	<p>Additional in year cost of known Vehicle Insurance Premiums totalling £0.060m.</p> <p>Following increased car park charges from May 2018, together with charges in Flint being implemented for the first time, initial forecasts have indicated lower than anticipated income levels compared to original projections. In addition, officers have recently been appointed to meet the necessary demands of parking enforcement requirements across the County. The overall variance totals £0.260m.</p> <p>Minor variances of less than £0.025m but totalling £0.020m across the service.</p> <p>£0.033m pressure to the service from centralising all utility costs.</p> <p>Rebate for energy overpayments at pumping stations has been taken, with the benefit held centrally so no overall impact to the Council.</p> <p>Underspend on Winter Maintenance of £0.071m, of which £0.035m has been transferred to replenish the Winter Maintenance Reserve to the maximum £0.250m. Requested formal approval for this transfer to reserve.</p>	
Transportation & Logistics	9.374	10.224	0.850	0.846	<p>Additional pressure as a result of the provision of additional school transport for pupils to Connahs Quay, Buckley Elfed and Mold Campus £0.133m. Community Travel pilot schemes of £0.047m commencing January, 2019. Increased transport provision to Social Services £0.074m. Extra School Buses are required due to schools being oversubscribed from September 2018. There is an increase of 95 pupils qualifying for transport resulting in additional pressure of £0.150m. For Special Educational Needs there is an increase of 41 routes for pupils with complex needs requiring solo transport totalling £0.400m.</p>	The additional school transport costs and Special Educational Needs transport will be subject to further review by the Integrated Transport Unit (ITU) to assess all the additional demands and the impact of aligning as many of these costs to existing routes.
Workforce	8.348	8.476	0.128	0.125	Increased Agency and Overtime costs as a consequence of current sickness levels of the workforce operatives.	
Other Minor Variances	0.230	0.264	0.035	0.033		
Total Streetscene & Transportation	29.879	31.423	1.544	1.544		

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Planning, Environment & Economy						
Business	1.550	1.504	-0.046	-0.031	Higher than expected levels of Fee Income together with commitment challenge and vacant post combined to create a favourable variance across the service	
Community	0.940	0.975	0.036	0.021	Full cost recovery income targets have not been achieved in recent years. The Pest Control Service is a customer demand led service with competition from external commercial organisations	
Development	0.060	-0.073	-0.133	-0.130	Higher than expected levels of Planning Fee Income was received during the first three quarters of the financial year. The projection is dependant on the number and value of the applications received, resulting in a changeable outturn to ensure an accurate reflection. An award of Legal Fees from a Planning Appeal in FCCs favour.	
Access	1.328	1.377	0.049	-0.008	Lower than expected Fee income from Footpath Closures £0.006m. Additional works carried out within Conservation £0.010m. Additional contribution to a number of ongoing Countryside Projects £0.024m. Minor Variances £0.016m	
Regeneration	0.435	0.456	0.021	0.043	Energy Efficiency framework unachieved £0.050m. Minor underspends across the service £0.029m.	
Management & Strategy	1.195	1.234	0.039	0.053	Workforce related Business Planning Efficiencies yet to be achieved pending all Service Review outcomes within the Portfolio.	
Minor Variances	0.134	0.117	-0.017	-0.008		
Total Planning & Environment	5.641	5.589	-0.051	-0.059		
People & Resources						
HR & OD	2.433	2.430	-0.003	-0.032	Minor variance	
Corporate Finance	1.970	1.957	-0.013	0.042	Minor variance	
Total People & Resources	4.403	4.387	-0.016	0.009		

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Governance						
Legal Services	0.706	0.713	0.007	0.026	Minor variance	
Democratic Services	2.019	2.026	0.006	-0.020	Minor variance	
Internal Audit	0.454	0.422	-0.032	-0.027	Minor variance	
Procurement	0.320	0.325	0.004	0.007	Minor variance	
ICT	4.471	4.471	-0.000	-0.020	Minor variance	
Customer Services	0.372	0.401	0.029	0.041	Additional registration services income of £0.012m. In year salary saving in Connects including Connects Manager post £0.042m. Prior year efficiency in respect of Contact Centres unachieved in 2018/19 £0.100m. Other minor variances £0.017m underspend.	
Revenues	-0.209	-0.394	-0.186	-0.298	Vacancy savings of £0.138m. Additional income in respect of Enforcement Fees £0.045m. Additional Grant Income relating to New Developments £0.023m. Fines income lower than anticipated by £0.039m. Other minor variances £0.019m underspend.	
Total Governance	8.134	7.963	-0.172	-0.292		
Strategic Programmes						
Public Libraries & Arts, Culture & Events	0.000	-0.000	-0.000	0.000	Minor variance	
Museums	0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	Minor variance	
County Archives	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	Minor variance	
Leisure	4.198	4.179	-0.020	-0.011	Minor variance	
Community Assets	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	Minor variance	
Total Strategic Programmes	4.198	4.179	-0.020	-0.011		

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Housing & Assets						
Administrative Buildings	0.390	0.451	0.061	0.071	Due to delay of demolition works at County Hall.	
Property Asset And Development	0.435	0.368	-0.067	-0.009	£0.042m salary underspend. Other minor variances of 0.024m underspend.	
CPM & Design Services	0.448	0.338	-0.110	-0.090	£0.090m income generated above target. Other minor variances of £0.020m underspend.	
Industrial Units	-1.329	-1.234	0.095	0.000	£0.144m unachieved rental income offset with £0.050m contractor underspend.	
Benefits	10.759	10.651	-0.108	-0.104	Underspend on the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) £0.185m. Adjustments in respect of closing Housing Benefit Subsidy and the subsidy debt position £0.146m. Staffing savings of £0.094m. Additional cost of IT related expenditure such as software, external printing and postage £0.102m. Additional New Burdens Funding £0.069m. Other minor variances from across the service £0.008m.	Request to carry forward £0.100m from CTRS budget to facilitate an upcoming project for the CTRS take up campaign.
Housing Solutions	1.083	0.917	-0.166	-0.149	Homeless Accommodation underspend £0.095m. Salary savings as a result of grant maximisation £0.071m. Unachieved efficiency in respect of Senior Management restructure £0.035m. Other minor variances £0.035m.	
Minor Variances	2.853	3.009	0.156	0.079		
Total Housing & Assets	14.640	14.499	-0.140	-0.202		
Chief Executive's	2.990	2.554	-0.437	-0.449		
Central and Corporate Finance	24.135	22.178	-1.958	-1.896	<p>Central Loans Investment Account underspend £.135m</p> <p>Coroners Costs £0.096m.</p> <p>Windfall Income £0.164m relating to Non Domestic Rate Revaluations.</p> <p>Pension Deficit recovery, an underspend of £1.071m, this is due to an increase in contributions, while the repayment figure has remained static.</p> <p>Apprentice Tax Levy, underspend of £0.087m.</p> <p>Auto Enrolment, numbers are less than estimated, which gives a favourable variance of £0.427m.</p> <p>Increased Bank charges £0.028m.</p> <p>Inflationary underspend of £0.418m of which £0.144m has been identified to contribute towards the 2019/20 budget.</p> <p>An underachievement on the income target of £0.214m.</p> <p>Support Services recharge £0.019m less than budgeted.</p> <p>Minor variances £0.012m.</p>	<p>Continue to review all variances alongside the continuing work on the MTFS.</p> <p>Contributing to 2019/20 budget.</p> <p>Contributing to 2019/20 budget.</p> <p>Contributing to 2019/20 budget.</p>
Grand Total	264.328	263.721	-0.608	-0.931		

2018/19 Efficiencies Outturn - Under or Over Achieved

Portfolio	Original Efficiency	Revised Efficiency	(Under)/Over
	2018/19 £m	2018/19 £m	Achievement 2018/19 £m
Central & Corporate Finance			
Theatre C/wyd tax relief	0.075	0.075	0.000
County Hall (NDR Element)	0.060	0.060	0.000
Audit fee reduction	0.127	0.127	0.000
Total Central & Corporate Finance	0.262	0.262	0.000
Governance			
Records management; Reduce records in storage.	0.010	0.010	0.000
ICT - Digital Print	0.048	0.048	0.000
Customer Services; New customer service models	0.050	0.050	0.000
Flintshire Connects; More flexible service in conjunction with potential income	0.056	0.056	0.000
Registration; Chargeable declaration of births	0.012	0.012	0.000
Revenues; Increase in collection rates enables adjustment to bad debt provision (one off).	0.094	0.094	0.000
Revenues; Second year windfall for single person discount review (one off)	0.140	0.140	0.000
Single Person Discount additional efficiency	0.160	0.145	(0.015)
Total Governance	0.570	0.555	(0.015)
Social Services			
Disability Service; Review current contract with external agency to deliver	0.030	0.030	0.000
Disability Service; Reduction of posts.	0.110	0.110	0.000
Workforce Development; Additional Income from QCF assessors through	0.030	0.030	0.000
Business Support and Management; Rationalisation of rented	0.015	0.015	0.000
Increase in domiciliary care charging.	0.220	0.220	0.000
Integrated Care Fund	0.500	0.500	0.000
Care Fees	0.514	0.514	0.000
Merger of Out of Hours Service	0.020	0.020	0.000
Total Social Services	1.484	1.484	0.000
Education & Youth			
Early Entitlement; Reduce sustainability grant payments and remodel	0.020	0.020	0.000
Business Support; Staff reduction	0.010	0.010	0.000
Nursery Education; Staff reductions	0.040	0.040	0.000
Total Education & Youth	0.070	0.070	0.000
Schools			
Schools Demography	0.288	0.288	0.000
Total Schools	0.288	0.288	0.000
Strategic Programmes			
Leisure, Libraries and Heritage; Continuation of previous years' business plan	0.416	0.416	0.000
Total Strategic Programmes	0.416	0.416	0.000
Housing & Assets			
Valuation Service; Property rationalisation through closure and amalgamation of services into other more efficient assets.	0.050	0.050	0.000
Valuation Service; Increase farm income through renewal of grazing licences.	0.021	0.021	0.000
Valuation Service; Community Asset Transfer process, efficiencies through reduced costs.	0.010	0.010	0.000
Valuation Service; Restructure of service as part of move to a commissioning client.	0.020	0.020	0.000
Valuation Service; Remove caretaking/security services at County Offices, Flint.	0.015	0.015	0.000
Corporate Property Maintenance; Restructure of service as part of move to a commissioning client.	0.080	0.080	0.000
Design and Project Management Services; Restructure of service as part of move to a commissioning client.	0.040	0.040	0.000
NEWydd Catering and Cleaning Services; Continuation of previous Business and Marketing plans.	0.050	0.050	0.000
County Hall	0.240	0.179	(0.061)
New Homes; Return anticipated trading surplus to the Council.	0.030	0.030	0.000
Regional Training courses delivered by GT officer	0.003	0.003	0.000
Welfare Rights; Some activity to be absorbed into single financial assessment team.	0.032	0.032	0.000
Benefits; Adjustment to bad debt provision (one off).	0.050	0.050	0.000
Benefits; Council Tax Reduction Scheme.	0.250	0.435	0.185
Benefits; Remove duplication and provide a single financial assessment service.	0.050	0.050	0.000
Reduction of senior management team	0.050	0.015	(0.035)
Total Housing & Assets	0.991	1.080	0.089
Streetscene & Transportation			
Waste Strategy; Charges for garden waste	0.800	0.900	0.100
Car Park Charges	0.450	0.210	(0.240)
Total Streetscene & Transportation	1.250	1.110	(0.140)
Planning, Environment & Economy			
Development management; Production of planning statements and to undertake private appeals	0.015	0.015	0.000
Highways Development Control; Introduce further charges. Review current charges. Retain supervisory function of highway works in the Building Control; Review charges. Introduce charges. Increase partnership working. Increase authorised commencements inspections.	0.015	0.015	0.000
Built Environment; Charing for pre-application advice	0.030	0.000	(0.030)
Flooding and Drainage; Fees for capital project work.	0.010	0.000	(0.010)
Energy; Fees for energy efficiency assessment.	0.010	0.010	0.000
Minerals and Waste; Maximise regulatory compliance income. Review day rate charging.	0.050	0.050	0.000
Rights of Way; Increase charging and reduce expenditure.	0.020	0.020	0.000
Economic Development; Workforce efficiency if regional service developed.	0.020	0.020	0.000
Total Planning, Environment & Economy	0.180	0.140	(0.040)
		%	£
Total 2017/18 Budget Efficiencies		100	5.511
Total Projected 2017/18 Budget Efficiencies Underachieved		2	0.106
Total Projected 2017/18 Budget Efficiencies Achieved		98	5.405

Movements on Council Fund Unearmarked Reserves

	£m	£m
Total Reserves as at 1 April 2018	13.697	
Less - Base Level	(5.769)	
Total Reserves above base level available for delegation to Cabinet		7.928
Less – amount committed as part of balancing 2018/19 budget		(1.945)
Less – One off contribution to Schools agreed at Council on 1 March 2018		(0.460)
Less – Contribution to fund shortfall in MEAG funding (M2)		(0.058)
Add – transfer from revenue for amount recovered in-year due to change in accounting policy for the Minimum Revenue Provision		1.400
Add – transfer from revenue for the amount of the VAT rebate received		1.940
Less – allocation to meet additional in-year budget pressure for the agreed pay award above the 1% included in the 2018/19 budget		(0.999)
Less – allocation for ongoing resourcing of the Victim Contact Team		(0.100)
Less – allocation for Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse		(0.005)
Less – allocation to meet historic child abuse claims		(0.039)
Less – allocation from the Contingency Reserve to a ring-fenced reserve to meet the costs of employment tribunals		(0.150)
Add – Amount released from earmarked reserves as agreed by Council as part of 2019/20 budget		0.132

Add – projected outturn underspend		0.608
Total Contingency Reserve as at 31st March 2019		8.252
Less – VAT rebate amount committed as part of balancing 2019/20 budget.		(1.900)
Less – amount committed as part of balancing 2019/20 budget		(0.321)
Less – amount approved to operate a Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) Approving Body (SAB)		(0.062)
Less – amount approved for investment in change		(1.000)
Total Contingency Reserve available for use		4.969

Budget Monitoring Report
Housing Revenue Account Variances

MONTH 12 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Housing Revenue Account						
Income	(34.497)	(34.234)	0.264	0.302	The final outturn for Income is a pressure of £0.264m. £0.194m of this pressure relates to loss of rental income on properties being void longer than anticipated and £0.073m due to delays on handover/delays on new build schemes. £0.036m of the pressure relates to loss of income on garages which are not tenanted. £0.036m of the pressure relates to removal of the early payment discount on the Welsh Water contract. A saving of £0.055m on the BDP calculation. The remaining £0.020m relates to minor variances.	
Capital Financing - Loan Charges	8.694	7.543	(1.151)	(1.191)	The underspend of £1.151m relates to expected borrowing costs for SHARP. £0.052m of the underspend relates to the Minimum Revenue Payment (loan repayment) which is lower than budgeted because borrowing levels were not as high on the 31st March as expected. The remaining £1.099m relates to interest charges. Batch 3 schemes started on site later than anticipated and this means expenditure will be spread across financial years. In-year interest charges will therefore be lower than originally anticipated. In addition, borrowing costs have been minimised through efficient treasury management.	
Estate Management	1.617	1.477	(0.140)	(0.110)	The final outturn for Estate Management is an underspend of £0.140m. £0.188m relates to salary savings. A pressure of £0.014m relates to additional costs for cleaning. A pressure of £0.023m relates to Court Costs for Rent Arrears. The remaining £0.011m relates to minor variances.	
Landlord Service Costs	1.415	1.408	(0.007)	0.026	Minor Variance	
Repairs & Maintenance	8.044	7.606	(0.438)	(0.409)	The final outturn for Repairs and Maintenance is an underspend of £0.438m. £0.084m relates to savings on employee costs. £0.214m relates to an underspend on Subcontractors. £0.021m relates to savings on materials. £0.169m relates to a reduction in the Fleet Recharge. The savings above have been offset by a loss of income of £0.071m on Recharges leaving minor underspends of £0.021m	
Management & Support Services	2.297	2.014	(0.283)	(0.254)	The final outturn for Management and Support Services is an underspend of £0.283m. £0.185m relates to staffing costs. £0.058m relates to a reduction on insurance premiums for the HRA. £0.026m relates to software costs. The remaining £0.014m relates to minor pressures elsewhere.	
Capital Expenditure From Revenue (CERA)	12.402	14.137	1.735	1.617	The variance of £1.735m relates to an increase in the contribution from revenue towards capital costs. This increase is possible because of decreased costs elsewhere in the HRA. Contributing towards the capital budget from revenue reduces the requirement to borrow.	
HRA Projects	0.047	(0.000)	(0.048)	(0.047)	Minor Variance	
Contribution To / (From) Reserves	(0.018)	0.049	0.067	0.067	The HRA outturn is an underspend of £0.067m which has the impact of bringing the closing un-earmarked reserves balance to £1.165m.	
Total Housing Revenue Account	0.000	(0.000)	(0.000)	0.000		

Carry Forward Requests 2018/19

Chief Executive's

Dashboard Development (£0.020m) – Work has been commissioned for development of a CAMMS dashboard, it had been anticipated that this work would have been completed during 2018/19 however due to delays this will now be completed in 2019/20. There will also be in year costs for an annual subscription which will commence after the dashboard development has been completed.

Streetscene and Transportation

Winter Maintenance (£0.035m) - to transfer a proportion of the Winter Maintenance revenue budget underspend to the Winter Maintenance reserve. This will increase the current level of winter maintenance reserve to a value of £0.250m.

Education and Youth

All Wales Play Opportunities Grant (0.054m) – this was a late grant allocation that enables the Local Authority to carry forward its budget to fund the Summer Play Scheme.

Period Poverty/Feminine Hygiene (£0.114m) – another late grant allocation the use of which enables the Local Authority to carry forward its budget to fund the project next year.

Housing and Assets

Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) (£0.100m) - A project for CTRS take up campaign is required to be completed, probably during 2019/20, and it is requested that this is funded from a 2018/19 underspend amount which emerged late in the financial year.

Dishwashers (£0.040m) - Funding was identified and orders placed for two dishwashers, one each for Hawarden and Argoed High Schools, in 2018/19. Installation can only take place in the school holidays. The next available opportunity for the installation falls within 2019/20.

CCTV Recorders (£0.027m) – Funding identified an orders placed within 2018/19 but installation is not yet complete. The recorders are required to facilitate the CCTV relocation.



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Capital Programme Monitoring 2018/19 (Outturn)
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Finance
Report By	Corporate Finance Manager
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report summarises changes made to the Capital Programme 2018/19 during the last quarter of 2018/19.

The Capital Programme has seen a net increase of £1.024m during the period. This is comprised of:-

- Net increases in the programme of £4.857m (CF £4.792m, HRA £0.065m);
- Net Carry Forward to 2019/20 of (£3.833m), consisting of; approved at Month 9 (£1.815m), additional School Maintenance Grant (£2.043m) partially offset by Carry Forward reversal of £0.025m.

Actual expenditure was £66.423m.

The final outturn for 2017/18 was a minor funding deficit of £0.068m. There have been a number of capital receipts in year and a small increase in capital funding announced in the Final Settlement. In addition, in November Welsh Government (WG) announced an additional £100m of capital funding spread across 2018/19 to 2020/21. All this, taken together with an original projected shortfall of £8.216m in the capital programme 2018/19 to 2020/21, puts the current funding deficit, for the 3 year period, at £1.187m. This is in advance of any additional capital receipts or other funding being realised.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Cabinet are requested to approve the overall report.
2	Cabinet are requested to approve the carry forward adjustments set out at 1.13.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE OUTTURN CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING POSITION- 2018/19																																																																																																
	Background																																																																																																
1.01	The Council approved a Council Fund (CF) capital programme of £23.773m and a Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital programme of £36.496m for 2018/19 at its meeting of 20 th February, 2018.																																																																																																
1.02	For presentational purposes the capital programme is shown as a whole, with sub-totals for the Council Fund and HRA. In reality the HRA programme is ring fenced and can only be used for HRA purposes.																																																																																																
	Changes since Budget approval																																																																																																
1.03	Table 1 below sets out how the programme has changed during 2018/19. More detailed cumulative information relating to each Portfolio is provided in Appendix A:-																																																																																																
	<p>Table 1</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="3">REVISED PROGRAMME</th> <th>Original Budget 2018/19</th> <th>Carry Forward from 2017/18</th> <th colspan="2">2018/19 Previously</th> <th>Changes - This Period</th> <th>Revised Budget 2018/19</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>Changes</th> <th>Carry Forward to 2019/20</th> <th></th> <th></th> </tr> <tr> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>People & Resources</td> <td>0.250</td> <td>0.233</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>(0.280)</td> <td>0.203</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governance</td> <td>0.408</td> <td>0.068</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0.476</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education & Youth</td> <td>17.000</td> <td>0.385</td> <td>1.429</td> <td>(3.197)</td> <td>0.650</td> <td>16.267</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social Care</td> <td>1.955</td> <td>2.168</td> <td>0</td> <td>(0.580)</td> <td>2.147</td> <td>5.690</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning, Environment & Economy</td> <td>0</td> <td>0.664</td> <td>0.410</td> <td>(0.570)</td> <td>0.187</td> <td>0.691</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Streetscene & Transportation</td> <td>1.100</td> <td>2.845</td> <td>9.897</td> <td>(1.523)</td> <td>(0.134)</td> <td>12.185</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strategic Programmes</td> <td>0.660</td> <td>0.453</td> <td>2.202</td> <td>(0.067)</td> <td>0.206</td> <td>3.454</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Housing & Assets</td> <td>2.400</td> <td>0.889</td> <td>1.112</td> <td>(0.200)</td> <td>2.016</td> <td>6.217</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Council Fund Total</td> <td>23.773</td> <td>7.705</td> <td>15.050</td> <td>(6.137)</td> <td>4.792</td> <td>45.183</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HRA Total</td> <td>36.496</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>(9.528)</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.065</td> <td>27.033</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Programme Total</td> <td>60.269</td> <td>7.705</td> <td>5.522</td> <td>(6.137)</td> <td>4.857</td> <td>72.216</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	REVISED PROGRAMME	Original Budget 2018/19	Carry Forward from 2017/18	2018/19 Previously		Changes - This Period	Revised Budget 2018/19			Changes	Carry Forward to 2019/20			£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	People & Resources	0.250	0.233	0	0	(0.280)	0.203	Governance	0.408	0.068	0	0	0	0.476	Education & Youth	17.000	0.385	1.429	(3.197)	0.650	16.267	Social Care	1.955	2.168	0	(0.580)	2.147	5.690	Planning, Environment & Economy	0	0.664	0.410	(0.570)	0.187	0.691	Streetscene & Transportation	1.100	2.845	9.897	(1.523)	(0.134)	12.185	Strategic Programmes	0.660	0.453	2.202	(0.067)	0.206	3.454	Housing & Assets	2.400	0.889	1.112	(0.200)	2.016	6.217	Council Fund Total	23.773	7.705	15.050	(6.137)	4.792	45.183	HRA Total	36.496	0.000	(9.528)	0.000	0.065	27.033	Programme Total	60.269	7.705	5.522	(6.137)	4.857	72.216
REVISED PROGRAMME	Original Budget 2018/19		Carry Forward from 2017/18	2018/19 Previously		Changes - This Period	Revised Budget 2018/19																																																																																										
				Changes	Carry Forward to 2019/20																																																																																												
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m																																																																																											
People & Resources	0.250	0.233	0	0	(0.280)	0.203																																																																																											
Governance	0.408	0.068	0	0	0	0.476																																																																																											
Education & Youth	17.000	0.385	1.429	(3.197)	0.650	16.267																																																																																											
Social Care	1.955	2.168	0	(0.580)	2.147	5.690																																																																																											
Planning, Environment & Economy	0	0.664	0.410	(0.570)	0.187	0.691																																																																																											
Streetscene & Transportation	1.100	2.845	9.897	(1.523)	(0.134)	12.185																																																																																											
Strategic Programmes	0.660	0.453	2.202	(0.067)	0.206	3.454																																																																																											
Housing & Assets	2.400	0.889	1.112	(0.200)	2.016	6.217																																																																																											
Council Fund Total	23.773	7.705	15.050	(6.137)	4.792	45.183																																																																																											
HRA Total	36.496	0.000	(9.528)	0.000	0.065	27.033																																																																																											
Programme Total	60.269	7.705	5.522	(6.137)	4.857	72.216																																																																																											

1.04	<p>Carry Forward from 2017/18</p> <p>Carry forward sums from 2017/18 to 2018/19, totalling £7.705m (CF £7.705m, HRA £0.000m), were approved as a result of the quarterly monitoring reports presented to Cabinet during 2017/18.</p>																																																																														
1.05	<p>Changes during this period</p> <p>Funding changes during this period have resulted in a net increase in the programme total of £4.857m (CF £4.792m, HRA £0.065m). A summary of the changes, detailing major items, is shown in Table 2 below:-</p> <p>Table 2</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">CHANGES DURING THIS PERIOD</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Para</th> <th style="text-align: center;">£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="3"><u>COUNCIL FUND</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Increases</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Additional School Maintenance Grant</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.06</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.043</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Learning Disability</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.07</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.942</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Highways</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.07</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.959</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Admin Buildings</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.08</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.891</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Private Sector Renewal/Improv't</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.09</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.707</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Affordable Housing</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.09</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.418</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Aggregate Increases</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.09</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.599</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">8.559</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Decreases</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Local Transport Grant</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.09</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(2.000)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>School Modernisation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.09</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(1.477)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Aggregate Decreases</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.09</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(0.290)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">(3.767)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">4.792</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><u>HRA</u></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Increases</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Aggregate Increases</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.065</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">0.065</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Decreases</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Aggregate Decreases</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right; border-top: 1px solid black;">0.065</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	CHANGES DURING THIS PERIOD				Para	£m	<u>COUNCIL FUND</u>			Increases			Additional School Maintenance Grant	1.06	2.043	Learning Disability	1.07	1.942	Highways	1.07	0.959	Admin Buildings	1.08	0.891	Private Sector Renewal/Improv't	1.09	0.707	Affordable Housing	1.09	0.418	Other Aggregate Increases	1.09	1.599			8.559	Decreases			Local Transport Grant	1.09	(2.000)	School Modernisation	1.09	(1.477)	Other Aggregate Decreases	1.09	(0.290)			(3.767)	Total		4.792	<u>HRA</u>			Increases			Other Aggregate Increases		0.065			0.065	Decreases			Other Aggregate Decreases		0.000			0.000	Total		0.065
CHANGES DURING THIS PERIOD																																																																															
	Para	£m																																																																													
<u>COUNCIL FUND</u>																																																																															
Increases																																																																															
Additional School Maintenance Grant	1.06	2.043																																																																													
Learning Disability	1.07	1.942																																																																													
Highways	1.07	0.959																																																																													
Admin Buildings	1.08	0.891																																																																													
Private Sector Renewal/Improv't	1.09	0.707																																																																													
Affordable Housing	1.09	0.418																																																																													
Other Aggregate Increases	1.09	1.599																																																																													
		8.559																																																																													
Decreases																																																																															
Local Transport Grant	1.09	(2.000)																																																																													
School Modernisation	1.09	(1.477)																																																																													
Other Aggregate Decreases	1.09	(0.290)																																																																													
		(3.767)																																																																													
Total		4.792																																																																													
<u>HRA</u>																																																																															
Increases																																																																															
Other Aggregate Increases		0.065																																																																													
		0.065																																																																													
Decreases																																																																															
Other Aggregate Decreases		0.000																																																																													
		0.000																																																																													
Total		0.065																																																																													

1.06	<p>Late on in the final quarter the Council was allocated additional WG grant funding to address maintenance backlog in schools amounting to £2.043m.</p> <p>Part of the Grant Condition letters from the relevant WG officials state:-</p> <p>“I recognise that the allocation is coming very late in the year for you to make the necessary arrangements to spend within this financial year. Therefore I would encourage you to use the allocation in the best way you can now and commit to using a matching sum in the 2019/20 financial year to address the issues for which the allocation was made.”</p> <p>This funding was used towards expenditure on Schools (£1.400m) and Highways (£0.643m) and a corresponding sum carried forward into 2019/20 (See Table 5) to be used as per the Grant Instructions above.</p>
1.07	<p>In addition to the above, the Council also received monies from WG relating to Intermediate Care Fund (ICF) funding for works at Hwb Cyfle and Highways Maintenance Grant. This funding was also used to fund in year works, thereby releasing resources to be carried forward into 2019/20 to meet new year expenditure.</p>
1.08	<p>This amount includes the drawing down of funds from the dilapidations reserve to partially fund the move to Ty Dewi Sant.</p>
1.09	<p>During the final quarter of the year there are a number of adjustments made to schemes that are funded from grants, revenue contributions to fund capital expenditure (CERA) and prudential borrowing, reflecting the need to re-profile funding between financial years to align expenditure incurred with the relevant funding source. This is the case with a number of the movements above.</p>
1.10	<p>Capital Expenditure compared to Budget</p> <p>Outturn expenditure, across the whole of the capital programme was £66.423m. The breakdown of expenditure is analysed in Table 3, along with the percentage spend against budget. This shows that 91.98% of the budget has been spent (CF 87.18%, HRA 100.00%). Corresponding figures for Outturn 2017/18 were 97.02% (CF 94.00%, HRA 100.00%).</p>

1.11 The table also shows a projected underspend (pending carry forward and other adjustments) of £5.793m on the Council Fund and a break even position on the HRA.

Table 3

EXPENDITURE	Revised Budget	Outturn Expenditure	Percentage Spend v Budget	Variance Budget v Outturn (Under)/Over
	£m	£m	%	£m
People & Resources	0.203	0	0.00	(0.203)
Governance	0.476	0.277	58.29	(0.199)
Education & Youth	16.267	15.771	96.95	(0.496)
Social Care	5.690	3.186	55.98	(2.504)
Planning, Environment & Economy	0.691	0.600	86.82	(0.091)
Streetscene & Transportation	12.185	11.661	95.70	(0.524)
Strategic Programmes	3.454	3.097	89.66	(0.357)
Housing & Assets	6.217	4.797	77.16	(1.420)
Council Fund Total	45.183	39.390	87.18	(5.793)
Buy Back / Strategic Acquisition	0.487	0.487	99.99	(0)
Disabled Adaptations	0.747	0.747	99.99	(0)
Energy Schemes	0.221	0.221	100.00	0
Major Works	2.568	2.568	99.99	(0)
Accelerated Programmes	0.756	0.756	99.99	(0)
WHQS Improvements	18.021	18.021	100.00	0
SHARP Programme	4.233	4.233	100.00	0
Housing Revenue Account Total	27.033	27.033	100.00	(0.000)
Programme Total	72.216	66.423	91.98	(5.793)

1.12 Details of the variances for individual programme areas are listed in Appendix B, which includes the reasons, and remedial actions which may be required, where those variances exceed +/- 10% of the revised budget. In addition, where carry forward into 2019/20 has been identified, this is also included in the narrative.

Carry Forward into 2019/20

1.13 During the quarter carry forward of £5.793m (all CF) has been identified which reflects reviewed spending plans across all programme areas; these amounts can be split into 2 areas, those required to meet the cost of programme works and/or retention payments in 2019/20 and Corporate provisions that are allocated as requested and approved.

1.14 The Corporate provisions are as follows:-

- Health & Safety - A sum set aside for urgent health and safety works for which no other funding is available;
- Headroom - A sum set aside for urgent works for which no other funding is available; and
- Community Asset Transfers - Community groups have a number of years to draw down their funding once approved. These sums are set aside to ensure that funds are available when called upon.

1.15 A breakdown is provided in Table 4 below, whilst additional information can be found in Appendix B.

Table 4

OUTTURN CARRY FORWARD - ANALYSIS		
	£m	£m
Contractually Committed		
Governance	0.199	
Education - General	0.212	
Primary Schools	0.203	
Secondary Schools	0.079	
Special Education	0.002	
Services to Older People	0.127	
Learning Disability	2.377	
Engineering - Land Drainage	0.041	
Ranger Services - Greenfield Valley	0.050	
Highways	0.510	
Solar Farms	0.013	
Leisure Centres	0.020	
Play Areas	0.140	
Libraries	0.106	
Theatr Clwyd	0.091	
Administrative Buildings	0.034	
Private Sector Renewal/Improv't	0.652	4.856
		4.856
Corporate Allocations		
Headroom	0.080	
Health & Safety Works	0.123	
Community Asset Transfers	0.734	0.937
		0.937
Total		5.793

1.16 In some circumstances amounts which have previously been identified as carry forward are reversed as it becomes clear that the expenditure is going to be incurred in the current financial year, this is shown below. Information relating to each programme area is contained in Appendix B and summarised in Table 5 below:-

Table 5

CARRY FORWARD INTO 2019/20	Month 4	Month 6	Month 9	Reversed	WG Grant	Sub Total	Outturn	Total
	£m	£m		£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
People & Resources						0	0.203	0.203
Information Technology						0	0.199	0.199
Education & Youth		1.676	0.150	(0.029)	1.400	3.197	0.496	3.693
Social Care			0.580			0.580	2.503	3.083
Planning, Environment & Economy		0.570				0.570	0.091	0.661
Streetscene & Transportation			0.885	(0.005)	0.643	1.523	0.523	2.046
Strategic Programmes	0.074			(0.007)		0.067	0.357	0.424
Housing & Assets			0.200			0.200	1.420	1.620
Council Fund	0.074	2.246	1.815	(0.041)	2.043	6.137	5.793	11.930
Housing Revenue Account	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.000
TOTAL	0.074	2.246	1.815	(0.041)	2.043	6.137	5.793	11.930

Funding of 2018/19 Approved Schemes

1.17

The position at Outturn is summarised in Table 6 below:-

Table 6

FUNDING OF APPROVED SCHEMES		
	£m	£m
Capital Receipts Available as at 31/03/18		(7.637)
Carry Forward Funding		7.705
		0.068
Increases		
Shortfall in 2018/19 to 2020/21 budget	8.216	
Additional allocation to Ty Dewi Sant	0.500	8.716
Decreases		
Actual In year receipts	(2.371)	
Provisional Settlement - £0.070m pa	(0.140)	
Additional GCG - 2018/19 Confirmed	(2.281)	
Additional GCG - 2019/20 Confirmed	(1.383)	
Additional GCG - 2020/21 Estimated	(0.922)	
Ty Dewi Sant - Alternative Funding	(0.500)	(7.597)
Funding - (Available)/Shortfall		1.187

1.18

The final outturn funding deficit from 2017/18 was £0.068m.

In addition, schemes put forward for the years 2018/19 - 2020/21 showed a potential shortfall in funding of £8.216m. The detail behind this figure can be found in the report 'Development of 2018/19 - 2020/21 Capital Programme' which was presented to Council on 20th February 2018.

Additional allocations (for the move to Ty Dewi Sant) amounting to £0.500m were approved earlier in the year but alternative revenue resources were identified at year end to fund this item so it is no longer an additional pressure on the total balance.

Actual in year receipts at outturn amounted to £2.371m. This is lower than that quoted at Month 9, due to the accounting for the deposit from the developer of the Maes Gwern site in Mold being reviewed at year end. It's technical accounting treatment is as a receipt in advance and it will be recognised as a capital receipt when the land is transferred from Council ownership.

The WG Provisional Settlement, issued on 9th October, increased the Council's capital allocation by £0.070m per annum. This therefore represents an increase of £0.140m for the period 2019/20 and 2020/21 above that taken into account when setting the budget in February.

In November 2018, WG announced an additional £100m of capital funding, £50m in 2018/19, £30m in 2019/20 and £20m in 2020/21. Of these, Flintshire's allocations have been confirmed as £2.281m in 2018/19, £1.383m in 2019/20 and an estimated £0.922m in 2020/21.

