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To: Cllr David Healey (Chairman)

Councillors: Janet Axworthy, Sian Braun, Geoff Collett, Paul Cunningham, Andy Dunbobbin, Patrick Heesom, Dave Hughes, Kevin Hughes, Tudor Jones, Dave Mackie, Ian Smith, Martin White and David Williams

Co-opted Members:

Lynn Bartlett, David Hytch, Rita Price and Rebecca Stark

15 March 2019

Dear Sir/Madam

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee which will be held at 2.00 pm on Thursday, 21st March, 2019 in the Delyn 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 (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

Purpose: To receive any Declarations and advise Members accordingly.

3 MINUTES (Pages 3 - 18)

Purpose: To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on 20 December 2018 and 31 January 2019.

4 PLAY SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT (Pages 19 - 128)

Report of Chief Officer (Education and Youth) - Cabinet Member for Education

Purpose: To consider the Play Sufficiency Assessment prior to submission to Welsh Government.

5 **HEALTHY SCHOOLS AND PRE-SCHOOL PROGRAMME** (Pages 129 - 136)

Report of Chief Officer (Education and Youth) - Cabinet Member for Education

Purpose: To provide an update on the outcome of the School Health Research Network research.

6 **QUARTER 3 COUNCIL PLAN 2018/19 MONITORING REPORT** (Pages 137 - 156)

Report of Chief Officer (Education and Youth) - Cabinet Member for Education

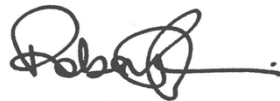
Purpose: To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan 2018/19.

7 **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 157 - 164)

Report of Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator

Purpose: To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

Yours faithfully



Robert Robins
Democratic Services Manager

EDUCATION AND YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE **20 DECEMBER 2018**

Minutes of the meeting of the Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held in the Delyn Room, County Hall, Mold, Flintshire at 2.00 pm on Thursday, 20 December 2018

PRESENT: Councillor David Healey (Chairman)

Councillors: Janet Axworthy, Sian Braun, Geoff Collett, Paul Cunningham, Andy Dunbobbin, Patrick Heesom, Dave Hughes, Kevin Hughes, Tudor Jones, Dave Mackie, Ian Smith, Martin White and David Williams

CO-OPTED MEMBERS: Lynn Bartlett and David Hytch

APOLOGIES: Mrs Rebecca Stark.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Aaron Shotton

CONTRIBUTORS: Councillor Ian Roberts, Cabinet Member for Education; Chief Officer (Education & Youth); and Admissions Manager

IN ATTENDANCE: Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator and Democratic Services Officer

27. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Andy Dunbobbin declared a personal interest in agenda item 4 – School Admission Policy Overview, and agenda item 5 – School Modernisation, as he was Chair of Governors at Connah’s Quay High School.

Councillor Janet Axworthy also declared a personal interest in agenda item 4 – School Admission Policy Overview, and agenda item 5 – School Modernisation, as she was a Governor at Hawarden High School.

Councillor David Healey declared a personal interest in agenda item 5 – School Modernisation, as he was a Governor at Castell Alun High School.

Councillor Geoff Collett declared a personal interest in agenda item 5 – School Modernisation, as he was a Governor at Ysgol Pen Coch, Mold.

28. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 November 2018, were submitted.

Apologies

Councillor Patrick Heesom said he had submitted his apologies to the meeting and asked that the minutes be amended to record this. He also commented on the Youth Club building within his ward and raised concerns that there was a

fire risk given the current condition of the building. The Chief Officer (Education & Youth) explained that this matter was in hand.

Matters arising

Learner Outcomes 2018 (Provisional)

Councillor Patrick Heesom asked for an update on the letter sent on behalf of the Committee to the WJEC to outline its concerns around recent English change boundaries and inviting representatives of the WJEC to attend a future meeting of the Committee to discuss the issue. The Facilitator advised that she had circulated the response from the WJEC to the Committee. The Chief Officer (Education and Youth) provided an update on the meeting which had been held between Headteachers and the WJEC since the last Committee meeting. She reported that the strong concerns which had been expressed by Headteachers, and also in local and regional responses, had been robustly put forward to the WJEC during the meeting and more detailed analysis had been requested. The Chief Officer emphasised that explanations to the concerns raised were being actively pursued and reassurance was sought that a similar situation would not occur in the future. She said this was a matter of significant concern across the whole of Wales and there was a co-ordinated campaign to ensure the matter was being fully addressed.

During discussion the Committee agreed that a further letter be sent to the WJEC, to include its knowledge of the ongoing regional representations being made, and to explain that the attendance of representatives of the WJEC at a meeting with the Committee would not be required at this time, however, the Committee would continue to monitor the situation and invite them to a future meeting if appropriate.

Mr. David Hytch expressed concerns around students who may have been disadvantaged by the recent changes. Councillor Ian Roberts and the Chief Officer acknowledged the points made and commented that confidence in the system had been undermined across Wales and referred to the difficulties which also experienced in Maths and Science as well as English.

Councillor Dave Mackie expressed disappointment at the response which had been received from the WJEC to the letter sent by the Committee which he felt had not fully addressed the Committee's concerns.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That subject to the amendment listed above, the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
- (b) That a response letter be sent to the WJEC explaining that their attendance at a meeting with the Committee would not be required at this time, but that the Committee would continue to monitor the situation and invite representatives of the WJEC to a future meeting if appropriate.

29. SCHOOL ADMISSIONS POLICY OVERVIEW

The Chief Officer introduced the report to provide a policy overview and update on numbers. She gave background information and invited the Admissions Manager to present the report.

The Admissions Manager reported on the main considerations, as detailed in the report, and advised that the capacity of all schools in Wales was calculated in accordance with the National Assessment methodology provided by Welsh Government and all schools had an agreed Admission Number which was derived from the calculated capacity. She explained that there was no automatic right to a school place at a particular school and if more applications are received than places available places must be allocated in accordance with the agreed oversubscription criteria set out in the admissions policy.

The Admissions Manager advised that it was important that applications for admission were returned by the published closing date as late applications were dealt with after those received on time. This meant that if a preferred school was full, even if the school concerned was closest to the child's home address, a late application would be refused and the parent offered a right of appeal to an independent appeal panel. This process was in accordance with the published admission arrangements.

Councillor Kevin Hughes referred to the appeal process and the number of appeals which were upheld. The Chief Officer reiterated that if an application for admission was refused the parent had a right of appeal to an appeal panel which was independent and impartial. She also explained that oversubscription did not necessarily result in appeals as parents may accept a second or third preference school or an alternative school with a space available.

In response to the questions raised by Councillor Geoff Collett concerning new build of residential developments and the impact on local schools, the Chief Officer gave an outline of how the Authority planned and managed school places and the data used to assist. In response to the further comments raised by Councillor Collet the Chief Officer said that if Members had a specific query or concern regarding a school(s) in their Ward they could contact her and she would demonstrate in further detail how school places were planned and managed.

Councillor Geoff Collet commented on the admission process to secondary schools. Councillor Ian Roberts advised that admission into a primary school did not guarantee a child a place in a secondary school in the same area. Officers emphasised there were no designated school places or catchment areas. The Admissions Officer commented on the work undertaken to ensure parents made informed decisions and said that schools were expected to be compliant with the information provided to parents. The Committee supported the suggestion that a tick box be added to the on-line admission application form for primary schools to ensure that parents

understood that the admission into a primary school did not mean automatic admission into the secondary school in that area.

Councillor Andy Dunbobbin commented on the Council's commitment to the Armed Forces Covenant and asked if discretion for children of Armed Forces personnel was applied when considering school admission applications. The Admissions Officer explained that the Covenant did not allow for discretion to children of Armed Forces personnel but there was discretion for reception aged children as well as Year 7 children.

Members expressed appreciation to the Chief Officer, the Admissions Manager and the Admissions Team for their excellent work concerning the school admissions process.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be noted;
- (b) That a tick box be added to the on-line admission application form for primary schools to ensure that parents understood that the admission into a primary school did not mean automatic admission into the secondary school in that area; and
- (c) That the Committee recognise the excellent work of the admission team.

30. SCHOOL MODERNISATION

The Chief Officer (Education and Youth) presented the report to update the Committee on progress made with the School Modernisation Programme and additional Capital Grant funding streams available through the Welsh Government (WG).

The Chief Officer reported on the main considerations, as detailed in the report. She referred to the 21st Century Programme (Band A) and advised that projects at Holywell Learning Campus and Deeside 6th were completed on time and within budget. The remaining projects were at Connah's Quay High School and Penyffordd County Primary School which would effectively bring the Band A programme to a close. The Chief Officer also reported on the Brynford and Lixwm area review, and consultation on federation between Nercwys Voluntary Aided School and Nannerch Voluntary Controlled School.

Referring to the 21st Century Schools and Education Programme (Band B) she reported that Welsh Ministers had confirmed that this would be funded by both capital and revenue budgets. The Chief Officer advised that local authorities had recently received positive news from the WG regarding improved intervention rates by the WG for the onward investment programme, however, meeting the costs of the Council contribution would still be a challenge. The Chief Officer also reported on developments concerning the capital project for Portfolio Pupil Referral Unit (PPRU) and for Queensferry CP,

the WG Infants Class Size Grant, Council Funded Programme, WG Welsh Medium Grant, and WG Childcare Grant.

In response to the comments made by Councillor Patrick Heesom on the design of some new school buildings, the Chief Officer advised that a rigorous process of consultation was undertaken with all key stakeholders before the design of a new school building was approved. She also commented on the scientific and technical standards which had to be met with new build projects. In response to the further comments made by Councillor Heesom, the Chief Officer reported on progress on the School Modernisation Plan which she explained was regularly reviewed to address provision within the County. The Chief Officer offered to meet with Councillor Heesom to discuss in detail any specific matters he had concerning provision in his Ward.

Councillor Dave Mackie questioned the date of the Cabinet meeting in section 1.18 of the report. The Chief Officer said that this date was incorrect and she would circulate a copy of the Cabinet report which detailed the decision for work to be undertaken concurrently with the same contractor/team for the capital improvement project at Connah's Quay High School. During discussion officers responded to the further questions raised by Councillor Mackie concerning capital funding and the Mutual Investment Model (MIM).

In response to a question from Councillor Ian Smith around private sector borrowing and interest rates, the Chief Officer asked Councillor Smith to send her the specific question following the meeting in order to provide a response to the Committee.

In response to a suggestion made by Councillor Tudor Jones the Committee agreed that an all Member workshop be arranged in order to share detailed information on the condition surveys for repairs and maintenance of each individual school across Flintshire.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the progress of the School Modernisation Programme be noted; and
- (b) That a workshop for all Members be arranged in order to share detailed information on the condition surveys for repairs and maintenance of each individual school across Flintshire.

31. COUNCIL PLAN 2018/19 MID-YEAR MONITORING REPORT

The Chief Officer introduced a report to present the monitoring of progress at the mid-year point 2018/19 for the Council Plan priority 'Learning Council' relevant to the Committee.

The Chief Officer advised that the mid-year monitoring report showed that 88% of activities were making good progress with 81% likely to achieve their planned outcomes. 79% of the performance indicators had met or

exceeded their targets. Risks were being managed with a minority of 18% being assessed as major. The report was an exception based report and therefore focussed on the areas of under-performance.

The Chief Officer referred to the performance progress report which was appended to the report. Referring to indicator 3.1.2.1 she advised that there was currently only one school in an Estyn statutory category of concern. The Chief Officer also referred to the risks associated with Additional Learning Needs reforms and advised that a report would be submitted to the meeting of the Committee scheduled on 16 May, to provide an update on the legislative changes. The Chief Officer advised that the sustainability of grant funding for education continued to pose a significant and live risk in a number of areas and referred to the Teachers' Pay Award for 2018-19 and 2019-20, increased employer pension contributions, and grant funding for schools.

In response to the comments raised by Councillor Patrick Heesom concerning the provision of Youth Services in his area, the Chief Officer explained that the Authority was meeting its statutory requirements and was providing high level services to meet the future needs of young people. She emphasised that the lack of funding was a national issue and therefore the service had to be more creative in the way youth services were provided going forward.

Mr David Hytch commented on the backlog of known repair and maintenance works within the schools portfolio. The Chief Officer acknowledged the points made by Mr. Hytch and explained that schools were informed of their position in terms of repair and maintenance works being undertaken through the detailed information on the condition survey report for repairs and maintenance of each individual school across Flintshire.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

32. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Facilitator presented the current Forward Work Programme for consideration. During discussion the Committee agreed the following changes to the Programme:-

- that the Healthy Schools and Pre-School Programme report be moved back from the meeting scheduled on 31 January to 21 March;
- that a report on Post 16 Transport be submitted to the meeting of the Committee to be held on 16 May; and
- that a joint meeting with the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee also be arranged during May 2019

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Forward Work Programme as amended, be approved; and
- (b) That the Facilitator, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises

33. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS IN ATTENDANCE

There were no members of the press or public in attendance.

(The meeting started at 2.00 pm and ended at 4.10pm)

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Chairman

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EDUCATION AND YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
31 JANUARY 2019

Minutes of the meeting of the Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held in the Delyn Committee Room, County Hall, Mold, Flintshire on Thursday, 31 January 2019

PRESENT: Councillor David Healey (Chairman)

Councillors: Paul Cunningham, Andy Dunbobbin, Patrick Heesom, Dave Hughes, Kevin Hughes, Tudor Jones, Dave Mackie, Ian Smith, Martin White and David Williams

CO-OPTED MEMBERS: David Hÿtch, Rita Price and Rebecca Stark

SUBSTITUTE: Councillor: Gladys Healey (for Geoff Collett)

APOLOGY: Councillor Sian Braun

CONTRIBUTORS: Councillor Aaron Shotton, Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance; Councillor Ian Roberts, Cabinet Member for Education; Chief Officer (Education & Youth); and Finance Manager (People & Resources)

School Improvement Senior Manager - for minute number 38

IN ATTENDANCE: Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator and Democratic Services Officer

34. OPENING COMMENTS

On behalf of the Committee, the Chairman welcomed pupils and representatives from Argoed High School who were in attendance to observe the meeting.

35. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Rebecca Stark declared a personal interest on the 2019/20 Council Fund Budget Update as her children were in secondary education.

36. 2019/20 COUNCIL FUND BUDGET UPDATE

The Chief Officer (Education & Youth) presented a report on the latest Education funding position in approaching the closing stage of the budget-setting process for 2019/20. Whilst there had been some improvement on the original forecast, the Local Government Final Settlement remained inadequate to meet the funding requirements of the Council.

The Finance Manager explained that many Education services were reliant on grant funding which was being eroded year on year. An extensive review of budgets had identified that there was no scope for further efficiencies

beyond those detailed in the report - without significant risk to the resilience of Council services and school standards. With additional funding from Welsh Government (WG) towards the cost of implementing the national pay award for 2019/20, the Council had made provision for an uplift in base funding to meet 1% as a minimum with schools expected to absorb the remaining balance. A further cost pressure to schools was expected in September 2019 when a further pay award was due. In addition, there was no information at this stage as to whether WG would receive supplementary funding to support the increase in teachers' pensions which posed a further estimated risk of over £2m.

During the budget process, the risk around the impact to services and standards had been raised with Ministers. There had been extensive engagement with schools and partners on shared responsibilities and this open dialogue had been well received.

Councillor Shotton recalled discussion at the County Council meeting earlier in the week which highlighted the impact of cost pressures on services. Whilst the increases in pay awards for teachers and non-teaching staff were welcomed, these pressures had not been fully recognised by the UK Government or WG. To assist schools with these significant in-year cost pressures, a 2.47% uplift to the schools delegated budget was being recommended to County Council. On the increase in teachers' pensions, Councillor Shotton suggested that Members may wish to consider engaging with the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) to seek assurances through the UK Treasury that funding would be forthcoming.

Councillor Heesom welcomed the update in advance of the overall budget discussion at County Council on 19 February. He commented on the importance of funding to support sixth form provision in the County. The Chief Officer and Finance Manager advised that there was no information at this stage from WG on grant funding for Post-16 education in 2019/20 and that Education Improvement Grant funding would be allocated through the regional GwE service. In attending national and regional meetings, officers were continuing to highlight the importance of timely information on funding to enable the Council and schools to plan effectively.

David Hÿtch said that the national pay award imposed by the UK Government did not help with recruitment and retention at schools which was a UK-wide problem. He welcomed the increase but expressed concerns about the capacity of schools to absorb additional cost pressures, particularly due to the number of secondary schools already in a deficit position. The point was acknowledged by officers who said that the Council would continue to work with schools to target support where needed.

Councillor Roberts said that the seriousness of the situation demonstrated the importance of the Council maintaining adequate levels of reserves. He spoke about ongoing communications with local MPs on the need for those imposing the national pay award to provide the necessary funding for its implementation.

When asked by Councillor Dunbobbin about grant funding to support the children of those serving in the Armed Forces, it was explained that information was still awaited on allocations to certain groups (as set out in the appendix to the report). Whilst additional grants were sometimes made available at later stages in the process, this created challenges in planning.

In referring to other pressures faced by teachers in their profession, Councillor Kevin Hughes said that the use of reserves to balance the budget for 2019/20 would only make the process next year even more difficult. His suggestion that the Committee make written representations for a funding solution to the nationally awarded increases was acknowledged by the Chief Officer who explained that a letter had already been sent and that a copy would be shared with the Committee along with the positive response from David Hanson MP.

Councillor Shotton reminded Members that the request for fairer funding formed part of the Council's #BacktheAsk campaign.

Rebecca Stark raised concerns about the impact of implementing the new legislation on Additional Learning Needs (ALN) and also the rising demand for complex Out of County Placement referrals. The Chief Officer said that the significant cost implications from the legislative changes had been identified as a key risk as the financial impact could not be assessed at this stage and that dialogue would be maintained with WG on the need for financial investment. As an ongoing significant risk, spend on Out of County Placements was subject to robust monitoring and challenge, and opportunities were being explored to expand local provision. Reports on both issues would be scheduled for the annual joint Overview & Scrutiny meeting in June.

Councillor White spoke about the need for intervention by WG to provide the necessary funding to enable schools to improve standards.

Following comments from Councillor Jones about the wording used in the third recommendation, he proposed an amendment to more accurately reflect the discussion. During discussion, further amendments were agreed by the Committee.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee notes the updated budget forecast for the Council as the basis for setting a legal and balanced budget for 2019/20;
- (b) That the Committee notes the total funding uplift which is proposed for schools in 2019/20;
- (c) That the Committee notes that this year the Council will be funding 1% of the teachers' pay award with schools expected to disappointedly absorb the balance of the cost;

- (d) That the Committee notes that funding proposed for 2019/20 does not include any allowance for the increase in teachers' pension costs or the teachers' pay award from September 2019; and
- (e) That the Committee objects to the process of national awarded pay awards not being fully funded by Governments.

37. WELSH IN EDUCATION STRATEGIC PLAN (WESP)

The Chief Officer presented a report on the Council's progress on its Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) to meet the targets and outcomes set by Welsh Government (WG) to promote Welsh-medium education, increase the number of pupils accessing education through the medium of Welsh and improve standards of pupil attainment in both Welsh first and second language.

A multi-agency forum was responsible for monitoring and delivering implementation of the WESP and additional temporary capacity within the Council was being provided by Sian Hilton. The forum reviewed progress by three sub-groups focussing on Standards, Provision and Workforce. As part of the report, attention was drawn to the Council's success in attracting capital investment from WG at 100% intervention rate to increase capacity at Ysgol Glanrafon and provide wraparound early years provision. A number of key successes in meeting WG targets for 2018-19 were also highlighted.

The Chairman thanked officers for the report and welcomed the progress made to date.

As Chairman of the forum, Councillor Roberts spoke about the Council's commitment to promote the education of children in Welsh medium schools and develop bilingualism in English-medium schools. He referred to the positive impact of Urdd in encouraging young people to compete through the medium of Welsh and stressed the importance of developing the language outside the school/workplace. He said that the WG's ambitious target of achieving 1m Welsh speakers by 2050 would only be met by increasing the number of Welsh speakers in areas such as Flintshire. He went on to commend Ysgol Gwenffrwd in Holywell on the results of its recent Estyn inspection.

Following concerns by Rebecca Stark about the road infrastructure around Ysgol Glanrafon, the Chief Officer advised that officers were aware of the issues and that a traffic impact assessment would take into consideration the management of traffic flow and pupil safety.

In response to comments from Councillor Smith, Councillor Roberts and the Chief Officer said that representations had been made on the need for WG to provide additional funding for the growth and development of smaller emerging Welsh-medium schools as they were being established.

Whilst welcoming positive outcomes by Welsh second-language learners in English-medium primary schools, David Hýtch raised concerns

about the effect of future curriculum changes on English-medium secondary schools.

Rebecca Stark also felt that the reduction of Welsh language options at secondary level could lead to pupils opting not to pursue another language.

