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Gareth Owens LL.B Barrister/Bargyfreithiwr Chief Officer (Governance) Prif Swyddog (Llywodraethu)



Contact Officer: Janet Kelly 01352 702301 janet.kelly@flintshire.gov.uk

To: Cllr Teresa Carberry (Chair)

Councillors: Bill Crease, Paul Cunningham, Gladys Healey, Andy Hughes, Gina Maddison, Dave Mackie, Ryan McKeown, Andrew Parkhurst, Carolyn Preece, David Richardson and Jason Shallcross

Co-opted Members:

Lynn Bartlett and Wendy White

8 July 2022

Dear Sir/Madam

<u>NOTICE OF HYBRID MEETING</u> EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE THURSDAY, 14TH JULY, 2022 at 2.00 PM

Yours faithfully

Steven Goodrum Democratic Services Manager

Please note: Attendance at this meeting is either in person in the Council Chamber, Flintshire County Council, County Hall, Mold, Flintshire or on a virtual basis.

The meeting will be live streamed onto the Council's website. The live streaming will stop when any confidential items are considered. 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.

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES

Purpose: To receive any apologies.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

Purpose: To receive any Declarations and advise Members accordingly.

3 **<u>MINUTES</u>** (Pages 5 - 6)

Purpose: To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on the 16 June 2022.

4 **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 7 - 14)

Report of Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator

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

5 **<u>TERMS OF REFERENCE</u>** (Pages 15 - 32)

Report of Chief Officer (Governance)

Purpose: To consult on proposed changes to the Terms of Reference for the Committee.

6 **SCHOOL ATTENDANCE & EXCLUSIONS** (Pages 33 - 44)

Report of Chief Officer (Education and Youth) - Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure

Purpose: To provide the Committee with an update on learner attendance and exclusions in Flintshire Schools & support provided by Inclusion Services.

7 **SOCIAL MEDIA AND INTERNET SAFETY** (Pages 45 - 52)

Report of Chief Officer (Education and Youth) - Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure

Purpose: To provide Members with an update on the Portfolio's Social Media and Internet Safety policy and provision.

8 **END OF YEAR PERFORMANCE MONITORING REPORT** (Pages 53 - 110)

Report of Chief Officer (Education and Youth) - Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure

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

Please note that there may be a 10 minute adjournment of this meeting if it lasts longer than two hours

EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE <u>16 JUNE 2022</u>

Minutes of the virtual meeting of the Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held on Thursday 16 June 2022.

PRESENT: Councillor Teresa Carberry (Chair)

Councillors: Bill Crease, Gladys Healey, Gina Maddison, Dave Mackie, Ryan McKeown, Andrew Parkhurst, Carolyn Preece, David Richardson and Jason Shallcross

CO-OPTED MEMBER:

Lynn Bartlett

SUBSTITUTE:

Councillor Richard Lloyd (for Councillor Paul Cunningham)

APOLOGIES: Senior Manager for School Improvement

CONTRIBUTORS:

Councillor Ian Roberts, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure and Chief Officer (Education & Youth)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Education Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator and Democratic Services Officer

1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

The Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator advised that at the Annual General Meeting, Council had resolved that the Labour Group should nominate the Chair of the Committee. As Councillor Teresa Carberry had been appointed to this role by the Group, the Committee was asked to endorse the decision.

RESOLVED:

That the appointment of Councillor Teresa Carberry as Chair of the Committee be confirmed.

(From this point, Councillor Carberry chaired the remainder of the meeting)

2. <u>APPOINTMENT OF VICE CHAIR</u>

Councillor Ryan McKeown nominated Councillor Carolyn Preece as Vice-Chair of the Committee. This was seconded by Mrs Lynn Bartlett.

RESOLVED:

That Councillor Carolyn Preece be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Committee.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 February 2022 were approved, as moved and seconded by Councillor Dave Mackie and Mrs Lynn Bartlett.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

5. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS IN ATTENDANCE

There were no members of the press in attendance.

(The meeting started at 2.00 pm and ended at 2.10 pm)

Chairman



EDUCATION YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday, 14 th July 2022
Report Subject	Forward Work Programme
Report Author	Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

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

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

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME			
1.01	Items feed into a Committee's Forward Work Programme from a number of sources. Members can suggest topics for review by Overview & Scrutiny Committees, members of the public can suggest topics, items can be referred by the Cabinet for consultation purposes, or by County Council or Chief Officers. Other possible items are identified from the Cabinet Work Programme and the Improvement Plan.			
1.02	 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: 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	In future Forward Work Programme report, the action tracking details will be included as an update on progress, as an additional appendix to the report.			

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.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS		
6.01	None.		
	Contact Officer:	Ceri Shotton Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator	
	Telephone:	01352 702305	
	E-mail:	ceri.shotton@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.

EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME CURRENT FWP

		Scrutiny Focus	Responsible / Contact Officer
Annual Report from Regional School Improvement Service, GwE	To receive an update on the support provided by the regional school effectiveness and improvement service, GWE and its impact on schools	Assurance Monitoring	Chief Officer (Education & Youth) and Managing Director of GwE
Self-Evaluation of Education Services (2021-22) including Learner Outcomes 2021	To update Members on overall service performance 21-22 and Learner Outcomes from 2021.	Assurance Monitoring	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
Council Plan 2022-23 Mid-Year Performance Reporting	To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities and performance levels identified in the Council Plan.	Assurance Monitoring	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
	Regional School Improvement Service, GwE Self-Evaluation of Education Services (2021-22) including Learner Outcomes 2021	Regional School Improvement Service, GwEprovided by the regional school effectiveness and improvement service, GWE and its impact on schoolsSelf-Evaluation of Education Services (2021-22) including Learner Outcomes 2021To update Members on overall service performance 21-22 and Learner Outcomes from 2021.Council Plan 2022-23 Mid-Year Performance ReportingTo review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities and performance levels identified in the	Regional School Improvement Service, GwEprovided by the regional school effectiveness and improvement service, GWE and its impact on schoolsprovided by the regional school effectiveness and improvement service, GWE and its impact on schoolsSelf-Evaluation of Education Services (2021-22) including Learner Outcomes 2021To update Members on overall service performance 21-22 and Learner Outcomes from 2021.Assurance MonitoringCouncil Plan 2022-23 Mid-Year Performance ReportingTo review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities and performance levels identified in theAssurance Monitoring

Thursday 23 rd March, 2023			
2.00pm			
Thursday 11 th May, 2023			
2.00pm			
Thursday 29 th June, 2023 Joint meeting with S&HC ອSC - 2.00pm ບ	Safeguarding in Education	To provide an update on the discharge of statutory safeguarding duties in schools and the Education portfolio. To include information on Relationship and Sexual Education and how this was contributing to reducing harm.	
12	Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018	To outline the approach to the identification and commissioning of post 16 education for Flintshire young people.	
	Looked After Children in Flintshire	To provide an update on the provision for Looked After Children. And to provide an update on the challenges, positive working and how young people were supported through the pilot to provide funding directly to looked after children leaving care.	

EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

Thursday 13 th July, 2023	Annual Report from Regional School Improvement Service,	To receive an update on the support provided by the regional school effectiveness and improvement	Assurance Monitoring	Chief Officer (Education & Youth) and Managing Director of GwE
2.00pm	GwE	service, GWE and its impact on schools		
	Social Media and Internet Safety	To provide Members with an update on the Portfolio's Social Media and Internet Safety policy and provision	Assurance Monitoring	Learning Adviser - Health, Well-being and Safeguarding
	Council Plan 2022-23 Year-End Performance	To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities and performance levels identified in the Council Plan.	Assurance Monitoring	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
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APPENDIX 1

INFORMATION REPORTS TO BE CIRCULATED TO THE COMMITTEE

ω Item	Purpose of information report	Month
Health & Safety in Schools	Information report on accidents during the academic year and the actions taken to support schools in achieving healthy and safe environment.	December
Flintshire Summer of Fun and Summer Playschemes	Information on feedback from parents from Flintshire Summer of Fun and Summer Playschemes 2021 to be circulated to the Committee once collated.	When available

Items to be scheduled

- Report on the challenges that may be faced by schoolchildren leaving education in Wales with the new qualifications, perhaps into England whether to work or re-enter education, that may be caused by the changes to those new qualifications - Request from Cllr Richard Jones.
- Supporting Service Children in Education Update a further report to outline the priority actions of schools following the audit be presented to the Committee when appropriate - Request from Cllr David Mackie.

REGULAR ITEMS

Month	Item	Purpose of Report	Responsible / Contact Officer
February/ March	School Modernisation	To update Members on the progress made with School Modernisation	Senior Manager School Planning & Provision
April	Attendance & Exclusions	To provide Members with an overview of school attendance and exclusions and the role of the Portfolio's support services in this area	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
June	Self-evaluation on education services & learner outcomes	To update Members on overall service performance including Learner Outcomes	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
Ра	Additional Learning Needs	To update members on the implementation of national ALN reforms in schools and the role of the Portfolio's support services in this area	Senior Manager – Inclusion & Progression
guly 14	Regional School Effectiveness and Improvement Service (GwE)	To receive an update on progress with the development of the regional school effectiveness and improvement service, to include a presentation from the Chief Officer of GwE.	Chief Officer (Education & Youth) & GwE Senior Officers
December	School Balances	To provide the Committee with details of the closing balances held by Flintshire schools at the end of the financial year	Finance Manager
Annually	Learning from the School Performance Monitoring Group (SPMG)	To receive the annual report on progress and learning from the SPMG	Senior Manager – School Improvement;
Annually	Social Media & Internet Safety	To receive an annual report assurance/monitoring	Healthy Schools Practictioner
	Class Size Grant	To receive a regular update on how the Class Sizes Grant from Welsh Government was being used and how this aligned to the School Modernisation Programme	Senior Manager School Planning & Provision



EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday, 14 th July, 2022
Report Subject	Terms of Reference of the Committee
Report Author	Democratic Services Manager
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council carried out a Committee review during 2019/20 which resulted in amendments to the Overview & Scrutiny Committee Structure. At the Annual Meeting of Council in 2020, these changes were confirmed, and this resulted in a reduction in the number of Committees to five, each comprising 12 elected Members. These are:

- Community, Housing & Assets;
- Corporate Resources;
- Education, Youth & Culture;
- Environment & Economy;
- Social & Healthcare.

Since the 2019/20 review there have been a number of changes to Portfolio structures resulting in changes to service area titles. It was felt that a review of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee terms of reference should be carried out to ensure that they were up to date and better aligned to Portfolio service areas.

Proposed changes to the terms of reference are shown at Appendix 2.

RECOMMENDATIONS	
1	That the Committee support the proposed amendments to its terms of reference as set out in Appendix 2.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	THE COMMITTEE'S TERMS OF REFERENCE.	
1.01	The new Overview & Scrutiny Committee Structure was approved by Council on 27 th February 2020. At the Annual Meeting on 9 th September these changes were confirmed, and this resulted in a reduction in the number of Committees to five.	
	 The five Overview & Scrutiny committees are now: Community, Housing & Assets; Corporate Resources; Education, Youth & Culture; Environment & Economy; Social & Healthcare. 	
1.02	Since the 2019/20 review there have been a number of changes to service areas within Portfolio's resulting in changes to service area titles. It was felt that a review of the Overview & Scrutiny Committee terms of reference should be carried out to ensure that they were up to date and better aligned to Portfolio service areas. The titles of contributors to each of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees also needed to be amended to reflect the new Senior Officer and Cabinet Member titles.	
1.03	A copy of the current terms of reference for the Committee is shown at Appendix 1, with the new proposed terms of reference shown at Appendix 2. This is to allow the Committee to easily identify the suggested changes. Amendments are shown in red text at Appendix 2.	
1.04	Where a matter for consideration by an Overview and Scrutiny Committee also falls within the remit of one or more other Overview and Scrutiny Committees, the decision as to which Overview and Scrutiny Committee will consider it will be resolved by the Constitution & Democratic services Committee.	

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	Not applicable.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	Not applicable.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	This report is being submitted to each of the Overview & Scrutiny Committees during the July cycle of meetings.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Current Overview & Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference.
	Appendix 2 – Revised Overview & Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Report to the Constitution & Democratic Services Committee – 22 nd January, 2020 and resultant minute.
	Report to Council 27 th February 2020 and resultant minute.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Steven Goodrum, Democratic Services Manager Telephone: 01352 702320 E-mail: <u>steven.goodrum@flintshire.gov.uk</u>

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	No technical terms have been used.

Appendix 1: Overview & Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference 2020/21

Red text indicates a function previously within the remit of the former Organisational Change Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

Green text indicates functions transferred to the new Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee from the former Community & Enterprise Overview & Scrutiny Committee. Some functions were previously the joint responsibilities of two committees.