	<p>Taken together this indicates a current funding shortfall of £1.187m over the 3 year period, prior to the realisation of additional capital receipts and/or other funding sources.</p>																																												
1.19	<p>Investment in County Towns</p> <p>At its meeting on 12th December 2017, the Council approved a Notice of Motion relating to the reporting of investment in county towns. The extent and format of the reporting was agreed at the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 14th June 2018.</p>																																												
1.20	<p>Table 7 below shows a summary of the 2017/18 actual expenditure, the 2018/19 revised budget and budgets for future years as approved by Council at its meeting of 20th February, 2018. Further detail can be found in Appendix C, including details of the 2018/19 spend.</p> <p>Table 7</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4" style="text-align: center;">INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">2017/18 Actual £m</th> <th style="text-align: center;">2018/19 Revised Budget £m</th> <th style="text-align: center;">2019 - 2021 Budget £m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Buckley / Penyffordd</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.062</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5.533</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2.382</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Connah's Quay / Shotton</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8.133</td> <td style="text-align: center;">10.902</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4.492</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flint / Bagillt</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.180</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2.202</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0.241</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Holywell / Caerwys / Mostyn</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.564</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.905</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mold / Treuddyn / Cilcain</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6.201</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.898</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Queensferry / Hawarden / Sealand</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.275</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8.063</td> <td style="text-align: center;">8.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saltney / Broughton / Hope</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0.453</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0.598</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4.207</td> </tr> <tr> <td>To Be Confirmed</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.673</td> <td style="text-align: center;">25.766</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td style="text-align: center;">21.868</td> <td style="text-align: center;">36.774</td> <td style="text-align: center;">45.088</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS					2017/18 Actual £m	2018/19 Revised Budget £m	2019 - 2021 Budget £m	Buckley / Penyffordd	1.062	5.533	2.382	Connah's Quay / Shotton	8.133	10.902	4.492	Flint / Bagillt	3.180	2.202	0.241	Holywell / Caerwys / Mostyn	1.564	3.905	0	Mold / Treuddyn / Cilcain	6.201	1.898	0	Queensferry / Hawarden / Sealand	1.275	8.063	8.000	Saltney / Broughton / Hope	0.453	0.598	4.207	To Be Confirmed	0	3.673	25.766	Total	21.868	36.774	45.088
INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS																																													
	2017/18 Actual £m	2018/19 Revised Budget £m	2019 - 2021 Budget £m																																										
Buckley / Penyffordd	1.062	5.533	2.382																																										
Connah's Quay / Shotton	8.133	10.902	4.492																																										
Flint / Bagillt	3.180	2.202	0.241																																										
Holywell / Caerwys / Mostyn	1.564	3.905	0																																										
Mold / Treuddyn / Cilcain	6.201	1.898	0																																										
Queensferry / Hawarden / Sealand	1.275	8.063	8.000																																										
Saltney / Broughton / Hope	0.453	0.598	4.207																																										
To Be Confirmed	0	3.673	25.766																																										
Total	21.868	36.774	45.088																																										
1.21	<p>The inclusion of actuals for 2017/18 and approved schemes for future years allows a slightly fuller picture of investment plans. However, expenditure which has occurred in years' prior to 2017/18 has not been included, and the expenditure and budgets reported should be considered in that context.</p>																																												
1.22	<p>There are two significant factors which increase allocations to particular areas, which are homes developed under the SHARP programme, and new or remodelled schools. The impact of these can be seen in the detail shown in Appendix C.</p>																																												
1.23	<p>Some expenditure cannot yet be allocated to specific towns as schemes are not yet fully developed or are generic in nature and not easily identifiable to one of the seven areas. As such schemes are identified the expenditure will be allocated to the relevant area.</p>																																												
1.24	<p>Information on the split between internal and external funding can be found in Appendix C.</p>																																												

1.25 In addition to the information contained in Appendix C, there is also considerable capital expenditure on the HRA Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS), which was originally outside the scope of this analysis. A summary is provided in Table 8 below, albeit using a slightly different catchment area basis.

Table 8

WHQS Programme			
	2017/18 Actual £m	2018/19 Budget £m	2018/19 Actual £m
Holywell	0.250	0.550	0.800
Flint	2.500	3.950	3.040
Deeside & Saltney	1.300	4.550	4.400
Buckley	2.500	2.150	2.400
Mold	1.500	1.550	1.230
Connah's Quay & Shotton	5.500	1.050	1.740
Total	13.550	13.800	13.610

1.26 The figures in Table 8 relate to the major investment programmes within WHQS. There is additional expenditure on 'mop-ups' from previous programmes plus smaller items such as environmental works, heating replacements etc. which are difficult to allocate to specific areas.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	As set out in the body of the report.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	No consultation is required as a direct result of this report.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	There are no risks associated with the information contained herein relating to capital outturn.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix A: Capital Programme - Changes during 2018/19
5.02	Appendix B: Variances
5.03	Appendix C: Investment in Towns

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>Capital Programme monitoring papers 2018/19.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Andrew Elford Accountant</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 702291</p> <p>E-Mail: andrew.j.elford@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Budget Re-profiling: Capital schemes are very dynamic and a number of factors can influence their timing and funding. Budget re-profiling assures that the correct resources are available in the correct accounting period to finance the actual level of expenditure.</p> <p>Capital Expenditure: Expenditure on the acquisition of non-current assets or expenditure which extends the useful life of an existing asset</p> <p>Capital Programme: The Council's financial plan covering capital schemes and expenditure proposals for the current year and a number of future years. It also includes estimates of the capital resources available to finance the programme.</p> <p>Capital Receipts: Receipts (in excess of £10,000) realised from the disposal of assets.</p> <p>Carry Forward: Carry forward occurs when schemes due to be completed in a given financial year are delayed until a subsequent year. In this case the relevant funding is carried forward to meet the delayed, contractually committed expenditure.</p> <p>CERA: Capital Expenditure charged to Revenue Account. The Council is allowed to use its revenue resources to fund capital expenditure. However the opposite is not permissible.</p> <p>Council Fund (CF): The fund to which all the Council's revenue and capital expenditure is charged.</p> <p>Housing Revenue Account (HRA): The fund to which all the Council's revenue and capital expenditure relating to its housing stock is charged.</p>

MRA: Major Repairs Allowance. A general capital grant from WG for HRA purposes.

Non-current Asset: A resource controlled (but not necessarily owned) by the Council, from which economic benefits or service potential are expected to flow to the Council for more than 12 months.

Section 106: Monies are received from developers/contractors pursuant to Section 106 of the Town & Country Planning Act 1990. These sums are available for use once the relevant terms of the individual agreement have been met. The monies are most commonly used for educational enhancement, play areas, highways and affordable housing.

Target Hardening: Measures taken to prevent unauthorised access to Council sites.

Unhypothecated Supported Borrowing (USB), commonly referred to as Supported Borrowing - Each year Welsh Government provide Councils with a Supported Borrowing allocation. Councils borrow to fund capital expenditure equivalent to that annual allocation, Welsh Government then include funding to cover the revenue costs associated with the borrowing for future years within the Revenue Support Grant. The Council decides how this funding is spent.

Unsupported (Prudential) Borrowing: Borrowing administered under the Prudential Code, whereby Authorities can set their own policies on acceptable levels and types of borrowing. The Prudential Framework allows Authorities to take out loans in response to overall cash flow forecasts and other factors provided they can show that the borrowing is to meet planned capital expenditure in the current year or the next three years.

This page is intentionally left blank

CAPITAL PROGRAMME - CHANGES DURING 2018/19

	Original Budget 2018/19	Carry Forward from 2017/18	Previously Reported		Changes (Current)	Revised Budget 2018/19
			Changes	Carry Forward to 2019/20		
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Council Fund :						
People & Resources						
Headroom	0.250	0.110	0	0	(0.280)	0.080
Corporate Finance - H & S	0.000	0.123	0	0	0	0.123
	0.250	0.233	0.000	0.000	(0.280)	0.203
Governance						
Information Technology	0.408	0.068	0	0	0	0.476
	0.408	0.068	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.476
Education & Youth						
Education - General	0.500	0	(0.100)	(0.311)	0.262	0.351
Primary Schools	1.683	0.059	(0.022)	(1.311)	0.845	1.254
Schools Modernisation	13.967	0.000	1.002	0	(1.477)	13.492
Secondary Schools	0.600	0.071	0.553	(1.076)	0.769	0.917
Special Education	0.250	0.255	(0.004)	(0.499)	0.251	0.253
	17.000	0.385	1.429	(3.197)	0.650	16.267
Social Care						
Intermediate Care Fund	0	0	0	0	0.154	0.154
Services to Older People	0	0	0.363	(0.163)	0	0.200
Learning Disability	1.955	1.735	0	(0.352)	1.942	5.280
Children's Services	0	0.433	(0.363)	(0.065)	0.051	0.056
	1.955	2.168	0.000	(0.580)	2.147	5.690
Planning, Environment & Economy						
Closed Landfill Sites	0	0.250	0	(0.250)	0	0.000
Engineering	0	0.414	0	(0.320)	0.001	0.095
Energy Services	0	0	0.235	0	0.071	0.306
Ranger Services	0	0	0	0	0.050	0.050
Townscape Heritage Initiatives	0	0	0.166	0	0.064	0.230
Urban/Rural Regeneration	0	0	0.009	0	0.001	0.010
	0.000	0.664	0.410	(0.570)	0.187	0.691
Streetscene & Transportation						
Waste - CCP Grant	0	1.000	0.403	0	0	1.403
Waste - Other	0.500	0	0	(0.497)	0	0.003
Highways	0.600	1.497	1.704	(0.693)	1.866	4.974
Local Transport Grant	0	0	7.790	0	(2.000)	5.790
Solar Farms	0	0.348	0	(0.333)	0	0.015
	1.100	2.845	9.897	(1.523)	(0.134)	12.185

	Original Budget 2018/19	Carry Forward from 2017/18	Previously Reported		Changes (Current)	Revised Budget 2018/19
			Changes	Carry Forward to 2019/20		
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Strategic Programmes						
Leisure Centres	0.330	0.254	1.745	0	(0.010)	2.319
Play Areas	0	0	0.423	0	0.212	0.635
Libraries	0	0.110	0	0	0	0.110
Theatr Clwyd	0.330	0.089	0.034	(0.067)	0.004	0.390
	0.660	0.453	2.202	(0.067)	0.206	3.454
Housing & Assets						
Administrative Buildings	0.600	0.134	0.472	0	0.891	2.097
Community Asset Transfers	0	0.755	0	0	0	0.755
Affordable Housing	0	0	0.520	0	0.418	0.938
Private Sector Renewal/Improv't	1.800	0	0.120	(0.200)	0.707	2.427
	2.400	0.889	1.112	(0.200)	2.016	6.217
Housing Revenue Account :						
Buy Back / Strategic Acquisition	0	0	0.500	0	(0.013)	0.487
Disabled Adaptations	1.051	0	0	0	(0.304)	0.747
Energy Schemes	0.357	0	0	0	(0.136)	0.221
Major Works	1.855	0	0	0	0.713	2.568
Accelerated Programmes	0.714	0	0	0	0.042	0.756
WHQS Improvements	18.289	0	0	0	(0.268)	18.021
SHARP Programme	14.230	0	(10.028)	0	0.031	4.233
	36.496	0.000	(9.528)	0.000	0.065	27.033

Totals :

Council Fund	23.773	7.705	15.050	(6.137)	4.792	45.183
Housing Revenue Account	36.496	0	(9.528)	0	0.065	27.033
Grand Total	60.269	7.705	5.522	(6.137)	4.857	72.216

PEOPLE & RESOURCES

Capital Budget Monitoring 2018/19 - Outturn

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Headroom	0.080	0	(0.080)	(100)	0	Corporate provision - to be allocated as requested and approved	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.080m to 2019/20	
Corporate Finance - Health & Safety	0.123	0	(0.123)	(100)	0	Corporate provision - to be allocated as requested and approved	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.123m to 2019/20	
Total	0.203	0.000	(0.203)	(100)	0.000			

GOVERNANCE

Capital Budget Monitoring 2018/19 - Outturn

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Information Technology	0.476	0.277	(0.199)	(42)	0	Procurement delays for the air-conditioning units as the team responsible had to prioritise work associated with Ty Dewi Sant, Ewloe.	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.199m to 2019/20	
Total	0.476	0.277	(0.199)	(42)	0.000			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

EDUCATION & YOUTH

Capital Budget Monitoring 2018/19 - Outturn

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Education - General	0.351	0.139	(0.212)	(60)	0	£0.089m relates to the ongoing programme of Fire Alarm Upgrades. £0.123m relates to the Schools connectivity IT Project	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.212m to 2019/20	
Primary Schools	1.254	1.051	(0.203)	(16)	0	£0.203m relates to the ongoing R&M backlog programme, projects which commenced during 2018/19 but bridge the financial years	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.203m to 2019/20	
Schools Modernisation	13.492	13.492	(0.000)	(0)	0			
Secondary Schools	0.917	0.838	(0.079)	(9)	0	£0.029m relates to the ongoing R&M backlog programme. £0.050m relates to ongoing works at Castell Alun HS. All projects commenced during 2018/19 but bridge the financial years	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.079m to 2019/20	
Special Education	0.253	0.251	(0.002)	(1)	(0.150)	Minor unspent from across DDA/SEN programme	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.002m to 2019/20	
Total	16.267	15.771	(0.496)	(3)	(0.150)			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

SOCIAL CARE

Capital Budget Monitoring 2018/19 - Outturn

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Intermediate Care Fund	0.154	0.154	0	0	0.400			
Services to Older People	0.200	0.073	(0.127)	(63)	(0.163)	Delay to progress with feasibility study due to the need to revisit design plans	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.127m to 2019/20	
Learning Disability	5.280	2.903	(2.377)	(45)	(0.352)	Additional ICF grant funding unable to be utilised in year	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £2.377m to 2019/20	
Children's Services	0.056	0.056	(0)	(0)	(0.065)			
Total	5.690	3.187	(2.503)	(44)	(0.180)			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY

Capital Budget Monitoring 2018/19 - Outturn

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Closed Landfill Sites	0	0	0		0			Expenditure on remedial actions to be determined following extensive monitoring and in accordance with NRW
Engineering	0.095	0.055	(0.040)	(42)	(0.003)	Works at Flour Mill Reservoir on going - delays due to legal issues. The FCERM 5 year capital plan is now in its final stages of completion and approval indicating a number of land drainage schemes to be considered within a longer but realistically more deliverable timetable, leading in to 2019/20.	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.041m to 2019/20	
Energy Services	0.306	0.306	(0)	(0)	0.021			
Ranger Services	0.050	0	(0.050)	(100)	0	Allocation for Health & Safety works at Greenfield, due to a delay Contractors were unable to start works until April. Allocation carried forward to 2019/20	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.050m to 2019/20	
Townscape Heritage Initiatives	0.230	0.230	(0)	(0)	0			As at March, 2019 the THI project is fully completed.
Urban / Rural Regeneration	0.010	0.010	(0)	(3)	0.001			
Total	0.691	0.600	(0.091)	(13)	0.019			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

STREETSCENE & TRANSPORTATION

Capital Budget Monitoring 2018/19 - Outturn

Programme Area	Total Budget	Outturn	Variance (Under)/ Over	Variance %age	Variance Prev Qtr	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	%	£m			
Waste Services - Collaborative Change Programme (CCP)	1.403	1.403	0	0	0			
Waste Services - Other	0.003	0.003	0	0	(0.497)			
Highways	4.974	4.464	(0.510)	(10)	(0.055)	Continuation of resurfacing programme beyond 31/03/19 (£0.470m). Works on layby at Mount Pleasant Road, Buckley delayed due to ecological constraints (£0.040m)	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.510m to 2019/20	
Local Transport Grant	5.790	5.790	(0)	(0)	0			
Solar Farms	0.015	0.002	(0.013)	(89)	(0.333)	Delay in the consultation design service for the review of a private wire for energy conservation from Brookhill Solar Panel farm to Alltami Depot	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.013m to 2019/20	
Total	12.185	11.662	(0.523)	(4)	(0.885)			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES

Capital Budget Monitoring 2018/19 - Outturn

Programme Area	Total Budget	Outturn	Variance (Under)/ Over	Variance %age	Variance Prev Qtr	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	%	£m			
Leisure Centres	2.319	2.299	(0.020)	(1)	0	Continuing works at Mold Leisure Centre and Jade Jones Pavilion	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.020m to 2019/20	
Play Areas	0.635	0.495	(0.140)	(22)	0	Continued programme of works to upgrade Play areas	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.140m to 2019/20	
Libraries	0.110	0.004	(0.106)	(96)	0	Continuing works at various libraries as part of ongoing AURA Project	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.106m to 2019/20	
Theatr Clwyd	0.390	0.299	(0.091)	(23)	0	Ongoing design works as part of theatre redevelopment	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.091m to 2019/20	
Total	3.454	3.097	(0.357)	(10)	0.000			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

HOUSING & ASSETS

Capital Budget Monitoring 2018/19 - Outturn

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Administrative Buildings	2.097	2.063	(0.034)	(2)	0.100	Funding is required to meet the cost of retentions in 2019/20	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.034m to 2019/20	
Community Asset Transfers	0.755	0.021	(0.734)	(97)	0	Expenditure is incurred as and when schemes are signed off	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.734m to 2019/20	
Affordable Housing	0.938	0.938	0.000	0	0			
Private Sector Renewal/Improvement	2.427	1.775	(0.652)	(27)	(0.200)	DFG spend is customer driven and volatile	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.652m to 2019/20	
Total	6.217	4.797	(1.420)	(23)	(0.100)			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

Capital Budget Monitoring 2018/19 - Outturn

Page 524

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Buy Back / Strategic Acquisition	0.487	0.487	0	0	0			
Disabled Adaptations	0.747	0.747	0	0	0			
Energy Services	0.221	0.221	0	0	0			
Major Works	2.568	2.568	0	0	0			
Accelerated Programmes	0.756	0.756	0	0	0			
WHQS Improvements	18.021	18.021	0	0	0			
SHARP	4.233	4.233	0	0	0			
Total	27.033	27.033	0.000	0	0.000			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

SUMMARY

Capital Budget Monitoring 2018/19 - Outturn

Programme Area	Total Budget	Outturn	Variance (Under)/ Over	Variance %age	Variance Prev Qtr	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	%	£m			
People & Resources	0.203	0	(0.203)	(100)	0.000			
Governance	0.476	0.277	(0.199)	(42)	0.000			
Education & Youth	16.267	15.771	(0.496)	(3)	(0.150)			
Social Care	5.690	3.187	(2.503)	(44)	(0.180)			
Planning, Environment & Economy	0.691	0.600	(0.091)	(13)	0.019			
Transport & Streetscene	12.185	11.662	(0.523)	(4)	(0.885)			
Strategic Programmes	3.454	3.097	(0.357)	(10)	0.000			
Housing & Assets	6.217	4.797	(1.420)	(23)	(0.100)			
Sub Total - Council Fund	45.183	39.390	(5.793)	(13)	(1.296)			
Housing Revenue Account	27.033	27.033	0.000	0	0.000			
Total	72.216	66.423	(5.793)	(8)	(1.296)			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

This page is intentionally left blank

INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS - 2017 / 18 ACTUAL SPEND

APPENDIX C

TOWN FUNDING	17/18 ACTUAL £000	BUCKLEY		CONNAH'S QUAY		FLINT		HOLYWELL		MOLD		QUEENSFERRY		SALTNEY		UNALLOCATED		TOTALS			
		Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Total £000	
HOUSING - HRA																					
SHARP	7,580	63		748	540	1,939		150		4,140									7,040	540	7,580
EDUCATION & YOUTH																					
21C Schools:-																					
CQ High School	4,764			3,345	1,419														3,345	1,419	4,764
Holywell High School	365							365											365	0	365
Penyffordd Amalgamation	407	407																	407	0	407
School Extension & Remodelling:-																					
Ysgol Glan Aber																			0	0	0
Castell Alun																			0	0	0
SOCIAL CARE																					
LD Day Care Facility	310											310							310	0	310
TRANSPORT																					
Highways Asset Management Plan:-																					
Bridges	489				489														0	489	489
Street Lighting	3,127		422		356		325		688		546		438		352				0	3,127	3,127
Highway Maintenance	1,486	156		315		81		240		347		246		101					1,486	0	1,486
Transport Grant	2,443				921		460		121		856		85						0	2,443	2,443
DEVELOPMENT / REGENERATION																					
Townscape Heritage Initiative	273					130	143												130	143	273
LEISURE - AURA																					
Leisure Centres	562	14				102				312		134							562	0	562
Synthetic Sports Pitches	62											62							62	0	62
	21,868	640	422	4,408	3,725	2,252	928	755	809	4,799	1,402	752	523	101	352	0	0	13,707	8,161	21,868	

AREA TOTAL

1,062	8,133	3,180	1,564	6,201	1,275	453	0
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-------	-----	---

INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS - 2018 / 19 REVISED BUDGET

APPENDIX C (Cont)

TOWN FUNDING	REVISED BUDGET £000	BUCKLEY		CONNAH'S QUAY		FLINT		HOLYWELL		MOLD		QUEENSFERRY		SALTNEY		UNALLOCATED		TOTALS			
		Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Total £000	
EXPENDITURE																					
HOUSING - HRA																					
SHARP	4,233	11	94	1,360	320	69		2,083	24	272									3,795	438	4,233
EDUCATION & YOUTH																					
21C Schools:-																					
CQ High School	8,818			3,713	5,105														3,713	5,105	8,818
Holywell High School	399							399											399	0	399
Penyffordd Amalgamation	4,275	1,324	2,951																1,324	2,951	4,275
School Extension & Remodelling:-																					
Ysgol Glan Aber	196					13	183												13	183	196
Castell Alun	100												50	50					50	50	100
SOCIAL CARE																					
LD Day Care Facility	5,280											3,338	1,942						3,338	1,942	5,280
Marleyfield EPH	200	200																	200	0	200
TRANSPORT																					
Highways Asset Management Plan:-																					
Bridges	20			20															20	0	20
Street Lighting	1,479																		0	1,479	1,479
Highway Maintenance	3,435	462	221	127	60	440	210	461	221	259	124	158	75	100	48	469		2,476	959	3,435	
Transport Grant	5,790	61	205		198			20	697		75		2,345		350		1,724	81	5,709	5,790	
DEVELOPMENT / REGENERATION																					
Townscape Heritage Initiative	230						230												0	230	230
LEISURE - AURA																					
Leisure Centres	2,251	4				942				1,168		137							2,251	0	2,251
Synthetic Sports Pitches	68											68							68	0	68
	36,774	2,062	3,471	5,220	5,683	1,464	738	2,963	942	1,699	199	3,701	4,362	150	448	469	3,203	17,728	19,046	36,774	
AREA TOTAL			5,533	10,903	2,202	3,905	1,898	8,063	598	3,672											

INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS - 2018 / 19 OUTTURN

APPENDIX C (Cont)

TOWN FUNDING	ACTUAL TO DATE £000	BUCKLEY		CONNAH'S QUAY		FLINT		HOLYWELL		MOLD		QUEENSFERRY		SALTNEY		UNALLOCATED		TOTALS				
		Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Total £000		
EXPENDITURE																						
HOUSING - HRA																						
SHARP	4,233	11	94	1,360	320	69		2,083	24	272										3,795	438	4,233
EDUCATION & YOUTH																						
21C Schools:-																						
CQ High School	8,818			3,709	5,109															3,709	5,109	8,818
Holywell High School	399							399												399	0	399
Penyffordd Amalgamation	2,355		2,355																	0	2,355	2,355
School Extension & Remodelling:-																						
Ysgol Glan Aber	196					28	168													28	168	196
Castell Alun	50													50						0	50	50
SOCIAL CARE																						
LD Day Care Facility	2,902											960	1,942							960	1,942	2,902
Marleyfield EPH	73	73																		73	0	73
TRANSPORT																						
Highways Asset Management Plan:-																						
Bridges	20			20																20	0	20
Street Lighting	1,479																			0	1,479	1,479
Highway Maintenance	2,966	462	221	127	60	440	210	461	221	259	124	158	75	100	48					2,007	959	2,966
Transport Grant	5,789	61	205		198		115	20	697		75		2,345		350					81	5,708	5,789
DEVELOPMENT / REGENERATION																						
Townscape Heritage Initiative	230						230													0	230	230
LEISURE - AURA																						
Leisure Centres	2,186	3				949				1,167		67								2,186	0	2,186
Synthetic Sports Pitches	113											113								113	0	113
	31,809	610	2,875	5,216	5,687	1,486	722	2,963	942	1,698	199	1,299	4,362	100	448	0	3,202	13,372	18,437	31,809		
AREA TOTAL		3,485		10,903		2,209		3,905		1,897		5,661		548		3,202						

INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS - 2019 - 2022 BUDGET

APPENDIX C (Cont)

TOWN FUNDING	FUTURE BUDGET £000	BUCKLEY		CONNAH'S QUAY		FLINT		HOLYWELL		MOLD		QUEENSFERRY		SALTNEY		UNALLOCATED		TOTALS				
		Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Total £000		
EXPENDITURE																						
HOUSING - HRA																						
SHARP	23,694																23,694			23,694	0	23,694
EDUCATION & YOUTH																						
21C Schools:-																						
CQ High School - Phase 2	492			492																492	0	492
CQ High School - Phase 3	4,000			1,400	2,600															1,400	2,600	4,000
Queensferry CP & Plas Derwen	8,000										2,300	5,700							2,300	5,700	8,000	
School Extension & Remodelling:-																						
Ysgol Glan Aber	241					241														241	0	241
Castell Alun	4,207													4,207						4,207	0	4,207
SOCIAL CARE																						
Marleyfield Residential Home	2,382	2,382																		2,382	0	2,382
TRANSPORT																						
Highways Asset Management Plan:-																						
Bridges																				0	0	0
Street Lighting																				0	0	0
Highway Maintenance	1,800																1,800			1,800	0	1,800
Transport Grant																				0	0	0
DEVELOPMENT / REGENERATION																						
Townscape Heritage Initiative																				0	0	0
LEISURE - AURA																						
Leisure Centres																				0	0	0
Synthetic Sports Pitches	272																272			272	0	272
	45,088	2,382	0	1,892	2,600	241	0	0	0	0	0	2,300	5,700	4,207	0	25,766	0	36,788	8,300	45,088		

Page 530

AREA TOTAL

2,382	4,492	241	0	0	8,000	4,207	25,766
-------	-------	-----	---	---	-------	-------	--------



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Prudential Indicators - Actuals 2018/19
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Finance
Report Author	Corporate Finance Manager
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Under the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code), as updated in 2017, Councils are required to set a range of Prudential Indicators. This report provides details of the Council's actual Prudential Indicators for 2018/19 compared with the estimates set:-

- Prudential Indicators for Prudence
- Prudential Indicators for Affordability

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That members note and approve the report.
---	---

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS
1.01	<p>Background</p> <p>The background to this item is provided in the reports to Cabinet on 17th July 2018, Prudential Indicators Actuals 2017/18, to Council on 20th February 2018 Prudential Indicators 2018/19 to 2020/21 and to Council on 19th February 2019 Capital Strategy including Prudential Indicators 2019/20 to 2021/22.</p>
1.02	<p>The Prudential Code has been developed by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy (CIPFA) as a professional code of practice to support local authorities in determining their programmes for capital investment in fixed assets. Local authorities are required by Regulation to have regard to the Prudential Code when carrying out duties under Part 1 of the Local Government Act 2003.</p>
1.03	<p>The framework established by the Prudential Code is intended to support local strategic planning, local asset management planning and robust option appraisal. The objectives of the Code are to ensure, within a clear framework, that the capital investment plans of local authorities are affordable, prudent and sustainable, and that treasury management decisions are taken in accordance with good professional practice.</p>
1.04	<p>The Prudential Code sets out the indicators that must be used, and the factors that must be taken into account in preparing them.</p>
1.05	<p>Changes to CIPFA's Codes of Practice 2017</p> <p>CIPFA published new editions of the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities and the Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross-sectoral Guidance in late December 2017 which complement each other.</p>
1.06	<p>Changes to the revised Codes which impact on the Prudential Indicators are minimal. The main difference being that there is no longer a need to include an indicator for the Estimated Impact of Capital Decisions on Council Tax and Rent levels. All changes within the 2017 Code which impact on Prudential Indicators below have therefore been made.</p>
1.07	<p>Actual Prudential Indicators for 2018/19 have now been calculated in respect of the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Estimates of Capital expenditure • Estimates of Capital Financing Requirement • Authorised Limit • Estimates of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream

	The Code does not specify how the Council should have regard to these factors, but instead concentrates on the means by which it demonstrates that the proposals are affordable, prudent and sustainable.																																			
1.08	<p><u>Prudential Indicators for Prudence</u></p> <p>Estimates of Capital Expenditure</p> <p>The Prudential Indicators for capital expenditure are based on the Council's capital programme (that takes into account the Council's asset management and capital investment strategies), and are supplemented (for capital accounting purposes) by the value of finance leases held. The capital expenditure totals are the starting point for the calculation of the Prudential Indicators and essentially provide the base financial data from which all other indicators follow.</p>																																			
1.09	<p>Actual 2018/19 capital expenditure for the Council Fund and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is £66.423m as shown in Table 1 below. Actual expenditure for 2017/18, and the 2018/19 and 2019/20 estimates are included for information.</p> <p>Table 1</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">ESTIMATES OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>2017/18</th> <th>2018/19</th> <th>2018/19</th> <th>2019/20</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>Actual</th> <th>Estimate</th> <th>Actual</th> <th>Estimate</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Council Fund</td> <td>27.609</td> <td>23.773</td> <td>39.390</td> <td>27.751</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Housing Revenue Account</td> <td>29.772</td> <td>36.496</td> <td>27.033</td> <td>34.208</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>57.381</td> <td>60.269</td> <td>66.423</td> <td>61.959</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	ESTIMATES OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE						2017/18	2018/19	2018/19	2019/20		Actual	Estimate	Actual	Estimate		£m	£m	£m	£m	Council Fund	27.609	23.773	39.390	27.751	Housing Revenue Account	29.772	36.496	27.033	34.208	Total	57.381	60.269	66.423	61.959
ESTIMATES OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE																																				
	2017/18	2018/19	2018/19	2019/20																																
	Actual	Estimate	Actual	Estimate																																
	£m	£m	£m	£m																																
Council Fund	27.609	23.773	39.390	27.751																																
Housing Revenue Account	29.772	36.496	27.033	34.208																																
Total	57.381	60.269	66.423	61.959																																
1.10	Detailed analysis and commentary regarding 2018/19 outturn is provided in the Capital Programme Monitoring 2018/19 (Outturn) report elsewhere on this agenda.																																			
1.11	<p>Estimates of Capital Financing Requirement</p> <p>The actual (average) capital financing requirement for 2018/19 is £333.825m as shown in Table 2 below. This is the measure of the Council's underlying need to finance capital expenditure by borrowing or other long term liabilities. The Council Fund CFR is slightly higher than estimated as in March 2018 the Council amended its MRP policy.</p>																																			

Table 2

ESTIMATES OF CAPITAL FINANCING REQUIREMENT				
	2017/18	2018/19	2018/19	2019/20
	Actual	Estimate	Actual	Estimate
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Council Fund	197.056	207.034	207.285	219.666
Housing Revenue Account	119.368	134.600	126.540	134.276
Total	316.424	341.634	333.825	353.943

1.12

Authorised Limit

Actual external debt for 2018/19 was £329.787m, with separately identified limits for borrowing and other long term liabilities such as finance leases, as shown in Table 3 below. It is compared with the Authorised Limit for borrowing, which allows headroom to absorb unforeseen unfunded expenditure. As can be seen, the actual position was well within the limit.

Table 3

AUTHORISED LIMIT FOR EXTERNAL DEBT				
	2017/18	2018/19	2018/19	2019/20
	Actual	Estimate	Actual	Estimate
	£m	£m	£m	£m
All Borrowing	297.772	373.000	322.833	380.000
Other Long Term Liabilities	5.431	20.000	6.954	35.000
Total	303.203	393.000	329.787	415.000

1.13

Prudential Indicators for Affordability**Ratio of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream**

The actual ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream for 2018/19 are as indicated in Table 4 below.

Table 4

RATIO OF FINANCING COSTS TO NET REVENUE STREAM				
	2017/18	2018/19	2018/19	2019/20
	Actual	Estimate	Actual	Estimate
	%	%	%	%
Council Fund	4.5%	5.2%	5.1%	4.6%
Housing Revenue Account	21.6%	25.0%	22.0%	22.3%

1.14 The lower than estimated ratios are as a result of the reduction in the Minimum Revenue Provision in 2018/19. This is after the change of policy agreed by Council at its meeting on 1st March 2018.

2.00 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

2.01 There are no resource implications as a result of this report.

3.00 CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT

3.01 No consultation is required or carried out.

4.00 RISK MANAGEMENT

4.01 Decisions made which involve the Council's assets and its Capital Programme often have very large and long term financial implications which carry a variety of risks. This report assesses the affordability, prudence and sustainability of the capital plans to manage those associated risks.

5.00 APPENDICES

5.01 None.

6.00 LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

6.01 Various Welsh Government papers.

Contact Officer: Liz Thomas – Finance Manager, Technical Accountancy
Telephone: (01352) 702289
E-mail: liz.thomas@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Capital Expenditure - Expenditure on the acquisition of Non-current Assets or expenditure that extends the life or value of an existing asset.</p> <p>Council Fund - The fund to which all the Council's revenue and capital expenditure is charged.</p> <p>Financing - The process of allocating resources to meet the cost of capital expenditure, which can be done on a project, asset or whole programme basis. This contrasts with making the invoice payments relating to capital expenditure, which should be managed within the authority's overall treasury management policy.</p> <p>Housing Revenue Account - The fund to which all the Council's revenue and capital expenditure relating to its housing stock is charged.</p> <p>Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) – A charge made to the Council Fund to repay borrowing taken out for capital expenditure. Councils must determine their own prudent MRP charge each year, taking into consideration statutory guidance issued by the Welsh Government.</p> <p>Prudential Code - The code of practice drawn up by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) to underpin the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003 in respect of an authority's duty to determine the affordability, prudence and sustainability of its capital investment needs.</p> <p>Prudential Indicators - Required by the Prudential Code, these take the form of limits, estimates or actual figures used to support the local decision making process for capital investment.</p> <p>Unsupported Prudential Borrowing - Borrowing administered under the Prudential Code, whereby authorities can set their own policies on acceptable levels and types of borrowing. The Prudential Framework allows authorities to take out loans in response to overall cash flow forecasts and other factors provided they can show that the borrowing is to meet planned capital expenditure in the current year or the next three years.</p>



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Revenue Budget Monitoring 2019/20 (Interim)
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Finance
Report Author	Corporate Finance Manager
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This interim report is the first revenue budget monitoring report for the 2019/20 financial year. Here we report by exception on significant variances which may impact on the financial position in 2019/20 and the progress of achieving planned efficiencies against the targets set for the year.

At this early stage the net impact of the emerging risks and variances as detailed in the report is projected to be £3.101m over the planned budget. This figure is based on known significant variances of over £0.100m. This will be subject to change over the course of the year. A verbal report will be made on possible mitigation measures at the meeting.

This initial revenue monitoring update does not provide the level of detail which will follow in later Revenue Budget Monitoring Reports. The first of these will be the Month 4 report in September.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Cabinet is recommended to note the report and consider feedback from Corporate Resources Overview Scrutiny Committee (to be provided verbally at the meeting).
2	To note that Cabinet will be requested to approve a budget virement of £0.471m within Social Services to support the new extra care facilities (paragraph 1.19).