Councillor Gladys Healey called for industries to do more to incorporate use of the Welsh language into the workplace.

Councillor Mackie read an extract from a report which highlighted the difficulties experienced by secondary schools in recruiting Welsh speaking teachers.

Progress on the WESP was well received by Councillor Jones who spoke about the growth of the Welsh language in urban areas. He thanked Members for participating in the recent survey across the Council which showed progression in the Welsh language.

The Chief Officer acknowledged concerns such as the impact of reduced options for pupils and the investment required in teacher training. Key factors such as these were being identified by the sub-groups reporting to the forum to inform the action plan, eg working with Coleg Cambria to create more opportunities for young people to develop Welsh language skills.

Following discussion, Councillor Roberts suggested that the Committee write to the Minister to express the concerns raised. An amended set of recommendations were agreed to reflect the debate.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee commends the progress made by the Council against the targets in the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan;
- (b) That the effective multi-agency partnership working within the Welsh in Education Strategic Forum, which created and monitored the Welsh in Education Strategic Plan, be noted; and
- (c) That the Chairman, on behalf of the Committee, write to Kirsty Williams AM, Cabinet Secretary for Education, outlining the following concerns raised:-
 - The need to ensure sufficient numbers of Welsh teachers in all curriculum subjects;
 - The revenue costs involved in establishing new Welsh medium provision;
 - Concerns around the limiting subject options for pupils if Welsh Language was made a mandatory GCSE; and
 - A recognition that if WG were to meet their ambitious target of 1M Welsh speakers in Wales by 2050 then this would be realised by increasing the number of Welsh speakers in areas such as Flintshire.

38. LEARNING FROM THE SCHOOL PERFORMANCE MONITORING GROUP

The Chief Officer presented an update report on the work of the School Performance Monitoring Group (SPMG) which was a mechanism for supporting school improvement.

The approach taken by the SPMG was to provide a constructive and robust process to identify - together with schools - any areas of improvement in need of support. It was reported that the number of schools subject to the process had significantly reduced. A list of common themes identified key areas on which the regional service GwE could respond and target support appropriately, with two key areas being the quality of middle leadership at secondary level and the tracking pupil performance.

The Chairman congratulated the School Improvement Senior Manager on her appointment and commended the progress which had been made.

In response to comments from Councillor Heesom on the composition of the SPMG, it was explained that membership had been by open invitation. Members expressing an interest in joining the group were encouraged, including Councillor Heesom who wished to represent his area.

Whilst acknowledging the importance of school improvement, David Hýtch said that greater emphasis should be placed on support rather than challenge, due to the range of pressures faced by schools. The Chief Officer spoke about her statutory responsibility for education standards for the interests of learners. She said that there were various reasons why schools could find themselves in difficulty and that both challenge and support were necessary to understand the reasons and work effectively with GwE to target support. Feedback from schools going through the process had been positive and meetings were conducted in a professional manner involving School Improvement Advisors.

Having participated on the SPMG membership, Rebecca Stark felt that the experience was positive in identifying the support required.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the work undertaken by the School Performance Monitoring Group be noted; and
- (b) That the Committee endorses the School Performance Monitoring Group to continue to work in the same way with targeted schools.

39. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

In presenting the current Forward Work Programme for consideration, the Facilitator advised that following earlier discussion, a report on Out of

County Placement provision would be scheduled for the joint meeting with the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 7 June 2019.

Members were also notified of workshops on School Repairs and Maintenance (12 April at 2pm) and Post-16 Education Provision and Consultation on Post-16 Transport (11 February at 2pm). On the latter, Councillor Williams asked that information on courses be made available, as previously requested.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Forward Work Programme as amended, be approved; and
- (b) That the Facilitator, in consultation with the Chairman, be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises.

40. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS IN ATTENDANCE

There was one member of the press and fifteen members of the public in attendance.

(The meeting started at 2pm and ended at 4.10pm)

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Chairman

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EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday, 21 st March 2019
Report Subject	Play Sufficiency Assessment
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Education
Report Author	Chief Officer, Education & Youth
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To invite comments and to seek approval for the Flintshire Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019 and the subsequent Action Plan 2019/2020. (DRAFT) The local authority are tasked with a statutory duty (Children and Families Measure Wales 2010) to report to Welsh Government with regard to the Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To consider the content of the draft Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019 and draft Action Plan 2019/2020 and to make suggestions for the production of the final versions which will be sent to Welsh Government at the end March, 2016.
2	To support the continued development of a strategic Flintshire Play Sufficiency Implementation Group to provide a multi-agency forum to monitor the PSA Action Plan 2019/2020.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE PLAY SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT 2019
1.01	Play Sufficiency Assessments and Action Plans – Welsh Government have provided the local authority with statutory guidance July 2014. (Link to Document on FCC PSA 'Wales –A Play Friendly Country').
1.02	The Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019 aims to promote inclusion and improve access to play opportunities for all children in the county including those most marginalised, segregated, and disabled. It is recognised that if given the opportunity all children will play, irrespective of their age, ability, gender, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, social standing, religion or gender.
1.03	Play deprivation is defined as a deprivation of experience which can impact on all children. The impact of play deprivation can impact on children and young people's health and well-being, their self-esteem and self-confidence. Play deprivation can also impact on developing essential social skills vital to developing healthy and progressive communities.
1.04	The development of a Flintshire Play Sufficiency Implementation group a multi-agency group will enable the local authority to meet its statutory obligation to monitor and evaluate the Play Action Plan 2019/2020.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	All of the actions identified within the Play Sufficiency Action Plan 2019/2020, other than local authority officer time will be funded via the Welsh Government Play Opportunities fund, Families First Fund and other Revenue grants and Partner contributions.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	All service areas and partners involved in the wider play network in Flintshire were asked to consider RAG status 2016 and 2019 and to comment with regard to any change. The Flintshire Play Development team were delegated to prepare the response for the Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019. Welsh Government have provided a grant of £10K to support administration and consultation for the PSA 2019.
3.02	<p>A briefing paper was circulated along with the Welsh Government Play Sufficiency template to all partners and stated –</p> <p>Flintshire Play Sufficiency 2019 - 2022 All children have the right to play as enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This is recognised both by the UK Government, and by the Welsh Government.</p> <p>Section 11 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 places a</p>

	<p>statutory duty on all local authorities to assess and secure sufficient play opportunities for children. This is a task that involves working together to consider the many aspects of community life that affect play opportunities. These include use of the environment; traffic and transport; play and leisure provision, and parental and community involvement with play.</p>
3.03	<p><i>Wales – A Play Friendly Country</i>, statutory guidance to local authorities, sets out a wide range of Matters across several policy areas that need to be taken into account:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Matter A: Population ○ Matter B: Providing for diverse needs ○ Matter C: Space available for children to play ○ Matter D: Supervised provision ○ Matter E: Charges for play provision ○ Matter F: Access to space/provision [<i>this includes travel access, as well as information and publicity</i>] ○ Matter G: Securing & Developing the Play Workforce ○ Matter H: Community engagement and participation ○ Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas [<i>Education/schools, Town and Country Planning, Traffic and transport, Health and Wellbeing, Child Poverty, Early years/Childcare and Family policy and initiatives, Community Development, Inter-generational policy and initiatives, Community Safety, Health and Safety</i>]
3.04	<p>Play Sufficiency Assessments were submitted to Welsh Government in March 2013 and March 2016. The next is due at the end of March 2019. Annual action plans and progress reports are also submitted to Welsh Government as part of the duties.</p>
3.05	<p>All service areas and partners involved in the wider play network in Flintshire were asked to consider RAG status 2016 and 2019 and to comment with regard to any change. The Flintshire Play Development team were delegated to prepare the response for the Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019. Welsh Government have provided a grant of £10K to support the administration and consultation for the Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">CONSULTATION METHODOLOGY November 2018 – March 2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We have circulated background information and the template (including specific areas for completion) to all relevant service areas x 4 : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning Policy – Planning Environment & Economy - Integrated Youth Provision – Education & Youth Services - Flying Start – Social Services - Parenting Strategy - Family Information Service, Flintshire – Social Services - Health & Safety – Corporate Policy

- Anti-social Behaviour Team
- Youth Justice Service – Education & Youth
- Education Welfare Service
- Holway Task Group – Public Service Board
- Families First
- Rural North Family Centre
- Streetscene & Transportation
- Childcare Development – Social Services
- Participation Team – Education & Youth
- Countryside services
- Health Wellbeing & Safeguarding – Education & Youth
- Gypsy Traveller Services
- Housing & Regeneration

- We held a Flintshire Play Sufficiency Seminar November 2018 in partnership with Play Wales and invited all services to attend.
- School Life Conference held to look specifically at Matter I Play in Schools held in November 2018
- We have circulated background information and the template (including specific areas for completion) to other partner organisations including third sector :
- In partnership with Playful Futures, 600 children have been consulted with regard to the Play Sufficiency Assessment
- The Play Development team have undertaken a major piece of research for Play Sufficiency by working closely with the community in the Holway since July 2018 to present. The Play Development team have engaged with all community members as part of the work commissioned by the Public Service Board (Resilient Communities) and the Holway Task Group.
- We commissioned Ludicology to consult in depth with children at Ysgol Bryn Coch, Mold and Ysgol Treffynnon, Holywell with regards to the Play Sufficiency Assessment.
- The Play Development Team have consulted with children attending Summer Playscheme and other play projects including Kicks For Kids and PALS (Play and Leisure Support - for children and young people with disabilities)
- The Play Development Team have consulted with 27 young people attending Ysgol Maes Hyfryd Special School with regard to the Play Sufficiency Assessment.
- The Play Development Team have consulted with the Flintshire Youth Council who have linked into School Councils with regard to the Play Sufficiency Assessment.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Play Development Team have circulated background information and the template to all local Town and Community Councils (and Local Members for information). This is the wider public consultation. The Play Development Team have attended town council meetings when invited to discuss play sufficiency and have advised others via email and phone calls and have responded to all requests to provide further details. • The Play Development Team have circulated background information and the template to Urdd Gobaith Cymru and Menter Iaith Sir y Fflint who have circulated it to all Welsh medium provision. • The Play Development Team have circulated background information and the template to Theatr Clwyd to respond with regard to the arts, culture and museum services. • The Play Development Team have circulated background information and the template to Aura to respond with regard to all areas within leisure and libraries. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sports Development - Leisure Centres - Library Services - Play Design and Inspection Team • An in-depth report into Play Sufficiency was undertaken at Southdown Primary School Buckley– November 2018-February 2019 with regard to a bespoke research project gathering information with regard to play sufficiency within an education setting where play has been implemented differently via a variety of play projects. • The Play Development Team have consulted with 41 disabled children and their families who received a service during the Summer Playscheme via the Flintshire Buddy Scheme where support is provided as appropriate to the needs of the child or young person. <p>All of this information has been recognised and incorporated into the Play Action Plan 2019/20</p>
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4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	The Play Sufficiency Assessment and action plan 2019/2020 is required in order for the local Authority to meet its statutory requirements with regard to the Children and Families Measure (Wales) 2010.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 - Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019. Appendix 2 - Committee report November 2018 – Outdoor Childrens Play Areas.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None. Contact Officer: Janet Roberts, Flintshire Play Development Officer Telephone: 01352 704155 E-mail: Janet.Roberts2@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	Play Sufficiency Assessment (PSA) - A duty under the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010.

Play Sufficiency Assessment Form



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Name of Local Authority: Flintshire County Council

Name of responsible officer: Janet Roberts

Job title: Flintshire Play Development Officer

Date of completion:

Please note that the Play Sufficiency Assessment must be received by the Welsh Government by 31st March 2019



Conducting the Assessment – Play Sufficiency Assessment

As well as establishing a baseline of provision, the Play Sufficiency Assessment will enable the following:

- Identification of gaps in information, provision, service delivery and policy implementation
- Support the establishment of evidence to give an indication of distance travelled in relation to play sufficiency
- Highlight potential ways of addressing issues relating to partnership working
- The input and involvement of all partners increasing levels of knowledge and understanding
- A monitoring system which will involve and improve communication between professionals
- The identification of good practice examples
- Increased levels of partnerships in assessing sufficient play opportunities
- The identification of actions for the Securing Play Sufficiency Action Plan which accompanies the Play Sufficiency Assessment

A template has been produced to support a corporate appraisal of the matters that need to be taken into account as set out in the Statutory Guidance. The indicators listed within each matter are provided as sample indicators which should be amended to meet local issues as appropriate.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment must demonstrate that the Local Authority has taken into account and assessed the matters set out in The Play Sufficiency Assessment (Wales) Regulations 2012 and Statutory Guidance.

As well as providing baseline information, the Assessment can include examples of current practice that the Local Authority wishes to highlight.

Local Authorities might consider structuring the Play Sufficiency Assessment in the following way and as a minimum address all the identified sections.

Principle Statement

Flintshire County Council are committed to ensuring that all children, young people and communities children have access to enough time, space and permission for play as part of their everyday lives. We recognise our responsibility to ensure that children living in Flintshire have a right to play

Flintshire County Council recognize that play is central to children and young people's enjoyment of life and is essential to their physical and emotional well-being and their healthy development. We recognise that some aspects of our modern society can limit children's time and space for play and we will continue to create partnerships for play to help create environments where children can freely play and encourage communities to be more play friendly.

The Play Development Team works with other Local Authority departments and partner

agencies, encouraging individuals to recognise their own impacts on children's play; advocating for play to be considered in the planning of local services; enhancing the development and delivery of play work projects, and providing ongoing practical advice to families, communities and other professionals in their support of children's right to play.

Through the work of the Play Development Team, Flintshire place greater value on play and emphasis on children's right to play and, by increasing opportunities for play within local communities, we will enhance children's and young people's experience of growing up in Flintshire

Context

The local Authority has reviewed and assessed all of its play action plans since the baseline audit undertaken for the Play Sufficiency Assessment in 2013 and subsequent Play Sufficiency assessment during 2016 This review and assessment process has formed the basis for the Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019 and action planning thereafter.

Partnership working

The Local Authority continue to work closely in partnership with all town and community councils, both for equipped play area, match funding schemes and summer playschemes. The Local Authority also work closely with a range of other partners including third sector organisations and community groups for play projects delivered across the county.
e.g.

The Local Authority Play Development team work with Action for Children via the Families First grant to provide the P.A.L.S. Project – Play and Leisure Support for children and young people with disabilities

Flintshire delivered a countywide Summer Playschemes Programme for the 22nd year in partnership with 30 local town and community councils at 58 locations during 2018. Discussions are ongoing for summer 2019, early responses have shown an increase in duration for local playschemes in areas where both play deprivation and food poverty has been identified.

There is a well-established and popular match funding scheme with local town and community councils. This scheme is well subscribed for the upgrading of equipped play areas in the county on a RAG (Red; amber, green) system to identify those communities most in need. The lead organisation for the match funding scheme for capital projects is AURA Leisure and Libraries who work closely with the local authority

with regard to the Play Sufficiency duty. AURA is a charitable not-for-profit organisation which from 1st September, 2017 is responsible for managing the majority of leisure centres and libraries previously operated by the local authority. The company's legal model is a Community Benefit Society. The Play area design, maintenance and Inspection function now sits with AURA. Officers continue to work closely with the local authority with regard to Play Sufficiency.

The Play Development team work in partnership with Urdd Gobaith Cymru to provide play opportunities for children through the medium of Welsh as part of the county summer playscheme programme. Discussions for summer playscheme 2019 are ongoing. Early indications are that a longer duration for playscheme is desired.

Consultation and participation

All service areas and partners involved in the wider play network in Flintshire were asked to consider RAG status 2016 and 2019 and to comment with regard to any change. The Flintshire Play Development team were delegated to prepare the response for the Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019. Welsh Government have provided a grant of £10K to support administration and consultation for the PSA 2019

A briefing paper was circulated along with the Welsh Government Play Sufficiency template to all partners and stated -

Flintshire Play Sufficiency 2019 - 2022

All children have the right to play as enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. This is recognised both by the UK Government, and by the Welsh Government.

Section 11 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 places a statutory duty on all local authorities to assess and secure sufficient play opportunities for children. This is a task that involves working together to consider the many aspects of community life that affect play opportunities. These include use of the environment; traffic and transport; play and leisure provision, and parental and community involvement with play.

Wales – A Play Friendly Country, statutory guidance to local authorities, sets out a wide range of Matters across several policy areas that need to be taken into account:

- Matter A: Population
- Matter B: Providing for diverse needs
- Matter C: Space available for children to play
- Matter D: Supervised provision
- Matter E: Charges for play provision
- Matter F: Access to space/provision [*this includes travel access, as well as information and publicity*]
- Matter G: Securing & Developing the Play Workforce
- Matter H: Community engagement and participation

- Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas [*Education/schools, Town and Country Planning, Traffic and transport, Health and Wellbeing, Child Poverty, Early years/Childcare and Family policy and initiatives, Community Development, Inter-generational policy and initiatives, Community Safety, Health and Safety*]

Play Sufficiency Assessments were submitted to Welsh Government in March 2013 and March 2016. The next is due at the end of March 2019. Annual action plans and progress reports are also submitted to Welsh Government as part of the duties.

CONSULTATION METHODOLOGY

- We have circulated background information and the template (including specific areas for completion) to all relevant service areas:-
 - Planning Policy – Planning Environment & Economy
 - Integrated Youth Provision – Education & Youth Services
 - Flying Start – Social Services
 - Parenting Strategy
 - Family Information Service, Flintshire – Social Services
 - Health & Safety – Corporate Policy
 - Anti-social Behaviour Team
 - Youth Justice Service – Education & Youth
 - Education Welfare Service
 - Holway Task Group – Public Service Board
 - Families First
 - Rural North Family Centre
 - Streetscene & Transportation
 - Childcare Development – Social Services
 - Participation Team – Education & Youth
 - Countryside services
 - Health Wellbeing & Safeguarding – Education & Youth
 - Gypsy Traveller Services
 - Housing & Regeneration
- We held a Flintshire Play Sufficiency Seminar November 2018 in partnership with Play Wales and invited all services to attend.
- School Life Conference held to look specifically at Matter I Play in Schools held in November 2018
- We have circulated background information and the template (including specific areas for completion) to other partner organisations including third sector :
- In partnership with Playful Futures, 600 children have been consulted with regard to the Play Sufficiency Assessment

- The Play Development team have undertaken a major piece of research for Play Sufficiency by working closely with the community in the Holway since July 2018 to present. The Play Development team have engaged with all community members as part of the work commissioned by the Public Service Board (Resilient Communities) and the Holway Task Group.
- We commissioned Ludicology to consult in depth with children at Ysgol Bryn Coch, Mold and Ysgol Trefynnon, Holywell with regards to the Play Sufficiency Assessment.
- The Play Development Team have consulted with children attending Summer Playscheme and other play projects including Kicks For Kids and PALS (Play and Leisure Support - for children and young people with disabilities)
- The Play Development Team have consulted with 27 young people attending Ysgol Maes Hyfryd Special School with regard to the Play Sufficiency Assessment.
- The Play Development Team have consulted with the Flintshire Youth Council who have linked into School Councils with regard to the Play Sufficiency Assessment.
- The Play Development Team have circulated background information and the template to Flintshire Local Voluntary Council all local Town and Community Councils (and Local Members for information). This is the wider public consultation. The Play Development Team have attended town council meetings when invited to discuss play sufficiency and have advised others via email and phone calls and have responded to all requests to provide further details.
- The Play Development Team have circulated background information and the template to Urdd Gobaith Cymru and Menter Iaith Sir y Fflint who have circulated it to all Welsh medium provision.
- The Play Development Team have circulated background information and the template to Theatr Clwyd to respond with regard to the arts, culture and museum services.
- The Play Development Team have circulated background information and the template to Aura to respond with regard to all areas within leisure and libraries.
 - Sports Development
 - Leisure Centres
 - Library Services
 - Play Design and Inspection Team
- An in-depth report into Play Sufficiency was undertaken at Southdown Primary

School Buckley– November 2018-February 2019 with regard to a bespoke research project gathering information with regard to play sufficiency within an education setting where play has been implemented differently via a variety of play projects.

- The Play Development Team have consulted with 41 disabled children and their families who received a service during the Summer Playscheme via the Flintshire Buddy Scheme where support is provided as appropriate to the needs of the child or young person.

All of this information has been recognised and incorporated into the Play Action plan 2019/20

Maximising resources

The local authority has maintained its core budget for capital for children’s play. However, due to financial austerity the Local Authority is seeking to find ways to meet the play needs of children and communities against a backdrop of financial austerity. This of course remains a challenge

The Play Opportunities Grant received from Welsh Government in recent years has enabled revenue funded projects to meet the targets within annual play action plans

This funding has proven invaluable in allowing the local authority and its partners to move forward on key matters within the play action plan
Including e.g.

