

Public Document Pack

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To: Cllr Rosetta Dolphin (Chair)

Councillors: Sean Bibby, David Evans, George Hardcastle, Patrick Heesom, Cindy Hinds, Andy Hughes, Dennis Hutchinson, Joe Johnson, Vicky Perfect, Paul Shotton and Owen Thomas

1 December 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

NOTICE OF REMOTE MEETING
ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, 7TH DECEMBER, 2021 at 9.30 AM

Please note that the meeting will start at 9.30am and will be followed at 11.15am by a meeting to consider a Cabinet decision that has been called in (agenda items 8 and 9)

Yours faithfully

Robert Robins
Democratic Services Manager

Please note: This will be a remote meeting and 'attendance' will be restricted to Committee Members and those Members of Council who have asked the Head of Democratic Services for an invitation. Such attendees may only speak at the Chair's discretion.

The meeting will be live streamed onto the Council's website. A recording of the meeting will also be available, shortly after the meeting at <https://flintshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact a member of the Democratic Services Team on 01352 702345.

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 5 - 12)

Purpose: To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 12 October 2021.

4 **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKING** (Pages 13 - 20)

Report of Environment Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator -

Purpose: To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.

5 **ACTIVE TRAVEL NETWORK MAP - OUTCOME OF THE FORMAL CONSULTATION** (Pages 21 - 34)

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

Purpose: To receive the outcome of the formal consultation on the Council's Integrated Network Maps.

6 **COUNCIL PLAN 2021-22 MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORTING** (Pages 35 - 86)

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

Purpose: To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities and performance levels as identified in the Council Plan.

7 **A PRESENTATION ON THE HYNET HYDROGEN PRODUCTION AND CARBON STORAGE CROSS-BORDER PROJECT** (Pages 87 - 88)

Report of Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) - Cabinet Member for Economic Development

Purpose: To receive an update on the HyNet Hydrogen Project.

Please note that there may be a brief adjournment before the following items:

8 **CONSIDERATION OF A MATTER REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO THE CALL IN ARRANGEMENTS** (Pages 89 - 92)

Purpose: A decision of the Cabinet meeting on 16 November 2021 relating to A Plan for Shotton has been called in. Attached is a copy of the procedure for dealing with a called in item.

9 **A PLAN FOR SHOTTON** (Pages 93 - 114)

Purpose: Report of Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) - Cabinet Member for Economic Development.

To assist Members, the following documents are attached:-

- Copy of the report - A Plan for Shotton
- Copy of the Record of Decision
- Copy of the Call In Notice

Procedural Note on the conduct of meetings

The Chair will open the meeting and introduce themselves.

The meeting will be attended by a number of Councillors. Officers will also be in attendance to present reports, with Democratic Services officers acting as hosts of the meeting.

All attendees are asked to ensure their mobile phones are switched off and that any background noise is kept to a minimum.

All microphones are to be kept muted during the meeting and should only be unmuted when invited to speak by the Chair. When invitees have finished speaking they should go back on mute.

To indicate to speak, Councillors will use the chat facility or use the electronic raise hand function. The chat function may also be used for questions, relevant comments and officer advice and updates.

The Chair will call the speakers, with elected Members addressed as 'Councillor' and officers addressed by their job title e.g. Chief Executive' or name. From time to time, the officer advising the Chair will explain procedural points or suggest alternative wording for proposals, to assist the Committee.

If and when a vote is taken, the Chair will explain that only those who oppose the proposal(s), or who wish to abstain will need to indicate, using the chat function. The officer advising the Chair will indicate whether the proposals are carried.

If a more formal vote is needed, this will be by roll call – where each Councillor will be asked in turn (alphabetically) how s/he wishes to vote

At County Council and Planning Committee meetings speaker's times are limited. A bell will be sounded to alert that the speaker has one minute remaining

The meeting will be live streamed onto the Council's website. A recording of the meeting will also be available, shortly after the meeting at <https://flintshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE **12 OCTOBER 2021**

Minutes of the remote attendance meeting of the Environment and Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held on Tuesday, 12 October 2021

PRESENT: Councillor Rosetta Dolphin (Chair)

Councillors: Sean Bibby, George Hardcastle, Patrick Heesom, Dennis Hutchinson, Andy Hughes, Joe Johnson, Vicky Perfect, Paul Shotton, and Owen Thomas

ALSO PRESENT: Councillor Haydn Bateman (as observer)

APOLOGIES: Councillor Cindy Hinds

SUBSTITUTION: Councillor Geoff Collett for Councillor David Evans

CONTRIBUTORS:

Councillor Chris Bithell (Cabinet Member for Planning & Public Protection), Councillor Glyn Banks (Cabinet Member for Streetscene), Councillor Derek Butler (Cabinet Member for Economic Development), Chief Executive, Chief Officer (Housing & Assets); Chief Officer (Planning, Environment & Economy), Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation), Corporate Finance Manager, Highway Network Manager, Regulatory Services Manager, Strategic Finance Manager, Principal Accountants, Community and Business Protection Manager, and Empty Homes Development Officer.

For minute number 29

Steffan Owen - Regional Contracts Manager, North Wales Residual Waste Treatment Project

IN ATTENDANCE: Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator and Democratic Services Officer

25. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

26. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 14 September 2021 were submitted.

Page 7 - In response to a request from Councillor George Hardcastle for an update on waste recycling and the information/support available for elderly and vulnerable people, the Regulatory Services Manager advised that the Housing Service was in the process of producing a communications package for residents

living in sheltered accommodation. The package would include leaflets, signage etc. to assist where access to the internet or social media may be restricted. .

The minutes were approved, as moved and seconded by Councillors Paul Shotton and Dennis Hutchinson.

Councillor Patrick Heesom voted against the minutes.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

27. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKING

The Facilitator presented the current Forward Work Programme. She drew attention to the items scheduled for the meeting of the Committee to be held on 9 November, and advised that the item on Integrated Network Maps would be deferred to the meeting to be held on 7 December 2021. In addition to the items listed for consideration at the next meeting, two additional items on Greenfield Valley and Town Centres would be included on the agenda. The Facilitator asked Members to contact her if they had any suggestions for further items to include on the Programme.

The Facilitator referred to the actions arising from previous meetings and explained that progress on long-term ongoing actions would be monitored and information provided when concluded.

The recommendations were moved and seconded by Councillors Joe Johnson and George Hardcastle.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Forward Work Programme be approved;
- (b) 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; and
- (c) That the Committee notes the progress made in completing the outstanding actions.

28. BUDGET 2022/23 – STAGE 2

The Chief Executive and Corporate Finance Manager introduced the second budget stage report which detailed the forecast and the cost pressures which would make-up the total budget requirement.

The Chief Executive provided background information and context. A report to Cabinet and the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee in July provided an updated position on the budget for 2022/23. The cost pressures

identified were referred to the respective Overview & Scrutiny Committees with a request that they all undergo a rigorous review. The details of the cost pressures for Planning, Environment and Economy, and Streetscene and Transportation were included in the report.

The Chief Executive, Corporate Finance Manager, Chief Officer (Planning, Environment & Economy) and Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation), provided a joint presentation which covered the following areas:

- purpose and background
- summary totals of cost pressures
 - Planning, Environment & Economy and Streetscene & Transportation Cost pressures 2022/23
 - Planning Environment & Economy pressures
 - Streetscene & Transportation pressures
- strategic solutions
- update on efficiencies
- budget timelines

In response to a question from Councillor Andy Hughes, the Chief Officer – Planning, Environment & Economy advised that discussions were ongoing with Wales Rally GB and they were keen to come back to Flintshire and that Flintshire hosted the event. He commented that there was a need to make sure that the local spend does happen with the hospitality sector in Flintshire. He added that Wales Rally GB had given a commitment to return to Flintshire.

Councillor Paul Shotton supported the investment in parks. Referring to Wepre Park, Connah's Quay, he asked if there was any consideration being made for non-residents to make a contribution to the upkeep of the Park as use had increased significantly following ease of restrictions around Covid. The Chief Officer (Planning, Environment & Economy) said ongoing discussion was taking place with the intention to develop Wepre Park. Plans would be coming forward and consultation would take place with the local community.

Councillor Dennis Hutchinson referred to the Standard Landfill site, Buckley, and said a commitment to develop the site for recreation did not seem to have been taken forward. Councillor Hutchinson cited the use of solar panels and upgrading of footpaths. The Chief Officer, Planning, Environment and Economy advised that no commitment had been made to where funding would be spent as yet and consideration would be given to the Standard Landfill site to see if it was an appropriate place for investment and the benefits that would arise.

The recommendations were moved by Councillor Paul Shotton and seconded by Councillor Joe Johnson.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee supports the Planning, Environment and Economy cost pressures;

- (b) That the Committee supports the Streetscene and Transportation cost pressures; and
- (c) That no further cost efficiency areas be proposed by the Committee to be explored further

29. VERBAL PRESENTATION AND VIRTUAL TOUR OF PARC ADFER

The Regional Contracts Manager, North Wales Residual Waste Treatment Project, gave a presentation including a virtual tour of the Parc Adfer site which was well received by the Committee.

Councillor Joe Johnson asked if the incinerator disposed of nappies and mattresses. The Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation) explained that Parc Adfer did not dispose of nappies, however, options were being explored with the Welsh Government about recycling nappies. Mattresses were not incinerated but were recycled.

Councillor Paul Shotton said that assurances had been given to local residents regarding the level of emissions and asked if there had been any incidents. He also asked if any further increases in capacity were envisaged. Councillor Shotton referred to the Community Benefit Fund and asked if any awards had been made and had the criteria changed.

The Chief Executive advised that Parc Adfer operated well within particle controls and performance reports would be sent to Members in due course. He reported on the organisations supported through the Parc Adfer Community Recovery fund and said all applications had been granted. He continued that the Community Benefit fund would be launched later in the year and would benefit the community for the next 23/24 years and would have a grant panel which would involve Members. Details would be circulated to Members when available.

In response to the enquiry on capacity, the Regional Contracts Manager advised that Parc Adfer was permitted to treat 200,000 tonnes as a maximum within its environmental permit as regulated by Natural Resources Wales. There was a higher theoretical amount which Parc Adfer could treat but this was dependent on other factors.

Councillor Owen Thomas asked if more ash was produced than needed and what was done with it. The Regional Contracts Manager, explained that the contract for treating the ash by-product was between the operator Enfinium and Blue Phoenix who took the ash. The production of too much ash was unlikely as contracts were in place to address this and the quantity would be a known and consistent.

The Chair thanked the Regional Contracts Manager for the quality and detail of his presentation. She asked that the Facilitator send a link to the presentation to Members. The Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation) explained that a video of the presentation would be made available on the Council's website and

partner authorities also intended to do the same. She reported that work was also in progress to develop the educational exercises available.

The recommendation was moved by Councillor Andy Hughes and seconded by Councillor Joe Johnson.

RESOLVED:

That the presentation be noted.

30. REVIEW OF LOCAL TOILETS STRATEGY

The Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation) introduced the report to provide an update on progress against the Local Toilet Strategy Action Plan in line with the statutory requirements, and set out the approach to a further review in 2022-23.

The Highway Network Manager presented the report. He provided background information and advised that Flintshire's Local Toilets Strategy was approved and published in May 2019 following public consultation and a copy was appended to the report. He reported that National guidelines stated that the policy should be reviewed every two years from when the local authority last published or last reviewed its Strategy and within one year of every ordinary local government election.

Councillor Owen Thomas asked if community toilets which provide for tourists would continue to have an annual grant from the Council. The Highways Network Manager confirmed that the grant would continue.

Councillor Geoff Collett raised concerns about the lack of public convenience provision in Mold, and the need to upgrade the provision in public buildings citing the public library as an example. The Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) explained that alternative provision or development of the public facilities at Mold Bus Station had been considered but costs were prohibitive and the toilets were attracting anti-social behaviour. Discussions with Mold Town Council had not progressed to provide a solution. She reported that Mold Bus Station toilets were part of the Integrated Transport Strategy and discussions were being held with Mold Town Council around coach parking and lighting. Regarding toilets in public buildings she said the Council would work with alternative providers subject to the provision of funding to develop the facilities.

Councillor Dennis Hutchinson expressed concern that there was no signage to identify public toilet facilities were available in the Buckley Library building. He emphasised that clear signage was essential for the public. The Chief Officer acknowledged that further work and signage was needed to raise awareness of public toilets in local areas.

Councillor Paul Shotton concurred with the views expressed by Councillor Hutchinson that there was a need for better signage to inform residents of the location of public toilets in local areas.

Councillor Chris Bithell drew attention to Part 8, of the Public Health Act 2017, and advised that no-one was responsible for providing public toilets and due to cuts there was not sufficient funding available to provide the service. He commented that Mold not only provided for the requirements of its own residents but also served a large catchment area for shopping and tourism and said that the provision of public toilets was insufficient to meet demand particularly in the Summer. Councillor Bithell expressed concern that signage to the existing public provision was not available in Mold and should have been put in place before demolition of the public toilets in New Street and Wrexham Street. He stated that the current arrangements in Mold for public toilet provision was not sustainable.

Councillor Geoff Collet said facilities in Mold for public toilet provision needed to be reviewed thoroughly with consideration given to access for elderly people and people with mobility issues. The Chief Officer agreed to meet with Councillors Chris Bithell and Geoff Collett to discuss the issues raised and said feedback from the Committee would be incorporated into the review of the Local Toilets Strategy.

Councillor Glyn Banks gave an assurance that bilingual signage would be provided for public toilets throughout the County following a review of the Strategy and suggested that a further item on public conveniences be placed on the Forward Work Programme.

Councillor Owen Thomas expressed the view that as tourism was promoted by the Welsh government (WG) in the County, funding should also be made available by the WG for the adequate provision of public toilets in popular destination areas.

Councillor Derek Butler asked that Town Centres be included in the review of the Local Toilets Strategy with a view to identifying any funding which may be available.

The recommendations were moved and seconded by Councillors Dennis Hutchinson and Owen Thomas.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee supports the review and notes the progress to date against the local toilets strategy action plan.

31. REVIEW OF OPERATOR'S LICENCE (O LICENCE)

The Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) introduced a report to give assurance that working arrangements and processes were effective and robust. She provided background information and referred to the audit of Vehicle O Licence compliance which was undertaken in April 2021 as part of the approved Internal Audit Annual Plan for 2020/21. The overall findings were that the controls in operation at the time provided some assurance that key risks were being managed and controlled effectively, however, that significant improvement was

required in areas relating to the control environment relating to tachography compliance, fleet servicing and maintenance, and single person dependency impacting service resilience. The report provided an update on progress following the audit report in April 2021

The Highways Network Manager presented the report and referred to the action plan to address the findings of the audit. The Chief Officer explained that there was difficulty in recruiting for the post of Fleet Contract & Transport Manager and other posts in the Streetscene & Transportation Services, which impacted on progress on the action plan.

The recommendations were moved and seconded by Councillors Joe Johnson and Dennis Hutchinson.

RESOLVED:

That the Committee notes the ongoing working arrangements within the Streetscene and Transportation Services and supports the actions undertaken to control operational risk and deliver on the undertakings of the Council's operator's licence.

32. THE NORTH WALES GROWTH DEAL QUARTELY PERFORMANCE REPORT

The Chief Officer (Planning, Environment & Economy) presented a report to provide the Committee with the Quarter 1 (March – June) update on the North Wales Growth Deal.

The Chief Officer referred to the North Wales Growth Deal Quarter 1 Performance Report which was appended to the report. He reported on the main considerations and suggested that the Committee might wish to invite programme managers to a future meeting of the Committee to give a presentation on the Economic Ambition Board projects.

In response to the concerns raised by Councillor Derek Butler the Chief Officer referred to the two projects currently reporting as red in section 1.07 of the report and suggested that the programme manager for the Land and Property Programme be invited to report to a future meeting of the Committee.

Councillor Patrick Heesom commented on the Holyhead project and the move away from supporting the breakwater and asked that consideration be given to the potential of Mostyn Docks as an alternative project.

The recommendations were moved and seconded by Councillors Patrick Heesom and Joe Johnson.

RESOLVED:

That the Quarter 1 Performance Report be noted.

33. EMPTY HOMES

The Community and Business Protection Manager introduced a report to provide an overview of the work undertaken by the Empty Homes Services. She gave a joint presentation with the Empty Homes Development Officer which covered the following:

- context
- achievements since 2019
- case studies

Councillor Patrick Heesom thanked the Community and Business Protection Manager for the high standard of her report.

Councillor Chris Bithell commented on the problem of empty properties which had fallen into disrepair and the need to bring back into use as soon as possible to address the need for housing.

The recommendations were moved and seconded by Councillors Patrick Heesom and Joe Johnson.

34. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS IN ATTENDANCE

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

(The meeting started at 10.00 am and ended at 12.12 am)

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Chair



ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Tuesday 7 December 2021
Report Subject	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking
Report Author	Environment & Economy 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 Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

The report also shows actions arising from previous meetings of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the progress made in completing them. Any outstanding actions will be continued to be reported to the Committee as shown in Appendix 2.

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.
3	That the Committee notes the progress made in completing the outstanding actions.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKING
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?6. Is the issue of public or Member concern?
1.03	In previous meetings, requests for information, reports or actions have been made. These have been summarised as action points. Following a meeting of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee in July 2018, it was recognised that there was a need to formalise such reporting back to Overview & Scrutiny Committees, as 'Matters Arising' was not an item which can feature on an agenda.
1.04	It was suggested that the 'Action tracking' approach be trialled for the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee. Following a successful trial, it was agreed to extend the approach to all Overview & Scrutiny Committees.
1.05	The Action Tracking details including an update on progress is attached at Appendix 2.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	None as a result of this report.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	In some cases, action owners have been contacted to provide an update on their actions.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	None as a result of this report.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Draft Forward Work Programme Appendix 2 – Action Tracking for the Environment & Economy OSC.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Minutes of previous meetings of the Committee as identified in Appendix 2. Contact Officer: Margaret Parry-Jones Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator Telephone: 01352 702427 E-mail: Margaret.parry-jones@flintshire.gov.uk

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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Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Forward Work Programme 2021/22

Date of Meeting	Subject	Purpose of Report/Presentation	Scrutiny Focus	Responsible/Contact Officer	Submission Deadline
11 Jan 2022 10.00 am	Council Plan 22-23 development	To consult on Part 1 of the Council Plan 2022/23	Pre decision scrutiny	Chief Executive	
	Entrepreneurial grant support from Welsh Government and how the Local Authority could be involved	Request from Recovery Committee	Assurance	Niall Waller	
	Dropped Crossings	Request from Cllr George Hardcastle	Assurance	Chief Officer Streetscene & Transportation	
	Update on Van Permits	As requested at the Committee on 14 September 2021	Assurance	Chief Officer – Streetscene & Transportation	
	The North Wales Growth Deal Quarterly Performance Report	To provide members with the Quarter 2 update on the North Wales Growth Deal.	Assurance	Chief Officer – Streetscene & Transportation	

ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME
APPENDIX 1

Date of Meeting	Subject	Purpose of Report/Presentation	Scrutiny Focus	Responsible/Contact Officer	Submission Deadline
8 Feb 2022 10.00 am	Update on implementation of the AGILE software	Report requested at Committee on 14 September 2021	Assurance	Mandy Lewis/Lynne Fensome	
	Bulky Waste Collection	Report requested at Committee on 9 November 2021	Assurance	Chief Office Streetscene & Transportation	
7 Jun 2022 10.00 am	Year-end Performance Indicators for Recovery, Portfolio and Public Accountability Measures	To enable members to fulfil their scrutiny role in relation to performance monitoring. Members are required to review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan.	Performance monitoring/ Assurance	Chief Officers	
5 Jul 2022 10.00 am					

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Items to be added:

Climate Change updates as appropriate

Programme Manager for the Land and Property Programme of North Wales Growth Deal be invited to report to a future meeting of the Committee.

Action tracking from Environment & Economy OSC December 2021

Item/Date	Discussion	Action	By whom	Status
Litter & Fly tipping 08/06/21	Following discussions the Committee resolved that officers explore whether the Council could be granted powers for enforcement of litter caused by alcohol consumption in public places	That officers explore the suggestion	Katie Wilby Ruth Cartwright	Ongoing
Performance Report 08/06/21	The Chief Officer agreed to share results of the network review by Transport for Wales	Results to be shared when available.	Ruth Cartwright	Ongoing
Town Centre Markets 06/07/21	That consideration be given to starting a market at Flint & Buckley	Interim response provided. Outcome to be shared with the Committee when available	Niall Waller	Ongoing
Minutes 14/09/21	Litter from food outlets	Update on Welsh Government initiative to be circulated when available	Gabby Povey	Ongoing – Awaiting on current position from WG
	Forward Work Programme	Bulky Waste Collection to be added to FWP	Facilitator	Completed

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ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 7 th December 2021
Report Subject	Active Travel Network Map - outcome of the formal consultation
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Transportation
Report Author	Chief Officer, Streetscene & Transportation
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In May 2021 a report was presented to the Environment & Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee informing members of the 12-week statutory consultation required for the Council's Active Travel Network Map (ATNM), which would be launched in August 2021.

The Active Travel Act (Wales) 2013, requires all Welsh local authorities to periodically update their individual ATNM, which involves the re-auditing of existing routes as well as the investigation of future proposed routes with the next update required to be submitted for Welsh Government (WG) for approval on 31st December 2021.

The purpose of this report is to inform members of the process and outcomes of both the informal and statutory consultation exercises, which have enabled the required updates to be made to the Council's Active Travel Network Map.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee supports the work undertaken to complete both the informal and statutory consultation processes.
2	That the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee formally recognises the validity of the process utilised to produce the Council's updated ATNM, which will be submitted to Welsh Government by 31 st December 2021.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	Explaining the Active Travel Network Map Consultation
1.01	The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 aims to make walking and cycling the natural mode of choice for short everyday journeys or as part of a longer journey in combination with other sustainable modes of travel. Its purpose is to enable more people to choose active travel as a viable alternative to using their cars, where it is suitable for them to do so.
1.02	In May 2021 a report was taken to the Environment & Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee to inform members of the 12-week statutory consultation on the Council's active travel network map (ATNM), which would be launched in August 2021. A copy of the original report has been included within Appendix 1 for information.
1.03	Local authorities have a duty to make year on year improvements to their active travel routes and related facilities. Under this duty, local authorities are required to build new active travel infrastructure, as well as improve the existing infrastructure. One of the ways that local authorities have to demonstrate to Welsh Government that they have delivered this duty is through the revision of the ATNM, which requires all Welsh local authorities to periodically update their individual maps. This requires the re-auditing of existing routes as well as the investigation of future proposed routes. The Act requires local authorities to submit their ATNM to Welsh Ministers no later than three years after the date on which their ATNM was last approved, though the act gives Welsh Ministers the power to specify a different time period by issuing a direction. At the three-year review point, there should be a measurable difference between the number and length of existing routes on any previous map and the new one.
1.04	Whilst updates to the local authority active travel maps were originally required for submission in September 2020, due to the ongoing impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, the submission deadline was extended to 31 st December 2021.
1.05	In order to both develop and update the Council's ATNM, we have worked closely with Sustrans to undertake a review of the existing routes as well as the development of potential new routes for inclusion on the forthcoming ATNM. This important piece of work has allowed any already identified new routes to be updated on the Council's ATNM prior to engagement with key stakeholders.
1.06	<p>A two stage consultation process was undertaken subsequently, which consisted of both an informal and a statutory consultation exercise. An overview of the process has been provided below for information: -</p> <p>Stage One – Informal engagement exercise</p> <p>Informal community engagement events began early in 2021, which allowed people to positively input into the process by identifying local issues and suggesting developments and improvements (which may include new routes) within their local areas.</p> <p>Running concurrently with this, audits were also undertaken to establish the suitability of any routes created since the last map submission and, where appropriate, these were added to the updated draft as existing routes.</p>

1.07	<p>Whilst in previous years, a number of workshops and community engagement events were held with schools, local forums and with Town and Community Councils, this approach has not been possible due to the restrictions associated with the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Consequently, to assist with public engagement, we have utilised an online bilingual consultation tool known as 'Commonplace,' which was licensed for use through Welsh Government (https://flintshire.commonplace.is/).</p> <p>This online community engagement platform has made it easy for local communities to record and reference comments, suggestions and proposals via the use of a digital mapping system with over 4,000 visitors to the site and almost 3,000 contributions to date.</p> <p>The informal consultation was made available on the Council's website and was promoted through direct email to a list of stakeholders and through social media. Additionally, ward member specific workshops were conducted to ensure that local knowledge input was maximised in route identification.</p> <p>An opportunity was also provided for people to contact us directly via other mediums and for officers to add their input on their behalf.</p>
1.08	<p>Stage Two - Statutory Consultation</p> <p>Following completion of the informal engagement exercise, the draft ATNM was updated prior to the undertaking of the 12-week statutory consultation period, which commenced in August 2021 and has since ended on 1st November 2021.</p> <p>As per stage one of the process, the updated ATNM map was made available through a second Commonplace web page (https://flintshire2.commonplace.is/) which allowed people to review and check the additions and, if necessary, inform us of any errors or omissions in readiness for the final map submission to the Welsh Government.</p> <p>During this 12-week period, the consultation was made available on the Council's website and was promoted through direct email to a list of stakeholders and social media. The direct email to stakeholders included a link to the online map-based consultation with a 'call to action' to share the opportunity to verify the draft as widely as possible, whilst also requesting feedback on the proposals. Again, for those who may not be computer orientated, an opportunity was also provided for people to contact us directly via other mediums and for officers to add their input on their behalf.</p> <p>Data received during this process will be used to further amend the ATNM to reflect any errors and omissions with a view to a final draft of the map being submitted to Welsh Government for approval by 31st December 2021.</p>
1.09	<p>In addition to the statutory consultation and to ensure ongoing community consultation and engagement, an Active Travel Engagement Group (ATEG) has also been convened, which not only fed into the statutory process, but will also serve as a conduit for ongoing consultation and engagement with local communities.</p>

1.10	<p>Prior to the Council's updated ATNM being submitted to the WG in December 2021 and in order to form the basis of future bids to WG, any proposed routes and associated improvements will then be further assessed utilising a Welsh Government prioritisation matrix, which takes into consideration relevant factors such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cost • casualty data • traffic speeds/flows • proximity to - education, employment, retail, tourism, community, health, transport interchanges and enterprise zones • audit scores risks and deliverability
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2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The implementation of the updated ATNM will be funded via the Council's Core Active Travel Fund allocation provided by Welsh Government.
2.02	Any additional resource required for the undertaking of both the audit and prioritisation exercises will be funded via the Council's Core Active Travel Fund allocation provided by Welsh Government.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT	
3.01	Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact	
	Long-term	<p>Positive – The move to low carbon sustainable transport options aligns itself with the long term aspirations of The Environment (Wales) Act, The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act & The Air Quality Standards (Wales) Regulations. The concept is also strongly endorsed within the Council's Council Plan under the priority of a 'Green Council' for which is reinforced by the Council's approach to integrated and sustainable transport.</p>
	Prevention	<p>Positive – The development of sustainable transport options will reinforce the Council's commitment to climate change whilst also facilitating a vision for a zero carbon future as defined within WG legislation. Implementation of the required infrastructure will provide reliance to County's highway network also boost the Council's status as a 'key player' within the region thus reducing the risk of public abandonment in terms of tourism, residential and business growth.</p>

Integration	Positive – The development of multimodal integrated transport options (with an emphasis on Active Travel) is key to the success of a sustainable, integrated transport network.
Collaboration	Positive – The continual development of a fit for purpose Cycle Network contained within a wider Integrated Transport Strategy will enable FCC to work with local authorities across the region in order to standardise the provision of infrastructure. The nature of this approach recognises the importance of strategic cross-border movements to the local economy in terms of commuter movements, business and tourism.
	Positive – Progression of the Council’s Core Active Travel Network thus far demonstrates Flintshire’s engagement with key stakeholders both cross border and within WG.
Well-being Goals Impact	
Prosperous Wales	Positive – The continual development of a fit for purpose Integrated Transport Strategy with an emphasis on sustainable modes will boost the Council’s status as a ‘key player’ within the region thus reducing the risk of public abandonment in terms of tourism, residential and business growth.
Resilient Wales	Positive - The continual development of a fit for purpose walking and cycling network is key to the success of a sustainable, integrated transport network.
Healthier Wales	Positive - The promotion and utilisation of active and sustainable transport modes provide obvious benefits to air quality through the reduction of Co2 emissions as well as improving people’s fitness and mental wellbeing. This approach will also greatly assist the Council to achieve decarbonisation targets set within Central and WG legislation.
More equal Wales	Positive – Improved connectivity through the implementation of required infrastructure will benefit tourism, residential, business growth and inequality amongst deprived communities. Health

		benefits obtained from improved air quality and increased levels of exercise will benefit the Council's most deprived communities, often associated with densely populated areas.
	Cohesive Wales	Positive – The visible presence of active and sustainable transport options within the County will have a positive effect on public awareness whilst displaying the Council's outward commitment to climate change.
	Vibrant Wales	Positive – A move to active and sustainable transport modes will improve the quality and sustainability of the natural environment whilst providing benefits to the local and regional economy in terms of tourism, residential and business growth.
	Globally responsible Wales	Positive - The continual development of a fit for purpose Integrated Transport Strategy will reinforce the Council's commitment to climate change whilst also striving to achieve a zero carbon future as defined within Central and WG legislation.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	Stage One - Informal engagement exercises undertaken in early 2021
4.02	Stage Two – 12-week statutory consultation undertaken between August and November 2021
4.03	Ward member specific workshops
4.04	Active Travel Engagement Group (ATEG) initiation and subsequent consultation
4.05	With Cabinet Member for Streetscene & Transportation
4.06	With Streetscene & Transportation Programme Board

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 - Informal Cabinet Report – Forthcoming Active Travel Consultation Process (May 2021) https://committeemeetings.flintshire.gov.uk/documents/s64428/Forthcoming%20Active%20Travel%20Consultation%20Process.pdf?LLL=0

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Guidance for local authorities planning and designing networks of walking and cycling routes - https://gov.wales/active-travel-act-guidance
7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Anthony Stanford Telephone: 01352 704817 E-mail: anthony.stanford@flintshire.gov.uk
8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS These are provided corporately on the Infonet (link) and maintained by the Executive Office
8.01	<p>(1) Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 - The Active Travel (Wales) Act aims to make it easier for people to walk and cycle in Wales, specifically to promote walking and cycling as viable modes of transport for everyday journeys such as to the shops, work or college. It places a legal duty upon local authorities in Wales to map, plan for and promote active travel journeys</p> <p>(2) Active Travel Network Map (ATNM) - This map sets out the existing and future infrastructure for walking and cycling within the areas covered by the Active Travel Act which must be reviewed and updated periodically.</p> <p>(3) Active Travel Act Guidance - Guidance for local authorities planning and designing networks of walking and cycling routes. Includes best practice on infrastructure design and gives guidance on how to provide related facilities such as cycle parking. https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2021-07/active-travel-act-guidance_0.pdf</p> <p>(4) Designated settlements - Under section 2(4) of the act the Welsh Ministers are empowered to designate localities in a Direction. The duty to map routes is specific to those designated localities. This is to ensure that there are plans in place for the creation of active travel networks in all the most populous areas in each authority. It does however not limit an authority's ability to develop network maps for other localities, where there is demand for active travel routes and a high potential for their use.</p> <p>(5) Active Travel audit tools - Local authorities need to make use of the cycle and walking route audit tools (Appendix H of the Active Travel Act Guidance) to assess the appropriateness of designating infrastructure as part of the basic network.</p> <p>(6) Prioritisation tool/matrix - Prioritisation tools aid the decision making process regarding infrastructure projects and include specific active travel criteria. A scoring matrix to assist prioritisation of schemes identified in the ATNM, together with the associated scoring criteria (Appendix K H of the Active Travel Act Guidance).</p>

(7) **Active Travel Engagement Group** – Stakeholder engagement group whose primary focus is the oversight of and input into the development of the ATNM and associated proposed AT projects and schemes.

(8) **Accessible** – transport services and infrastructure that meet the relevant policy and regulatory standards on equality, access, human rights and the Welsh language, recognising the social model of disability.

(9) **Active travel** – for the purposes of this document ‘active travel’ refers to walking and cycling for everyday journeys – such as to go to work, or education or access services.

(10) **Decarbonisation** – the actions needed to cut greenhouse gas emissions and move towards a low-carbon economy. The Welsh Government is committed to net zero carbon emissions by 2050.

(11) **Infrastructure** – transport infrastructure includes all the things that enable transport services to operate – streets and roads, railway lines and active travel networks such as cycle-paths and footpaths. It also includes associated structures such as stations, bridges, embankments, car parks, signage, signalling, bus stops and transport interchanges and the soft estate – land and greenspace associated with transport. Ports and harbours, airports, and freight and logistics facilities are also important.

(12) **Transport for Wales (TfW)** – the body established by Welsh Government to deliver transport priorities in Wales.

(13) **Welsh Transport Appraisal Guidance (WeITAG)** – a framework for assessing the impact and benefits of proposed transport interventions such as schemes to upgrade roads. It is aligned with the seven national well-being goals.

ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY

Date of Meeting	Wednesday 12 May 2021
Report Subject	Forthcoming Active Travel Consultation Process
Cabinet Member	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for the Streetscene and Countryside
Report Author	Chief Officer - Streetscene & Transportation
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 aims to make non-vehicular travel the most attractive option for most people's short journeys. Its purpose is to enable more people to choose active travel (walking and cycling) as a viable alternative to using their cars, where it is suitable for them to do so.