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2019/20 (INTERIM REPORT)
1.01	<p>As in previous years the Corporate Finance Team's resources are dedicated to the closure of the annual accounts at this time of year.</p> <p>The full monthly in-year budget monitoring will commence in September once this significant task is complete. In the meantime we provide an interim monitoring report for the first quarter of the new financial year. Here we report by exception on significant variances which may impact on the financial position in 2019/20 and the progress of achieving planned efficiencies against the targets set for the year.</p>
1.02	Work has already been undertaken to review the potential impacts of the in-year risks for the Medium Term forecast from 2020/21.
1.03	<p>ACHIEVEMENT OF EFFICIENCIES</p> <p>The 2019/20 budget includes £6.939m of efficiencies from Portfolio Business Planning and Corporate Finance.</p> <p>Achievement of these efficiencies will be measured each month and reported within the monthly revenue budget monitoring report. A target of 95% has been set for achievement.</p> <p>At this stage it is projected that 90% of efficiencies will be achieved. A more detailed analysis will follow in the Month 4 Revenue Budget Monitoring Report due in September.</p>
1.04	<p>IN-YEAR BUDGET POSITION</p> <p>Budget planning, monitoring and management is tightly controlled by accountable Service Managers and Finance Managers from the outset. Cabinet members are also involved in their respective portfolio areas.</p>
1.05	Members were made aware when setting the budget that there were a number of risks that would need to be kept under close review. An update on these and other emerging risks that have been identified within Portfolios is provided. There are also some positive variations which mitigate some of these risks as detailed within the report.
1.06	<p>Areas that are considered as a high risk of financial volatility will be reviewed as part of the monthly monitoring process and the implications considered as part of the forecast for the medium term. Though considered in detail throughout the report the areas of high risk and concern include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Out of County Placements* ● Social Services for Children* ● Residential Care for Adults*

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Transport Costs* • Potential Grant Reductions • Schools <p>Details of these areas are included in the paragraphs below. Those marked with a * are demand led services and are provided based on set entitlement criteria. A verbal report will be made on possible mitigation measures at the meeting.</p>
1.07	<p>Out of County Placements: £1.545m overspend</p> <p>An additional amount of £1.655m was included in the 2019/20 budget to reflect the number of clients and care packages at that particular time. However, in the early part of the year there has been an increase in the number of high cost placements.</p> <p>This has created in a projected overspend of £1.373m in Social Services Children’s Services and a projected overspend of £0.172m within Education & Youth Inclusion Services. This is based on current clients and their assessed need.</p> <p>This projection includes externally provided placement costs for over 150 children, some of which lie within Flintshire’s geographic boundary. There is the potential for this to impact on future years.</p>
1.08	<p>Social Services: £0.316m overspend (in total)</p> <p><u>Children’s Services; £0.762m overspend</u></p> <p>At this stage of the year there are a number of significant variances within Children’s Services which total £0.762m. The most significant variance is within the Family Placement service (£0.274m) and is due to additional demand for foster care placements.</p> <p>There are also projected overspends on Legal and Third Party (£0.212m) due to the increasing number of direct payments, and legal challenges resulting in additional court costs and legal fees. The remaining amount is from additional costs on Professional Support for child protection issues, and Family Support due to the change of the employment status for formerly casual employed sessional workers onto permanent contracts.</p>
1.09	<p><u>Adult Social Services; £0.126m underspend</u></p> <p>Older People services is projected to be overspent by £0.355m. There is an overspend within Provider Services for Home Care and Residential Care, due to the level of demand, and Extra Care as a result of new facilities in Holywell and Flint. This is partly offset by underspends within Older People’s Localities Service, for independent sector residential & nursing care and domiciliary care and a previously reported underspend on the Community Equipment contribution following the Section 33 renegotiation.</p> <p>Services for adults between the ages of 18 to 65 is showing a projected underspend of £0.481m. There is a significant underspend within Disability</p>

	<p>Services (Resources & Regulated Services) due to a decrease in high cost placements and the impact of the 2018/19 underspend on Transition to Adulthood transferred to the core service budget. The Transition to Adulthood budget in-year is expected to underspend as (1) the budget pressure originally anticipated higher costs for care packages and (2) there have also been higher than expected contributions to some care packages from Welsh Government. There is also a projected overspend for Mental Health residential placements.</p>
1.10	<p><u>Safeguarding & Commissioning; £0.320m underspend</u></p> <p>Factors which contribute to the net underspend are:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Income is expected to rise due to the increase made to the non-residential care maximum weekly charge cap and changes in the base number of service users who pay towards the costs of their non-residential care; and - The cost savings of short term vacancies. <p>This is partly offset by a shortfall in estimated grant contributions in the 2019/20 budget including the allocation of the new Social Care Workforce & Sustainability grant and the all Wales allocation for Children's Services to prevent children from being taken into care (the actual grant allocations were not known from the Welsh Government at the time of setting the annual budget).</p>
1.11	<p>Streetscene & Transportation: £1.408m overspend</p> <p><u>Additional School Transport Costs; £1.230m overspend</u></p> <p>The pressure in school transport costs are as a result of several factors:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The effect of non-statutory school transport arrangements and ongoing transport policy anomalies; and - An increase in mainstream secondary education pupil transport and Special Educational Needs (SEN) pupil transport, both in-County and for Out of County placements, along with an increase in the number of school escorts to accompany SEN pupils and an increase in the number of single occupancy routes; - An increase in number of school days for 2019/20 due to the calendar. <p>Work is in hand to try to contain this figure within original cost pressure range which had an estimated ceiling of £0.930m.</p>
1.12	<p><u>Car Parking Charges; £0.178m overspend</u></p> <p>The projected shortfall in income against target is £0.178m.</p>
1.13	<p>Planning & Environment: £0.100m overspend</p> <p><u>Development Management and Building Control</u></p>

	<p>The Building (Local Authority Charges) Regulations 2010 made new provision authorising local authorities (LAs) in England and Wales to fix their own charges in a scheme. The regulations require authorities to achieve full cost recovery on their building regulation chargeable work, meaning any deficit at the end of the financial year is mitigated by the use of a reserve, and any surplus is transferred into a reserve.</p> <p>In previous years, fee income shortfalls have resulted in the Building Control Trading Account Reserve balance being drawn down and not augmented. Building Control fully realised the remaining surplus in the Reserve to help address the fee income deficit within 2018/19. For 2019/20 there is no available reserve to support the service and fund any potential deficit to bring the Trading Account to a neutral position.</p>
1.14	<p>Housing & Assets: £0.247m underspend</p> <p><u>Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS)</u></p> <p>Based on the current number of claimants there is an estimated underspend of £0.274m in this area. This is a demand led scheme and could be subject to upward change.</p>
1.15	<p>Corporate Services: £0.136m underspend</p> <p><u>Workforce Terms & Conditions: £0.100m overspend</u></p> <p>There is an anticipated shortfall in achievement of an efficiency for workforce terms and conditions by £0.100m. The efficiency is made up of essential car user lump sum, reduced mileage costs, and the salary sacrifice scheme for additional voluntary pension contributions.</p>
1.16	<p><u>Employer Pension Contributions: £0.400m underspend</u></p> <p>The 2018/19 outturn position showed a £1.000m underspend of which £0.600m was released to help balance the 2019/20 budget. This is a variable budget requirement throughout the year. Based on the trend during the previous year a positive variance in the region of £0.400m is predicted.</p>
1.17	<p><u>Fees & Charges: £0.164m overspend</u></p> <p>The projected shortfall on fees and charges income is £0.164m. Work is ongoing to reduce this shortfall.</p>
1.18	<p>Strategic Programmes: £0.115m overspend</p> <p>This overspend is due to the agreed re-profiling of the reduction in the annual subsidy to Aura. A planned reduction of £0.115m will be deferred to 2020/21.</p>
1.19	<p>Extra Care Facilities</p>

	<p>Llys Raddington, Flint opened in October 2018 and Plas yr Ywen, Holywell is expected to open in the latter part of the year. To comply with the Council's Finance Procedure Rules a budget virement is recommended within Social Services to align the budget for two extra care facilities Llys Raddington (£0.171m) and Plas yr Ywen (£0.300m).</p> <p>The above transfers will be met from the Community Equipment budget (£0.144m) and Charging Policy Income (£0.327m) which were set aside for this purpose.</p>
1.20	<p><u>UNEARMARKED RESERVES</u></p> <p>The final level of Council Fund Contingency Reserve brought forward into 2019/20 was £8.252m as detailed in the 2018/19 outturn report. Once the previously agreed contributions from the Contingency Reserve for 2019/20 are taken into account the remaining balance is £4.969m.</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	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.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	None Required.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	As identified within the main body of the report. A verbal report will be made at the meeting.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>None required</p> <p>Contact Officer: Dave Ledsham Finance Manager</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 704503</p> <p>E-mail: dave.ledsham@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Budget: a statement expressing the Council's policies and service levels in financial terms for a particular financial year. In its broadest sense it includes both the revenue budget and capital programme and any authorised amendments to them.</p> <p>Council Fund: the fund to which all the Council's revenue expenditure is charged.</p> <p>Financial Year: the period of twelve months commencing on 1 April.</p> <p>Housing Revenue Account: the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a local authority account showing current income and expenditure on housing services related to its own housing stock. The account is separate from the Council Fund and trading accounts and is funded primarily from rents and government subsidy.</p> <p>Intermediate Care Fund: Funding provided by Welsh Government to encourage integrated working between local authorities, health and housing.</p> <p>Projected Outturn: projection of the expenditure to the end of the financial year, made on the basis of actual expenditure incurred to date.</p> <p>Reserves: these are balances in hand that have accumulated over previous years and are held for defined (earmarked reserves) and general (general reserves) purposes. Councils are required to regularly review the level and purpose of their reserves and to take account of the advice of the Chief Finance Officer.</p> <p>Revenue: a term used to describe the day-to-day costs of running Council services and income deriving from those services. It also includes charges for the repayment of debt, including interest, and may include direct financing of capital expenditure.</p> <p>Underspend: when referring to expenditure the actual expenditure incurred is less than budget. Shown as a –ve. When referring to income the actual income achieved exceeds the budget. Shown as a –ve.</p> <p>Variance: difference between latest budget and actual income or expenditure. Can be to date if reflecting the current or most up to date position or projected, for example projected to the end of the month or financial year.</p> <p>Virement: the transfer of budget provision from one budget head to another. Virement decisions apply to both revenue and capital expenditure heads, and between expenditure and income, and may include transfers from contingency provisions. Virements may not however be approved between capital and revenue budget heads.</p>

This page is intentionally left blank



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Council Tax Discount Scheme for Foster Carers
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Social Services Cabinet Member for Corporate Management & Assets
Report Authors	Chief Officer (Governance) Chief Officer (Social Services)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Foster Carers are vital to the support needs of young people in care. Foster Carers provide family based substitute care in a warm, safe, attentive and nurturing environment. Children who are looked after are often extremely vulnerable and the role of Foster Carers is critical to their protection.

Currently, the Council, in some instances, needs to place children with private sector Foster Carers, often further away, which results in the Council paying a premium due to insufficient Foster Carers to meet these needs.

This report seeks approval of a new council tax discount scheme for local authority foster carers, which could be implemented from April 2020 and which could provide a more competitive package in terms of allowances and benefits and ultimately, bring savings to the Council.

It may also help to retain and grow the number of local authority Foster Carers to help the Council provide local homes for cared-for-children and reduce the need to rely on private agency foster placements.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Approve the introduction, in principle, of a Council Tax Discretionary Discount Scheme for Foster Carers, to take effect from April 2020.
2	Consider three options on the level of discount that would be affordable to the Council, being a 25%, 50% or 75% discount, noting that a 50% discount would be the preferable option to align to the Council Tax discount schemes for Foster Carers that are in operation in other local authorities in the region.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE COUNCIL TAX FOSTER CARERS COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNT SCHEME
1.01	A growing number of local authorities are introducing a Foster Carers council tax discount scheme. Currently, there is currently no specific exemption or discount scheme for Foster Carers in Council Tax legislation.
1.02	Introducing a local discretionary discount scheme from April 2020 would put the Council in a position of being one of only two local authorities in Wales to offer such a scheme. By doing so, the Council would be 'leading-the-way' by recognising the vital public work foster carers undertake in partnership with local authorities to protect vulnerable children.
1.03	In Wales, 1 local authority (Anglesey CBC) has already approved the introduction from April 2019 of a 50% discount scheme for local authority foster carers alongside a leisure card and car park incentive.
1.04	Anecdotal evidence from Anglesey also suggests that as a direct result of the enhanced financial package, including the Council Tax Discount Scheme, an additional three foster families had already been found with several others having expressed an interest - potentially saving tens of thousands of pounds a year. According to colleagues in Anglesey, there is a weekly saving of £534 per placement if a council registered foster carer is used as opposed to a private firm and if only six moved over from the private sector, this would achieve savings of £90k even after taking into account the council tax discount scheme.
1.05	A growing number of English local authorities are now starting to introduce similar schemes, with a least 9 local authorities in England already operating council tax discount schemes for foster carers, including in neighbouring local authorities like Cheshire East.
1.06	The introduction in Flintshire of a Council Tax Discretionary Discount Scheme for foster carers could take effect from April 2020 using discretionary powers as set out in Section 13a (1) (c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.
1.07	In an abstract report recently drafted by Social Service colleagues at Conwy County Borough Council, aimed at the development of a regional approach to providing foster carers with a discount scheme, the report author, Kerri Marshall, concluded that " <i>from analysing the yearly cost of external placements for children and young people, it is evidential that local authorities are able to save a significant cost by deducting council tax from in-house foster carers</i> ".
1.08	The cost of offering a 50% discount to foster carers in Flintshire (£92k) could be recouped should only three children be placed with in-house carers for a 12 month period rather than external fostering agencies.

1.09	One of the reasons that foster carers choose to foster for private agencies is because they can offer a better rate of payment. It is difficult for the Council to compete against these rates. Introducing a council tax discount scheme could provide a more competitive package in terms of allowances and benefits and ultimately, bring savings to the Council. It may also help to retain and grow the number of local authority Foster Carers to help the Council provide local homes for cared-for-children and reduce the need to rely on private agency foster placements.
1.10	A common barrier to recruiting local foster carers is local residents working full time and the need to reduce their working hours to collect children from school, this often means a loss of earnings for a new applicant.
1.11	There is also significant challenge to find local residents with two spare bedrooms to accommodate siblings who are of an age where sharing a bedroom would not be appropriate. A council tax discount scheme may encourage a local resident to consider fostering rather than downsizing.
1.12	Retention of existing experienced carers is also essential, with currently recruitment rates only replenishing loss. Such a scheme would show that the local authority values its foster carers.
1.13	<p>The potential scheme would need to have eligibility criteria drafted in more detail but this would be aligned to similar schemes that operate in other parts of the UK. The criteria would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The discount would be awarded against any Council Tax liability arising from 1 April 2020 and the Council will have discretion to backdate future awards to 1 April 2020. • The discount will not be means tested. • The discount will apply to foster carers who are approved directly by the Council, is a current carer and who has actually fostered a child in the relevant tax year or the tax year immediately preceding the current tax year for which they are claiming. • The discount will be awarded to the net liability after the award of other statutory discounts, disregards, exemptions or Council Tax Reduction entitlements.
1.14	The scheme, if introduced, could provide a council tax discount at a level to be determined and which is affordable to the Council. In simple terms, each 10% discount to those foster carers who reside in the County would cost around £18k per annum.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	We forecast that around 122 may qualify. Of these, 89 may qualify for a direct council tax discount as they reside in the County. 33 reside outside of the County boundary and to ensure a consistency of approach for those foster carers who are employed by the Council but who reside outside of the County boundary, the scheme would include provision to make an indirect financial award in the form of a financial assistance scheme in lieu of a council tax discount.

2.02	<p>The initial analysis, as shown in the table below, illustrates the likely cost of providing a council tax discount scheme based on the three options:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th colspan="3">Council Tax Discount Level</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>25%</th> <th>50%</th> <th>75%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Foster Carers Residing in County</td> <td>£35,000</td> <td>£70,000</td> <td>£105,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Foster Carers Residing out of County</td> <td>£11,000</td> <td>£22,000</td> <td>£33,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Cost</td> <td>£46,000</td> <td>£92,000</td> <td>£138,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Council Tax Discount Level				25%	50%	75%	Foster Carers Residing in County	£35,000	£70,000	£105,000	Foster Carers Residing out of County	£11,000	£22,000	£33,000	Total Cost	£46,000	£92,000	£138,000
	Council Tax Discount Level																				
	25%	50%	75%																		
Foster Carers Residing in County	£35,000	£70,000	£105,000																		
Foster Carers Residing out of County	£11,000	£22,000	£33,000																		
Total Cost	£46,000	£92,000	£138,000																		
2.03	<p>Unlike other Council Tax discounts and exemptions which are absorbed into the Tax Base, the cost of operating this discretionary scheme would be met from the Councils General Fund and therefore will reduce the level of funding available to support the Councils Revenue Budget in 2020/21. It is important that the proposals as set out in this report are seen in the context of the overall package of support to foster carers and the potential 'spend to save' nature of this scheme as it is anticipated the scheme will become self-funded.</p>																				
2.04	<p>The initial cost of providing the scheme in 2020/21 would need to be built into future Revenue budget projections.</p>																				

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	<p>The referral of this potential council tax discount scheme to COT forms part of the initial consultation process around the introduction of a scheme to support Foster Carers.</p>

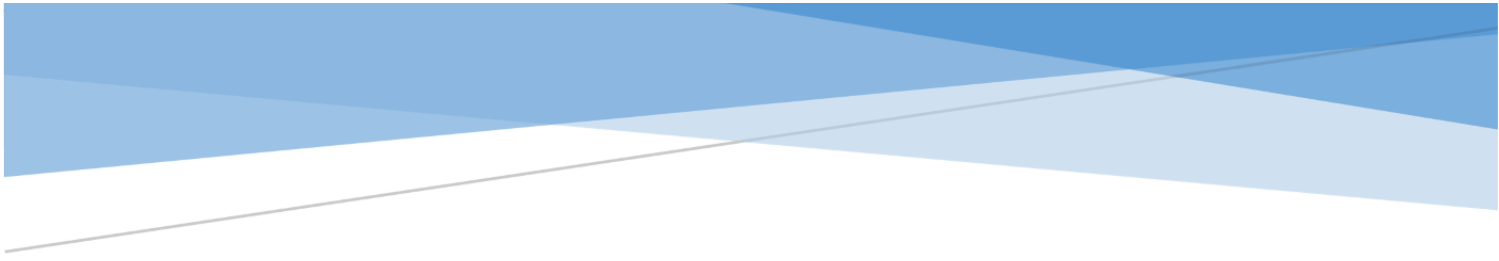
4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	<p>The proposed scheme if approved, will have a very positive impact on current foster carers, the recruitment of new foster carers and the transferring of foster carers from independent fostering agencies.</p>
4.02	<p>Although the scheme is financed by the Council, and ultimately by other Council Tax payers, it is seen to be very much in the wider public interest to introduce this scheme to support the vital role undertaken by foster carers to provide vulnerable children with a warm, safe, attentive and nurturing parenting experience.</p>
4.03	<p>The scheme would help the Council to deliver on one of the key improvement priorities of improving the outcomes for looked after children by supporting children in stable, local placements.</p>

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 to this report provides the background report developed across the North Wales region to implement a local council tax discount scheme within the six local authorities across the region.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>Local Government Finance Act – section 13A (1) (c)</p> <p>Contact Officers:</p> <p>David Barnes, Revenues Manager - 01352 703652</p> <p>Peter Robson, Resources Service Manager – 01352 701028</p> <p>Jill Jones, Marketing & Recruitment Officer – 01352 701937</p> <p>E-mail: david.barnes@flintshire.gov.uk peter.robson@flintshire.gov.uk jill.jones@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Council Tax Base: is a measure of the Council’s ‘taxable capacity’ taking into account the number of properties subject to Council Tax after taking into account statutory discount, disregard and exemption schemes.</p> <p>Council Fund Revenue Budget: Prior to the start of each financial year, The Council is required to set a budget for its day-to-day expenditure to pay for local service. This is called a Revenue Budget and is the amount of money the Council requires to provide its services during the year, taking into account grants it also receives from Welsh Government.</p>

This page is intentionally left blank



COUNCIL TAX DEDUCTION FOR FOSTER CARERS AND CONNECTED PERSONS PROPOSAL REPORT

Abstract

This report has been developed to seek approval to implement Council Tax deduction for Foster Carers and Connected Persons/Kinship Carers. Looking at the positive impact this has had on carers based in England and methods of how this could be implemented locally.

This document has been developed in order to seek approval to implement local council tax deduction scheme within 6 local authorities based in North Wales (Conwy County Borough Council, Flintshire County Council, Isle of Anglesey County Council, Denbighshire County Council, Wrexham County Borough Council and Gwynedd Council) for their identified foster carers and connected persons/kinship carers. In addition working collaboratively with other corporate parents, the local authorities will be able to work together in order to secure outcomes through commissioning.

The general subject matter is following Council Tax deduction schemes which have been implemented within England councils and the positive impact this has on current foster carers, the recruitment of new foster carers and the transferring of foster carers from Independent Fostering Agencies (IFAs).

From analysing the yearly cost of external placements for children and young people it is evidential that local authorities are able to save a significant cost by deducting Council Tax bills from in-house foster carers. Moreover this saving can then be invested in to further recruitment and advertising.

Furthermore a range of methods showing how the council tax deductions for foster carers could be implemented are also identified within this report. These methods touch upon the types of deductions which are identified including the costing for each local authority.

Aim of Report

- Seek approval to implement a local council tax discount scheme for Conwy County Borough Council's, Flintshire County Council's, Isle of Anglesey County Council's, Denbighshire County Council's, Wrexham County Borough Council's and Gwynedd Council's approved foster carers using powers bestowed on the Councils subsection Section 13A (1) (c) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Background

- According to the National Fostering Framework 2017 in North Wales there were 151 placements made with IFAs/third sector providers.

- As part of Local Authorities' method to keep children local they developed an offer to attract and retain foster carers which includes reducing the level of council tax they are required to pay while looked after children are resident in their households. This provision is expected to increase the number of foster carers within the borough, creating capacity for more Looked after Children to retain their local links and support networks.

It is recognised within the Local Government Finance Act 1992 under Section 13A (1) (c) that the Council has the power to reduce the liability for council tax in relation to individual cases or class (es) of cases that it may determine. Section 13A (1) states;

“Where a person is liable to pay Council Tax in respect of any chargeable dwelling and any day, the billing authority for the area in which the dwelling is situated may reduce the amount which they are liable to pay as respects the dwelling and the day to such extent as it thinks fit”.

Furthermore, there are a number of pieces of legislation and statutory guidance that set out the role of the local authority in respect of cared for children. There are statutory obligations and guidance for the role of the local authority as corporate parents in the Children's Act 1989 and 2004, and the Children and Young People Act 2008. Also: -

- Children Act 1989.
- Children Act 2004.
- The Human Rights Act 1998
- The Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014
- Part 6 – Code of Practice (looked after and accommodated children) of Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014.
- The Children and Families Act (2014).
- The Care Planning, Placement and Case Review (Wales) Regulations 2015.
- The Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016.
- The Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018.
- The Children First Programme in Wales: transforming children's services 1999.

- Improving Outcomes for Children Ministerial Advisory Group 'A Framework for Action' 2017 – 2020 including the National Fostering Framework.
- The Fostering Service Regulations (Wales) 2003.
- The National Minimum Fostering Standards (Wales) 2003.
- The draft Fostering Services (Fostering Services Providers and Responsible individuals) (Wales) Regulations 2019.
- Raising the ambitions and educational attainment of children who are looked after in Wales 2017.
- Council Tax Exemption Scheme for Care Leavers (2018) adopted by some Welsh Local Authorities.

There are approximately 9 local authorities based in England which have already introduced council tax discount in place for foster carers. All local authorities identified that as corporate parents, councils should be committed to doing the very best in order to improve outcomes. It is recognised within England's documents that the cost of an in-house placement for children is approximately £16,000 per annum and when adding the overall loss of income due to Council Tax Discount this would be £17,600 opposed to around £41,000 they identified losing due to placing children and young people with external fostering agencies. In conclusion identifying there would therefore be an investment from the service of £1,600 during the period of recruitment to advertise the scheme.

Redcar Cleveland Council integrated council tax deductions as part of a package of enhancements to financially support their foster carers as part of a three year 'Invest to Save Plan'. Redcar Cleveland found the best way in order to implicate their package of enhancements was by ensuring foster carers were key, that they were involved in communication and also the corporate parenting approach of elected members, directors and senior managers across the council. The main reason behind the 'Invest to Save Plan' was to increase their in-house provision and reduce the number of placements which they made with Independent Foster Agencies (IFA). Redcar Cleveland identified that their retention rate has improved significantly as they received net gains in foster care numbers,

and since the press release 5 IFA foster carers transferred/are in the process of transferring. However during their press release Redcar Cleveland experienced a couple of “comments/complaints” from IFA foster carer’s who were caring for local authority’s children in placements, as to why this was not available to them. In addition Redcar Cleveland also received further adverse comments which were raised by the general public regarding the affordability of this given austerity and proposed council tax increases.

Moreover Bath and North East Somerset Council have only recently placed their Council Tax Reductions (1st April 2018) providing their foster carers with reductions after any other national relief and council tax support. By implementing the Foster Carer’s Relief Bathnes are keen to work with surrounding authorities in order to encourage a similar approach, in addition working well alongside their Council Tax Support Scheme to help people with low income to pay their Council Tax. It appears that Bathnes have eligibility guidelines set out and are only providing their foster carers with a 25% reduction, due to other fixed costs; such as registrations, regulatory compliance, staffing, training, office space and business support. Although in hope that the deductions will improve recruitment of foster carers, they will be able to place more children and that the cost per placement will reduce.

Rochdale Borough Council provide their foster carers with 100% exception from Council Tax, only based on Band D properties. Rochdale Borough established within their documentation the deductions were used as a strategy in order to recruit foster carers for young people aged 13 to 17 years of age, due to the shortage. In addition foster carers were eligible for such deductions if they are recruited after the 1st April 2017 or if they amend their registration to care for teenagers. However this did lead to levels of dissatisfaction from their current foster carers, although they reassured that they had a shortage of foster carers for young people aged 13 to 17. Rochdale Borough like other councils were hoping that by offering discount that more foster carers will join their in-house pool and the council tax discount would in time become self-funding.

In 2015 London Waltham Forest council were also approved to offer discounted levels of council tax to their foster carers, as a means of encouraging new applicants and retaining existing foster carers. Foster carers are eligible for Waltham Forest's council tax discount after they have been approved by the decision maker and their first placement has commenced. Although their discounted council tax did follow a scheme based on what type of fostering foster carers completed and this is classed as tiers. Waltham Forest's lowest band of discount is 33% this is for foster carers who are within tier 1 and 2 (general foster carers), medium band of discount is 50% which applies to tier 3 (NVQ registered foster carers) and finally 66% that applies to foster carers who have young people aged 12 years and over in placement, parent and child placements or sibling groups of 3 or more children. Waltham Forest identified that by recruiting more local foster carers the drive towards local placements will therefore be achievable and that each in-house carer is a saving, by not using a more expensive IFA. Waltham Forest demonstrated within their documentation that their IFA placements cost £45,200 per year, which is £22,000 more than their average in-house placement cost. Furthermore Waltham Forest recognised that the overall cost would be estimated as £71k (including a retention bonus for those residents outside of the county). Overall seeing that the potential benefits of the proposal are significant.

Lastly, the other council where information could be found was for Liverpool City Council. Liverpool's council tax deduction scheme was proposed by elected members and promoted by the mayor of Liverpool. It was identified that Liverpool Council would be saving their foster carer's households £1,100 per year and that the scheme would cost Liverpool Council approximately £372,000 to fund it for the financial year. However analysis by Liverpool Council showed that £500,000 could be saved if the policy led to the recruitment of 10 additional foster carers; therefore replacing high costing placements such as residential homes and with foster care agencies. Luckily Liverpool Council had approximately 6/8 foster carers from IFA's transferred across to them within the first year, therefore almost hitting their target with IFA foster carers alone.

Liverpool Council found it interesting to hear some 'horror stories' regarding fostering for your local authority that IFA's had told them and are now much happier fostering for their local authority. Liverpool Council felt that as soon as the scheme was implemented that they

would receive inundated calls regarding potential foster carers, however the telephone calls were more with regards to questions they had about fostering. In addition Liverpool have found that several foster carers that have been recruited and approved have not yet (a year in) had any children placed with them due to work commitments, which they promised to change. Liverpool Council added that they are looking to change this and ensure that foster carers receive the council tax deductions once a child has been placed with them. The overall positive outcome from introducing this scheme that Liverpool Council identified was the positive boost of foster carer's morale after receiving an indirect payment boost showing how amazing the work they do is in order to protect and support the City's most vulnerable children and young people.

Although Liverpool identified a large amount of positives they did however share the negatives which they faced. The initial one was identifying which foster carers were only in fostering for the council tax discount, although they are actively looking to change this this year. In addition the issues with regards to the Finance Department who supported them during the whole process. It was discussed that Finance struggled to recognise the complexities that can occur regarding foster carers (such as fostering outside Liverpool Council's area).

Some other councils who also provide their foster carers' with a discount can be found below; was unable to gather any further information with regards to their scheme.

- Cheshire East Council (free council tax).
- Camden Council (pay council tax for those who live in Camden).
- Waltham Forest Borough Council (66% off Council Tax bill if foster carers live in Waltham Forest or a payment is given towards Council Tax if foster carers live out of the Borough).
- Redbridge Council (discounted bills for foster carers).
- Wokingham Borough Council (council tax exemptions).

In summary, from gathering information from the councils based in England that have already adopted this scheme it is evidential that their main goal is to recruit more in-house foster carers and in time hope that foster carers transfer from IFA's to begin fostering for their local authorities. Although not many of the councils have identified the recruitment of brand new foster carers they do inform readers that enquiries were made and questions were asked. Moreover rather than identifying the recruitment of new foster carers each council concentrates on the transferring of foster carers from IFA, therefore in turn having a positive impact on the cost for the local authority and overtime becoming self-funded.

In conclusion from researching in to the topic of Council Tax deductions for foster carers it was apparent that Wales have not yet brought this in for their foster carers. Therefore it would be an excellent opportunity for North Wales to be the first lot of local authorities to implement such a fantastic scheme. By taking on this scheme as collaborative work the 6 local authorities will be able to work together in order to secure outcomes through joint commissioning, for example; pooling budgets more between the local authority and services for looked after children. Furthermore by working more closely together this may avoid any difficulties with finance that Liverpool identified.

In addition another key point acknowledged within each report is the importance of having boundaries in place from the off-set; ensuring that foster carers have children/young people in their care in order to be entitled to the council tax deductions. As this was identified as a negative for Liverpool Council due to some current foster carers not having a child/young person in placement and still receiving the benefits.

Overall it is evidential that one of the most important impacts which comes from the council tax deduction is that current foster carer's are made to feel valued, supported and recognised for the amazing work they do for the local authority's children. Therefore their retention rate of current foster carers has significantly improved and foster carer's morale greatly improved.

Council tax exemptions have already been implemented within the local authorities proposing this council tax deduction scheme. In March 2017 Flintshire County Council introduced the Council Tax discretion discount for care leavers after identifying highlighted

difficulties care leavers face within the 'Hidden Ambitions' report. Flintshire County Council reinforce their responsibility to provide care leavers with the best future prospects available to support transitions in to independent living. Flintshire County Council have a criteria in place for this to identify eligible care leavers. (Flintshire.Gov, 2018)

As of April 2018 the Isle of Anglesey County Council implemented their new policy where care leavers (18 -21 years) are provided with 100% Discretionary Council Tax Relief. The Isle of Anglesey implemented this policy due to wanting to continue support young people who are leaving care to achieve the best outcomes, just as every good parent would want for their own children. This relief will be available from the start of 2018/19 financial year, and will be wholly funded by the Council, as part of its 2018/19 budget. (Anglesey.Gov, 2018)

In addition Gwynedd Council have looked at implementing this plan identifying it would cost them up to £20,000 a year if they received the go-ahead. Gwynedd Council recognised that without family support some young people leaving care may struggle financially as they become adults and may face impossible choices between paying bills like council tax, buying food and other essential items. (BBC, 2018)

Moreover since the completion of this report Anglesey County Council are due to commence council tax deductions for their foster carers from April 2019, providing them with a 50% deduction.

Furthermore in addition to meeting legislations as discussed previous. It can be argued that by implementing a council tax deduction scheme for in-house foster carers, each Council would also be meeting some of their corporate priorities and overall visions and people's priorities (listed below). The 6 local authorities in North Wales would be the first local authorities in Wales to implement council tax deductions for in-house foster carers. By taking on this scheme collaboratively partners will be able to work together in order to secure outcomes through commissioning, for example; pooling budgets more between the local authorities and services for looked after children. The collaborative work will also enable commissioners to take advantage of increased scale, in particular to reduce back-

office costs, align services, increase market power, transparency and pool commissioning capacity and capability.

Conwy County Borough Council's progressive vision and branding would be met by;

- Progression in managing change and to use it in order to create opportunities; to safeguard what CCBC have, and to build on this to accommodate change.
- Caring for people, fair to all, team players and innovative.
- People in Conwy have access to affordable, appropriate, good quality accommodation that enhances the quality of their lives (M3.4e, M3.4F, M3.4g).
- Encouraging new jobs; developing skills and opportunities - Through collaboration CCBC can develop high impact initiatives which will increase productivity, improve competitiveness and create employment.
- Children and young people (people) are safe and feel safe by strengthening safeguarding arrangements across the council.

Flintshire County Council would be able to meet the following priority improvement council plans;

- Ensuring the supply of affordable and quality housing of all tenures – meeting the needs of vulnerable groups and provide good quality housing for residents.
- Independent living – sustaining a local market of high quality and affordable service provision for those who are highly dependent on care support.
- Protecting people from poverty by maximising their income and employability – providing support services to help people manage their income.
- Improving the outcomes for looked after children by supporting children in stable, local placements.
- Supporting children and young people to achieve their potential – improving outcomes for targeted groups.

- Supporting local communities to be resilient and self-supporting – developing the community and social sectors to support local communities to be more self-sufficient.
- Giving equal opportunities to all to fulfil their lives.

Consequently having a positive impact on Isle of Anglesey County Council’s following council plans, objectives and ways of working;

- “We will be working towards an Anglesey that is healthy, thriving and prosperous” - creating the conditions for everyone to achieve their long-term potential.
- Ensuring that the people of Anglesey can thrive and realise their long-term potential – by providing successful good employment opportunities, skills and training and good quality and affordable housing. One idea of how to achieve an objective above is to work with other North Wales Councils to attract an investment to ensure that key projects can offer local employment opportunities to go ahead.
- Supporting vulnerable children and families to keep them safe, healthy and as independent as possible – providing robust early intervention and prevention services to ensure that children are safe and supported in order to minimise harmful childhood experiences.
- The importance of balancing short-term needs with the need to safeguard the ability to also meet long-term needs.
- How acting to present problems occurring or getting worse may help public bodies meet their objectives.
- Acting in collaboration with any other person that could help the body to meet its well-being objective.
- The importance of involving people with an interest in achieving the well-being goals, and ensuring that those people reflect the diversity of the area.

Enabling Denbighshire County Council to meet the following corporate priorities;

- Everyone is supported to live in homes that meet their needs – a wide range of accommodation available to suit different needs.
- Denbighshire County Council are able to work with people and communities to build independence and resilience - ensuring people are involved in shaping and improving services, therefore residents feeling informed and empowered to influence services. In addition ensuring all carers in Denbighshire are well supported.
- Young people want to live and work here, and have skills to do so – helping young people to develop practical ‘life skills’ and behaviours that contribute to good health and well-being. Moreover all young people will be supported to achieve their potential, in addition becoming resilient and having the right skills to thrive.

The following improvement priorities and wellbeing objectives set out by Wrexham County Borough Council would be met;

- Encouraging people to live, work and invest here – providing people with good quality opportunities, supporting them with the appropriate skills and support; in order to pursue their ambitions.
- Helping tackling poverty – promoting and supporting good quality employed by maximising household incomes and reducing the household expenditure.
- Supporting people to live active, independent lives within their community – supporting carers who are enabling people to remain independent (home based). In addition leading to the sustainment of the number of carers.
- Promoting good quality homes and regeneration – meeting the housing needs of a varied and growing population in addition providing children and young people with appropriate housing to meet their needs.
- Supporting a resilient council – ensuring Wrexham County Borough Council develop initiatives, policies and guidance that enables, promotes and supports the well-being of our workforce to enable the workforce to perform the best of their ability and maximise attendance where possible.

Lastly meeting Gwynedd Council’s council plan;

- Enjoy happy, healthy and safe lives.
- Reducing inequality within the county – providing support with key partners to support families at the times they may need it most. In addition as Corporate Parent’s ensuring that every opportunity is sought and available to children and young people in local authority care in order to achieve their potential.
- Ensuring that the whole Council places the people of Gwynedd at the centre of everything they do - continuing to achieve savings which have already been approved in order to ensure a balanced budget.
- Ensuring a greater supply of suitable housing is available to Gwynedd Council’s residents; providing them with the most suitable homes when needed most for the future.
- Earn a sufficient salary to be able to support themselves and their families – by working jointly with Partners across North Wales on matters in order to create appropriate conditions to attract investment to the area.
- Ensuring that Gwynedd children and young people have the ability to live their lives through the medium of Welsh by placing them with local in-house foster carers.

Pros of implementing a Council Tax deduction scheme for in-house local authority foster carers.	Cons of implementing a Council Tax deduction scheme for in-house local authority foster carers.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The 6 local authorities involved within this scheme would be the first local authorities within Wales to do so. - Meeting legislations and policies. - Having the knowledge research and evidence of what works and doesn't work from other councils based in England. - Possible transfer of foster carers from IFA foster carers. - Transferring of external agency foster carers will mean well experienced foster carers may transfer. Narrowing the IFA payment fee gap by £400.00 by year (depending on discount awarded). - Unique selling point, which IFAs could not match or compete with. - Press coverage. - Foster carers will feel valued by the local authority and their morale will be boosted. - Excellent retention method. - Retention rate will improve. - Placements of local authority children can be local. - Council tax discount scheme could be changed in the future in order to target particular foster carers i.e. for teenager placements. - Collaborative working with other local authorities' i.e pooling of budgets. - More money saved, which can go on recruitment and advertisement. - Less out of house foster placements would need to be made. - Less looked after children would need to be placed out of county. - Children and young people will have access to appropriate and good quality accommodation that enhances the quality of their lives. - Children and young people are safe and feel safe by strengthening safeguarding arrangements. - Children and young people will enjoy happy, healthy and safe lives. - Reducing inequality within the local authorities. - People can earn a sufficient salary to be able to support themselves and their families. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Possible complaints/disruption from external agency foster carers living in the local authority, having a local authority child/ren in placement and fostering for an agency. - Possible complaints/disruption from the general public. - Local authorities with no recruitment officer in place may experience a delay in the recruitment/transferring of foster carers. - Depending on how the council tax is deducted and using what percentages some foster carers may be frustrated/upset to what they are receiving. - Using a days in placement/percentage method could lead to more placements breakdowns i.e. if foster carers want 100% discount may not identify a breakdown is going to happen. - Staffing capacity - If transferring of foster carers happen, supervising social workers caseloads will rise. - Working with local authorities where out of county connected persons/kinships are based and encouraging them to implicate the same scheme for our carers.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting children and young people to achieve their potential. - Foster carer council tax deduction would work well alongside care leavers council tax deductions. 	
---	--

The average band of council tax in Wales is band D for 2018-19 costing £1,492. The following tables demonstrate the breakdown of these figures and which elements are covered in this. In addition exhibiting a rise of £72 or 5.1% increase.

Table 1: Breakdown of band D council tax in Wales, 2018-19:

County	Average Band D	County Council Element	Community Council Element (a)	Police Authority Element	Average Per Dwelling
Isle of Anglesey	1,441	1,140	42	258	1,313
Gwynedd	1,601	1,301	42	258	1,441
Conwy	1,469	1,168	43	258	1,331
Denbighshire	1,555	1,248	49	258	1,409
Flintshire	1,480	1,178	45	258	1,417
Wrexham	1,398	1,093	47	258	1,277

The above table shows the average Band D along with the average per dwelling figures for council tax billing authorities. In addition the table shows county, community council and police elements.