- Has enabled key partnerships to develop play projects for the most vulnerable children and young people in the county area. I.e. sustained work within the Holway, Holywell and Parkfields, Mold areas
- Has enabled a unique partnership with the Flintshire benefits service, town and community councils and the business sector to provide food on a daily basis where food poverty was identified in 21 of our summer playscheme locations. Uniquely, this allowed food to be taken to where children were as opposed to children having to go somewhere to eat. There were 18,000 hot meals delivered during playscheme 2018 during a six week period.
- To allow the development in partnership of the P.A.L.S. (Play and Leisure Support) ‘Playful Futures’ and Kicks for Kids (Wales) Projects. All of these projects provide universal services which are integrated or targeted. Projects are based in schools or communities of need, working often specifically with the most vulnerable children.
- To continue a key partnership with Urdd Gobaith Cymru to provide Welsh medium playschemes during the summer playscheme 2018.

- Has enabled further vital support from Playwales to support the development of the infrastructure for play in the county.
- Enabled funding to deliver the summer playscheme programme 2018 in partnership with 30 local town and community councils at 58 locations 3,906 children and young people aged 5 to 12 years (5 to 15 for children with disabilities) attended Summer Playschemes during Summer holidays 2018 with 41 of these children and young people supported by the Flintshire Buddy scheme.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment and local Well-being Plans

This section should identify how the Play Sufficiency Assessments form part of the local needs assessment and to what extent the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan are integrated into the Well-being Plan and Public Service Board.

Monitoring Play Sufficiency

Following the most recent local government restructure during 2018, the Play Development Team are now situated within Integrated Youth Provision, within the Education and Youth Service. The Play Design, Maintenance and Inspection team for equipped play areas are now situated within AURA Leisure and Libraries. The Public Open Spaces portfolio, including the school grounds contracts, have also transferred to the 'Streetscene Service'. A partnership between all three service areas continues in place via a Play Sufficiency Working group. There is an intention that the Chief Officer for Education and Youth Services and/or the Lead member for Education and Youth will chair this new group and link matters into the Public Service Board.

Criteria

This section contains the “matters that need to be taken into account” as set out under section 10 of the Statutory Guidance.

The Criteria column: sets out the data that needs to be available and the extent to which Local Authorities meet the stated criteria.

The RAG status column: provides a drop down box, whereby the Local Authority can show its assessment of whether that criterion is fully met; partially met; or not met. These have been given Red, Amber Green markers, which appear as words in the drop down boxes. *(In the “RAG status column”, Double click on the word STATUS – this will bring up drop-down form fields options, use the arrow down key until the status required RED, AMBER or GREEN- is at the top then press ok)*

Red, Amber Green (RAG) status is a tool to communicate status quickly and effectively.

RAG status

Criteria fully met.	Fully met
Criteria partially met.	Partially met
Criteria not met.	Not met

The 2019 column enables the local authority to indicate the direction of travel with the insertion of arrows.

The Evidence to support strengths column: should be used to provide the reason for the chosen criteria status and how the evidence is held.

The Shortfall column: should be used to explain the areas in which the Local Authority does not fully meet the criteria.

The Identified Action for Action Plan column: should be used to show the Local Authority action planning priorities for that Matter.

The Comments section: asks some specific questions for each matter that should enable you to give a clear overview of how the Local Authority complies with the intention and implementation of this matter as set out fully in the Statutory Guidance. It also provides the opportunity to identify challenges and how they might be overcome.

Matter A: Population

What has changed in terms of population and demographic trends since Play Sufficiency Assessment 2016?

There has been an increase in the number of children with a disability. Rising from 740 children in 2002 to 1060 in 2017.

There has been a reduction in the number of Welsh speaking children in Flintshire. Welsh speakers form 13.2 of the population, lower than the average regionally.

How has/will the Local Authority use its population data to plan for sufficient play opportunities locally?


The data will be applied in number of ways. This can be at ward level with regard to identifying child population with regard to play areas, green spaces and staffed play provision. The data will be used to identify children in deprived areas to target specifically for play/food programmes.

The data will also identify the number of children living in rural area, Welsh speaking children; children with disabilities and children from ethnic minorities.

The local authority working with partners has continued to use ‘shared knowledge’ to determine where services are provided across the county.

Comments

RAG Status for Matter A

Criteria partially met. 

The local authority provides links to key information for all services with regard to providing statistics and geographical demographics to enable service planning. This is via links to the Flintshire county Council infonet. AURA Leisure and Libraries, Flintshire Play Development team; AURA Sports Development; Integrated Youth provision and Theatr Clwyd will continue to work closely with partner agencies to identify need to secure and provide services for all children and young people in Flintshire. Children young people, families and other community members are all involved in any consultation with regard to play provision, in planning, monitoring and evaluation of projects.

Sources include:

InfoBase Cymru - Covers a wide range of data including themes such as people, economy, housing, transport etc.... Information is available about Wales from local authority level to a local area (lower super output area - LSOA) level.

Local Area Summary Statistics - A statistical overview of each local authority area. Includes data and statistics on health, the economy, education etc.

My Local Council - A tool that brings performance data to the public; allowing users to see how their council is performing compared to other councils across Wales.

Benchmarking Wales - A repository for local authority service improvement data, shared for the purpose of improving services. *Note - By using this system you agree not to make public any data relating to an individual authority without that authority's explicit consent, or to use the data for any other purpose other than that intended here.*

National Survey for Wales - The National Survey for Wales involves over 14,000 people a year across the whole of Wales. The results are used by the Welsh Government to help make Wales a better place to live.

StatsWales - A free-to-use service that allows you to view, manipulate, create and download tables from Welsh data, including Census Data.

Welsh Government Statistics & Research - Includes a variety of topics such as Education and Skills, Health and Social Care, Housing and Regeneration etc.







Office for National Statistics (ONS) - the UK's largest independent producer of official statistics and is the recognised national statistical institute for the UK. It is responsible for collecting and publishing statistics related to the economy, population and society at national, regional and local levels. It also conducts the census in England and Wales every ten years.

Matter B: Providing for Diverse Needs

The Play Sufficiency Assessment should present data about how the Local Authority and partners aim to offer play opportunities that are inclusive and encourage all children to play and meet together.

RAG Status:

Criteria partially met. 

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 36	The play requirements of children living in isolated rural areas are understood and provided for			Continued delivery of the local authority Match-Funding Scheme for improvements to children’s play areas via AURA Leisure and Libraries (see Cabinet report, 20 Nov 2018).		
2	The play requirements of Welsh language speaking children are understood and provided for			All local authority owned play areas have bilingual information signs.		
3	The play requirements of children from different cultural background are understood and provided for			All services for children and young people provided by the local authority and partner organisations consider and are respectful of the needs of children and young people from different cultural backgrounds.	Not all services provided are translated into all languages evident in the local authority areas	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
4	The play requirements and support needs of disabled children are understood and provided for.			<p>Inclusivity is a key element of all existing play area refurbishments and designs for new play facilities.</p> <p>Inclusivity is a key element of all existing and any new play provision including staffed play provision delivered by the local authority and its partners</p> <p>The school sport survey is conducted every 2/3 years which is the largest survey of its kind in Europe. This enables us to understand inclusive needs</p> <p>Consultation is conducted with Clubs, families and health professionals</p>		For the Play Sufficiency Working group to support the further development for this key provision
5	Play projects and providers have access to a range of resources which support inclusion			Services delivered via local authority play projects have access to a wide range of resources to enable access to facilities and services.		
6	There is a well-known and			Youth, Disability and Well-		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 38	agreed mechanism which is used to identify the need for separate provision for disabled children			<p>being and Disability Sport programmes sign post referrals to play, sport and recreation provision. This includes referrals from the Early Help Hub</p> <p>Families First have commissioned a Disability Consortia. Play is represented on this group via the P.A.L.S. project (Play and leisure Support)</p> <p>The Consortia offer a service that meets the deliverables and secures positive outcomes by sharing best practice and the expertise of our partners to deliver a needs-led approach that meets the holistic needs of the referred children, young people and families affected by disability.</p> <p>This collaboration delivers</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 39				<p>bespoke programmes of support to meet individual needs, including:</p> <p>Learning and Development interventions to support disabled young people develop healthy life skills e.g. budgeting, healthy eating and exercise</p> <p>Social activities for disabled YP to develop new skills and promote creativity</p> <p>Local community-based activities with members of the consortium e.g. Aura, Flintshire Buddy play scheme providing additional support to provide integrated activities of choice.</p> <p>Groundwork ‘Open mind, open spaces’ scheme supports disabled young people and their families to</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 40				<p>engage with Green Spaces to improve physical and mental wellbeing.</p> <p>Daffodils provide planned community based activities involving extended families and days out to community venues.</p> <p>Play activities are accessed as appropriate during weekends and evenings throughout the week and school holidays and our aim is always to be fully integrated into community activity.</p> <p>All partners within the consortium deliver services and support children and young people where two or more ACES have been identified; linking families to timely benefit and housing support enables them to access additional income or appropriate housing to better enable families to live healthy</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 41</p>				<p>lives without financial hardship.</p> <p>In partnership with family support services peer support programmes are provided working with disabled young people and their parents. Within the consortium there are models of innovation such as AFC Parent Support Group and Daffodils Parent-lead Support ensures that the emotional wellbeing of families is promoted.</p> <p>Through AFC group activities young people develops natural, appropriate friendships which are promoted outside of the group. This approach is supported by:</p> <p>Aura's volunteer pathway — sustainable opportunities in community activities where young people are encouraged</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 42				<p>to support each other.</p> <p>Sports Development deliver Inclusive ‘playmaker’ training for Year 5/6 pupils, promoting support for disabled peers in physical activity.</p> <p>Disability Sport Wales delivers ‘Mini DIT’ (Disability inclusion training), where the main emphasis is on inclusion and having fun.</p> <p>Daffodils — peer support networks are naturally formed along with parent/carer support during activities/social events.</p> <p>The Consortia offer advice and guidance to families for them to understand the benefit system and support them to access support where there is financial hardship. This includes access to right information in right format. As a consortium, we have</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 43</p>				<p>established working relationships which can be relied upon to 'join-up' services available and signpost to FISF, Newcis for parents of disabled child, parental informal advice and assistance (amongst others).</p> <p>Actif 4 – 16 whereby children on the scheme access AURA Leisure and Library facilities at a lower cost and direct debit which is at a lower rate.</p> <p>AURA Leisure and Libraries ice rink sessions exclusively for children with disabilities</p> <p>The Consortia offer a service that meets the deliverables and secures positive outcomes by sharing best practice and the expertise of our partners to deliver a needs-led approach that meets the holistic needs of the referred children, young people and families affected</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				by disability		
7	Access audits for all play provision as described in the guidance are undertaken			Access is a key consideration during the design or refurbishment of a play area.		
8	Designated play space is provided and well maintained on gypsy traveller sites			Housing and Assets commented that initial plans have been drawn up for a refurbished site which include provision for play. New site provision will be for 2023 and will be for green space area plus a community hub with wifi requested from young people as part of the consultation. Within the green space area there will be a mixture of age appropriate equipment, some of which will be cordoned off for the very young people	No provision until 2023.	
9	The requirements of young carers are understood and provided for					

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
10	The requirements of lesbian, gay or bisexual (LGB) children are understood and provided for			A youth club is being established in Deeside Leisure Centre which caters specifically for LGBT provision This is a partnership between Integrated Youth Provision and AURA Leisure and Libraries		

Providing for Diverse Needs

How has data been used (or how will the data be used) to address the barriers that children with diverse needs face in accessing inclusive and accessible opportunities for playing?

age 5

The data has been used to plan and deliver a wide range of services across the county both integrated and targeted specifically.

This has benefited children young people with disabilities and their families in Flintshire

Consortiums have been developed during the past 3 years to bring service areas and organisations together to work in partnership i.e. the Flintshire Disability consortium funded by the Welsh Government Families First Grant and the Welsh Government Play Opportunities Grant in partnership with local authority education and Youth services

Matter C: Space available for children to play: Open Spaces and Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces

The Local Authority should recognise that all open spaces within their area are potentially important areas where children can play or pass through to reach other play areas or places where they go.

RAG Status

Criteria partially met. 

Open Spaces

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 46	The Local Authority has undertaken an Open Space Assessment (OSA) that maps areas that are used, or might be used for playing as listed in the Statutory Guidance			Work has commenced to update the 2007 Open Space Survey with representatives from Aura, FCC Planning & FCC Streetscene contributing to the revised document; target date for completion is 2019/20.		
2	The Local Authority has undertaken an Accessible Greenspace Study that maps areas that are used for playing			Green Spaces framework was approved by FCC Cabinet 3-4 years ago; best to speak to Tom Woodall / Andy Brown re current position.		
3	The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all open spaces and implements					

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	proposals to improve access and safety					
4	The Local Authority has developed its own Open Space Standards in accordance with the advice and requirements of Planning Policy Wales			The future Standard will/should be informed following the completion of the revised Open Space Survey. The future Standard will likely be determined by the Section 106 working group (chaired by Mandy Lewis, FCC Planning Development Manager). This group currently meets on a monthly basis and is attended by Aura's Play Design Officer.		
	The Local Authority undertakes and actions play value assessments in public open space					
6	Brownfield sites owned by the Local Authority are assessed for the potential for the site to be reclaimed to provide for children's play					

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Outdoor Unstaffed Designated Play Spaces

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 48	7			Work has commenced to update the 2007 Open Space Survey with representatives from Aura, FCC Planning & FCC Streetscene contributing to the revised document; target date for completion is 2019/20.		
				Held as a mapping data layer by the local authority's GIS Manager		
	9					
	10					
	11			FCC Planning is the strategic lead in relation to		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	fixed play provision standard			providing specifications to developers; Aura provides developers with practical guidance.		
12	The Local Authority undertakes and actions play space assessments in designated play spaces			Aura has maintained and updated the 2010 Play Areas' Survey and its findings inform the annual match-funding programme (see Cabinet report, 20 Nov 2018).		
13	The Local Authority has introduced smoke-free playgrounds			This principle still remains in operation.		
14	The Local Authority has removed 'no ball games' signs to encourage more children playing in the community			This function resides with FCC Streetscene and Housing. Information to follow		
15	The Local Authority has erected signs, such as Play Priority Signs to encourage more children playing in the community			The first Play Priority Sign (funded via Section 106) is due to be erected in St. Mary's Park play area, Mold in early 2019.		
16	The Local Authority includes a recognition of the importance					

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	of playing fields to children’s play when any disposal decisions are made					
17	The Local Authority includes children and their families in any consultations regarding decisions to dispose of playing fields					
18	The Local Authority refers to guidance around creating accessible play space when refurbishing or developing new playgrounds	NEW		FCC, in partnership with Aura, adheres to all available guidance when developing or refurbishing a play area.		

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Open Spaces

How has the Local Authority ensured collaboration between Open Space Assessments / Green Infrastructure Strategies and Play Sufficiency Assessments to improve spaces for play?

Aura Play Design commented : The Local Authority undertakes access audits at all open spaces and implements proposals to improve access and safety

Rural North Family Centre commented that some of the barriers to children play are :

- The availability of safe supervised spaces to play in. More of a barrier to parents / carers who feel the need for supervised play in safe spaces for younger children
- Lack of funding to develop play spaces
- Access to green spaces / sites for those living in satellite villages / hamlets

Rural North Family Centre commented that many dedicated areas given over to play.

- The superb quality of the play schemes taking place on adventure play areas/ green spaces, and the quality of the areas themselves. Consistently good feedback from parents/ carers, children/ young people and partners

Have there been challenges?

Access to capital funding.

How can these be overcome?

Working in partnership with local communities to achieve grant funding

Comments:

Aura Play Design commented :

When funding from Match funding or off site section 106 contributions are available the play environment is assessed by Aura Play Design and this includes improving Access into and through play spaces, whilst improving safety, the selection of Inclusive play features is integral in new or refurbished play features.

In 2019/20 an independent play area assessment will be commissioned to assess the play value of the Authorities fixed play areas the brief will include a requirement for Access & Safety and Inclusive Use, this is likely to be carried out on a phased approach.

Rural North Family Centre commented: There are less opportunities now than there were three years ago. A few years ago the adventure play area in Gronant was extremely well used during school holidays and after school in term time. Attendance levels were high and feedback from parents/ carers and school staff was excellent. The entire area and operation had a strong vibrancy and a good reputation. There does appear to be very little available for our children and young people to access out of school hours at the moment.

AURA Leisure and Libraries in partnership with the local authority presented a report to Cabinet in November 2018 with regard to issues relating to outdoor children's play areas. This is a significant report and as such is attached as an appendix to this document. Appendix A – Tuesday 20th November 2018 – Outdoor Children's Play Areas.

There is no bespoke formal mechanism for receiving comments from the community.

A website enquiry form is available for Aura Leisure and Libraries (Generic rather than play area-specific).

The telephone number that is placed on all play area signs is 01352 701234 (Streetscene switchboard); any relevant details forwarded to AURA

Outdoor unstaffed designated play spaces

Public Open Space and Transportation have been aligned to Streetscene and disseminated to the Area Working model

Matter D: Supervised provision

The Local Authority should aim to offer a range of supervised play provision.

RAG Status

Criteria partially met. 

Playwork provision

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
53	The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of all supervised play provision as described in the Statutory Guidance			<p>The Play Development team, Childcare Development team and the Family Information Service Flintshire collate and maintain a comprehensive database with regard to supervised play provision</p> <p>There is an up to date record of all sites run by Aura Sports Development that provide for Sports and Recreation</p>	Links to organisations providing for older children both internally and external to those provided by the local authority	
2	The Local Authority offers play			See Cabinet report for 20		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 54	provision which offers a rich play environment as described in the Statutory Guidance			<p>Nov 2018 which outlines FCC commitment to fixed play areas in terms of match-funding scheme and three-year (2017-20) capital programme allocation.</p> <p>All local authority staffed play provision aim to provide a rich play environment via the introduction of loose parts and training for team members.</p>		
	The Local Authority ensures that partners are supported to offer rich play environments as described in the Statutory Guidance			<p>The partners in FCC's match-funding programme are Town & Community Councils and they have supported fixed play provision for the past 9 years. Other partners include community action groups e.g. Sychdyn Coronation Playing Fields Association.</p> <p>All local authority staffed play provision aim to provide</p>		The Local Authority will support the workforce to achieve the accepted

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				a rich play environment via the introduction of loose parts and training for team members.		qualification levels set out by SkillsActive via the planned Delivery of accredited training course for playwork to a level 2 and level 3 standard
4	Staffed play provision that the Local Authority provides meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards			This meets National Minimum Standards through Risk Assessments/NGB and activity guidelines for activities provides by AURA Sports Development		
Page 55	Staffed play provision that the Local Authority funds meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards			This meets National Minimum Standards through Risk Assessments/NGB and activity guidelines for activities provides by AURA Sports Development		
6	Staffed play provision that the Local Authority's partners provide meets the regulatory requirements and National Minimum Standards			This meets National Minimum Standards through Risk Assessments/NGB and activity guidelines for activities provides by AURA Sports Development		
7	Staffed play provision across the Local Authority works to a recognised quality assurance programme			The Local Authority will support the workforce to achieve the accepted qualification levels set out by SkillsActive via the		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				planned Delivery of accredited training course for playwork to a level 2 and 3 standard		
8	The Local Authority prioritises quality issues when engaging with/ commissioning the private sector to deliver recreational activities for children.			AURA Sport Development work to UK Coaching and CIMSPA recognised standards		
Page 56	The Local Authority provides council premises and space free of charge to organisations which provide free (at the point of access) play provision for children			All local authority owned fixed play areas are free to access.		



LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
10	Local authority sport, physical activity, and active recreation plans are contributing to increasing free play and recreational activities			AURA Sports Development provide the following:- Parklives – Summer provision Community Hubs x 7 YDW – 10 weeks on referral Dragon Sport and 5 x 60 – 15,000+ sessions free per year Daily Mile Playground Leaders delivering in schools		
11	The sports agenda contributes to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children			AYP - yearly funding from Sport Wales, in principle agreement for 2019-20 (Dragon Sport, 5X60, playground leaders, daily mile) YDW - yearly funding from Families First	Annual funding year on year for all except disability Sport	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 58				<p>Disability Sport - agreement to fund until 2021 Parklives - street games funding annual application</p> <p>Community Hubs - various one off bids and Sport Wales funding</p> <p>Actif 4 – 16 whereby children on the scheme access AURA Leisure and Library facilities at a lower cost and direct debit which is at a lower rate.</p> <p>AURA Leisure and Libraries ice rink sessions exclusively for children with disabilities</p>		
12	The cultural and arts agenda, is contributing to the provision of sufficient recreational activities for children			Theatr Clwyd provides the following at low cost/no cost and works in partnership to enable all children and young people to both cultural and artistic opportunities		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 59				<p>Weekly Drama Workshops</p> <p>Drama workshops held throughout the week (Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturdays) for children and young people aged 4 – 25 during term time (35 weeks)</p> <p>Low cost with 20% discount for families in receipt of benefit.</p> <p>Supervised Play.</p> <p>Welsh language group on Tuesdays.</p> <p>230 places available.</p> <p>16.5 hours in total per week</p> <p>FUSE/FUSE On Weekly Drama Workshops</p> <p>Two weekly drama groups held on Monday evenings for children and young</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 60				<p>people with additional learning needs aged 7 – 25.</p> <p>During term time (35 weeks in the year)</p> <p>Low cost with 20% discount for families in receipt of benefit.</p> <p>Supervised Play.</p> <p>30 places available.</p> <p>2.5 hours per week.</p> <p>Greenfield Valley Weekly Drama Workshops</p> <p>Held in Greenfield Valley in partnership with the Youth Integrated Services.</p> <p>For young people aged 11+.</p> <p>Free of charge.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 61				<p>Supervised Play.</p> <p>25 places available.</p> <p>2 hours per week during term time.</p> <p>Summer School</p> <p>Summer programme of activities held at the theatre for children and young people aged 6 – 16 (3-4 weeks during the summer holidays).</p> <p>Low cost with 20% discount for families in receipt of benefit.</p> <p>Supervised Play.</p> <p>250 places available.</p> <p>Hours range from 6 – 8 hours per week.</p> <p>Family Arts Festival</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 62				<p>For children and their families.</p> <p>An annual three day arts festival with shows, films, participatory activities, interactive performances in a variety of genres.</p> <p>Participatory activities and interactive performances in public areas all free of charge.</p> <p>Discounted show tickets with prices between £1.00 and £5.00 maximum.</p> <p>Over 5,000 attendees in 2018.</p> <p>Family Programme at Theatr Clwyd</p> <p>For children and their families.</p> <p>Reduced ticket prices.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 63</p>				<p>A monthly programme of shows and activities for family audiences.</p> <p>We run a Clwb Teulu (Family Club) for families to advise on Welsh productions and activities.</p> <p>Stori a Chan – a weekly Welsh language story and song session for children up to 4 years old and their parents during term time.</p> <p>Delivered by Cymraeg i Blant in partnership with Theatr Clwyd.</p> <p>Supervised Play.</p> <p>Free of Charge.</p> <p>Approximately 20 attendees per week.</p> <p>One hour a week.</p> <p>We also offer a Flintshire</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 64				<p>Schools Festival, various visual art projects including Criw Celf, Portffolio and currently a weekly drama session in Shotton's Pupil Referral Unit.</p> <p>In 2018 we offered a free summer school in Greenfield Valley (this was funded by Greenfield Valley Heritage and Museum). It is hoped that we will offer another this year but not confirmed. We are also currently working with Integrated Youth Provision and providing drama workshops in Saltney Youth Club.</p>		
13	The Local Authority Youth Service provides for children's opportunities for leisure and association			Participation Team within Integrated Youth Provision Education and Youth commented that young people are signposted to local facilities to take part in sport and leisure activities.		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				In some of the open access youth provisions there are opportunities to take part in sports.		

Supervised play provision

Flying Start :

Early Years and Flying Start plans and services recognise the importance of play and contribute to the provisions of rich play opportunities for younger children

Evidence to support strengths

Flying Start ensures that all children in receipt of the service have access to play opportunities throughout their time with Flying Start. We have a range of services which promotes and encourages play for young children and their families. Flintshire Flying Start provide opportunities for play to both Flying Start and non-Flying start children and their families.

Each locality (Four localities in total) runs two drop in sessions per week throughout the year (including school holidays). As stated in the Welsh Government Parenting guidance the sessions “*gives parents the opportunity to have a fun time playing with their child and the opportunity*

to meet with others. It also introduces parents to new ways of playing with their child to support their child's cognitive, social and language development." The sessions are informal and run for 1 hour. Each session incorporate play, singing and story time. Some of the items available allow parents to recreate the play opportunities within the family home for example- messy play using food items, building dens with blankets, musical instruments using kitchen items. Our sessions are run within our Family centers and community centers across Flintshire, where possible the children have access to both indoor and outdoor play throughout the sessions.

Within Flying Start we are also able to support children's opportunists to play by offering every child within Flying Start 15 hours of Childcare per week for 39 weeks following the term after their second birthday. The Welsh Government Flying Start Quality Childcare guidance states *"Play is crucial to the way children become self-aware and the way in which they learn the rules of social behaviour. Play is also fundamental to intellectual development. Play supports children in 'learning how to learn' and in acquiring high aspirations, a positive self-image and a disposition to learning."* The children are able to access Flying Start approved private nurseries, play groups and childminders for their sessions.

Flying Start also supports play one to one within the family's homes as and when required. These session provide parents with the knowledge and skills on how to support and develop their children's play development. The sessions provide an opportunity to share new ideas, activities and evidence to support a children's play. The staff will bring along toys to the sessions which can be left for the children to play with following the end of the session. However Flying Start will also encourage play using items that the children already have access too for example pots and pans, water play, cardboard boxes or creating treasure baskets using household items.

Flintshire Flying Start ensures that staff and childcare providers have access to training that supports and develops children's play opportunities. Recently some team members have been trained in Forest School. Forest school state *"It believes in children's right to play; the right to access the outdoors (and in particular a woodland environment); the right to access risk and the vibrant reality of the natural world; and the right to experience a healthy range of emotions, through all the challenges of social interaction, to build a resilience that will enable continued and creative engagement with their peers and their potential."*

Identified actions for Action plan

Within Flying Start we are always striving to ensure our families and staff have access to the most up to date research which supports play and child development and therefore we are always striving to develop our knowledge and skills.

We are also looking to ensure that other services have access to our Children's Centers and recourses to ensure that all children across Flintshire have opportunities to play.

Where the Local Authority has assessed settings as part of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessments (CSAs), how have these settings been assessed in respect of the quality of play opportunities they provide and offer?

Supervised play provision which has been included within Flintshire County Council’s Childcare Sufficiency Assessment reporting will be registered with Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW). All of these registered settings have to produce an annual Quality of Care Review and are subject to regular inspections from CIW. The quality of the play opportunities they provide and offer will be covered by this Quality of Care review and during regular inspections from CIW. There are just three supervised play providers in Flintshire who are not registered with CIW and they are receiving support from the Childcare Development Officer to move towards being registered with CIW.

How has provision that is not part of the CSA been assessed in respect of the quality of play opportunities they provide and offer?

N/A

Have there been challenges?

For those few settings who are not yet registered with CIW it may be difficult to register as they have insufficient numbers attending to make the setting financially viable.

How can these be overcome?

The settings mentioned above would have to receive subsidies in order to maintain the staffing ratios required under CIW registration









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Matter E: Charges for play provision

The Local Authority should consider which play opportunities involve a charge and the extent to which the Local Authority takes these charges into account in assessing for sufficient play opportunities for children living in low income families as set out in the Statutory Guidance.

RAG status

Criteria partially met. 

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 68	The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in low income families					
	2 The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in areas of deprivation					
	3 The Local Authority keeps records of the number of children living in rural areas					
	4 The Local Authority keeps records of the number of disabled children and those with particular needs.					

Play Sufficiency Assessment Toolkit – Part 2

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
5	The Local Authority records the availability of no cost provision					
6	The Local Authority records the provision of no cost / low cost premises used for play provision					
7	The Local Authority records the provisions where grants or subsidies are available for play providers			Aura's Funding Agreement with FCC includes an element to support the inspection and maintenance of the Play Design function.		
Page 69	The Local Authority provides subsidised transport for children travelling to play opportunities			Occasionally with AURA Sports Development and Integrated youth provision Days out/courses etc.		

Charge for play provision

How is the Local Authority ensuring that children have access to no or low-cost provision?

Generally, there is good practice in partnership working. The local authority and its partners pool resources with partners, utilising grants and targeting those most in need. An example of this is a new initiative to deliver free meals to playschemes across Flintshire aims to prevent children from going hungry during the summer holidays 2019.

Flintshire County Council worked in partnership with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, Clwyd Alyn Housing Association and Travis Perkins Managed Services, delivered 3400 free meals to playschemes in the first week of the summer holidays.

Flintshire County Council and its partners joined forces with “Can Cook” to launch this ambitious programme “Share Your Lunch” providing over 18,700 free meals – up to 625 meals a day – over the six-week summer holiday period to 20 play schemes throughout Flintshire. Summer holiday playschemes are free at the point of access, many in partnership with participating town and community councils.

The local authority and its partners ensure that information with regard to opportunities for children and young people is shared county wide via Flintshire County Council website, the Family Information Service and the wider network which includes Play Development; Integrated Youth provision; schools; social services; town and community councils etc. However, restriction of some WG funding programmes to specific areas or postcodes can restrict play provision being as responsive to community needs as possible. The short term and sporadic nature of funding has meant a lack of continuity in provision beyond the summer holidays.

The county summer play scheme provides for Childrens play in 58 communities for all at no cost to families

The local authority utilise a number of grant opportunities in schools and communities to ensure no cost to families

There are specific schemes within AURA Leisure and Libraries with regard to creating low cost or no cost services and a willingness to work in partnership with regard to the social aims of the organisation and the partnership with the local authority

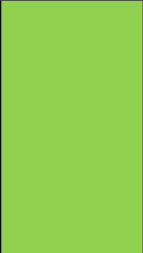
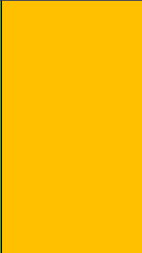
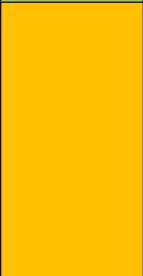
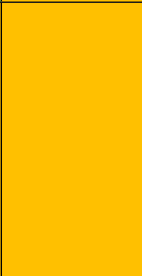
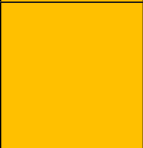
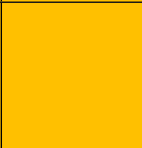
The local authority and its partners ensure that information with regard to opportunities for children and young people is shared county wide via Flintshire County Council website, the Family Information Service and the wider network which includes Play Development; Integrated Youth provision; schools; social services; town and community councils etc.

Matter F: Access to space/provision

The Local Authority should consider all the factors that contribute to children’s access to play or moving around their community.

RAG Status

Criteria partially met. 

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
1 Page 71	The Local Authority keeps an up to date record of the number of 20 mph zones/school safety zones in residential areas					
2	The Local Authority has an identified mechanism for assessing the impact of speed reduction and other road safety measures on the opportunity for children to play outside in their communities					
3	The Local Authority has a plan(s) to reduce the negative effect of busy roads and junctions through the					

Play Sufficiency Assessment Toolkit – Part 2

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	introduction of speed reduction measures and provision of safe crossing points/routes for pedestrians and cyclists					
4	The Local Authority has a plan(s) to improve walking and cycle access to parks, outdoor play facilities and local leisure centres from residential areas			Aura advises FCC that open space should also include pathways for cycling when responding to proposed planning developments.		
5	There is potential for the Local Authority to take further action to reduce traffic speed and improve road safety to promote play opportunities			Information to follow		
6	The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to support delivery of cycling training for children to national standards			Information to follow		
7	The Local Authority uses road safety grants and/or other funding to provide pedestrian safety training for children					
8	The Local Authority has an accessible and well-known way of arranging temporary road closures, to support more					

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LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	children to play outside their homes					
9	The Local Authority refers to <i>Manual for Streets</i> when considering new developments and changes to the highway network/urban realm					
10	The Local Authority works to nationally recognised good practice guidelines when developing walking and cycling facilities					
11	The Local Authority uses child pedestrian road accident casualty data to inform the location and design of interventions which help children get around independently in their communities					
12	The Local Authority considers children's needs to access play opportunities when making decisions about public transport planning and expenditure					
13	The requirements of disabled	NEW				

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	children are understood and provided for within traffic and transport initiatives					

Information, publicity and events:
For children and families to take part in play opportunities, recreational activities and events it is necessary for them to know what is available in their area.

14 Page 74	The Local Authority has a clearly identified section on its website which gives information about play opportunities as described in the Statutory Guidance (play areas, play provision, clubs and their accessibility)	GREEN		<p>Aura Leisure and Libraries can provide assistance in relation to information required.</p> <p>The AURA Sports Development area of the website makes this information available</p> <p>The County Summer playscheme information for parents and carers and all registration forms/ consent forms are available via the Flintshire County Council web pages and are highlighted as a front news item before and during the playscheme delivery</p>		<p>Family Information Service Flintshire – to continue to provide links for other service areas and other organisations to the Dewis Website and also FISF facebook pages which are used to promote play opportunities. The Flintshire County Council website is also used to promote play opportunities. FISF Staff will also continue to signpost members of the public when answering enquiries to all play services</p> <p>Production of a booklet PLAY GUIDE for parents /carers. Establishment of a</p>
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				<p>Family Information Service Flintshire (FISF) - 450 people / organisations now 'Like' their Facebook page, 2000 post 'engagements' were recorded week commencing 3rd March 2019. 11,000 people have viewed their posts in the past week alone, and in the past month they have published or shared over 100 posts.</p>		<p>mutlti agency working group to collate and produce this as a priority</p>
Page 75	<p>The Local Authority provides information on access to play opportunities and contact for support if required</p>			<p>Aura Leisure and Libraries can provide assistance in relation to information required.</p>	<p>There is an identified need amongst service areas and public to have information which clearly identifies the availability of all available services and facilities in the county</p>	
16	<p>The Local Authority supports and publicises events which encourage play opportunities and events for children and families</p>			<p>Aura can provide assistance in relation to information required to populate a revised customer booklet.</p>	<p>There is an identified need highlighted by this consultation to produce a PLAY GUIDE for parents</p>	

					and carers produced electronically and in a hard format	
17	The Local Authority publicises information which contributes to positive community attitudes to play			The Family Information Service and the Play Development team collate and maintain a database of information with regard to all play projects delivered by the local authority. The Corporate Communication Team promote all good news stories on all of its social media platforms		
18	The Local Authority publicises information and support for parents to help them encourage their children to play			The Family Information Service and the Play Development team collate and maintain a database of information with regard to all play projects delivered by the local authority. The Corporate Communication Team promote all good news stories on all of its social media platforms		
19	The Local Authority widely uses on-site signposting to safeguard and promote play			The Family Information Service and the Play Development team collate and maintain a database of information with regard to all play projects delivered by		FISF as all other services provide information for local and national media via the local authority corporate communications team.

				the local authority. The Corporate Communication Team promote all good news stories on all of its social media platforms		
20	The Local Authority engages with the media to encourage the positive portrayal of children playing in the local area			Aura will post positive news stories of joint working with FCC in relation to children’s play areas on its social media platforms.		

Access to space/provision

Public Open Space and Transportation have been aligned to Streetscene and disseminated to the Area Working model

Information, publicity, events

How has the Local Authority positively used information to support access to play provision?

FISF reported that Facebook and Dewis – both increasingly used more and more, Dewis over the past 12 months since FISF adopted it as their database provider and website and Facebook since January 2019. The FISF team and staff at Rural North Flintshire Family Centre (RNFFC) always refer to play opportunities in the county when answering this type of enquiry.

FCC Parenting commented that the production of a playbook or use of Dewis to ensure parents are informed of play areas and availability was much needed.

Have there been challenges?

FISF reported that challenges were mainly technical

How can these be overcome?

FISF advised that the vast majority of technical incidents have now been rectified by Data Cymru (Dewis developers) working with the Local Authority to resolve / implement improvements.

Comments:


FISF reported that Facebook has been used extensively since given permission to set up a page. It is well received and very useful for programming posts to appear in the evening and at weekends. The FISF actively promote all play and leisure opportunities.

Page 7

Matter G: Securing and developing the play workforce

The Local Authority should provide information on the organisational structure of the policy area which manages the play agenda and the play workforce.

RAG status

Criteria partially met. 

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
<p>Note – These criteria are specifically about Playwork: Playwork is a highly skilled profession that enriches and enhances play. It takes place where adults support children’s play but it is not driven by prescribed education or care outcomes. This includes both open access and out of school childcare settings</p>						
679	The Local Authority keeps up to date information regarding the playwork workforce across the Local Authority (this should include the number of playworkers, playwork management structure, qualification levels, training opportunities and volunteers)			The local authority has all records with regard to the internal play workforce i.e. all Community Play Team members and Play scheme Supervisors employed by the local authority for the delivery of holiday playschemes and other play projects across the county Similarly for the childcare	Not know or recorded with regard to any external provision privately or within the third sector.	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				workforce for all registered day-care provision.		
2	The Local Authority supports all of the workforce to achieve the qualification level required by the Welsh Government’s National Minimum Standards			<p>The local authority, supported by Playwales with resources made available from the Welsh Government Play Opportunities grant is in the process of organising a level two course for Play Development, Youth Services and Youth Justice Service</p> <p>The local authority supported by Playwales with resources made available from the Welsh Government Play Opportunities grant, is in the process of organising a level two course for other agencies</p> <p>The local authority will support Play Development team</p>	The temporary, short-term and also seasonal nature of employment for play projects delivered by the local authority does not support all of the workforce to achieve the qualification level	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				members to identify and attend a level 3 Play work course following successful completion of a level 2 course.		
3	The Local Authority supports the workforce to achieve the accepted qualification levels set out by SkillsActive			<p>The local authority, supported by Playwales with resources made available from the Welsh Government Play Opportunities grant is in the process of organising a level two course for Play Development, Youth Services and Youth Justice Service</p> <p>The local authority supported by Playwales with resources made available from the Welsh Government Play Opportunities grant, is in the process of organising a level two course for other agencies</p> <p>The local authority will support Play</p>	The temporary short term and also seasonal nature of employment for play projects delivered by the local authority does not support all of the workforce to achieve the qualification level	All courses to be delivered by September 2019, priority to 2019/20120

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				Development team members to identify and attend a level 3 Play work course following successful completion of a level 2 course.		
4	The Local Authority has a staff development budget ring fenced for play, including playwork			The local authority makes best use of pooled resources i.e. full training programme for seasonal workers in partnership with funding received from Welsh Government Play opportunities grant and local town and community councils	There is no identified core budget ring fenced for play	To continue to work with internal services to identify opportunities for collaboration to fund training
5	There is a comprehensive range of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) opportunities available for playworkers in the area			All employees of the Play Development team can access a wide and varied relevant training opportunities. All new and returning seasonal works can access the following training An introduction to Playwork Safeguarding and child protection Health and Safety and	The seasonal team employed to deliver the county summer playcheme is unable to achieve an accredited play work qualification due to both time insufficient funding and not enough time for observations for	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>Play Risk Management/Risk benefit</p> <p>Equalities and Inclusion training</p> <p>Challenging Behaviour Disability Inclusion</p> <p>Local government policies and protocols</p> <p>Specialist training also provided where it is identified as necessary to work with individual or groups of young people i.e. anti-social behaviour</p> <p>PRICE TRAINING for playworkers working with most vulnerable children and young people Pupil Referral Units and in more challenging communities</p> <p>Also specific training to enable work with children and young people with disabilities and children with medical condition</p>	<p>qualification.</p>	

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				where our support is required in order to access play opportunities I.e. Makaton Autism awareness		
6	Training is available for volunteers and parents to develop their knowledge on skills in playwork			Information to follow		
7	The Local Authority includes playwork within its Workforce Development strategies			Information to follow		
	The Local Authority supports partners to deliver appropriate training to community groups, parents and volunteers			Information to follow		
<p>Note – these criteria are about the Play workforce: This encompasses anyone employed whose role has an impact on children playing – those who may either directly facilitate their play, design for playing, or those with the power to give permission for children to play, or not.</p>						
9	The Local Authority has undertaken a comprehensive training needs analysis for the play			Aura employs a Play Design Officer and four Play Technicians; all four Technicians are certified		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
	workforce as defined in the toolkit glossary and above			as competent in relation to the 'Operational Inspections of Children's Playgrounds'. Aura's Play Design Officer is responsible for the design of new fixed play areas and the refurbishment of existing play facilities.		
10	The Local Authority takes action to expand the variety of learning and development opportunities that are offered to staff					
85	There is a comprehensive range of CPD opportunities for a range of professionals who work with children					
12	Training awareness sessions are available for professionals and decision makers whose work impacts on children's opportunities to play					

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Securing and developing the play workforce?

How has the Local Authority met the requirement to undertake or secure the managerial and delivery functions necessary to achieve sufficient play opportunities?

The Local Authority funds a Play Development Team to manage open access playworkers. This arrangement works well as the expertise of management of playworkers is held within the team and training can be delivered alongside the recruiting and management of staff.

The Childcare Development Officer provides business support to the out of school childcare settings. Flintshire Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership (FEYDCP) support this work through the Flintshire County Council Childcare budget. Also, during the last financial year Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids Club (CPCKC) secured funding for the financial year for a CPCKC Development Officer to support out of school childcare settings in Flintshire. This funding ceased on 31st December 2018.

How has the Local Authority ensured it understands and provides for the workforce development needs of the play workforce (as defined in *Wales: A Play Friendly Country and above*)?