The Act, requires all Welsh authorities to periodically update their individual Integrated Network Maps (INM) as well as the re-auditing of their Existing Routes Map (ERM) for Welsh Government (WG) approval, for which the next update is required for submission on the 31 December 2021.

The purpose of this report is to inform Scrutiny of the forthcoming 12 week Statutory Consultation on both the Council's Active Travel Existing Route Map (ERM) and Integrated Network Map (INM) which will commence in August of this year and receive any comments or suggestions on the proposed consultation process.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	That Scrutiny notes the timescales associated with the forthcoming consultation exercise for the Council's ERM and INM.
2.	That Scrutiny request a further report detailing the outcome of the formal consultation on the Council's INM, prior to submission in December 2021.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	BACKGROUND
1.01	The Active Travel (Wales) Act 2013 aims to make non-vehicular travel the most attractive option for most people's short journeys. Its purpose is to

	enable more people to choose active travel (walking and cycling) as a viable alternative to using their cars, where it is suitable for them to do so.
1.02	The Act requires local authorities in Wales to produce active travel maps for the defined settlement areas and to deliver year on year walking and cycling improvements within them. It also requires Highway Authorities in Wales to make enhancements to the routes and to consider the needs and facilities for pedestrians and cyclists in all new road improvement schemes as well as a wide range of other Highway Authority and Planning functions. It also requires Welsh Ministers and local authorities to promote active travel journeys in exercising their functions under the Act.
1.03	<p>The Act requires two sets of maps to be produced for each settlement area:</p> <p><u>The Existing Active Travel Route Map (ERM)</u> - primarily intended to inform the public of the existing safe and suitable routes for active travel and,</p> <p><u>The Active Travel Integrated Network Map (INM)</u> - intended to set out the plans of the local authority for the next 15 years which will form the basis of all future grant submissions (as defined within the authority's Integrated Transport Strategy).</p>
1.04	The Active Travel Wales Act requires all Welsh authorities to periodically update their individual INM as well as the re-auditing of their ERM every 5 years for WG approval. Whilst updates to the Council's mapping were originally required for submission in September of last year, due to the ongoing impacts of the Covid 19 pandemic, the submission deadline has been subsequently extended to the 31 December 2021.
1.05	The Council's Transport Strategy Team are currently working in partnership with Sustrans to undertake a review of the existing routes as well as the development of potential new routes for inclusion on the forthcoming INM. This important piece of work will allow any already identified new routes to be updated on to the Council's INM prior to the commencing of the Formal Consultation period.
1.06	<p>Public Engagement:</p> <p>It is proposed that the 12 week Statutory Consultation on both the ERM and the INM will commence in August 2021 and continue throughout the months of September and October. During this period, the consultation will be made available on the Council's website as well as being promoted through social media, press releases and via an on-line consultation. In addition to the above, Stakeholders will be emailed directly (for which a link to the consultation will be provided) requesting feedback on the proposals whilst also being given the opportunity to put forward any recommendations</p> <p>Whilst in previous years, a number of workshops and community engagement events were also held with schools, local forums and Community and Town Councils, it is regrettable that such an approach will not be possible due to the ongoing restrictions associated with the Covid 19 pandemic.</p>

	The consultation process will be publicised in both the local media and social media platforms and written submissions received during the consultation period will be accepted.
1.07	In order to assist with public engagement, the Council will be utilising an on-line bilingual consultation tool known as 'Commonplace' which has been developed and funded by Welsh Government. Commonplace is an online community engagement platform enabling comments, suggestions and proposals to be recorded and referenced via the use of a digital mapping system. This will enable local communities to raise awareness of local issues, developments and improvements and will be very effective in enabling the accurate collation of data.
1.08	Any routes that are identified as a result of the consultation process will then be assessed in accordance with Welsh Government's Active Travel Audit Tool Kit, which will take into consideration factors such as width, gradients, surface, visibility, dropped kerbs and accessibility in order to confirm if they meet the required active travel standards.
1.09	Completion of the Statutory Consultation process detailed above will inform the required updates to the Council's INM, which will then be brought back Scrutiny for comment before seeking Cabinet approval in November of this year, prior to submission to WG for final approval in December 2021.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The funding for the Consultation process will be via the Council's Core Active Travel allocation provided by Welsh Government.
2.02	Sustrans will be working in partnership with Flintshire County Council for both the assessment of ERM and the development of the updated INM.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT	
3.01	Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact	
	Long-term	Positive – The move to low carbon sustainable transport options aligns itself with the long term aspirations of The Environment (Wales) Act, The Well-Being of Future Generations (Wales) Act & The Air Quality Standards (Wales) Regulations. The concept is also strongly endorsed within the Council's Council Plan under the priority of a 'Green Council' for which is reinforced by the Council's approach to integrated and sustainable transport.
	Prevention	Positive – The development of sustainable transport options will reinforce

	<p>the Council's commitment to climate change whilst also facilitating a vision for a zero carbon future as defined within WG legislation. Implementation of the required infrastructure will provide reliance to County's highway network also boost the Council's status as a 'key player' within the region thus reducing the risk of public abandonment in terms of tourism, residential and business growth.</p>
Integration	<p>Positive – The development of a multimodal integrated transport options is key to the success of a sustainable, integrated transport network.</p>
Collaboration	<p>Positive – The continual development of a fit for purpose Integrated Transport Strategy will enable FCC to work with local authorities across the region in order to standardise the provision of infrastructure. The nature of this approach recognises the importance of strategic cross-border movements to the local economy in terms of commuter movements, business and tourism.</p>
Involvement	<p>Positive – Progression of the Council's Core Active Travel Network thus far demonstrates Flintshire's engagement with key stakeholders both cross border and within WG.</p>
<p>Well-being Goals Impact</p>	
Prosperous Wales	<p>Positive – The continual development of a fit for purpose Integrated Transport Strategy with an emphasis on sustainable modes will boost the Council's status as a 'key player' within the region thus reducing the risk of public abandonment in terms of tourism, residential and business growth.</p>
Resilient Wales	<p>Positive - The continual development of a fit for purpose Integrated Transport Strategy is key to the success of a sustainable, integrated transport network.</p>
Healthier Wales	<p>Positive - The promotion and utilisation of active and sustainable transport modes provide obvious benefits to air quality through the reduction of Co2 emissions as well as improving people's fitness and</p>

		mental wellbeing. This approach will also greatly assist the Council to achieve decarbonisation targets set within Central and WG legislation.
	More equal Wales	Positive – Improved connectivity through the implementation of required infrastructure will benefit tourism, residential, business growth and inequality amongst deprived communities. Health benefits obtained from improved air quality and increased levels of exercise will benefit the Council's most deprived communities, often associated with densely populated areas.
	Cohesive Wales	Positive – The visible presence of active and sustainable transport options within the County will have a positive effect on public awareness whilst displaying the Council's outward commitment to climate change.
	Vibrant Wales	Positive – A move to active and sustainable transport modes will improve the quality and sustainability of the natural environment whilst providing benefits to the local and regional economy in terms of tourism, residential and business growth.
	Globally responsible Wales	Positive - The continual development of a fit for purpose Integrated Transport Strategy will reinforce the Council's commitment to climate change whilst also striving to achieve a zero carbon future as defined within Central and WG legislation.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
4.01	The 12 week statutory consultation on the Council's Integrated Network Map will begin in early August. During this period the consultation will be available on the Council's website and will be promoted through social media, press releases and further drop in events which will be advertised on the Council's website and in the press. Stakeholders will be emailed the link to the consultation and will be asked for their feedback on the proposals.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Flintshire County Councils <u>existing</u> Active Travel Existing Route Map (ERM); https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Streetscene/Active-Travel-Existing-Route-Map.aspx
6.02	Flintshire County Councils <u>existing</u> Active Travel Integrated Network Map (INM); https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Streetscene/Active-Travel-Integrated-Network-Map-Consultation.aspx
6.03	Flintshire County Councils - Integrated Transport Strategy

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Stephen O Jones Telephone: 01352 704700 E-mail: stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p>(1) Active Travel (Wales) Act: A statutory document introduced in 2013, its purpose is to enable more people to undertake active travel for short journeys instead of using motorised vehicles where it is suitable for them to do so. An active travel route must be within a designated locality in a local authority area.</p> <p>(2) Sustrans (Sustainable Transport (British Cycling Organization): A UK walking and cycling charity and custodian of the National Cycle Network. Sustrans works with schools to encourage active travel (cycling, walking or scooting) among students. It also works with employers and local authorities. It administers several thousand volunteers who contribute their time to the charity in numerous ways, such as cleaning and maintaining the National Cycle Network, enhancing biodiversity along the routes, leading walks and rides and supporting communities to improve their air quality.</p>



ENVIRONMENT & ECONOMY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 7 th December 2021
Report Subject	Council Plan 2021-22 Mid-Year Performance Reporting
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Transportation; Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection; and Cabinet Member for Economic Development
Report Author	Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy); and Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Flintshire County Council Reporting Measures 2020/21 were identified by portfolios and approved by Cabinet in September 2020. This report presents a summary of performance at the mid-year point for the priorities relevant to the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

This mid-year performance monitoring report for the 2021/22 Council Plan shows that 70% of activities are making good progress with 73% likely to achieve their planned outcomes. 53% of the performance indicators have met or exceeded their targets, 2% are being closely monitored and 20% are currently not meeting target. The remaining 25% account for measures which are new and are being monitored as a baseline year.

This report is an exception-based report and concentrates on under-performance against target.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	That the Committee consider the Mid-Year Performance Indicators for Recovery, Portfolio and Public Accountability Measures to monitor areas of under performance and request further information as appropriate.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE PERFORMANCE AT YEAR END 2020/2021
1.01	<p>The year-end performance monitoring reports provide explanation of the progress being made toward the agreed measures set out in the Flintshire County Council Reporting Measures 2020/21.</p> <p>These measures were approved by Cabinet after targets for 2020/21 were re-assessed for forecasted performance due to the disruptions caused during the response phase of the pandemic.</p>
1.02	<p>This report is an exception-based report and concentrates on under-performance against in-year targets.</p>
1.03	<p>Monitoring Activities</p> <p>Each of the sub-priorities under each theme within the Plan have high level activities which are monitored over time. 'Progress' shows action against scheduled activity and is categorised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RED: Limited Progress – delay in scheduled activity and, not on track. • AMBER: Satisfactory Progress – some delay in scheduled activity, but broadly on track. • GREEN: Good Progress – activities completed on schedule and on track. <p>A RAG status is also given for the assessment of our current level of confidence in achieving the 'outcome(s)' in-year for each sub-priority. Outcome is categorised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RED: Low – lower level of confidence in the achievement of the outcome(s) in-year. • AMBER: Medium – uncertain level of confidence in the achievement of the outcome(s) in-year. • GREEN: High – full confidence in the achievement of the outcome(s) in-year.
1.04	<p>In summary overall progress against activities is:</p> <p>Progress RAG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good (green) progress in 99 (70%) • Satisfactory (amber) progress in 38 (27%) • Making limited (red) progress in 5 (3%) <p>Outcome RAG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A high (green) level of confidence in the achievement of 104 (73%) outcomes.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A medium (amber) level of confidence in the achievement of 31 (22%) outcomes. • A low (red) level of confidence in the achievement of 7 (5%) outcomes.
1.05	<p>Monitoring our Performance</p> <p>Analysis of performance against the performance indicators is undertaken using the RAG status. This is defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RED - under-performance against target. • AMBER - where improvement may have been made but performance has missed the target. • GREEN - positive performance against target.
1.06	<p>Analysis of current levels of performance against target shows the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 27 (53%) have achieved a green RAG status • 1 (2%) have an amber RAG status • 10 (20%) have a red RAG status • 13 (25%) have no target set
1.07	<p>The performance indicators (PIs) which show a red RAG status for current performance against target relevant to the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee are:-</p> <p><u>Planning, Environment & Economy</u></p> <p>Number of individuals entering employment, learning or volunteering In quarter one, 40 individuals entered employment. Quarter two saw 35 individuals enter employment having been successfully mentored with the Communities For Work programme in Flintshire. Employment sectors entered included construction, retail, logistics and production.</p> <p>Number of individuals receiving support During quarter one 102 participants were supported through the Communities for Work programme receiving assistance in accessing training and employability skills in order to move them closer to the labour market. During quarter two 118 participants accessed this support. Training included Construction Skills, HGV, Administration, Health & Safety and Customer Service.</p> <p>Number of inspections of HMOs The programme of inspections has been delayed as officers were diverted to support the pandemic response and continue to support recovery from the 14 month backlog of cases that have accrued. 409 properties have been identified as possible Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMO) within the County. The team have identified those that would fall within the definition of a licensable HMO and have initially contacted a sample group of 30 requesting further information about each property and its use. Priority visits have been</p>

set around the analysis of the information received and these started in October 2021. The 12 properties inspected to date have been reactive work following up on complaints received.

Streetscene & Transportation

Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted

Total waste arising has increased, which includes both residual and recycling. Recycling collected amounts have increased; however, as the amount of residual (non-recyclable) waste has also increased, this means that any recycling performance percentage has been offset by the total waste arising. The reintroduction of side waste enforcement from September 2021 and further efforts to promote reuse and recycling are intended to assist with a reduction in residual waste, and increase in recycling.

Number of bus quality partnerships on the core network

The ongoing development of the Quality Bus Partnership has been put on hold. Transport For Wales are undertaking a Network review across North Wales with a report due in Quarter 4 2021/2022.

Number of schemes delivered through the Welsh Government Active Travel Fund

To date, no active travel infrastructure scheme has been completed for 2021/22.

2.00 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

2.01 There are no specific resource implications for this report.

3.00 IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT

3.01 Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact

Long-term	Throughout all of the Mid-Year Monitoring Report there are demonstrable actions and activities which relate to all of the Sustainable Development Principles. Specific case studies will be included in the Annual Performance Report for 2021/22.
Prevention	
Integration	
Collaboration	
Involvement	

Well-being Goals Impact

Prosperous Wales	Throughout the Mid-Year Monitoring Report there is evidence of alignment with the Well-being Goals. Specific strategic and policy reports include impact and risk assessments.
Resilient Wales	
Healthier Wales	
More equal Wales	
Cohesive Wales	
Vibrant Wales	
Globally responsible Wales	

Council's Well-being Objectives

The Council undertook a review of its Well-being Objectives during the development of the 2021/22 Council Plan. The updated set of Well-being Objectives are a more focused set of six. The Well-being Objectives identified have associated themes for which they resonate. See the full list below.