O&S	Scope: To fulfil all of the functions of an	Main Contributors
Committee	Overview & Scrutiny committee, including	
	Performance, Improvement and Policy	
	Development as they relate to the following:	
Corporate	Corporate Management and Governance	Leader of the Council;
Resources	Council strategic and improvement planning	Corporate Management
	(Council Plan)	& Assets;
12 Elected	Council performance and performance	Finance.
Members	systems	Chief Executive;
	Customer Services and contact	CO (Governance)
Designated '	Finance Strategy	Corporate Finance
crime &	Revenue and capital strategic planning	Manager
disorder	Revenue and capital budget monitoring	Senior Manager (HR &
scrutiny'	Clwyd Pension Fund	OD)
committee	ICT and Digital Strategies	
	People Strategy	
	Organisational Design & Change	
	Programme	
	Corporate Services	
	Corporate Communications	
	Financial services	
	ICT Services	
	Information and Business Services	
	Procurement	
	HR Business Partnering	
	Occupational Health and Wellbeing	
	Employment Services	
	Legal Services	
	Democratic Services	
	Revenues	
	Strategic and Partnership Working	
	Partnership and collaborative working	
	frameworks	
	Public Service Board	
	Civil Contingencies	
	Emergency Planning	

	Crime and Disorder Community Safety Partnership North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority &	
	Service North Wales Police & Crime Commissioner North Wales Police Service	
	North Wales Probation Service	
Education,	School organisation and management	Leader /Education &
Youth &	School Improvement and modernisation	Youth
Culture	School Access, planning and provision	Chief Executive
	Primary and Early years	CO (Education &
12 Elected	Secondary and 14-19 education	Youth)
Members and	Schools Performance Monitoring	
five co-opted	Continuing Education	
members	Adult and community learning	
representing	Special Education	
parent	Inclusion service	
governors and	Support to Families and Young People	
diocesan	Families First	
authorities.	Youth Services	
	Youth Justice Service	
	Libraries, Culture and Heritage including	
	archives and museums	
	Leisure Services, including leisure and	
	sports centres, swimming pools and	
	recreational facilities/activities	
	Strategic and Partnership Working	
	Theatr Clwyd	
	Aura	
	Holywell Leisure Centre	
	Cambrian Aquatics	
	Children and Young People's Partnership	
	(shared responsibility with the Social &	
	Health Care Overview & Scrutiny	
	Committee)	
	Coleg Cambria	
	Glyndwr University GwE	
	Welsh Government Department for Education	
	Estyn	

Social &	Adult Services	Cabinet Member for
Health Care	First contact and localities	Social Services.
	Adult safeguarding	CO (Social Services)
12 Elected	Adult Independence and support services	
Members	Children's Services	
	Fieldwork	
	Resources	
	Safeguarding	
	Early Years and Family support	
	Disability, Progression and Recovery	
	Services	
	Strategic, Commissioning &	
	Partnership Working	
	Children and Young People's Partnership	
	(jointly with the Education & Youth Overview	
	& Scrutiny Committee)	
	Social & Health Care Strategy Development	
	Health Social Care and Well-being	
	partnership and the Good Health Good Care	
	Strategy	
	Dementia Commissioning Plan	
	Mental Health Commissioning Plan	
	Learning Disability Commissioning Plan	
	Double Click	
	Home Farm Trust (HFT)	
	Hwb Cyfle	
	Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board	
	(BCUHB)	
	Ambulance Trust	
	Community Health Council.	
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Environment	Planning	Cabinet Members for
& Economy	Planning and environmental strategy,	Planning & Public
	Development management and control,	Protection and
12 Elected	Conservation,	Streetscene &
Members	Minerals and waste planning,	Countryside
	Countryside and the environment	Chief Executive
	Greenfield Valley Heritage Park	CO (Planning,
	Public rights of way	Environment and
	Drainage advisory/Flood Water	Economy)
	Management Act	CO (Streetscene &
	Energy Services	Transportation)
	Public Protection	
	Community protection	
	Health protection	
	Environmental protection	

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	Bereavement services	
	Streetscene Services	
	Environmental and Waste Management	
	Neighbourhood services	
	Maintenance of the public realm	
	Environmental enforcement	
	Vehicle fleet	
	Transportation	
	Highway Strategy and Development Control	
	Traffic Services	
	Transport Services	
	Road Safety Education, Training and	
	Publicity	
	Performance and Improvement Plan	
	Monitoring and Policy and Performance	
	development within the Streetscene and	
	Transportation and Planning, Environment	
	and Economy portfolios	
	Strategic and Partnership Working	
	Local Development Plan	
	Flood Management Strategy	
	North Wales Residual Waste Treatment	
	Partnership	
	Natural Resources Wales	
	Planning Inspectorate Wales	
	Regeneration	
	Communities First,	
	Economic Development and Tourism	
	Enterprise	
	Regeneration Partnership	
	Rural Development Plan	
	Visit Wales	
Community,	Community Liaison	Cabinet Members for
Housing &	The County Forum and the Joint Community	Corporate
Assets	Charter with Town and Community Councils	Management & Assets
	Flintshire Local Voluntary Council	and Housing.
12 Elected		Chief executive
Members	Community services	CO (Housing & Assets)
	Community support services	
	Welfare reform	
	Public Housing	
	Housing Strategy	
	Neighbourhood Housing	
	Housing Asset management	
	Private Housing renewal	

BenefitsProperty and Design ConsultancyValuation and EstatesFacilities ServicesCommunity AssetsStrategic and Partnership WorkingCommunity Asset Transfer ProgrammeHousing StrategyHousing Asset Management StrategyNEWYDDNEW Homes LimitedHousing Revenue Account Business Plan

Overview & Scrutiny Committee Terms of Reference

O&S Committee	Scope: To fulfil all the functions of an Overview & Scrutiny committee, including Performance, Improvement and Policy Development as they relate to the following:	Main Contributors
Corporate Resources 12 Elected Members	Corporate Management and Governance Council strategic and improvement planning (Council Plan) Council performance and performance systems Customer Services and contact	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure
Designated 'crime & disorder scrutiny' committee	Finance Strategy Revenue and capital strategic planning Revenue and capital budget monitoring Clwyd Pension Fund	Cabinet Member for Finance, Inclusion, Resilient Communities including Social Value and Procurement
	ICT and Digital Strategies People Strategy Organisational Design & Change Programme Corporate Services Corporate Communications Financial services ICT Services Information and Business Services Procurement HR Business Partnering Occupational Health and Wellbeing Employment Services Legal Services Democratic Services Revenues	Cabinet Member for Governance and Corporate Services including Health and Safety and Human Resources Chief Executive Chief Officer (Governance) Corporate Finance Manager
	Strategic and Partnership Working Partnership and collaborative working frameworks Public Service Board Civil Contingencies Emergency Planning	
	Crime and Disorder Community Safety Partnership North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority & Service North Wales Police & Crime Commissioner North Wales Police Service	

	North Wales Probation Service	
	Capital Programme and Assets Corporate Property Maintenance Service Property and Design Consultancy Valuation and Estates Service Community Assets	
	Community Asset Transfer Programme NEWYDD	
Education, Youth & Culture	School estate including capital investment programmes and school organization School Access including admissions and school transport policy School Improvement and modernisation School Access, planning and provision Early years Education Primary Education Secondary and 14-19 education and Post 16 provision Schools Performance Monitoring Welsh in Education Service Children in Education Outdoor Education School Governance Safeguarding Continuing Education Adult and community learning Special Education Inclusion & Progression service Support to Families and Young People Families First Youth Services Youth Justice Service Libraries, Culture and Heritage including archives and museums Leisure Services, including leisure and sports centres, swimming pools and recreational facilities/activities	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Social Services and Wellbeing Chief Executive Chief Officer (Education & Youth) Chief Officer (Social Services)
	Strategic and Partnership Working Theatr Clwyd	

	Aura Holywell Leisure Centre Cambrian Aquatics Children and Young People's Partnership (shared responsibility with the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee) Coleg Cambria Glyndwr University GwE Welsh Government Department for Education Estyn	
Social & Health Care 12 Elected Members	 Adult Services Single Point of Access (SPOA). Older people social work services, Including hospital discharge, and occupational therapy. Disability and progression service including physical and learning disability, Community mental health services. Disabled children and transition service North East Wales Community Equipment services (NEWCES). In-house provider services – Domiciliary care Residential care, day care and Extra care. Dementia support services, age friendly and well-being support services. Partnership with BCUHB community development, and older people transformation. Direct payments. Integrated autism and Regional LD transformation. Children's Services Support and protection services including child protection. Looked after children including Cooperate Parenting. Fostering services. Adoption. Early help Hub and family information service. Intensive family support services, Targeted support and multi systemic therapy. 	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Social Services and Wellbeing Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure Chief Officer (Social Services) Chief Officer (Education & Youth)

	Early Years and Family support services including Flying Start and parenting.	
	 Free Childcare officer and childcare sufficiency. Children's In house residential care and out of 	
	Children's In house residential care and out of county provision. Children services.	
	Strategic, Commissioning & Partnership Workforce	
	 Children and Young People's Partnership (jointly with the Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee) 	
	 Safeguarding Children's and Adult service. Including deprivation of liberty safeguards Business systems and financial accessment. 	
	 Business systems and financial assessment services. Commissioning Care convises and Contact 	
	 Commissioning Care services and Contact monitoring services including monitoring all independent sector provision, for children's and adult services. 	
	 Care Brokerage services. Micro care support Management information and Performance management including complements 	
	 complaints and data protection. Strategic commissioning and strategic planning services. 	
	Welsh language lead.Carers and young cares.	
	 Workforce development and training for children's and adult services. Including supporting student SW OT and QCF 	
	 assessment Centre. Home Farm Trust (HFT) Hwb Cyfle 	
	Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board(BCUHB)	
	Ambulance TrustCommunity Health Council	
Environment & Economy	Planning Planning and environmental strategy,	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet
12 Elected Members	Development management and control, Conservation,	Member for Streetscene and the Regional Transport Strategy

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Minerals and waste planning, Countryside and the environment Greenfield Valley Heritage Park Public rights of way Drainage advisory/Flood Water Management Act Energy Services	Cabinet Member for Planning, Public Health and Public Protection
Community and Business Protection Food safety and food standards	Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Economy
Licensing and pest control Health and Safety and Environmental Control	Cabinet Member for
Housing Standards and Pollution Control Trading Standards Animal Heath	Housing and Regeneration
Violence against Women, Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence	Chief Executive
Streetscene Services Waste Strategy & Recycling Winter Maintenance & Adverse Weather Policy	Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy)
Public open space management Town Centre & Street Cleansing Grass Cutting & Grounds Maintenance	Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)
Highway Inspections & Maintenance Public Conveniences (Local Toilets Strategy) Environmental & Civil Parking Enforcement Street Lighting	
Fleet Services Ultra-Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) Strategy Bereavement Services & cemetery management Car Parking Strategy	
Transportation Transport Planning & Highway Strategy Traffic Services Active Travel	
Integrated Transport Services (school transport, post-16 transport, local bus services, community transport, rail etc.) Road Safety Education, Training and Publicity	
North Wales Metro Programme / Regional Transport Plan	
Performance and Improvement Plan Monitoring and Policy and Performance development within the Streetscene and Transportation and Planning, Environment and Economy portfolios	

	Strategic and Partnership Working Flood Management Strategy North Wales Residual Waste Treatment Partnership (Parc Adfer) Natural Resources Wales Planning Inspectorate Wales Planning and Environmental Decisions Wales (PEDW)Ambition North Wales / North Wales Growth Deal Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs) Strategic Development Plan Regional Transport Plan Transport for Wales (TfW) Mersey Dee Alliance (MDA) Enterprise and Regeneration Economic growth and Business Development Tourism Social Enterprise Markets Regeneration Employability Domestic energy Digital connectivity	
Community & Housing 12 Elected Members	Community Liaison The County Forum and the Joint Community Charter with Town and Community Councils Flintshire Local Voluntary Council Housing & Prevention Services Homelessness Housing Advice and Common Housing Register Neighborhood Housing Housing Asset management Housing Support Grant Housing Support Grant Revenue and Capital Investment to Council housing stock and related assets. Repairs & Maintenance Service. Empty Property Refurbishment. Housing Management & Benefit Service	Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration Cabinet Member for Governance and Corporate Services including Health and Safety and Human Resources Chief Officer (Housing and Communities)
	Benefits and Grants Assessment	

Community Based Accommodation Support Service (CBASS) Disabled Facilities Grant Gypsy and Traveller Services Housing Management Welfare Reform	
Housing Development Housing Programmes Housing Strategy NEW Homes Limited	
Strategic and Partnership Working Housing Revenue Account Business Plan Registered Social Landlords	

Agenda Item 6



EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday, 14 th July 2022
Report Subject	School Attendance and Exclusions
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure
Report Author	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides information with regards to the levels of attendance and exclusion across Flintshire schools including an outline of the main reasons for pupil absence and exclusion.

The data reported has been impacted on by the COVID-19 pandemic once again. Schools have experienced extended periods of closure during the academic year 2020/21 and Welsh Government suspended data collection and publication in 2020. This situation has once again prevented meaningful comparison with previous years' data for Flintshire and negated any accurate information that can be extracted from national trends.

Attendance across Flintshire schools has shown a general trend of reduction, with illness accounting for the majority of absences. Levels of persistent absenteeism remain comparatively high. The levels of permanent and fixed-term exclusion have been on an increasing trend, particularly in secondary schools but did show a reduction in 2020/21. Once again the data for the school year 2020/21 has been directly affected by COVID-19 lockdowns. Welsh Government First Release data publications have not been published as a result of the pandemic which means that we are unable to draw any comparison with trends across Wales.

