

# Public Document Pack

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Chief Officer (Governance)  
Prif Swyddog (Llywodraethu)



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To: Cllr Ian Roberts (Leader)

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

10 November 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

**NOTICE OF REMOTE MEETING**  
**CABINET**  
**TUESDAY, 16TH NOVEMBER, 2021 at 10.00 AM**

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Robert Robins'.

Robert Robins  
Democratic Services Manager

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

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

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

## A G E N D A

### 1 **APOLOGIES**

**Purpose:** To receive any apologies.

### 2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**Purpose:** To receive any declarations and advise Members accordingly.

### 3 **MINUTES** (Pages 7 - 14)

**Purpose:** To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING REPORTS

### **STRATEGIC REPORTS**

### 4 **CAPITAL STRATEGY 2022/23 – 2024/25** (Pages 15 - 34)

Report of Corporate Finance Manager - Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement

**Purpose:** To present the Capital Strategy 2022/23 – 2024/25 for recommendation to Council.

### 5 **CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23 – 2024/25** (Pages 35 - 74)

Report of Chief Executive, Corporate Finance Manager - Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement

**Purpose:** To present the Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25 for recommendation to Council.

### 6 **STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN ANNUAL REPORT** (Pages 75 - 128)

Report of Chief Executive - Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

**Purpose:** To present the 2020/21 annual report for the Strategic Equality Plan.

### 7 **FLINTSHIRE HOUSING NEED PROSPECTUS** (Pages 129 - 154)

Report of Chief Executive - Cabinet Member for Housing

**Purpose:** To present the Flintshire Housing Need Prospectus in advance of its onward transmission to Welsh Government.

8 **DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT POLICY** (Pages 155 - 184)

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

**Purpose:** To approve the revised Disabled Facility Grant Policy.

9 **A PLAN FOR SHOTTON** (Pages 185 - 200)

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

**Purpose:** To present a Plan for Shotton.

**OPERATIONAL REPORTS**

10 **REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2021/22 (MONTH 6)** (Pages 201 - 224)

Report of Corporate Finance Manager - Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement

**Purpose:** This regular monthly report provides the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2021/22 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account. The position is based on actual income and expenditure as at Month 6, and projects forward to year-end.

11 **CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2021/22 (MONTH 6)** (Pages 225 - 252)

Report of Corporate Finance Manager - Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement

**Purpose:** To present the Month 6 capital programme information for 2021/22.

12 **COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2022/23** (Pages 253 - 260)

Report of Chief Officer (Governance) - Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

**Purpose:** To approve the Council Tax Base for the financial year 2022/23 as part of the process of the revenue budget setting and Council Tax setting process for the new year.

13 **WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON LOCAL TAXES FOR SECOND HOMES AND SELF-CATERING ACCOMMODATION** (Pages 261 - 268)

Report of Chief Officer (Governance) - Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

**Purpose:** To set out the Council's response on policy and practical considerations on the use of local taxes for the self-catering accommodation sector and the use of the Council Tax premium scheme for second homes and long term empty properties.

14 **AUDIT WALES REVIEW OF TOWN CENTRE REGENERATION** (Pages 269 - 298)

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

**Purpose:** To consider the key recommendations of the Audit Wales review of Town Centre Regeneration and the Council's response.

15 **REVIEW OF LOCAL TOILETS STRATEGY** (Pages 299 - 322)

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

**Purpose:** To provide an update on progress against the Local Toilet Strategy Action Plan in line with the statutory requirements, and to set out the approach to a further review of the Strategy in 2022-23.

16 **SCHOOL MODERNISATION – CONSULTATION ON ENLARGEMENT OF PREMISES AT DRURY C.P. SCHOOL AND PENYFFORDD C.P. SCHOOL** (Pages 323 - 328)

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

**Purpose:** To seek approval to consult on the enlargement of school premises at both Drury and Penyffordd County Primary Schools.

17 **EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS** (Pages 329 - 330)

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



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

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

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

The report contains details of the business affairs of another organisation and the public interest in withholding those outweighs the interest in disclosing them.

**18 CORE FUNDING REVIEW (Pages 373 - 386)**

Report of Chief Executive - Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

**Purpose:** To present the outcomes of the Core Funding Review.

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

## **Procedural Note on the conduct of meetings**

The Chair will open the meeting and introduce themselves.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**CABINET**  
**19<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021**

Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet of Flintshire County Council held virtually via Zoom on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

**PRESENT: Councillor Ian Roberts (Chair)**

Councillors: Glyn Banks, Chris Bithell, Dave Hughes, Paul Johnson, Christine Jones, and Billy Mullin.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Chief Executive, Chief Officer (Governance), Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation), Chief Officer (Housing and Assets), Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy), Chief Officer (Education and Youth), Corporate Finance Manager, Revenues and Procurement Manager, Senior Manager Human Resources and Organisational Development, and Team Leader – Democratic Services.