Theme	Well-being Objective
Poverty	Protecting people from poverty by supporting them to meet their basic needs
Affordable and Accessible Housing	Housing in Flintshire meeting the needs of our residents and supporting safer communities
Green Society and Environment	Limiting the impact of the Council's services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint
Economy	Enabling a sustainable economic recovery
Personal and Community Well-being	Supporting people in need to live as well as they can
Education and Skills	Enabling and Supporting Learning Communities

4.00 CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT

- | | |
|------|---|
| 4.01 | The Reporting Measures are monitored by the respective Overview and Scrutiny Committees according to the priority area of interest. |
| 4.02 | Chief Officers have contributed towards reporting of relevant information. |

5.00 APPENDICES

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| 5.01 | Appendix 1: Council Plan 2021/22 Performance Report – Mid-Year |
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6.00 LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

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| 6.01 | Council Plan 2021/22. |
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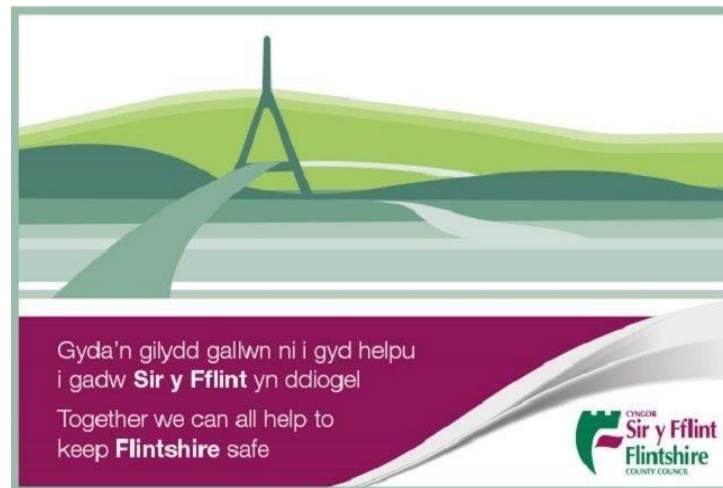
7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officer: Margaret Parry-Jones, Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator Telephone: 01352 702427 E-mail: Margaret.parry-jones@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p>Council Plan: the document which sets out the annual priorities of the Council. It is a requirement of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to set Improvement Objectives and publish a Council Plan.</p> <p>Action – Each sub-priority have high level activities attached to them to help achieve the outcomes of the sub-priority.</p> <p>Progress RAG – Shows if the action at this point in time is making limited progress (Red), satisfactory progress (Amber) or good progress (Green).</p> <p>Outcome RAG – Shows the level of confidence in achieving the outcomes for each action.</p> <p>YTD Actual – The data for the year so far including previous quarters.</p> <p>YTD Target – The target for the year so far including the targets of previous quarters.</p>



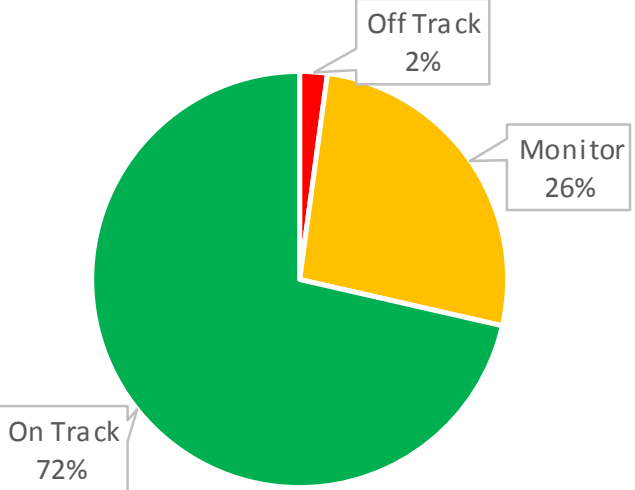
Council Plan Mid-Year Report 2021/22

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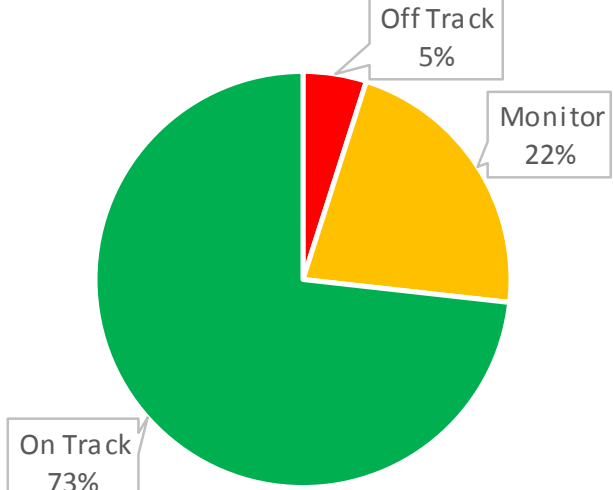


Analysis

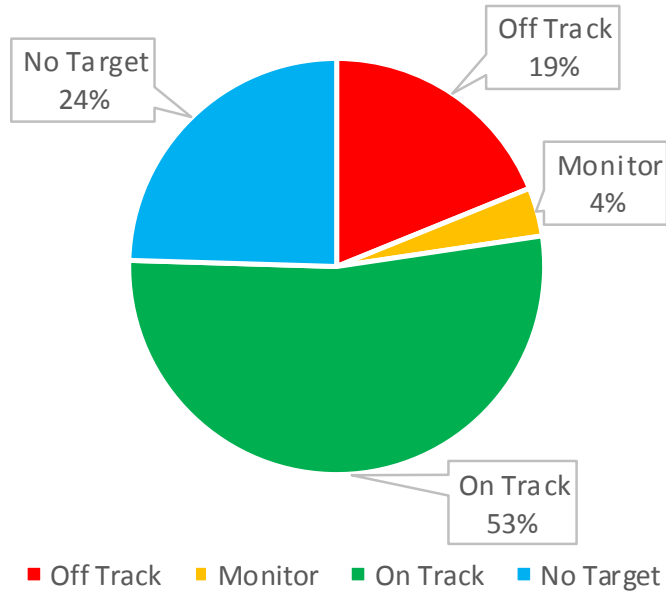
Council Plan Action RAG Status



Council Plan Outcome RAG Status



Council Plan Performance Measures



Measures Off Track

Area	Title	
Child Poverty	Number of libraries open	▲
Child Poverty	Percentage of secondary school offering the free breakfast to those eligible year 7 pupils	▲
Digital Poverty	People can access information digitally to retain their digital skills	▲
Private Rented Sector	Number of inspections of HMOs	▲
Social Housing	Number of Council Homes under construction	▲
Circular Economy	Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted	▲
Reducing Worklessness	Number of individuals entering employment, learning or volunteering	▲
Reducing Worklessness	Number of individuals entering employment, learning or volunteering	▲
Transport and Digital Infrastructure	Number of bus quality partnerships on the core network	▲
Transport and Digital Infrastructure	Number of schemes delivered through the Welsh Government Active Travel Fund	▲

Affordable and Accessible Housing

Empty Properties Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Bringing empty homes back into use thorough the Empty Homes Loan Scheme (EHLS)	50%	★	★	To date the service has approved 'House to Home loans' amounting to a total of £229,901.
Exploring opportunities to develop a project management service for non-commercial landlords to encourage take up of the Empty Home Loan Scheme	50%	★	★	The service is currently being developed and proposals have been passed to Legal Services to draft a contract, service conditions and agree fees.
Exploring opportunities to maximise housing and revitalise our towns through the redevelopment of the High Street	50%	★	★	The teams are working with other service areas, particularly Town Centre regeneration, to offer Town Centre loans along with Houses into Home loan to encourage Town Centre redevelopment with living accommodation above shops.
Targeting 'problem' empty homes in our communities and using enforcement powers where appropriate to improve our communities and increase housing supply	50%	★	★	Enforcement powers have been successfully used to take two properties through the enforced sale procedure and work is now progressing on a third property. The Empty Homes Officer also works with the Enforcement Panel that has recently been established in the Authority.

Empty Properties Measures

Measures Off Track

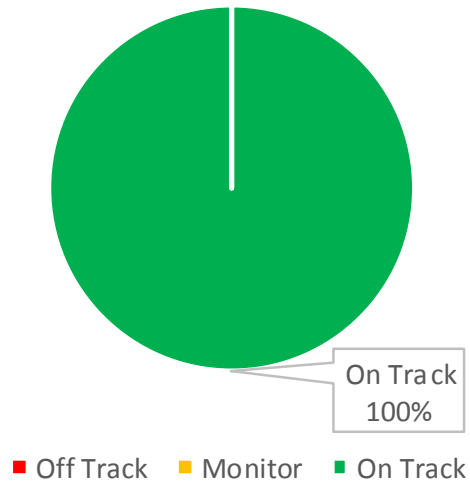
Area	Title
Empty Properties	There are no measures off track for this section

There are no reportable measures for this period

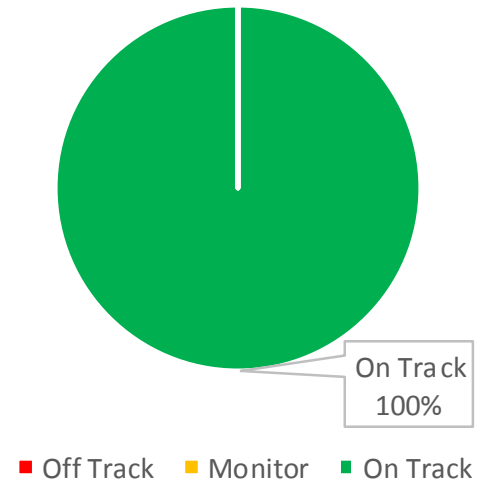
Green Society and Environment

Green Society and Environment Overall Performance

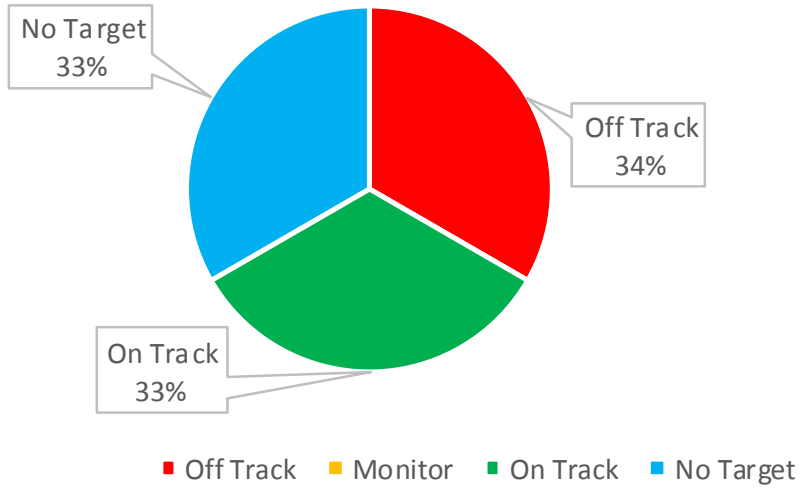
Green Society and Environment Action RAG Status



Green Society and Environment Outcome RAG Status



Green Society and Environment Performance Measures



Measures Off Track

Area	Title
Circular Economy	Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted ▲

Carbon Neutrality Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Developing a net carbon zero action plan and be approved	20%	★	★	Initial engagement activities with Members and Academi completed. Public engagement session is opening during October 2021.
Developing a policy for sustainable and long term energy usage in capital projects where this can be achieved	100%	★	★	The requirement for a policy has been negated by the energy team and the Capital Assets team working together to include the energy team in the early design stages of Capital Projects to advise on sustainable energy usage and understand the longer term effects of energy usage
Gathering information on annual Council greenhouse gas emissions to submit to Welsh Government and the Carbon Programme Board	80%	★	★	Data collation for 2020/21 carbon emissions is in progress and currently at 80% completion. Submission deadline to Welsh Government is October 2021 and we are on course for this deadline.
Putting a Governance Structure (Carbon Programme Board) in place	100%	✓	★	Member Programme Board in place June 2021. Meetings occur every two months with July and September completed. Officer Group to support Programme Board in place September 2021 with first meeting taking place in October. The governance structure includes Environment and Economy Scrutiny.
Reviewing the procurement policy to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from suppliers	10%	●	★	To work towards implementing a green procurement policy, and one which guides suppliers to reduce air pollution, mitigate climate change and conserve energy, there is a need undertake a review in quarter four of the existing procurement policy. Preliminary work will be undertaken by Flintshire Council to move this review forward. However, recruitment of a replacement Procurement Team Manager at Denbighshire Council is also critical to move this review along at pace.

Carbon Neutrality Measures

Measures Off Track

Area	Title
Carbon Neutrality	There are no measures off track for this section

There are no reportable measures for this period

Fleet Strategy Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Converting the authority's fleet to electric and alternative fuels (hydrogen etc)	10%	★	★	Two Battery Electric Recycling vehicles have been ordered and delivery is expected in Early 2022. Work is on-going to develop the electric charging infrastructure needed to support the transition to Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs). The overall ambition to convert the county's fleet of vehicles is a longer term ambition, delivered over the course of several years.
Ensuring all business journeys are subject to proper planning and optimisation	30%	★	★	As travel accounts for a significant share of the Council's carbon footprint, to reduce the impact of business travel, only business travel deemed essential will be approved. The recent updated Travel and Expenses Policy requires employees, wherever possible to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • join meetings remotely (e.g. by video conference), or • take public transport instead of going by car or taxi. Where business travel is deemed essential, strict criteria apply.
Reducing employee owned vehicle business mileage through continued use of virtual meeting attendance and reduction in unnecessary journeys	50%	★	★	Welsh Government advice remains that employees who can work from home, continue to do so. This means a significant number of employees are continuing to work from home. Work has begun preparing the model for the future working when pandemic restrictions are further eased. In order to reduce time and money spent on travel and to reduce the carbon emissions caused by it the expectation for all officers will be that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • officers do not work on council premises for a full week where their duties permit them to work from home. • meetings, visits, conferences, etc take place virtually except in agreed circumstances.

Fleet Strategy Measures

Fleet Strategy Performance Measures



■ Off Track ■ Monitor ■ On Track ■ No Target

Measures Off Track

Area	Title
Fleet Strategy	There are no measures off track for this section

Fleet Strategy

Reduced business travel mileage across all portfolio



Page 54

Actual (YTD)	Target (YTD)	Last Year	Current RAG Rating
700,300.00			n/a

Comment
<p>Welsh Government advice remains that employees who can work from home, continue to do so. This means a significant number of employees are continuing to work from home. Work has begun preparing the model for the future working when pandemic restrictions are further eased. In order to reduce time and money spent on travel and to reduce the carbon emissions caused by it the expectation for all officers will be that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> officers do not work on council premises for a full week where their duties permit them to work from home. meetings, visits, conferences, etc take place virtually except in agreed circumstances.

Green Environment Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Delivering an increase in canopy cover as part of the Urban Tree and Woodland Plan	20%	★	★	The townscape trees project has started with site scoping carried out to support delivery of the urban tree and woodland plan. This scoping work will inform the pattern of planting that will commence when we enter the tree planting season in the winter months.
Developing a strategy to improve biodiversity and carbon sequestration on the agricultural estate	10%	★	★	Biodiversity and carbon sequestration on our agricultural estate will be included in the climate change strategy.
Enhancing the natural environment through the delivery of the Section 6 Environment Act Wales biodiversity duty	50%	★	★	Ongoing biodiversity impact assessment on plans on projects. Monthly Local Nature Partnership coordinator meetings to manage communications and collaborative projects. Secured funding for pilot Flintshire Eco Champions school programme. Nature Recovery Action Plan outlined on the Bionet website launched April 2021. Creation of 12 high impact wildflower sites around the road network. Ongoing work with Streetscene for verge and greenspace management. Over 80 wildflower sites mapped.

Green Environment Measures

Measures Off Track

Area	Title
Green Environment	There are no measures off track for this section

There are no reportable measures for this period

Renewable Energy Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Agreeing appropriate investment strategy for future renewable energy developments	20%	★	★	Initial scoping has been carried out by Energy Service that has identified a possible four to five sites for renewable energy developments. These sites require further feasibility to determine where investment should be given.
Assessing the feasibility of renewable energy and land assets and link to wider carbon ambitions	10%	★	★	Initial work has been carried out to identify suitable sites and a wider feasibility assessment is to be completed.

Renewable Energy Measures

Measures Off Track

Area	Title
Renewable Energy	There are no measures off track for this section

There are no reportable measures for this period

Active and Sustainable Travel Actions

There are no actions for this priority.

Active and Sustainable Travel Measures

Measures Off Track

Area	Title
Renewable Energy	There are no measures off track for this section

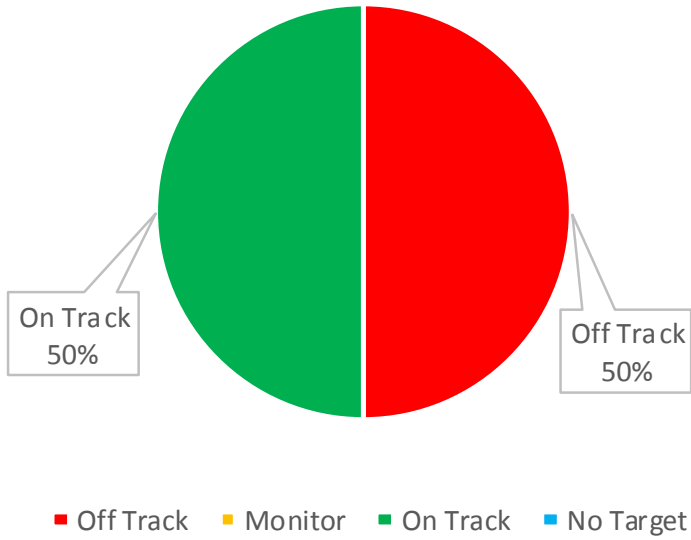
There are no reportable measures for this period

Circular Economy Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Achieving Welsh Government recycling targets	50%	●	●	Total waste arising have increased, which includes both residual and recycling. Recycling collected amounts have increased, however as the amount of residual non-recyclable waste also has also increased, this means that any recycling performance percentage has been offset by the total waste arising. However reintroduction of side waste and promoting recycling will help with a reduction in residual waste, and increase in recycling. Therefore the combined recycling/composting/reuse percentage will increase.
Developing and extending the Greenfield Composting Facility and Waste Transfer Station	80%	★	★	The project is progressing well with civils work on track to be completed before December 2021. There have been some short delays to completion due to supply chain disruption.
Developing and extending the Standard Yard Waste & Recycling Transfer Station	21.8%	★	★	Standard Yard Project works are progressing on target. The tender for the bailing equipment has been returned and is due to be awarded within the coming weeks. The access road is currently being priced, and the building design is being finalised. A planning application is to be submitted in October 2021
Promoting the option to reuse and repair unwanted items at Household Recycling Centres by partnering with local Charities	50%	●	★	Refurbs Flintshire currently take any large, bulky household items from the Household Recycling Centres for resale in their shops. Further engagement is required with more charities to develop this initiative to maximise the types of waste reused. This has been delayed due to the closure of most charity shops over the past 18 months.
Support local businesses in their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and become more resource efficient	0%		▲	The work stream has not yet been started. Capacity in the Business Development team has been prioritised for the delivery of the Welsh Government Covid grants.
Supporting and promoting the development of a Re-Use and Repair Café within the County	100%	✔	★	The Repair and Reuse Centre, with café, was successfully opened in June 2021. Since that time the café has become well established with customer throughput increasing. A small number of repair/reuse workshops have taken place so far but progress with a formal programme has been delayed due recruitment and social distancing restriction.
Working in partnership, actively support and engage with community led groups by developing environmental and recycling initiatives	40%	★	●	Approval has been given by Cabinet to introduce a new, designated role, to drive forward environmental and waste reduction initiatives. This role will be responsible for working with community groups to develop and introduce schemes. Support has been given to local litter picking groups buy issuing equipment for picking events and removing the waste items collected. Presentations have been given to community groups regarding waste and littering problems and ways in which these can be minimised.