The Play Development team has a good working relationships with LA departments and sufficiency stakeholders resulting in ongoing conversations around the needs of the play workforce and resulting in numerous training sessions and awareness raising presentations. For example, the Play Development Team has commissioned play sufficiency training to a wide range of stakeholders via a focussed conference (November 2016) and a series of professional development workshops (Winter 2018).

The Play Development Team has, as part of the Play Officers North Wales network, run several play conferences aimed at professionals working in health, education and social services/ well-being. These have been instrumental in informing professionals of sufficiency and helping shape their role in achieving it.

How has the Local Authority ensured it understands and provides the playwork workforce (as defined in *Wales: A Play Friendly Country and above*)?

There are challenges to this due to decreased capacity.

Have there been challenges?

It can be difficult for professionals to attend training due to heavy workloads and time constraints.

It can also be difficult for staff looking for funding to obtain the necessary Playwork qualifications in order to meet the new Care Inspectorate

Wales standards by 2021. Usually this is due to the fact that funding requires staff to be working at least 16 hours per week and a large number of after school staff members are contracted for less than 16 hours

How can these be overcome?

Establish a play workforce working group to discuss workforce development requirements and actions

Providing funded Playwork qualifications for staff on flexible or zero hours contract. This would encourage staff to upskill and possibly take on additional hours in the future.

Matter H: Community engagement and participation.

The Local Authority should consult widely with children, their families and other stakeholders on their views on play provision. It should also promote wide community engagement in providing play friendly communities.

RAG Status

Criteria partially met. 

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 88	The Local Authority promotes initiatives to engage relevant groups in enhancing play opportunities for children in its area.			<p>FCC Match-Funding Scheme for improvements to children’s play areas (see Cabinet report, 20 Nov 2018).</p> <p>County Summer playscheme Working with 30 town and community councils for 2018 in 58 areas across the county</p> <p>P.A.L.S. Project (Play and Leisure Support)</p> <p>Kicks for Kids (Wales)</p>	Temporary nature of funding arrangements	Continued actions to identify partnerships for play and grant funding opportunities

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				HolwayTask Group Mold, Parkfields Play Development partnership		
2	The Local Authority promotes community engagement in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - making space available and suitable for play - organising play events - positive attitudes towards children and play - Training on the importance of play. 			Aura is frequently invited to community engagement events relating to FCC’s identified target areas e.g. Holway, Holywell; Parkfields, Mold. County Summer playscheme Working with 30 town and community councils for 2018 in 58 areas across the county P.A.L.S. Project (Play and Leisure Support) Kicks for Kids (Wales) HolwayTask Group Mold, Parkfields Play Development partnership		

Community engagement and participation.

How has the Local Authority effectively used existing mechanisms for children’s participation and family consultation processes with regards to play?

There are improving links between the existing youth council and there is scope to ensure that it is regularly consulted and discussion held with members around improving children’s play.

The play sufficiency survey utilised primary schools to ensure children were consulted about opportunities for play. Focus groups offered more in-depth consultation with children and adults.

The links between play and education are particularly strong. A marked change in Flintshire since the last assessment is the increase in support for schools. The use of the All Wales Play Opportunity Grant has funded a range of training projects supporting better play opportunities for school play time.

Matter I: Play within all relevant policy and implementation agendas

The Local Authority should examine all its policy agendas for their potential impact on children’s opportunities to play and embed targets and action to enhance children’s play opportunities within all such policies and strategies.

RAG Status

Criteria partially met. 

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
1	There is a named person on the Local Public Service Board who champions children’s play and ensures that the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan contribute to and are incorporated within the Well-being Plan			Play is represented via the Chief Officer for Education and Youth Services and the Executive member with the portfolio for Education and Youth services. It is anticipated that either one or both of these will Chair the (Strategic) Play Sufficiency Implementation group		
2	The Well-Being Plan recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities	NEW		There are links being developed between Play Sufficiency and Community resilience. There are direct links with the delivery of services for		

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LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				children and young people in Flintshire in relation to the reduction of the impact of ADVERSE CHILDHOOD EXPERIENCES (ACE's)		

Education and schools

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
PA 98	Schools ensure that children are provided with a rich play environment for breaks during the school day			<p>The Playful Futures Programme has been delivered in 30 Flintshire school 28 Primary, Ysgol Tryffynnon, Holywell and Ysgol Maes Hyfryd, Flint</p> <p>The Kicks for Kids (Wales) programme has been delivered in Ysgol Bryn Pennant, Mostyn; Gronant CP; Southdown Primary School; Ysgol Tryffynnon; Holywell; Ysgol Maes</p>	<p>This programme of delivery and intervention is entirely reliant on external funding and grants</p> <p>There is an identified need to extend delivery of these projects where they are most needed and with the most vulnerable children in</p>	To continue the programme for both Playful Futures and Kicks for kids (Wales) in Flintshire schools particularly Pupil Referral Units, Special schools and those school as identified as needing support for more vulnerable children and young people

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
<p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 93</p>				<p>Hyfryd and Ysgol Troi Round Special schools</p> <p>The delivery of these programmes is evidenced to have enriched the play experience for children during school play times.</p> <p>Where play projects have been delivered as part of an intervention the results have proven a significant and positive impact with regard to increased child wellbeing and happiness, support for staff and increased levels of concentration in the classroom as a direct result</p> <p>AURA Sports Development deliver training for playground buddies, the daily mile and provide dragon sport and 5x60 sessions</p>	<p>Education</p>	<p>Development of an Education and schools based working group for Play Sufficiency that will feed information into the overarching Play Sufficiency Implementation group</p>

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
4	Schools provide play opportunities during out of teaching hours			The local authority are developing a Play Sufficiency group for Education following the School Life conference held as part of the consultation for the Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019. All areas for play in schools will be discussed via this group and represented at the Play Sufficiency Implementation group.		
Page 94	Schools provide access to school grounds for playing out of school times			The local authority are developing a Play Sufficiency group for Education following the School Life conference held as part of the consultation for the Play Sufficiency Assessment 2019. All areas for play in schools will be discussed via this group and represented at the Play Sufficiency Implementation group.		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
6	Schools encourage children to walk and cycle to school					
7	The Local Authority offers guidance to ensure schools understand and ensure that regular outdoor play is not curtailed			The local authority Health and Safety team are working with the Play Development team and education to produce a briefing sheet with regard to all aspects of play in Flintshire schools. This will provide advice and information with regard to both dynamic risk management and risk benefit		

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Town and Country Planning						
LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
8	The Local Development Plan recognises and addresses the outdoor play needs of children of various age groups and abilities			Work has commenced to update the 2007 Open Space Survey with representatives from Aura, FCC Planning & FCC Streetscene contributing to		

				<p>the revised document; target date for completion is 2019/20.</p> <p>Integrated Youth Services have a Youth Council established with young people from 11-25 years who meet monthly and discuss a wide range of issues effecting young people within Flintshire</p>		
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Traffic and Transport

A Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
9	The local Transport Plan recognises the importance of local streets, roads and walking and cycling route in offering play opportunities for children of different ages and abilities					
10	The local Transport Plan identifies ways of assessing and addressing the needs of all groups including those which are often marginalised.					

Early Years Plans

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
11	Early Years and Flying Start plans and services recognise the importance of play and contribute to the provision of rich play opportunities for younger children			<p>Early Years and Flying Start plans and services recognise the importance of play and contribute to the provisions of rich play opportunities for younger children</p> <p><u>Evidence to support strengths</u> Flying Start ensures that all children in receipt of the service have access to play opportunities throughout their time with Flying Start. We have a range of services which promotes and encourages play for young children and their families. Flintshire Flying Start provide opportunities for play to both Flying Start and non-Flying start children and their families.</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 98				<p>Each locality (Four localities in total) runs two drop in sessions per week throughout the year (including school holidays). As stated in the Welsh Government Parenting guidance the sessions <i>“gives parents the opportunity to have a fun time playing with their child and the opportunity to meet with others. It also introduces parents to new ways of playing with their child to support their child’s cognitive, social and language development.”</i></p> <p>The sessions are informal and run for 1 hour. Each session incorporate play, singing and story time. Some of the items available allow parents to recreate the play opportunities within the family home for example- messy play using food items, building dens with blankets, musical</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 99				<p>instruments using kitchen items. Our sessions are run within our Family centers and community centers across Flintshire, where possible the children have access to both indoor and outdoor play throughout the sessions.</p> <p>Within Flying Start we are also able to support children’s opportunists to play by offering every child within Flying Start 15 hours of Childcare per week for 39 weeks following the term after their second birthday. The Welsh Government Flying Start Quality Childcare guidance states <i>“Play is crucial to the way children become self-aware and the way in which they learn the rules of social behaviour. Play is also fundamental to intellectual development. Play supports children in ‘learning how to</i></p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 100				<p><i>learn' and in acquiring high aspirations, a positive self-image and a disposition to learning."</i> The children are able to access Flying Start approved private nurseries, play groups and childminders for their sessions.</p> <p>Flying Start also supports play one to one within the family's homes as and when required. These session provide parents with the knowledge and skills on how to support and develop their children's play development. The sessions provide an opportunity to share new ideas, activities and evidence to support a children's play. The staff will bring along toys to the sessions which can be left for the children to play with following the end of the session. However Flying Start will also encourage</p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
Page 101				<p>play using items that the children already have access too for example pots and pans, water play, cardboard boxes or creating treasure baskets using household items.</p> <p>Flintshire Flying Start ensures that staff and childcare providers have access to training that supports and develops children’s play opportunities. Recently some team members have been trained in Forest School. Forest school state <i>“It believes in children's right to play; the right to access the outdoors (and in particular a woodland environment); the right to access risk and the vibrant reality of the natural world; and the right to experience a healthy range of emotions, through all the challenges of social</i></p>		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<i>interaction, to build a resilience that will enable continued and creative engagement with their peers and their potential.</i>		

Family policy and initiatives

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LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
12	Family support initiatives provide up to date information and support for parents to enable them to support their children to play			AURA Sports Development YDW and Health Signposting through Disability Sport		
13	The local implementation of the Families First programme recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities	NEW		The Families First programme has supported a number of play Initiatives including the P.A.L.S. Project (Play and Leisure Support) for children and young people with disabilities to attend their own local play provision and		

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				<p>participate in other areas specific to play sufficiency arts, culture, and recreational activities which are feely chosen</p> <p>AURA Sports Development provide YDW and Disability Inclusion Training</p>		
Page 103	Plans to reduce the impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences recognises the importance of play and contributes to the provision of rich play opportunities	NEW		<p>The local authority has provided training for all of the child workforce to attend training specific to ACE's. The Play Development team and Youth Justice team were invited to attend joint training alongside North Wales Police officers with regard to the key role of the Early help Hub and recording of ACEs</p> <p>AURA Sports Development via YDW</p>		

Inter-generational policy and initiatives

LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
15	There are a range of play based approaches to inter-generational activity			<p>AURA Leisure and Libraries Parklives is aimed at families YDW offers family fitness sessions</p> <p>The Play Development team work with and deliver services to children, young people, families and all community members. Particularly through the summer playscheme programme, the PALS (Play and Leisure Support) Flintshire Buddy Scheme projects and the work of the Holway Task Group</p>		
16	There is a creative approach to inter-generational activity which encourages better interaction between children of different ages			<p>Aura’s design and refurbishment of fixed play areas supports the provision of play facilities for all age ranges.</p>		

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Health and Safety	
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LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
17	The Health and Safety policies explicitly recognise the value of children being able to experience risk and challenge			The local authority health and safety team offer bespoke support and training for the Play Development team with regard to both risk management and risk benefit.	Play projects are delivered in both school and community settings. It is key to the successful delivery of projects that all partners are aware of both local authority requirements for risk management and an understanding of risk benefit	The Health and Safety team will work to produce a comprehensive briefing sheet for schools with regard to risk management and risk benefit
18	The Health and Safety policies and procedures incorporate the risk-benefit approach to health and safety assessments as recommended by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE)			Aura supports the introduction and maintenance of dynamic items of play equipment which promote challenging play opportunities; the aim is to avoid static, lifeless equipment which provides reduced play value.		

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LA Ref No	Criteria	RAG Status 2016	RAG Status 2019	Evidence to support strengths	Shortfalls	Identified actions for Action Plan
				The local authority supports dynamic risk assessment with regard to supervised play provision in compliance with all procedures and protocols in place with regard to risk management.		
Page 106	The Local Authority offers the provision of insurance through the Local Authority scheme to all third sector play providers and community councils					

Way forward

This section should briefly introduce the Action Plan which sets out what steps need to be taken to improve the opportunities for children to play within the Local Authority area, including what mechanism and criteria were used to agree and prioritise actions. It should also describe the actions the Local Authority will take with regards to change in infrastructure, partnership working or mechanisms to ensure that it is well placed to deliver on the duty to secure sufficient play opportunities

The actions within the action plan 2019/2020 have been recognised as being both achievable and having the best outcomes for children, young people, families and communities in Flintshire. The action plan will be monitored and evaluated by the Flintshire Strategic Play Sufficiency Implementation Group. This action plan has been shared via the group and the Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Committee before submission to Welsh Government

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Signed:

Date:



Proposed actions for the period of 1st April 2019 – 31st March 2020

(Funding source: funding from Local Authority own budgets and to be included in the Single Integrated Plan).

Matter	Priorities	Targets	Links to other Matters	Resources, including costs	Funding source (new or existing funding streams)
<p>Statutory Guidance-policy framework</p>	<p>1. Development of the Strategic Play Sufficiency Implementation Group, chaired by the Chief Officer for Education and Youth Services and the Lead Member for Education</p>	<p>Continued strategic development for Play Sufficiency in the county at the most senior level, providing a clear route of communication through to the Public Service Board</p>	<p>All other matters</p>	<p>Officer Time Partnership time</p>	<p>Local Authority</p>
<p>Page 109</p>	<p>2 There are specific links to play sufficiency within social prescribing. When GP's are assessing adult patients and recognise that a clinical response is not needed, they either refer directly e.g. to the third sector, or go via the SPOA and social prescriber. The local authority recognises that there may be an</p>	<p>Within the local authority community resilience programme, the creation of a new officer role to work directly with commissioners and contractors to maximise the social value investment we can secure for communities across Flintshire has been approved. We will</p>	<p>All other matters</p>	<p>Officer Time</p>	<p>Local Authority</p>

	<p>alternative path as the SPOA does not deal with children. The local authority could revisit the referral paths they are using to ensure that opportunities for play and activity are understood and being selected as a legitimate response when children are assessed This change would be in line with Flintshire’s vision for social prescribing, which is to embed the non-clinical route directly within current systems.</p> <p>There is potential in the next year to support play sufficiency via the Social Value route. This would make a massive difference directly on the ground.</p> <p>There is a direct link from Play Sufficiency to the Flintshire Well-being Plan which will</p>	<p>be pulling together a framework of priorities informed by PSB priorities, the FCC corporate plan and our work with communities in order to ensure that the investment contractors make are directly contributing to the most important issues across the county. We can easily add play-related options to the framework to pursue in that way e.g. to support the funding of training for community groups, volunteers and parents to develop their knowledge & skills in playwork (Just as context, examples indicated estimates of 20% social value return on investment for</p>			
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	<p>need to be developed. We will include Play Sufficiency with regard to Community Resilience and the Flintshire Wellbeing Plan.</p>	<p>some local authorities. Based on contracts awarded, that would equate to c£38m in Flintshire. Even if we achieved e.g. 5% or 2.5% per year of investment in kind directly within communities c.£9m/£4.5m</p> <p>To advise, deliver or secure play services both universal and targeted where most needed for the most vulnerable children young people, families and communities</p>			<p>Local Authority Welsh Government Play Opportunities Fund for any identified play projects</p>
	<p>3. One of the prompts for the local authority is that the play requirements of Welsh language speaking children are understood</p>	<p>Creation of a multi-agency group to look specifically at the needs for Welsh speaking children young people</p>	<p>All other matters</p>	<p>Officer time Partnership time</p>	<p>Local Authority</p>

	and provided for. The WESP has invited Community Resilience to their group to think about how we can consider the WESP in the context of community resilience.	families and communities To continue to work in partnership Delivery of holiday provision via the medium of Welsh via a partnership with Urdd Gobaith Cymru			
Page 112	4. Public Service Board Representation by Play Development as part of the local authority CDRP (Community Demand Reduction) Group, the renamed Anti -Social Behaviour ASB tasking group. Working with partner agencies to identify and action appropriate interventions to identified hotspots of ASB	To advise, deliver or secure play services both universal and targeted where most needed for the most vulnerable children, young people, families and communities in Flintshire.	All other matters	Officer time	Local Authority
	5. Continued support from Play Wales to drive the agenda for Play Sufficiency in the county: To include analysis of research	To provide continued strategic development advice and research for Play	Links to all other matters	£2,500	Welsh Government Play Opportunities Fund

	projects and events to provide additional support.				
	6. Development of a wider county network for play, including children and young people, particularly those most vulnerable	Whole county representation with regard to all matters	All other matters	Officer Time	Local Authority
Matter A: Population	7. To ensure all service areas and partners organisations are aware of the links to statistics and population information	To provide for services where most needed for the most vulnerable children young people and communities	All other matters	Officer Time	Local Authority
Matter B: Providing for diverse needs	8. Delivery of the Flintshire Buddy Scheme – offer to children and young people across the county via the county summer holiday programme in partnership with 34 local town and community councils	4,000 children to attend summer provision 50 children and young people to attend the Buddy and P.A.L.S (Play and Leisure Support) programme	All other matters	The total estimated cost for the county programme is £117,819.58	Local Authority Welsh Government Play Opportunities Fund Welsh Government Families First Local Town and Community Councils
Matter C: Space available	9. To produce a guide	Flintshire	All other matters	£10,000	Local Authority

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<p>for children to play</p>	<p>to play space Information for parents/communities Development of supplementary planning guidance for new developments</p> <p>There is an identified need for the Play Development team to work in partnership with other local authority service areas e.g. Planning Corporate Communications, Family Information Service and parenting services to develop this area of work</p>	<p>population, children and young people</p> <p>Via Flintshire County Councils web</p> <p>AURA web</p> <p>Family Information services</p> <p>Publication of 4000 booklets</p>			<p>Play Opportunities Fund</p> <p>AURA Leisure and Libraries</p> <p>Healthy Schools – Education and Youth services</p>
<p>Matter D: Supervised provision</p>	<p>10. Delivery of the universal county summer playscheme programme in Flintshire which incorporates the Flintshire Buddy Scheme – offer to children and young people across the county via the county summer holiday</p>	<p>4,000 children to attend summer provision</p> <p>50 children and young people to attend the P.A.L.S. programme</p>	<p>All other matters</p>	<p>The total estimated cost for the county programme is £117,819.58</p> <p>The cost for the Urdd Summer playscheme is £5K</p> <p>The annual grant award from</p>	<p>Local Authority</p> <p>Welsh Government Play Opportunities Fund</p> <p>Welsh Government Families First</p>

	<p>programme in partnership with 34 local town and community councils</p> <p>This includes the specific, targeted delivery of the playscheme in 21 identified settings in areas as being in food poverty. These include:- Saltney, Sealand, Garden City, Connah’ s Quay, Mancot. Sandycroft, Shotton, Mold, Flint, Rural North Flintshire, Holywell & the Holway</p> <p>Delivery of holiday provision via the medium of Welsh via a partnership with Urdd Gobaith Cymru</p>			<p>Families First to deliver the Flintshire PALS Project is 15K</p> <p>The cost for the Play Development team to deliver the food to 21 sites during 6 weeks of the summer holidays is £15K. The cost of the food is via the local authority benefits service and sponsors</p>	<p>Local Town and Community Councils</p>
	<p>11 Delivery of the PALS (Play and leisure Support) Project via the Flintshire Disability Service</p>	<p>To provide inclusive and Integrated services for children, young people and their families</p>	<p>Matter B</p>	<p>Officer time 15K</p>	<p>Local Authority Welsh Government Families First Welsh Government Play Opportunities</p>

					Grant
	12 To continue working in partnership with regard to the local authority food poverty agenda (Local authority benefits service) to deliver play and food sessions during the school holidays	To ensure that children living in food poverty within communities in Flintshire have access to a hot meal during the school holidays	All other matters	Officer time Play Development and benefits service Delivery of scheme at Playscheme £15K Cost of food TBC	Local Authority Local town and community councils Welsh Government Play Opportunities Grant Benefits service/private sponsors TBC
Matter E: Charges for play provision					
Matter F: Access to space/provision	13 To develop a multi-agency working group to prepare a play guide/information for families with regard to aspects of delivery of Play services, as defined in Play Sufficiency	To provide a comprehensive county wide guide to play services as defined within Play Sufficiency including the arts, recreation and cultural opportunities This would be enabled via the FCC webpages AURA Leisure and Libraries web pages Family Information	Links to all matters	£10,000 Officer time	Local Authority Welsh Government Play Opportunities grant

		services Education and schools			
Matter G: Securing and developing the workforce	<p>14.Development of a working group for Playwork training</p> <p>Delivery of accredited training courses for playwork to a level 2 and 3 standard</p>	<p>To ensure that the county is compliant with regard to the national Minimum Standards and qualifications for the delivery within all play services</p> <p>The Local Authority supports the workforce to achieve the accepted qualification levels set out by SkillsActive via the planned Delivery of accredited training course for playwork to a level 2 and 3 standard</p>	Links to all other matters	<p>Awaiting confirmation of course costs</p> <p>Officer Time</p>	<p>Welsh Government Play Opportunities Grant</p> <p>Local Authority</p>
Matter H: Community engagement and participation	15 Working with the Holway community as part of the Flintshire Public Service Board – Creating Resilient Communities	All community members particularly children young people and families	Links to all other matters	<p>£15K</p> <p>Officer and Partner Time</p>	<p>Local Authority</p> <p>Welsh Government Play Opportunities Grant</p> <p>Holywell Town Council</p>

	<p>commitment via the Holway task group (Multi-agency approach). Including an Intervention project at Ysgol Tryfynnon (Secondary High School) Ysgol Maes y Felin (Primary school) and in the Holway Community to undertake playwork with the children and young people as part of the wider Public Service Board consultation to effect change for the estate To work towards identifying a task group to apply for lottery funding via the People and Places Fund To recruit volunteers to take play projects orward. Will include capital projects.</p> <p>To continue representation with a multi- agency approach of which play work is</p>				<p>Friends of Holway</p>
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	proving to be the most effective catalyst for real engagement				
Matter I	16 The local authority will plan and produce a briefing paper for Education and schools with regard to risk management and risk benefit	To provide a comprehensive briefing paper for Flintshire Head teachers and all other education and schools staff with regard to dynamic risk management in play and risk benefit.	Matter I	Officer Time	Local Authority
Page 119	17. Development of an Education based group to specifically move forward on Matter I in relation to play in schools and community use of school grounds	Continued delivery of Kicks for Kids (Wales) and Playful Futures in Flintshire schools and communities in partnership with community organisations.	Matter I	Funding for projects Local officer time	Local Authority Welsh Government Play Opportunities Fund Other grants available to schools e.g. Awards for All

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CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 20 th November 2018
Report Subject	Outdoor Children's Play Areas
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Education
Report Author	Chief Executive
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The play areas match-funding scheme is now in its ninth year with over £1.5m having been invested jointly by Flintshire County Council and Town & Community Councils in over 100 play areas over the past eight years.