The average council tax per dwelling ranges from £1,277 in Wrexham to £1,441 in Gwynedd.

(Gov. Wales, 2018)

Chart 1: Difference in average council tax per dwelling, by billing authority 2018 – 19:

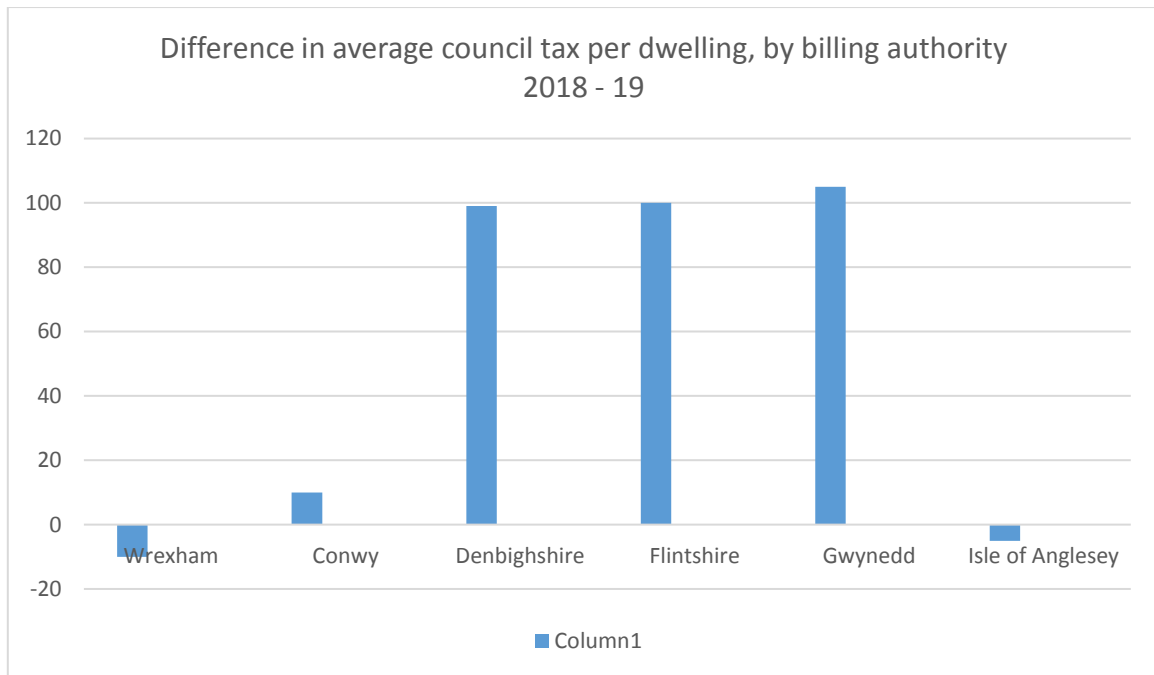


Chart 1 shows the difference in average council tax per dwelling by the billing authority 2018 – 19.

Isle of Anglesey's average council tax is £100 less than Gwynedd's average.

(Gov. Wales, 2018)

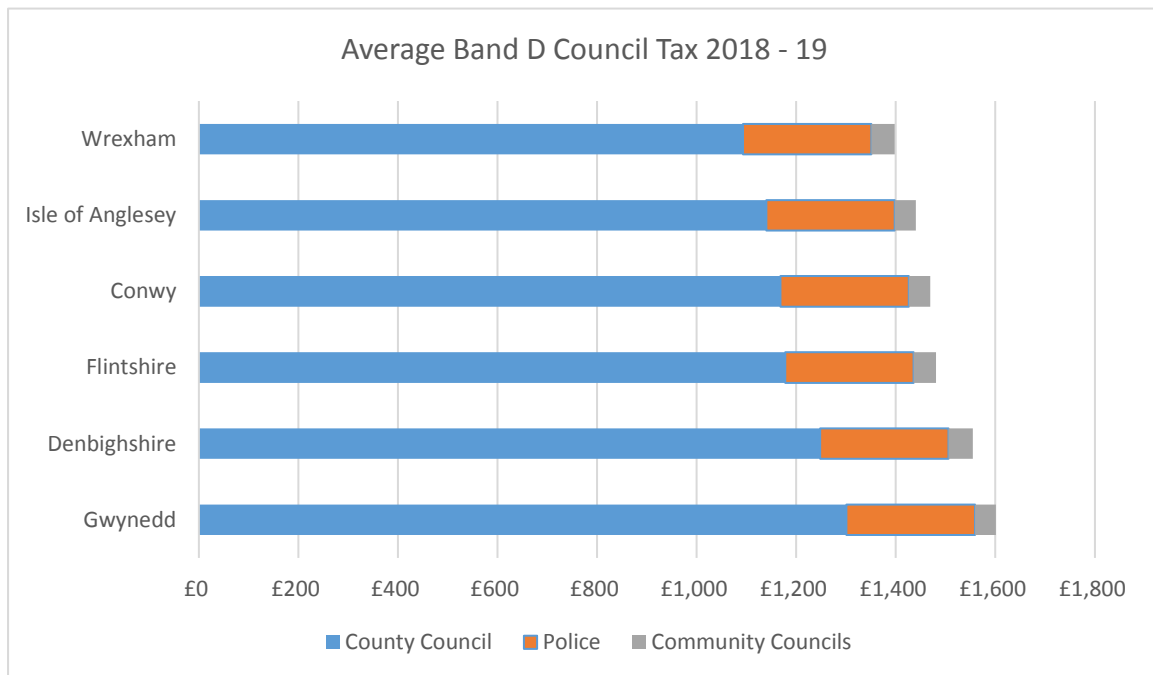
Chart 2: Average band D council tax, 2018 – 19:

Chart 2 shows the average Band D council tax billing authority. Gwynedd has the largest average Band D council tax whilst Wrexham has the smallest average Band D council tax.

(Gov. Wales, 2018)

Table 2: Changes to average Band D council tax:

County	2017-18 £	2018-19 £	Overall increase £	Of which: County £	Of Which: Police £	Overall increase %	Due to: County %	Due to: Police %
Isle of Anglesey	1,377	1,441	64	55	9	4.6	4.9	3.6
Gwynedd	1,530	1,601	71	62	9	4.7	4.9	3.6
Conwy	1,401	1,469	68	59	9	4.8	5.1	3.6
Denbighshire	1,487	1,555	68	59	9	4.6	4.8	3.6
Flintshire	1,395	1,480	85	76	9	6.1	6.6	3.6
Wrexham	1,346	1,398	52	43	9	3.9	4.0	3.6

Table 2 compares the increases in average Band D council tax in relation to the previous year for counties (including Community Councils) and Police. Flintshire has the largest percentage increase of 6.1%. All other authorities has increased by at least 4.0%. The overall North Wales average Band D increase, including the Police elements is, 8.98%.

(Gov. Wales, 2018)

Chart 3: Change in average Band D council tax 2018 – 19:

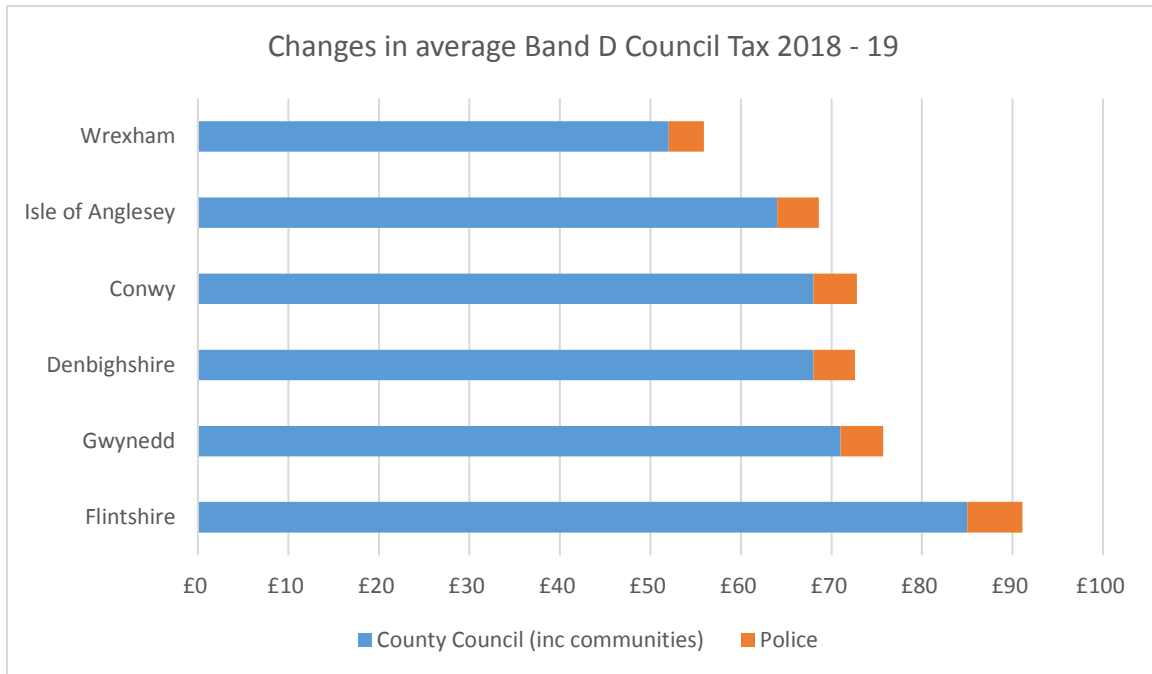


Chart 3 shows the average changes in council tax compared to the previous year. The average increase for North Wales is £408, made up of £354 for Councils and £54 for Police.

(Gov. Wales, 2018)

There are currently 538 local in-house foster carers based across the six local authorities involved with this report and the following data. These include general foster carers and connected persons/kinship carers.

In the tables below are some calculations of Conwy County Borough Council's in-house foster carer's council tax;

Conwy's General Foster Carer's Council Tax

(4 Unknown and including 8 out of county Connected Persons; 1A, 3B, 2C & 2D)

Band A	£0
Band B	£4,751.32
Band C	£27,150.40
Band D	£18,326.52
Band E	£13,066.13
Band F	£24,265.67
Band G	£12,726.75
TOTAL COSTING:	£100,286.79

Overall totalling to £100,286.79. An external-agency placement can cost approximately £43,200 per annum. Therefore the local authorities would only need to find 2 new in-house foster carers in order to cover this fund and save money. In conclusion identifying there would be an investment of approximately £13,886 from the scheme being implemented.

In the tables below are some calculations of Flintshire County Council's in-house foster carer's council tax;

Flintshire's General Foster Carer's Council Tax (3 Unknown)

Band A	£1441
Band B	£0
Band C	£1469
Band D	£1555
Band E	£0
Band F	£182,040
Band G	£0
Band W	£1398
TOTAL COSTING:	£187,903

Coming to a total of £187, 903. With an external-agency placement costing approximately £43,200 per annum this would mean Flintshire County Council would need to find 4 new in-house foster carers in order to cover this fund; therefore saving money. To sum up an investment of approximately £15,103 would be saved with the implementation of this scheme.

In the tables below are some calculations of Isle of Anglesey County Council's in-house foster carer's council tax;

Isle of Anglesey's General Foster Carer's Council Tax

Band A	£53, 317
Band B	£0
Band C	£1469
Band D	£1555
Band E	£0
Band F	£182,040
Band G	£1601
Band W	£1398
TOTAL COSTING:	£241, 380

With the Isle of Anglesey's foster carer's council tax totalling £241, 380 this would mean, again with external- agency placements costing approximately £43,200 per annum, that the Isle of Anglesey Council would need to find 5 new in-house foster carers in order to cover this fund. The Isle of Anglesey Council would have an investment of approximately £25,380.

In the tables below are some calculations of Denbighshire County Council's in-house foster carer's council tax;

Denbighshire's General Foster Carer's Council Tax

Band A	£0
Band B	£
Band C	£
Band D	£
Band E	£
Band F	£
Band G	£
TOTAL COSTING:	£

No information has yet been provided by this local authority.

In the tables below are some calculations Wrexham Borough Council's in-house foster carer's council tax;

Wrexham's General Foster Carer's Council Tax (5 Unknown)

Band A	£7835.52
Band B	£36,565.76
Band C	£61,378.24
Band D	£32,321.52
Band E	£26,934.60
Band F	£23,343.32
Band G	£12,243
Band H	£5,876.64
TOTAL COSTING:	£206,498.60

Wrexham County Borough Council's foster carers' council tax comes to a total of £206,498.60; not including the 5 unknown council tax bands. Considering external – agency placements cost approximately £43,200 per annum, this would mean Wrexham County Borough Council would need to recruit around 5 new in-house foster carers in order to cover this fund. Wrexham County Borough Council would have an investment of approximately £9501.40 per annum.

In the tables below are some calculations of Gwynedd Council's in-house foster carer's council tax;

Gwynedd's General Foster Carer's Council Tax

Band A	£0
Band B	£
Band C	£
Band D	£
Band E	£
Band F	£
Band G	£
TOTAL COSTING:	£

No information has yet been provided by this local authority.

The overall average council tax payment is;

Local Authority	Average Council Tax Cost
Conwy County Borough Council	£14,324.11
Flintshire County Council	£23,487.87
Isle of Anglesey Council	£30,172.50
Denbighshire County Council	To be received
Wrexham Borough Council	£25,812.32
Gwynedd Council	To be received

According to the National Fostering Framework regional report (2017) in North Wales there were 151 placements made with IFAs/third sector providers due to an in-house shortage. The agencies have the ability to charge local authority's £900.00 per week (on average, also adding some extortionate charges to this), in comparison to in-house local authority fostering being £300.00 per week. Therefore external-agency placements costing the local authorities approximately £3,600 per month and in total £7,066,800 per annum for all local authorities in North Wales.

There are approximately 538 local authority foster carers in North Wales and the average banding of their properties are Band D. The total cost of their council tax (£736,068.39) would be £122,678.06 (split between the 6 local authorities). Consequently in order to make an investment the local authorities would need to gain 26 (17%) new in house foster carers or IFA foster carers to transfer to their local authority. Each local authority would need approximately four/five new in-house foster carers to meet this. In time saving each local authority approximately £88,821.94 per annum, in comparison to using 5 external agency foster carers per annum. This income could then be used towards the retention and recruitment of further local authority foster carers; recruitment thus becoming self-funded.

Furthermore IFA's are currently paying their foster carers approximately £400.00 per week and are undercutting the local authorities by approximately £400.00 a month. By implementing the Council Tax scheme (based on a Band D cost) local authorities would only be undercut by IFA's by £400.00 per year; lowering the difference in payment between local authority foster carers and external-agency foster carers. In addition giving potential foster carers more of a vision to transfer and foster for their local authority over the IFA's. By having such a unique 'selling point' this may attract the more experienced foster carers from IFA's whom are more likely to meet the more challenging placements; rather than recruiting inexperienced foster carers and placing these children/young people with local IFA's.

During Regional Recruitment Officer Meetings it was discussed for a way in order for foster carers could receive their council tax deductions. This was explored whether a rebate could be given at the end of each financial year or perhaps a deduction already placed on their council tax bill.

There are already a range of methods and schemes in place in order to reduce or provide council tax discount schemes. For example there is a reduction scheme for people with disabilities, where property council tax can be reduced by charging the household a lower valuation band than the one the property is in. In addition to this if only one person lives in a property they will get a 25% discount on their council tax bill. For both of these a local authority may automatically send a council tax bill which includes a discount and this discount will be shown on the bill.

(Citizens Advice, 2018).

Method 1:

Some of the local authorities identified within the research provided their foster carers with 25% off their council tax, regardless of their council tax band. Below the grid shows how much discount this would be based on the average band fee and how much this would cost all local authorities. Although the method presented in the grid below would not be fair and equal to all foster carers, with some foster carers receiving more of a discount than others. This method would be easy to reduce from a foster carer's council tax bill per annum. In addition similar to Liverpool County Council if there are no placements within these properties foster carers would still be able to receive the discount, whilst others may have a full-time placement.

Council Band	Discount Awarded	Money Discounted	Cost per LAs
A (av £1047.20)	25%	£261.80	£72
B (av £1352.95)	25%	£338.23	£1,187.83
C (av £1546.23)	25%	£386.55	£7,522.10
D (av £1739.51)	25%	£434.87	£5,359.13
E (av £2126.40)	25%	£531.60	£3,266.53

F (av £2156.26)	25%	£539.06	£97,086.41
G (av £2899.17)	25%	£724.79	£3,581.93
H (av £2536)	25%	£634.00	£211.33
W (£1398)	25%	£349.50	£699
		TOTAL:	£118, 986.26

Please note this table does not include information from Denbighshire County Council or Gwynedd Council.

Method 2:

It was identified within some of the research that some local authorities based in England provided their foster carers with 100% council tax discount. From the information provided by each local authority, by providing foster carers with 100% council tax discount the cost per each local authority can be seen below. Although this method again would not be fair and equal to all foster carers, due to different property types and may cause conflict. In addition not identifying how many days per year a foster carer would have a child placed in their care for. Therefore this method could bring out similar issues as what Liverpool Council experienced. However 100% discount would be an excellent incentive and retention method for foster carers.

Council Band	Discount Awarded	Money Discounted	Cost for all LAs
A (av £1047.20)	100%	£1047.20	£2882
B (av £1352.95)	100%	£1352.95	£54,758
C (av £1546.23)	100%	£1546.23	£30,088.40
D (av £1739.51)	100%	£1739.51	£21,436.52
E (av £2126.40)	100%	£2126.40	£13,066.13
F (av £2156.26)	100%	£2156.26	£235,357
G (av £2899.17)	100%	£2899.17	£14,327.75
H (av £2536)	100%	£2536	£5072
W (£1398)	100%	£1398	£2796
		TOTAL:	£366,717.67
		Cost per LA:	£61,119.61

Please note this table does not include information from Denbighshire County Council or Gwynedd Council.

Method 3:

Foster carers could be placed within bands, which look at how many days over the year in which they have a looked after child in their placement. The discount in which foster carers are entitled to would depend on how many days a looked after child is in placement.

When discussing this with Flintshire County Council's Finance team it was identified that calculating the number of days which a foster carer has had a child in placements for is difficult, due to all payments being mixed together. Therefore this would have to mean foster carers perhaps completing a declaration form of how many days they have had a placement in place for and for their supervising social worker to confirm this.

Band Type	Days LAC in Placement	Discount Awarded	Money discounted (based on Band D)
Band 1	1 – 19 days	10%	£149
Band 2	20 – 52 days (e.g. monthly respite care)	25%	£372.50
Band 3	53 – 182 days (up to 6 months of the year)	50%	£745
Band 4	183 – 365 (6 – 12 months)	100%	£1,490

Method 4:

Moreover an approach similar to Waltham Forest Council's discount could be used where foster carers are based on their tiers (type of fostering completed). This method may encourage foster carers to aim for a certain tier and complete more training, therefore becoming more experienced foster carers and gaining new skills.

Tier Type	Discount Awarded	Money discounted (based on Band D)
Tier 1	33%	£491.70

Tier 2	33%	£491.70
Tier 3 (NVQ registered foster carers)	50%	£745
Foster carers who have young people aged over 12 years in place, parent and child placements of sibling groups of 3 or more children.	66%	£983.40

All four methods of how council tax deduction could be implemented within the local authorities can be adapted and merged together in order to achieve the best outcome for the local authorities involved and their foster carers.

In conclusion from researching in to the topic of Council Tax deductions for foster carers it was apparent that Wales have not yet brought this in for their foster carers. Therefore it would be an excellent opportunity for North Wales to be the first lot of local authorities to implement such a fantastic scheme. Each local authority would have the opportunity to gain publicity due to this. In addition by taking on this scheme as collaborative work the 6 local authorities will be able to work together in order to secure outcomes through joint commissioning, for example; pooling budgets more between the local authority and services for looked after children. Furthermore by working more closely together this may avoid any difficulties with finance that Liverpool identified. Additionally perhaps becoming a figure for other local authorities and councils within Wales to implement a similar scheme.

It can be seen within the report initially the sum of deducting foster carer's council tax is a large amount, however in comparison to how much money each local authority spends on placing children and young people out of county and with IFAs, this is significantly low and would in time save each local authority. Upon analysis this scheme would cost each of the six local authorities £60,000 (looking at 100% discount) to fund it for the financial year. However approximately £216,000 (cost of 5 IFA placements) could be save if the scheme led to recruit up to 5 new foster carers; therefore replacing high costing placements such as residential homes and IFAs.

By deducting foster carer's council tax bills this will have a great influence on them. Not only will it cost each household approximately £1,500 less per household per year it will also boost foster carer's morale, make them feel valued and supports and recognise the amazing work they do for the local authority's children and young people. Furthermore as identified by several of the councils discussed previously this would also be an excellent method of retention for the fostering teams and will in time lessen the use of IFA's.

As for the recruitment of foster carers, by offering a council tax deduction this will be an excellent selling point that IFAs are not able to compete against and cannot offer their foster carers. Even though research does show that this has caused disruption with IFA foster carers who are living within the local authority and have local authority children in placement, however this can be set out and made clear beforehand. In addition this would also reinforce each local authorities aim and requirement of meeting the child's and young people's needs by them locally in the county.

Along with making the scheme clear that you must be a local authority in-house foster carer it would also be suggested that a child or young person has to be in placement for a length of time before council tax deductions can be made. As this highlighted within other reports and was identified to be a difficulty for Liverpool Council.

Reference Page

Anglesey.Gov, 2018. Press-Release – Council Tax exemption helps care leavers. Found via;
<http://www.anglesey.gov.uk/empty-nav/news/press-releases-2018/april-2018/council-tax-exemption-helps-care-leavers/134205.article?redirect=false>

Bathnes – Care leavers and foster carers Council Tax discount.

BBC News – Scrap council tax for care leavers across Wales say charities.

BBC, 2018. Gwynedd care leavers may get council tax exemption. Found via;
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-north-west-wales-44967421>

CarersUk (2017/18) Help with Council Tax.

Citizens Advice, 2018 Council Tax. Found via:

<https://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/wales/housing/council-tax/council-tax-w/>

Crawley, J (2017) Bath Chronicle. Cross-party support over calls for Foster Carer's council tax discount.

Flintshire County Council (2018) Council Tax and Benefits and Grants. Found via;
<https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Council-Tax-and-Benefits-and-Grants/Council-Tax.aspx>

LabourList (2013) Foster Carers should be exempt from Council Tax.

Pritchard, A (2016) JMU Journalism: Liverpool Life. Council Tax scrapped for Foster Carers.

Russel – Stowe, N (2016) London Borough of Waltham Forest: Council Tax Discounts for Waltham Forest approved Foster Carers.

Mackenzie, K (2017) Rochdale Borough Council: Council Tax Discount for Foster Carers and Care Leavers.

Welsh Government, 2018. Statistical First Release.

This page is intentionally left blank



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Welsh Language Annual Monitoring Report 2018/19
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Report Author	Chief Executive
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present the Welsh Language Annual Monitoring Report 2018/19 (Appendix 1).

The Council has a statutory duty to publish an annual report setting out how it has met the Welsh Language Standards (WLS). The Standards which the Council has to comply with are set out in a Compliance Notice. These are unique to each organisation and specify what the organisations are expected to implement in Welsh and by when they are required to comply.

This report provides an overview of progress to complying with the Welsh Language Standards and identifies areas for improvement.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Assurance that progress has been made during the year to meet our statutory duties.
2	The areas for improvement are noted and a mid-year report on progress is to be built into the Forward Work Programme.
3	Approval of the publication of the report on the Council's website.
4	The Welsh Language Annual Report is included on the forward work programme of Corporate Resources and Overview Scrutiny Committee.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE WELSH LANGUAGE ANNUAL REPORT
1.01	<p>The Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011 enables the Welsh Ministers to specify Standards relating to the Welsh language. The aim of the Standards is to continue and develop the work of the former Welsh Language Schemes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• improving the services Welsh speakers can expect to receive from organisations in Welsh• increasing the use people make of Welsh language services• making it clear to organisations what they need to do in terms of the Welsh language• ensuring that there is an appropriate degree of consistency in terms of the duties placed on bodies in the same sectors.
1.02	<p>The Welsh Language Commissioner (WLC) served Compliance Notices on each of the 22 local authorities in Wales in September 2015 identifying the Standards with which they must comply.</p> <p>The Welsh Standards Compliance Notice for Flintshire County Council lists 171 Standards, relating to service delivery, policy making, operational matters, promotion and record keeping. The Standards require the Council to publish an annual report setting out how the standards have been met.</p>
1.03	<p>The Welsh Language Annual Report provides an opportunity to set out what the Council has done to meet the Standards and showcase exemplars of good practice. There have been some outstanding areas of achievement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social Services arranged a “Welsh for beginners” course specifically for the social care workforce (including the independent sector), and provided Welsh language awareness sessions to their partners to help them understand the importance of Welsh culture in the delivery of care services.• Ysgol Gwenffrwd achieved the the Siarter Iaith Gold award for their increased use of Welsh in social settings. Six English medium primary schools have achieved the Bronze award of “Cymraeg Campus” for their work to develop Welsh in the school.• The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan is being updated and is an important strategy for increasing the number of pupils learning through the medium of Welsh and, over time, the pool of potential Welsh speaking employees.• Theatr Clwyd delivered, for the first time in its history, a Welsh language Christmas show “Llew the Shoemaker”.• The theatre is also developing a newly accredited course for bilingual facilitators- the first ever course of its kind.• Theatr Clwyd also increased the number of Welsh language cinema and music events.

1.04	<p>Although there are positive areas of progress, issues remain as areas for improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More employees need to complete the Welsh language awareness training. This shows the link between Welsh language, good customer care and high quality services. During the period 2018/19 only 283 employees completed this training; • The Welsh language skills audit shows that 4% of employees are fluent Welsh speakers and approximately 37% employees have no Welsh skills. This remains the same as last year, with no movement or improvement. This profile needs to improve by increasing the number of Welsh speaking employees and reducing the number of employees without any knowledge of the Welsh language. This will support the Council to deliver bilingual services and meet the needs of Welsh speaking customers. These figures remain consistent with last year's report i.e. there has not been a reduction in the percentage of employees who report that they can speak Welsh. • More take-up is needed of the Welsh language training courses provided by the Council, to help change the profile of the Council's Welsh speakers. • Promotion of the use of Welsh in the Council (both as a business and as a place to socialise).
1.05	<p>Complaints</p> <p>There have been six complaints relating to Welsh language during 2018/19, compared to four complaints received during 2017/18. They related to telephone calls, the website, signage, information and correspondence. Three of these complaints were referred to the Welsh Language Commissioner (WLC). The Commissioner is still investigating one of these complaints. Of the other two complaints investigated the Commissioner determined that the Council breached Standard 1</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>If you receive correspondence from a person in Welsh you must reply in Welsh (if an answer is required), unless the person has indicated that there is no need to reply in Welsh.</i></p> <p>Various methods of communication are being considered to continually remind managers and employees their responsibilities.</p>
1.06	<p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A mid-year report on the areas for improvement will be considered by Cabinet. • Workforce communications will be published to increase the number of employees who complete the Welsh language awareness e-learning module. • Increased awareness and support for Welsh language training courses to encourage managers and employees to improve take-up. • Regular communications regarding compliance with and celebration of the Welsh Language Standards will be shared with the workforce.

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

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	Officers were consulted to provide information for the annual monitoring report and consideration was given by Chief Officers.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	<p>Meeting the Welsh Language Standards will promote equality for Welsh speakers in service delivery and for Council Welsh speaking employees. They will ensure that the Council considers the impact of policies and decisions on both Welsh speakers and the Welsh language to promote positive impact and eliminate/reduce negative impact.</p> <p>Actions are being taken as described in the body of the report to ensure that awareness of the Standards and their compliance is supported.</p>

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 Welsh Language Annual Monitoring Report 2018/19

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>Welsh Language Compliance Notice</p> <p>Contact Officer: Fiona Mocko, Strategic Policy Advisor Telephone: 01352 702122 E-mail: fiona.mocko@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Compliance Notice: specifies the exact Welsh Language Standards that each organisation should have to comply with and also the date by which they are required to comply with a standard.</p> <p>Cymraeg Campus: Welsh Government initiative to develop the use of Welsh in English medium schools. This consist of three awards –bronze, silver and gold which schools aim to achieve by meeting set targets.</p>

Siarter Iaith: Welsh Government initiative to promote and increase the use of Welsh in Welsh medium schools.

Welsh In Education Strategic Plan: the Council's plan setting out how it will support, expand and promote Welsh-medium education within the whole community, increasing the number and percentage of pupils receiving Welsh-medium education in compliance with the Welsh Government's 'Welsh-Medium Education Strategy' of developing learners who are fully bilingual.

Welsh Language Measure: Welsh Language (Wales) Measure 2011: confirms the official status of Welsh, creates a new system of placing duties on bodies to provide services through the medium of Welsh and creating the post of Language Commissioner with enforcement powers.

Welsh Language Standards: specific standards of conduct in relation to the Welsh language.

This page is intentionally left blank



Flintshire County Council Welsh Language Annual Report April 2018 - March 2019

We can provide this information in alternative formats or in your own language

Corporate Business and Communication Team

Corporate Services

County Hall

Mold

Flintshire

CH7 6NG

Tel: ☎ 01352 702131

Email: 💻 corporatebusiness@flintshire.gov.uk

Mae'r cyhoeddiad hwn ar gael yn Gymraeg

Welsh Language Annual Report

2018/2019

Monitoring Report 2018 - 2019

Executive Summary

1.	Introduction	4
2.	Compliance with the Service Delivery Standards	5
3.	Compliance with Policy making Standards	6
4.	Compliance with Operational Standards	6
5.	Training	10
6.	Complaints	12
7.	Welsh language Promotion	13
8.	Future Action	14

Appendices

Appendix 1	Welsh Language Skills Self Assessment Tool
------------	--

Executive Summary

The Welsh Language Standards came into force on 30 March 2016 and the Council was required to comply with 146 Standards by this date. Further Standards came into force at a later date; totalling 171 in all. Many of the Standards that apply to the Council reflect the commitments in our previous Welsh Language Scheme and reflect our existing practice and commitments to Welsh language.

This is the third Welsh Language Annual Monitoring Report, following the implementation of the Welsh Language Standards Compliance Notice and covers the period April 2018 to March 2019. It shows actions we have been taking to comply with the Standards and includes data we are required to publish.

An area of improvement is the increased number of employees who have completed the Welsh language skills assessment. Other notable areas of success include the achievement of Silver status of Siarter Iaith by all Welsh medium schools, and one Welsh medium primary school has achieved Gold status. The award is in recognition of their work to encourage the use of Welsh outside school. Services have also been active promoting the Welsh language, in particular Theatr Clwyd. The theatre has been active in raising the profile of Welsh language throughout all their activities, producing and co-producing Welsh language shows. It delivered, for the very first time in its history, a Welsh language Christmas show "Llew the Shoemaker".

We recognise that we are making progress but there are still improvements to be made. We will strengthen the links between Welsh language and the Council's Council Plan to contribute towards mainstreaming Welsh language throughout the Council's functions.

Colin Everett
Chief Executive

Councillor Billy Mullin
Cabinet Member for Corporate
Management

Welsh Language Standards Annual Monitoring Report 2018-19

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Flintshire County Council has adopted the principle that in the conduct of public business and the administration of justice in Wales it will treat the Welsh and English languages on a basis of equality. The introduction of the Welsh Language Standards builds on this commitment.
- 1.2 The aim of the Standards is to
 - improve the services Welsh speakers can expect to receive from organisations in Welsh.
 - increase the use people make of Welsh language services.
 - make it clear to organisations what they need to do in terms of the Welsh language.
 - ensure that there is an appropriate degree of consistency in terms of the duties placed on bodies in the same sectors.
- 1.3 The Welsh Language Commissioner (WLC) served Compliance Notices on the Council identifying the 171 Standards to which we must comply. Compliance Notices are unique to each organisation reflecting the linguistic profile of the local community and organisational capacity to meet the Standards. The WLC has the powers to investigate and take action against those organisations who fail to comply with the Standards. This includes imposing financial penalties for non-compliance.
- 1.4 The Council is required to publish an annual report by 30 June as set out in the Standards 158, 164 and 170. The full list of Standards with which we are required to comply is available [here](#). This report is also received annually by the Council's Cabinet on performance in relation to the Standards. A mid-year report on areas of improvement will also be reported to Cabinet. This report focuses on the period 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019.
- 1.5 We have published a list of actions we have taken to comply with the Standards on our website.
- 1.6 The Chief Executive has overall responsibility for ensuring compliance with the Standards.

2. Compliance with Service Delivery Standards

- 2.1 To ensure that all employees are aware of the Service Delivery Standards we have been circulating information to managers and employees on a regular basis. Managers were asked to ensure their Services were compliant.
- 2.2 Specific guidance has been issued to employees for:
 - Arranging meetings and events
 - Corporate Branding
 - Consultation and research
 - Dealing with telephone calls
 - Dealing with correspondence
 - Producing documents, certificates for the public
 - Public address systems
 - Reception services
 - Setting up email signatures
 - Signage
 - Social media, websites, self - service machines
 - Tenders and contracts
 - Using Welsh at work
 - Website
- 2.3 Standard statements offering customers the opportunity to correspond in Welsh have been provided to employees, these are included on letter heads and documents. A standard statement welcoming correspondence in Welsh has now been included as a footer on emails which are sent externally.
- 2.4 Iaith Gwaith posters are on display in all reception areas, Welsh speaking employees and Welsh learners wear the Iaith Gwaith lanyards and/or badges. New employees who are Welsh speaking or Welsh learners are asked about their skill level when they have their photographs taken for their ID (Identification) cards. Welsh speakers and Welsh learners are then provided with Iaith Gwaith badges and lanyards.
- 2.5 The Council's website, Apps and self-service machines are bilingual as is the Council's Twitter page. The Council's Social Media Policy includes a requirement to comply with the Welsh Language Standards.
- 2.6 Members of the public who apply for courses run by the Council are asked their preferred language (Welsh or English) to assess the need for lessons to be provided through the medium of Welsh.
- 2.7 The Council's Contract Procedure Rules incorporates the Welsh Language Standards, this reminds commissioning officers of what they need to do to ensure compliance with the Standards. Sample clauses for contracts are published on the intranet.
- 2.8 A Complaints Procedure is already in place and has been amended to ensure it is compliant with the Welsh Language Standards. Complaints about Welsh language are set out in section six.

- 2.9 A Welsh language delegated leads network, with membership comprising of representatives from each of the Council's portfolios, has been established. The aim of this group is to champion Welsh language across the Council, promote the use of Welsh by employees, share good practice within their service and contribute to initiatives to increase the use of Welsh. This network is chaired by the Chief Officer for Education and Youth.
- 2.10 We have developed a Welsh in the Workplace policy to increase the visibility and audibility of Welsh at work, encouraging employees to use Welsh with colleagues as well as with customers.
- 2.11 Agendas and minutes from Committee meetings are available in Welsh.

3. Compliance with Policy Making Standards

- 3.1 An electronic Integrated Impact Assessment framework which includes Welsh language has been developed. This is now included within the corporate performance management system to ensure that progress in completing integrated impact assessments can be monitored more effectively.
- 3.2 Menter Iaith Fflint a Wrecsam attend the Integrated Impact Assessment Stakeholder Group in which representatives of people with protected characteristics and Welsh speakers contribute to the impact assessments as they are being undertaken.
- 3.3 Guidance on consultation and research, including Welsh language is available on the intranet. This has been promoted to employees, as has the requirement to comply with the Policy Making Standards.
- 3.4 A Directory of Groups managers should consult when they develop new and update existing policies is available on the intranet. This Directory includes a list of organisations representing Welsh speakers.

4. Compliance with Operational Standards

- 4.1 A Welsh in the Workplace Policy has been agreed and published on the intranet- this is the Council's policy for using Welsh and encouraging the use of Welsh internally.
- 4.2 New signage and updated signage is in Welsh and English - Welsh positioned above or to the left of English signage. All signage in the Council's new building "Tŷ Dewi Sant" is fully bilingual - Welsh positioned so that it is read before the English. A review of Council buildings is in progress to ensure all signage in Council buildings is fully bilingual.
- 4.3 The front page of the Council's intranet is now available in Welsh, and employees are welcomed by the splash page to view the front page in either English or Welsh. A designated page is available on the intranet to support Welsh speakers.