Circular Economy Measures

Circular Economy Performance Measures



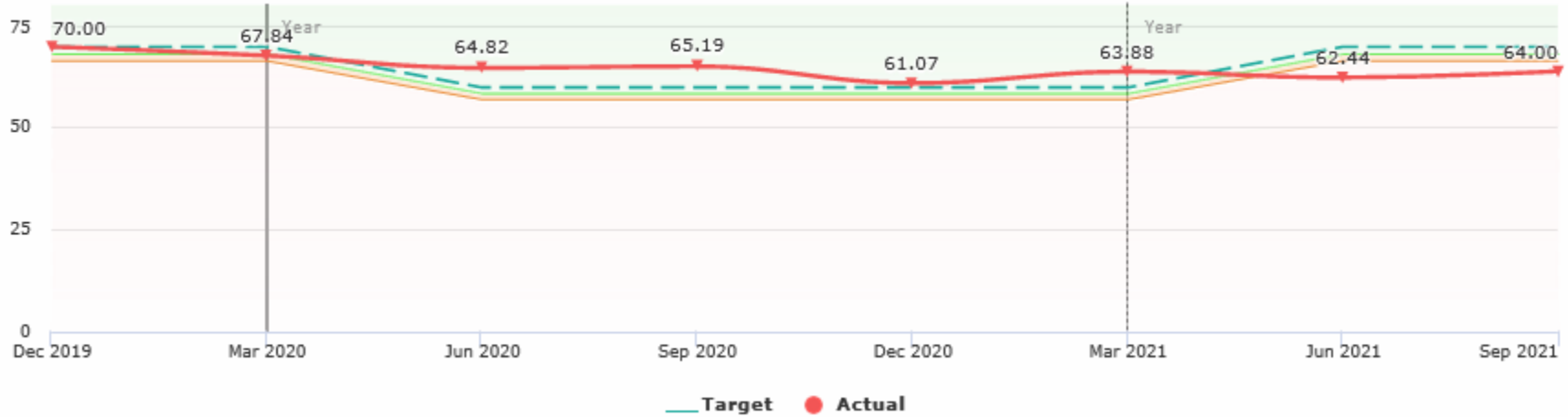
Measures Off Track

Area	Title
Circular Economy	Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted



Circular Economy

Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted



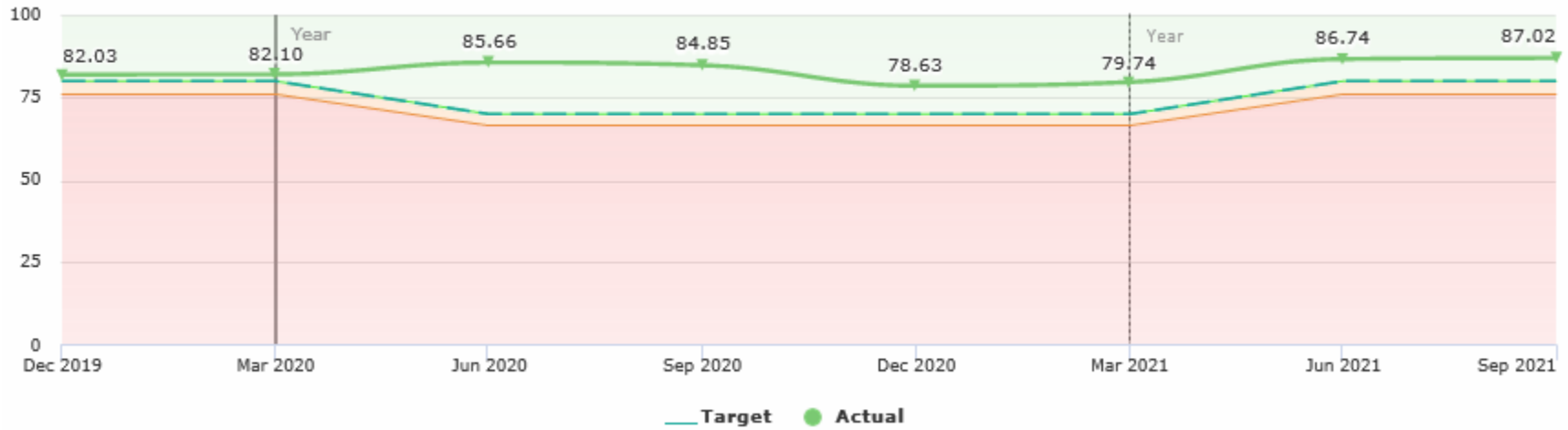
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Actual (YTD)	Target (YTD)	Last Year	Current RAG Rating
64.00	70.00	65.19	▲

Comment
<p>Total waste arising has increased, which includes both residual and recycling.</p> <p>Recycling collected amounts have increased, however as the amount of residual (non-recyclable) waste has also increased. This means that any recycling performance percentage has been offset by the total waste arising.</p> <p>The reintroduction of side waste from September 2021, and further effort to promoting recycling, will help with a reduction in residual waste, and increase in recycling.</p>

Circular Economy

Average Recycling rate across Household Recycling Centres (HRCs)



Actual (YTD)	Target (YTD)	Last Year	Current RAG Rating
87.00	80.00	84.85	★

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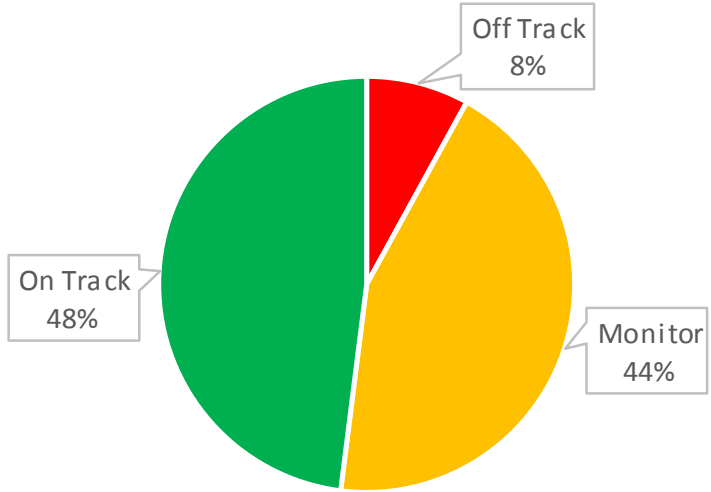
Comment

Household Recycling Centres remained open with appropriate control measures in place. Footfall has steadily increased, as alert levels decrease during Spring and Summer, resulting in an increase of materials brought to site and separated for recycling.

Economy

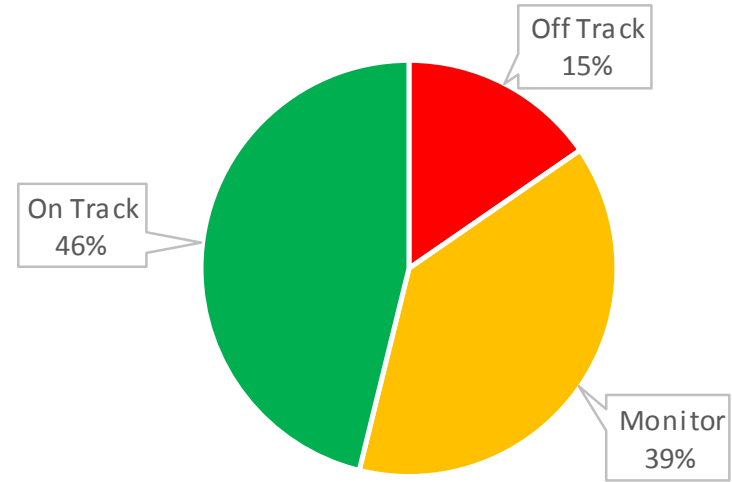
Economy Overall Performance

Economy Action RAG Status



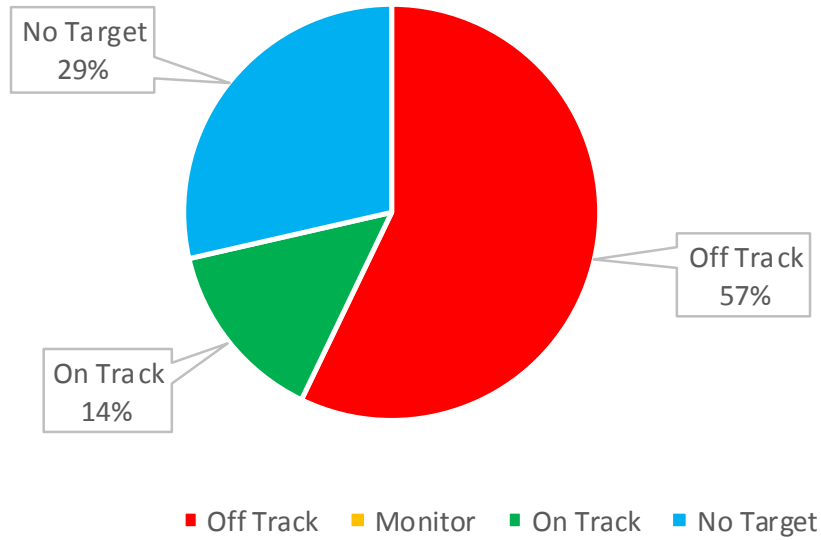
■ Off Track ■ Monitor ■ On Track

Economy Outcome RAG Status



■ Off Track ■ Monitor ■ On Track

Economy Performance Measures



Measures Off Track

Area	Title	
Reducing Worklessness	Number of individuals entering employment, learning or volunteering	▲
Reducing Worklessness	Number of individuals entering employment, learning or volunteering	▲
Transport and Digital Infrastructure	Number of bus quality partnerships on the core network	▲
Transport and Digital Infrastructure	Number of schemes delivered through the Welsh Government Active Travel Fund	▲

Town Centre Regeneration Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Encouraging and support investment in town centre properties especially to facilitate more sustainable uses	40%	●	●	The Council has been supporting a number of potential investors to develop their town centre projects. Flintshire launched an interest-free loan scheme for investors in town centres. The scheme is funded by Welsh Government with £840k available, the first two applications have been received. In addition, the Council has secured £112k from Welsh Government to renovate 31 Chester Road West in Shotton as part of the Shotton Action Plan. The property, which has been vacant for several years, will be used for the County food poverty project as well as for residential accommodation.
Improving the environment in town centres	25%	●	●	Funding for environmental projects remains limited. However, the Council intends to implement a green infrastructure project in Shotton as part of the Shotton Action Plan programme. Funding is already in place from Welsh Government (WG). A further small tree planting project in Flint is also planned this year to implement an element of the Flint Green Infrastructure plan. This is also funded by WG. In addition, the Council is also commissioning a review of the street environment in Buckley.
Monitoring the health and vitality of town centres to support effective management and business investment decisions	40%	★	★	The Council has been successful in securing Welsh Government funding for digital footfall monitoring equipment across all of the town centres in Flintshire. These will enable the Council, partners and businesses to receive real time intelligence on the numbers of people using the town centres. The project will also allowing the piloting of other types of sensor in town centres in order to assess their effectiveness including, for example, air quality, soil moisture (for tree planting) and light sensors (on defibrillator boxes). The infrastructure created will be on an open access basis so that other users including the private sector will be able to take advantage of its capabilities for their own sensors.
Promoting town centre, hospitality and tourism businesses to help with their post-Covid recovery	50%	★	★	The Council has delivered a promotional campaign to generate a positive image of Flintshires towns and visitor economy. A number of promotional assets were produced during this campaign including podcasts, films, e-book, news release and social media platforms. These assets can be used in future promotional campaigns.
Supporting the growth of community enterprises in town centre locations	50%	●	●	Business support, advice and guidance continues to be delivered via social media platforms and over the telephone, however an increasing number of enquiries are seeking face to face support. The development of community facilities is an area of start-up growth across Flintshire Town centres.

Town Centre Regeneration Measures

Measures Off Track

Area	Title
Town Centre Regeneration	There are no measures off track for this section

There are no reportable measures for this period

Business Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Engaging small businesses and improve support packages available to them	20%	★	★	The Council has now recruited an officer to engage town centre businesses through both face to face contacts and social media.
Increasing the scale and impact of the social business sector	50%	●	●	Ongoing business support being delivered via telephone / social media platforms. Though the number of start-ups is lower than anticipated, new clients/potential start-ups are being generated by word of mouth referrals by existing social enterprises and partner organisations.
Supporting growth of the local and regional food and drink business sector through marketing and collaborative projects	50%	★	★	Delivered a promotional campaign and activity to showcase the unique range of locally produced food and drink. Provided match funding to support local food and drink groups develop a sub-regional project to help with recovery from the pandemic through research, identifying examples of good practice, introducing new ways of selling and new collaborative product development.
Supporting local businesses in their efforts to reduce their carbon footprint and become more resource efficient	0%		●	Work has not started on this programme of work due to capacity being diverted to delivering the Welsh Government Covid recovery grants.
Supporting post-Covid recovery of the County's street and indoor markets	50%	★	●	The street and indoor markets in Flintshire were severely affected by the pandemic with many businesses unable to trade for many months. In addition, the Christmas markets run by the Council and partners in Mold and Holywell have not been able to go ahead for two years. Following the removal of restrictions the Council has worked with traders to successfully encourage new stalls onto the markets. The Council has run a series of shop local campaigns featuring local businesses, including the market traders, which received a good level of coverage.

Business Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Supporting recovery of the tourism and hospitality sectors and rebuild confidence in the industry	50%	★	★	<p>The team has supported visitor sector businesses to access funding packages for recovery post- pandemic.</p> <p>Regular communication and information sharing with the sector and partners.</p> <p>Flintshire is part of a regional social media campaign to promote priority products over the autumn and winter season. The campaign started in October and will run until the end of March 2022. The objective of this autumn and winter campaign is to encourage and drive traffic/ visits to the North East Wales website and social media platforms.</p> <p>We have supported and raised awareness of the national recruitment and skills campaign with the sector in Flintshire. We continue to encourage businesses to utilise a new tool kit which is now available to help with recruiting staff and raising awareness of the great career opportunities in tourism and hospitality. This is being undertaken with the destination management partnership and local tourism associations.</p> <p>Research and development work for the Flintshire Ambassador programme is underway. This is a scheme that provides online learning and opportunities to enhance knowledge of the visitor offer of Flintshire and the wider North Wales region.</p>

Business Measures

Measures Off Track

Area	Title
Business	There are no measures off track for this section

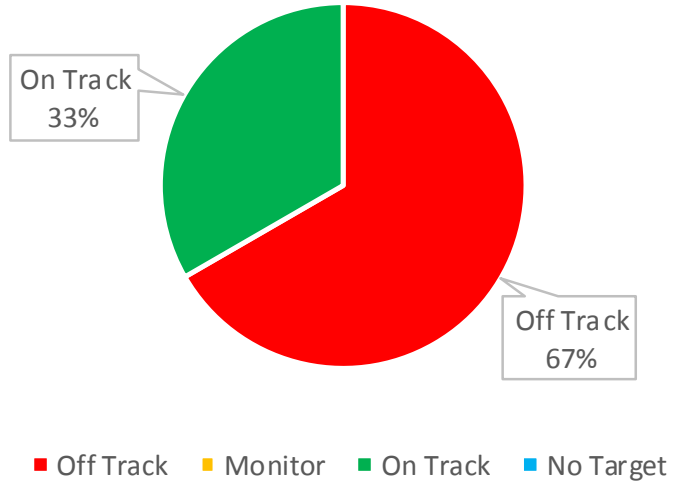
There are no reportable measures for this period

Transport and Digital Infrastructure Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Completing the connection of all eligible public buildings through the Local Full Fibre Network Project	90%	★	★	The Local Full Fibre Programme, funded by UK Government, will connect almost 400 public sector buildings in North Wales to the fibre network. In Flintshire, the majority of buildings put forward to the project have been completed. The Council awaits the completion of the final few by BT Openreach/BT although this has been delayed.
Connecting further rural communities to improved digital infrastructure	50%	★	★	The Council employs a Rural Broadband Officer to support rural households to improve their digital connectivity. In addition to providing one to one support to households, especially where children have been struggling with online education during lockdown, the officer has been supporting communities to bid to the Community Fibre Partnership programme to part-fund connection to the fibre network. Five projects have been developed so far and await BT Openreach approval.
Developing and delivering transport infrastructure improvements as part of North Wales Metro programme and the Council's Integrated Transport Strategy	45%	●	★	Progression of the North Wales Metro and in year transport schemes have been restricted due to ongoing land negotiations and supplier availability.
Ensuring Flintshire strategic transport priorities are well-represented in the Regional Transport Plan from the forthcoming Corporate Joint Committee development	50%	★	★	Following the publishing of Welsh Government's (WG) New Wales Transport Plan, we are in the process of reviewing our own Integrated Transport Strategy. Once complete, this will form the basis of Flintshire's forthcoming Regional Transport plan submission.
Starting delivery of the local plans within the North Wales Growth Deal for digital infrastructure	50%	★	★	The Council are engaged with each of the work streams developing the Growth Deal capital investment projects.