The Council's commitment to improving outdoor children's play areas is also reflected in its capital programme for 2017/18 to 2019/20 which includes approved allocations for each of the three financial years.

Aura Leisure & Libraries, which manages the inspection and maintenance of the Council's 162 play areas, is responsible for consulting with local communities on the design, layout and mix of facilities for match-funding and capital improvement works.

Aura is making two recommendations to Council, based upon the Council's match-funding revenue budget and capital allocations to meet all expressions of interest received from Town & Community Councils and to sustain the existing network of play areas by improving sites considered to be in the poorest condition (RED rated).

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That all 23 expressions of interest received for the 2018/19 match-funding programme be supported and that the oversubscription of cost of £0.063m is met from the remaining £0.140m year 2 capital allocation.
2	That the remaining £0.077m of the year 2 capital programme, together with the remaining circa £0.040m of Year 3 (£0.200m minus circa £0.080m-£0.100m for Bailey Hill and £0.060m for the replacement of two 3G pitches at Deeside Leisure Centre) is utilised to improve the play area sites identified in Appendix 2.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	CAPITAL PROGRAMME FOR OUTDOOR PLAY AREAS								
1.01	For each year of the match-funding scheme, Aura (formerly Flintshire County Council Leisure Services) has written to all Town & Community Councils inviting them to participate in the programme - thereby offering equity of opportunity to enhance local fixed play provision. Aura sent out letters to all Town & Community requesting expressions of interest by 31 August 2018.								
1.02	<p>Aura advised Town & Community Councils of the importance of the Council targeting its future investment towards those play area sites of greatest need – based on the criteria of play deprivation and strategic locations. The 2018/19 match-funding scheme is based on the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council’s match-funding is aligned to the findings of Aura’s Play Design service’s condition survey report; • The Play Design service has identified those play areas which are in scope (RED and AMBER sites) and out of scope (GREEN sites); • A maximum contribution of £0.010m per scheme; • To assist Town & Community Councils, Aura’s Play Design service identified appropriate play areas within the local ward as sites for consideration. 								
1.03	Aura has received 23 expressions of interest from Town & Community Councils totalling £0.168m in value. Appendix 1 includes all expressions of interest together with the sums proposed.								
1.04	The Council has allocated £0.105m from its 2018/19 revenue budget for the match-funding programme. If all Town & Community Council expressions of interest are to be met then the 2018/19 programme will be oversubscribed by £0.063m.								
1.05	Within the Council's three-year capital programme for 2017/18 to 2019/20, play areas are to receive <i>'An annual allocation of £0.200m to fund the most urgent requirements to replace play equipment that has reached the end of its useful life at play areas, as well as upgrades to play areas'</i> (Cabinet Report, 20 February 2018).								
1.06	<p>For 2017/18, £0.100m of the £0.200m capital allocation was invested in four RED rated play areas:</p> <table style="margin-left: 40px;"> <tr> <td>• Bron Y Wern, Bagillt</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£0.025m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Dock Road, Connah's Quay</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£0.025m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Ffynnongroyw</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£0.025m</td> </tr> <tr> <td>• Min Awel, Flint</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£0.025m</td> </tr> </table> <p>The remaining £0.100m of the Year 1 capital allocation contributed to artificial turf pitch replacement at the Alun High School, Mold and Hawarden</p>	• Bron Y Wern, Bagillt	£0.025m	• Dock Road, Connah's Quay	£0.025m	• Ffynnongroyw	£0.025m	• Min Awel, Flint	£0.025m
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	High School and replacement of 3G pitches 1 and 2 at Deeside Leisure Centre.
1.07	During 2018/19 the four remaining 3G pitches at Deeside Leisure Centre were replaced with the £0.120m works being met via £0.060m from the Year 2 capital allocation and £0.060m from Year 3. This leaves £0.140m to invest in play areas during 2018/19.
1.08	The Flintshire County Council Cabinet Report of 14 March 2017 said that ' <i>A priority for Years 2 and 3 would be the play area at Bailey Hill which is a RED rated play area and is being considered as part of a wider Heritage Lottery Fund development scheme, although this scheme is not eligible to fund the play area</i> '.
1.09	Following confirmation of the successful Heritage Lottery Fund bid the improvements to the play area at Bailey Hill (estimated costs circa £0.080m-£0.100m) will commence in 2019/20 and, therefore, be funded via the Year 3 capital allocation.
1.10	The Flintshire County Council Cabinet Report of 14 March 2017 identified 15 RED rated play area sites as remaining priorities for Years 2 and 3 of the capital programme.
1.11	Following recent investment, Aura no longer considers six of the fifteen play areas to be RED rated and have lowered their rating to either Medium or Low AMBER. However, a further four play area sites have been placed into the RED category due to their condition and the need for play items to be replaced (see Appendix 2).

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	All play area upgrade schemes and improvement works will be managed by Aura's Play Design service.
2.02	The Council has allocated £0.105m from its 2018/19 revenue budget for the match-funding scheme.
2.03	The Council's three-year capital programme for 2017/18 to 2019/20 includes approved allocations for play areas (see Appendix 3).

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	Aura sent out letters to all Town & Community Councils inviting them to submit an expression of interest thereby offering equity of opportunity to all to participate in the programme.
3.02	Upon confirmation that an expression of interest in the match-funding scheme has been successful, Aura's Play Design service will consult with Town & Community Council representatives to ensure the subsequent play area upgrade works meet their needs and aspirations in terms in content,

	design and layout.
3.03	Aura will adopt the same approach for play areas due to be upgraded and improved via the Council's capital programme.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	Given the number of improvement schemes to be progressed, subject to Cabinet approval, it is unlikely that all of them will be completed in 2018/19. Some will be completed during Quarter 1, 2019/20.

5.00	APPENDICES																																																																											
5.01	Appendix 1 <table border="1" data-bbox="497 813 1251 1839"> <thead> <tr> <th>No.</th> <th>T & C Council</th> <th>T & CC Contribution</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>1</td><td>Argoed CC</td><td>£5,000</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>Bagillt CC</td><td>£10,000</td></tr> <tr><td>3</td><td>Buckley TC</td><td>£5,000</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>Caerwys CC</td><td>£10,000</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>Gwernaffield CC</td><td>£5,000</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>Halkyn CC</td><td>£10,000</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>Hawarden CC</td><td>£5,000</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>Holywell TC</td><td>£10,000</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>Hope CC</td><td>£10,000</td></tr> <tr><td>10</td><td>Leeswood CC</td><td>£3,000</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>Llanasa CC</td><td>£6,000</td></tr> <tr><td>12</td><td>Llanfynydd CC</td><td>£10,000</td></tr> <tr><td>13</td><td>Mold TC</td><td>£10,000</td></tr> <tr><td>14</td><td>Mostyn CC</td><td>£3,000</td></tr> <tr><td>15</td><td>Nannerch CC</td><td>£5,000</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>Nercwys CC</td><td>£5,000</td></tr> <tr><td>17</td><td>Northop CC</td><td>£1,000</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>Penyffordd CC</td><td>£10,000</td></tr> <tr><td>19</td><td>Queensferry CC</td><td>£10,000</td></tr> <tr><td>20</td><td>Saltney TC</td><td>£10,000</td></tr> <tr><td>21</td><td>Sealand CC</td><td>£10,000</td></tr> <tr><td>22</td><td>Shotton TC</td><td>£5,000</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>Treuddyn CC</td><td>£10,000</td></tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>£168,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	No.	T & C Council	T & CC Contribution	1	Argoed CC	£5,000	2	Bagillt CC	£10,000	3	Buckley TC	£5,000	4	Caerwys CC	£10,000	5	Gwernaffield CC	£5,000	6	Halkyn CC	£10,000	7	Hawarden CC	£5,000	8	Holywell TC	£10,000	9	Hope CC	£10,000	10	Leeswood CC	£3,000	11	Llanasa CC	£6,000	12	Llanfynydd CC	£10,000	13	Mold TC	£10,000	14	Mostyn CC	£3,000	15	Nannerch CC	£5,000	16	Nercwys CC	£5,000	17	Northop CC	£1,000	18	Penyffordd CC	£10,000	19	Queensferry CC	£10,000	20	Saltney TC	£10,000	21	Sealand CC	£10,000	22	Shotton TC	£5,000	23	Treuddyn CC	£10,000			£168,000
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The 15 play area sites identified as RED rated in the Cabinet Report of 14 March 2017 (six have since moved to AMBER following investment):

No.	PLAY AREA	RAG
1	Salisbury Street, Shotton	Low AMBER
2	Primrose Street, Connah's Quay	RED
3	Leadbrook Drive, Flint	RED
4	High Street, Caergwrle	RED
5	Maes y Dre, Mold	RED
6	Pen Lon, Bagillt	Medium AMBER
7	Holway, Holywell	Low AMBER
8	Broad oak Recreation Ground, Connah's Quay	RED
9	Tan y Felin, Greenfield	RED
10	Maes yr Oden, Holywell	RED
11	Phoenix Street, Sandycroft	Low AMBER
12	Prince of Wales, Buckley	Low AMBER
13	Coed Mor, Penyffordd (near Holywell)	RED
14	Ffordd Pentre, Mold	Medium AMBER
15	Bryn Mawr, Holywell	RED

The four additional play areas that have since slipped into the RED category:

No.	PLAY AREA	RAG
1	York Road, Connah's Quay	RED
2	Groesffordd, Greenfield	RED
3	Pen-y-Maes, Holywell	RED
4	Parkfields, Mold	RED

APPROVED ALLOCATIONS 2017/18 - 2019/20				
	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m
Statutory / Regulatory Section				
DD Act - Individual pupils	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.750
Private sector renewals & improvements	1.496	1.496	1.496	4.488
School building works	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.300
Corporate property works	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.900
IT - Firewalls, protection from cyber attacks	0.070	0.000	0.000	0.070
Special inspections - Flintshire bridge	0.510	0.000	0.000	0.510
Total Statutory / Regulatory	2.726	2.146	2.146	7.018
Retained Assets Section				
School building works	1.000	1.000	1.000	3.000
Corporate property works	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.900
Highways asset management plan	0.600	0.600	0.600	1.800
Streetlighting Replacement*	2.779	0.000	0.000	2.779
IT - Network replacement	0.300	0.000	0.000	0.300
IT - Server replacement	0.200	0.000	0.000	0.200
IT - Replacement of equip. to 'back up' data	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.050
TC - Telephony / Box office upgrade	0.100	0.000	0.000	0.100
Playareas and synthetic sports pitches	0.487	0.200	0.200	0.887
Headroom	0.250	0.250	0.250	0.750
Total Retained Assets Section	6.066	2.350	2.350	10.766
Investment Section				
Community asset transfers	0.250	0.250	0.000	0.500
School extension and remodelling				
Castell Alyn High School - Hope	0.000	0.600	4.000	4.600
Glan Aber Primary - Bagillt	0.073	0.663	0.241	0.997
Property works at leisure centres / libraries**	2.418	0.000	0.000	2.418
LD Day services facility	2.045	1.955	0.000	4.000
Extension and remodelling of Arosfa	0.100	0.000	0.000	0.100
Household recycling centres	1.000	0.000	0.000	1.000
Total Investment Section	5.886	3.488	4.241	13.615
Total Capital Programme	14.678	7.984	8.737	31.399
* Added to the programme in Month 4 and Month 6 monitoring reports				
** £1.964m added to the programme in Month 4 monitoring reports				

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS AND CONTACT DETAILS
6.01	<p>Cabinet reports 20 February 2018 and 14 March 2017</p> <p>Contact Officer: Paul Jones, Business Improvement & Performance Manager, Aura Leisure & Libraries Limited</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 702474</p> <p>E-mail: paul.jones@aura.wales</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	None to explain.

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EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday 21 st March 2019
Report Subject	Healthy Schools and Pre School Programme
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Education
Report Author	Chief Officer, Education and Youth
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Healthy and Sustainable Pre School Scheme (HSPSS) and Welsh Network of Healthy Schools Scheme (WNHSS) are recognised by the World Health Organisation (WHO) as playing a key role in promoting and protecting the physical, emotional and social health and well-being of children and young people in Wales.

In Flintshire, 79 schools and 45 pre-school settings are supported to participate in both schemes. This report has been produced in response to members seeking an update on progress and will highlight key findings from the 2017-2018 School Health Research Network Survey (SHRN) undertaken in secondary schools.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Members of the Committee formulate their conclusions and recommendations based on the information in the report and the discussion at the meeting.
2	Consideration for progress made in both the Healthy and Sustainable Pre-school Scheme and the Welsh Network of Healthy Schools Schemes in Flintshire.
3	To gain an overview of the key issues for children and young people in Flintshire, which may impact their ability to reach their full potential at school.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	OVERVIEW																		
1.01	<p><u>Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes (WNHSS): Background</u></p> <p>All maintained nursery, primary, secondary, special schools and pupil referral units in Flintshire, in addition to Bryn Tirion Hall School participate in the Healthy Schools Scheme which equates to 79 settings.</p> <p>The Flintshire Healthy Schools Scheme works to ensure that health education and promotion becomes an integrated part of the school curriculum, the ethos of the school and community. The Scheme works in partnership with local and national organisations to ensure a coordinated and multi-faceted approach to health within schools.</p> <p>Schools progress through the scheme by achieving ‘Phases’. In Phases 1-3 a school is required to plan and implement actions relating to different health themes that are identified on a school / local level. In Phases 4 - 6 a school is supported in order to evidence how they meet national criteria across 7 health themes: In Phase 6, a school may choose to work towards achieving the National Quality Award (NQA) for schools that can demonstrate the highest standards in health and wellbeing as part of a whole school approach.</p>																		
1.02	<p><u>Healthy & Sustainable Pre Schools Scheme (HSPSS): Background</u></p> <p>The purpose of the Healthy and Sustainable Pre School Settings (HSPSS) grant is to facilitate implementation of national guidance, changes in planning and delivery, policy/practice, and environment that are consistent with good health outcomes.</p> <p>Each setting must demonstrate that it is promoting health and well-being through its policies, planning and ethos over 7 different health themes. At the end of each theme the setting is locally assessed and once they meet the required standards, they are accredited by Public Health Wales (PHW).</p> <p>As of March 2019 there are 45 settings participating in the Flintshire healthy pre-school scheme, which is at capacity. Settings targeted prioritise those within the lower two fifths of deprivation, as measured by the Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation in order to reduce inequalities in health.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="320 1659 1390 1888"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pre School Setting</th> <th>2018</th> <th>2019</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Childminders</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Playgroups</td> <td>13</td> <td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cylch Meithrin</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Day nursery</td> <td>16</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Creche'</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Pre School Setting	2018	2019	Childminders	7	8	Playgroups	13	13	Cylch Meithrin	6	7	Day nursery	16	15	Creche'	2	2
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1.03	<p>Training / Events</p> <p><u>HSPSS training opportunities April 2018 – March 2019 for pre-school staff:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Managing Challenging Behaviour 																		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand Hygiene & Antibiotics • Tiny Tums - healthy snack • Dealing with Loss • Little Green Fingers • Outdoor play in the woods • Cooking Together • Sleep • HSPSS Celebration event held for the first time in October 2018.for staff from settings. <p><u>WNHSS training opportunities April 2018 – March 2019 for school staff:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hand Hygiene & Antibiotics • Dealing with Loss • Cooking Together • Sleep • Transgender • Go Bubble • 5 Ways to Wellbeing • Annual WNHSS Celebration event held in July 2018 for pupils and school coordinators. • SHRN School Council workshops x2 • SHRN Coordinators workshop
1.04	<p>Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes (WNHSS): Performance</p> <p>The following rolling targets from PHW are in place:</p> <p><u>Target 1:</u> 95% schools to achieve the Phase 3 award (or higher) As of March 2019, 96% of Flintshire schools have achieved Phase 3 or higher in their participation of the Healthy Schools Scheme. This equates to 76 schools. This figure remains the same as in 2018 and is above the national target.</p> <p><u>Target 2:</u> 10% of schools to achieve the National Quality Award (NQA) Phase 6 As of March 2019, 16% of Flintshire schools have achieved the NQA which equates to 13 schools. This figure has increased by 3 over the year and is above the national target.</p> <p><u>Target 3:</u> 20% of schools working towards the NQA (achieved Phase 5) As of March 2019, 40% of Flintshire schools have achieved Phase 5 and are working towards the NQA, which equates to 32 schools. This figure has increased by 5 over the year and is above the national target.</p>
1.05	<p>Healthy & Sustainable Pre Schools Scheme (HSPSS): Performance</p> <p><u>HSPSS Target (general):</u> 20–30 settings per local authority should be supported to work toward agreed achievement criteria.</p> <p>As of March 2019 there are 45 settings are registered to participate in the Flintshire Healthy pre-school scheme. This figure has increased by 1 in 12</p>

	<p>months and remains above the national target.</p> <p><u>HSPSS Target (local):</u> <i>increase the number of settings that complete the HSPSS in full.</i></p> <p>3 settings have completed the HSPSS in 18-19, bringing the total to complete the scheme in full to 15 settings; of those, 5 have also been successfully reassessed this year. This has increased the number of settings to complete the scheme from 27% to 33% within 12months.</p> <p><u>Obesity Target (General):</u> <i>Increase in the number of Early Years Settings achieving the Physical Activity/Play and Nutrition and Oral Health benchmarks within the Healthy and Sustainable Pre-School Scheme.</i></p> <p>As of March 2019, 80% of settings participating in the scheme (36 settings) have completed the Physical Activity and Active Play criteria. This is an increase of 4% in 12 months. 82% of settings have completed the Nutritional and Oral health criteria, which is an increase of 7% during 18-19.</p>
1.06	<p><u>School Health Research Network (SHRN)</u></p> <p>The School Health Research Network (SHRN) is a partnership between Welsh Government, Public Health Wales (PHW), Cancer Research UK and the Wales Institute of Social and Economic Research, Data and Methods. It is led by Cardiff University and brings together secondary schools across Wales and academic researchers, policy-makers and practitioners from health, education and social care. The SHRN aims to improve young people’s health and wellbeing in the school setting by providing robust health and wellbeing data for school, regional and national stakeholders.</p> <p>All 11 Flintshire secondary schools participated in the survey during Autumn term 2017. An event for School Council representatives was coordinated for Flintshire schools in March 2018 to help pupils understand how to interpret research data and action plan, ahead of receiving their school SHRN report in April 2018. The aim was for School Councils to take ownership of their school report and support in the development and implementation of a whole school SHRN action plan.</p> <p>In November 2018 a follow up event for school council representatives was arranged to explore common themes and identify areas for further development. This was in addition to a joint Wrexham and Flintshire workshop for SHRN coordinators from each of the secondary schools in both counties to consider common themes and coordinated interventions.</p> <p>Following the release of the individual school reports the first County SHRN report was issued in November 2018. The County SHRN report uses young peoples’ responses to the 2017/18 School Health Research Network Student Health and Wellbeing Survey to report on the following areas of health and wellbeing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Food, fitness and physical activity ○ Wellbeing and emotional health ○ Substance use and misuse ○ Sex and relationships

The availability of health behaviour data on both a county and school level is particularly valuable in terms of coordinating the delivery of services and interventions. Previously regular data on children and young people's health at a local level has been limited to the Child Measurement Programme, teenage conception data and the Sport Wales School Sport Survey.