**APOLOGY:**

Councillor Derek Butler

**OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

Councillor Patrick Heesom.

Councillor Roberts took the opportunity to pay tribute to the Chief Executive who was leaving the authority the following week after 14 years of loyal service. His contributions to the Council had been immense and he had led the Council through a number of difficult times due to 10 years of austerity and challenging settlements. He had also had a huge presence on a national level including during elections. He thanked him for his years of dedicated service to Flintshire County Council and wished him well for the future.

All Cabinet Members also paid tribute to the Chief Executive who had always been loyal, approachable, pleasant, personable, helpful, supportive and kind.

**47. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Banks declared a personal and prejudicial interest in agenda item number 13: Procurement of Voids Contractor Framework.

**48. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2021 were submitted and confirmed as a correct.

**RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record.

**49. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY / BUDGET 2022/23 – STAGE 2 – OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY RESPONSES**

Councillor Johnson introduced the report and explained that during September and October the Overview and Scrutiny Committees reviewed the costs pressures, and the opportunities for cost control and efficiency, under their respective terms of reference.

The sequence of meetings and the resolutions from each were outlined in the report with all of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees supporting the portfolio cost pressures with no further cost efficiency areas being explored further.

The Chief Executive said all Members had given confidence to the process undertaken. The Welsh Local Government Association had developed their evidential base for need which had been submitted to Welsh Government (WG) the previous week.

The Corporate Finance Manager added that during each of the consultations, Members were reminded of the announcement on 7<sup>th</sup> September 2021 that, from April 2022, a new health and social care tax would be introduced across the UK to fund reforms to the care sector and NHS funding in England. The tax would begin as a 1.25% increase in National Insurance paid by employees, the self-employed and by employers. There would be 'consequential' payments to WG as a result of that decision. However, as a major employer, it would also have a significant impact on the council's budget.

Councillor Roberts thanked all Members who had taken part in the budget process which demonstrated that there were no further efficiencies to be found.

**RESOLVED:**

That the result of the consultation on the 2022/2023 budget proposals from the Overview and Scrutiny function be received.

**50. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2020/21**

Councillor Mullin introduced the report which reviewed progress against the Council Priorities as detailed in the Flintshire County Council Reporting Measures 2020/21.

2020/21 had been an exceptional year for all organisations as they had to cope with the threats and challenges of a global pandemic. Performance against the Council Plan measures was positive overall, with 67% of the performance indicators meeting or exceeding target for the year, with 48% showing improvement or remaining stable.

The Chief Executive explained that the Annual Performance Report must be published by 31<sup>st</sup> October and was being submitted to Council for approval later that day.

## **RESOLVED:**

That the 2020/2021 Annual Performance Report be recommended to Council for adoption.

### **51. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2021/22 (MONTH 5)**

Councillor Johnson introduced the report which provided the latest detailed revenue budget monitoring position in 2021/22 for the Council Fund and the Housing Revenue Account for the financial year, and presented the position, based on actual income and expenditure, as at Month 5.

The report projected how the budget would stand at the close of the financial year, without new actions to reduce cost pressures and/or improve the financial return on efficiency planning and cost control, which was:

#### **Council Fund**

- An operating surplus of (£0.182m) (excluding the impact of the pay award which would be met from reserves), which was a favourable movement of £0.921 from the deficit figure of £0.739m reported at Month 4
- A projected contingency reserve balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 of £5.875m

#### **Housing Revenue Account**

- Net in-year revenue expenditure forecast to be £0.633m higher than budget
- A projected closing balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022 of £3.839m

The Corporate Finance Manager explained that the report also detailed the position by portfolio; significant variances that month; achievement of planned in-year efficiencies; emergency funding; unearmarked reserves and earmarked reserves.

On emergency funding, he explained that the Hardship Fund was initially allocated £206.6m to support local government for the first six months of 2021-22 in the Welsh Government Final Budget 2021-22. In addition £23.3m was allocated to support free school meals during the school holidays. A further £97.5m had subsequently been allocated until the end of the financial year based on spend patterns to date, any changes to policy approaches and the current alert level.