Work has continued to review and develop service model and delivery to meet the Estyn recommendation in relation to increasing attendance and reducing the level of exclusion across the county.

RECOMMENDATIONS	
1	Members consider the attendance and exclusion data for Flintshire schools and the actions undertaken by officers to support increased engagement and the safety and wellbeing of our children and young people.
2	Members recognise that the data provided has been impacted by COVID- 19 lockdown and school closures.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND EXCLUSIONS
1.01	School attendance and exclusion data is usually published by Welsh Government (WG) retrospectively and in a number of different formats.
	However, during 2019/20, Welsh Government suspended data publications and performance measurement processes as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic. This report is therefore constructed utilising Flintshire County Council unverified data, extracted from local databases and covers both the primary and secondary sectors.
	The information provided in the appendices for 2020/21 relates to the period 1 st September 2020 to the 23 rd July 2021 when schools closed for the summer holiday.
1.02	Table 1 in Appendix 1 provides the overview of pupil attendance across both primary and secondary schools (mainstream and special) for the last 4 academic years. Primary attendance had remained fairly consistent over the previous 3 years however, local data confirms a further reduction for 20/21.
	Attendance in secondary schools dropped below the Welsh average in the years immediately prior to 19/20 and local data confirms that it fell to below 90% in 20/21. This was noticeable reduction, but it is in line with expectations given that WG implemented a new COVID-19 registration code that could be applied at schools' discretion. The levels of unauthorised absence remain relatively low but once again reflect the uncertainty about where to apply the bespoke COVID registration coding.
1.03	The high levels of authorised absence stated in Table 3 suggests that parents/carers are providing schools with acceptable reasons for absence and much of this absence reflects parental anxiety about the circulation of COVID-19. It can be seen in Table 3 that for 2020/21 the "I" mark (Illness as an explanation) surpasses all other marks approved by Headteachers. This suggests that Headteachers continued to work with their parents, taking account of their concerns about the impact the pandemic was

	having on their families. Holidays in the primary sector reduced for 2021 as a result of travel restrictions imposed nationally. Once again this reflects the significant impact of the COVID-19 lockdown, and the subsequent reopening in June 2020, during which holidays were not available to families on the usual terms.
1.04	Parents/carers are ultimately responsible for ensuring that their children attend school regularly. Headteachers understand the importance of attendance on pupil engagement and attainment. Headteachers have, in the main, developed a range of systems to encourage attendance and also seek timely information regarding pupil absence.
1.05	The Council employs a range of teams to support schools in their attempts to improve attendance. These include the Education Welfare Service (EWS) which has a statutory responsibility with regard to school attendance matters along with others teams such as Additional Learning Needs, Education Psychology, Young Person Counselling, Personal Support, TRAC, English as an Additional Language and Gypsy/Traveller services which offer specialist support to schools, families and individual pupils to improve their engagement levels.
	These services had significant roles to play during the lockdown period in particular. Officers adapted their delivery methods to support remote learning where relevant and also worked hard to maintain contact with pupils and families offering a range of welfare support. Services also had a key safeguarding role during this period, with home visits being undertaken where concerns were evident. As per the recommendations from the local authority Estyn inspection in 2019, the use of data is being increasingly used across services to facilitate targeted intervention at the earliest time possible.
1.06	The EWS implements the legal challenge to parents/carers on behalf of the Council in collaboration with the legal team where appropriate/necessary. The full range of legal powers that are usually available to support an improvement in attendance were suspended by Welsh Government during the lockdown period and have only been re- implemented in 2022. Such challenges can usually only be applied in cases where there are significant levels of unauthorised absences.
	Given that levels of this are usually extremely low, future work will need to be undertaken with schools to review the levels of authorised absence to ensure that there is sufficient scrutiny and challenge of the information provided if we are to secure an improvement in attendance levels across our schools.
1.07	The main factor impacting on attendance continues to be illness. Across the secondary sector, there has been increasing level of absence being attributed to mental health issues. The sustained lockdown period in 20/21 has resulted in a loss of routine as a consequence of school closure or due to restricted opening. The Council has a number of services which support

	children and young people with mental health needs and there is regular engagement with health colleagues to consider the range of services available to Flintshire children and young people. The Welsh Government has made additional funding available to local authorities in the form of targeted grants to enhance provision to support this area of need, e.g. increased Counselling support and training/supervision for Emotional Literacy Support Assistants to deliver targeted intervention in schools.
1.08	The level of fixed term and permanent exclusion across our schools had generally been increasing, with the main reasons cited for exclusion being physical assault against a pupil, verbal/threatening behaviour against an adult, persistent and disruptive behaviour and 'other'. As with attendance, central services work in partnership with individuals, schools and families to offer support and intervention to prevent exclusion. The increasing complexity of need and wider contributing factors such as County Lines continues to make this increasingly difficult. Levels of exclusion in 2020/21 have reduced overall, but much of this can be attributed to the lengthy school closure as a result of national lockdown.
1.09	The need to support an improvement in attendance and a reduction in the level of exclusion had already been identified as a priority within the Education & Youth Business Plan. A Senior Learning Advisor for Engagement (SLA) was appointed in January 2020 to lead on this area and to address the Estyn recommendations. The SLA has undertaken an audit of the services and is implementing a range of changes to improve service consistency and accountability. A revised Mission Statement now underpins the EWS and working partnerships have been formed with targeted secondary schools to review and improve systems and practice. A revised approach to data analysis is also part of the new approach to enable resources to be targeted proactively as opposed to the more reactive service model. A regular internal audit is also taking place to ensure the LA meets the terms of the Estyn recommendations of 2019.
1.10	The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic has continued into 2021/22. Services are continuing to engage closely with schools, pupils and families to try and maintain levels of engagement and also secure a broad range of interventions to re-engage those who have been adversely impacted by the pandemic. However, the legacy of the pandemic and disruption to school routines remains significant.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The increasing levels of disengagement and exclusion continue to have a financial impact on schools and the Council. This is due to the additional resources required to engage those with more complex needs, such as officer capacity and bespoke provision programmes. This is currently being funded via a combination of school budgets, grant funding and Council service budgets. This is particularly evident in the increasing levels

of expenditure around Home Tuition and for non-maintained placements
referred to as 'Out of County', where the expenditure against education
and social care is exceeding the allocated budget.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	There are a number of risks associated with increased levels of disengagement and pupil exclusion, including safeguarding, pupil wellbeing, pupil outcomes and financial expenditure. The regular monitoring of the Education & Youth Portfolio Business Plan along with the annual reports on attendance and exclusion to the Overview and Scrutiny committee will ensure that progress is checked and action taken to mitigate the identified risks.
3.02	Additional work to improve data analysis and to profile statutory services is also ongoing. New strategic forums and a revised EOTAS (Education Other Than At School) structure are currently being implemented to attempt to address increasing demand for tuition and support for children with mental health and anxiety following the pandemic. Local Authority panels continue to meet regularly and to discuss pupils placed on EOTAS packages to ensure these pupils too were engaged or contacted.
	These activities ensure that the safeguarding of vulnerable pupils is paramount. In addition, key partnerships with schools have been established and projects put in place to attempt to engage pupils on their journey back to normal schooling. These partnerships have been supported by services across the Local Authority including the Youth Service.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
4.01	None undertaken as a result of this report.

5.00	APPENDICES
	Appendix 1 – FCC Attendance and Exclusion Data for 19/20 Appendix 2 - Attendance Codes

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	WG All Wales Attendance Toolkit
	WG Guidance - Exclusion from schools and pupil referral units

7	.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7	.01	Contact Officer: John Grant, Senior Learning Adviser - Engagement Telephone: 01352 704066 E-mail: john.grant@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	Authorised absence - an absence with permission from a teacher or other authorised representative of the school. This includes instances of absence for which a satisfactory explanation has been provided (e.g. illness, family bereavement or religious observance).
	Unauthorised absence - an absence without permission from a teacher or other authorised representative of the school. This includes all unexplained or unjustified absences.
	Persistent absenteeism : absent for at least 20 per cent of the sessions that schools were open to pupils.
	County Lines: a term used when drug gangs from big cities expand their operations to smaller towns, often using violence to drive out local dealers and exploiting children and vulnerable people to sell drugs.
	Out of County Placements – provision that is not maintained by Flintshire County Council. This is usually highly specialist and is commissioned where the Council is not able to meet the pupil's needs through its own internal provision.

Appendix 1

1.1 Attendance in Flintshire Schools

Pupil attendance is measured at local and national level using a number of different factors. The COVID – 19 pandemic has however resulted in the suspension of the regular Welsh Government statistical updates that would provide contextual information with regards to attendance trends across Wales.

The information below utilises pre-existing WG statistical publications and is supplemented with data from within FCC for 2020/21.

Table 1 below contains information relating to the attendance of pupils within Flintshire's mainstream and specialist schools. In the years preceding 2020/21, pupil attendance within the primary sector had remained fairly static. Attendance across secondary schools had seen a dip to below the Welsh average after 2016/17. Illness had been the main reason cited for absence in the years preceding 2020/21 and still accounts for the highest percentage of absence in both sectors.

Schools have generally maintained very low levels of unauthorised absence across Flintshire. There was a rise in authorised absence for the monitoring period in 2020/21. The overall picture for the monitoring period suggests a similar pattern of attendance to the previous year.

 Table 1: Levels of attendance and unauthorised absence in Flintshire mainstream and specialist schools.

	Attendan	ce (%)			Unauthorised Absence (%)			
	2020/21	2019/20*	2018/19	2017/18	2020/21	2019/20*	2018/19	2017/18
FCC Primary Schools	91.2	93.2	94.6	94.6	0.89	0.85	0.5	0.5
FCC Secondary Schools	88.5	91.6	93.3	93.7	2.56	1.87	1.7	1.6

*Figures for 1/09/19 to 20/03/20 when lock down commenced

Table 2 shows the spread of attendance figures across primary and secondary mainstream schools from 2017/18 onwards. This table demonstrates some movement across the range in 2020/21, more so across the primary sector.

Table 2: Spread of attendance figures

Attendance	Attendance Primary					Secondary			
%	2020-21	2019-20*	2018-19	2017-18	2020-21	2019-20*	2018-19	2017-18	
<90	6	4	1	1	7	0	0	0	
90.0-90.9	6	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	
91.0-91.9	5	4	1	0	1	1	2	2	

92.0-92.9	9	5	4	6	1	3	3	1
93.0-93.9	10	12	9	7	1	3	2	2
94.0-94.9	15	19	21	21	0	3	4	5
95.0-95.9	6	15	20	23	0	1	0	1
96.0-96.9	7	4	7	5	0	0	0	0
97.0-97.9	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0
98.0-98.9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
99.0-100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*Figures for 1/09/19 to 20/03/20 when lock down commenced

Table 3 provides a breakdown of all of the coding applied to authorise absence within Flintshire schools by percentages.

The data clearly demonstrates that illness has remained the predominant reason for pupil absence from Flintshire schools up to and including the period reported for 2020/21.

Reason for		Prima	ary (%)		Secondary (%)			
Absence	2020-21	2019-20*	2018-19	2017-18	2020-21	2019-20*	2018-19	2017-18
С	39.72	11.8	5.99	5.59	28.43	17.05	15.45	11.38
F	0.00	0.03	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.00
Н	11.02	15.75	28.53	27.89	1.95	4.81	6.75	7.13
I	42.69	62.02	55.21	57.76	48.07	66.29	65.84	70.35
Μ	3.77	5.23	6.59	6.72	4.45	7.92	8.68	7.09
s	0.00	0	0.01	0.00	13.66	0.01	0.18	0.40
E	0.25	0.41	0.52	0.53	2.68	3.21	2.91	3.39
R	0.09	0.02	0.12	0.10	0.06	0	0.01	0.00
Т	2.47	4.73	3.12	1.38	0.70	0.68	0.10	0.25

Table 3: Reasons for authorised absence

*Figures for 1/09/19 to 20/03/20 when lock down commenced

Key: C Other authorised circumstances (not covered by another appropriate code/ description)

F Agreed extended family holiday

- H Agreed family holiday
- I Illness
- M Medical or dental appointment
- S Study leave
- *E Excluded but no alternative provision made*
- R Day set aside exclusively for religious observance
- T Traveller absence

1.2 Exclusion of pupils from Flintshire schools

Welsh Government normally report annually on the national levels of fixed term and permanent exclusion. This is usually completed a year in arrears with a publication date in the month of October. As previously stated, WG data collection and publications have been suspended and internal data has been used to inform the report. On this occasion therefore, the data provided includes the academic year 2020/21.

The possible reasons for exclusion are recorded as follows:

- Physical assault against a pupil
- Physical assault against an adult
- Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against a pupil

- Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against an adult
- Bullying
- Racist abuse
- Sexual misconduct
- Drug and alcohol related
- Damage
- Theft
- Persistent disruptive behaviour
- Other

The level of exclusion across Flintshire schools started to rise noticeably from 2016 and mirrored a national trend across Wales. A reduction in the level of both permanent and fixed-term exclusion remains a priority for schools and the Education and Youth Portfolio and a number of strategic actions have been identified to support a reduction. These include awareness raising across the school sector of the impact of exclusion, investment in the training of school staff on the National Nurturing Schools Programme and a shift to a nurture/wellbeing emphasis for central services, e.g. Behaviour Support Team.