- 4.4 Employees and managers have been informed of the Operational Standards and the rights of employees.
- 4.5 Employees have been informed of their rights to receive personally addressed business through the medium of Welsh. This information is recorded on iTrent (human resource management system) and by managers. This is printed on employees' payslips ensuring the message reaches all employees and is included in the Induction checklist.
- 4.6 New employees are asked in which language they would like their contract to be issued.
- 4.7 Appraisal documentation is published on the intranet in Welsh. Employees have the option of disciplinary and grievance interviews/meetings being held in Welsh.
- 4.8 Cysgliad (Welsh grammar, spellchecker and dictionary) is available for employees. This is promoted at induction and employees are regularly reminded, through workforce news items, that they can request Cysgliad.
- 4.9 Resources to support Welsh learners and Welsh speakers are available on the intranet on a dedicated page for Welsh learners. Activities to support learners which take place in the community are promoted to employees to encourage them to participate.
- 4.10 Instructions on how to set up Iaith Gwaith on email signatures, bilingual email addresses and bilingual out of office messages have been circulated to employees. Employees can also request to have the words "Siaradwr Cymraeg" or "Dysgwr Cymraeg" after their name on their email address, to show they are Welsh speakers or Welsh learners. Iaith Gwaith lanyards and badges for Welsh speakers are available and Welsh learners have been provided with "Dysgwr" lanyards and badges.
- 4.11 The Induction checklist includes the Welsh Language Standards and prompts managers to ensure that employees:
- complete the Welsh language skills assessment;
 - identify the need for any Welsh language training;
 - complete the e-learning Welsh language awareness e-learning module;
 - can access Cysgliad;
 - are provided with the Iaith Gwaith badge and lanyard if they are Welsh speaking or a Welsh learner;
 - set up their "out of office message" bilingually; and
 - set up a bilingual email address.
- 4.12 The following policies are published in Welsh:
- Attendance Management Policy
 - Benefits of Working at Flintshire County Council
 - Capability Policy
 - Corporate Safeguarding Policy

- Disclosure and Barring Service Policy
- Dignity at Work Policy
- Diversity and Equality Policy
- Flexible Working application form
- Flexible Working Hours Policy
- Foster for Flintshire Policy
- Health and Safety Policy
- Welsh in the Workplace Policy

Requests for annual leave and sickness absence are made electronically, a Welsh version of request forms are available.

All information from Occupational Health is bilingual.

4.13 A process to assess the linguistic skills required for new posts is in place. A method to record the number of posts that have been assessed as desirable or essential has been developed. The Council is required to report the number of new and vacant posts which were categorised as posts where:

- i) Welsh language skills were essential
- ii) Welsh needed to be learnt when appointed
- iii) Welsh desirable
- iv) Welsh language skills were not necessary

The data for 2018/2019 is set out below.

Category	Number		
	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19
i) Welsh language essential	17	8	14
ii) Welsh needed to be learnt when appointed	0	0	0
iii) Welsh desirable	9	40	42
iv) Welsh language skills not essential	277	185	207
TOTAL	294	233	263

4.14 Application forms for posts have been altered for job applicants to indicate whether they wish to use Welsh at interview.

4.15 We have assessed the Welsh language skills of employees (excluding those employed by schools). The results of the assessment show that 88.84% of employees have completed the audit. We will continue to take action to increase the number of employees who complete this audit. The breakdown of employees who have completed the audit is shown in Table 1.

Table 1: Number and percentage of employees who have completed the Welsh language skills audit as at 31st March 2017, 31st March 2018 and 31st March 2019.

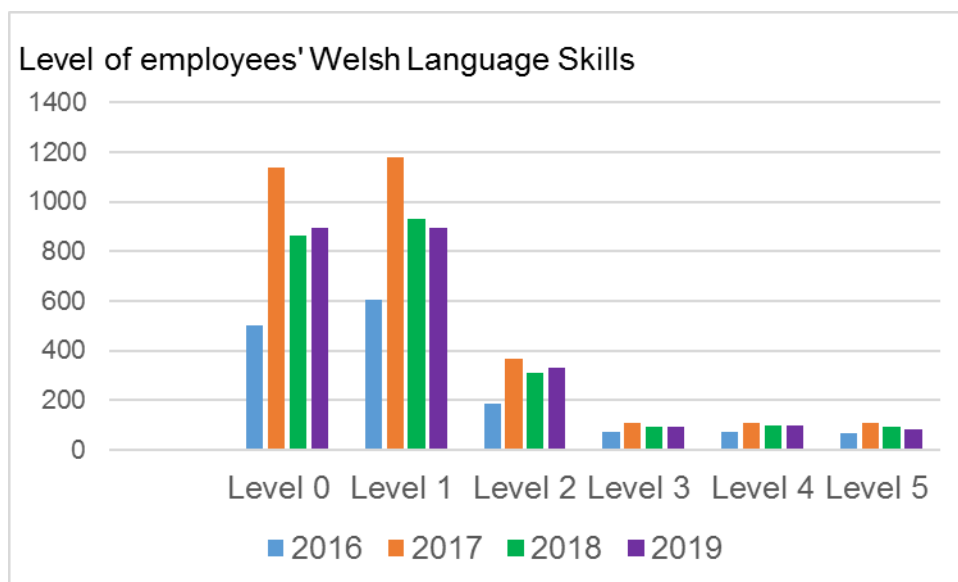
	2017	2018	2019
Portfolio	%	%	%
Chief Executives	100.00%	93.18%	100.00%
Community and Enterprise	83.66%	88.55%	88.13%
Education and Youth	81.41%	82.81%	88.06%
Governance	100.00%	98.21%	97.43%
Org Change 1	82.78%	86.36%	100.00%
Org Change 2	75.97%	94.74%	92.30%
People and Resources	100.00%	98.20%	100.00%
Planning and Environment	85.31%	90.53%	94.41%
Social Services	78.77%	91.42%	89.47%
Streetscene and Transportation	72.55%	75.00%	80.26%
FCC ACTUAL	82.43%	87.62%	88.84%

4.16 The results from Tables 2 and 3 set out the levels of employees' Welsh language skills. It shows that

Table 2: The number and percentage of employees and level of Welsh language Skills at 31 March 2019.

Portfolio	Level 0 (None)		Level 1 (Entry)		Level 2 (Foundation)		Level 3 (Intermediate)		Level 4 (Advanced)		Level 5 (Fully proficient)	
	No	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No	%	No	%
Chief Executives	7	16%	15	35%	9	21%	4	9%	3	7%	5	12%
Community and Enterprise	134	38%	131	38%	40	11%	17	5%	14	4%	13	3%
Education and Youth	55	25%	85	39%	40	19%	12	6%	12	6%	12	6%
Governance	40	35%	48	42%	16	14%	3	3%	4	4%	3	3%
Org Change 1	0	0%	5	56%	2	22%	0	0%	1	11%	1	11%
Org Change 2	13	37%	16	46%	4	11%	1	3%	1	3%	0	0%
People and Resources	40	24%	74	45%	30	18%	8	5%	10	6%	4	2%
Planning and Environment	48	31%	63	41%	16	10%	6	4%	14	9%	6	4%
Social Services	359	41%	303	34%	132	15%	30	3%	26	3%	30	3%
Streetscene and Transportation	199	47%	156	37%	40	9%	10	2%	10	2%	10	2%
Total	895	37%	896	37%	329	14%	91	4%	95	4%	84	4%

Table 3: Trend of Welsh language skills of employees as at 31st March 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019.



5. Training

5.1 The Council provides Welsh language awareness training for employees. This is provided as an e-learning module. During 2018/19, 283 employees completed this training. Welsh language awareness training was also provided to elected members, this was delivered by Iaith- the Welsh Centre for language planning. In addition Welsh language skills training is available for employees. This is set out in Section 5.3.

5.2 We are required to report:

i) the number of employees who attended courses through the medium of Welsh.

ii) if a Welsh version of a course was offered – the number and % of employees who attended the Welsh version.

There is information on the Council's intranet pages to inform employees that if they wish to do any of the courses in Welsh to contact the Corporate Learning and Development Team. The Council has an informal agreement with Gwynedd County Council that employees to attend their Welsh medium courses.

The number of employees who attended specific courses in Welsh is set out below:

Title of course	Number of employees who attended training in Welsh
Recruitment and interviewing	0
Performance Management	0
Grievance and Disciplinary Procedures	0
Induction	0
Dealing with the public	0
Health and Safety	0

5.3 Welsh language skills training

A variety of Welsh language skills training courses are provided, these include short courses for employees who have no knowledge of Welsh, to help them learn some basic expressions through to opportunities for fluent Welsh speakers to develop confidence and writing skills. There was a decrease in the number of employees who attended Welsh language skills training during 2018/19; 64 employees are now attending training.

Table 4: Number of employees attending Welsh language skills training

Level	2016/17 Number	2017/18 Number	2018/19 Number
Basic Language Skills	62	48	1
Entry	34	50	34
Foundation	20	7	12
Intermediate	12	23	3
Advanced	2	1	9
Proficient	3	10	5
Total	133	139	64

5.4 All apprentices, who are not Welsh speakers, are required to complete National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) level 2 Welsh during their first year and will progress to NVQ level 3 during their second year of their apprenticeship.

5.5 To encourage the use of Welsh in the workplace:

- employees who attend Welsh lessons also receive a dictionary in addition to access to Cysgliad
- external training providers have been asked to provide bilingual slides within their presentations such as Croeso/Welcome, Diolch/Thank you.
- managers are being provided with book marks with a sample of expressions to use in meetings.

- expressions to use in shops and cafes in Council premises are promoted during Su'mae Day.
- Managers started and finished all meetings on Su'mae Day.
- "Welsh on the Wall" posters have been distributed to Council offices and placed on walls above photocopiers to encourage employees to learn useful phrases.
- Panad a sgwrs conversation sessions are held monthly for Welsh learners in different locations; these are facilitated and supported by Welsh speaking employees.

5.6 Moving forward the Council has now registered for the ["Work Welsh"](#) Welsh language e-learning modules "Taster" course and "Welcome Back".

6. Complaints

6.1 During 2018/19 we received six complaints, compared to four complaints during 2017/18. The breakdown of complaints is set out below

Class of Standard	Number of complaints
Operational	0
Service Delivery	6
Policy making	0
Promotion	0

The complaints for 2018/19 are set out below and relate to the Service Delivery Standards.

Complaints Service Delivery	Outcome
Welsh not equal to English on information published by contractor	Welsh Language Commissioner investigation in progress. Information corrected
Customer's call to the Welsh telephone line transferred to English speaker who did not offer to take caller's details in order for a Welsh speaker to return the call. Enquiry page on website was not fully in Welsh.	Apology provided and Welsh speaker contacted the customer to deal with their enquiry. Contact Centre employees reminded to offer Welsh speakers options if Welsh speaking employees are not available. Website has now been changed
Reply sent in English to correspondence sent in Welsh (2 complaints)	Welsh Language Commissioner investigated one complaint. Currently investigating second complaint. Employees

	reminded of complying with the Standards
A letter sent in Welsh was not fully in Welsh	Services reminded to use Welsh addresses on Welsh correspondence
English placed above the Welsh on a new sign	Sign changed

7. Welsh language Promotion

7.1 We have developed and published a strategy to promote Welsh language across the county and to set targets for increasing the number of Welsh speakers. We will support an **increase** of the current level of Welsh speakers from (13.2%/ 19,343) within the county to 21,891 (15%) during this period. This equates to an increase of approximately 2548 Welsh speakers (over the age of three years) over the next five years. This takes into account the increase in children attending Welsh medium education as identified in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan as well as an increase in the number of adults learning Welsh. Our longer term vision, post 2024, is to increase the number of Welsh speakers to create a bilingual county where Welsh language is a natural part of everyday life.

The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan and The More than just Words Framework are key strategies supporting our work to promote the Welsh language.

7.2 The Welsh in Education Strategic Plan aims to:

- increase the number of pupils accessing Welsh medium education including early years education;
- raise standards for all learners in the Welsh-medium sector (Welsh First Language and subjects taught through the medium of Welsh across the curriculum) and in the English-medium sector (where Welsh is taught and promoted as a second language).

7.3 All Welsh medium schools have achieved the Silver award of “Siarter Iaith” and Ysgol Gwenffrwd has achieved the Gold award. Six English medium schools to date have gained the Bronze award of ‘Cymraeg Campus’ – Sealand, Bryn Pennant, Y Llan, Yr Esgob, Licswm and Rhos Helyg primary schools. Siarter Iaith is the initiative to promote and increase the enjoyment and use of Welsh by children and creating a strong Welsh ethos in schools. The “Cymraeg Campus” is a charter to develop Welsh in English medium schools. Consisting of three awards - bronze, silver and gold, schools attempt to complete these awards over a three year period - one each year. Each award comprises of ten targets and these targets become more challenging at the different levels.

7.4 Social Services are embedding Welsh language services and the Active Offer within their work. They delivered Welsh Awareness sessions with external

partners to help them understand the importance of the Welsh culture and the legislation supporting the delivery of Social Services in Wales.

- 7.5 Social Services arranged a Welsh for Beginners training course specifically for the Social Care workforce (both local authority and the independent sector) through Coleg Cambria. This free 100 hours of learning started in March 2019 and will be complete by end of June 2019. 18 individuals enrolled on the course, a similar course will be provided in September 2019.
- 7.6 Promoting Welsh to local businesses and in the community
Menter Iaith has been provided with funding to support the development of a Welsh Language Forum. We also provided financial support to hold an event in Flint to celebrate St David's Day with the local community. The local schools participated in this event. Local offices and the local library decorated public facing areas with daffodils and bunting. Local shops participated by entering a St David's Day window dressing competition. Tweets posted on the Council twitter page encouraging people to learn Welsh.
- 7.7 On Su'mae day we displayed posters on the television screens in Flintshire Connects and in Leisure Centres to encourage people to say something in Welsh. This was supported by messages being posted on Twitter.
- 7.8 Theatr Clwyd offer a variety of activities which raise the visibility and audibility of Welsh:
- Introduced a bilingual playlist for Front of House music. Special music events were held on "Welsh Music Day" and "Shw'mae Su'mae Day" which also included playing Welsh language music all day in the café.
 - Introducing a range of Welsh language newspapers and reading materials – available in the Gift Shop and café and bar areas.
 - Delivered a 10 week course for young people to learn the Ukulele through the medium of Welsh.
 - Have commissioned a bilingual play on the "Mold Riots" to be delivered in Autumn 2019.
 - Delivered for the first time in the theatre's history a Welsh language Christmas show "Llew the Shoemaker"
 - Increased the number of Welsh language cinema events and Welsh language music events.
 - Developing a newly accredited course for bilingual facilitators- the first ever bilingual course for facilitators.

8. Future Actions

- 8.1 Moving forward during 2019/20 we will continue to remind and support employees and managers about their responsibilities to meet the Welsh Language Standards.
We will work with our partners to encourage them to promote the Welsh language, thereby increasing the visibility and audibility of Welsh.
- 8.2 During the next 12 months we will continue to focus on:
- ensuring 100% employees complete the Welsh language skills audit;

- increasing the number of employees who complete the Welsh language awareness e-learning module;
- reviewing the recruitment and selection process to increase the number of Welsh speaking job applicants and ensure all applicants and new employees understand the Council's commitment to the Welsh language and providing bilingual services;
- increasing the number of employees who have some basic Welsh language skills and increasing the number of employees who report that their language skills are at level 3; and
- raising the profile of Welsh language in the workplace and the community.

For further information please contact us on:

Tel: 📞 01352 702131

Email: 📧 corporatebusiness@flintshire.gov.uk

Appendix 1 WELSH LANGUAGE SKILLS SELF-ASSESSMENT TOOL

	LISTENING / SPEAKING	READING / UNDERSTANDING	WRITING
LEVEL 0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No appreciable ability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No appreciable ability 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No appreciable ability
LEVEL 1	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pronounce Welsh words, place names, department names, etc. ● Greet and understand a greeting. ● Use basic every day words and phrases, e.g. thank you, please, excuse me, etc. ● Understand / pass on simple verbal requests of a routine / familiar / predictable kind using simple language, e.g. 'May I speak to...' ● State simple requests and follow up with extra questions / requests in a limited way 	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Understand simple key words and sentences on familiar / predictable matters relating to my own job area, e.g. on signs, in letters. 	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Fill in simple forms, note down simple information, e.g. date and venue of a meeting, Welsh address, etc.
LEVEL 2	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Understand the gist of Welsh conversations in work ● Respond to simple job-related requests and requests for factual information ● Ask simple questions and understand simple responses ● Express opinions in a limited way as long as the topic is familiar ● Understand instructions when simple language is used 	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Understand factual, routine information and the gist of non-routine information on familiar matters related to my own job area, e.g. in standard letters, leaflets, etc. 	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Write short simple notes / letters / messages on a limited range of predictable topics related to my personal experiences or my own job area
LEVEL 3	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Understand much of what is said in an office, meeting, etc. ● Keep up a simple conversation on a work related topic, but may need to revert to English to discuss / report on complex or technical information ● Answer predictable or factual questions ● Take and pass on most messages that are likely to require attention ● Offer advice on simple job-related matters 	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Scan texts for relevant information ● Understand a fair range of job-related routine and non-routine correspondence, factual literature, etc. when standard language is used. 	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Write a detailed / descriptive letter relating to my own job area, but will need to have it checked by a Welsh speaker ● Make reasonably accurate notes while someone is talking
LEVEL 4	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Keep up an extended casual work related conversation or give a presentation with a good degree of fluency and range of expression but may need to revert to English to answer unpredictable questions or explain complex points or technical information ● Contribute effectively to meetings and seminars within own area of work ● Argue for/against a case 	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Read and understand information fairly quickly as long as no unusual vocabulary is used and no particularly complex or technical information is involved 	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Prepare formal letters of many familiar types such as enquiry, complaint, request and application ● Take reasonably accurate notes in meetings or straightforward dictation ● Write a report / document relating to my own job area, but will need to have it checked by a Welsh speaker
LEVEL 5	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Advise on / talk about routine, non-routine, complex, contentious or sensitive issues related to own experiences ● Give a presentation/demonstration ● Deal confidently with hostile or unpredictable questions ● Carry out negotiations using complex / technical terms ● Give media interviews 	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Understand complex ideas and information expressed in complex or specialist language in documents, reports correspondence and articles, etc. 	<p style="text-align: center;">I Can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Write letters on any subject ● Write full / accurate notes of meetings while continuing to follow discussions and participate in them ● Write reports / documents with confidence but they may need to be checked for minor errors in terms of spelling and grammar



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Review of Streetscene Standards
Cabinet Member	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Report Author	Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Cabinet approved a set of Streetscene performance standards at the commencement of the new service in 2012. The standards formed the basis of the portfolio's quarterly performance report, which was then heavily scrutinised by both the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet.

The updated 2019 Council Plan includes a new performance measure of Streetscene standards, under the Safe and Clean Council theme and as a result, the direct output of the portfolio will, once again, be reported through the Scrutiny process.

The standards have not changed over the past 7 years, despite significant changes to the scope of the portfolio. Some of the standards are no longer relevant and some areas of the new Streetscene and Transportation service are not represented at all within the standards.

A review of the standards has therefore been undertaken in readiness for the new performance monitoring process in 2019/20.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Cabinet approves the adoption of the Streetscene service standards detailed in Appendix 1 of this report, including the proposed additions to the revised list as a result of the portfolio changes.
---	---

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	REASONS FOR A REVIEW OF STANDARDS
1.01	In 2012, following the introduction of the Streetscene service, a raft of service standards were produced, which were subsequently approved by Cabinet. The standards provided a key reporting and monitoring function during the early years of the new service and the information was closely scrutinised during the quarterly reporting periods, both by the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Cabinet.
1.02	The performance reporting arrangements changed in 2014 to more closely reflect the measures contained within the Council's Improvement Plan and as a consequence the regular reports on Streetscene standards were discontinued.
1.03	The updated 2019 Council Plan however, includes a new performance measure which reflects performance against the Streetscene standards, under the Safe and Clean Council theme and once again the service output will be reported and challenged through the scrutiny process.
1.04	The standards have not changed over the past 7 years, despite significant changes to the scope of the portfolio. Some of the standards are no longer relevant and some areas of the new Streetscene and Transportation service are not represented at all within the standards.
1.05	Appendix 1 provides a full list of all the standards, as a result of the portfolio changes. Environment Overview and Scrutiny reviewed the measures and targets at their meeting in July 2019 and made some changes to the standards, which have now been incorporated into the revised list. Appendix 2 shows the original 2012 Streetscene Standards
1.06	The new standards will form a key element of the reporting measure in respect the Safe and Clean Council theme of the Council Plan

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The resources required to deliver the current service standards are based on existing staffing levels and budgets within the service and any changes to the standards will have an impact on expenditure levels.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	With Cabinet Member
3.02	With Overview and Scrutiny Committee – July 2019. The Committee recommended Cabinet approve the new standards with some minor

	amendments, which have been included in the revised list shown in Appendix 1.
--	---

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
5.01	Failure to achieve the standards may result in reputational issues for the Council.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Proposed Streetscene Standards Appendix 2 – Original Streetscene Standards (2012)

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Contact Officer: Stephen Jones – Chief Officer Streetscene and Transportation Telephone: 01352 704700 E-mail: Stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	None.

This page is intentionally left blank

REVISED STREETSCENE AND TRANSPORTATION STANDARDS 2019

Measure Type		Description	Target
1	Abandoned Cars	Time taken to inspect and respond to abandoned vehicles from the highway	2 working days
2	Household Recycling Centres and Bring Sites	Length of time taken to respond to requests about Recycling Parks (neighbourhood or household recycling centres) or let the customer know what has happened	24 hours
3	Waste Missed Bins (Excluding Recycling Collections)	Time taken to collect residual waste bin - missed due to the fault of the Service - weather permitting	1 working day
4	Waste Bulky Items	Time taken to collect bulky items (following customer request)	6 working days
5	Waste Assisted Collection	Time taken to process applications for assisted bin collections (from receipt of application).	10 working days
	Waste Requests for new receptacles	Time taken to deliver new bins.	
6		Black/Blue Bin	6 working days
7		Brown Bin	6 working days
8	Missed Collections	Number of bins missed per 100,000 collections	80
9	Children's Play areas	Time taken to respond to service requests about cleanliness issues within enclosed play areas	same working day
10	Dead Animals	Time taken to remove reported dead animals from highway or other Council land (excluding trunk roads)	24 hours
11	Dog Fouling Children's play areas	Time taken to remove dog fouling at enclosed play areas, or areas of fixed play provision.	6 working hours
12	Dog bins	Frequency of inspection/emptying of dog bins	Minimum 2 working days
13	Litter Bins	Respond to requests for new litter bins	10 working days
14	Fly posting / Graffiti	Time taken to remove graffiti from council owned property (including Housing)	2 working days
15	Offensive /Hate Graffiti	Time taken to remove/cover hate graffiti from time of reporting - 24/7 service	6 hours
16	Fly tipping	Time taken to remove fly tipping from council owned land (including Housing land)	24 hours
17	Grass Cutting & Hedges	Compliance with standards for grass cutting	100% As Policy
18	Gully Emptying	Frequency of gully cleaning	Minimum one per annum
19	Gully Emptying	Frequency of gully and soakaway cleaning in known flooding areas	Site dependant - Minimum 2 per annum
20	Public Conveniences	Time taken to attend and clean a reported dirty/damaged toilet in Council operated facility	24 hours
21	Reactive Highway	Time taken to inspect non- emergency highways requests	1 working day
22	Sharps	Time taken to remove sharp objects/needles from Council land (including Housing and school land)	2 hours

23	Street Cleansing	Footways - Frequency of sweeping Town and shopping areas	Daily or as local cleansing strategy
24	Street Cleansing	Footways - Frequency of sweeping All other locations	1 per annum
25	Street Cleansing	Mechanical Sweeping A Roads and Urban B class Roads	4 per annum
26	Street Cleansing	Mechanical Sweeping other B class Roads	1 per annum
27	Street Cleansing	Mechanical Sweeping All other Roads	1 per annum
28	Street Cleansing	Mechanical Sweeping of Council maintained Car Parks	1 per annum
29	Street Cleansing	Inspect and empty liter bins (as required)	Minimum: Rural = 2 working days / Urban = 1 working day
30	Street Furniture	Response time to make safe a reported dangerous item of street furniture	2 hours
31	Street Furniture	Inspection reponse time to customers regarding repairs to Street Furniture	6 working days
32	Street lighting	Time taken to repair street lighting (non mains supply fault) - where it is the Council's responsibility	5 working days
33	Street Name Signs	Time taken to replace a missing street name plate (if replacement is required within policy)	8 weeks
34	Beach Cleansing	Frequency of beach cleansing (Talacre)	Summer = daily inspection & visit / Winter = inspection & visit 3 times per week
35	Contact Centre	Percentage of calls Answered in under 15 Seconds	75%
36	Contact Centre	Percentage of Calls dealt with at first point of contact	80%
37	Contact Centre	Percentage of 'lost' calls	5%
38	Bus Shelters	Time taken to respond following a requests/complaints about bus shelters	5 working days
39	Bus Shelters	Compliance with standards for cleaning bus shelters - 3 times/year urban 2 times/year rural	100%
40	Environmental Visual Audits (EVA)	EVA's protocol in place in Council Wards	100%
41	Environmental Visual Audits (EVA)	Ward Priority Agreed	70%
42	Member Satisfaction	Percentage of Members rating performance of Streetcene Coordinators Service in ward as acceptable or better	90%
43	Cleanliness	Maintaining the Cleanliness index above the average figure for Wales	100%
44	P&D Machines	Respond to non working Pay & Display machines	1 working day
45	Parking Contraventions	Respond to parking complaint	Corporate standard
43	Environmental Crime - Dog control	Respond by undertaking site inspection to dog control complaint	2 working days

44	Environmental Crime - Side waste	Monitor side waste presentation	Daily by crews
45	Fly tipping	Number of reported Fly tipping incidents	NoTarget

This page is intentionally left blank

PROPOSED STREETSCENE STANDARDS

	Measure Type	Description	Target
1	Abandoned Cars	Time taken to inspect and respond to abandoned vehicles from the highway	2 days
2	Recycling Parks and Bring Sites	Length of time taken to respond to requests about Recycling Parks (neighbourhood or household recycling centres), or let the customer know what has happened	24 hours
3	Waste Missed Bins	Time taken to collect bin missed due to the fault of the Service	24 hours
4	Waste Bulky Items	Time taken to collect bulky items (following customer request)	6 working days
5	Waste Assisted Collection	Time taken to process applications for assisted bin collections (from receipt of application).	10 working days
	Waste Requests for new receptacles	Time taken to deliver new bins, recycling sacks/boxes	
6		Black/Blue Bin	6 working days
7		Box, Lid	6 working days
8		Brown Bin	6 working days
9		Blue Bag	6 working days
10	Missed Collections	Number of bins missed per 100,000 collections	80
11	Children's Play areas	Time taken to respond (i.e. complete job or contact customer) to service requests about enclosed play areas or fixed play provision	same working day
12	Dead Animals	Time taken to remove dead animals from highway or other Council land (excluding trunk roads)	24 hours
13	Dog Fouling Children's play areas	Time taken to remove dog fouling at enclosed play areas, or areas of fixed play provision where children are present	6 working hours
14	Dog bins	Frequency of inspection/emptying of dog bins	2 working days
15	Fly posting / Graffiti	Time taken to remove graffiti from council owned property (including Housing)	48 hours
16	Offensive /Hate Graffiti	Time taken to remove hate graffiti from time of reporting	6 hours
17	Fly tipping	Time taken to remove fly tipping from council owned land (including Housing land)	24 hours
18	Grass Cutting & Hedges	Compliance with standards for grass cutting	As Policy
19	Gully Emptying	Frequency of gully cleaning	One per annum
20	Gully Emptying	Frequency of gully and soakaway cleaning in known flooding areas	2 per annum and on receipt of severe weather warning
21	Public Conveniences	Time take to attend and clean a reported dirty/damaged toilet	24 hours

	Measure Type	Description	Target
22	Reactive Highway	Time taken to inspect non- emergency highways requests	1 working day
23	Sharps	Time taken to remove sharp objects/needles from Council land (including Housing land)	2 hours
24	Street Cleansing	Footways - Frequency of sweeping Town and shopping areas	Daily
25	Street Cleansing	Footways - Frequency of sweeping All other locations	1 per annum
26	Street Cleansing	Mechanical Sweeping A Roads and Urban B class Roads	4 per annum
27	Street Cleansing	Mechanical Sweeping other B class Roads	1 per annum
28	Street Cleansing	Mechanical Sweeping All other Roads	1 per annum
29	Street Cleansing	Inspect and empty litter bins (as required)	2 working days - Rural 1 working day - Urban
30	Street Furniture	Response time to make safe a reported dangerous item of street furniture	2 hours
31	Street Furniture	Inspection Responses time to customers regarding repairs to Street Furniture	6 working days
32	Street lighting	Time taken to repair street lighting where it is the Council's responsibility	3 working days
33	Street Name Signs	Time taken to replace a missing street name plate (if replacement is required)	8 weeks
34	Contact Centre	Percentage of calls Answered in under 15 Seconds	75%
35	Contact Centre	Percentage of Calls dealt with at first point of contact	80%
36	Contact Centre	Percentage of 'lost' calls	5%
37	Bus Shelters	Time taken to respond following a requests/complaints about bus shelters	5 working days
38	Bus Shelters	Compliance with standards for cleaning bus shelters 3 times/year urban 2 times/year rural	100%
39	Environmental Visual Audits (EVA)	EVA's protocol in place in Council Wards	100%
40	Environmental Visual Audits (EVA)	Ward Priority Agreed	70%
41	Member Satisfaction	Percentage of Members rating performance of Streetcene Service in ward as accep	100%
42	Cleanliness	Maintaining the Cleanliness index above average in Wales	100%
43	Noise Nuisance - Domestic PP	Time taken to despatch an acknowledgement letter and noise logging form	5 working days
44	Smoke Nuisance - Domestic PP	Time taken to visit a report of domestic smoke nuisance	5 working days
45	Pest Control PP	Time taken to attend Nuisance Pests, e.g. Wasps	3 working days
46	Pest Control PP	Time taken to attend Public Health pests, e.g. rats	same working day



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Regional Pool Agreement and Approval Report Template
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Report Author	Chief Officer (Social Services)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The North Wales Regional Pooled Budget Group is a sub-group on the North Wales Regional Partnership Board. The group initially met on a monthly basis to establish the principles and practice of creating a North Wales Pooled Budget.

Since the creation of the North Wales Pooled Budget, the group now conducts the majority of its work virtually through representatives of each of the 7 partner agencies (6 Local Authorities and the Health Board).

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Cabinet approves the establishment of a single, non-risk sharing regional pooled fund for care home accommodation functions for older people to be hosted by Denbighshire County Council for three years.
2	That Cabinet delegate's authority to the Chief Officer Social Services, in conjunction with the Chief Finance Manager, to sign a 3 year agreement with Denbighshire County Council as described in the report.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE POOLED BUDGET
1.01	Members will recall that an Integration Agreement has previously been endorsed by Denbighshire and the other North Wales Councils and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board. The aim of the Integration Agreement is to set out partners' approach to integrated working and to provide a framework outlining how integration may be achieved in the region (including any pooling of funds). The pooling of funds for care home accommodation commissioning (both nursing and residential) is one of the identified areas for integration and pooling of funds included within the Integration Agreement.
1.02	However, the work required to establish Pooled Budgets in line with the Act's requirements is both complex and entails a significant level of risk due to the financial amounts involved.
1.03	In accordance with the requirements of the Act the North Wales Part 9 Board (known as the Regional Partnership Board) established a sub-group to progress this area of work.
1.04	Whilst the Act was not specific about the scale of the 'pool', the Welsh Government (WG) Minister for Children, Older People and Social Care had, in early 2018, given a direction that all budget 'pools' should be on regional rather than a sub-regional basis. To match the entire local Health Board area rather than the areas covered by the Health Board's sub-divisions, or a 'pool' between each individual local authority and the Health Board.
1.05	Consequently, across all regions in Wales, local authorities and health boards had agreed to develop a 'non-risk sharing' pool. This approach entailed an exercise to consolidate relevant information on expenditure and services to facilitate an in-depth analysis of each partner's expenditure and the production of reports to test the feasibility of establishing formal 'pooled budgets' in future.
1.06	For North Wales, the detail and format of the data required from each partner was agreed and Denbighshire County Council appointed as the Host Authority in terms of consolidating partner's financial information.
1.07	The estimated figure, for the 'pooled budget' for the care home accommodation functions across North Wales is circa £115m. This figure highlights the potential scale of any regional 'pooled budget' and reinforces all partners' views that it was better to take sufficient time to effectively plan for the pooled budget, and to test all data ahead of time.
1.08	An additional complexity is the different financial structures of the Health Board to those of the 6 local authorities and work has needed to be done to clearly define with services are deemed to be social care services and which are deemed to be health care services.

1.09	In compliance with the Act, as of April 2019 North Wales has established a 'non-risk sharing pool' hosted by Denbighshire County Council.
1.10	In addition to this, the North Wales partner agencies have entered into an 'Integration Agreement' which commits them to work collaboratively to integrate services where appropriate.
1.11	No formal Section 33 agreement has been signed by any of the partners. Once partners enter into a formal Section 33 agreement they would be bound by law to honour all the financial and other commitments included in the agreement. Consequently there would be legal recourse for any obligations not met and sufficient resource and infrastructure would be required by the host authority to meet the needs of the agreement.
1.12	The work of developing a formal Section 33 agreement would only commence once the data collected during the establishment of the 'non-risk sharing pool' had been robustly analysed and been sufficiently risk-assessed to enable potential pooled budget arrangements to be drawn up for consideration by each of the 7 partners. It is important to note that the 'non-risk sharing pool' complies with the Act, requiring partners to make a financial contribution to the pool. There is currently no appetite from any of the 7 partners to develop a full risk sharing pool in the region.
1.13	A draft agreement has been completed by Denbighshire County Council on behalf of the region and is currently being finalised, with a view to taking it to the 6 local authorities and health board chief executive at Leadership in the Summer.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS/INCOME GENERATION
2.01	Resource to support this programme of work has been provided in the main by Denbighshire County Council as the host agency.
2.02	As laid out above, under the current 'non-risk sharing pool' there are no specific risk implications as the pooling of funds is a virtual transaction for all partner agencies.
2.03	A Formal Section 33 Agreement would require the pooling of the Flintshire Care Home Accommodation Function budget.
2.04	The establishment of a formal Section 33 agreement would have significant resource implications for the host agency.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	N/A.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	As discussed above, the risks of entering into the ‘non-risk sharing pool’ are negligible, however, the risks of entering into a formal Section 33 Pooled Budget Agreement are significant and all partners are in agreement that significant further analysis needs to be undertaken before any proposals could be submitted to individual agencies for consideration.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	North Wales Integration Agreement.
5.02	Draft Cover Report.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Contact Officers: Jane Davies Telephone: 01352 702503 E-mail: jane.m.davies@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLORRARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Part 9 Board: Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 requires local authorities to promote cooperation with their relevant partners and others, in relation to adults with needs of care and support, carers and children.</p> <p>As North Wales had already established the governance structure which was stipulated by Welsh Government in 2015/16 namely the North Wales Partnership Forum (NWPF) and the North Wales Leadership Group (NWLG), this formed the basis for the setting up of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board (to meet the statutory guidance set out in Part 9 of the Act).</p> <p>The NWRPB was established in September 2016 and the Membership of the Board, as stated in the Statutory Guidance, includes the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • at least one elected member of a local authority which established the regional partnership board; • at least one member of a Local Health Board which established the regional partnership board;

- the person appointed as director of social services under section 144 of the Act in respect of each local authority which established the regional partnership board, or his or her nominated representative
- a representative of the Local Health Board which established the regional partnership board
- two persons who represent the interests of third sector organisations in the area covered by the regional partnership board
- at least one person who represents the interests of care providers in the area covered by the regional partnership board
- one person to represent people with needs for care and support in the area covered by the regional partnership board
- one person to represent carers in the area covered by the regional partnership board.

The Regional Partnership Board may co-opt other persons to be members of the board as appropriate. Other members that could be considered for example include housing leads, fire service and police. The NWRPB has co-opted representatives from North Wales Police, Welsh Ambulance Service Trust, Public Health Wales, North Wales Fire and Rescue Service and Local Authority S151 Officer.