The survey was completed by 6585 young people from 11 secondary schools in Flintshire, which is 82% of all young people in schools at the time of the survey taking place (between Sept - Dec 2017).

The survey highlighted a number of positive areas for schools to build on:

- 41% of all students surveyed reported walking or cycling is the main part of their journey to school, which is above the national average.
- 44% of all students surveyed reported that they exercise vigorously outside of school time at least four times a week, which is higher than the national average.
- In relation to body image, 58% of students responded that they think their body is 'About right' which is higher than the national average.
- 67% of all students reported that they could count on their friends when things go wrong, which is in line with the national average.

The survey also highlighted a number of areas, which require action and further improvement:

- 41% of all students surveyed reported they have been bullied at school in the past couple of months, which is higher than the national average.
- 51% of all students surveyed report that they drink alcohol, which is higher than the national average across all year groups from 7-11.
- 13% of year 11 students reported they got drunk for the first time age 13, which is higher than the national average. 32% reported they were age 15.
- 36% of year 11 students reported they were age 14 when they used cannabis for the first time, which is higher than the national average. 14% reported they were age 11 or younger, which is also higher than the national average.
- 32% of year 11 students reported they had had sexual intercourse which is higher than the national average.
- 22% of sexually active year 11 students reported that they had sexual intercourse for the first time aged 13 years or younger. 33% reported they were age 14 years – both figures higher than the national average.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 38% of sexually active year 11 students reported that they used a condom when they last had sexual intercourse and 22% reported they used birth control (the pill). Usage of all methods of contraception is lower than the national average. <p>School Councils have been asked to develop whole school action plans in order to prioritise key areas for development over a two year period in their schools. In response to the findings in the county SHRN report, a county health and wellbeing action plan is in development and will be implemented over a four year period. The Flintshire Youth Council have contributed to the development of the county action plan and is ongoing.</p>
1.07	<p><u>School Holiday Enrichment Programme (SHEP)</u></p> <p>The SHEP is a school-based programme that provides healthy meals, food and nutrition education, physical activity and enrichment sessions to children during the summer holidays.</p> <p>During the school holidays, when Free Breakfast in Primary Schools and Free School Meals are not available, some families struggle to afford or access food that provides a healthy diet. Some children also experience social isolation and limited stimulation during the holidays, which may also contribute to widening the attainment gap.</p> <p>SHEP is funded by Welsh Government on an annual basis through the WLGA: £5,000 per scheme (up to 40 children) which must be match funded 'in kind' by key stakeholders / local authority.</p> <p>Following a successful first summer of SHEP in summer 2018 at two schools, the Flintshire SHEP steering group has supported an application to the WLGA to expand the programme into a further two schools. Schools are considered in line with SHEP eligibility criteria by the steering group and WLGA. Members of the Healthy Schools team are working with the four schools and partners in order to secure staffing and develop a programme of delivery for the four sites. The schools are: St David's High School, Ysgol Maes y Felin, Queensferry and Flint High school.</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	Both the WNHSS and HSPSS are funded by Public Health Wales on an annual basis. Public Health Wales have not confirmed the grant funding allocation for 2019-20 to date. However, a letter from PHW received in January 2019 states <i>'that we have no plans to make changes to the Grant scheme in 2019/20'</i> .
2.02	The SHEP is part funded by the WLGA, currently on an annual basis.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	N/A

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4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	The grants from PHW currently fund two full time and two part time members of staff on a fixed term basis. Without sufficient funding it would not be possible to maintain these positions.
4.02	Support for schools and pre-schools settings in addressing health education and promotion in the county would be impacted if the grant funding is not secured.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	The SHRN county report will be shared at the end of April following the publication of the national report.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	‘Improving young people’s health and well-being through a school health research network: Reflections on school–researcher engagement at the national level’. Hewitt, G., Roberts, J., Fletcher, A., Moore, G. and Murphy, S. (2018) <i>Research for All</i> , 2 (1): 16–33. DOI 10.18546/RFA.02.1.03 https://orca.cf.ac.uk/105312/10/Hewitt%202018%20SHRN.pdf
6.02	SHEP Wales Food and Fun bilingual leaflet 2018 https://www.wlga.wales/SharedFiles/Download.aspx?pageid=62&mid=665&fileid=1030
6.03	Indicators for the Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes National Quality Award http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/888/WEB%2026732%20English%20pages.pdf
6.04	Healthy and Sustainable Pre-School Scheme National Awards Criteria http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/documents/888/HSPSS-Doc%28E%29.pdf Contact Officer: Claire Sinnott, Learning Advisor – Health, Wellbeing & Safeguarding Telephone: 01352 704054 E-mail: Claire.sinnott@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
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7.01

BCUHB – Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board.

HSPSS – Healthy & Sustainable Pre School Scheme.

NQA – National Quality Award.

PHW – Public Health Wales.

PSE – Personal and Social Education.

SHEP – School Holiday Enrichment Programme.

SHRN – School Health Research Network.

UNCRC – United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

WNHSS – Welsh Network of Healthy Schools Schemes.

WLGA – Welsh Local Government Association.



EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday 21 st March, 2019
Report Subject	Quarter 3 Council Plan 2018/19 Monitoring Report
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Education & Youth
Report Author	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council Plan 2018/19 was adopted by the Council in June 2018. This report presents a summary of the monitoring of progress for the Quarter 3 (October – December 2018) position of 2018/19 for the Council Plan priority ‘Learning Council’ relevant to the Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

Flintshire is a high performing Council as evidenced in previous Council Plan monitoring reports as well as in the Council’s Annual Performance Reports. This second monitoring report for the 2018/19 Council Plan is a positive report, with 92% of activities being assessed as making good progress, and 85% likely to achieve the desired outcome. In addition, 67% of the performance indicators met or exceeded target. Risks are also being successfully managed with the majority being assessed as moderate (61%) or minor/insignificant (22%).

This report is an exception based report and therefore detail focuses on the areas of under-performance.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the Committee consider the Quarter 3 Council Plan Monitoring Report 2018/19 to monitor under performance and request further information as appropriate.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE COUNCIL PLAN 2018/19 MONITORING REPORT
1.01	The Council Plan monitoring reports give an explanation of the progress being made toward the delivery of the impacts set out in the 2018/19 Council Plan. The narrative is supported by performance indicators and / or milestones which evidence achievement. In addition, there is an assessment of the strategic risks and the level to which they are being controlled.
1.02	This is an exception based report and detail therefore focuses on the areas of under-performance.
1.03	<p>Monitoring our Activities</p> <p>Each of the sub-priorities have high level activities which are monitored over time. 'Progress' monitors progress against scheduled activity and has been categorised as follows: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RED: Limited Progress – delay in scheduled activity; not on track • AMBER: Satisfactory Progress – some delay in scheduled activity, but broadly on track • GREEN: Good Progress – activities completed on schedule, on track <p>A RAG status is also given as an assessment of our level of confidence at this point in time in achieving the 'outcome(s)' for each sub-priority. Outcome has been categorised as: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RED: Low – lower level of confidence in the achievement of the outcome(s) • AMBER: Medium – uncertain level of confidence in the achievement of the outcome(s) • GREEN: High – full confidence in the achievement of the outcome(s)
1.04	<p>In summary our overall progress against the high level activities is: -</p> <p>ACTIVITIES PROGRESS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are making good (green) progress in 48 (92%). • We are making satisfactory (amber) progress in 4 (8%). <p>ACTIVITIES OUTCOME</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have a high (green) level of confidence in the outcome achievement of 44 (85%). • We have a medium (amber) level of confidence in the outcome achievement of 8 (15%). • No activities have a low (red) level of confidence in their outcome achievement.
1.05	<p>Monitoring our Performance</p> <p>Analysis of performance against the Improvement Plan performance indicators is undertaken using the RAG (Red, Amber Green) status. This is defined as follows: -</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RED equates to a position of under-performance against target. • AMBER equates to a mid-position where improvement may have been made but performance has missed the target. • GREEN equates to a position of positive performance against target.
1.06	<p>Analysis of current levels of performance against period target shows the following: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 29 (67%) had achieved a green RAG status • 12 (28%) had achieved an amber RAG status • 2 (5%) had achieved a red RAG status
1.07	<p>There are no performance indicators (PI) showing a red RAG status for current performance against target, relevant to the Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee.</p>
1.08	<p>Monitoring our Risks Analysis of the current risk levels for the strategic risks identified in the Council Plan is as follows: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5 (11%) are insignificant (green) • 5 (11%) are minor (yellow) • 27 (61%) are moderate (amber) • 7 (16%) are major (red) • 0 (0%) are severe (black) <p>Note that due to rounding issues the above does not add up to 100%. A number of decimal points would be required to show this.</p>
1.09	<p>The major (red) risks identified for the Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee are: -</p> <p>Priority: Learning Council</p> <p>Risk: Sustainability of funding streams. The sustainability of grant funding for education continues to pose a significant and live risk in a number of areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A lack of clarity about the funding of the Teachers' Pay Award for 2019-20 remains. Through Revenue Support Grant and the Teachers Pay Grant from Welsh Government the schools budget will be funded for 1% of the impact of the pay award implemented in September 2018. The balance of 1.2% of the pay award is a cost pressure which will have to be absorbed by schools. Further it can be assumed that there will be a Teachers' Pay Award from September 2019 which unless national funding is made available will be an additional cost pressure which will need to be absorbed by schools. - The increase in the teachers' employers' pensions costs remains a significant risk. From September 2019 the employers' contributions will increase from 16.48% to 23.6%. The impact of this on Flintshire schools will be £2.026m. The Chancellor announced £4.7billion nationally to cover public sector increased pension costs but at this stage there is no indication of whether there will be a consequential for Welsh Government. - The recently announced £15m grant for schools across Wales appears

to have been ring-fenced by the Cabinet Secretary for Education to support professional learning in advance of the introduction of the new curriculum, but distribution methodology and terms and conditions are not yet known.

- The MEAG (Minority Ethnic Achievement Grant) was not reinstated in full and there remains a lack of clarity about a new regional model for delivery of these services and the funding attached to them.

There are grants which are only short term to support Ministerial key priorities e.g. Infant Class Sizes; Small and Rural Schools etc. but the grant conditions are often complex which makes them difficult to administer and their short term nature does not allow for proper strategic planning to maximise impact.

Risk: Numbers of school places not matching the changing demographics.

Reducing unfilled school places via school organisation change is an ongoing process. School change projects can take between three and five years from inception to delivery before reductions of unfilled places can be realised. This continues to be an ongoing process linked to the school modernisation programme. To supplement this the Council will continue to work closely with schools to consider innovative ways for reduction in capacity on a school by school basis (i.e. alternative use of school facilities by other groups) with the objective of meeting national targets of circa 10% unfilled places in all school sectors.

Risk: Limited funding to address the backlog of known repair and maintenance works in Education & Youth assets.

The Council continues to invest in schools through its annual maintenance programme. However, this funding is not sufficient to cover all works identified through commissioned condition surveys.

The continuation of the School Modernisation programme and investment through the 21st Century school programme is one of the strategic options available to the Council address the repair and maintenance backlog.

The programme continuation will also i) Support a reduction of unfilled places ii) Provide a more efficient school estate and concentrate resources on teaching by removal of unwanted fixed costs in infrastructure and leadership iii) Ensure that the condition and suitability of the school estate is improved.

Additionally, the Council will maximise external investment using other funding streams as an when they are made available as well submitting capital business cases through the Council's process in future years for consideration.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	There are no specific resource implications for this report.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	The Council Plan Priorities are monitored by the appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees according to the priority area of interest.
3.02	Chief Officers have contributed towards reporting of relevant information.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	Progress against the risks identified in the Council Plan is included in the report at Appendix 1. Summary information for the risks assessed as major (red) is covered in paragraphs 1.07 and 1.09 above.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 - Council Plan 2017/18 – Quarter 3 Monitoring Report – Learning Council.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>Council Plan 2017/18: http://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Council-and-Democracy/Improvement-Plan.aspx</p> <p>Contact Officer: Ceri Shotton Telephone: 01352 702305 E-mail: ceri.shotton@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	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 Improvement Objectives and publish a Council Plan.
7.02	Risks: These are assessed using the improved approach to risk management endorsed by Audit Committee in June 2015. The new approach, includes the use of a new and more sophisticated risk assessment matrix which provides greater opportunities to show changes over time.

7.03

Risk Likelihood and Impact Matrix

Impact Severity	Catastrophic	Y	A	R	R	B	B
	Critical	Y	A	A	R	R	R
	Marginal	G	Y	A	A	A	R
	Negligible	G	G	Y	Y	A	A
		Unlikely (5%)	Very Low (15%)	Low (30%)	Significant (50%)	Very High (65%)	Extremely High (80%)
Likelihood & Percentage of risk happening							

The new approach to risk assessment was created in response to recommendations in the Corporate Assessment report from the Wales Audit Office and Internal Audit.

7.04

CAMMS – An explanation of the report headings**Actions**

Action – Each sub-priority have high level activities attached to them to help achieve the outcomes of the sub-priority.

Lead Officer – The person responsible for updating the data on the action.

Status – This will either be 'In progress' if the action has a start and finish date or 'Ongoing' if it is an action that is longer term than the reporting year.

Start date – When the action started (usually the start of the financial year).

End date – When the action is expected to be completed.

% complete - The % that the action is complete at the time of the report. This only applies to actions that are 'in progress'. An action that is 'ongoing' will not produce a % complete due to the longer-term nature of the action.

Progress RAG – Shows if the action at this point in time is making limited progress (Red), satisfactory progress (Amber) or good progress (Green).

Outcome RAG – Shows the level of confidence in achieving the outcomes for each action.

Measures (Key Performance Indicators - KPIs)

Pre. Year Period Actual – The period actual at the same point in the previous year. If the KPI is a new KPI for the year then this will show as 'no data'.

Period Actual – The data for this quarter.

Period Target – The target for this quarter as set at the beginning of the year.

Perf. RAG – This measures performance for the period against the target. It is automatically generated according to the data. Red = a position of under performance against target, Amber = a mid-position where improvement may have been made but performance has missed the target and Green = a position of positive performance against the target.

Perf. Indicator Trend – Trend arrows give an impression of the direction the performance is heading compared to the period of the previous year:

- A 'downward arrow' always indicates poorer performance regardless of whether a KPI figure means that less is better (e.g. the amount of days

to deliver a grant or undertake a review) or if a KPI figure means that more is better (e.g. number of new jobs in Flintshire).

- Similarly an 'upward arrow' always indicates improved performance.

YTD Actual – The data for the year so far including previous quarters.

YTD Target – The target for the year so far including the targets of previous quarters.

Outcome RAG – The level of confidence of meeting the target by the end of the year. Low – lower level of confidence in the achievement of the target (Red), Medium – uncertain level of confidence in the achievement of the target (Amber) and High - full confidence in the achievement of the target (Green).

Risks

Risk Title – Gives a description of the risk.

Lead Officer – The person responsible for managing the risk.

Supporting Officer – The person responsible for updating the risk.

Initial Risk Rating – The level of the risk at the start of the financial year (quarter 1). The risks are identified as follows; insignificant (green), minor (yellow), moderate (amber), major (red) and severe (black).

Current Risk Rating – The level of the risk at this quarter.

Trend Arrow – This shows if the risk has increased (upward arrow), decreased (downward arrow) or remained the same between the initial risk rating and the current risk rating (stable arrow).

Risk Status – This will either show as 'open' or 'closed'. If a risk is open then it is still a relevant risk, if the risk is closed then it is no longer a relevant risk; a new risk may be generated where a plan or strategy moves into a new phase.

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Performance Progress Report – Appendix 1 – Learning Council

Flintshire County Council



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3 Learning Council

Actions

ACTION	LEAD OFFICER	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	PROGRESS RAG	OUTCOME RAG
3.1.1.1 Provide effective learning opportunities and quality opportunities and quality learning environments for all pupils aged 3-18 to achieve their potential and high levels of educational attainment	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	In Progress	01-Apr-2017	31-Mar-2019	75.00%	 GREEN	 GREEN
<p>ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: The methodology for reporting on pupil data has changed from 2018 in response to the Welsh Government's decision not to publish comparative data below the national average. No benchmarking data is now available. Teacher assessment data for learner outcomes in summer 2018 at Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2 are above the national average at the expected and higher than expected levels. Key Stage 3 data also confirms that Flintshire is performing well, matching but in many cases, exceeding national averages. Learner outcomes for Key Stages 4 and 5 are still provisional until December but Key Stage 4 unverified data does demonstrate that Flintshire learners are performing above the national and regional averages and that there was improvement on many indicators from 2017. Performance in mathematics and numeracy was particularly strong. Performance in English dropped by approximately 3% but this has been the subject of significant challenge across the North Wales region to Qualifications Wales because of issues with changing grade boundaries and timings of examination entries. Performance on the main indicator at Key Stage 5 also improved from 2017. Performance at the highest grades A*-A has improved at both GCSE and A level.</p> <p>Last Updated: 10-Jan-2019</p>							

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ACTION	LEAD OFFICER	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	PROGRESS RAG	OUTCOME RAG
3.1.1.2 Provide effective support to schools identified as causing concern to quickly re-establish good educational standards	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	In Progress	01-Apr-2017	31-Mar-2019	75.00%	 GREEN	 GREEN
<p>ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Every school has a dedicated Support Improvement Adviser (SIA) through GwE who provides the support and challenge on performance, self-evaluation and school improvement planning processes through bespoke packages. These SIAs are overseen by the 2 core lead officers from GwE for Flintshire who report regularly to the Chief Officer/Senior Manager for School Improvement(CO/SMSI). Support plans for schools causing concern are regularly reviewed and appropriate interventions identified. Progress against these plans are then discussed with the CO/SMSI and regularly reported on through the Local Quality Board which includes the Cabinet Member and Chair of Scrutiny. Schools in the more serious categories of concern are subject to the LA's School Performance Monitoring Group and are reviewed a minimum of twice a year and the panel includes a number of elected members. In the most serious cases of concern, the LA has used its statutory powers of intervention to effect change e.g. introduction of Interim Executive Boards, leadership solutions. As a result, the number of schools in the LA in categories of serious concern have reduced from 3 to 1 and the number of schools in Estyn Review are low - just 2.</p> <p>Last Updated: 10-Jan-2019</p>							

ACTION	LEAD OFFICER	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	PROGRESS RAG	OUTCOME RAG
3.1.1.3 Prepare for national reforms on curriculum and inclusion	Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression	In Progress	01-Apr-2017	31-Mar-2019	75.00%	 GREEN	 GREEN

ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS:

Officers are working in collaboration with Welsh Government and the regional school improvement service GwE to prepare for the curriculum and inclusion reforms. A local action plan is in development alongside a regional transformation plan focusing on the implementation of the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (ALNET) Act 2018 which will map out the key actions needed to ensure the local authority and its schools are prepared for the implementation in 2020. Awareness raising sessions are underway with regard to the revised curriculum with a number of Flintshire schools taking on lead developmental roles as Pioneer Schools. The publication of two key draft documents is planned for this academic year namely the code of Practice for ALN (December 2018) and the proposed curriculum and assessment model (April 2019) which includes the National Approach to Professional Learning that will support the profession to meet the challenges of the new curriculum. Once these are published, planning can continue in earnest as the operational detail required will be available. Following the publication of the draft Code of Practice for ALN in December 2018, a Transformation Plan has been developed for the authority. This maps out the transformation programme for the period up to the implementation date (September 2020). Welsh Government have initiated a period of consultation around the Code and this will form a key part of the targeted activity over the Spring Term.