Table 4: Number of Permanent Exclusions from Flintshire Schools

	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18
Primary	0	1	3	5
Secondary	10	19	24	23

Table 5 shows the levels of fixed-term exclusion across primary and secondary schools. The figure within the brackets indicates the number of pupils who received one or more exclusion.

Table 5: Fixed-Term Exclusions

Type of Exclusion	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18					
	Number of incidents (Number of pupils)	Number of incidents (Number of pupils)	Number of incidents (Number of pupils)	Number of incidents (Number of pupils)					
Primary 5 Days or Less	95 (55)	144 (70)	251 (102)	172 (80)					
Primary Over 5 days	13 (12)	1 (1)	12 (10)	10 (7)					
Secondary 5 Days or Less	902 (490)	879 (405)	1188 (533)	1059 (515)					
Secondary Over 5 days	22 (20)	19 (18)	22 (19)	39 (34)					
				upils (Primary &					
		Secondary combined)							
5 Days or Less	54.5	43.4	61.2	52.2					
Over 5 days	3.2	0.8	1.4	2.1					

Reasons for exclusion.

The primary reasons for exclusion are documented in Table 6. As can be seen, the main reasons for exclusion remain Physical assault against a pupil, Verbal/threatening behaviour against an adult, Persistent disruptive behaviour and Other.

			20	020/21	1	-				20	019/2	0					2	018/19)						2017/1	8		
Reason for Exclusion	Fixed days	-	Fixe > 5 day	ed	Per	m		Fixed days	_	Fixe > 5 day	ed	Per	m		Fixed < days	<u><</u> 5		ed >	Per	m		Fixed days	≤5	Fixe days	d > 5	Pern	n	
	Р	S	Р	S	Р	S	Т	Р	S	Р	S	Р	S	Т	Р	S	Р	S	Р	S	Т	Р	S	Р	S	Р	S	Т
Physical assault against a pupil	22	197	5	8	0	5	237	31	121	0	3	0	4	159	39	247	1	3	0	4	294	42	194	1	4	0	4	245
Physical assault against an adult	12	6	3	0	0	0	21	28	17	0	1	0	1	47	34	18	1	0	1	0	54	43	20	4	1	5	1	74
Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against a pupil	3	52	1	2	0	0	58	9	38	0	1	0	0	48	11	50	0	0	0	1	62	9	42	0	3	0	0	54
Verbal abuse/threatening behaviour against an adult	15	167	0	1	0	2	185	23	166	0	4	0	1	194	34	243	1	4	2	1	285	15	244	0	9	0	3	271
Bullying	0	13	0	0	0	0	13	1	6	0	0	0	0	7	2	15	0	1	0	0	18	2	11	0	0	0	0	13
Racist abuse	1	10	1	0	0	0	12	0	10	0	0	0	0	10	3	13	0	0	0	0	16	1	10	0	0	0	0	11
Sexual misconduct	0	1	0	0	0	1	2	0	5	0	0	0	0	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	0	3
Drug & alcohol related	0	12	0	1	0	1	14	0	8	0	1	0	5	14	0	14	0	1	0	8	23	0	26	0	2	0	3	31
Damage	3	32	0	1	0	0	36	2	12	0	0	0	0	14	4	28	0	0	0	0	32	2	41	0	0	0	1	44
Theft	0	6	0	0	0	0	6	0	9	0	0	0	0	9	2	13	0	0	0	0	15	1	12	0	0	0	0	13
Persistent disruptive behaviour	36	225	1	6	0	0	268	49	284	0	5	1	1	340	111	200	4	3	0	3	321	47	157	4	6	0	1	215
Other	3	181	2	3	0	1	190	2	203	1	4	0	7	217	11	345	5	10	0	7	378	10	299	1	14	0	10	334

Table 6: Reasons for exclusion (number of incidents)

Fixed ≤5 days – Fixed term exclusion, 5 days or less Fixed >5 days – Fixed term Exclusion, over 5 days Key:

Perm – Permanent exclusion

- P Primary
- S Secondary
- T Total of primary and secondary

Appendix 2

Welsh Government Attendance Codes (excluding Temp Covid coding)

Code	Meaning	Statistical category
\wedge	Present at registration	present
L	Late but arrived before the register closed	present
В	Educated off-site (not dual registration)	approved educational activity
D	Dual registered (ie present at another school or at a PRU)	approved educational activity
Р	Approved sporting activity	approved educational activity
V	Educational visit or trip	approved educational activity
J	Interview	approved educational activity
W	Work experience (not work based training)	approved educational activity
С	Other authorised circumstances	authorised absence
F	Agreed extended family holiday	authorised absence
н	Agreed family holiday	authorised absence
- I	Illness	authorised absence
М	Medical or dental appointment	authorised absence
S	Study leave	authorised absence
E	Excluded but no alternative provision made	authorised absence
R	Day set aside exclusively for religious observance	authorised absence
Т	Traveller absence	authorised absence
N	No reason for the absence provided yet	unauthorised absence
0	Other unauthorised (not covered by other codes or descriptions)	unauthorised absence
G	Family holiday (not agreed or sessions in excess of agreement)	unauthorised absence
U	Late and arrived after the register closed	unauthorised absence
х	Un-timetabled sessions for non-compulsory school-age pupils	unauthorised absence
Y	Partial and forced closure	not required to attend
Z	Pupil not on roll yet	not required to attend
#	School closed to all pupils	not required to attend

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EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday, 14 July 2022
Report Subject	Social Media and Internet Safety
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure
Report Author	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Schools have statutory duties to operate in a way that ensures learners are safeguarded and that their wellbeing is promoted. There are many challenges for schools in addressing online safety including protecting children from inappropriate content, ensuring personal information remains private and promoting good practice among parents. Schools must ensure learners have high levels of digital literacy and are actively involved in the online safety provision. As a local authority we are committed to supporting schools to ensure they feel confident in their approach to online safety and helping them to develop effective policies and procedures.

This report has been developed to provide elected members with an update on the Education and Youth Portfolio's Social Media and Internet Safety policy and provision, following the previous report given in 2021.

RECO	MMENDATIONS
1	That members confirm they have received an appropriate level of assurance regarding the support and monitoring of schools with regard to social media and internet safety.
2	For members to consider for future reporting that Online Safety is incorporated within the annual Safeguarding in Education report.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE SOCIAL MEDIA AND INTERNET SAFETY REPORT
1.01	The local authority provides advice to schools on information assurance and safeguarding through various approaches. These include the Safeguarding Children Annual Report which includes review of Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks, safeguarding training and policies that schools completed and submit to the authority. Schools identify all the policies they have in place and their review dates. Relevant policies include Social Media, Acceptable Use of IT, E-safety, Safeguarding, Anti-Bullying, Data Protection, Information Security and Anti-Radicalisation as examples. Schools have also completed the Keeping Learners Safe Audit Tool which supports schools to review their safeguarding arrangements.
1.02	Where themes and trends are identified upon review of this information we will prioritise support accordingly; either on an individual school level or through a broader approach, including training or the development of a model policy. The Edtech Lead Officer within the Education Portfolio will support schools to embed online safety within their School Development Plans where it is not currently evident.
1.03	As a local authority we can also monitor the uptake of the 360° Safe Cymru Tool by our schools and the Edtech Lead Officer will revisit schools that need support. The 360° Safe Cymru Tool is hosted on the national learning platform, Hwb, and allows schools to self-assess their online safety provision, produce action plans and access good practice resources. The tool provides links to a wide range of good practice template policies, websites and documents.
	Evidence suggest that schools which use the 360° Safe Cymru Tool have made significant improvements in their online safety provision. 360° Safe Cymru helps schools continue to meet statutory requirements and adapt to changes in national guidance such as the Prevent counter-terrorism agenda and the General Data Protection Regulations.
1.04	In order for the curriculum to support the development of safe, resilient and responsible users of online resources, schools are encouraged to take part in key campaigns such as Safer Internet Day. Safer Internet Day took place this year on 8th February and the theme was 'Exploring respect and relationships online'. The day provided an opportunity to talk about how to use technology responsibly and the importance of being respectful online and creating a safer internet.
	Education programmes including the All Wales School Liaison Core Programme address various themes as part of their targeted delivery in both Key Stage 2 and 3 e.g. internet safety, cyberbullying and sexting.
1.05	The Regional School Improvement Service, GwE, also provides training on e-safety. Flintshire's Network Lead has also arranged regular safety training updates. During this current term a cyber security module has been shared with all schools adapted by the ICT Business Partnership team. Regular updates are shared with schools from the national Safeguarding in Education meetings which are attended by the Learning Advisor and the Page 46

	'Keeping Safe' area on Hwb is also promoted. The Edtech Lead and Learning Advisor have worked with Welsh Government on the consultation for the new web-safe tools. Online safety is a regular agenda item at the Flintshire Deputy Head network meetings and the Small Schools network.
1.06	The local authority monitors and records reported online safety incidents involving learners via the 'Challenging Bullying' online reporting system. This was introduced in September 2021. All online safety incidents within school are reported on their electronic child protection management system. If the concern is regarding a failure of filtering, the school immediately contacts their federated technician and the IT business partner. The IT business team can run websafe filtering to see if there have been any incidences by a pupil or school staff. The IT Service Level Agreement provides for web filtering in all schools.
1.07	Hwb Keeping Safe Online - Updated content
	Keeping Safe Online is a dedicated area on the national Hwb platform for the latest news, guidance, resources and training on a range of online safety, cyber resilience and data protection issues to help schools, staff, parents and children stay safe and secure online. It is regularly updated and is an invaluable resource.
1.08	A new 'Online issues and worries' section has been launched this term on Hwb which is directly for children and young people. It has been written by and for young people and covers ten different areas that were chosen by them: inappropriate or offensive content, online bullying, online gaming, online grooming, online hate, online radicalization and extremism, online reputation for print, online sexual harassment, sharing nudes and social media. The advice pages offer children and young people important information and guidance on what to do and where to turn for help if they are worried about something that has happened online.
1.09	A range of resources on Hwb were also launched this spring to support Safer Internet Day called 'All fun and games?' They can be used all year around for exploring respect and relationships online with a focus on gaming and interactive entrainment spaces. There are tailored activities and resources for the full age range (3-18years) and a guide for parents and carers.
1.10	In spring 2022 a number of guides with a focus on understanding more about cybercrime were published on Hwb; 'Be cyber smart to avoid cybercrime' – for educational practitioners, families and governors. The Guide for Governors addresses their role in supporting the school to teach about and protect itself from cybercrime. It provides an overview of what cybercrime is, the risks that cybercrime present, what the school's responsibilities are and where to go for help. This has also coincided with the Council's cybersecurity training modules which were launched this year as mandatory training for all staff.
1.11	School Health Research Network (SHRN)
	The School Health Research Network (SHRN) conduct a national health and wellbeing survey every two years with secondary school aged children in Wales.

	The most recent survey was conducted during the autumn term 2021; 6959 pupils from all 11 secondary schools in Flintshire participated in the survey. This is higher than the first survey undertaken in autumn 2017 which had 6585 participants. The majority of secondary schools in Wales take part in the SHRN survey and the national findings will be published in a report due for publication in the autumn term.
1.12	Following the survey, schools received an individual report of their findings at the end of the spring term 2022, and members of the Healthy Schools Team are in the process of developing one page profiles for the school and providing support in the development of their action plans.
	Survey questions relevant to this report include: cyberbullying, explicit images and online contact with friends they got to know through the internet.
	Students who have ever sent someone a sexually explicit image of themselves: on average 11% of Flintshire learners reported that they have sent a sexually explicit image of themselves, which is 2% higher than the national average. This is higher than in 2019 by 1%.
	Students who have been cyberbullied in the past couple of months*: (*Includes students who have been bullied once or more in the past couple of months): On average 21% of Flintshire learners reported that they had been cyberbullied in the past couple of months which is 3% higher than the national average of 18%. This is higher than in 2019 by 1%.
	Students who have online contact almost all the time throughout the day with friends they got to know through the internet: on average 7% of Flintshire learners reported that they had online contact almost all the time throughout the day with friends they got to know through the internet. This is the same as the national average. The term 'online contact' in the context of this survey question relates to 'sending and receiving text messages, emoticons, and photo, video or audio messages through instant messaging (e.g. WhatsApp, Snapchat), social network sites (e.g. Facebook) or e-mail (on a computer, laptop, tablet, or smartphone)'. This figure is 2% higher than in 2019.
1.13	As a local authority we are currently reviewing and reflecting on all the data in the report and the Flintshire SHRN Action Plan 2019-2024 is being updated to reflect this, with identified themes prioritised for action with key partners. The implementation of this important work is overseen by the Council's Emotional Wellbeing Steering Group.
1.14	#FCCBeKindOnline
	Following previous actions as agreed from this Committee a new campaign called #FCCBeKindOnline was launched on Flintshire's website on Tuesday 8th February 2022 and coincided with Safer Internet Day 2022. The campaign was an opportunity for the authority to demonstrate its commitment to this message and encourage everybody to embrace respect, empathy, and kindness online. The campaign also promotes the safe and

	positive use of digital channels when communicating with Council services with the introduction of social media house rules.
1.15	The Council's social media house rules are accessible on the Be Kind Online page and have been designed for everyone choosing to communicate with Council services through social media platforms e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn. They outline what the expected behaviour is, but also examples of what is considered unacceptable behaviour and what the Council will do when the house rules are breached. Inappropriate behaviour is managed through the Council's Managing Customer Behaviour Policy.
1.16	The dedicated web page on the Council site enabled people to make a pledge: as an Individual (young person or adult) living in Flintshire; a School, Business or Club/ Community organisation in Flintshire. A pledge card was designated to be used as a tool to promote discussion about the 'be kind' message and learners in some schools came up with their own personal pledges. Photographs of children, young people and staff with their pledges have been shared via the council's social media platforms to raise awareness using the hashtag #FCCBekindOnline. Two members workshop were also held.
1.17	As the Education Portfolio provides an annual Safeguarding Children report to the joint Education and Health and Social Care Committee, members are asked to consider whether they wish to continue to receive a separate report on Social Media and Internet Safety or whether it could be incorporated into the annual safeguarding report so that all relevant information is contained within a single and comprehensive report.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The provision for support for schools comes predominately through GwE, the regional school improvement service and Hwb. The Learning Advisor and EdTeach Lead are funded through the local authority's school improvement service.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
	The risk for the Local Authority is the potential to breach of statutory legislation related to safeguarding and the wellbeing of children. This includes the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and the Wales Safeguarding Procedures 2020. There is also potential for reputational damage and negative press coverage if there are significant breaches of policy involving learners or Flintshire employees in relation to internet and/or social media activity and findings from Estyn Inspections.
	This risk is mitigated by the Council having named officers with specific responsibilities for safeguarding in schools. The Council also provides firewall and web filtering services to schools via a service level agreement.