The Principles and Guidance for the Hardship Fund had been revised from 1<sup>st</sup> October with changes impacting on eligibility for various service areas including schools costs, additional waste tonnages (reduced by 50%) and vehicle costs due to social distancing being removed. Costs for additional cover where staff were off sick due to COVID-19 or self-isolating were eligible until October, pending further review. The potential significant impacts of that would be reflected in future reports although where able mitigating actions would be put in place.

## **RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the report and estimated financial impact on the 2021/22 budget be noted;

- (b) That the change of use for a Planning, Environment and Economy service balance be approved; and
- (c) That the release of £0.585m of unused balances and reserves back to the general reserve be approved.

**52. CONSULTATION ON THE REMOVAL OF ELIGIBLE CARE LEAVERS' LIABILITY FOR PAYMENT OF COUNCIL TAX**

Councillor Jones introduced the report and explained that care leavers aged 24 or under subject to Council Tax and residing in Wales were usually exempt from Council Tax since regulations were first introduced by Welsh Government from April 2019.

Welsh Government were consulting on proposals to remove the risk of care leavers needing to pay Council Tax in joint and several liability cases in potential circumstances where another person in the household, who was not exempt from Council Tax, failed to pay their Council Tax.

Whilst such cases were not common, to mitigate the risk to care leavers being held jointly and severally liable for the Council Tax bill on their home, it was proposed that regulations were amended to provide an exemption for care leavers from April 2022.

The additional provisions as set out in the consultation would ensure that care leavers were not personally held liable for Council Tax in circumstances where the care leaver was joint or severally liable for Council Tax as a result of living with a spouse or partner, or in households with more than one adult.

The Chief Officer (Social Services) welcomed the proposals which strengthened the support the authority provided to care leavers.

**RESOLVED:**

That the policy intentions as set out in the Welsh Government consultation of removing care leavers aged 24 or under from joint and several liability for Council Tax be supported.

**53. ENDING OF THE UNIVERSAL CREDIT UPLIFT**

Councillor Mullin introduced the report and explained that on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2020 the Government announced the equivalent of a £20 per week increase to the Universal Credit (UC) standard allowance basic element worth up to £1,040 for one year for those facing the most financial disruption as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. It applied to all new and existing UC claimants.

The uplift officially ended on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2021 and the report provided high level information in relation to residents in Flintshire who would be affected by the change, and highlighted the support that the Council provided.

The Chief Officer (Housing and Assets) explained that if any residents found themselves in financial difficulty they could contact the Council's Welfare Team who would help to support them and signpost them to other agencies who could offer assistance.

Councillor Roberts said the Notice of Motion on the Council agenda for later that day on the removal of the Universal Credit top up had been withdrawn following the awful events at the weekend and the sad death of Sir David Amess.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report and the negative impacts on those in Flintshire's communities be noted.

**54. HOUSING RENT INCOME – AUDIT WALES**

Councillor Hughes introduced the report which provided an operational update following the publication of a recent Audit Wales report on Housing Rent Income. The Audit Wales review had acknowledged the proactive measures already taken by the Council in supporting tenants and stabilising rent collections during a period of unprecedented change, especially with the rollout of Universal Credit (UC) and the recent impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Chief Officer (Housing and Assets) explained that the review had concluded that Council had, by March 2020, successfully stopped the increase in Council tenant rent arrears. In summary, the Audit Wales report set out two recommendations to collect additional performance measures to better understand the overall income and rent arrears performance and to build on the improvements already made. The two additional indicators being proposed were:

- Total rent collected during the year from both former and current tenants; and the amount written off during the financial year in unpaid rents; and
- The collection of more comprehensive datasets including strengthening integrated tenant engagement arrangements to better understand the needs and experiences of tenants and to inform future housing service delivery

The Housing Service continued to develop strategies to increase collections and in respect of the collection of former tenant arrears, the service had recently deployed an additional software module specifically targeted at former tenant arrears. The software deployed existing analytical and predictive technologies using the Mobysoft 'Rent Sense' solution to quickly identify former tenants who were at risk of not making repayments on time. The deployment of new software, along with enhanced reporting tools, would enable officers to make further improvements in the collection process and to also provide additional reporting information to Cabinet and to Scrutiny Committee on former tenant arrears, as well as better visual information on write off levels.

In addition to that, and in respect of the collation of data to capture tenants' feedback and to better understand the needs of tenants, the housing service was proposing to send out a detailed questionnaire to solicit customer feedback which would assist and support future models of service delivery.

### **RESOLVED:**

That the proposals for improvement be adopted.

## **55. EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS**

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

### **Housing and Assets**

- **Bagillt Bowling Green, Highfield Road, Bagillt CH6 6BW**  
Community Asset Transfer (CAT) of the premises known as Bagillt Bowling Green, Highfield Road, Bagillt: area to be transferred is shown edged red on the plan.