The Board's key priorities areas are:

- Older people with complex needs and long term conditions, including dementia
- People with Learning Disabilities
- Carer's including young carers
- Integrated Family Support Services
- Children with complex needs due to disability or illness

In addition to these priorities North Wales has included Mental Health as an additional priority area. There are also specific requirements in relation to pooling of budgets which the Board is overseeing

This page is intentionally left blank



CYDWEITHREDFA GWELLA GWASANAETHAU
GOFAL A LLESIANT GOGLEDD CYMRU

**NORTH WALES SOCIAL CARE AND WELL-BEING
SERVICES IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE**

DATED _____ **2019**

Conwy County Borough COUNCIL

and

Denbighshire County COUNCIL

and

Flintshire County COUNCIL

and

Gwynedd COUNCIL

and

Ynys Mon County COUNCIL

and

Wrexham County Borough COUNCIL

and

Betsi Cadwaladr University HEALTH BOARD

**PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT REGULATING THE POOLING OF FUNDS
FOR CARE HOME ACCOMMODATION FUNCTIONS FOR OLDER PEOPLE**

As Directed Under Section 169 of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and related
Part 9 Statutory Guidance (Partnership Arrangements)

Contents

DATE OF THIS AGREEMENT	3
PARTIES	3
BACKGROUND	3
1. DEFINITION AND INTERPRETATION	5
2. COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION	7
3. EXTENDING THE INITIAL TERM	7
4. PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS	8
5. PAYMENTS TO AND FROM THE POOLED FUND	8
6. PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT GOVERNANCE	8
7. MONITORING, REVIEW AND REPORTING	9
8. VARIATIONS	9
9. EQUALITY DUTIES	9
10. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION	9
11. DATA PROTECTION AND INFORMATION SHARING	10
12. CONFIDENTIALITY	10
13. AUDIT	11
14. INSURANCE	11
15. INDEMNITIES	12
16. LIABILITIES	12
17. DISPUTE RESOLUTION	12
18. TERMINATION	13
19. CONSEQUENCES OF TERMINATION	15
20. THIRD PARTY RIGHTS	15
21. NOTICES	15

22. ENTIRE AGREEMENT	16
23. CHANGES IN LEGISLATION	16
24. GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION	16

SCHEDULE 1: PAYMENTS TO AND FROM THE POOLED FUND

THIS AGREEMENT is dated

day of

2019

PARTIES

- 2.1 CONWY COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL of Bodlondeb, Conwy, LL32 8DU (“CCBC”)
- 2.2 DENBIGHSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL of County Hall, Wynnstay Road, Ruthin, Denbighshire, LL15 1YN (“DCC”)
- 2.3 FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL of County Hall, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6NB (“FCC”)
- 2.4 GWYNEDD COUNCIL of Council Offices, Shirehall Street, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1SH (“GC”)
- 2.5 ISLE OF ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL of Council Offices, Llangefni, Anglesey, LL77 7TW (“IOACC”)
- 2.6 WREXHAM COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL of the Guildhall, Wrexham, LL11 1AY (“WCBC”)
- 2.7 BETSI CADWALADR UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD of Ysbyty Gwynedd, Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2PW (“the Health Board”)

BACKGROUND

- (A) By way of background the North Wales Regional Partnership Board (“the Regional Partnership Board”) comprising of CCBC, DCC, FCC, GC, IOACC, WCBC and the Health Board was established pursuant to statutory regulations made under Sections 166-169 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (“the SSWB Act”). These constitute the ‘Partnership Bodies’ as defined in Regulation 1 of Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015 (as amended) (“the Partnership Regulations”) made under the SSWB Act and they are also the Parties to this Agreement.
- (B) Pursuant to Regulation 10(c) of the Partnership Regulations the Regional Partnership Board has as one of its objectives the need to ‘promote the establishment of pooled funds where appropriate’. Pursuant to Regulation 19(1)(a), the Partnership Bodies are under a statutory requirement to establish and maintain a pooled fund in relation to the exercise of their care home accommodation functions. This statutory requirement came into force on 6 April 2018.
- (C) Accordingly, in furtherance of its obligations under Regulation 19(1)(a) of the Partnership Regulations, the Partners wish to establish a pooled fund as detailed in this Agreement. For the purposes of this Agreement, DCC has agreed to act as the Host Authority on behalf of itself, CCBC, FCC, GC, IOACC, WCBC and the Health Board.
- (D) The Partners are committed to better integration of services, as enshrined in their umbrella Integration Agreement which includes the development of a pooled fund for care home commissioning and accommodation (residential and nursing) as one of the identified projects, and wish to enter into the arrangements under this Agreement.

(E) This Agreement is made under the powers conferred below and all other enabling powers now vested in the Partners:-

Section 162 of the SSWB Act provides that a local authority must make arrangements to promote cooperation between the local authority and the authority's relevant partners, such arrangements to be made with a view to improving the well-being of adults with needs for care and support and their carers.

Sections 166-169 of the SSWB Act makes provision for partnership arrangements between local authorities and Local Health Boards.

Regulation 19(1) of the Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015 (as amended) – requires the Regional Partnership Board to establish and maintain pooled funds in relation to the exercise of their care home accommodation functions.

Regulation 19(2) of the said regulations defines “care home accommodation functions” and it includes:-

- (a) where it has been decided to meet the adult's needs by providing or arranging to provide accommodation in a care home under sections 35 and 36 of the SSWB Act;
- (b) the functions of a Local Health Board under section 3 of the National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006 in relation to an adult, in cases where
 - (i) the adult has a primary need for health care and it has been decided to meet the needs of the adult by arranging the provision of accommodation in a care home ('NHS continuing healthcare'), or
 - (ii) the adult's needs can only be met by the local authority arranging for the provision of accommodation, together with nursing care ('Funded Nursing Care').

Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 contains powers to do anything which it considers is likely to achieve one or more of the following benefits: the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of the area.

Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 provides for a local authority to have the power to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of their functions.

Section 1 Local Authority (Goods and Services) Act 1970 contains the power to enter into an agreement for all or any of the following purposes, namely, supply by a local authority of goods and materials, administrative, professional or technical services, use of vehicles, plant or apparatus or works of maintenance in connection with land or buildings.

(F) Each of the Partners retain their statutory responsibilities in relation to their care home accommodation functions.

(G) Each of the Partners has secured the necessary authorisation to enter into this Agreement in accordance with their own individual, internal governance arrangements.

AGREED TERMS

1. DEFINITION AND INTERPRETATION

1.1 In this Agreement the following expressions shall have the following meanings

“Agreement” means this Agreement and the attached Schedule

“Care Home Accommodation Functions” means the functions set out under Regulation 19(2) of the Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015 insofar as they relate to adults aged 65 or over unless varied otherwise under this Agreement.

“Commencement Date” means the date of this Agreement

“Confidential Information” means any information, data or material of any nature which:

- a) has been designated as confidential by a Partner in writing; or
- b) the release of which is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of a Partner; or
- c) that ought to be considered as confidential (however it is conveyed or on whatever media it is stored)

including information which relates to the business, affairs, properties, assets, trading practices, services, developments, trade secrets, Intellectual Property Rights, know-how, personnel, customers and suppliers of any of the Partners, all personal data and sensitive personal data within the meaning of the Data Protection Act 2018 (as may be amended from time to time), subject to the provisions set out in clause 12 (Confidentiality) and clause 10 (Freedom of Information).

“Councils” means CCBC, DCC, FCC, GC, IOAC and WCBC and their statutory successors

“Data Protection Legislation” means the Data Protection Act 2018 and all applicable laws and regulations relating to processing of personal data and privacy, including where applicable the guidance and codes of practice issued by the Information Commissioner or relevant Government department in relation to such legislation;

“Dispute Resolution Procedure” means the procedure set out in clause 17

“EIR” means the Environmental Information Regulations 2004.

“Financial Contributions” means the Quarterly payments made to the Pooled Fund by the Partners as defined further under clause 2 of Schedule 1

“Financial Year” means 1 April to 31 March

“FOIA” means the Freedom of Information Act 2000 and any subordinate legislation made under it from time to time, together with any guidance or codes of practice issued by the Information Commissioner or relevant government department concerning this legislation

“Health Board” means Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and its statutory successor

“Host Authority” shall mean Denbighshire County Council during the Initial Term, thereafter shall mean the Host Authority as determined in accordance with the provisions of clause 4.1.3

“Information” has the meaning given under Section 84 of FOIA

“Initial Term” means the period commencing on the Commencement Date and ending on the first anniversary of the Commencement Date subject to the right to extend

“Integration Agreement” means the agreement entered into by the Partners on 17 January 2018 setting out how they intend to implement the requirements of Part 9 Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015.

“Law” means any applicable law, statute, bye-law, regulation, order, regulatory policy guidance or industry code, rule of court, directives or requirements of any Regulatory Body, delegated or subordinate legislation, or notice of any Regulatory Body

“Partner” means each of the Councils and the Health Board who comprise the Partnership Bodies and are the Parties to this Agreement and “Partners” shall be construed accordingly

“Partnership Arrangements” means the arrangements made between the Partners under this Agreement as detailed under Clause 4

“Partnership Bodies” include CCBC, DCC, FCC, GC, IOAC, WCBC and the Health Board and who are Parties to this Agreement

“Partnership Regulations” means the Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015, as amended

“Personal Data” means personal data as defined by the Data Protection Act 2018

“Pooled Fund” means the fund established by the Partners, and, within the parameters of this Agreement, administered by the Host Authority on behalf of the Partners, under which payments shall be made by the Partners and the Host Authority in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement

“Quarter” means one of the following periods in each Financial Year:-

- (a) 1 April to 30 June (“Quarter 1”);
- (b) 1 July to 30 September (“Quarter 2”);
- (c) 1 October to 31 December (“Quarter 3”); and
- (d) 1 January to 31 March (“Quarter 4”).

“Regional Partnership Board” or **“RPB”** means the North Wales Regional Partnership Board comprising of CCBC, DCC, FCC, GC, IOAC, WCBC and the Health Board established pursuant to Regulation 4 of the Partnership Regulations, the objectives of which for the purposes of this Agreement are set out in BACKGROUND (B) above

“Regulatory Body” means those government departments and regulatory, statutory and other entities, committees and bodies that, whether under statute, rules, regulations, codes of practice or otherwise, are entitled to regulate, investigate or influence the matters dealt with in this arrangement under this Agreement.

“Services” means the care home accommodation services commissioned by a Partner in respect of the individual Partner’s Care Home Accommodation Functions

“Term” means the period of the Initial Term as may be varied by (i) any extensions to this Agreement that are agreed under Clause 3.1, or (ii) the earlier termination of this Agreement in accordance with its terms

- 1.2 Clause, Schedule and paragraph headings shall not effect the interpretation of this Agreement.
- 1.3 The Schedule forms part of this Agreement and shall have effect as if set out in full in the body of this Agreement. Any reference to this Agreement includes the Schedule.
- 1.4 Words in the singular include the plural and vice versa.
- 1.5 A reference to one gender includes a reference to the other genders.
- 1.6 A reference to a statute or statutory provision is a reference to it as it is in force for the time being, taking account any amendment, extension or re-enactment and includes any subordinate legislation for the time being in force made under it.
- 1.7 A reference to writing or written includes fax and email and including electronic transmission of information.
- 1.8 Any obligation in this Agreement on a person not to do something includes an obligation not to agree or to allow that thing to be done.
- 1.9 A reference to a document is a reference to that document as varied or novated (in each case, other than in breach of the provisions of this Agreement) at any time.
- 1.10 References to clauses and Schedule are to the clauses and Schedule of this Agreement. References to paragraphs are to paragraphs of relevant schedule.

2. COMMENCEMENT AND DURATION

- 2.1 This Agreement shall take effect on the Commencement Date and shall continue for the Term to be reviewed before the first anniversary of the Commencement Date or as may otherwise be agreed in accordance with the terms of this Agreement.

3. EXTENDING THE INITIAL TERM

- 3.1 The Partners may agree unanimously to extend this Agreement for an agreed period or periods in twelve (12) monthly periods and on varied terms as they agree, beyond the Initial Term, subject to approval of the individual Partner’s internal approval processes.

- 3.2 The Partners acknowledge that the arrangements under this Agreement are developing and that it may be necessary to modify or replace this Agreement in order to reflect how the arrangements develop and to that end the Partners agree to work together in good faith.

4. PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS

- 4.1 The Partners have agreed that with effect from the Commencement Date they will operate the following arrangements:-
- 4.1.1 the establishment of a Pooled Fund (as detailed in this Agreement) to be administered by the Host Authority;
 - 4.1.2 Each Partner to retain statutory responsibility in relation to their respective Care Home Accommodation Functions. For the avoidance of any doubt, each Partner shall be responsible for all costs associated with its provision of the Services and/or individuals placed by the relevant Partner in accordance with its Care Home Accommodation Functions.
 - 4.1.3 Denbighshire County Council (“DCC”) shall act as the Host Authority during the Initial Term of this Agreement. Should the Agreement be extended in accordance with the provisions of clause 3.1 the Partners shall decide unanimously, prior to the expiry of the Initial Term and, where appropriate, any further extended 12 month periods, that either (i) DCC continues to act as Host Authority for the duration of the extended term concerned or (ii) which Partner shall act as the replacement Host Authority in respect of the extended term concerned.
 - 4.1.4 Nothing in this Agreement shall prejudice or affect the Partners in the exercise of their functions as public bodies or in any other capacity.
 - 4.1.5 Necessary Consents – each Partner hereby represents to the other Partners that it has obtained all necessary consents sufficient to ensure the responsibilities provided for by this Agreement.

5. PAYMENTS TO AND FROM THE POOLED FUND

- 5.1 The Partners and the Host Authority shall make payments to and from the Pooled Fund in accordance with the provisions in Schedule 1.

6. PARTNERSHIP MANAGEMENT GOVERNANCE

- 6.1 In accordance with its obligations under Regulation 10(c) of the Partnership Regulations, the RPB shall provide overall strategic oversight to the Partnership Arrangements under this Agreement.

7. MONITORING, REVIEW AND REPORTING

- 7.1 The Partners shall carry out a quarterly review of the Partnership Arrangements within thirty (30) days of the end of each Quarter.
- 7.2 The Section 151 Officer (or equivalent) of the Host Authority or his/her nominated representative shall provide (i) Quarterly reports to the RPB outlining the financial position of the Pooled Fund during the Financial Year concerned, and (ii) an annual outturn report in order to outline the financial position of the Pooled Fund once the financial accounts in relation to the Financial Year concerned are closed.

8. VARIATIONS

- 8.1 This Agreement may be varied by the Partners at any time in accordance with the Partners' internal decision-making processes subject to the express written agreement of each of the Partners.

9. EQUALITY DUTIES

- 9.1 The Partners, employees, or agents shall not unlawfully discriminate within the meaning and scope of any law, enactment, order, or regulation relating to discrimination whether in race, gender, religion, disability, sexual orientation or otherwise. The Partners shall take all reasonable steps to secure the observance of this clause by all employees, agents and all suppliers and sub-contractors employed in the execution of this Agreement.

10. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

- 10.1 The Partners acknowledge that each is subject to the requirements of FOIA and the EIR, and shall assist and co-operate with one another to enable each Partner to comply with these information disclosure requirements, where necessary.

11. DATA PROTECTION AND INFORMATION SHARING

- 11.1 Each Partner shall comply with any notification requirements under Data Protection Legislation. All Partners shall duly observe all their obligations under Data Protection Legislation, which arise in connection with this Agreement.
- 11.2 The Partners shall share information with regards to activity and expenditure incurred in relation to their respective Care Home Accommodation Functions to improve the quality of care and facilitate integrated working in accordance with the Data Protection Legislation, The Human Rights Act 1998 and the common law duty of confidentiality and any other information sharing legislation, regulation or guidance. The Partners shall adhere to any Information Sharing Protocols that are developed in accordance with the WASPI Framework when sharing information under this Agreement.
- 11.3 Each Partner shall perform its obligations under the Data Protection Legislation and FOIA at its own cost.

12. CONFIDENTIALITY

- 12.1 The Partners agree to keep confidential all documents relating to or received from the other Partner under this Agreement that are labelled as confidential.
 - 12.1.1 Where a Partner receives a request to disclose Information that the other Partner has designated as confidential, the receiving Partner shall consult with the other Partner before deciding whether the Information is subject to disclosure.
- 12.2 The provision of clauses 12.1 and 12.2 shall not apply to any confidential information received by one Partner from the other:-
 - 12.2.1 which is or becomes public knowledge (otherwise than by breach of this clause); which was in the possession of the Partner, without restriction as to its disclosure, before receiving it from the disclosing Partner;
 - 12.2.2 which is received from a third party who lawfully acquired it and who is under no obligation restricting its disclosure.
 - 12.2.3 which must be disclosed pursuant to a statutory, legal or parliamentary obligation placed upon the disclosing Partner making the disclosure, including any requirements for disclosure including any requirements for disclosure under the FOIA or the EIR.

- 12.3 Nothing in this clause shall prevent the Host Authority disclosing any Confidential Information for the purpose of:
- (i) the examination and certification of any Partner financial contributions; or
 - (ii) any examination pursuant by a regulatory body.
 - (iii) to any person engaged in providing any services to the authority for any purpose relating to or ancillary to the Agreement;

Provided that in disclosing information under this sub-clause the Host Authority discloses only the information which is necessary for the purpose concerned and requires that the information is treated in confidence.

13. AUDIT

- 13.1 The Host Authority shall arrange for the audit of the accounts of the Pooled Fund in accordance with its statutory audit requirements and any costs incurred by the Host Authority in connection with the same shall be borne equally by the Partners.
- 13.2 The financial arrangements under this Agreement will be subject to the normal annual auditing requirements of each Partner.
- 13.3 The Partners shall co-operate in the provision of Information, access to premises and staff, to ensure compliance with any statutory inspection requirements, or other monitoring or scrutiny functions. The Partners shall implement recommendations arising from these inspections, where appropriate.

14. INSURANCE

- 14.1 The Partners shall effect and maintain a policy or policies of insurance, providing an adequate level of cover for liabilities arising under any indemnity in this Agreement. For the avoidance of doubt, this requirement shall not be necessary where a Partner has self insurance arrangements already in place.
- 14.2 Without prejudice to the generality of clause 14.1, the Host Authority shall effect and maintain appropriate professional indemnity and fidelity guarantee insurance in relation to the specific operation of the Pooled Fund.

15. INDEMNITIES

- 15.1 Each Partner (Indemnifying Partner) shall indemnify and keep indemnified the other Partners (indemnified Partner/s) against all actions, proceedings, costs, claims, demands, liabilities, losses and expenses whatsoever, whether arising in tort (including negligence), default or breach of this Agreement, to the extent that any loss or claim is due to wilful negligence, wilful default or fraud of itself, the indemnifying Partners employees, or any of its representatives or sub-contractors, except to the extent that the loss or claim is directly caused by or directly arises from the negligence, breach of this Agreement, or applicable Law by the Indemnified Partner or its representatives.

16. LIABILITIES

- 16.1 Except as otherwise provided, the Partners shall each bear their own costs and expenses incurred in complying with their obligations under this Agreement.
- 16.2 Each Partner shall remain liable for any losses or liabilities incurred due to its own or its employee's actions.

17. DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 17.1 In the event of a dispute between the Partners in connection with this Agreement, the matter shall be referred to the Director of Social Services for CCBC, DCC, FCC, GC, IOAC, WCBC and the Chief Operating Officer for the Health Board (or equivalent post holders) who shall use their best endeavours to resolve the dispute.
- 17.2 In the event that the dispute remains unresolved having followed the procedure in Clause 17.1 the matter shall be referred in writing by any Partner or Partners to the Chief Executives (or equivalent) of the Partners who shall endeavour to settle the dispute between them.
- 17.3 If the Chief Executives fail to resolve the dispute within twenty (20) working days of the dispute having been referred to them, the dispute shall be referred to mediation pursuant to the procedure set out in clause 17.5.
- 17.4 The performance of the Agreement shall not be suspended, cease or be delayed by the reference of a dispute to mediation and the Partners shall comply fully with the requirements of the Agreement at all times.

17.5 The procedure for mediation and consequential provisions relating to mediation are as follows:

- (i) A neutral adviser or mediator (“the Mediator”) shall be chosen by agreement between the Partners, or, if they are unable to agree upon a Mediator within 10 Working Days after a request by one Partner to the other Partners or if the Mediator agreed upon is unable or unwilling to act, any of the Partners shall within 10 Working Days from the date of the proposal to appoint a Mediator or within 10 Working Days of notice to the other Partners that he is unable or unwilling to act, apply to the Centre for Effective Dispute Resolution (“CEDR”) to appoint a Mediator.
- (ii) The Partners shall within 10 Working Days of the appointment of the Mediator meet with him in order to agree a programme for the exchange of all relevant information and the structure to be adopted for negotiations to be held. If considered appropriate, the Partners may at any stage seek assistance from CEDR to provide guidance on a suitable procedure.
- (iii) Unless otherwise agreed, all negotiations connected with the dispute and any settlement agreement relating to it shall be conducted in confidence and without prejudice to the rights of the Partners in any future proceedings.
- (iv) If the Partners reach agreement on the resolution of the dispute, the agreement shall be reduced to writing and shall be binding on the Partners once it is signed by their duly authorised representatives.
- (v) Failing agreement, any of the Partners may invite the Mediator to provide a non-binding but informative opinion in writing. Such an opinion shall be provided on a without prejudice basis and shall not be used in evidence in any proceedings relating to the Agreement without the prior written consent of the Partners.
- (vi) If the Partners fail to reach agreement in the structured negotiations within 60 Working Days of the Mediator being appointed, or such longer period as may be agreed by the Partners, then any dispute or difference between them may be referred to the Courts.

18. TERMINATION

18.1 The Partners are required to operate a pooled fund pursuant to the statutory obligation set out under Regulation 19(1)(a) of Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015 (as amended).

18.2 Where a Partner (“the Defaulting Partner”):-

18.2.1 commits a material breach of any of its obligations under this Agreement and the same is not capable of remedy: or

commits a material breach of any of its obligations under this Agreement which is capable of remedy but has not been remedied within twenty eight (28) days of receipt of written notice from one or more of the non defaulting Partners and no alternative form of pooled fund is agreed between the Partners then one or more of the non defaulting Partners may terminate this Agreement by serving seven (7) days written notice.

18.3 If this Agreement is terminated by any of the non defaulting Partners pursuant to Clause 18.2 the costs occasioned to the non defaulting Partners shall be met by the Defaulting Partner and the Defaulting Partner shall indemnify the non defaulting Partners against any such losses or costs which the non defaulting Partners suffer as a result of such termination.

18.4 Any Partner (“the Terminating Partner) may terminate this Agreement at any time by giving at least three (3) months written notice to the other Partners insofar as it relates to the Terminating Partner if:-

- (i) As a result of any change in law or legislation it is unable to fulfil its obligations under this Agreement:
- (ii) The fulfilment of its obligations under this Agreement would be in contravention of any guidance issued by Welsh Government or the UK government after this Agreement comes into force; or
- (iii) The fulfilment of its obligations under this Agreement would be ultra vires; AND the Partners are unable to agree a modification or variation to this Agreement so as to enable the Terminating Partner to remedy any circumstances set out under 18.4 (a) to 18.4 (c). Any liability arising as a direct result of termination under this Clause 18.4 shall be apportioned equally between the Partners.

18.5 Should this Agreement be superseded by the Partners entering into a replacement agreement in relation to their statutory obligation referred to under clause 18.1 (as may be amended) and/or joint working arrangements in relation to their Care Home Accommodation Functions, this Agreement shall terminate upon the commencement date of the said replacement agreement.

18.6 The Partners acknowledge and agree that if a Partner/Partners are considering whether to exercise a right to terminate under this Agreement (and prior to exercising such a right), the Partners shall exhaust all reasonable avenues to rectify matters and /or to maintain the Pooled Fund, including a right for a non defaulting Partner to refer the matter to the Welsh Minister for consideration.

19. CONSEQUENCES OF TERMINATION

19.1 If the Agreement is terminated in accordance with clause 18 (Termination), save for Clause 10 (FOIA), Clause 12 (Confidentiality), Clause 16 (Liabilities), and Clause 19 (Consequences of Termination) the Partners shall be released from their respective obligations described in this Agreement, save to the extent that there are any sums due to be paid into the Pooled Fund or in the case of the Host Authority paid out of the Pooled Fund.

20. THIRD PARTY RIGHTS

20.1 No term of this Agreement is intended to confer a benefit on or to be enforceable by any person who is not a party to this Agreement.

21. NOTICES

21.1 Any notice or communication shall be in writing address to the Partner's Chief Executive Officer.

21.2 Any notice or communication sent by a Partner shall be deemed effectively served if sent by first class post or delivered by hand to the addressee and address set out below or such other addressee and address notified in writing from time to time by a Partner to the other Partners:-

Conwy County Borough Council, Bodlondeb, Conwy, LL32 8DU

Denbighshire County Council, County Hall, Wynnstay Road, Ruthin, Denbighshire, LL15 1YN

Flintshire County Council, County Hall, Mold, Flintshire, CH7 6NB

Gwynedd Council, Council Offices, Shirehall Street, Caernarfon, Gwynedd, LL55 1SH

Isle of Anglesey County Council, Council Offices, Llangefni, Anglesey, LL77 7TW

Wrexham County Borough Council, Guildhall, Wrexham, LL11 1AY (WCBC)

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Ysbyty Gwynedd, Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 2PW

21.3 Correctly addressed notices sent by first class mail shall be deemed to have been delivered forty eight (48) hours after posting.

22. ENTIRE AGREEMENT

- 22.1 This Agreement, the schedule and the documents annexed to it or otherwise referred to in it contain the whole Agreement between the Partners relating to the subject matter of it and supersede all prior agreements, arrangements and understandings between the Partners relating to that subject matter.
- 22.2 The Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which when executed and delivered shall constitute an original but all counterparts together shall constitute one and the same instrument.

23. CHANGES IN LEGISLATION

- 23.1 The Partners shall review the operation of the Partnership Arrangements under this Agreement and all or any procedures or requirements of this Agreement on the coming into force of any relevant statutory or other legislation or guidance affecting the Partnership Arrangements to ensure that the Partnership Arrangements comply with such legislation or guidance.

24. GOVERNING LAW AND JURISDICTION

- 24.1 This Agreement and any dispute or claim arising out of or in connection with it or its subject matter shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the Law of England and Wales.

This Agreement has been executed as a deed and is delivered and takes effect on the date at the beginning of it.

The Common Seal of **CONWY COUNTY**)

BOROUGH COUNCIL was)

affixed in the presence of:-)

Authorised Signatory

The Common Seal of **DENBIGHSHIRE**)

COUNTY COUNCIL was)

affixed in the presence of:-)

Authorised Signatory

The Common Seal of **FLINTSHIRE**)

COUNTY COUNCIL was)

affixed in the presence of:-)

Authorised Signatory

The Common Seal of **GWYNEDD**)

COUNCIL was)

affixed in the presence of:-)

Authorised Signatory:

The Common Seal of **ISLE OF**)

ANGLESEY COUNTY COUNCIL was)

affixed in the presence of:-)

Authorised Signatory:

The Common Seal of **WREXHAM COUNTY**)

BOROUGH COUNCIL was affixed in the)

presence of :-)

Authorised Signatory:

Executed as a Deed by **BETSI CADWALADR**)

UNIVERSITY HEALTH BOARD)

Authorised Signatory:

SCHEDULE 1: PAYMENTS TO AND FROM THE POOLED FUND

1. In relation to the Pooled Fund, each Partner agrees to make Financial Contributions to the Host Authority Quarterly in arrears and the Host Authority agrees to reimburse each Partner the sum of their Financial Contributions Quarterly in arrears as set out in this Schedule 1.
2. In respect of each Quarter, each Partner's Financial Contribution shall be calculated by the individual Partner with reference to the actual costs the Partner has incurred in respect of the Services commissioned during the Quarter concerned, with the actual cost incurred meaning the net cost being the gross cost incurred in respect of the Services commissioned less any contributions received from clients or third parties.
3. In relation to Quarter 1, Quarter 2 and Quarter 3-
 - (i) each Partner shall calculate the sum of their Financial Contribution and advise the Host Authority of the same within seven (7) working days of the last day of the relevant Quarter;
 - ~~(ii) Subject to receipt of the relevant information referred to in clause 3.a), the Host Authority shall invoice each Partner to the value of their respective Financial Contributions within 15 Working Days of the last day of the relevant Quarter;~~
 - (iii) On or before the twentieth (20th) Working Day following the last day of the relevant Quarter the Partners shall make a payment to the Host Authority by way of cleared funds and to the value of the sum set out in the invoice referred to under 3.b) as defined in a detailed schedule to be agreed by all partners.**
 - (iv) Provided always that the Host Authority:-
 - (a) is in receipt of a Partner's Financial Contribution by way of cleared funds;
 - ~~(b) is in receipt and agreement of an invoice submitted by the Partner within fifteen (15) Working Days of the last day of the relevant Quarter, such invoice reflecting the sum of the Financial Contribution referred to in clause 3 b)~~
 - (v) the Host Authority shall pay on or before the twentieth (20th) Working Day to the individual Partner that Partner's respective Financial Contributions.
4. In relation to Quarter 4 the following provisions shall apply:
 - (i) each Partner shall calculate the sum of their Financial Contribution and advise the Host Authority of the same within fifteen (15) Working Days of the last day of Quarter 4;
 - ~~(ii) Subject to receipt of the relevant information referred to in clause 4.a), the Host Authority shall invoice each Partner to the value of their respective Financial Contributions within twenty (20) Working Days of the last day of the Quarter 4;~~

- (iii) On or before the twenty fifth (25th) Working Day following the last day of Quarter 4 the Partners shall make a payment to the Host Authority by way of cleared funds and to the value of the sum set out in the invoice referred to under 4.b)
 - (iv) Provided always that the Host Authority:-
 - (a) is in receipt of a Partner's Financial Contribution by way of cleared funds;
 - ~~(b) is in receipt and agreement of an invoice submitted by the Partner within twenty (20) Working Days of the last day of Quarter 4, such invoice reflecting the sum of the Financial Contribution referred to in clause 4 b)~~
 - (v) the Host Authority shall pay on or before the twenty fifth (25th) Working Day to the individual Partner that Partner's respective Financial Contributions.
5. The Host Authority shall hold all transactions (that is, the financial payments paid into and out of the Pooled Fund) relating to the Pooled Fund as separate ring-fenced transactions to other transactions for the Host Authority.

This page is intentionally left blank


Report To: Cabinet

Date of Meeting: XXXX 2019

Lead Member / Officer: Councillor Bobby Feeley, Lead Member for Well-being and Independence
Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill, Lead Member for Finance, Performance and Strategic Assets

Report Author:

Title: Pooled Budget Agreement for Care Home Accommodation for Older People 2019-2020



1. What is the report about?

- 1.1 To provide an update to Members regarding steps taken regionally to ensure compliance with the legal requirement to establish and maintain pooled funds for care home accommodation functions for older people.
- 1.2 To secure Member approval to the establishment of a single, non-risk sharing regional pooled fund for care home accommodation functions for older people to be hosted by Denbighshire County Council for three years.
- 1.3 To secure authorisation to the ratification of and signature on behalf of the Council to a legal agreement prepared for a term of three years to reflect the agreed arrangements for establishment, administration and governance of the pooled fund.

2. What is the reason for making this report?

- 2.1 To advise on the proposed regional approach to fulfilling the legal requirements in relation to the establishment and maintenance of a regional pooled fund for care home accommodation in line with the duties imposed by the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 (“the 2014 Act”) and The Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015 (“the 2015 regulations”).
- 2.2 A decision is required endorsing the regional approach to establishing a non-risk sharing pooled fund (to be hosted by Denbighshire on behalf of the six North Wales

Councils and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board) insofar as regional spend on care home accommodation functions for older people is concerned.

- 2.3 Given the value of the pooled fund, Cabinet authority is required for the Local Authority to ratify and enter into the agreement prepared to regulate our ongoing relationships with our Partners in relation to the establishment and operation of the pooled fund.

3. What are the Recommendations?

- 3.1 That the contents of this report are noted.
- 3.2 That Members note the progress made regionally in meeting the Part 9 requirements of the 2014 Act which includes a legal requirement to establish a regional pooled fund for care home accommodation for older people.
- 3.3 That Members approve the establishment of a non-risk sharing pooled fund for care home accommodation for older people as set out in this report with Denbighshire County Council acting as Host Authority and for the arrangements to be effective for the financial year 2019/20?.
- 3.4 That Members give approval to the Council entering into a legal agreement between Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and the six local authorities across North Wales, regulating the establishment, operation and governance arrangements in respect of the pooled fund for a period of 3 years .
- 3.3 That Members confirm that they have read, understood and taken account of the Well-being Impact Assessment attached at Appendix 1 as part of their consideration.

4. Report details

- 4.1 Members will be aware that Part 9 of 2014 Act provides for Regional Partnership Boards to be established. These Boards bring together health, social services, the third sector and other partners to take forward effective integration of health and social services. Whilst Regional Partnership Boards have strategic and oversight responsibilities in relation to promoting the use of pooled fund arrangements, it is the responsibility of the partners themselves to establish, develop and operate any pooled budget arrangements.
- 4.2 Members will recall that an Integration Agreement has previously been endorsed by Denbighshire and the other North Wales Councils and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board. The aim of the Integration Agreement is to set out partners' approach to integrated working and to provide a framework outlining how integration may be achieved in the region (including any pooling of funds). The

pooling of funds for care home accommodation commissioning (both nursing and residential) is one of the identified areas for integration and pooling of funds included within the Integration Agreement.

- 4.3 The 2015 Regulations have been subject to amendment and revision by Welsh Government since their original enactment. The regulations require partnership bodies for each financial year (beginning with the financial year commencing 1 April 2019) to make a contribution to a regional pooled fund in relation to the exercise of their care home accommodation functions for older people. The contributions must be commensurate with each Partner's anticipated annual expenditure on care home places for older people.
- 4.8 The purpose of the pooled funds arrangements is to encourage Local Authorities and Local Health Boards to work together to maximise their influence to shape the future development of services and to ensure that services are sustainable in the long-term; capable of responding flexibly to local demand.
- 4.9 Finance Officers from the six Local Authorities and Health Board have progressed the work to develop a non-risk sharing pooled budget for North Wales. The pooled fund will focus on care accommodation costs for older people (those over 65 years of age, excluding in-house services), It has been established that the overall regional spend in 2018/2019 was £111m (£90m net of charges and contributions).
- 4.10 From the financial year 2019-2020, it is proposed that one regional non-risk sharing pooled budget be established for North Wales. The arrangement would take effect from 1st April 2019. It has been agreed that Denbighshire County Council will host the arrangements; thereby operating the pooled fund on behalf of all the partners.
- 4.11 There will be no delegation of functions involved as part of the pooled fund arrangement. This means that all partners will retain full individual responsibility for fulfilling their statutory duties insofar as commissioning and provision of care home accommodation services is concerned. Each Partner will continue to be solely responsible for their own budgets and expenditure in this respect. The pooled fund will however reflect the actual spend of all partners on care home accommodation functions through quarterly transactions whereby quarterly spend by each partner will be charged to the pooled budget and off-set against contributions made by each partner to the pool on a quarterly basis.
- 4.12. Reporting arrangements for the operation of the pooled budget will consist of a quarterly report to the Regional Partnership Board and internal reporting arrangements to be determined by each partner organisation.

4.13 A written, legal agreement has been developed to underpin the proposed pooled fund arrangements for care home accommodation for older people as set out in this report. All six North Wales local authorities and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board are parties to the Agreement with Denbighshire County Council acting as the Host Partner administering the pooled fund. The Agreement provides for quarterly financial reporting to the North Wales Regional Partnership Board. Each organisation will have to ratify and execute the Agreement in accordance with their own internal governance arrangements.

5. **How does the decision contribute to the Corporate Priorities?**

Establishing the proposed pooled fund and signing up to the legal agreement prepared supports the following corporate priorities:-

- (a) The council works with people and communities to build independence and resilience;
- (b) Everyone is supported to live in homes that meet their needs; and
- (c) A place where younger people will want to live and work and have the skills to do so.

6. **What will it cost and how will it affect other services?**

6.1 There are no direct costs associated with signing up to the agreement. The agreement provides the regulatory and governance framework for the establishment of a single, regional pooled fund for North Wales for a period of three years. The arrangement will comprise of each partner organisation providing contributions to the pooled fund equivalent to the costs they incur. There will therefore be no risk sharing in the first year of this arrangement or any cross-subsidisation between the partners.

6.2 Denbighshire County Council will act as Host Authority for the regional pooled fund for the period of the agreement.. The hosting arrangements will, in line with the terms of the legal agreement, be reviewed by the partners as part of the development of the pooled fund arrangements for future financial years.

6.3 A contribution from regionally administered transformation funding of £20k is paid to Denbighshire to recognise the cost of hosting the pool on behalf of all partners.

7. **What are the main conclusions of the Well-being Impact Assessment?**

8. **What consultations have been carried out with Scrutiny and others?**

- 8.1 Finance Officers have been working regionally for many months – collating relevant financial information from all partners and then developing a non-risk sharing pooled budget model. These discussions have involved all partners’ s151 Officers (or equivalent) who are in agreement with the proposed way forward.
- 8.2 The North Wales Regional Leadership Board have received regular updates on the development of the pooled fund arrangement.
- 8.3. The proposed agreement has been circulated to each partners’ legal representatives for consideration.
- 8.4 The North Wales Regional Partnership Board, which has strategic oversight responsibilities for partnership arrangements emanating from the 2014 Act must also promote the establishment of pooled funds where appropriate. [Insert relevant information around any consultation with them on the pooled fund].

9. **Chief Finance Officer Statement**

The development of a non-risk sharing pool to include financial transactions is proposed in order to meet legislative requirements.

10. **What risks are there and is there anything we can do to reduce them?**

The requirement to establish and maintain a regional pooled fund in North Wales for care home accommodation functions is a legal requirement enshrined in law.

The agreement provides a framework which offers consistency, clarity and protection for all Partners in respect of the establishment, operation and governance of the non-risk sharing pooled fund. The Agreement lasts for a period of three years from its commencement and the arrangements will therefore need to be robustly reviewed prior to the expiry of the 3-year term. Accordingly, partners will have the benefit of a clear framework within which to operate for a period of 3 years but also have the opportunity to develop the arrangement further in the future as agreed between the partners.