A rolling safeguarding training programme for head teachers / designated
safeguarding leads is in place. The dissemination of relevant information to
schools is undertaken, alongside the monitoring of self-evaluations and
annual reporting by schools on the implementation of relevant policies
including Safeguarding, and Acceptable Use.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	None.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Hwb: Keeping Safe Online Zone https://hwb.gov.wales/zones/keeping-safe-online/
	Hwb: Advice for children and young people – online issues and worries
	https://hwb.gov.wales/zones/keeping-safe-online/advice-for-children-and- young-people-online-issues-and-worries/
	Hwb: A governor's guide to cybersecurity <u>https://hwb.gov.wales/zones/keeping-safe-online/resources/a-governor-s-guide-to-cybersecurity/#what-is-cybercrime?</u>
	Hwb: All fun and games? Parents and carers https://hwb.gov.wales/repository/resource/b5d4a98a-81fe-466b-bdac- 81761134d677
	Flintshire Be Kind Online https://www.flintshire.gov.uk/en/Resident/Be-Kind-Online/Flintshire- FCCBeKindOnline-Pledge.aspx
	Wales Police Schools Programme Lesson Matrix 2021/22 https://schoolbeat.cymru/uploads/media/2021-22-Lesson-Matrix- SchoolBeat.pdf
	Keeping Learners Safe Guidance updated April 2022 https://gov.wales/keeping-learners-safe

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Claire Sinnott, Learning Advisor – Health, Wellbeing & Safeguarding
	Page 50

Telephone: 01352 704054
E-mail: Claire.h.sinnott@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
	Hwb <i>Hwb</i> is a platform with online tools and resources to support education in Wales. <u>https://hwb.gov.wales/</u>
	SHRN School Health Research Network <u>https://www.shrn.org.uk/</u>
	360 Degree Safe Cymru A self-review tool to help schools review their online safety policy and practice. <u>https://360safe.org.uk</u>
	Edtech Education Technology
	DBS Disclosure and Barring Service

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EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday 14 th July, 2022
Report Subject	End of Year Performance Monitoring Report
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure
Report Author	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Flintshire County Council Reporting Measures 2020/21 were identified by portfolios and approved by Cabinet in September 2020. The Council Plan 2021/22 was adopted by the Council in June 2021 and this report presents a summary of the annual out-turn of progress against the Council Plan priorities relevant to the Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

This out-turn report for the 2021/22 Council Plan shows 73% of activities are making good progress with 74% likely to achieve their planned outcomes. 73% of the performance indicators have met or exceeded their targets, 9% are being closely monitored and 18% are currently not meeting target.

This report is an exception-based report and concentrates on those areas of performance which are not currently achieving their target.

RECO	MMENDATION
1.	To support levels of progress and confidence in the achievement of priorities within 2021/22 Council Plan.
2.	To support overall performance against 2021/22 Council Plan performance indicators.
3.	To be assured by explanations given for those areas of underperformance.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE PERFORMANCE AT YEAR-END 2021/2022
1.01	The Council Plan performance report provides an explanation of the progress made towards the delivery of the priorities set out in the 2021/22 Council Plan. The narrative is supported by information on performance indicators and/or milestones.
1.02	This report is an exception-based report and concentrates on those areas of performance which are not currently achieving their target.
1.03	Monitoring our Performance
	Analysis of performance against the performance indicators is undertaken using the RAG status. This is defined as:
	RED - under-performance against target.
	 AMBER - where improvement may have been made but performance has missed the target.
	GREEN - positive performance against target.
1.04	Analysis of current levels of performance against target shows the following:
	• 44 (73%) have achieved a green RAG status
	• 5 (9%) have an amber RAG status
	• 11 (18%) have a red RAG status
1.05	There are no performance indicators (PIs) showing a red RAG status for current performance against target, relevant to the Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

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

Prosperous Wales		
Resilient Wales		Throughout the Mid-Year Monitoring
Healthier Wales		Report there is evidence of alignment with
More equal Wales		the Well-being Goals. Specific strategic
Cohesive Wales		and policy reports include impact and risk
Vibrant Wales		assessments.
Globally responsible	Wales	
		which they resonate. See the full list below.
Theme	Well-	being Objective
Theme Poverty	Well- Prote	-
	Well- Protecthem	being Objective cting people from poverty by supporting
Poverty Affordable and	Well- Protecthem Housi reside Limiting the national	being Objective cting people from poverty by supporting to meet their basic needs ng in Flintshire meeting the needs of our
Poverty Affordable and Accessible Housing Green Society and	Well- Protect them Housi reside Limiting the na comm carbo	being Objective cting people from poverty by supporting to meet their basic needs ng in Flintshire meeting the needs of our ents and supporting safer communities ng the impact of the Council's services on atural environment and supporting the wide nunities of Flintshire to reduce their own
Poverty Affordable and Accessible Housing Green Society and Environment	Well- Protecthem Housi reside Limiting the na comm carbo Enabl	being Objective cting people from poverty by supporting to meet their basic needs ng in Flintshire meeting the needs of our ents and supporting safer communities ng the impact of the Council's services on atural environment and supporting the wide nunities of Flintshire to reduce their own n footprint

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

5.01	Appendix 1: Year-end progress report against 2021/22 Reporting Measures.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Council Plan 2021/22.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Ceri Shotton, Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator Telephone: 01352 702305 E-mail: margaret.parry-jones@flintshire.gov.uk

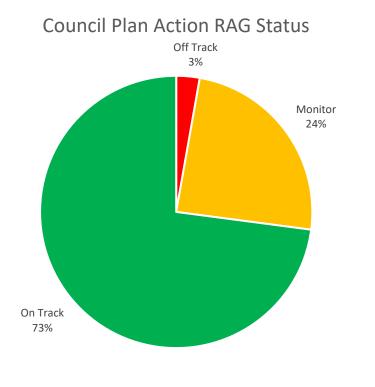
8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS		
8.01 Council Plan: the document which sets out the annual priorities of t Council. It is a requirement of the Local Government and Elections (Act 2021 for organisations to 'set out any actions to increase the ext which the council is meeting the performance requirements.' Plans f organisations should be robust; be clear on where it wants to go; an will get there.			
	An explanation of the report headings		
	Measures (Key Performance Indicators - KPIs)		
	Actual (YTD) – the year-to-date performance identified i.e. by numbers, percentages, etc		
 Target (YTD) – The target for the year to date which is set at the better the year. Current RAG Rating – This measures performance for the year age target. It is automatically generated according to the data. Red = a position of under performance against target Amber = a mid-position where improvement may have been maged 			
			 Green = a position of positive performance against the target.



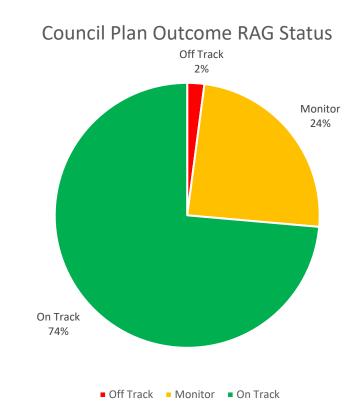
Council Plan End of Year Performance Monitoring Report 2021/22



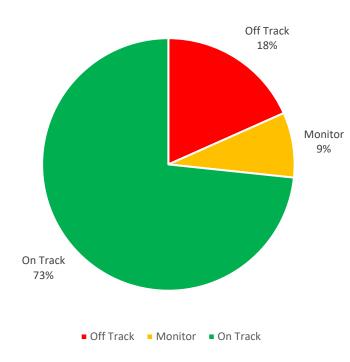
Analysis







Council Plan Performance Measures

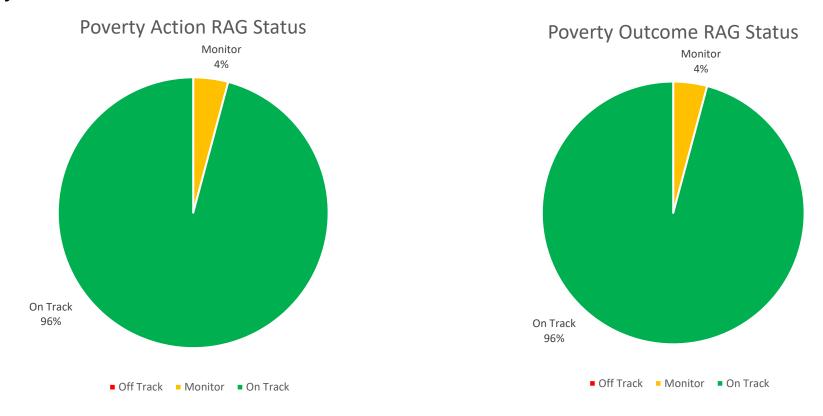


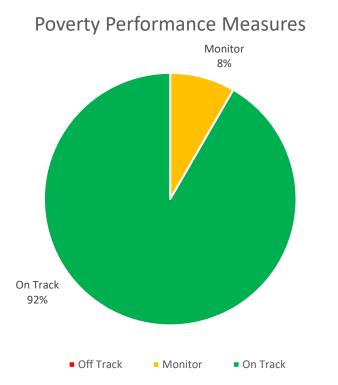
Measures Off Track

Area	Title	RAG
Social Housing	Number of Affordable Homes under construction via NEW Homes	
	Number of Council Homes completed	
Fleet Strategy	Introduce electric vehicles into the recycling fleet	
Active and Sustainable	Develop multi-modal transport hub at Garden City	
Travel Options	Introduce Electric Charging points at key locations across the County	
Active and Sustainable Travel Options Transport and Digital Infrastructure	Number of bus quality partnerships on the core network	
Circular Economy	Percentage of waste reused, recycled or composted	
Business	Number of local businesses supported to reduce their carbon footprint and become more resource efficient	
Deducing Worklossnoss	Number of individuals entering employment, learning and volunteering	
Reducing Worklessness	Number of individuals receiving support	
A Well-connected, Safe and Clean Local Environment	Progress actions to avoid non-payment of all Fixed Penalty Notice (FPN) / Penalty Charge Notice (PCN)	

Poverty

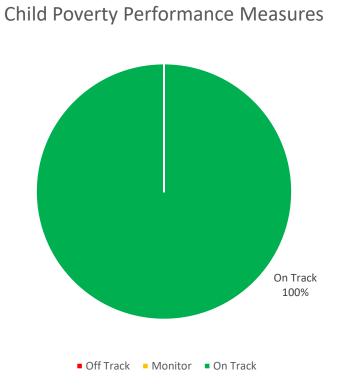
Poverty Overall Performance





Measures Off Track

Area	Title	RAG
Poverty	There are no measures off track for this section	



Measures

Area	Title	RAG
	Number of libraries open	*
	Percentage of secondary school offering the free breakfast to those eligible year 7 pupils	*
Child Poverty	Total number of children pre-registered for community and school play sessions/support	*
	Total number of children pre-registered for Summer Play Scheme	*
	Usage statistics of online resources for children and young people	N/A

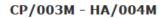
Number of libraries open

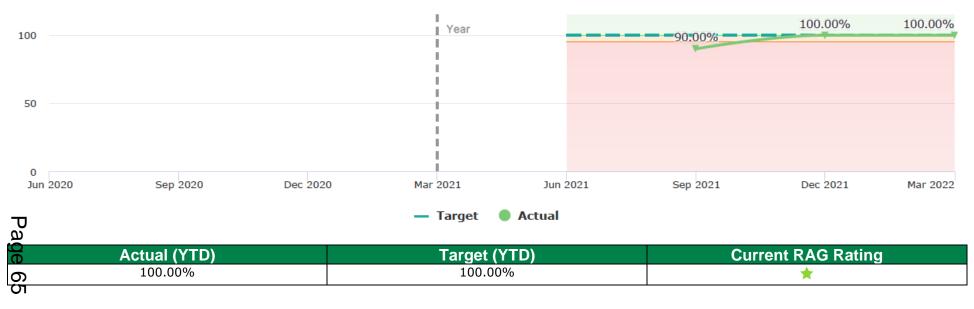
CP/004M - AURA/001



	Comment	
Deeside Library reopened October 2021.		