### **Revenues**

- **Business Rates Write Offs**  
Financial Procedure Rules requires the Corporate Finance Manager and the Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets to write off debts between £5k and £25k. There is an outstanding Business Rates debt of £13,419.34 for West Flintshire Community Enterprises which has accumulated from 2018/19 to 2020/21, for an empty property at 49-51 High Street, Holywell. The debt is now deemed irrecoverable and a write off is considered necessary as the company is no longer trading.
- **Business Rates Write Offs**  
The Corporate Finance Manager and the Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets are authorised to write off debts between £5k and £25k. Two Business Rate debts totalling £21,474.96 are deemed to be irrecoverable and are subject to write off:
  - Mr A D Evans T/A Ultra Tiles Ltd, formerly of 4-6 Chester Street, Flint, is no longer trading and owed £15,230.46
  - Ginger Monkey Play Café and Boutique Ltd, formerly of 16 Marley Way, Saltney, is no longer trading since the company entered into liquidation on 20/08/20 and owed £6,244.50

### **Corporate Debt**

- **Corporate Debt Write Offs**  
Financial Procedure Rules requires the Corporate Finance Manager and the Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets to write off debts between £5k and £25k. The write off totalling £5,513.82 is for outstanding commercial rent due to the Council. The owner of KWT Business Accounting



Services passed away in March 2021. As there were no funds remaining in the deceased's estate, the commercial rent is now irrecoverable.

### **Education and Youth**

- **Local Authority Appointed School Governors**  
Appointment of Local Authority Governor(s) representatives on school governing bodies in accordance with the Government of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2005.

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

#### **RESOLVED:**

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

#### **56. NEWYDD CATERING AND CLEANING LIMITED: SERVICES CONCESSION AGREEMENT EXTENSION**

Councillor Mullin introduced the report the purpose of which was to propose a new/extended Services Concession Agreement from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

#### **RESOLVED:**

- (a) That Cabinet agrees to enter into a new/extended Services Concession Agreement with NEWydd Catering and Cleaning Limited from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024; and
- (b) That authority be granted to the Chief Executive to make variations to the terms of the current agreement and the level of the management fee as set out in the report, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets.

#### **57. SOCIAL SERVICES WORKFORCE – CHILD CARE SOCIAL WORKERS**

Councillor Jones introduced the report which highlighted the urgent need to consider alternative employment solutions to ensure the Council had sufficient capacity and resilience to effectively support children and families.

#### **RESOLVED:**

That a time-limited market pay supplement for level 3 child care social workers be approved from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021.

**58. PROCUREMENT OF VOIDS CONTRACTOR FRAMEWORK**

Councillor Hughes introduced the report which sought approval to procure a number of contractors through a framework agreement to deliver major void works thus ensuring that the service could deliver on its targets for empty property management and ensure void properties were re-let as efficiently and effectively as possible.

**RESOLVED:**

That the procurement of a select number of contractors through a framework agreement in order to complete major void works as efficiently and effectively as possible be approved.

**59. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE**

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

(The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. and ended at 11.12 a.m.)

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**Chair**



## CABINET

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	Capital Strategy Including Prudential Indicators 2022/23 to 2024/25
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement
<b>Report Author</b>	Corporate Finance Manager
<b>Type of Report</b>	Strategic

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report updates the Council's Capital Strategy and seeks Cabinet's recommendation to Council.

The report explains the need for the Strategy, its key aims, and the content of each of its sections.

Under the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code), authorities are required to set a range of Prudential Indicators (PI's). The Capital Strategy includes details of the Council's Prudential Indicators for 2022/23 – 2024/25.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Cabinet approves and recommends the Capital Strategy to County Council.
2	<p>Cabinet approve and recommends to Council:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Prudential Indicators for 2022/23 - 2024/25 as detailed within Tables 1, and 4 – 7 of the Capital Strategy.</li> <li>• Delegated authority for the Corporate Finance Manager to effect movements between the separately agreed limits within the authorised limit for external debt and the operational boundary for external debt (Table 6 of the Capital Strategy).</li> </ul>