Transport and Digital Infrastructure Measures

Transport and Digital Infrastructure Performance Measures

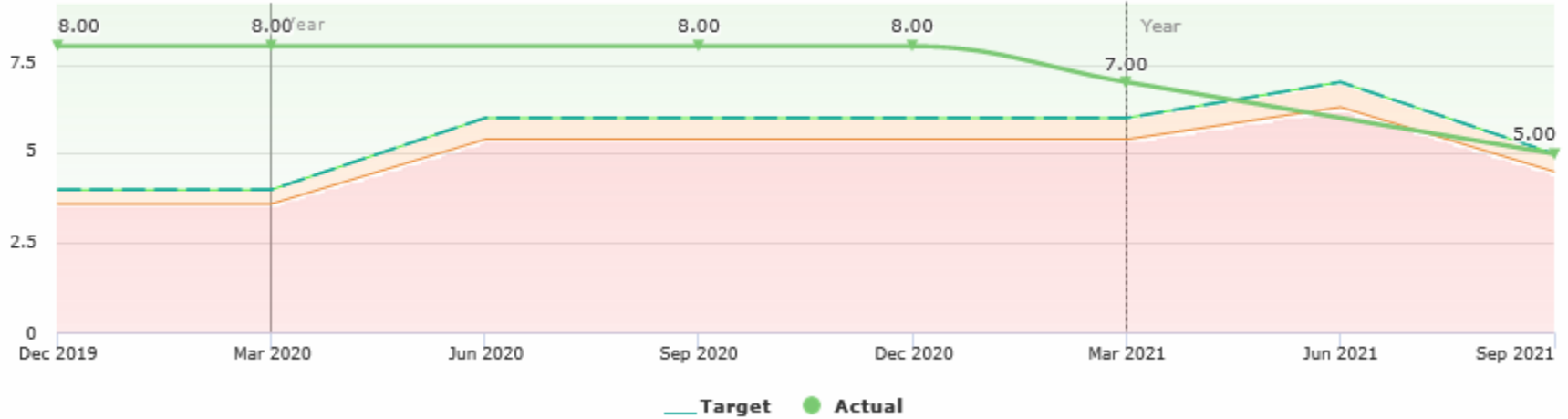


Measures Off Track

Area	Title
Transport and digital infrastructure	Number of schemes delivered through the Welsh Government Active Travel Fund ▲

Transport and Digital Infrastructure

Number of Local Travel Arrangements (LTAs) in geographical areas of the County



Page 74

Actual (YTD)	Target (YTD)	Last Year	Current RAG Rating
5.00	5.00	8.00	★

Comment

Whilst there were 8 Local Travel arrangements in place, the LT1, 2 & 3 have been replaced with the Holywell Fflecsi Service. The Holywell Fflecsi service has proven extremely successful with increased passenger numbers. More importantly, 45% of the passengers are new to the service and from areas where there were no previous bus services available, working towards the service delivery aim of reducing Flintshire residents isolation in our more rural communities.

Transport and Digital Infrastructure

Number of schemes delivered through the Welsh Government Active Travel Fund



	Actual (YTD)	Target (YTD)	Last Year	Current RAG Rating
Page 75	0.00	1.00	8.00	▲

Comment

To date no active travel scheme has been completed for 2021/22.

Local Development Plan (LDP) Targets Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Ensuring timely adoption of the Local Development Plan once Inspector's Report received	75%	●	●	Local Development Plan (LDP) submitted for Examination to Welsh Government/Planning Inspectorate (PINS) in November 2020 in line with Delivery Agreement. Commencement of Examination of the LDP delayed several times by the Planning Inspector and progress further delayed by the need for Council to address the 'Phosphates' issue raised by Natural Resources Wales. Officers progressing well with preparation of Matters Arising Changes to be consulted upon. The production of the binding Inspectors Report and subsequent adoption of LDP likely to be delayed by some three to four months compared to the Delivery Agreement. The timetable for progressing the LDP from Submission to Examination is the remit and responsibility of the Inspector rather than Flintshire.
Maintaining and update the Local Development Plan housing trajectory in line with planning decisions made	75%	●	●	The Council cannot formally update the housing trajectory until the Local Development Plan (LDP) has been adopted. However, the Council has produced a housing trajectory for April 2020 to inform the Inspector's Examination of the Plan. Officers are continuing to undertake annual housing land monitoring each April in order to inform future updates of the housing trajectory as part of the Plans monitoring arrangements, once adopted.
Making decisions at Planning Committee in line with the adopted Local Development Plan	0%	▲	▲	The Local Development Plan (LDP) cannot form the statutory development plan for making either decisions at Planning Committee or delegated decisions until it is adopted by the Council. Action one explained that there is likely to be a delay in adopting the LDP of three to four months.
Monitoring overall Plan performance via the Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) and submit to Welsh Government	50%	●	●	The Local Development Plan (LDP) cannot be monitored on an annual basis until it has been adopted. The monitoring chapter within the LDP has been the subject of discussion at an Examination Hearing Session and minor amendments agreed with the Inspector. These amendments will be consulted upon as part of Matters Arising Changes, ahead of the Inspector issuing their Report on the Examination. The Council will therefore have the monitoring arrangements in place as part of the adopted LDP to ensure effective annual monitoring.
Referencing the Local Development Plan growth strategy in early work on a North Wales Strategic Development Plan (SDP)	0%	▲	▲	Work has not yet commenced on a North Wales Strategic Development Plan (SDP). It is anticipated that Corporate Joint Committees (CJC) will not be set up until Spring 2022 at the earliest.

Local Development Plan (LDP) Targets Measures

Measures Off Track

Area	Title
Local Development Plan (LDP) Targets	There are no measures off track for this section

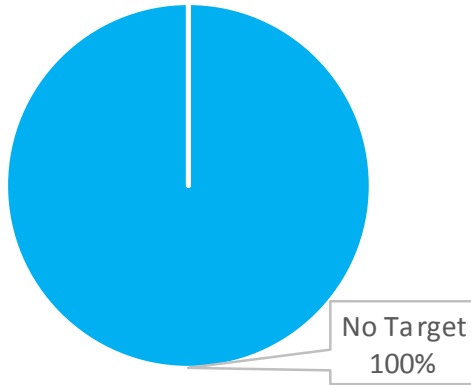
There are no reportable measures for this period

Spending Money for the Benefit of Flintshire Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Encouraging and supporting commissioners and suppliers to generate additional well-being outcomes	50%	★	★	Procurement activity remains the largest contributor to increased social value and is a key area of focus for the workstream. Significant progress has been achieved during this reporting period, with a significant number of contracts supported for this reporting period.
Increasing the ability and confidence of local businesses to supply the public sector	15%	●	●	The Council continues to support, on a reactive basis, opportunities for local small businesses to become part of the supply chain, usually as sub-contractors within a larger construction project. Further work to open up public sector procurement opportunities to small businesses has been delayed by pandemic response work and will start in quarter three.
Reporting of the strategic well-being outcomes across the Council in place	100%	✔	★	The Council now has a robust software system to monitor the achievement of the strategic well-being outcomes through goods and services delivered on the Council's behalf by suppliers (social value).

Spending Money for the Benefit of Flintshire Measures

Spending Money for the Benefit of Flintshire Performance Measures



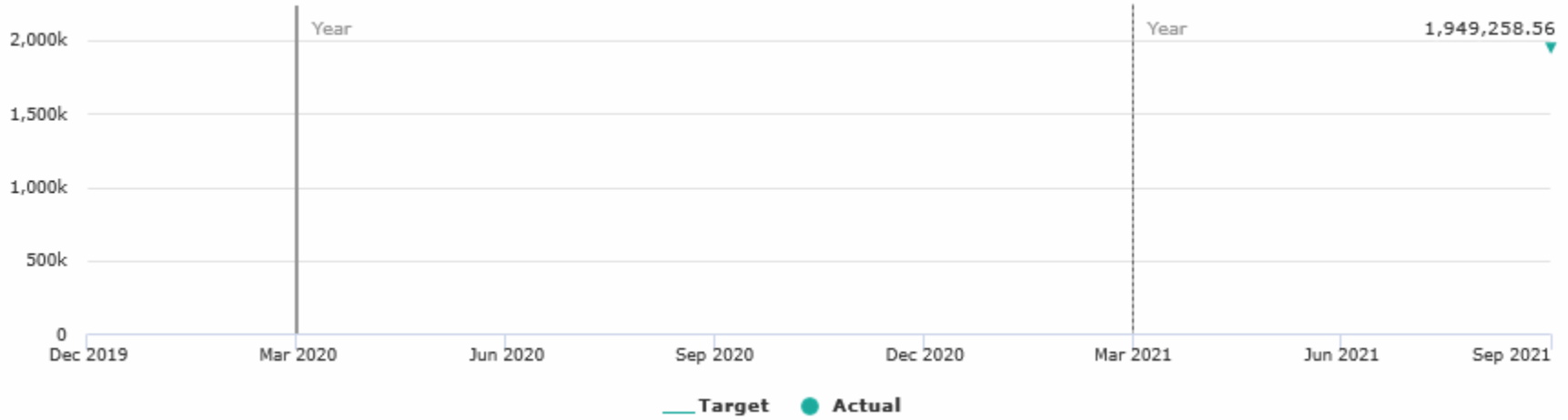
■ Off Track ■ Monitor ■ On Track ■ No Target

Measures Off Track

Area	Title
Spending Money for the Benefit of Flintshire	There are no measures off track for this section

Spending Money for the Benefit of Flintshire

Monetary value of community benefits as measured against the Flintshire Themes Outcomes and Measure



Page 80

Actual (YTD)	Target (YTD)	Last Year	Current RAG Rating
1,949,258.56			n/a

Comment

£1,949,258.56 of social value has been reported on Impact as delivered so far for year to date.

Spending Money for the Benefit of Flintshire

Number of contracts delivering community benefits



	Actual (YTD)	Target (YTD)	Last Year	Current RAG Rating
Page 81	1,949,258.56			n/a

Comment

For the purpose of reporting, we shall use the number of contracts which have been awarded and completed within this period, which total 13.

In the period between April 2021-September 2021, we have supported 70 contracts in total. These are at varying stages within the commissioning cycle, however of the 70:

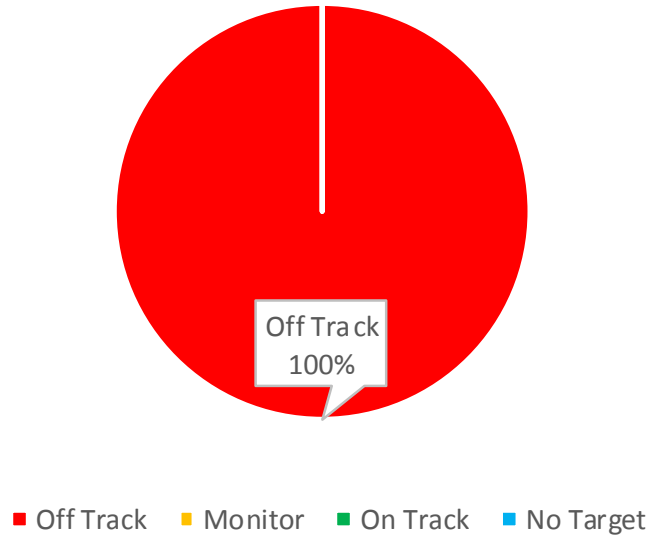
- 11 are now in contract,
- 57 are at planning/procurement stage,
- two of which have completed.

Reducing Worklessness Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Co-ordinating a multi-agency approach to support businesses to recruit people from disadvantaged groups	30%	●	▲	The Communities for Work programme in Flintshire is currently below target, however the number of employment and client engagements are now on the rise following a difficult period due to the pandemic. Face to face meetings between clients and mentors are now resuming and pathways have recently resumed in a classroom environment. These pathways have included hospitality, retail and construction, all sectors which have struggled with recruitment during the coronavirus pandemic. The strong partnership between Communities for Work, Working Wales and Jobcentre plus has seen many positive outcomes as a result of a joined up approach to training, recruitment and support for individuals wanting to enter or re-enter employment.
Delivering mentoring and wider support programmes to assist disadvantaged people to re-engage with the labour market	30%	●	▲	Communities for Work had a total of 181 completed engagements at the mid-year point, assisting disadvantaged people in gaining work and voluntary opportunities. The engagements varied from pre-employment training, online learning, sector specific pathways and virtual information events.

Reducing Worklessness Measures

Reducing Worklessness Performance Measures



Measures Off Track

Area	Title
Reducing worklessness	Number of individuals entering employment, learning or volunteering
Reducing worklessness	Number of individuals receiving support



Reducing Worklessness

Number of individuals entering employment, learning or volunteering



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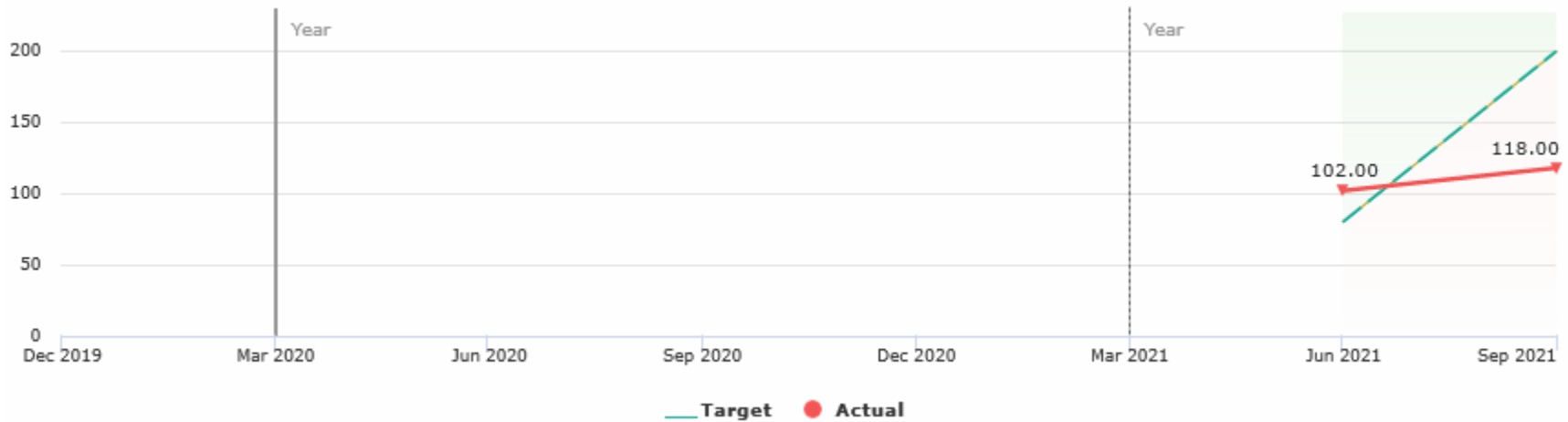
Actual (YTD)	Target (YTD)	Last Year	Current RAG Rating
75.00	110.00		▲

Comment

In quarter one, 40 individuals entered employment. Quarter two saw 35 individuals enter employment having been successfully mentored with the Communities For Work programme in Flintshire. Employment sectors entered included construction, retail, logistics and production.

Reducing Worklessness

Number of individuals receiving support



Actual (YTD)	Target (YTD)	Last Year	Current RAG Rating
220.00	280.00		▲

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Comment
During quarter one 102 participants were supported through the Communities for Work programme receiving assistance in accessing training and employability skills in order to move them closer to the labour market. During quarter two 118 participants accessed this support. Training included Construction Skills, HGV, Administration, Health & Safety and Customer Service.

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ENVIRONMENT AND ECONOMY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Tuesday 7 th December 2021
Report Subject	A presentation on the HyNet hydrogen production and carbon storage cross-border project
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Economic Development
Report Author	Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Committee will receive a presentation on the HyNet North West – an innovative low carbon and hydrogen energy project that seeks to unlock a low carbon economy for North Wales and North West England.