Percentage of secondary school offering the free breakfast to those eligible year 7 pupils





Comment

This initiative was more challenging to deliver during the pandemic due to changes to how secondary schools operated with Covid restrictions in place. Secondary schools worked closely with NEWydd to implement as far as possible and there are varying models of delivery currently with nine schools offering provision through this initiative. Two schools were already providing access to free breakfast for Free School Meals pupils. The main challenge currently is that a large percentage of the recording is needed to be done manually. Work will continue in supporting schools with this initiative, on encouraging further take-up and developing a more sustainable recording process through the cashless dining system.

Total number of children pre-registered for community and school play sessions/support



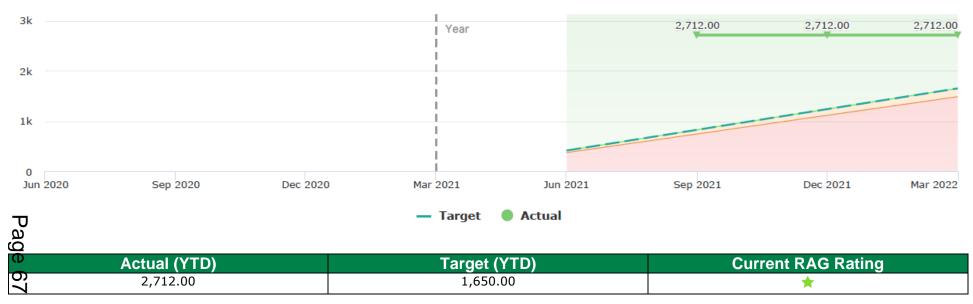
CP/001M - EY/011M

Comment

The Play Development team continued to deliver sessions for quarter four via funding received from Welsh Government All Wales Play Opportunities Grant; Connah's Quay Town Council and Wrexham/Flintshire Resilience Team. The delivery of sessions was continued from quarter three at the two special schools Ysgol Maes Hyfryd and Ysgol Pen Coch and the Pupil Referral Unit, Ysgol Plas Derwen. Play sessions were continued with Riverside Gypsy Traveller community, Central Park, Connah's Quay and The Holway, Holywell. 19 new registrations of young people were achieved in quarter four.

Total number of children pre-registered for Summer Play Scheme

CP/002M - EY/012M



Comment

There are no new registrations for Summer play. Registration period for Summer playschemes ended on 31 August 2021.

Usage statistics of online resources for children and young people

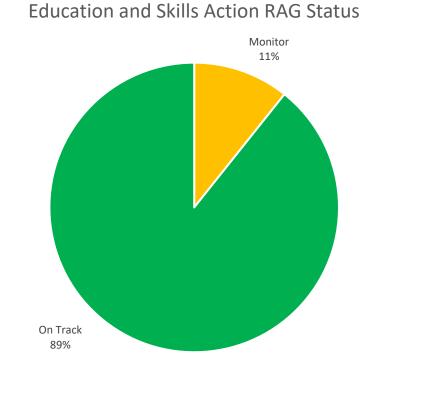
CP/005M - AURA/002M



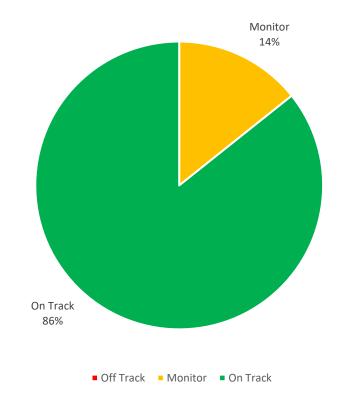
	Comment
Fina	al figure for year.

Education and Skills

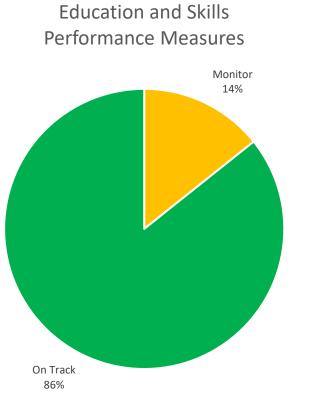
Education and Skills Overall Performance



Education and Skills Outcome RAG Status



Off Track Monitor On Track



Measures Off Track

Area	Title	RAG
Education and Skills	There are no measures off track for this section	

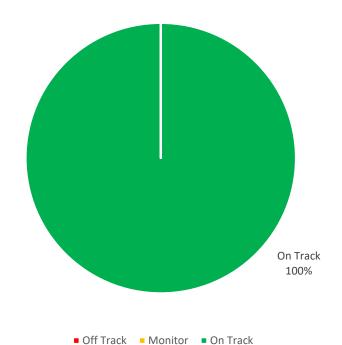
Off Track Monitor On Track

Educational Engagement and Achievement Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Continuing to broaden the offer of alternative education opportunities to support learner engagement	100%	*	*	A broader range of alternative provision has been identified and secured across the year in response to both the curricular and health and wellbeing needs of learners. The availability of these opportunities has supported the engagement of learners who struggle to access more formal education.
Continuing to improve attendance and reduce exclusions to maximise educational achievement	100%	*	•	The Education Welfare Service prioritises its use of data to target pupil engagement. There is enhanced information sharing with the Early Help Hub and use of a range of statutory interventions to support improved pupil attendance. However, the overall influence of these activities on levels of attendance and exclusions remains a challenge due to the disruption caused by the pandemic.
Aaintaining support for the rollout of the revised curriculum for upils from 3-16 which better prepares them for their future lives and employment	100%	*	*	All schools have actively engaged during the year in Curriculum for Wales Cluster collaboration. Support from the regional consortia (GwE) has been targeted to support schools in making progress against their improvement plans. Each plan identifies how schools address specific aspects including professional learning to support all staff; effective deployment of grants; trialling and evaluating approaches within curriculum design across all six Areas of Learning Experiences (AOLEs) and wider engagement with stakeholders. All Flintshire schools have an allocated Supporting Improvement Adviser (SIA) through the regional school improvement service (GwE). All schools have engaged effectively with local 'alliances' or 'clusters' where they have collaborated with peers to identify, develop and share blended learning resources. In secondary schools, teaching and learning leaders in schools have been involved forums for improving pedagogy in their schools. Support continued during the year for the very small number of schools in Flintshire who were in an Estyn category. One secondary school was removed from the category of Estyn Review in December 2021 and one primary school from the category of Special Measures in March 2022. There are no remaining Flintshire schools in any Estyn follow up or statutory category.

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Continuing to support the raising of standards at all key stages to enable onward learner progression	100%	*	*	The regional school improvement service, GwE, has worked with the other regional consortia to develop a national professional learning offer that integrates all aspects of the wider reform including Schools as Learning Organisations, Y Gymraeg (towards a million Welsh speakers by 2050) and the Additional Learning Needs Transformational Bill. This cross regional offer has been aimed at supporting all school practitioners, and focused initially on Senior Leaders with the following themes: • Leading Change • Leadership for the new curriculum • Developing a Shared Vision • Planning for Curriculum Change – to include curriculum design, progression and assessment • Leading Pedagogy • Time and Space for Professional Learning Despite the ongoing challenges of Covid this term, engagement from Flintshire schools in this professional learning offer has been very positive. A key aspect in moving forward has been supporting schools to develop networks across all six Areas of Learning and Experience (AoLE). Flintshire schools have been very well represented in the regional Curriculum for Wales networks on: • Whole school Curriculum Design • Unpacking the potential of one of the Areas of Learning Experiences (AOLEs) • Language, Literacy and Communication (both Welsh and English) • Mathematics and Numeracy • Science & Technology • Humanities • Health and Wellbeing • Expressive Arts • Assessment

Educational Engagement and Achievement Performance Measures



Area	Title	RAG			
	Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools	N/A			
	Percentage of pupil attendance in secondary schools	N/A			
Educational Engagement and	Percentage of schools maintaining progress against key milestones in implementation of the new curriculum	*			
Achievement	Percentage of students taking a Level 3 qualification in STEM subjects	N/A			
	Reduction in the number of fixed term exclusions	N/A			
	Reduction in the number of permanent exclusions	N/A			

Measures

PAM/007 Percentage of pupil attendance in primary schools

EY/002M - PAM/007



Comment

School attendance rates show a noticeable reduction for 2020/21. This can be attributed to the Covid pandemic with regards to pupil sickness and enforced closure.

This data has not yet been fully verified.

PAM/008 Percentage of pupil attendance in secondary schools

EY/003M - PAM/008



Comment

School attendance rates show a noticeable reduction for 2020/21. This can be attributed to the Covid pandemic with regards to pupil sickness and enforced closure.

This data has not yet been fully verified.

Percentage of schools maintaining progress against key milestones in implementation of the new curriculum

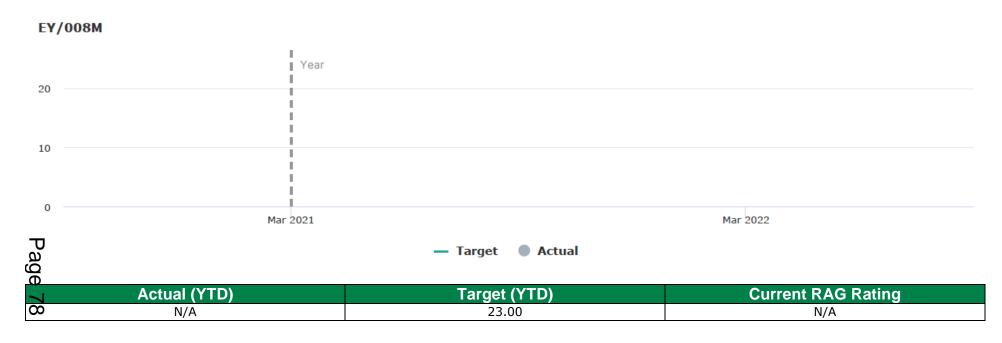


Comment

All schools have access to and are engaging in the national professional learning offer as part of the support to schools for the new Curriculum for Wales. This cross regional offer is aimed at supporting all school practitioners. All schools continue to be actively involved in Curriculum for Wales Cluster collaboration. Support from the regional consortia (GwE) is targeted to ensure that all schools continue to make progress against their improvement plans.

All Flintshire schools have an allocated Supporting Improvement Adviser (SIA) through the regional school improvement service (GwE). Working closely with their SIA, schools have continued to adapt their plans to reflect the ongoing challenges of the pandemic. Schools have an additional In Service Training Day for this summer term to support their preparations. All primary schools will begin to implement the new curriculum from September 2022. Secondary schools have been given the option to delay the start of implementation until September 2023.

Percentage of students taking a Level 3 qualification in STEM subjects



Comment

Key Stage 5 examinations in 2021 were cancelled and replaced by Centre Determined Grades due to the pandemic. Reporting requirements were suspended by Welsh Government for the second year as a result.

Reduction in the number of fixed term exclusions

EY/009M



Comment

Rates of fixed term exclusion were higher than anticipated and reflected the challenges that pupils experienced returning to school after extended period of absence and/or remote learning. The Covid restrictions also meant that schools were not able to implement a number of strategies that would normally prevent situations resulting in exclusion.

This data has not yet been fully verified.

Reduction in the number of permanent exclusions





Comment

The number of permanent exclusions reduced significantly over the year indicating a reduction in the number of significant incidents across Flintshire schools. This was offset by an increase in lower level fixed term exclusions.

This data has not yet been fully verified.