## REPORT DETAILS

<b>1.00</b>	<b>EXPLAINING THE CAPITAL STRATEGY 2022 – 2025</b>
1.01	The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy’s Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice 2017 Edition (the Code), requires that the Council has in place a Capital Strategy (the Strategy). The guidance to the Code defines the specific requirements of the Strategy. This report updates the Strategy for Council’s consideration.
1.02	The key aims of the Strategy are to explain the ways in which the capital programme is developed and funded, the potential impact it has on the Council’s Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and the way in which it relates to the Council’s Treasury Management Strategy. The Strategy is an overarching document and refers to other documents such as the Capital Programme, the Treasury Management Strategy and the Minimum Revenue Provision Policy. The Strategy is split into a number of sections as described below. The Strategy is enclosed as Appendix 1.
1.03	<b>Capital Expenditure</b> This section defines capital expenditure and that there is some limited local discretion in the definition as reflected in the Council’s accounting policies.
1.04	<b>Resources</b> This section explains the way in which the Capital Programme is funded. The Council has a number of funding sources but these sources are limited and in some cases, particularly capital receipts, diminishing. Some of those sources, particularly prudential borrowing, add pressure to the Council’s MTFS.
1.05	<b>Prioritisation of Capital Expenditure</b> This section explains the way in which the Capital Programme is divided into three sections and how decisions are made as to which schemes to include in each section in each year.
1.06	<b>Governance</b> This section explains the governance arrangements in place in the development and monitoring of the capital programme.
1.07	<b>Capital Expenditure Plans</b> This section refers to the Council’s capital expenditure plans as agreed in its Capital Programme. It covers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital expenditure plans</li> <li>• The way in which those plans are expected to be financed</li> <li>• Minimum Revenue Provision</li> <li>• Estimates of the Capital Financing Requirement, a measure of unfinanced expenditure</li> </ul>

1.08	<p><b>Treasury Management</b></p> <p>This section covers the way in which the Strategy relates to the Council's treasury management activity. It covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Council's Borrowing Strategy</li> <li>• The relationship between the Council's debt portfolio and its Capital Financing Requirement</li> <li>• The Authorised Limit and Operational Debt Limits for borrowing, ensuring the limits on the Council's exposure to debt are set</li> <li>• The Council's Investment Strategy</li> <li>• Treasury management governance.</li> </ul>
1.09	<p><b>Commercial activities</b></p> <p>This section reports that the Council has limited commercial activity, having a limited portfolio of investment properties (agricultural properties and industrial units).</p>
1.10	<p><b>Liabilities</b></p> <p>This section explains the liabilities which the Council has, in particular the deficit on its pension fund, and links with the Council's Statement of Accounts.</p>
1.11	<p><b>Revenue budget implications</b></p> <p>This section shows the impact of the capital financing costs on the revenue stream of the Council's budget.</p>
1.12	<p><b>Knowledge and skills</b></p> <p>This section details the skills of officers involved in developing and managing the capital programme and treasury management activity, and explains that the Council makes use of external advisers to assist with this activity.</p>
1.13	<p><b>Prudential Indicators</b></p> <p>The Council is required by the Code to develop and monitor Prudential Indicators. These are contained within the various sections of the Strategy, and are indicated as such.</p>
1.14	<p><b>Prudential Code Update</b></p> <p>CIPFA is looking to strengthen its Code to ensure local authorities' financial plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable. The updated Code is expected to be published by the end of the year. The Code will clarify what constitutes prudential borrowing activities to help stop a number of authorities from misinterpreting its provision.</p> <p>Key changes will include clarification to better define commercial activity and investment and a requirement to incorporate an assessment of risk against levels of resources.</p>

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	Financial consequences for capital resources are as set out within the report and in Appendix 1.
2.02	Financial consequences for revenue resources are as set out within the report and in Appendix 1.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>								
3.01	Decisions made which involve the Council's assets and its Capital Programme often have very large and long term financial implications. The purpose of the Capital Strategy includes setting a clear framework within which such decisions can be made, therefore mitigating the risks involved.								
3.02	<p><b>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Long-term</td> <td rowspan="5">The impacts upon sustainable development principles of the Capital Programme which influences the Capital Strategy are listed in the Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25 report included elsewhere on this agenda.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prevention</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Integration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Collaboration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Involvement</td> </tr> </table>	Long-term	The impacts upon sustainable development principles of the Capital Programme which influences the Capital Strategy are listed in the Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25 report included elsewhere on this agenda.	Prevention	Integration	Collaboration	Involvement		
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Prevention									
Integration									
Collaboration									
Involvement									
3.03	<p><b>Well-being Goals Impact</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Prosperous Wales</td> <td rowspan="7">The impacts upon the well-being goals of the Capital Programme which influences the Capital Strategy are listed in the Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25 report included elsewhere on this agenda.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Resilient Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Healthier Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>More equal Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cohesive Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vibrant Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Globally responsible Wales</td> </tr> </table>	Prosperous Wales	The impacts upon the well-being goals of the Capital Programme which influences the Capital Strategy are listed in the Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25 report included elsewhere on this agenda.	Resilient Wales	Healthier Wales	More equal Wales	Cohesive Wales	Vibrant Wales	Globally responsible Wales
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Resilient Wales									
Healthier Wales									
More equal Wales									
Cohesive Wales									
Vibrant Wales									
Globally responsible Wales									
3.04	<p><b>Integrated Impact Assessments</b></p> <p>The integrated impact assessment of the Capital Programme which influences the Capital Strategy are discussed in the Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25 report included elsewhere on this agenda.</p>								