Last Updated: 16-Jan-2019



ACTION	LEAD OFFICER	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	PROGRESS RAG	OUTCOME RAG
3.1.1.4 Continue substantial investment in the school estate through the School Modernisation Strategy, maximising use of Welsh Government funding streams e.g. 21st Century Schools Programme, Welsh Medium Education Grant, Infant Class Size Grant and to support the Early years and Childcare Service with the WG Childcare Grant (named as Early Years Grant in previous iterations) . To continue with a programme of repairs and maintenance across Flintshire schools.	Damian Hughes - Senior Manager, School Planning & Provision	In Progress	01-Apr-2017	31-Mar-2019	30.00%	 GREEN	 GREEN

ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS:

The third project of Band A is Connah's Quay High School Project (Phase 1) – Construction started on site July 2017 with the anticipated completion date December 2018. Demolition of the former John Summers High school started in April 2018 and was completed in December 2018. Penyffordd CP - Construction started on site April 2018 with anticipated completion of the new school building July 2019 (phase 1) and the remainder of external works (phase 2) anticipated to be complete during November 2019. School Modernisation - Brynford and Lixwm Area Review – In June 2018, Cabinet determined not to proceed with the proposed statutory amalgamation of the two schools. Nercwys VA and Nannerch VC governors have determined to consult with key stakeholders on federation. Consultation documents were published 23rd October 2018 and ran till 30th October 2018, governors from both schools will meet in February 2019 to consider the responses to the consultation and determine whether to proceed. 21st Century Schools Programme (Band B -2019 -2025) The Council's Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) estimated at £85.4m, has been approved by WG in principle. April 2018, Cabinet approved Connah's Quay High School project (Phase 2) prior to the start of Band B. This took advantage of the WG initiative and drew down funding prior to the start of Band B. WG Infants Class Size Grant (100% WG funded) - WG have approved the £1.3m grant for Ysgol Glan Aber, Bagillt under this funding scheme. This allows the larger £2.7m project to proceed as £997K has been approved through the Council's capital programme. WG Welsh Medium Grant (100% WG funded) – WG have approved the £3m business case for capital investment in the Ysgol Glanrafon Site. The Council's R&M programme for schools continues on an annual basis.



Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019

ACTION	LEAD OFFICER	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	PROGRESS RAG	OUTCOME RAG
3.1.1.5 Maintain low levels of young people/adults 'Not in Education, Employment or Training' and support opportunities for apprenticeship and employment	Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression	In Progress	01-Apr-2018	31-Mar-2019	85.00%	 GREEN	 GREEN
<p>ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Multi-agency meetings continue to be held in schools to identify pupils at risk of disengagement. This has facilitated the identification and implementation of suitable interventions; a number of pilot courses are being trialled focusing on developing confidence and motivation to further increase the range of provision available. In addition to this a pilot pre-vocational course for KS4 learners is being trialled in partnership with Coleg Cambria. This offers an accredited Catering & Hospitality course in conjunction with core GCSEs. Through the regular monitoring meetings, learners in need of support for transition into further education are being identified and the Summer intervention programmes have proved largely successful in maintaining engagement. The ADTRAC project is now live and working with 16-24 year olds who have disengaged. The programme of Adult & Community Learning opportunities across Flintshire is being reviewed and updated in response to need and the revised Welsh Government Strategy.</p> <p>Last Updated: 21-Jan-2019</p>							

ACTION	LEAD OFFICER	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	PROGRESS RAG	OUTCOME RAG
3.1.1.6 Fully embed Flintshire's Youth Council to ensure that young people across the authority are involved in the evaluation and delivery of services that impact on them	Ann Roberts - Senior Manager - Integrated Youth Provision	In Progress	01-Apr-2018	31-Mar-2019	60.00%	 GREEN	 GREEN
<p>ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: The Flintshire Youth Council has been recruited to with consideration of diversity of the membership. Young people volunteer to engage. Two meetings with the political leadership have taken place. The members have appointed shadowing roles. The group is already being very active and proactive e.g. in offering views and being a critical friend to Chief Officers with responsibility for producing inspection self-assessments or policy. The Chief Executive is planning to work with the Youth Council to give consideration to the voting age agenda. Excellent and meaningful progress to date.</p> <p>Last Updated: 19-Dec-2018</p>							

ACTION	LEAD OFFICER	STATUS	START DATE	END DATE	COMPLETE %	PROGRESS RAG	OUTCOME RAG
3.2.1.1 Increase the number of apprenticeships which result in a positive outcome	Sharon Carney - Lead HR Business Partner	Not Started	01-Apr-2018	31-Mar-2019	N/A	N/A	N/A
<p>ACTION PROGRESS COMMENTS: Measured at the end of the year.</p> <p>Last Updated: 08-Nov-2018</p>							



Performance Indicators



KPI Title	Pre. Year Period Actual	Period Actual	Period Target	Perf. RAG	Perf. Indicator Trend	YTD Actual	YTD Target	Outcome RAG
IP3.1.2.1 M01 The number of schools in an Estyn statutory category of concern	3	1	1	 GREEN	↑	1	1	 GREEN
<p>Lead Officer: Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems Reporting Officer: Claire Homard - Senior Manager - School Improvement Aspirational Target: 1.00 Progress Comment: Currently have only 1 school in an Estyn statutory category of concern, down from 3 last year.</p> <p>Last Updated: 21-Jan-2019</p>								

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KPI Title	Pre. Year Period Actual	Period Actual	Period Target	Perf. RAG	Perf. Indicator Trend	YTD Actual	YTD Target	Outcome RAG
IP3.1.3.1 M01 All schools to have completed their initial assessment of readiness for the new curriculum by 1st October 2018 on the G6 dashboard	No Data	No Data	100	N/A	N/A	No Data	100	N/A
<p>Lead Officer: Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems Reporting Officer: Claire Homard - Senior Manager - School Improvement Aspirational Target: Progress Comment: Currently unable to comment as dependant on details available on GwE database and as yet unable to access.</p> <p>Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019</p>								

KPI Title	Pre. Year Period Actual	Period Actual	Period Target	Perf. RAG	Perf. Indicator Trend	YTD Actual	YTD Target	Outcome RAG
IP3.1.3.2 M02 All schools to have eliminated any red indicators against their readiness for the new curriculum by 31st March 2019 on the G6 dashboard	No Data	No Data	100	N/A	N/A	No Data	100	N/A
<p>Lead Officer: Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems Reporting Officer: Claire Homard - Senior Manager - School Improvement Aspirational Target: Progress Comment: Currently unable to comment as dependant on details available on GwE database and as yet unable to access.</p> <p>Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019</p>								

KPI Title	Pre. Year Period Actual	Period Actual	Period Target	Perf. RAG	Perf. Indicator Trend	YTD Actual	YTD Target	Outcome RAG
IP3.1.5.2 M02 The percentage of young people aged 16 – 18 in the youth justice system offered education, training or employment	53	54	53	 GREEN	↑	54	53	 GREEN
<p>Lead Officer: James Warr - Operations Manager Reporting Officer: Louisa Greenly - Performance Management & Information Officer Aspirational Target: 80.00 Progress Comment: The Youth Justice Service assesses young people who commence a prevention or statutory intervention with the Youth Justice Service in the period. Those who are above statutory school age should be undertaking at least 16 hours per week of education, training or employment. 6 young people completed Agored vocational qualifications in health and safety, first aid and construction skills. The Education Coordinator seconded to the Youth justice Service supports young people back into further education, by maintaining close links with local colleges and other training providers. Education remains a key priority for the service as it is seen as a strong desistance factor in offending and re-offending..</p> <p>Last Updated: 18-Dec-2018</p>								

KPI Title	Pre. Year Period Actual	Period Actual	Period Target	Perf. RAG	Perf. Indicator Trend	YTD Actual	YTD Target	Outcome RAG
IP3.1.6.1 M01 Number of new pupils engaging with the TRAC programme	No Data	125	120	 GREEN	N/A	125	120	 GREEN

Lead Officer: Ann Roberts - Senior Manager - Integrated Youth Provision

Reporting Officer: Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression




Aspirational Target:

Progress Comment: The target number of pupils engaging with TRAC has been exceeded for the quarter. This is due to factors such as the team being fully staffed and the promotion of the programme on offer through a range of multi-agency forums .




Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019




RISKS

Strategic Risk

RISK TITLE	LEAD OFFICER	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	INITIAL RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	TREND ARROW	RISK STATUS
Those schools who do not recognise their need for improvement and external support	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression				Open
<p>Potential Effect: Downturn in school performance and under achievement . Increase in the number of schools in Estyn category of concern/need of significant improvement</p> <p>Management Controls: The Council will work with schools through the Schools Standards Monitoring Group. Challenge and support will be provided through the regional school improvement partner GwE</p> <p>Progress Comment: Monitoring processes indicate that all schools have engaged appropriately with their Support Improvement Advisers during the first quarter of the year and are accessing support to implement their improvement plans. Evidence through pupil outcome data shows that improvement plans are being effective in most areas with Flintshire schools performance above national averages in nearly all key indicators across all phases. 2 targeted schools who are in category of Estyn Review have made strong progress and the LA is recommending to Estyn that they be removed from follow up - Estyn confirmation pending.</p>						
Last Updated: 21-Jan-2019						

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RISK TITLE	LEAD OFFICER	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	INITIAL RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	TREND ARROW	RISK STATUS
Leadership capacity does not match school needs	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression				Open
<p>Potential Effect: Reduced stakeholder confidence in Education services. Downturn in school performance and under achievement . Increase in the number of schools in Estyn category of concern/need of significant improvement</p> <p>Management Controls: The Council will work with schools through the Schools Standards Monitoring Group. Leadership development will be provided through the regional school improvement partner GwE for leadership across the system at all levels. School Governor development programme. Schools collaborate and federate Bespoke Leadership development programme in place for schools through the Regional School Improvement Service - for current and aspiring leaders at all levels.</p> <p>Progress Comment: The number of schools in statutory categories has reduced. We do not have any issues with schools failing to engage with GwE in relation to their support priorities. Flintshire has one of the highest take ups on the professional development programme around middle leadership and National Professional Qualification for Headship securing leaders for the future – whilst secondary Headteachers have reported anecdotally that staff don't want to take the roles on in schools in some subjects, there is no school where a lack of capacity, particularly in core subjects is putting the school's performance at risk.</p>						
Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019						

RISK TITLE	LEAD OFFICER	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	INITIAL RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	TREND ARROW	RISK STATUS
Impact of Additional Learning Needs reforms	Jeanette Rock - Senior Manager - Inclusion and Progression	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems				Open

Potential Effect: Schools and the Local Authority are unable to meet the requirements placed on them by the forthcoming Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Bill resulting in the need for additional resource in terms of specialist services and provision.

Management Controls: Portfolio Strategy 2016/17 to map out progress of the legislative reforms and facilitate a timely response.

Use of Welsh Government Innovation Project funding to develop awareness and skills of key school-based staff and Local Authority Officers ahead of the implementation of the Bill.

Progress Comment: The Bill received Royal Assent in January 2018 and became the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018. The implementation date has been revised to September 2020, with 2019 being the publication date for the draft Code of Practice. An audit tool has been generated for local authorities to complete; this will give greater insight into the risks posed by the Act across the intervening two year period prior to implementation in 2020. The audit tool has been completed and this highlighted the need for a Lead officer to be allocated within the Local Authority. This action has been completed, supported by access to Welsh Government Transformation Funding.

A Transition Action Plan for Flintshire will now be developed to ensure that a comprehensive transformation programme is developed in conjunction with the regional plan for North Wales.

The draft Code of Practice has now been published. Officers are in the process of reading the document and identifying the implications for schools and the authority. These will be collated and shared via Committee reports.

Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019

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RISK TITLE	LEAD OFFICER	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	INITIAL RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	TREND ARROW	RISK STATUS
Local employers and learning providers do not work closely enough to identify and meet the skills based needs of the future	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Niall Waller - Service Manager - Enterprise and Regeneration				Open

Potential Effect: Employers will increasingly struggle to fill vacancies and may leave the area. Young people will not be able to benefit from the growth of the local economy and may need to move away to secure employment that matches their skills. If the skills base fails to match employer needs in the future then the area will struggle to compete for investment.

Management Controls: Encourage links between schools and local companies. Develop initiatives both locally and regionally to reduce the gap between young peoples' aspirations and the labour market, especially in Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths (STEM) topics and enterprise.

Progress Comment: In addition to current work to link schools, learners and employers there are a number of proposals for further work being developed as part of the North Wales Growth Deal including an enhanced careers offer and further STEM support for schools. In addition, learning provision is guided by the Regional Skills Strategy which sets out the needs of the economy.

Last Updated: 10-Jan-2019

RISK TITLE	LEAD OFFICER	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	INITIAL RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	TREND ARROW	RISK STATUS
Sustainability of funding streams	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Red	Red	↔	Open

Potential Effect: Reduced capacity to deliver targeted support to schools.

Management Controls: Intelligence on grant regime

Progress Comment: The sustainability of grant funding for education continues to pose a significant and live risk in a number of areas:

A lack of clarity about the funding of the Teachers' Pay Award for 2019-20 remains. Through RSG and the Teachers Pay Grant from Welsh Government the schools budget will be funded for 1% of the impact of the pay award implemented in September 2018. The balance of 1.2% of the pay award is a cost pressure which will have to be absorbed by schools. Further it can be assumed that there will be a Teachers' Pay Award from September 2019 which unless national funding is made available will be an additional cost pressure which will need to be absorbed by schools.

The increase in the teachers' employers' pensions costs remains a significant risk. From September 2019 the employers' contributions will increase from 16.48% to 23.6%. The impact of this on Flintshire schools will be £2.026m. The Chancellor announced £4.7 billion nationally to cover public sector increased pension costs but at this stage there is no indication of whether there will be a consequential for Welsh Government.

The recently announced £15m grant for schools across Wales appears to have been ring-fenced by the Cabinet Secretary for Education to support professional learning in advance of the introduction of the new curriculum, but distribution methodology and terms and conditions are not yet known.

The MEAG (Minority Ethnic Achievement Grant) was not reinstated in full and there remains a lack of clarity about a new regional model for delivery of these services and the funding attached to them.

There are grants which are only short term to support Ministerial key priorities e.g. Infant Class Sizes; Small and Rural Schools etc but the grant conditions are often complex which makes them difficult to administer and their short term nature does not allow for proper strategic planning to maximise impact.

Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019

RISK TITLE	LEAD OFFICER	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	INITIAL RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	TREND ARROW	RISK STATUS
Numbers of school places not matching the changing demographics	Damian Hughes - Senior Manager, School Planning & Provision	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Red	Red	↔	Open

Potential Effect: Higher teacher ratios, unfilled places, backlog maintenance pressures, inefficient estate

Management Controls: Continuation of school modernisation programme, will reduce unfilled places, reduce backlog maintenance, remove unwanted fixed costs and infrastructure

Progress Comment: Reducing unfilled school places via school organisation change is an ongoing process. School change projects can take between three and five years from inception to delivery before reductions of unfilled places can be realised. This continues to be an ongoing process linked to the school modernisation programme. To supplement this the Council will continue to work closely with schools to consider innovative ways for reduction in capacity on a school by school basis (i.e. alternative use of school facilities by other groups) with the objective of meeting national targets of circa 10% unfilled places in all school sectors.

Last Updated: 29-Jan-2019

RISK TITLE	LEAD OFFICER	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	INITIAL RISK RATING	CURRENT RISK RATING	TREND ARROW	RISK STATUS
Limited funding to address the backlog of known repair and maintenance works in Education & Youth assets	Damian Hughes - Senior Manager, School Planning & Provision	Vicky Barlow - Senior Manager - School Improvement Systems	Red	Red	↔	Open
<p>Potential Effect: The fabric of Education and Youth buildings will continue to decline</p> <p>Management Controls: Continuation of School Modernisation Programme, Continuation of Repairs & Maintenance planned maintenance programme, Capital Business Cases for School improvement, implementation of Band A and Band B 21st Century Schools programmes and any other external funding which becomes available.</p> <p>Progress Comment: Continuation of the School Modernisation programme is one of the strategic options available to address the repair and maintenance backlog. The programme continuation will also i) Support a reduction of unfilled places ii) Provide a more efficient school estate and concentrate resources on teaching by removal of unwanted fixed costs in infrastructure and leadership iii) Ensure that the condition and suitability of the school estate is improved. Additionally, in future years capital business cases will be submitted through the Council process to supplement the 21st Century Schools investment programme.</p> <p>Last Updated: 23-Jan-2019</p>						



EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday, 21 st March 2019
Report Subject	Forward Work Programme
Cabinet Member	Not applicable
Report Author	Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview & Scrutiny presents a unique opportunity for Members to determine the Forward Work programme of the Committee of which they are Members. By reviewing and prioritising the Forward Work Programme Members are able to ensure it is Member-led and includes the right issues. A copy of the Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1 for Members' consideration which has been updated following the last meeting.

The Committee is asked to consider, and amend where necessary, the Forward Work Programme for the Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

1	That the Committee considers the draft Forward Work Programme and approve/amend as necessary.
2	That the Facilitator, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME
1.01	Items feed into a Committee's Forward Work Programme from a number of sources. Members can suggest topics for review by Overview & Scrutiny Committees, members of the public can suggest topics, items can be referred by the Cabinet for consultation purposes, or by County Council or Chief Officers. Other possible items are identified from the Cabinet Work Programme and the Improvement Plan.
1.02	<p>In identifying topics for future consideration, it is useful for a 'test of significance' to be applied. This can be achieved by asking a range of questions as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Will the review contribute to the Council's priorities and/or objectives?2. Is it an area of major change or risk?3. Are there issues of concern in performance?4. Is there new Government guidance of legislation?5. Is it prompted by the work carried out by Regulators/Internal Audit?
2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	None as a result of this report.
3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	Publication of this report constitutes consultation.
4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	None as a result of this report.
5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Draft Forward Work Programme
6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<p>None.</p> <p>Contact Officer: Ceri Shotton Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 702305</p> <p>E-mail: ceri.shotton@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	Improvement 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 Improvement Objectives and publish an Improvement Plan.

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CURRENT FWP

Date of meeting	Subject	Purpose of Report	Scrutiny Focus	Responsible / Contact Officer	Submission Deadline
<p>Thursday 16th May 2019 2.00 p.m.</p> <p>Invitation to be extended to Members of the Environment OSC for the Post 16 item</p>	<p>Post 16 Transport</p> <p>Social Media & Internet Safety</p> <p>ADTRAC</p>	<p>To consider the outcome of the consultation on changes to Post 16 Transport prior to consideration by Cabinet</p> <p>To receive an annual report assurance/monitoring</p> <p>To provide an update on the work of ADTRAC</p>	<p>Consultation</p> <p>Assurance Monitoring</p> <p>Raising Awareness</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Education & Youth)</p> <p>Senior Manager – School Improvement</p> <p>Senior Manager – Inclusion and Progression</p>	
<p>Joint meeting With Social & Health Care OSC</p> <p>Friday 7th June, 2019</p>	<p>Additional Learning Needs</p> <p>Educational Attainment of Looked After Children in Flintshire</p> <p>Care Leavers</p> <p>Out of County Placement provision</p>	<p>To provide an update to Members on Legislative Changes</p> <p>To receive the Annual Attainment report of Looked After Children</p> <p>To provide an update to Members on what the Council was doing for Care Leavers</p> <p>To provide information on Out of County Placement provision</p>	<p>Raising Awareness</p> <p>Assurance Monitoring</p> <p>Assurance Monitoring</p> <p>Raising Awareness</p>	<p>Senior Manager – Inclusion and Progression</p> <p>Senior Manager – Inclusion and Progression</p> <p>Senior Manager – Inclusion and Progression</p> <p>Senior Manager – Children and Workforce</p>	

Thursday 27th June 2019 2.00 p.m.	Quarter 4/Year-end Council Plan 2018/19 Monitoring Report	To enable Members to fulfil their role in relation to performance monitoring	Assurance Monitoring	Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator	
	Regional School Effectiveness and Improvement Service (GwE)	To receive an update on progress with the development of the regional school effectiveness and improvement service	Assurance/Monitoring	Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator	

Items to be scheduled to a date

School Governors – following the outcome of the national governance review

INFORMATION REPORTS TO BE CIRCULATED TO THE COMMITTEE

Item	Purpose of information report	Month
Health & Safety in Schools	Information report on accidents during the academic year and the actions taken to support schools in achieving healthy and safe environment	December

REGULAR ITEMS

Month	Item	Purpose of Report	Responsible / Contact Officer
	School Modernisation	To update Members on the progress made with School Modernisation	Senior Manager School Planning & Provision
February	Self-evaluation on education services	To update Members on overall service performance	Interim Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
April	Learner Outcomes – include attendance and exclusions in annual learner outcomes report	To provide Members with a summary of learner outcomes across primary and secondary school	Interim Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
June	Regional School Effectiveness and Improvement Service (GwE)	To receive an update on progress with the development of the regional school effectiveness and improvement service, to include a presentation from the Chief Officer of GwE.	Interim Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
December	School Balances	To provide the Committee with details of the closing balances held by Flintshire schools at the end of the financial year	Finance Manager
Annually	Learning from the School Performance Monitoring Group (SPMG);	To receive the annual report on progress and learning from the SPMG	Senior Manager – School Improvement;
Annually	Social Media & Internet Safety	To receive an annual report assurance/monitoring	Healthy Schools Practitioner
	Class Size Grant	To receive a regular update on how the Class Sizes Grant from Welsh Government was being used and how this aligned to the School Modernisation Programme	Senior Manager School Planning & Provision

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