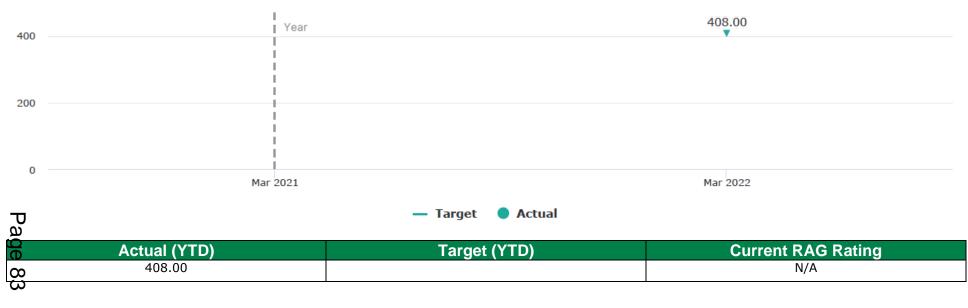
Digital Learning Opportunities Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Continuing to support learners who are 'digitally disadvantaged' to access IT devices to promote equity and engagement	100%	*	*	Bespoke support has been provided to schools through the additional capacity created by the Primary Learning Adviser post. A shared officer with Wrexham also provides support with connectivity as needed on a case-by-case basis. All schools met their ratio for desktop devices and have contingency devices available for disadvantaged learners as needed. Flintshire Education and Youth Portfolio has developed an Edtech strategy model document for schools. This has been shared with all schools through Digital Cluster Engagement meetings during the spring term. All schools will be expected to have a refreshed Digital Strategy in place for the new academic year.
Developing a new delivery plan for Integrated Youth Services with a greater focus on digital engagement to increase participation	100%	*	*	The delivery plan for the Integrated Youth Provision has been adopted by Cabinet in February 2022 and is now being rolled out by officers.
Increasing take-up of digital learning opportunities upported by Aura	100%	*	*	Digital learning - 69 learners and 21 courses.
Oncreasing the range of digital material hosted on the North East Wales Archive website and other digital services to encourage greater participation with the service	94%	*	*	Staffing issues involving the Digital Archive Assistant moving to a general Archive Assistant role have meant that digitisation has not proceeded at the desired pace but there was no specific target figure cited at the beginning of the year and we have made excellent progress under the circumstances.
Providing community training for online learning platforms in a partnership with Aura and Adult Community Learning	100%	*	*	Digital learning - 69 learners and 21 courses.

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Providing digital art workshops based on collections at Gladstone Library, in an Arts CounciL Funded partnership with Gladstone Library and visual artist	100%	*	*	Seven workshops, 25 attended plus online content and social media interaction.
Supporting schools and wider education services to increase their digital offer for children and young people	100%	*	*	The Education and Youth Portfolio has continued to support and monitor access to digital learning including for those learners who may require support with either devices or connectivity. Bespoke support has been provided by the Primary Learning Adviser and the Council's IT services. All schools have met their ratio for desktop devices and have contingency devices available for disadvantaged learners as needed. Work has been completed on developing a Flintshire Edtech strategy model document for schools. Schools have unlimited access to the resources on Hwb, the Wales Government education platform. All schools in the region have distance learning modules that they can access via the regional school improvement service (GwE).

Number of Adult Community Learning attendees

Number of Adult Community Learning attendees



	Comment	
Final figure for year.		

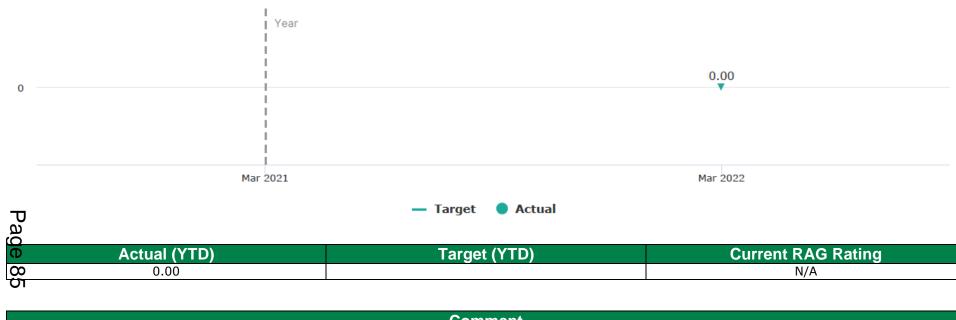
Number of Adult Community Learning sessions provided in English



Number of Adult Community Learning sessions provided in English

Comment
Final figure for year.

Number of Adult Community Learning sessions provided in Welsh



Number of Adult Community Learning sessions provided in Welsh

Comment
Final figure for year.

Number of digital art workshops delivered in English

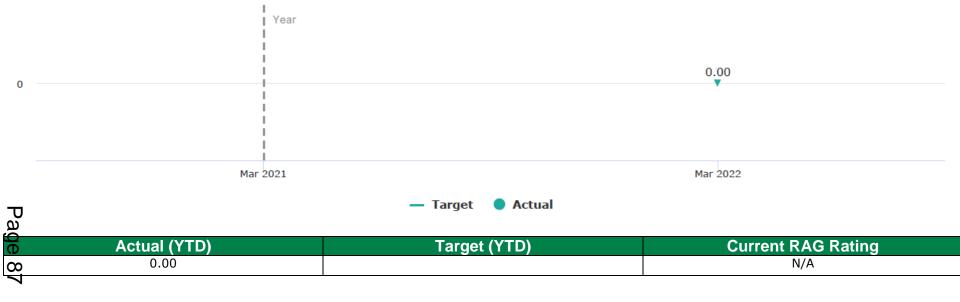


Number of digital art workshops delivered in English

Comment
7 workshops, 25 attended plus online content and social media interaction.

Number of digital art workshops delivered in Welsh

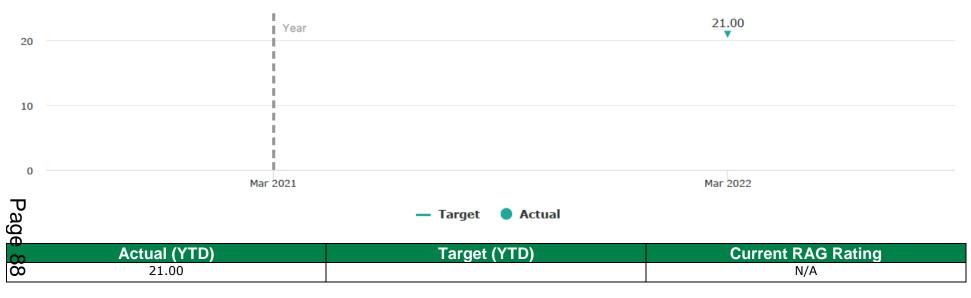
Number of digital art workshops delivered in Welsh



Comment				
Final figure for year.				

Number of digital learning sessions provided in English

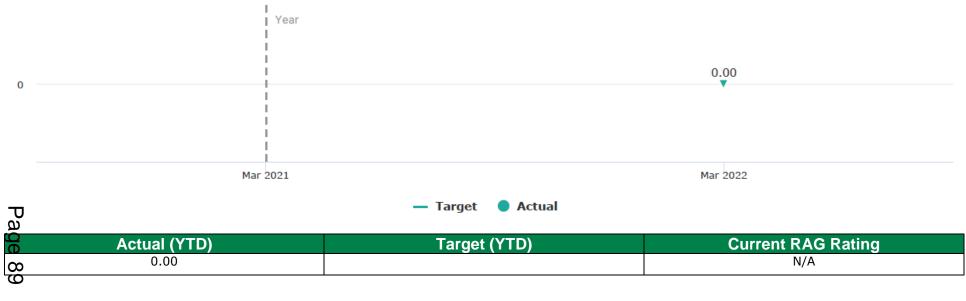




	Comment	
Final figure for year.		

Number of digital learning sessions provided in Welsh





	Comment	
Final figure for year.		

Number of learners registered for digital learning opportunities



Number of learners registered for digital learning opportunities

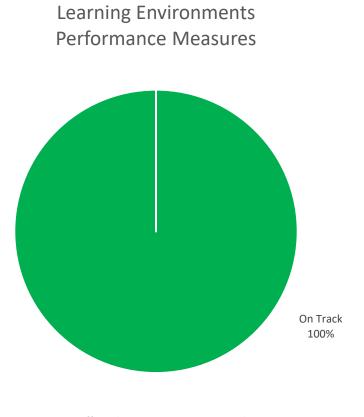
	Comment	
Final figure for year.		

Learning Environments Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Increasing usage of community spaces in re-developed Flint Library and Wellbeing Hub	100%	*	*	On average, in use for 75% of hours available per week.
Progressing the North East Wales Archive funding bid through the Stage 1 Heritage Horizons Award of the National Heritage Lottery Fund	100%	*	*	The stage-one funding bid to National Lottery Heritage Fund was submitted. Unfortunately, it was not successful.
Providing high quality learning environments through the Council's capital investment programme and Welsh Government grant funding streams	100%	*	*	The community hub at Queensferry campus (Ty Calon) was completed during September 2021. Work at Queensferry CP was completed during October 2021, external works on the site were completed during February 2022.

age 91

Learning Environments Measures



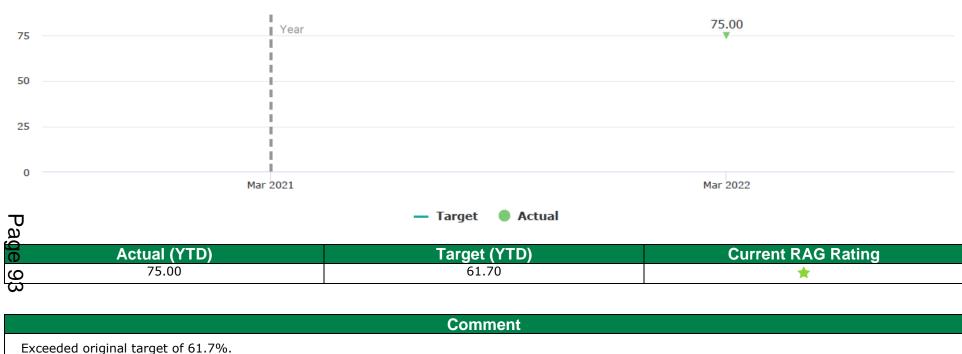
incubares							
Area	Title	RAG					
Learning Environments	Percentage of community space used in re- developed Flint Library and Wellbeing Hub	*					

Measures

Off Track Monitor On Track

Learning Environments Measures

Percentage of community space used in re-developed Flint Library and Wellbeing Hub



Percentage of community space used in re-developed Flint Library and Wellbeing Hub

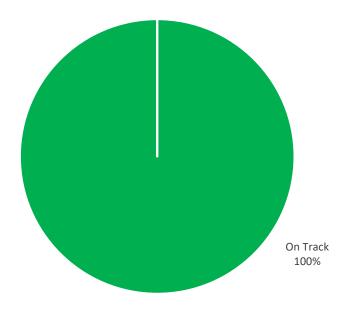
Learning Community Networks Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Completing the contractual arrangements for the North East Wales Archive between Flintshire County Council and Denbighshire County Council to provide a sustainable and resilient service	0%	•	•	A decision has been made to progress some elements of the contractual arrangements which will now be completed in the new financial year. Progress will be recorded against that for the 2022/23 cycle.
Developing a Delivery Plan for Adult Community Learning with new partners to increase engagement and improve skills within local	100%	*	*	The Adult Community Learning Delivery Plan for Flintshire 2021/22 was approved by Welsh Government in June 2021. This included planned 25,218 hours of provision for learners. The partnership has strengthened its provision of Adult Community Learning (ACL) funded courses and continued to raise its profile. Full programme delivery has been completed for the end of this financial year.
Stablishing a sub-regional partnership for the delivery of Adult Community Learning with Wrexham County Borough Council to maximise opportunities for participants and providers	100%	*	*	 Following Cabinet approval, the North East Wales Adult Community Learning (ACL) Partnership is well established between Flintshire and Wrexham. The Partnership has continued to meet regularly throughout the year. In accordance with Welsh Government guidance on roles and remits for ACL partnerships, the core membership is represented by local authorities, further education institutes, higher education institutes and third sector organisations. The Partnership has delivered a comprehensive range of provision, which meets the priorities outlined within the Adult Learning in Wales policy statement. This includes focus on: Essential Skills, English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) and Digital Literacy Support opportunities for learner progression into further or higher provision, or into employment (paid or voluntary), as appropriate – linked to the priorities identified by the regional Skills Partnerships Support opportunities for informal learning Support and develop the use of technology in the delivery of blended learning programmes

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Working in partnership with Open University Wales to support and signpost library users to Open Learn courses and subsequent learning pathways with Open Learn Champions in each library	75%	•	•	Open Learn Champions in seven libraries and learners have been referred to Open Learn courses. Currently working with The Open University on reporting methods to evidence pathways for next reporting year. This part of target was not delivered.
Working with Adult Community Learning and Flintshire Learning Recovery & Wellbeing Network Partners to share best practice and maximise opportunities for learning within the community with opportunities to be vailable in all Aura libraries	100%	*	*	44 courses (24 ACL Library led courses plus eight ACL partner led & 12 courses through wellbeing network) and 210 sessions delivered.