<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	The Capital Strategy and the proposed Capital Programme will be referred to the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee for comment at its meeting on 11 <sup>th</sup> November 2021, with their comments being fed back to Cabinet verbally before being discussed at County Council in December 2021.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1 – Capital Strategy.

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	None.

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<b>Contact Officer:</b> Chris Taylor, Strategic Finance Manager <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 703309 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:christopher.taylor@flintshire.gov.uk">christopher.taylor@flintshire.gov.uk</a>

<b>8.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
8.01	<p><b>Capital Expenditure</b> - Expenditure on the acquisition of <b>Non-current Assets</b> or expenditure that extends the life or value of an existing asset.</p> <p><b>Capital Programme</b> - The Council’s financial plan covering capital schemes and expenditure proposals for the current year and a number of future years. It also includes estimates of the capital resources available to finance the programme.</p> <p><b>Capital Receipt</b> - Receipts (in excess of £10,000) from the disposal of an asset.</p> <p><b>Capital Scheme</b> - An individual capital project which is monitored and managed in isolation. The aggregate of all schemes comprises the <b>Capital Programme</b>.</p> <p><b>Capital Strategy</b> - A corporate document providing clear strategic guidance about an authority’s objectives, priorities and spending plans, demonstrating the link to key corporate and service objectives.</p> <p><b>Council Fund</b> - The fund to which all the Council’s revenue and capital expenditure is charged.</p> <p><b>Disposal</b> - The decommissioning or transfer of an asset to another party.</p>

**Non-current Asset** - A resource controlled (but not necessarily owned) by the Council, from which economic benefits or service potential are expected to flow to the Council for more than 12 months.

**Prudential Code** - The Code of Practice drawn up by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) to underpin the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003 in respect of an authority's duty to determine the affordability, prudence and sustainability of its capital investment needs.

**Prudential Indicators** - Required by the **Prudential Code**, these take the form of limits, estimates or actual figures used to support the local decision making process for capital investment.

**Unsupported Prudential Borrowing** - Borrowing administered under the **Prudential Code**, whereby authorities can set their own policies on acceptable levels and types of borrowing. The Prudential Framework allows authorities to take out loans in response to overall cash flow forecasts and other factors provided they can show that the borrowing is to meet planned capital expenditure in the current year or the next three years.



# **CAPITAL STRATEGY**

## **2022/23 TO 2024/25**

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3	RESOURCES
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7	COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES
8	LIABILITIES
9	REVENUE BUDGET IMPLICATIONS
10	KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

# CAPITAL STRATEGY REPORT 2022/23

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The creation and approval of a capital strategy is now a requirement of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice 2017 Edition (the CIPFA Code).

The Code requires the Council to set Prudential Indicators in relation to its Capital Programme. This document includes those Prudential Indicators in tables 1 and, 4 - 7.

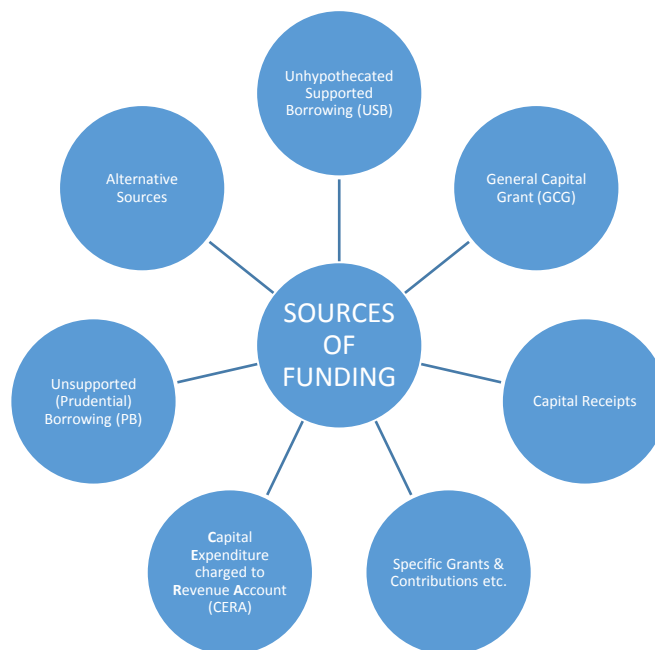
This document updates the capital strategy approved by Council in December 2020. It gives a high-level overview of how capital expenditure, capital financing and treasury management activity contribute to the provision of local public services along with an overview of how associated risk is managed and the implications for future financial sustainability.