The presentation will set out the objectives of the HyNet project; the different elements involved; an update on progress; the decision making process and the next steps.

Members will have an opportunity to ask questions of the representative from HyNet.

1.00	RECOMMENDATION
1.01	That Members note the content of the presentation.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	None arising from this report, though each stage of the decision making process will need to be accompanied by the necessary impact assessments as defined by legislation.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	None for this report.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officer: Andrew Farrow (Chief Officer, Planning, Environment and Economy)</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 703201</p> <p>E-mail: andrew.farrow@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
	-

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

CALL-IN ARRANGEMENTS

1. Background

The arrangements for calling in a decision are to be found in paragraph 16 of the Overview & Scrutiny Procedure Rules contained within the Council's Constitution. The legal authority is within section 21 (3) of the Local Government Act 2000. This note summarises the provisions in the Constitution and identifies changes required due to the pandemic and our holding Remote Attendance Meetings.

2. Decision of the Cabinet

When a decision is made by the Cabinet, the Head of Democratic Services publishes a record of those decisions within two days of them being made. This record is emailed to all Members of the County Council.

The decision record is dated the day it was published and specifies that

- the decision will come into force, and may be implemented on the expiry of five working days after the publication of the decision.
- unless it is called in within 5 working days after the publication of the decision

3. Calling in a Decision

For a call in to be initiated, the Chief Officer (Governance) or Head of Democratic Services must receive a request from the Chair of the relevant Overview & Scrutiny committee or at least four Members of the Council.

The call in email should be sent via a Flintshire.gov.uk email address to the Head of Democratic Services, stating the reason for call in. The first signatory should include the words 'call in' as the subject and should copy in the other proposed signatories. Those signatories should then email the Head of Democratic Services, using their Flintshire email addresses, saying 'I endorse the call in of record of Decision No XX'

This will ensure that there is an audit trail of signatories, in writing, of the call in, electronically signed (and from their Flintshire email addresses) by all parties. The Head of Democratic Services will notify the decision taker of the call-in, and then arrange a meeting of the Committee within seven working days of the decision to call-in. (The last working day before Christmas day and the three non-public holiday days between Christmas and New Year will not be counted as working days for the purposes of this paragraph).

4. The Call-in Meeting

By their nature, call-in meetings can often be held at short notice (i.e. within seven working days of the call-in decision) and the only item of business to be transacted would normally be to deal with the call-in. However, from time to time it is expedient to consider a call in at a meeting which has already been convened.

It is suggested that the procedure outlined below be used at such a meeting.

5. Procedure for a Call-in Meeting

- (i) The Chair will invite the Head of Democratic Services or Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator to briefly outline the call-in procedure for Members of the Committee, explaining the time constraints within the Constitution. The Officer should also outline the ideal procedure, set out below, for an Overview & Scrutiny Committee to deal with a call-in meeting.
- (ii) The Chairman will then invite the initiators of the call-in to explain and clarify their reasons for calling in the decision. This can be by means of a spokesman, or by several Members contributing.
- (iii) The decision makers will then have the opportunity to respond to the issues raised by those initiating the call-in and provide further information if they believe that it will assist the committee's understanding of the decision.
- (v) The Chair will then invite questions from Members, and the decision-makers and call-in initiators will be invited to answer the questions.
- (vi) At the end of Members' questions, the Chair will ask the initiators of the call-in and the decision makers to sum up their respective cases.
- (vii) The Chair will then invite the Head of Democratic Services or Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator to explain the Committee's options for decision contained in the Constitution. The decision should include one of the four options given below, which are contained in the Constitution.

Option 1

If, having considered the decision, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee is satisfied with the explanation which it has received, it will indicate as such, in order for the decision to be implemented.

Option 2

If, having considered the decision, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee is 'no longer concerned', having received the explanations, but is not minded to indicate that it is 'satisfied with the explanation', then it is in order for the

Committee to resolve that 'the explanation be accepted but not endorsed by the Overview & Scrutiny Committee'.

Option 3

If, having considered the decision, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee is still concerned about it, then it may refer it back to the decision making person or body for reconsideration, setting out in writing the nature of its concerns. If referred to the decision maker then the decision maker shall then reconsider, at the earliest scheduled meeting, amending the decision or not, before adopting a final decision.

Option 4

If, having considered the decision, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee is still concerned about it, then it may refer the matter to full Council. If referred to full Council, the Council shall meet to consider the referral within 10 working days unless there is a scheduled meeting of the full Council at which the matter may be considered within the expiry of a further 5 working days.

Note:

If either Option 1 or Option 2 is decided upon, the Cabinet decision can be implemented after the Overview & Scrutiny meeting. If either Option 3 or 4 is decided upon, the Cabinet decision cannot be implemented after the Overview & Scrutiny meeting until it has received further consideration by either the Cabinet or Council.

- (viii) The Committee will then discuss the matter and following debate, reach a decision.

If it is apparent from the discussion that there is a clear preference for a particular option, it may be possible for the officer advising the chair to indicate whether they object or wish to abstain. However, it may be necessary to conduct a 'roll call' vote (similar to a recorded vote, but a quicker process with 12 members on a committee)

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CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 16 th November 2021
Report Subject	A Plan for Shotton
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Economic Development
Report Author	Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In February 2021, Cabinet endorsed the development of 'A Plan for Shotton', the production and delivery of which was to be overseen by a multi-agency Steering Group.

This report follows the informal progress update provided to Cabinet in June 2021, outlining progress on the development of a high level strategic plan for Shotton and presenting 'A Plan for Shotton' for Cabinet's approval.

The programme of activity in Shotton has already seen some early successes, which are outlined in the report, along with proposals for next steps that will see broader engagement of partner organisations and the community to develop more detailed delivery plans. Risks are also highlighted for consideration and agreement of mitigating actions.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Cabinet approves the high level strategic plan 'A Plan for Shotton' to set the strategic direction for work in Shotton from now until 2030.
2	That Cabinet endorses further work to engage wider partners and stakeholders to develop more detailed underpinning delivery plans focused around action aligned to achievement of the four strategic objectives, as detailed in 'A Plan for Shotton.'
3	That Cabinet notes the risks and considers and agrees the mitigating actions put forward.
4	That Cabinet supports proactive communication/publicity to coincide with this report and accompanying plan.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE PROGRESS ON DEVELOPING A PLAN FOR SHOTTON AND NEXT STEPS TOWARDS IMPLEMENTATION AND DELIVERY
1.01	<p>Background</p> <p>Shotton is a large, busy town with good local facilities and transport links, with opportunities for future development. However, over recent years the Council has received a growing number of complaints about anti-social behaviour and environmental issues within the Shotton area. Left unchecked these issues have the potential to blight the area and undermine local efforts to keep the town clean and tidy and a place where people want to live, work and visit.</p>
1.02	<p>To respond to identified local issues and help to maximise the town's assets and opportunities, Cabinet endorsed the development of 'A Plan for Shotton' to set out the future direction for the town over the next five to 10 years.</p>
1.03	<p>A Steering Group made up of representatives of the Council, local Members and North Wales Police was formed to oversee the development and delivery of 'A Plan for Shotton'.</p> <p>The Steering Group has been supported by Working Groups, led by Council Officers with engagement of some partner organisations, focusing on four key thematic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Resilience; • Environment; • Infrastructure and Investment; • Prevention, Education and Enforcement.
1.04	<p>Progress on Developing the Plan</p> <p>Following the provision of an informal update to Cabinet in June 2021, a high level strategic plan 'A Plan for Shotton' has been drafted and approved by the Steering Group. This is split into sections covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction and context setting; • The local challenges, assets and opportunities; • The vision, strategic objectives and key priority actions (which have been aligned to the seven Wellbeing Goals for Wales and Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles); • Outline actions, projects and activity to deliver change. <p>A copy of the Plan can be found at Appendix 1.</p>
1.05	<p>Cabinet will note the change in terminology, shifting away from the term Master Plan, which is a Planning document based around future growth and development. Whilst there are elements of economic development within 'A Plan for Shotton' the focus is more around maximising existing assets, improving the local environment quality (LEQ) and strengthening</p>

	community resilience. The term Master Plan is thus misleading and, if continued to be used, may inadvertently raise expectations.
1.06	Alongside 'A Plan for Shotton', the Steering Group commissioned work to develop a Communications and Engagement Strategy, with supporting action plans at both a strategic and operational level. This work is being led by a multi-agency Communications and Engagement Task and Finish Group, with the Strategy finalised but work continuing on an action plan for wider communications and engagement of stakeholders.
1.07	<p>Early Successes</p> <p>Whilst 'A Plan for Shotton' has been in development, work has commenced and resulted in some early successes. For example, a service mapping exercise has been completed; a COVID-19 Hub is in operation in Shotton, supported by partner organisations, which provides a local outlet for support and signposting; and funding is being secured to repurpose a local building to bring it back into sustained community use, providing a healthy fast food shop.</p>
1.08	It is proposed to engage wider partners and the community, identified through a stakeholder mapping exercise undertaken by the Communications and Engagement Task and Finish Group, to develop co-produced delivery plan(s) that are representative of local needs and priorities. These will be based around the four strategic objectives contained in 'A Plan for Shotton', as aligned to the key thematic areas covered by the four Working Groups.
1.09	<p>Engagement of wider partner organisations and stakeholders, to include broader representation on the Steering Group, will maximise the opportunity under the Plan to broker partnership relationships for working together to achieve shared aims and pool resources to maximise capacity to deliver local priority outcomes.</p> <p>Research and experience also tells us that better, longer-term outcomes will be achieved through engagement of the community, fostering ownership and empowering and enabling them to identify priorities and take action to address them. This is particularly the case for community development projects, including those based around community resilience.</p>
1.10	There are a number of risks associated with the programme of work, these relate predominantly to resource and capacity; roles and responsibilities, with a need for confirmation and clarity to ensure strategic direction and sustained momentum; partner organisation and stakeholder engagement to date; and developing a realistic plan whilst managing expectations. These are further detailed in sections 2 and 3 below.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	There is currently no budget available for 'A Plan for Shotton', but it is anticipated that financial resources will be required to fund activities and projects. These will be reliant on budget being able to be drawn from

	existing funding streams or identification of, and successful applications/bids for, grant funding. There may also be opportunity to pool resources or access other funding through wider engagement of partner organisations.
2.02	<p>To date, the Council has invested in 'A Plan for Shotton' through the provision of staff, notably Officers/Managers to lead each of the Working Groups, with some interim programme management and administrative support. However, there is no identified dedicated/additional resource available to support the Steering Group, Working Groups, nor the development of the delivery plans. This means human resource and capacity to support 'A Plan for Shotton' is limited, with many Officers undertaking tasks for Shotton in addition to their substantive roles.</p> <p>In September 2021 Cabinet approved urgent proposals to enhance organisational capacity in six areas of the workforce, including to support town centre regeneration and 'master planning' as a strategic priority of the Council, as contained within the Council Plan. The recruitment of an experienced Regeneration Manager and Regeneration Officer will provide the leadership, expertise and additional capacity required to increase the number of regeneration projects the Council is able to develop and deliver.</p> <p>This additional human resource will take time to become available and, given the broader scope of 'A Plan for Shotton', consideration should be given as to whether further community development resource is required to support the community resilience elements of such projects.</p>
2.03	Given the work involved in Area Plans, such as 'A Plan for Shotton', and as demand for such Plans in other areas of the county increases, there is a recognised need to review Senior Officer Leadership roles, project capacity to undertake tasks and co-ordinate activity and funding commitments, to ensure consistency and resilience.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	<p>An initial Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) with consideration of the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 Five Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles and Well-being Goals, along with the Council's own Well-being Objectives, was provided as part of the Shotton Master Plan report to Cabinet in February 2021.</p> <p>A full IIA has not yet been completed. At this stage, the report is an update on progress and to seek approval of the strategic direction, as contained in the Plan provided at Appendix 1.</p> <p>The proposed next steps include communication and consultation with broader partners and the local community on the strategic plan and engagement to inform the detailed delivery plan(s). This will provide the opportunity to gain sufficient engagement and consultation feedback to enable an IIA to be completed.</p>

3.02	<p>Risks</p> <p>As identified in section 2 of this report, one of the most pressing risks relates to available resource and capacity of officers and balancing this against the expectations of what can be achieved. The engagement of wider partners will, to some degree, provide some mitigation of this risk, allowing for the sharing and pooling of resources to achieve shared goals under the Plan.</p> <p>However, it is recommended that other mitigation of this risk should be considered to ensure a realistic plan of action is developed with adequate resources to achieve outcomes, where roles and responsibilities are clearly identified to ensure delivery whilst expectations are effectively managed. This should include clarity around responsibility for the operational development, delivery and oversight of the Plan and underpinning delivery plans, along with Senior Leadership sponsorship and governance to ensure strategic drive, momentum and oversight.</p>
3.03	<p>The other key risk identified relates to the lack of partner agency and community involvement to date. Whilst some partner agencies have been engaged through the Working Groups and Task and Finish Groups many stakeholders, and some key partners, have not been involved in the development of the Plan. This risks the Plan having a Council centric view where some local concerns, issues and priorities may have been missed or not accurately captured and which could lead to a misdirection of resources and efforts, or even duplication of effort in some areas and ultimately lack of ownership by stakeholders/key partners.</p> <p>Mitigation of this risk can be achieved through the proposed engagement of partner organisations and broader stakeholders, as outlined in 1.08 and 1.09 above and covered in more detail in section 4 below. It is recommended that Cabinet approves further work to engage wider partners and stakeholders as set out in this report to gain commitment and support for the Plan.</p>

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	<p>Subject to Cabinet's endorsement of 'A Plan for Shotton', it is proposed to hold a professional workshop of partner organisations (statutory, public and third sector) to consult and engage them in the development of co-produced delivery plans detailing action to achieve the strategic objectives set out in 'A Plan for Shotton'.</p>
4.02	<p>Alongside consultation and engagement with the partner organisations, the local community, including residents and businesses, will be consulted and engaged in the development of the delivery action plan(s). Engagement of the community will foster ownership, empowering and enabling the community to identify local priorities and play an active role in action to address them.</p>

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	A 'Plan for Shotton' can be found at Appendix 1 .

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Development of Shotton Master Plan (Cabinet Report, February 2021, agenda item 8) – available online: https://committeemeetings.flintshire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=391&MId=4908&Ver=4&LLL=0

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Kelly Oldham-Jones – Strategic Executive Officer Telephone: 01352 702143 E-mail: kelly.oldhamjones@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS These are provided corporately on the Infonet (link) and maintained by the Executive Office
	<p>Community Resilience: relates to the ability of communities to endure, survive, adapt and recover from hardship.</p> <p>Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA): systematic analysis of a service or policy to identify the potential effects on different groups and/or the environment with an aim to then minimise any negative impacts and enhance any positive impacts.</p> <p>Steering Group: the group set-up to steer the work being undertaken in Shotton, ensuring this is focused around local priorities, and the forum for collective decision making.</p> <p>Wellbeing Goals for Wales and Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles: these are contained within the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 which requires public bodies in Wales to achieve all seven wellbeing goals and to think about the long-term impact of their decisions, to work better with people, communities and each other, and to prevent persistent problems such as poverty, health inequalities and climate change. For further information: https://www.futuregenerations.wales/about-us/future-generations-act/</p> <p>Working Groups: the four group's made up of individuals possessing relevant skills and knowledge to deliver action and undertake tasks to achieve specified goals and objectives.</p>

**A
Plan
for
Shotton**

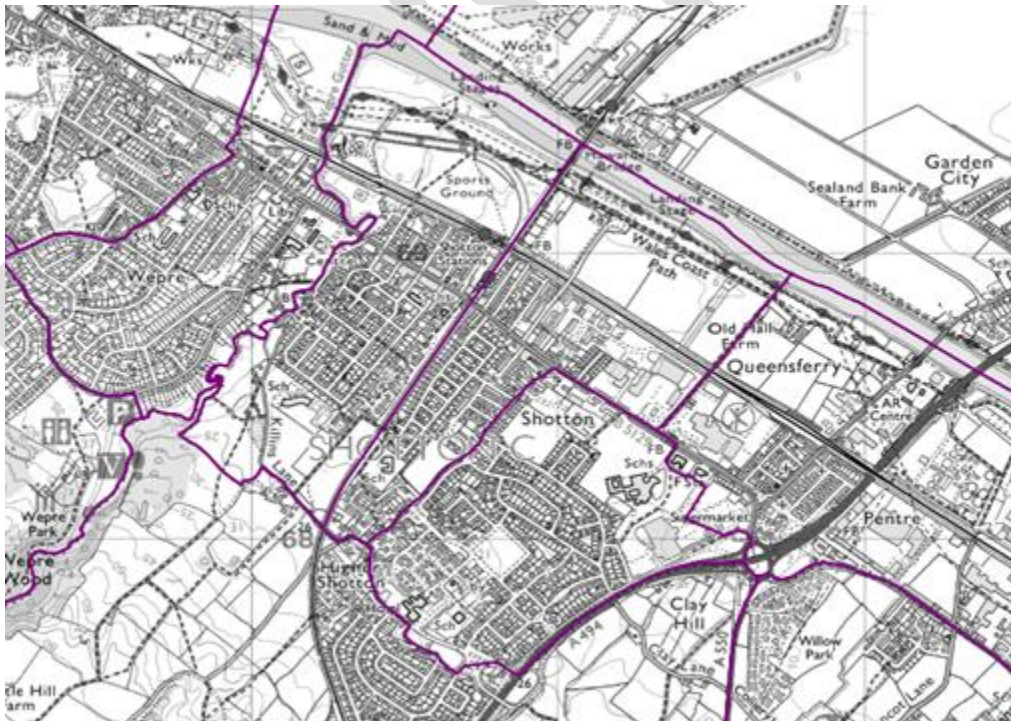
September 2021

“A Plan for Shotton” sets the strategic direction for work in Shotton for the forthcoming five to 10 years. It has been developed by Flintshire County Council and North Wales Police, with engagement of some key partner organisations. The Plan aims to be the foundations for further collaborative working between organisations and the community to identify priorities and deliver action to address local challenges and maximise on assets and potential opportunities. The long term vision is to make Shotton a place people want to work, live and visit, where the high street thrives and neighbourhoods and public spaces are safe, clean and appealing.