11. **Power to make the Decision**

- (a) Sections 166-167 Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014
- (b) The Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015
- (c) Part 9 Statutory Guidance (Partnership Arrangements)
- (d) Section 2 Local Government Act 2000
- (e) Insert : Constitution



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th July 2019
Report Subject	Food Service Plan 2019-20 for Flintshire County Council
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection
Report Author	Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Food Service Plan 2019-20 provides an overview of the Food Service. It sets out the aims and objectives for the forthcoming year and how these are to be achieved. The Plan also contains a review of performance of the service against the Food Service Plan 2018-19.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Members approve the Food Service Plan 2019-20.
---	---

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE FOOD SERVICE PLAN FOR FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL 2019-20
1.01	Local Authorities throughout the U.K. have been directed by the Food Standards Agency (FSA) to take the necessary action to implement the Framework Agreement on Official Feed and Food Controls by Local Authorities. This Framework Agreement became operational from 1st April 2001. The Framework has been developed to ensure a consistent food law enforcement service throughout the country.
1.02	The Service Plan has been produced by officers of the Food Safety and Standards Team and Animal Health Team within the Planning, Environment and Economy portfolio in line with the model format contained within the Framework Agreement. It outlines the proposals for service delivery for the period 1st April 2019 to 31 st March 2020. It also contains a review of the Service Plan for 2018-19 with overall performance for 2018-19 detailed in Appendix 3 within the Service Plan.
1.03	The elements of the Food Service, namely Food Safety, Food Standards and Animal Feed are managed by the Team Leader – Food Safety and Food Standards, who reports in to the Community and Business Protection Manager.
1.04	<p>Key achievements for 2018 - 19 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Achieving 100% of programmed Food Hygiene inspections across all risk bands, as defined by the Food Law Code of Practice (Wales) 2018• Achieving 100% of programmed Food Standards inspections• Exceeding the target for the percentage of new food businesses we became aware of within the year receiving an inspection for both Food Hygiene and Food Standards• The percentage of premises with a Food Hygiene rating of 5 has increased from 79.0% to 81.4%, with 97.8% of businesses have a rating of 3 or higher compared to 97.3% in the previous year.• Achieving 100% of Feed inspections and sampling• Developed an additional Feed Officer to undertake Feed inspections <p>Targets for 2019 – 20 include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To inspect all premises for both Food Hygiene and Food Standards that are due their food inspections this year• To identify and inspect premises that are not currently registered as a food business• To undertake targeted Allergen Management inspections in Medium Risk takeaway premises• To inspect all premises programmed for Feed inspections

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The cost of implementing the plan will be met within the existing Planning, Environment and Economy portfolio budget.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	None required.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	The Plan follows the 'farm to fork' principle to ensure food is safe for consumption by all.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 - Food Service Plan 2019-2020.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None. Contact Officer: Helen O'Loughlin, Team Leader – Food Safety and Food Standards Telephone: 01352 703390 E-mail: helen.o'loughlin@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	<p>Food Standards Agency Wales - is a non-ministerial government department supported by seven advisory agencies and public bodies. It is the central competent authority for the UK in relation to European Union food legislation. In Wales, it is responsible for Food Safety and Hygiene and Food Labelling Policy. It works with local authorities to enforce Food Safety, Standards and Feed regulations.</p> <p>The Framework Agreement on Official Feed and Food Controls by Local Authorities - sets out what the Food Standards Agency expects from local authorities in their delivery of official controls on feed and food law. It was developed in consultation with local authorities, local government associations and the relevant professional bodies.</p> <p>Food Law Code of Practice (Wales) 2018 - the Food Law Code of Practice is issued under section 40 of the Food Safety Act 1990 (the Act), regulation 24 of the Food Hygiene (Wales) Regulations 2006,1 and regulation 6 of the</p>

Official Feed and Food Controls (Wales) Regulations 2007, and sets out the execution and enforcement of that legislation by Food Authorities. It relates to Wales only. The code specifies how a local authority should risk rate a food business following its inspection which determines the frequency of food hygiene and standards inspections of that business. For Food Hygiene there are five risk bands A – E, for Food Standards there are three risk bands, A – C.

The Feed Law Code of Practice (Wales) 2014 - sets out instructions and criteria to which local authorities ‘the feed authorities’ should have regard when engaged in the enforcement of animal feed law.

Feed authorities must follow and implement the provisions of the Code that apply to them.

FOOD SERVICE PLAN

2019-2020



FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL FOOD SERVICE PLAN 2019-20

INTRODUCTION

The Service Plan relates to the year commencing 1st April 2019 and ending 31st March 2020.

It covers the service provision for the Food Safety, Food Standards and Feed functions of Flintshire County Council.

The purpose of this Plan is to provide:

- Information about the scope of the Service.
- Information about the services provided.
- Information about the means of Service provision.
- Information about performance of the Food Service against Performance Targets set out in the Plan as well as against national or locally defined Performance Indicators.
- Information relating to reviewing performance in order to address any variance from meeting the requirements of the Service Plan.

Service Plans are produced annually to allow for meaningful review and progression, in accordance not only with the requirements of the Food Standards Agency (FSA) “Framework Agreement on Local Authority Food Law Enforcement” but also with the principles of the “Wales Programme for Improvement”. In respect to Feed, this function is delivered as part of the FSA Funded North Wales Regional Feed Enforcement Delivery Plan, with all inspection and sampling targets being reviewed and set annually by FSA Wales.

This Service Plan also forms part of the Authority’s commitment to delivering the aspirations of the Local Service Board to provide citizen centred services and to work in collaboration and co-operation.

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
FOOD SERVICE PLAN 2019-20**

CONTENTS	Page No.
1.0 SERVICE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES	
1.1 Aims and Objectives	1
1.2 Links to Corporate Objectives and Plans	1-3
2.0 BACKGROUND	
2.1 Authority Profile	3
2.2 Organisational Structure	3
2.3 Scope of the Food Service	3-5
2.4 Demands on the Food Service	6-10
2.5 Enforcement Policy	10-11
3.0 SERVICE DELIVERY	
3.1 Food Premises Inspections	11-13
3.1.1 Additional Targeted Inspection/Enforcement Activity	13
3.1.2 Resources for Inspections and Additional Enforcement Activity	14
3.2 Food/Feed Complaints	14-15
3.3 Primary Authority Principle	15
3.4 Advice to Business	15-17
3.5 Food Inspection and Sampling	17-18
3.6 Control and Investigation of Outbreaks and Food Related Infectious Disease	18-19
3.7 Food/Feed Safety Incidents	19-20
3.8 Liaison with Other Organisations	20-21
3.9 Food Safety & Food Standards and Feed Promotion	21-22
4.0 RESOURCES	
4.1 Financial Allocation	22-23
4.2 Staffing Allocation	23-25
4.3 Staff Development Plan	25-27
5.0 QUALITY ASSESSMENT	
5.1 Quality Assessment	27
6.0 REVIEW PROCESS	
6.1 Review against Service Plan	28
6.2 Review of Performance Against 2018/2019 Service Plan	28-29
6.3 Areas of Focus and Improvement 2019/2020	29
6.4 Forthcoming Considerations	30
APPENDIX 1	
Organisational Charts for the Service	
Chart 1 – Organisation Structure of Flintshire County Council	31
Chart 2 – The Cabinet Structure of Flintshire County Council	32
Chart 3 – The Organisational Structure of the Food Team within the Community and Business Protection Service	33
APPENDIX 2	
Profile of Programmed Inspections 2019-20	34-25
APPENDIX 3	
Performance 2018-2019	36-38

1.0 SERVICE AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1.1 Aims and Objectives

The aims of the Food Service are to:

1. Promote, through education and enforcement, the sale and/or production of food which is fit and without risk to health.
2. Prevent and control the spread of food borne illness through education and enforcement.

These will be achieved by:

- (a) Providing a complete and holistic food law enforcement service covering the areas of food hygiene and safety, food standards and animal feed in accordance with relevant food legislation and Codes of Practice, thereby fulfilling statutory obligations.
- (b) Providing a responsive service to demand driven elements such as food safety incidents, outbreaks of food related infectious disease, complaints and request for advice from both businesses and members of the public, in accordance with relevant statutory Codes of Practice
- (c) Assisting businesses to comply with all relevant legislation by using a balance of techniques and approaches in order to ensure the safety and well being of the Public and of the environment in line with the Public Protection Enforcement Policy 2010.
- (d) Maintaining an up-to-date database of all food establishments in the County so that resources can be effectively defined and utilised to meet statutory, national and locally defined targets of inspection, sampling, specific initiatives and tasks set by FSA Wales, other agencies, or based on local need.
- (e) Providing an open and transparent Food Service with clear lines of communication for all service users.

1.2 Links to Corporate Objectives and Plans

The Food Service links to the Well Being Plan and the Council Plan. There are five key priorities contained in the Well Being Plan, these are:

- Community Safety
- Economy and Skills
- Environment
- Healthy and independent Living
- Resilient Communities

The Food Service Plan has direct links with the Council Plan 2017 – 2023. The Council Plan sets out the full list of the Council's seven priorities for the period 2017 – 2023. Each year, sub-priorities are chosen which will receive significant attention over a particular year and where we will make a bigger impact.

The Food Service sits within the Community and Business Protection Service of the Planning, Environment and Economy Portfolio. Each Service area within Community and Business Protection writes annual Operational Action Plans, which have been informed by a range of external and internal drivers and through a greater focus on robust risk assessment, intelligence led intervention, targeting and performance management. All team members contribute to devising the Operational Action Plans for each Service Area.

Food and Feed Law regulation is a statutory duty of the Council. Targets to be achieved are set in relation to both National Performance Accountability Measures and Service Improvement Data. A Corporate Performance Management System termed CAMMS, monitors performance of all services within the Council. The areas reported on are the Performance Accountability Measure, “the percentage of premises Broadly Compliant with Food Hygiene Legislation”. This is reported annually.

The following Service Improvement Data is also monitored and reported on within the Service Plan:

- (a) The percentage of Food Safety inspections carried out.
- (b) The percentage of Food Standards inspections carried out.
- (c) The percentage of new businesses inspected for Food Safety.
- (d) The percentage of new businesses inspected for Food Standards.
- (e) The percentage of Feed inspections carried out.
- (f) The percentage of new businesses inspected for Feed.

The Food Service will continue to implement performance management systems to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery in a meaningful way to the citizens of Flintshire.

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 Authority Profile

Flintshire is a Unitary Authority. The County has an area of 43,464 hectares and a population of approximately 152,700 as per the 2011 Census. The County is made up of a mixture of small towns and conurbations, particularly to the south and predominately rural and agricultural land located in the north. The population is subjected to small seasonal fluctuations due to influx of tourists to the area. It has a number of industrial estates on which many manufacturers including food manufacturers are located, as well as headquarters for several food manufacturers including one large national food retailer. The coastal edge of Flintshire County Council abuts the Dee Estuary upon which cockle and mussel beds are situated and there is a small port located at Mostyn.

2.2 Organisational Structure

The Food Service is part of the Community and Business Protection Service within the Planning, Environment and Economy portfolio area. The functions of Food Safety, Food Standards and Feed sit under the Team Leader – Food Safety and Food Standards. However, the Line management of most officers undertaking Feed inspections is the responsibility of the Team Leader - Trading Standards Compliance and Animal Health as these Feed officers also undertake other Trading Standards functions such as Animal Health. Both team leaders report in to the Community and Business Protection Manager. The organisation structure of the Food Service is illustrated on the chart detailed in Appendix 1. Appendix 1 also includes the Management and Cabinet structure of the Council.

The Lead Officer for Food Safety and Food Standards is the Team Leader – Food Safety and Food Standards. The Lead Officer for Feed is one of the Trading Standards Officer who also undertakes Weights and Measures work in all types of premises.

2.3 Scope of the Food Service

Specialist services are provided by Public Health Wales and Public Analyst Scientific Services as the Public Analyst (See Section 3.5).

The scope of the respective component parts of the service are detailed below:

Food Safety

The Food Safety component of the service has the following responsibilities and service provision:

- Enforcement of relevant food safety and food hygiene legislation in all food establishments in Flintshire
- Registration of food businesses and approval of premises subject to compliance with product specific legislation such as meat products, fish, shellfish, fishery products and dairy products
- Implementation of the Food Hygiene Rating (Wales) Act 2013
- Investigation of food complaints that relate to fitness of food for human consumption and complaints that relate to the nature, substance or microbiological quality of the food, taking appropriate action as necessary
- Investigation of all complaints which relate to hygiene matters (premises, practices, personnel) in food businesses
- Investigation of sporadic cases of food-related notifiable diseases and suspected cases of food poisoning
- Investigation and control of outbreaks of food poisoning and food-related notifiable diseases
- Response to Food Alerts and food related incidents taking appropriate action as necessary
- Advice to new and existing business, responses to plans, licensing and land charges referrals
- Providing Export Health Certificates to allow movement of food from the UK to countries outside the EU
- Act as Home and/or Originating Authority for other companies where necessary
- Undertake food sampling in accordance with the Sampling Programme
- Educational and promotional initiatives, when appropriate and based on local need

Food Standards

The Food Standards component of the service has the

following responsibilities and service provision:

- Respond to requests for consumer advice in matters regarding food standards, labelling and composition
- Undertake a pre-planned programme of visits to food premises within Flintshire
- Investigation of complaints relating to the nature, quality or substance of food and complaints relating to mislabelling of food taking appropriate action as necessary
- Provide advice, information and assistance to food businesses
- Undertake food sampling in accordance with the Sampling Programme and in response to incidents
- Undertake promotional and educational initiatives, when appropriate
- Act as Home Authority and Originating Authority for other food businesses within Flintshire where necessary

Feed

The Feed component of the service has the following responsibilities and service provision:

- Undertake a pre-planned programme of visits to feed premises within Flintshire
- Undertake a pre-planned programme of targeted Feed sampling
- Provide advice, information and support to feed business operators, including manufacturers, distributors, and users of feed products
- Investigation of complaints relating to feedstuffs and complaint-based sampling of feed as required as part of complaint investigation

The Service Delivery Point for the Food Safety, Food Standards and Feed Service is Ty Dewi Sant, Ewloe. For all of the above, the Service Delivery Points are open during normal office hours of 8.30 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.

There is no official “out of hours” provision. However, there is a call centre who will contact team members should specific scenarios be reported to them.

2.4 Demands of the Food Service

There are 1404 food premises in Flintshire. Of the total number of food premises in Flintshire 595 premises are caterers, with the remainder being made up predominantly by 318 retailers. The catering establishments cover a wide range of premises varying from restaurants, schools, hotels, pubs, residential care homes, hospitals to mobile food vehicles.

There are currently 44 food manufacturers and packers and 26 distributors within Flintshire, of which 23 are approved under EU Regulation 853/2004 as they handle products of animal origin. These regulations place additional control measures on these types of premises and on the Local Authority.

The types of food manufacturers within Flintshire vary greatly in the types of processes they use to produce food. These range from cooked meat and ready meal manufacturers with national distribution, through to an on-farm milk pasteuriser supplying milk locally. The diversity in the types of manufacturers operating within the County places a significant demand on the breadth and depth of knowledge required by officers within the Team.

Dee Estuary and Shellfish

The Dee Estuary has two actively fished cockle beds falling within Flintshire's jurisdiction, one of which is newly classified for this season. The remaining beds fall within Wirral Council's jurisdiction. Given the nature of the estuary, the shellfish beds place significant demands on the Team, particularly during the six month cockle opening season.

The management of the Dee accounts for a large portion of the Sampling Budget due to the statutory sampling of the water and shellfish for both microbiological classification and for algal biotoxin monitoring.

In addition to the shellfish beds on the Dee, there are several companies operating as buyers, grading yards and / or collection points for cockle harvested elsewhere within the UK at different times throughout the year. This has placed significant demand on the service and it is anticipated this will continue throughout 2019-20. There may be further resource requirement as there are several proposed shellfish businesses including processing of shellfish, which will require approval under Regulation 853/2004.

Enforcement on the Dee involves a cross-agency partnership working with National Resources Wales, Wirral Council, the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS), other Local Authorities, the North Western Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities and FSA Wales.

Port Health

There is a small port at Mostyn for which the Food Team has responsibility in relation to the ships coming into port requiring a Ship Sanitation Certificate or a food hygiene inspection.

Food Hygiene Rating (Wales) Act 2013 and associated legislation

Since 28th November 2013, the Food Hygiene Rating (Wales) Act 2013 mandated businesses with a food hygiene rating to display a valid food hygiene rating sticker. The administration of this Act accounts for a considerable volume of work for the Team.

The introduction of the Food Hygiene Rating (Promotion of Food Hygiene Rating) (Wales) Regulations 2016, requires takeaway food premises to provide a specific bi-lingual phrase on all their promotional literature which contains a price of the food and a method of ordering it remotely.

The Service is committed to delivering the requirements of the Food Hygiene Rating (Wales) Act 2013 and its associated regulations.

Premises Profile

The premises profile, as defined in the Food Law Code of Practice (Wales) August 2018, is detailed in Table 1:

Table 1: Breakdown of premises profile by risk band for Food Safety and Food Standards.

FOOD STANDARDS			FOOD SAFETY			
Risk	Min.	No. of		Risk	Min.	No. of
High	12 months	9	High	A	6 months	1
				B	12 months	27
Medium	2 years	393		C	18 months	470
Low	5 years	922	Low	D	2 years	330
				E	3 years	513
OUTSIDE		63		OUTSIDE		45
UNRATED		17		UNRATED		18
TOTAL		1404		TOTAL		1404

Please note: there are 5 bands of risk for Food Safety, with A to C being deemed to be High Risk and only 3 bands of risk in Food Standards, with only A being deemed High Risk.

Feed

Under the EU Feed Hygiene Regulation (183/2005) feed activities are clearly defined and are broken down in to 'Approved' and 'Registered' feed activities. Activities requiring Approval include any activity involving the manufacture and/or placing on the market of feed additives including zootechnical products (the technology of animal husbandry), with all such activities being classed as high risk. There are currently no businesses in Flintshire that have an Approval under the Regulations.

'Registered' feed activities are all other feed activities that are undertaken of which there are 14 registerable feed activities defined and coded by the FSA these are termed as 'R Codes' and run consecutively from R01 (the highest risk activity) through to R14 (the lowest risk activity)..

In Flintshire there are currently a total of 455 registered feed premises which are registerable across a wide range of feed activities. These activities are made up as follows: 380 are registered as farms (Livestock or arable), 8 as feed manufacturing and packing businesses, 30 as on farm feed mixers, and 24 businesses registered for the

supply of surplus food or co-products of manufacture. The remainder of the 8 registered premises are engaged in, transportation and distribution of feed.

The diversity in the types of Feed Businesses operating and activities being undertaken within the County places a significant demand on the breadth and depth of knowledge required by officers within the Team.

Following a review by FSA Wales in 2014 of the delivery of Animal Feeding Stuffs Enforcement across Wales, the system for risk assessing feed activities was simplified with all registerable feed activities across Wales being broken down into one of two categories based on risk. These two categories are referred to as '*Above the Line*' (or High Risk) and '*Below the Line*' (or Low Risk).

Above the line activities are the high risk activities, which include all businesses undertaking any 'Approved' feed activity and those engaged in 'Registered' feed activities involving production, processing, storage, transportation, sale of feed, or supply of food co-products, or surplus foods for use in animal feed and ultimately human consumption of those animals as part of the human food chain. These activities require a 'qualified' and 'competent' officer to inspect them.

Below the line activities are the low risk activities that include premises that are feeding animal feed stuffs to livestock or growing straight feed crops that are to be consumed in their natural state such as silage. This applies to all of Flintshire's farms. While these activities have a lower requirement for officers to be able to perform these activities, only requiring that an officer be 'competent' to complete this work.

Since 1st April 2015, the number of inspections of feed premises has been determined by FSA Wales with the launch of the FSA Wales sponsored 'North Wales Feed Enforcement Delivery Plan'. The plan for 2018/19 required Flintshire to inspect premises across the county for a total of 98 registered feed activities, 19 of these were above the line with the remaining 79 being below the line.

The figures for Flintshire for 2019/20 are 8 above the line inspections (High Risk) plus 3 with unknown activity, and 59 below the line (Low Risk) inspections giving a total of 70 for the year. The breakdown of the Feed premises profile is detailed below by risk band:

Table 2: Breakdown of the premises profile by risk band for Feed.

FEEDINGSTUFFS		
Risk	Frequency of Inspection	No. of registered activities subject to inspection
High	Every 3 years (as per Feed Code of Practice) However, currently inspections are being determined by FSA as part of Regional Delivery Plan. Inspections due for 2019/20 = 8 High Risk + 3 unknown activity.	8
Low / Medium	Every 14 years (as per Feed Code of Practice) However, currently inspections are being determined by FSA as part of Regional Delivery Plan. Inspections due for 2019/20 = 59 Low Risk.	59
TOTAL inspectable registered activities		67 + 3 unknown activity

The vast majority of food business owners are English speaking with a minor requirement for written reports in Welsh. All advisory literature is produced bilingually in accordance with the Welsh Language Standards of the Council which came in to force on 30 March 2016. Approximately 14% of residents in Flintshire are recorded as Welsh speaking.

Approximately 4% of food businesses are of ethnic origin (Asian, Chinese, Turkish and Greek) and once again advisory literature is available in a range of ethnic languages to assist in understanding.

2.5 Enforcement Policy

The Food Service undertakes enforcement in accordance with the Public Protection Enforcement Policy which has been updated and approved by Members in 2010. This policy has been based upon the principles of the Enforcement Concordat adopted by Members in September 2000 and the Regulators Compliance Code.

There is also an Enforcement Policy for residents entitled “Regulation and Enforcement – Involving Local Residents”, which was approved by Council in September 2011.

3.0 SERVICE DELIVERY

3.1. Food Premises Inspections

The Food Service will carry out inspections in accordance with pre-planned programmes drawn up annually and commencing on 1st April each year, to coincide with the reporting requirements for the Service to the Food Standards Agency Wales, as part of the Local Authority Enforcement Monitoring System (LAEMS). These inspection programmes are based on the risk rating of the premises. There is a commitment to deliver all interventions which are due in accordance with the Food Law Code of Practice (Wales) 2018.

Food Safety and Food Standards

The performance of the Food Safety and Food Standards Team in 2018/2019 was excellent with the Team achieving 100% of High Risk inspections for both Food Safety and Food Standards.

The target of 87% of new businesses to be inspected for Food Hygiene was exceeded with 89.5% actually being achieved. The Food Standards New Business target of 87%, was also exceeded by achieving 88.4%. This was enabled by the majority of new business inspections being undertaken by the officers who are authorised to carry out both Food Standards and Food Safety inspections thereby facilitating the inspections being completed by one visit. This also ties in with the Reducing the Burden on Business agenda by combining the two types of inspection. There is a commitment to prioritising new business interventions in line with the Food Law Practice Guidance (Wales) 2012.

There is a Public Accountability Measure in place, namely the percentage of businesses which are Broadly Compliant with Food Hygiene legislation. For 2018-19, this figure has improved from 97.4 to 97.9% of food businesses within Flintshire falling into this category.

All low risk premises have received a physical inspection or an alternative enforcement questionnaire has been completed to assess risk.

A full breakdown of performance is provided in Appendix 3.

The key objectives for the coming year in relation to programmed inspection and enforcement work are as follows:

Food Safety

- Inspect 100% of all food businesses due a food hygiene inspection
- To follow the requirements of the Food Hygiene Rating (Wales) Act 2013 and associated regulations
- To revisit all premises receiving a Food Hygiene Rating of 2 or lower to assess compliance, in line with the All Wales Revisit Policy written by the All Wales Food Safety Expert Group. Please note – this type of revisit does not result in a new food hygiene rating.
- To undertake proactive inspections of shellfish documentation to ensure traceability of shellfish being handled within Flintshire

Food Standards

- Inspect 100% of all food premises due a Food Standards inspection in 2019-20.
- To focus on Allergen Management as part of the programmed inspections in Medium Risk takeaways
- To revisit all premises with major non-compliance with Allergen Information requirements.

A full breakdown of premises programmed for inspection 2019-2020 in relation to their risk band is given in Appendix 2. For Food Hygiene this gives a total of 634 inspections due and for Food Standards a total of 348 inspections due.

Last year, the number of Food Hygiene and Food Standards revisits was 32. It is anticipated, the figure for this year will increase to at least 50 due to the revisits that may be required on Allergen management at takeaway premises.

Feed

Following a major review of feed service delivery across Wales conducted by FSA Wales in 2014 all feed work across Wales since 01st April 2015 has been delivered

as part of collaborative working based on regional delivery plans. These plans have been developed in conjunction with FSA Wales and are based on priorities set by FSA Wales.

Currently the FSA are specifying the level of inspection each year as part of their plan. For 2018/19, there was a premises inspection target of 99 high and low/medium risk premises inspections programmed within Flintshire. This target was met in full.

The target set for programmed inspections for 2019/20 is 70 inspections. The breakdown of these inspections by the premises activity code is detailed in Table C in Appendix 2.

3.1.1 Additional Targeted Inspection/ Enforcement Activity

Additional targeted inspection and enforcement activity due to be undertaken is as follows:

- Effective and professional liaison, communication and co-operation with other LA's and Regulatory Delivery relating to Primary Authority (PA) matters.
- Investigation of notified food safety related fraud incidents, such as illegal slaughter of meat, including referrals made anonymously.
- Issue of Ship Sanitation Certificates as appropriate for incoming vessels to the Port of Mostyn.
- Appropriate response and liaison with other agencies as necessary for Civil Contingency matters.
- Assessing non-compliance with the Food Hygiene Rating (Wales) Act 2013 and associated regulations in regard to mandatory display of food hygiene ratings stickers and the inclusion of the mandatory bi-lingual statement on promotional literature for takeaways. This is to build on the previous project work that was undertaken during 2018-19, where a total of 123 takeaway businesses were checked for the correct display of their rating stickers, the correct inclusion of the bi-lingual statement on their takeaway menus and the Allergen Information compliance on their takeaway menus.

3.1.2 Resources for Inspections and Additional Enforcement Activity

Food Safety and Food Standards

The programmed food hygiene inspections will be undertaken by Environmental Health Officers (EHO) and Food Safety Officers (FSO). A full breakdown of resources is given in 4.2 – Staffing Allocation. Food Standards work will be carried by our Trading Standards Officer, EHOs and FSOs.

Other areas of Trading Standards work within food premises such as Weights and Measures will be carried out by the Trading Standards Officer within the Food Team. This places an absolute requirement for a fully competent Trading Standards Officer to be within the Team.

Feed

All aspects of Feed work will be carried out by 0.3 FTE fully qualified Trading Standards Officer and 0.7 FTE Trading Standards Enforcement Officer. This work is to be distributed across 7 officers who are qualified and/or competent in accordance with FSA Feed Law Code of Practice requirements. 6 of the Feed officers are based in the Trading Standards Compliance and Animal Health Team and 1 officer is based in the Food Safety and Food Standards team.

3.2 Food/Feed Complaints

Food complaints cover the full range relating to fitness for human consumption, presence of extraneous matter in foods, microbial contamination and Food Standards issues such as food labelling, chemical adulteration and spoilage of food.

It is the policy of the Food Service to investigate all food complaints reported including those made anonymously.

Food Safety and Food Standards

All food complaints are dealt with in accordance with the Food Law Code of Practice (Wales) 2018, having regard to the documented Public Protection Enforcement Policy 2010.

Based on statistics for previous years, the estimated number of Food Safety and Food Standards complaints is between 110 and 140.

Please note the above figures do not indicate dealing

with food complaints referred by other Local Authorities when acting as Home or Originating Authority.

Feed

All feed complaints will be dealt with in accordance with the Feed Law Code of Practice (Wales) 2014, having regard to the documented Public Protection Enforcement Policy 2010.

The number of Feed related complaints received by the service is low, typically no more than 3 a year.

3.3 Primary Authority Principle

Food Safety and Food Standards

Flintshire County Council subscribes to both the Primary and the Home Authority Principle. The Food Service acts as both Home Authority and/or Originating Authority for approximately 50 food businesses.

Flintshire is also committed to improving relationships with business and will continue to develop relationships with business and encourage effective business engagement at all times.

Feed

There is currently no formal Primary Authority relationship between FCC and any Flintshire based Feed Business Operator. Iceland Stores are engaged in a pilot trial scheme working directly with the FSA. This has involved the company registering all of its UK stores for the supply of surplus food (morning goods) for use in the animal feed chain and ultimately the human food chain.

3.4 Advice to Business

The policy of the Food Service is to provide a balanced approach between the provision of advice and enforcement activity. The Service is committed to providing an effective and responsive advice and assistance service, both during inspections or upon request, for all Flintshire businesses, including a service in accordance with the Regulatory Delivery Primary Authority Principle and the Local Government Regulation (previously LACORS) Home Authority Principle.

In addition, the Service provides advisory literature,

(either produced nationally or in-house) to businesses to assist them with compliance with relevant legislation. This is currently free of charge. The potential to charge for this type of service is being explored.

Food Safety and Food Standards

In order to maximise the use of limited resources, advice is targeted as follows:

- During inspections and as part of follow up documentation.
- Start-up advice on request.
- Through guidance information available on the Food Team's website pages.
- Distribution of relevant food safety and food standards material to food businesses.
- Advice and information is given to businesses requesting guidance either by telephone, email or post.

Based on last year's trends, the estimated number of requests for advice is anticipated to be approximately 160 - 200 in relation to Food Safety and Standards. Advice to businesses is provided by all members of the Team. This figure may increase pending EU Exit.

Feed

Flintshire is committed to supporting feed businesses and working with them to enable compliance with all regulatory and best practice standards, and to protect animal health and welfare, and the human food chain. In order to maximise the use of limited resources, advice is targeted as follows:

- During inspections and as part of follow up documentation.
- Start-up advice on request to new businesses.
- Through sign posting to guidance information available on the Trading Standards Wales and FSA Wales websites.
- Distribution of relevant feed hygiene and standards material to feed businesses.
- Advice and information is normally given to businesses requesting guidance either by telephone, e-mail or post, or where appropriate

through a visit to the business operator by an officer

3.5 Food Inspection and Sampling

Food Safety and Food Standards

Sampling will be carried out in accordance with the documented Sampling Policy for the Food Service which was referred for Member Approval in July 2001. The sampling programme is devised so that the procurement of samples will follow a risk based approach. The programme takes in to account statutory requirements as well as the requirements of the FSA, the Welsh Food Microbiological Forum and local need.

Samples taken for Food Standards issues are submitted for analysis by the formally appointed and NAMAS accredited Public Analyst for the Council (and Agricultural Analyst for Animal Feed purposes):

Public Analyst Scientific Services
Valiant Way
Wolverhampton
WV9 5GB

Samples taken as part of the Sampling Programme for Food Safety issues are submitted for microbiological examination by the designated and NAMAS accredited laboratory of:

Public Health Wales
Ysbyty Gwynedd
Penrhosgarnedd
Bangor

Each Local Authority is allocated sampling accreditation by Public Health Wales.

The Food Sampling Programme does not preclude the need to undertake reactive sampling e.g. as a result of a food complaint or during food poisoning investigations. Sampling undertaken as part of an Infectious Disease Notification or Outbreak are sent to the laboratory at Ysbyty Gwynedd, Penrhosgarnedd, Bangor.

The team were awarded a small grant of £264 for taking part in Opson VIII, which focussed on Meat Speciation. All our samples did not show substitution but did show low level cross-contamination with other meat species.

A member of the team attends the WFMF, which is

responsible for devising Food Safety Sampling Surveys across Wales, based on risk assessment and intelligence to better target resources at particular foods or food poisoning organisms of concern within the UK.

Samples are taken as part of programmed inspections at manufacturers and premises where product specific legislation applies. The budget for sampling will remain the same as it was in 2018-19.

The anticipated number of samples for Food Standards is around 60 including samples taken for labelling checks.

Samples will be taken as part of programmed inspections at manufacturers, approved premises and premises where product specific legislation applies.

For Food Safety, there will be statutory sampling at approved premises and taking part in WFMF surveys to include the Shopping Basket survey.

The anticipated number of samples for Food Microbiological examination is around 80 samples including the shellfish classification and biotoxin monitoring samples.

Feed

Sampling of Feeding stuffs during 2019-20 will again be undertaken as part of the FSA funded North Wales Feed Service Delivery Plan.

Feed sampling undertaken during 2018/19 included analysis for mycotoxins and heavy metal residues. It is envisaged a similar number of samples analysis will be required this year.

Other than sampling directly funded by FSA Wales any other feed samples taken will only be done in response to complaints received or feed safety incidents.

3.6 Control and Investigation of Outbreaks and Food Related Infectious Disease

Investigation and control of outbreaks of food related infectious disease will be carried out in accordance with the Communicable Disease Outbreak Plan for Wales was approved by Members in 2011.

Investigations of sporadic notifications of food related infections disease shall follow the existing documented procedure within the Section. Based on previous year's trends, it is estimated that there will be approximately between 220 and 250 cases of sporadic notifications and between 0 and 10 outbreaks. Public Health Wales have introduced molecular testing of faecal samples of suspected cases and this has resulted in an increase in the number of positive cases detected for specific organisms.

Campylobacter was the highest incidence of food-borne illness for 2018-2019 in Flintshire, with 155 cases being notified to us. The reduction of the incidence of *Campylobacter* is identified as a priority within the Food Standard Agency's Strategy 2015-2020.

Outbreaks are characteristically resource intensive but do not follow an annual trend, therefore the anticipated burden on staffing cannot be predicted. However, should they occur the impact on resources cannot be over-estimated and would require rapid contingency planning for maintaining the delivery of the rest of the Service. They also involve close liaison and cross-agency working between Public Health Wales and other Local Authorities.

3.7 Food/Feed Safety Incidents

Food Safety and Food Standards

Food Alerts will be initiated and responded to in accordance the Food Law Code of Practice (Wales) 2018. Responses to Food Alerts will be kept in a centralised documented format and the contact details for the Team and relevant Agencies (including out of hour's contacts) will be kept up to date. It is difficult to quantify the resource implication of this function as it depends upon the category of Food Alert and the extent of food or businesses affected within Flintshire.

There were several incidents within 2018-19 which required considerable investigation work and enforcement action by the Team. This included an investigation into the placing on market of yoghurt produced in a manufacturing environment which was not approved to do so. This resulted in a successful prosecution of the business.

Feed

Alerts will be initiated and responded to in accordance with the Feed Law Code of Practice (Wales) 2014. Responses to Feed Alerts will be kept in a centralised documented format and the contact details for the Team and relevant Agencies (including out of hour's contacts) will be kept up to date. It is difficult to quantify the resource implication of this function as it depends upon the nature of the Feed Alert and the source of supply, type, and quantity of feed product involved as well as the distribution of the feed.

3.8 Liaison with Other Organisations

The Food Service as a whole is committed to ensuring effective liaison with other relevant organisations to enforce consistency of approach. This includes liaison with:

- FSA Wales
- Regulatory Delivery
- Professional bodies such as the Chartered Institute of Environmental Health and Chartered Trading Standards Institute
- Public Health Wales, National Resources Wales, CEFAS, Animal and Plant Health Agency and other relevant advisory/liaison bodies
- Other Local Authorities in Wales as a whole by attending the All Wales Food Safety Expert Group, the All Wales Communicable Disease Expert Group and the WFMF and regionally, by attending the North Wales Food and Communicable Disease Task Group.
- Other relevant local bodies e.g. local fishermen by way of the North Wales and Deeside Shellfish Liaison Group.
- Other Departments within Flintshire County Council, such as the Planning Department, with whom a system of formal consultation with relevant sections of the Community and Business Protection Service has been set up so that prompt, appropriate advice may be given to ensure compliance with relevant legislation.

In addition to all of the above, liaison is also maintained between members of the Food Team by monthly Team Meetings. There is also a weekly management meeting for Team Leaders and the Service Manager within Community and Business Protection.

The Feed element of the service is committed to ensuring effective liaison with partners and other relevant organisations to ensure and enforce consistency of approach. This includes liaison with:

- Food Standards Agency Wales (FSA Wales)
- Veterinary Medicines Directorate (VMD)
- Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA)
- Professional bodies such as the Chartered Trading Standards Institute (CTSI), National Trading Standards (NTS) and the Association of Chief Trading Standards Officers (ACTSO).
- Other Local Authorities across Wales and the UK
- Partner Local Authorities in the North Wales Feed Enforcement Delivery Plan (Wrexham, Denbighshire, Gwynedd, Ynys-Mon, and Conwy).
- Liaison with regional and national panels and expert interest groups including the joint WHoTS/FSA Feed Working Group, WHoTS and UK Animal Health and Welfare Panels etc.

In addition to the above, liaison is maintained within the Feed element of the Trading Standards Compliance and Animal Health Team through regular team meetings with the Team Leader – Food Safety and Food Standards. They also have regular one to ones with their line manager. There is also a weekly management meeting for Team Leaders and the Service Manager within Community and Business Protection.

3.9 Food Safety/ Food Standards and Feed Promotion

Educational and promotional activities are important components of a comprehensive Food Service.

Food Safety and Food Standards

Promotional work programmed for this year includes taking part in the first World Food Safety Day on 7th June 2019. The focus of this event is the revised FSA Traceability, Withdrawal and Recall guidance.

There is no Food Safety Week this year as the FSA have recognized that LAs already have additional considerations in relation to EU Exit to manage.

Feed

Officers of the service work with the trade offering advice and guidance on compliance with legal and best practice standards during routine inspection work and when

carrying out routine animal health and welfare and disease control work.

Promotion work is done as part of routine inspection or in response to enquiries made by business to the service.

4.0 RESOURCES

4.1 Financial Allocation

The financial allocation for the Food Service is split between budgets provided for the Food Safety and Food Standards and for Animal Health. The overall level of expenditure providing the Food Safety and Food Standards Service for 2019-20 is detailed in Table 3.