## 2. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

Capital expenditure occurs when the Council spends money on assets, such as property or vehicles, which will be used for more than one year. In local government this includes spending on assets owned by other bodies, and loans and grants to other bodies enabling them to buy assets. The Council has some limited discretion on what counts as capital expenditure, as assets costing below £20k are not capitalised and are charged to revenue in year. Details of the Council's policy on capitalisation may be found in the Accounting Policy section of the Council's Statement of Accounts.

## 3. RESOURCES

The sources of funding available to the Council are described below:



## **Unhypothecated Supported Borrowing (USB), commonly referred to as Supported Borrowing**

Each year Welsh Government provides councils with a Supported Borrowing capital allocation. Councils can then borrow to fund capital expenditure up to that annual allocation, and Welsh Government will include funding to cover the revenue costs associated with that level of borrowing in future years within the Revenue Support Grant. The Council decides how this funding is spent.

## **General Capital Grant (GCG)**

This is the annual capital grant from Welsh Government. The Council decides how this funding is spent.

Supported borrowing and general capital grant will be used to fund capital schemes which:

- invest in, or maintain the life of, existing assets which will be retained for future service delivery
- are statutory / regulatory in nature

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) equivalent is known as the Major Repairs Allowance (MRA).

## **Capital Receipts**

These are funds raised from the sale of council assets, usually, but not restricted to, land and buildings. Other examples include repayments of loans for capital purposes and release of restrictive covenants.

Capital finance regulations dictate that capital receipts can only be used to fund capital expenditure or repay debt. In the past regulations required a proportion of all receipts be set aside to repay debt, but this requirement was removed some time ago for the Council Fund and was removed for the HRA with the introduction of self-financing. The Council's policy is to use capital receipts to fund capital expenditure rather than voluntarily set aside to repay debt. The Council sets a Minimum Revenue Provision policy each year which sets out our prudent methods for repayment of debt.

The current policy of pooling all capital receipts to allocate to capital schemes in accordance with the Council's strategic aims and priorities will continue. Capital receipts will not be 'ring-fenced' to fund schemes in the same service or geographical areas (with the exception of the HRA). Capital receipts represent a finite funding source based on a planned approach to asset disposals in support of the Council's priorities. They will be used to fund new capital investment schemes.

Generation of capital receipts depends on our ability to identify assets that are surplus to requirements, and to sell them at an appropriate time which will be subject to local economic factors. In recent years this has been challenging, and will continue to be so. Careful and prudent planning around the timing of capital receipts is needed to ensure schemes funded by capital receipts don't begin until we have received the receipt.

Capital receipts will be generated by continuing with our agricultural disposal policy, our policy to reduce the number of assets that we have and the forthcoming review of the commercial estate.

Our assets are also supporting the Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP) in innovative ways. We have identified surplus Council owned sites which will be used to develop new housing. This input will need to continue throughout the life of the programme. The impact of this on the generation of capital receipts will need to be carefully mapped and reflected within the wider Capital Programme.

## **Specific Grants and Contributions etc.**

### **Specific Grants**

These are grant allocations received from a range of sponsoring bodies including Welsh Government, Lottery, etc. for associated specific programmes and projects, with limited local discretion on how the funding is spent. Often the terms and conditions of such funding will require unused funding to be returned, and can require the Council to match fund. In times where capital resources are declining the Council will seek to maximise such funding streams, subject to the initiative/scheme reflecting both the third party's agenda and the Council's priorities.

### **Specific Contributions**

These are contributions from developers towards the provision of public assets or facilities. Sometimes these are to mitigate the impact of their development on communities and are often referred to as Section 106 contributions. Contributions are earmarked for specific purposes in planning agreements and often relate to infrastructure projects including play areas, open spaces, and schools, but also including affordable housing. Developers also contribute to highways infrastructure developments through Section 38 and 278 agreements.