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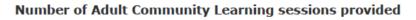
Learning Community Networks Performance Measures

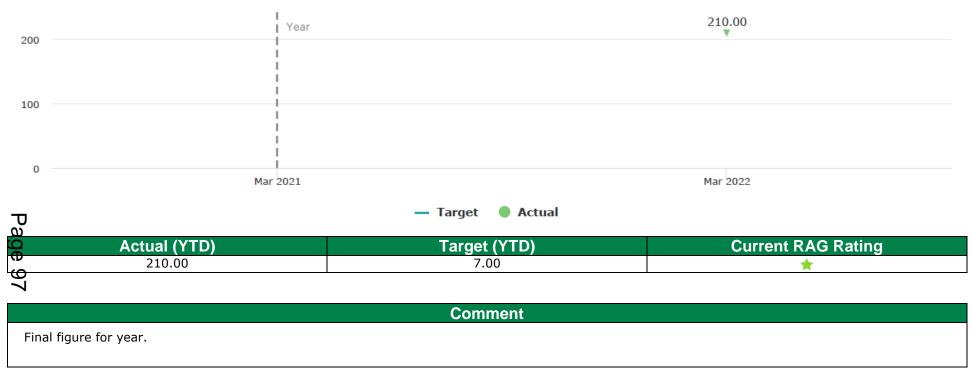


Measures						
Area	Title	RAG				
Learning Community Networks	Number of Adult Community Learning sessions provided	*				
	Number of courses accessed through Open Learn	N/A				
	Number of libraries offering learning and development opportunities					
	Percentage of Aura libraries offering an Open Learn Champion	*				

Off Track Monitor On Track

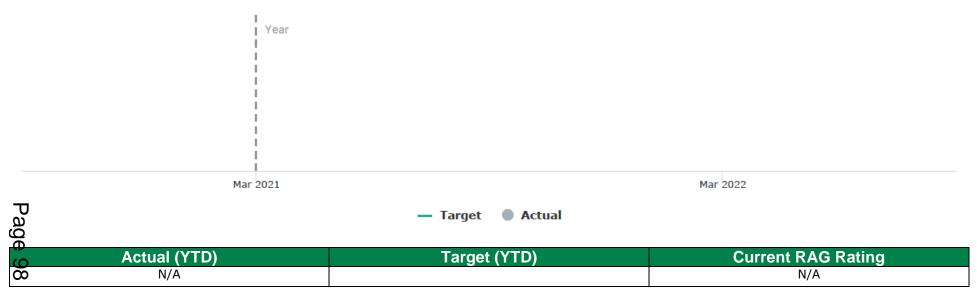
Number of Adult Community Learning sessions provided





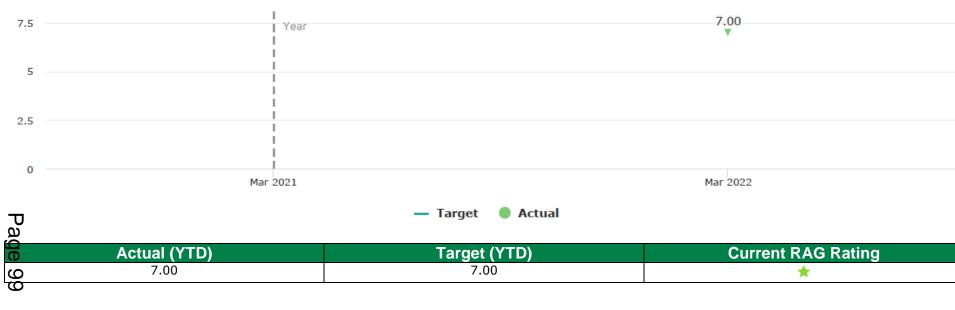
Number of courses accessed through Open Learn

Number of courses accessed through Open Learn



Comment	
Currently working with The Open University on reporting mechanism to evidence pathways for next reporting year.	

Number of libraries offering learning and development opportunities



Number of libraries offering learning and development opportunities

	Comment
100% of libraries offering Open Learn development opportunities.	

Percentage of Aura libraries offering an Open Learn Champion



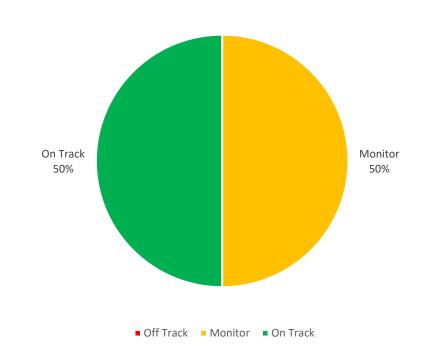
Percentage of Aura libraries offering an Open Learn Champion

Comment	
ampion.	All Aura libraries offer an Open Learn Champion.

Specialist Educational Provision Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Completing the build project for Plas Derwen (Pupil Referral Unit) to transform the delivery of this specialist service	100%	*	*	As previously reported, the new building at Plas Derwen was completed and handed over during September 2021. Phase two external works on site have now been completed.
Continuing to embed the implementation plan to deliver a new statutory approach for supporting children and young people with additional learning needs from 0-25 years	100%	*	*	The Council has implemented the required systems and procedures in response to the modified Welsh Government Implementation Timeframe. The Eclipse IT system is fully operational across schools and the Council supporting compliance with the statutory duties in relation to the legislation. Planning for the next stages of implementation is underway.
Developing a long term strategy to ensure sufficient and appropriate capacity o support learners with a range of additional educational heeds that maximises -bcal expertise and financial resources	100%	*	*	The new purpose built Plas Derwen pupil referral facility is fully operational and additional funding has been secured to support the extra staffing requirements. The first stage feasibility study to identify options around specialist school provision and inform the long-term strategy has been completed.
Increasing the capacity of Plas Derwen staff to delivery more outreach work to share their expertise across the schools workforce	75%	•	•	Additional staffing has been secured to increase the capacity of Plas Derwen to deliver a broader menu of outreach provision. The ability to fully deliver the planned interventions been impacted on by Covid and staff absence and will be carried forward as an action for the coming year.

Specialist Educational Provision Measures



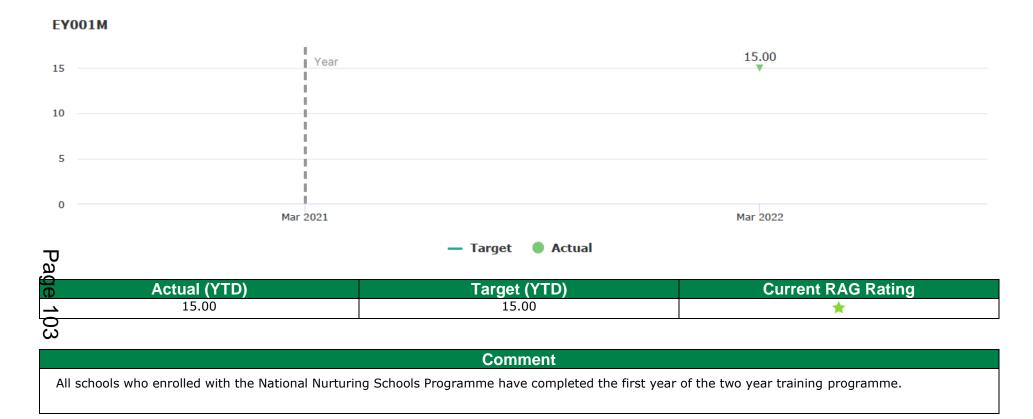
Safeguarding Performance Measures

Measures

Area	Title	RAG
Specialist Educational	Number of schools who have enrolled with the National Nurturing Schools Programme and completed the training	*
Provision	Percentage of schools maintaining progress against key milestones in the ALN reforms	•

Specialist Educational Provision Measures

Number of schools who have enrolled with the National Nurturing Schools Programme and completed the training



Specialist Educational Provision Measures

Percentage of schools maintaining progress against key milestones in the ALN reforms



EY/007M

Comment

The majority of schools who recorded their progress against the ALN milestones indicated progress in all areas. A small minority indicated that progress was not on track against one of the milestones due to pressures related to Covid-19. Training was offered to schools in areas where they had identified they needed support.

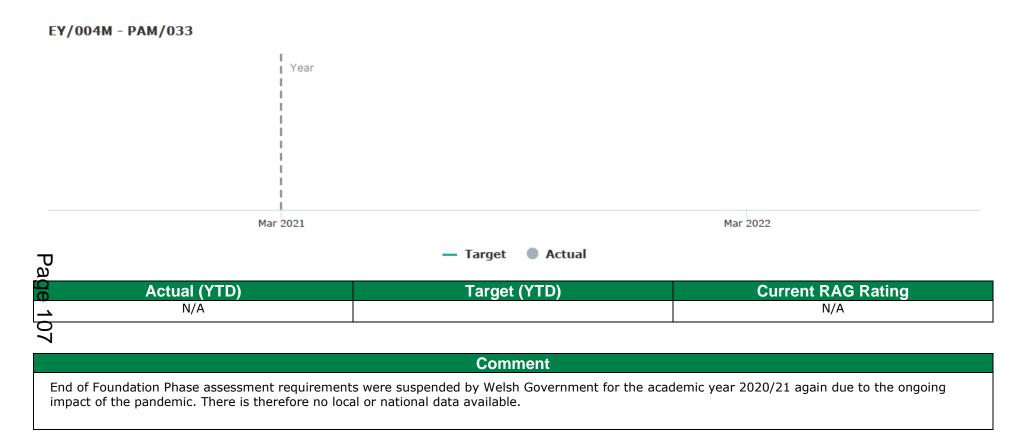
Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP) Actions

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Continuing to improve pupils' standards of Welsh in all schools to encourage greater bilingualism	100%	*	*	The Flintshire Welsh Advisory Team moved to delivering online professional development courses for Welsh coordinators in Flintshire primary schools as a result of the pandemic. English medium primary schools have received a copy of 'Language patterns to Develop Welsh in English medium Primary Schools.' This resource, developed inhouse, has been well received by schools. It focuses on suitable everyday Welsh language and planning Welsh across the curriculum. Cluster working for Welsh has strengthened over the last two years and is now an embedded sustainable model of school-to-school collaboration. Clusters work closely with the Welsh Advisory Team and the regional consortium, GwE. Network meetings of Heads of Welsh Departments in secondary schools and skills working groups have been held during the year. GwE offered a programme of specific training for Welsh departments on their Reform Journey towards the delivery of the Curriculum for Wales.
Extending the range of youth services which can be delivered bilingually to encourage young people to retain end use their Welsh anguage skills into early adulthood	100%	*	*	The Welsh Language Coordinator continues to provide support and training to staff within the Integrated Youth Provision and is also working directly with young people in youth clubs and in schools to promote Welsh language skills as part of the Council's commitment to the Welsh Government target of one million Welsh speakers by 2050.
Improving the Welsh language skills of staff in schools to more effectively support learners and the delivery of the curriculum	100%	*	*	The Flintshire Welsh Advisory Team continued to deliver online training for Welsh Coordinators during the academic year. English medium primary schools received a copy of the resource developed by the team, 'Language patterns to Develop Welsh in English medium Primary Schools.' the Welsh Advisory Team visited schools for bespoke classroom support where appropriate during the year. Bespoke support was provided for Newly Qualified Teachers or teachers who are new to the Welsh language Foundation Phase and Key Stage 2. An additional session was included to meet increased demand as a result of the Welsh Government funded scheme for newly qualified teachers. Two Flintshire teachers completed in summer 2021, the Sabbatical Scheme, Welsh in a Year Course 2020/21 and they continue to be supported to embed practice in their own school. There are 21 Flintshire practitioners currently completing the 'Croeso' online training: Practitioners in Education.

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Outcome RAG	Comment
Increasing the capacity and take up of Welsh medium education to achieve Welsh Government targets	100%	*	*	The Council's current Welsh medium education capital programme is making good progress. This includes enhancing provision at Ysgol Glanrafon, Yr Wyddgrug, Ysgol Croes Atti, Glannau Dyfrdwy and Ysgol Croes Atti Flint. The Council has submitted an expression of interest for additional Welsh Government Welsh Medium (WM) Grant Funding. Following a statutory consultation period, Flintshire's draft ten-year plan was considered by Cabinet in February and approved for implementation, subject to approval by Welsh Ministers. This ten-year Plan will commence on 1 September 2022 and expire on 31 August 2032. The Plan includes a new target outlining the expected increase in the number of Year 1 learners taught through the medium of Welsh in the local authority area during the lifespan of the Plan. Councils have been grouped by Welsh Government into different categories reflecting the current similarities and differences between the 22 local authorities in Wales. For this purpose, Flintshire has been placed in Group 4; Group 4: 12 percent or fewer of Year 1 children in these local authorities were being taught through the medium of Welsh in 2017/18. There is a choice between Welsh-medium education and English-medium education in these local authorities. Welsh Government has established a lower range and an upper range target for Flintshire. The Council will need to look to increase the number of Year 1 pupils being taught through the medium of Welsh to between 225 and 295 pupils over the ten years of this Plan. In 2020/21, a total of 119 five year olds were educated through the medium of Welsh. This represented 7% of all five year old children educated.
Maintaining Welsh Sovernment Quality Indicator for Welsh Language resources in Aura libraries	100%	*	*	Target is 4% of total resource spend on Welsh material. Actual spend of 8.4%.

Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP) Measures

PAM/033 - Percentage of Pupils assessed in Welsh at the end of the Foundation Phase



Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP) Measures

PAM/034 - Percentage of Year 11 pupils studying Welsh (first language)

EY/005M - PAM/034



Comment

Flintshire has one Welsh medium secondary school, which offers the opportunity for every learner to study for assessed qualifications in Welsh first language. The target of increasing the number of pupils overall remains within Outcome 4 of the Welsh Education Strategic Plan (2022-2032) and this must be achieved by improving the percentage of Welsh medium take up at primary school level and those pupils then making the transfer into Welsh medium secondary education.

Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP) Measures

WPLS - QI 10 Welsh resources

(4% of material budget on Welsh language resources or minimum £750/1,000 Welsh speaking resident)

WPLS - QI 10 Welsh resources



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