Table 3: Budget for the Food Safety and Food Standards Team 2019-20

COST ITEM	FINANCIAL ALLOCATION
(a) Staffing (total staff costs)	£520,678
(b) Travel (mileage and rail warrants)	£9,292
(c) Equipment	£2,981
(d) Sampling	£5177
(e) Shellfish Sampling	£6000
(f) Support Costs for Printing and Translation	£500
(g) Training	Centrally held budget. Accessed via application

The allocation for Food Sampling work covers both Food Safety and Food Standards. This is in addition to the allocation provided by Public Health Wales. Additional funding can and will be made available should there be an incident which requires it.

Table 4 shows the overall level of expenditure for Feed Service delivery:

Table 4: Budget for the Feed Service Delivery 2019/20

COST ITEM	FINANCIAL ALLOCATION
(a) Staffing (total staff costs)	£14141.30
(b) Travel (including mileages and Subsistence	£2000.00
(c) Equipment	£500.00
(d) Sampling	Budget is held Regionally for North Wales with funding allocated on completion of FSA Wales allocated targeted sampling project work.
(e) Training	Centrally held budget. Accessed via application
(f) Total	£16641.30

4.2 Staffing Allocation

Food Safety and Food Standards

The Food Safety and Food Standards team is made up of the Team Leader – Food Safety and Food Standards 1.0 FTE, 5.5 FTE EHOs, 3.0 FTE Food Safety Officers and 1.0 FTE Trading Standards Officer. All members of the team are permanent positions.

Administrative support is provided by 1.0 FTE Administration Officer. This role is situated within Social Services as a central administration function.

In accordance with the Food Law Code of Practice (Wales) 2018, all Environmental Health Officers in post are qualified Environmental Health Officers, registered with the Environmental Health Registration Board (E.H.R.B.). Food Safety Officers are qualified to the Higher Certificate in Food Premises Inspection and all officers are qualified in HACCP Principles (Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points). All three of the Food Safety Officers hold the Higher Certificate in Food Control.

All staff are authorised appropriately for the duties they perform. All EHOs meet the post two year qualified competency requirement to use all enforcement powers

required by the Code of Practice. The majority of Officers also hold the Lead Auditor qualification.

The Trading Standards Officer holds the Diploma in Trading Standards and has also successfully completed the five day QMS Auditor/Lead Auditor training course.

The full breakdown of resources required to deliver the Food Safety and Food Standards service is given below:

Table 5: Full Breakdown of Resources by Full Time Equivalent (FTE) to Deliver the Food Safety and Food Standards Service

Intervention Type	Food Safety FTE	Food Standards FTE
Inspections	5.0	2.5
Revisits	0.3	
Complaints	0.4	
Primary Authority	0.1	
Food Incidents	0.2	
Food Business advice/promotion and other Non-Official Controls Interventions	0.4	
Communicable Disease	0.5	N/A
Sampling	0.1	0.1

Please note – this breakdown of resources includes the 0.2 FTE operational aspect of the Team Leader. The remainder of the Team Leader 0.8 FTE is not taken account of above as this includes the operational management functions of this role including Feed and Corporate matters. A further 0.1 FTE of the Trading Standards Officer role is spent regulating other Trading Standards legislation in food businesses such as Weights and Measures legislation.

We are able to fulfil the inspection resource requirement by completing the majority of inspections as joint inspections i.e. the officer does both a Food Safety and Food Standards audit during the same visit. This flexibility is key to ensuring we can deliver the service level expected based on current resources.

Feed

All aspects of Feed work will be carried out by seven officers of the service with the overall management of the area by the Team Leader – Food Safety and Food Standards. There has been a change to the Lead Feed Officer to reflect these changes in accountability so that one of the Trading Standards Officers is the Lead Feed Officer.

All officers involved in the delivery of the feed service also undertake other duties which are non-Feed related. The Feed component of their roles equates to 0.3 FTE Trading Standards Officer and 0.7 FTE Trading Standards Enforcement Officer.

Three Trading Standards Officers are officers within the two teams that satisfy all criteria as a 'qualified' and 'competent' feed officer, this includes holding the Diploma in Trading Standards (or equivalent), successful completion of the five day QMS Auditor/Lead Auditor Training Course, completion of CIEH accredited HACCP training, and participation in a FSA programme of Feed Training in conjunction with their approved training provider. Such qualification means that these officers are suitably qualified and competent to undertake all aspects of Feed work.

Four Trading Standards Enforcement Officers satisfy the 'competency' criteria based on experience and training that enables them to perform Below the Line (Low Risk) Feed work on both Livestock and Arable Farms.

All seven officers satisfy the FSA requirements re qualification and /or competency to enable them to undertake Feed enforcement work. This includes meeting the requirement to undertake a minimum of 10 hours relevant CPD annually.

4.3 Staff Development Plan

During the forthcoming year the following training is planned:

- (i) Support of national and regional seminars on relevant subject matters.
- (ii) In-house training sessions on relevant subject matters.

Each member of the Team will receive the required ten hours Continuing Professional Development as required by the Food Law Code of Practice (Wales) 2018. Staff will be subject to annual individual Staff Appraisals in line with the Corporate H.R. Policy with a mid-year review which identifies and tracks training and development needs. All staff also have monthly one to ones with the Team Leader to identify and monitor areas requiring development.

Some of the training courses attended by staff during 2018-19 include:

- All Wales Consistency Exercises on Food Hygiene Ratings
- Import and Export of Food
- Food Supplements
- Contaminants in Food
- Food Factory Standards Inspection
- Essential and Advanced Microbiology

Training planned for 2019-20 includes:

- All Wales Consistency on Food Hygiene Ratings
- Food Standards for Food Safety Officers
- Food Lead Officer – Food Law Code of Practice Competency Framework
- Food Sampling
- Allergen Management and Enforcement
- Internal Cascade Training

A full list of training required has been submitted to the All Wales Food Safety Expert Group as they provide the FSA with guidance on training programmes to be delivered on an All Wales basis. Team members attend this training as per the allocation given to each local authority.

Feed

All authorised officers have attended training to ensure continued competence and qualification and will continue to undertake ongoing training as part of CPD for feed during 2019/20.

All feed training is provided regionally across Wales as

part of the North Wales Regional Feed Enforcement Delivery Plan that is funded by FSA.

5.0 QUALITY ASSESSMENT

5.1 Quality Assessment Food Safety and Food Standards

Within the Food Service, quality systems are in place to ensure that work is completed and checked by a competent person in line with the fully documented Quality Monitoring Procedures. Documented procedures and work instructions exist to ensure consistency of approach with various computer report mechanisms to check accuracy on the APP Database. Work Instruction is provided on key areas of work retained within Formal Procedure Manuals.

The Team Leader sits on the North Wales Food and Communicable Disease Task Group, the All Wales Food Safety Expert Group and chairs the All Wales Communicable Disease Expert Group. These forums offer the opportunity to discuss a wide range of quality issues relevant to Food Law Enforcement.

The Service is required to submit an Annual Return to FSA Wales via Local Authority Enforcement Monitoring System (LAEMS). This details the inspections achieved, enforcement and educational activities undertaken.

Feed

Quality systems are also in place to ensure that work is completed and checked by a competent person in line with the fully documented Quality Monitoring Procedures. Documented procedures and work instructions exist to ensure consistency of approach with various computer report mechanisms to check accuracy on the APP Database. Work Instruction is provided on Key Areas of work retained within Formal Procedure Manuals.

In addition, for the whole Food service, external audits including focused audits, are undertaken by the Food Standards Agency Wales (frequency determined by FSA). The service received its last full audit in 2013. A Food Hygiene Rating Desk Top Audit was completed in 2017. The resulting report has just been published with a set of recommendations made within it. Flintshire performed well in this audit. All recommendations made which applied to the Food Service have been implemented.

6.0 REVIEW PROCESS

6.1 Review against Service Plan

The Service Plan shall be subject to annual review. Performance against this Service Plan is monitored by several means:

- Monthly team meetings
- Monthly one to ones with individual team members
- Informal team briefings held on a regular basis

As detailed in 3.0, the Food Service Team have performed to an excellent standard achieving the target for all Service Improvement Data. They are also in line with the Audit Action Plan for the Food Standards Agency Wales.

Appendix 3 provides full quantitative analysis of service delivery during 2018-19.

6.2 Review of Performance Against 2018-2019 Service Plan

Food Safety and Food Standards

General achievements of note are listed:

- Achieved 100% of programmed Food Hygiene inspections
- Achieved 100% of programmed Food Standards inspections
- Exceeded the target for the percentage of new food businesses we became aware of within the year receiving an inspection for both Hygiene and Standards
- The percentage of premises with a Food Hygiene rating of 5 has increased from 79.0% to 81.4%. 97.8% of businesses have a rating of 3 or higher compared to 97.3% in the previous year
- Successful prosecution of a manufacturer of dairy-based products who did not have the relevant approval to do so
- Shellfish cross agency working has been significantly developed with joint visits with NRW being regularly undertaken

Feed

Achievements for 2018/19:

- Achieving 100% of inspection targets. The breakdown of the profile of premises inspected differs slightly to those on the original plan. However, this was done in agreement with the Lead Regional Feed Officer
- Samples were taken in accordance with the regional sampling plan. All samples were found to be satisfactory for Heavy Metal residues and Mycotoxins

6.3 Areas of Focus and Improvement for 2019-20

Areas requiring focus for the forthcoming year are detailed below. The after school clubs work is repeated from last year –this is due to the demands placed on the team due to the prosecution case and the increase in shellfish-related work.

The areas are as follows:

- Identify and inspect food businesses that are not currently registered as a food business and so require registration and inspection. This is to include any primary producers in the area.
- Undertake targeted interventions in takeaway premises regarding Allergen Management
- Further develop the cross-agency and regional working in relation to Shellfish enforcement
- To inspect all after school clubs within the County for both Food Hygiene and Food Standards

Feed

- To contact all businesses that have been sent registration forms but have not returned a completed document
- To devise a delivery plan to inspect the remaining registered businesses that have not yet received a Feed inspection
- To develop a procedure on the maintenance of the Feed registration database to ensure its accuracy in relation to premises who are members of Farm Assurance schemes

6.4 Forthcoming Considerations

There are several considerations which may influence or impact on Service Delivery for 2019/20. These are detailed below:

The Service Plan relies on the current level of staffing to be maintained. These posts will need to remain filled for the whole of 2019/20 for the commitments made for Service Delivery to be met.

Effect of EU Exit – we are still awaiting an indication as to the effect of the EU Exit on Food Hygiene, Food Standards and Feed legislation and its enforcement. Given the impending date it is anticipated there will need to be substantial consideration of any changes during Quarter 2 and 3 of this financial year.

Food Hygiene and Food Standards Specific

As outlined in previous Service Plans, the Food Standards Agency launched a consultation early in 2016 regarding changing the delivery model for Food and Feed Controls called Regulating the Future (RoF). The objective of the programme is to 'define and then deliver a new regulatory blueprint for a food industry unrecognizable from the one that existed when the current system was designed'.

The proposal is to alter the blueprint of the delivery model to best support compliance and protecting consumers' interests in line with the FSA's 2015-20 Strategy of 'food we can trust'. They were working to a timetable of January 2020 for the final blueprint to be finalized with several areas where a timetable of March 2019 have been given to tie in with the original date for EU Exit.

Whilst there has been some progress with the various work streams within the RoF programme, these are not yet at the rolling out stage.

Feed Specific

FSA Wales have communicated their intention to audit the Feed delivery across Wales in 2019-20. A proposed scope has been sent to local authorities and comments have been provided on this document. We are awaiting further information in this regard.

Chart 1

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL - ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Page 684

Chief Executive

Chief Officer
Governance

Chief Officer
Education
and
Youth

Chief Officer
Social
Services

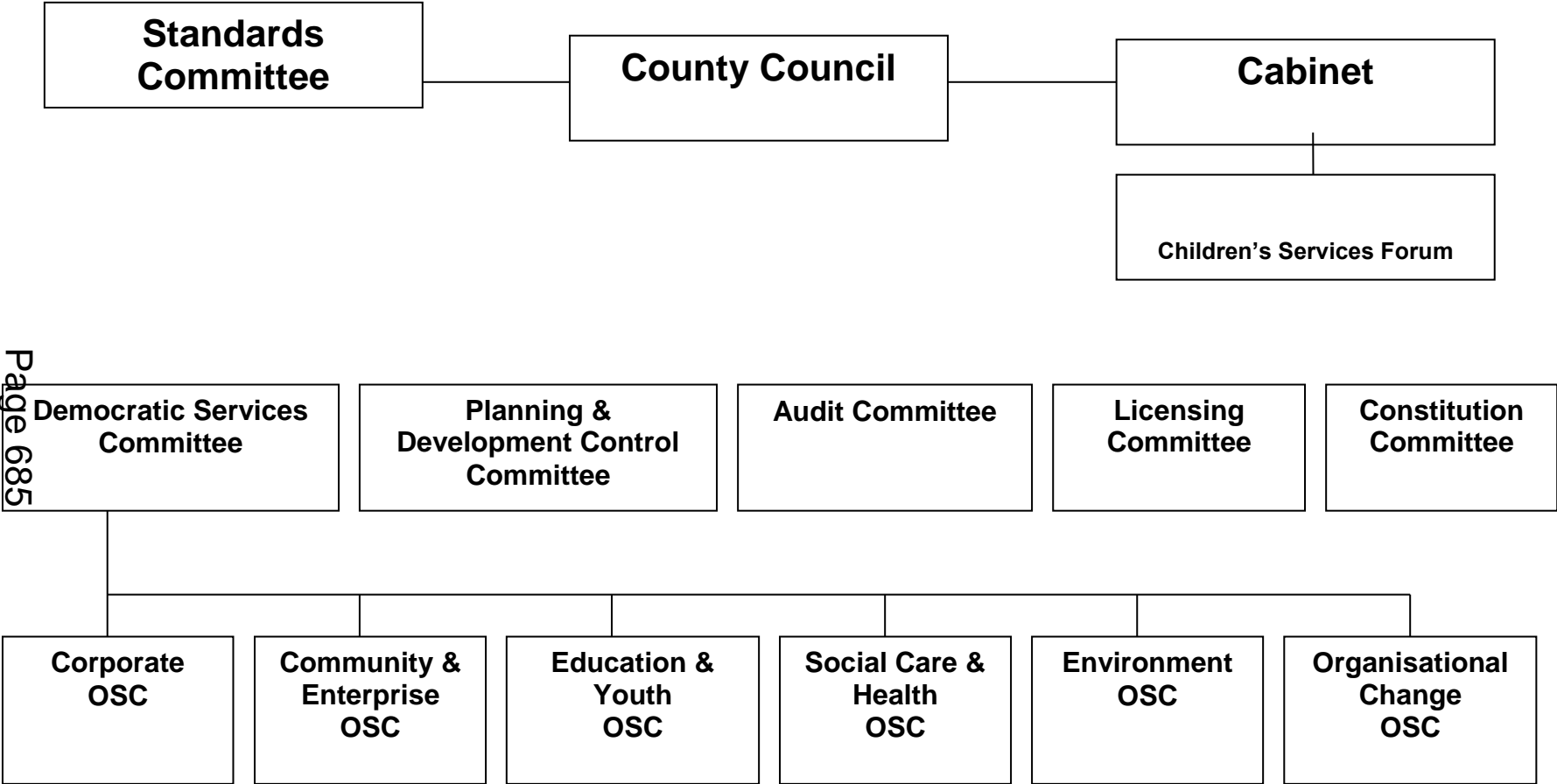
Chief Officer
Streetscene
and
Transportation

Chief Officer
Planning,
Environment
and
Economy

Chief Officer
Housing
and
Assets

Chart 2

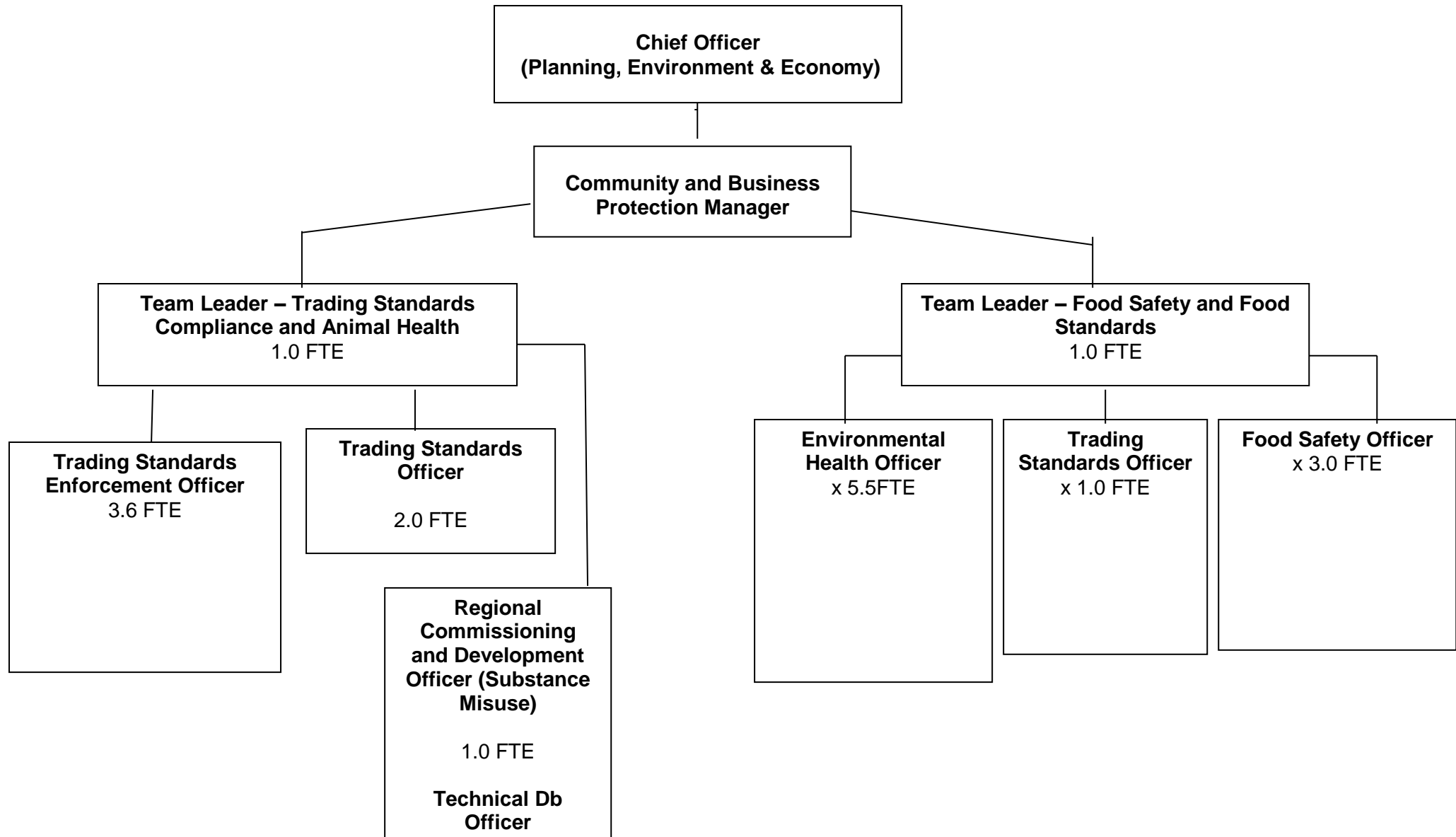
FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL – POLITICAL STRUCTURE



Page 685

Chart 3

COMMUNITY AND BUSINESS PROTECTION - FOOD SERVICE



Page 686

APPENDIX 2

Please find below a breakdown of the profile of programmed Food Safety and Food Standards inspections for 2019-20 by Risk Rating:

Table A

PROGRAMMED INSPECTIONS - FOOD SAFETY	
Risk	Number Due
A	1
B	27
C	250
D	143
E	179
Unrated	34
TOTAL	634

Page 687
Table B

PROGRAMMED INSPECTIONS - FOOD STANDARDS	
Risk	Number Due
A	9
B	192
C	95
Unrated	52
TOTAL	348

The Risk Rating is determined in accordance with the Food Law Code of Practice. It dictates the frequency of which the food premises must receive a full food hygiene or food standards inspection.

For Food Safety High Risk premises are those with a Risk Rating of A - C. For Food Standards High Risk premises are those with a Risk Rating of A.

Please find below a breakdown of the profile of programmed Feed inspections for 2019-20 by Feed Business Activity. The figure in brackets denote the total number of inspections due within the activity code, with the un-bracketed number denoting the actual number of inspections to be achieved

Table C

	PROGRAMMED INSPECTIONS - FEED	
High Risk (ATL)/Low Risk (BTL)	Registered/Approved Feed Business Activity	Number Due
High Risk	Manufacturer of Feed	3
High Risk	Co Product Producers	
High Risk	Feed Stores	1
High Risk	Feed Distributor	
High Risk	Feed Transporter	
High Risk	On Farm Feed Mixers	2
High Risk	Supplier of Surplus Food	
High Risk	Pet Food Manufacturer	2
Low Risk	Livestock Farms	57 (142)
Low Risk	Arable Farms	2
	Total	67 + 3 unknown R code activity

APPENDIX 3 – PERFORMANCE 2018-19

Please note - the numbers in brackets denote the number of premises that had ceased trading during the year

Food Safety

Risk	Programmed	Achieved
A) High Risk	1	100%
B) High Risk	21 (4)	100%
C) High Risk	223 (59)	100%
D Low Risk	81 (21)	100%
E Low Risk	110 (24)	100%
Unrated	21 (1)	100%
TOTAL	457 (109)	100%

TOTAL Number of Interventions Undertaken (including Revisits and Advisory Visits)	827
--	------------

Food Standards

Risk	Programmed	Achieved
High	9 (2)	100%
Medium	127 (36)	100%
Low	45 (12)	100%
Unrated	31 (1)	100%
TOTAL	212 (51)	100%

TOTAL Number of Interventions Undertaken (including Revisits)	454
--	------------

Feed Inspections (as per requirements of FSA/WHoTS Regional FLEDP 2018/19)

Risk	Programmed	Achieved
High	19	18
Medium/Low	79	80
Premises found on inspections to have ceased trading	N/A	14
TOTAL	98	112

Food Hygiene Ratings

Profile of Ratings within Flintshire: May 2019

Page 690	5	4	3	2	1	0
	Very Good	Good	Generally Satisfactory	Improvement Necessary	Major Improvement Necessary	Urgent Improvement Necessary
% of Premises	81.4	13.5	2.9	1.1	1.1	0

Number of Requests for Rescore Visit to be undertaken - 17

Number of Appeals on Rating - 1

Number of Fixed Penalty Notices - 1

Right to Reply - 0

Other data in relation to Demands on Food Service

Food and Feeding Stuffs Complaints

Food Safety number of complaints	-	103 linked to Food businesses
Food Standards number of complaints	-	14
Feeding Stuffs number of complaints	-	1

Advice to Business

Food Safety	-	144 requests for advice
Food Standards	-	13 requests for advice
Feeding Stuffs	-	8 requests for advice

Food and Feeding Stuffs Inspection and Sampling

Food Safety	-	54 Food samples + 15 Shellfish
Food Standards	-	41 samples – monitoring for composition and labelling

Feeding Stuffs	-	4
----------------	---	---

Control and Investigation of Outbreaks and Food Related Infectious Disease (Food Safety only)

Sporadic Notifications	-	213 (of which 155 were Campylobacter)
Outbreaks	-	12

Other Types of Service Requests (Food Safety only)

<u>Water Disconnections</u>	-	12
-----------------------------	---	----

Shellfish Requests for Registration Documents - these are now administered by Natural Resources Wales on our behalf

<u>Ship Sanitation Certificates</u>	-	0
-------------------------------------	---	---

<u>Export Health Certificates</u>	-	73
-----------------------------------	---	----

This page is intentionally left blank

EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS – DECISIONS TAKEN

Housing and Assets

- **Council Housing Rent – Write Off of Former Tenancy Arrears Following Eviction**
Financial Procedure Rules (section 5.2) stipulates that individual bad debt and irrecoverable debts in excess of £5,000 are considered for write off in conjunction with the relevant Cabinet Member. The decision to write off is in respect of 5 cases of unpaid rent in circumstances where the Council has already taken action to evict the tenants as a result of non-payment of rent. Following the steps taken to evict, the former tenancy arrears in each case are considered to be irrecoverable and there is no prospect of securing payment. The total amount of unpaid rent associated with the 5 cases is £31,277.12.
- **Council Rent – Application to Write Off Tenancy Arrears**
Financial Procedure Rules (section 5.2) stipulates that individual bad debt and irrecoverable debts in excess of £5,000 are considered for write off in conjunction with the relevant Cabinet Member. The write off request is in respect of one tenant who is subject to a Debt Relief Order (DRO). Rent Arrears of £5,173.61 are included in the DRO which are now irrecoverable as a result of the award of the DRO.
- **Housing Benefit Overpayment Write Off**
Unable to recover this overpayment due to bankruptcy order.
- **Housing Benefit Overpayment Write Off**
It is not in the public interest to pursue the recovery of this overpayment.
- **Housing Benefit Overpayment Write Off**
Unable to recover this overpayment due to debt relief order.
- **Housing Benefit Overpayment Write Off**
It is not in the public interest to pursue the recovery of this overpayment.
- **Transfer of Affordable Gifted Units to the Housing Revenue Account**
In accordance with the s106 agreement dated 8th August 2017, it is considered that the 4. No 2 bed bungalows affordable properties delivered as part of the Stewart Milne Ffordd Eldon development in Sychdyn, should sit within the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) as part of the Council social rented stock for over 55's.

Streetscene and Transportation

- **Hawarden Road, Chester Road and Silver Birch Way, Penyffordd – Proposed Prohibition of Waiting at any Time**
To advise Members of the objections received following the advertisement of the proposed waiting restrictions on Hawarden Road, Chester Road and Silver Birch Way, Penyffordd.

Copies of the Delegated Powers reports are on deposit in the Team Leader's Room, Committee Services.

This page is intentionally left blank

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME ITEMS
COUNCIL, CABINET, AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE & SCRUTINY
1 July 2019 TO 31 December 2019**

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
July					
Organisational Change Overview & Scrutiny Committee	1/07/19	Housing and Assets	Holywell Leisure Centre Community Asset Transfer To review progress during 2018/19 and to consider the plans for 2019	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Organisational Change Overview & Scrutiny Committee	1/07/19	Strategic Programmes	The Councils Closed Circuit Television Service and a shared Service with Wrexham To inform Members of proposals for joint working with Wrexham County Borough Council regarding the merging of the County Councils CCTV monitoring service with that of Wrexham.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Organisational Change Overview & Scrutiny Committee	1/07/19	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (Organisational Change) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the organisational Change Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Not Applicable
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/07/19	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Not Applicable

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/07/19	Streetscene and Transportation	Review of Streetscene Standards To seek recommendation from the Committee for the Streetscene and Transportation operational standards which will be reported as part of the quarterly plan for performance.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Audit Committee	10/07/19	Chief Executive's	Risk Management Update To receive an update on actions to mitigate the strategic risks contained within the Council's 2018/19 Council Plan.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Audit Committee	10/07/19	Finance	Draft Clwyd Pension Fund Accounts 2018/19 For Members to consider the accounts for information.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance
Audit Committee	10/07/19	Chief Executive's	Treasury Management Annual Report 2018/19 and 2019/20 Quarter 1 Update To provide Members with the Treasury Management annual report 2018/19 and the first quarterly update for 2019/20.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Audit Committee	10/07/19	Chief Executive's	Supplementary Financial Information to Draft Statement of Accounts 2018/19 To provide Members with supplementary financial information to accompany the draft accounts as per the previously agreed Notice of Motion.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance
Audit Committee	10/07/19	Chief Executive's	Draft Statement of Accounts 2018/19 To present the draft Statement of Accounts 2018/19 for Members' information only at this stage.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/07/19	Overview and Scrutiny	Action Tracking To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/07/19	Chief Executive's	<p>Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and the Work of the Cross Party Group on Local Government Finance</p> <p>To receive a verbal update on the position of the MTFS, the national position on budgets, and the completion of the work of the Cross Party Group on Local Government Finance.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/07/19	Finance	<p>Fees and charges</p> <p>To present an updated and complete corporate policy for fees and charges - and invite feedback for Cabinet which will approve the policy later in the month.</p>	Strategic	
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/07/19	Finance	<p>Centrally Held Budgets and Corporate Finance</p> <p>To provide Members with details of the central and corporate budgets as requested at a previous meeting.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/07/19	Chief Executive's	Council Plan 2019/20 Part 2 To present Part 2 of the Council Plan - on performance milestones and measures for the year - and invite feedback for Cabinet which will approve the document later in the month.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/07/19	Finance	Interim Council Fund Revenue Budget Monitoring 2019/20 To provide an interim in-year budget monitoring position for 2019/20 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/07/19	Finance	Revenue Budget Monitoring 2018/19 (Outturn) and Capital Programme Monitoring 2018/19 (Outturn) To present the revenue budget outturn position for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account, and the Capital Programme outturn position for 2018/19.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/07/19	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee.	Operational	
Cabinet	16/07/19	Housing and Assets	Welfare Reform Update To support the ongoing work to manage the impacts that Welfare Reforms has and will continue to have upon Flintshire's most vulnerable households.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Housing
Cabinet	16/07/19	Streetscene and Transportation	Review of Streetscene Standards To seek approval of the Streetscene operational standards.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Cabinet	16/07/19	Housing and Assets	Homelessness Update on Local Action Plan To support the updates against the Local Action Plan for Homelessness.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Housing

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	16/07/19	Chief Executive's	Prudential Indicators - Actuals 2018/19 To provide the 2018/19 (actual) Prudential Indicator figures as required under the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance
Cabinet	16/07/19	Social Services	Council Tax Discount Scheme for Flintshire Foster Carers To seek support for the introduction of a fully costed scheme aimed at providing local authority foster carers with a council tax discount from April 2020.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets, Cabinet Member for Social Services
Cabinet	16/07/19	Streetscene and Transportation	Fees and Charges To recommend a review of fees and charges and provide an outline of a three year income projects plan which will support the organisation's medium-term financial strategy.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	16/07/19	Streetscene and Transportation	Alternative Delivery Models Phase 2 To seek Cabinet approval for the second phase of Alternative Delivery Models.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Cabinet	16/07/19	Housing and Assets	Flintshire Food Enterprise and the Food Poverty Response To seek approval in principle for the investment into the Flintshire Food Enterprise.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Housing, Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Cabinet	16/07/19	Chief Executive's	Revenue budget monitoring 2019/20 (Interim) To provide known key risks and issues to the revenue budget outturn position for 2019/20 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance
Cabinet	16/07/19	Chief Executive's	Revenue Budget Monitoring 2018/19 (Outturn) To provide the revenue budget outturn position for 2018/19 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	16/07/19	Social Services	<p>Regional Pool Agreement and Approval Report Template</p> <p>To provide an update on the work of the North Wales Pooled Budget Group and the actions undertaken in the last 12 months.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Cabinet Page 704	16/07/19	Planning, Environment and Economy	<p>Flintshire Deposit Local Development Plan (2015-2030)</p> <p>To recommend approval of the Deposit Local Development Plan (LDP) to County Council on 23rd July 2019.</p>	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection
Cabinet	16/07/19	Chief Executive's	<p>Capital Programme Monitoring 2018/19 (Outturn)</p> <p>To provide the outturn capital programme information for 2018/19.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	16/07/19	Chief Executive's	Welsh Language Annual Monitoring Report 2018/19 To receive the Welsh Language Annual Monitoring Report 2018/19 and provide an overview of progress in complying with the Welsh Language Standards.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Cabinet	16/07/19	Chief Executive's	Council Plan 2019/20 - Part 2 To approve the Council Plan part 2.	Strategic	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Cabinet	16/07/19	Chief Executive's	Annual Improvement Report 2018/19 of the Auditor General for Wales To be assured by the Auditor General for Wales' Annual Improvement Report for 2018/19.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Cabinet	16/07/19	Governance	Joint Procurement Service Annual Report 2018/19 To receive a performance update report on the Joint Procurement Service (JPS) with Denbighshire County Council.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	16/07/19	Planning, Environment and Economy	Food Service Plan 2019-20 for Flintshire County Council To approve the Food Service Plan 2019-20.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	18/07/19	Social Services	Integrated Autism Service To provide members with a progress report of the local implementation of the Integrated Autism Service	Strategic	
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	18/07/19	Social Services	Comments, Compliments and Complaints To report to members the number of complaints received by Social Services during the period 18 – 19 including their broad themes and outcomes and any lessons learned	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	18/07/19	Social Services	BCUHB & Welsh Ambulance Services NHS To maintain regular meetings and promote partnership working.	All Report Types	Not Applicable

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	18/07/19	Overview and Scrutiny	Year-end Council Plan Monitoring Report 2018/19 To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan 2018/19	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	18/07/19	Social Services	Continuing NHS Healthcare (CHC) in Wales Consultation To provide Members with information on the Council's proposed response to the Welsh Government CHC Consultation	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	18/07/19	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (Social & Health Care) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Not Applicable

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Flintshire County Council	23/07/19	Planning, Environment and Economy	<p>Flintshire Deposit Local Development Plan (2015-2030)</p> <p>To enable Members to approve the Deposit Local Development Plan (LDP, appendix 1) in accordance with the recommendations of the Cabinet on 23 July 2019, to be taken forward for public consultation in line with the timescales in the Revised Delivery Agreement (DA, June 2019).</p>		
Joint Education & Youth and Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	25/07/19	Education and Youth	<p>Educational Attainment of Looked After Children in Flintshire</p> <p>To receive the Annual Attainment report of Looked After Children</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Joint Education & Youth and Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	25/07/19	Social Services	<p>Safeguarding Self-Evaluation Report</p> <p>To present the Local Authority Safeguarding Self-Evaluation report for the Education Portfolio</p>	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Joint Education & Youth and Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	25/07/19	Social Services	Corporate Parenting To review and endorse the Corporate Parenting Strategy for Flintshire	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Joint Education & Youth and Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	25/07/19	Social Services	Improving the in-house offer for out of County Placements for Children To provide information on the proposals to improve the in-house offer for out of County Placement provision.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Joint Education & Youth and Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	25/07/19	Social Services	Child Sufficiency Assessment Report To present the Child Sufficiency Assessment Report	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Joint Education & Youth and Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	25/07/19	Education and Youth	Presentation by Young People To provide a presentation from the representatives of Young People on the Children's Services Forum	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Joint Education & Youth and Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	25/07/19	Education and Youth	Additional Learning Needs To update on Legislative Changes	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
August					
September					
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee	3/09/19	Overview and Scrutiny	Year-end Council Plan Monitoring Report 2018/19 To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan 2018/19	Operational	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Organisational Change Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/09/19	Overview and Scrutiny	Year-end Council Plan Monitoring Report 2018/19 To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan 2018/19	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets, Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Organisational Change Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/09/19	Chief Executive's	Alternative Delivery Models Phase 2 To note the contents of the report following approval at Cabinet on 16 July.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Audit Committee	11/09/19	Chief Executive's	Annual Improvement Report of the Auditor General for Wales To receive the Annual Improvement Report from the Auditor General for Wales and note the Council's response.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee	17/09/19	Streetscene and Transportation	All Wales Concessionary Travel Scheme – Replacement of Travel Cards (Bus Passes) That Scrutiny note the process to re-issue Concessionary Travel Cards to all eligible residents of Flintshire	Strategic	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Community and Enterprise Overview & Scrutiny Committee	18/09/19	Overview and Scrutiny	Year-end Council Plan Monitoring Report 2018/19 To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan 2018/19	Operational	Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Cabinet Member for Housing

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	19/09/19	Chief Executive's	Annual Improvement Report of the Auditor General for Wales 2018-19 To receive the Annual Improvement Report from the Auditor General for Wales and note the Council's response.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	19/09/19	Chief Executive's	Employment and Workforce Quarterly update This report covers strategic updates in addition to the quarterly workforce statistics and their analysis.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	19/09/19	Overview and Scrutiny	Year-end Council Plan Monitoring Report 2018/19 To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan 2018/19.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	18/06/19	Education and Youth	21st Century Schools and Core Schools Capital Programme To provide reconciliation with the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) as key decisions are required from Cabinet in order for a programme to progress.	Strategic	
Cabinet	24/09/19	Housing and Assets	Housing Strategy and Action Plan To approve the Housing Strategy and draft Action Plan 2019-24.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Housing
Cabinet	24/09/19	Governance	Flintshire County Council Procurement Strategy To agree the updates to the document and to support the twin aims of increased collaborative contracts with Denbighshire County Council and more local purchasing.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee	26/09/19	Overview and Scrutiny	Year-end Council Plan Monitoring Report 2018/19 To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan 2018/19	Operational	Cabinet Member for Education
October					
November					
Community and Enterprise Overview & Scrutiny Committee	6/11/19	Housing and Assets	Housing Rent Income To provide an operational update on rent collection and current arrear levels	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	14/11/19	Chief Executive's	Employment and Workforce Quarterly update This report covers strategic updates in addition to the quarterly workforce statistics and their analysis.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
December					

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12/12/19	Social Services	<p>North Wales Adoption Service Annual Report</p> <p>To provide an overview of the performance and quality of the work of North Wales Adoption Service in 2018-19. The reports set out the challenges and future objectives for 2019-2020</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services

This page is intentionally left blank

By virtue of paragraph(s) 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted - Not for Publication

This page is intentionally left blank