DRAFT

Section 1: An Introduction to Shotton

- 1.1 Flintshire is a county in North Wales spanning the north east coastline and hugging the Dee Estuary. Flintshire is the most populated of the North Wales Local Authorities with around 155,600 inhabitants and 355.6 people per square kilometre¹. Flintshire benefits from regional collaboration, and economic and social links, with other North Wales Counties. Flintshire also borders Cheshire with transport links into the North West of England.
- 1.2 Shotton is a town in Deeside, Flintshire. Deeside is largely an industrial urban area made up of towns and villages that sit on the Wales/England border near the River Dee. Shotton is bordered by the Flintshire towns of Queensferry, Connah's Quay and Aston/Ewloe.
- 1.3 Shotton is made up of three wards: Shotton East and Shotton West, which are divided by the borderlands train line, and Shotton Higher, which is delineated by the train line to the West and the A494 Aston Expressway to the East.



¹ Welsh Government (2020)

Section Two: Challenges, Assets and Opportunities

Local amenities

The main high street in Shotton runs either side of the busy B5129 and concerns have been raised regarding the state of vacant premises, and some shop frontage, including the use of shutters. This is felt to give the wrong impression, i.e. being closed for business, and is unsightly. It is also felt to detract from the offer posed by the high street, which boasts an array of local amenities such as multiple banks, building societies, recognisable high street brands, local retailers, estate agents and public houses, amongst others – an attractive feature to both residents and visitors.

There is scope for redevelopment of the high street to enhance this local asset and counter some of the challenges outlined above. This would include development of Council owned premises suitable for sustainable community use.

As well as the high street Shotton benefits from a retail park in neighbouring Queensferry and a multitude of food outlets including larger supermarkets nearby within the Deeside area.

Transport links

Shotton has benefited from a railway line and station since the late nineteenth century with the last significant investment in the station being made in 2010².

The borderlands and North West coast train lines cross in Shotton, offering public transport links across North Wales and into North West and middle England. The stop in Shotton serves the Deeside Industrial Park for people employed there and who are reliant on, or chose to use, public transport to get to work.

Littering and fly-tipping, which is visually noticeable in areas of Shotton, is particularly prevalent around the train station and alleyways and access roads in and around the neighbouring terraced properties. The nature of the surrounding landscape and land ownership can make this difficult to prevent and maintain but there is a desire to tackle this issue to better present Shotton from arrival, enhance resident and broader public perception and to prevent the anti-social behaviour and any further disorder it may encourage.

Health

Shotton hosts a number of GP surgeries, including Deeside Medical Centre. The Deeside Community Hospital, managed by Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board, is located in Higher Shotton. Facilities here include both inpatient and outpatient services, x-rays, ultrasounds, dental and community clinics.

² Transport for Wales (2021)

Housing

Shotton is comprised of large areas of privately owned and social housing extending from the North Wales Coast railway line up the hill to open space above. Much of the private housing is older terraced accommodation. There is a significant amount of private rented sector accommodation, including houses of multiple occupation.

Leisure, Culture and Recreation

There is a rich history associated with Shotton and the industrialisation of the nineteenth century and conversion of marshland to home a long standing, well-known steelworks. Running along the River Dee, and near to the former John Summers Steelworks site just outside Shotton, is the Wales Coastal Path, offering walking routes from Shotton, with scope to improve access and enhance this local asset.

The former Corus Social Club and grounds, which sits close to the Dee, Coastal path and Train Station, are now owned/occupied by Care and Repair North East Wales who have commenced transformation of the site, with a desire to further enhance the site for community benefit.

Deeside Leisure Centre in neighbouring Queensferry offers a vast array of leisure activities as well as housing the local library.

Employment

Across the River Dee from Shotton is Deeside Industrial Park (DIP), a large industrial estate housing many businesses and offering local employment opportunities. Shotton is not only in close proximity to the DIP for residents with employment there but also offers multiple public transport links for employees out of area to commute to work at the DIP.

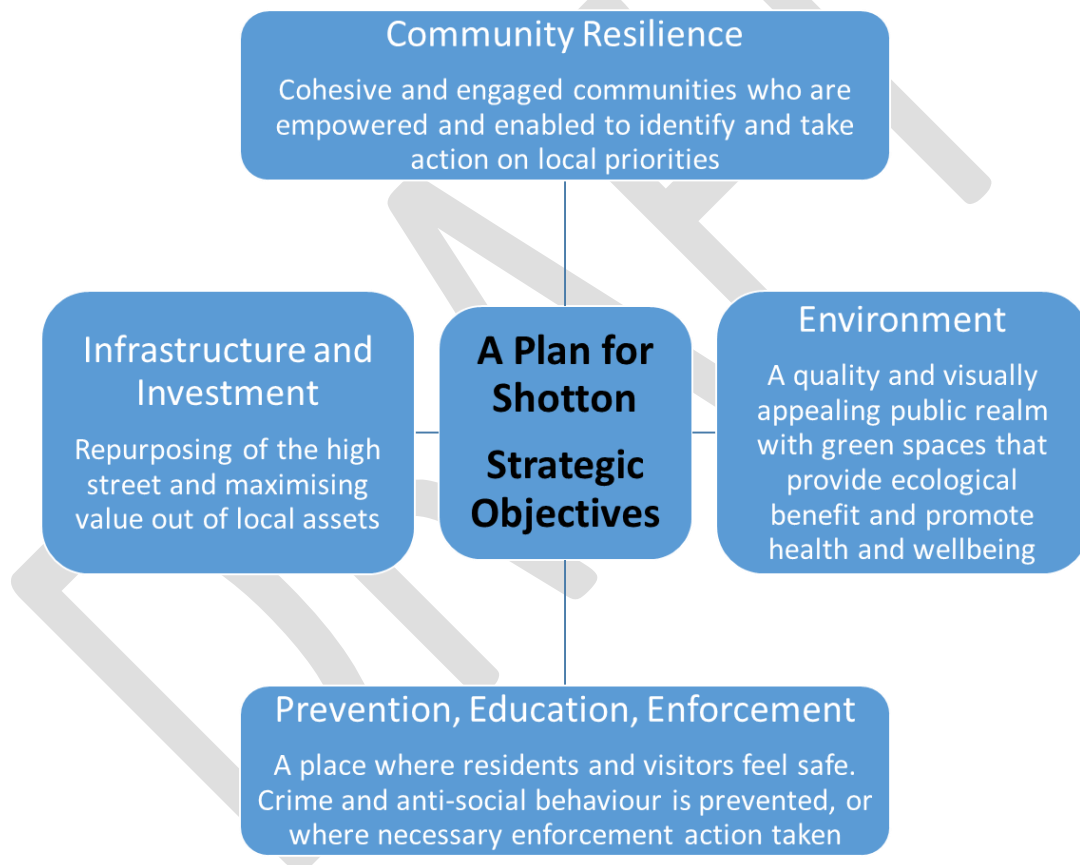
Section Three: Future Vision, Strategic Objectives and Priority Actions/Goals

The Vision

Shotton 2030: The place to work, live and visit with a thriving high street, clean neighbourhoods and safe and visually appealing public spaces.

Strategic Objectives

The Vision for Shotton 2030 is supported by four key strategic objectives:



Underpinning the strategic objectives for Shotton 2030 are a number of key priority actions and goals, which are aligned to the seven Wellbeing Goals for Wales. The Wellbeing Goals are enshrined in law under the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 to improve the social, economic, environmental, and cultural well-being of Wales.³

Wellbeing Goal	A Plan for Shotton Priority Actions and Goals
Prosperous	Regeneration of the high street to create and maintain a thriving town centre that people want to visit and do business in. The high street will be vibrant and sustainable, with facilities and activities that meet local needs.
Resilient	Enhancing the local natural assets for community and ecological benefits.
Healthier	Active travel. Improved parking, traffic flow and transport links, including cycle paths.
Equal	An engaged and involved community, where all groups within the community are represented and considered. Promoting and enhancing the wellbeing of the local community with support for employment, skills development, recreation, access to green space, etc.
Cohesive	Tackling crime and anti-social behaviour, as informed by intelligence, with reassurance to boost public perceptions and feeling of safety.
Vibrant and Thriving	A quality, visually appealing public realm free of litter and with green spaces to promote health and wellbeing
Globally Responsible	Sustainable travel

Sustainable Development Principles - Ways of Working. Aims of A Plan for Shotton	
Long-term	The vision is long-term with actions to address current needs whilst future proofing work for future generations
Prevention	Investment opportunities are to bring the greatest possible benefits to residents
Integration	The identification of priorities and delivery of actions must be co-produced with key partners and stakeholders
Collaboration	A Plan for Shotton will act as the mechanism to bring together partner organisations and the community to identify and take action on local priorities
Involvement	A Plan for Shotton will seek to engage, empower and enable the local community to identify priority issues and take action to address them

³ Welsh Government (2019)

Section Four: Delivering Change

To deliver the vision, strategic objectives and underpinning goals for Shotton 2030 a number of projects and activities have been identified, with further work required initially to ensure full engagement of all relevant stakeholders and that outcomes and impact can be measured.

Initial Actions

Stakeholder mapping and analysis, to include community groups, resident groups, local businesses and other partner organisations, including from the third sector.

Project mapping to scope all confirmed and potential local projects to bring them under the banner of A Plan for Shotton. This will allow for oversight and coherence, resources to be pooled where appropriate, provide opportunities for value added and prevent potential duplication of effort.

Launch A Plan for Shotton and engage partner organisations to develop co-produced delivery plans, detailing action to achieve the strategic objectives of A Plan for Shotton.

Commence community consultation and engagement, ensuring the local community, businesses and residents have the ability to shape and influence the priorities and delivery plans.

Formalise baseline data to ensure outcomes and impact can be measured, this should clearly relate to the objectives and priorities/goals and emerging priorities identified through consultation feedback. Set Key Performance Indicators linked outcomes.

First 12 months

Objective	Action
Community Resilience	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trial a Community Resilience Engagement Toolkit.• Create a brand which is recognisable and meaningful to the community.• Wellbeing Hub identified in Shotton, with funding secured to bring into sustainable community use.• Service mapping and gap analysis exercise.
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Plan based mapping of ad hoc land ownership.• Review parking provision, signage and enforcement.• Review standards for litter, gully emptying, response times, etc.• Review of street lighting, including infrastructure.• Waste Strategy review – including collection, alternative receptacles and increasing waste and recycling compliance.

Objective	Action
Infrastructure and Investment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road network improvements, to include bus lane improvements. <p>The Deeside Environmental Plan 2020, currently in advanced draft form, covers the traffic corridor that connects the towns and communities of Deeside. For Shotton the summary plan includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Repurposing of the Town Centre with works to shop/premises frontage; • Identification of, and action as appropriate on, sites for development; • Enforcement action, i.e. to bring vacant premises/sites back into sustained usage; • Travel and transport improvements, such as reviewing cycle and walking paths between the coastal path and Town Centre, bus lane improvement and high street pedestrian and cycling schemes; and • Improvements to green infrastructure and biodiversity.
Prevention, Education, Enforcement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New signage for Public Space Protection Order (PSPO). • Deployable CCTV Strategy to target local hotspot areas, as informed by intelligence. • High visibility prevention patrols by North Wales Police, with targeted engagement and enforcement activity as informed by intelligence.

Medium and Longer Term Projects

A Plan for Shotton is anticipated to grow and evolve, as informed by further consultation and engagement with key partners, stakeholders and the community. As such, medium and longer-term goals need to be fully identified, scoped, agreed and funded/resourced. However, early indications for medium to longer-term projects include the following.

Development of the former Corus Social Club, working with the current owners Care and Repair North East Wales, to maximise its benefits for the local community.

Redevelopment of Shotton station to facilitate passenger movements between the North Wales Coast main line and the Wrexham to Bidston line. Improvements will create a modern, secure and more attractive passenger environment and reinforce the station’s role as an important transport hub within the North Wales Metro.

Development and implementation of a Community Wellness Model. The Model focuses on promoting community wellbeing recognising the broader wellbeing promoters, such as access to green space and recreational opportunities, pollution levels, the standard of homes people live in, etc. This will involve developing a community vision through listening to and engaging with the community, in part through the use of community storytellers.

References

Transport for Wales (2021) *Shotton*, available online: <https://tfwrail.wales/stations/shotton> [Accessed 13th May 2021]

Welsh Government (2019) *Wellbeing of Wales: 2019*, available online: <https://gov.wales/well-being-wales-2019> [Accessed 18th August 2021]

Intellectual Property Office © Crown copyright 2015

Welsh Government (2020) *Summary statistics for North Wales region: 2020*, available online: <https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/statistics-and-research/2020-05/summary-statistics-north-wales-region-2020-806.pdf> [Accessed 12th May 2021]

Data available through the Open Government Licence:

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/>

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Alongside consultation and engagement with the partner organisations, the local community, including residents and businesses, will be consulted and engaged in the development of the delivery action plan(s). Engagement of the community will foster ownership, empowering and enabling the community to identify local priorities and plan an active role in action to address them.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

There is currently no budget available for 'A Plan for Shotton', but it is anticipated that financial resources will be required to fund activities and projects. These will be reliant on budget being able to be drawn from existing funding streams or identification of, and successful applications/bids for grant funding. There may also be opportunity to pool resources or access other funding through wider engagement of partner organisations.

To date, the Council has invested in 'A Plan for Shotton' through the provision of staff, notably Officers/Managers to lead each of the Working Groups, with some interim programme management and administrative support. However, there is no identified dedicated/additional resource available to support the Steering Group, Working Groups, nor the development of the delivery plans. This means human resource and capacity to support 'A Plan for Shotton' is limited, with many Officers undertaking tasks for Shotton in addition to their substantive roles.

In September 2021 Cabinet approved urgent proposals to enhance organisational capacity in six areas of the workforce, including to support town centre regeneration and 'master planning' as a strategic priority of the Council, as contained within the Council Plan. The recruitment of an experienced Regeneration Manager and Regeneration Officer will provide the leadership,

expertise and additional capacity required to increase the number of regeneration projects the Council is able to develop and deliver.

This additional human resource will take time to become available and, given the broader scope of 'A Plan for Shotton', consideration should be given as to whether further community development resource is required to support the community resilience elements of such projects.

Given the work involved in Area Plans, such as 'A Plan for Shotton', and as demand for such Plans in other areas of the county increases, there is a recognised need to review Senior Officer Leadership roles, project capacity to undertake tasks and co-ordinate activity and funding commitments, to ensure consistency and resilience.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th November 2021

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

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Endorsement of Call in of Record of Decision No 3928 - A Plan for Shotton

Reasons for call-in:

1. Investment of Local Authority resources of personnel, time and finances is not sustainable, fair or equitable treatment of other towns and communities across Flintshire.
2. No evidence of criteria used to assess towns and communities in order to establish a hierarchy of need.
3. The basis of the plan appears to be based upon complaints relating to ASB (anti social behaviour) and environmental issues within the Shotton area, whilst other towns have the same issues.

No	Name of Councillor	Date of endorsement email	Time of endorsement email
1	Richard Jones	23/11/21	22.07
2	Mike Peers	24/11/21	09.52
3	Mike Allport	24/11/21	10.11
4	Veronica Gay	24/11/21	11.38
5	Arnold Woolley	24/11/21	11.47
6	Helen Brown	24/11/21	12.00

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