### **Specific Capital Loans**

Increasingly, as Welsh Government's funding comes under pressure, capital funding that was previously issued as a specific capital grant is converted into a repayable loan, examples include the Home Improvement Loans fund, and Vibrant and Viable Places funding. Grant funding will always be preferable to loan funding as it does not require repayment, however, loan funding does have benefits. Its use to date has been to provide recyclable loan funding for regeneration purposes. The benefit is that rather than being used to fund a single project, the funding can be recycled and used to fund a number of projects over the term of the loan.

Capital Loans are also available, and have been used, from other sources such as Salix in relation to energy saving projects.

As with grants, the Council will seek to maximise such developments that are in line with its priorities, whilst carefully considering the additional administrative burden in issuing and collecting loans, and the risk it carries from loan defaults.

### **Local Government Borrowing Initiative (LGBI)**

In recent years, as Welsh Government funding has been under pressure, schemes that would have been funded by capital grant have been funded by LGBI. Welsh Government provides the revenue support for borrowing costs incurred by the Council in borrowing to fund capital schemes (the difference with supported borrowing being that it's for a specific purpose aligned to Welsh Government priorities). LGBI has recently been used for highways maintenance and used to part fund the Welsh Government element of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme – 'Band A'.

### **Capital Expenditure charged to Revenue Account (CERA)**

Capital expenditure can be funded via a direct contribution from revenue funding (note: capital financing regulations mean it is not possible to use capital funding to fund revenue expenditure). This method of funding is extensively used by the HRA and will continue to be in the future. Its use for Council Fund activity is generally quite limited as this would add pressure to the revenue budget as forecast in the Medium Term Financial Strategy.

## **Unsupported Prudential Borrowing (commonly referred to as Prudential Borrowing)**

The Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities supports local authorities in determining their programmes for capital investment in assets (we are required by regulation to follow its requirements). The Prudential Code gives councils discretion to undertake borrowing to fund capital projects with the full cost of borrowing funded from future council revenue resources subject to the Council demonstrating, within a clear framework, that the capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable. A range of prudential indicators must be produced and approved demonstrating the impact of the programme. This option for funding additional capital developments is one which is funded from within existing revenue budgets or from generating additional and ongoing income streams, there is no support from any external funding which is a major constraint on its use as any scheme funded by prudential borrowing will add to the forecast budget deficit in the MTFS.

To date, limited use has been made of the option following cautious and prudent consideration of long term impacts. This approach will continue to be used with schemes that have a clear financial benefit such as 'invest to save', 'spend to earn', and those that generate returns over and above the costs of debt. The focus will be to fund schemes that are the Council's priorities, attract third party funding and generate revenue benefits in future financial years in the form of revenue savings, income generation or increasing Council Tax yield. In addition, prudential borrowing will be used to fund the Council element of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools – 'Band B', redevelopment of Theatr Clwyd, relocation of Tri-ffordd day service provision and the HRA Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP) schemes.

## **Alternative Sources**

There are a number of other alternative sources of capital funding which the Council could make use of, depending on circumstances and cost:-

- Finance Leases - Leases that transfers (to the lessee) substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of an asset, even though ownership may not be transferred. This method was used for the equipment at Deeside Leisure Centre and the Jade Jones Pavilion, Flint.
- Public Private Partnerships (PPPs) - This is a broad term for various arrangements in which the Council has a longer and more intensive relationship with a private sector supplier than it does under a traditional contract. It includes:-
  - PFI contracts;
  - Local Asset Backed Vehicles (LABVs);
  - Strategic partnering;
  - Sale and Lease back;
  - Joint Ventures;
  - Deferred Purchase, and
  - Mutual Investment Model (MIM)

To date, the Council has made very limited use of alternative funding options listed above. In future all options, along with any new initiatives, will be explored and used carefully. Capital schemes funded from alternative sources are likely to increase the Council's debt liability, therefore use will be restricted and considered in the same way as prudential borrowing.

## 4. PRIORITISATION OF CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

The purpose of the Capital Programme is to optimise the Council’s use of capital resources by allocation to those areas identified as representing the strategic priorities of the Council. The Programme is split into 3 sections;

- Statutory / Regulatory Programme consisting of an annual allocation to fund schemes of a statutory / regulatory nature. Examples include providing financial support to repair, improve and adapt private sector homes, and adapting schools for disabled children. Service areas will be required to submit plans for approval before the start of each financial year.
- Retained Asset Programme consisting of an annual allocation to fund schemes that maintain, improve or lengthen the economic life of the assets that we retain to use in delivering services where there is already a significant amount of capital work needed, identified by service plans / condition surveys etc. Service areas identified are: schools, highways, and corporate office accommodation. Service areas are required to submit plans for approval before the start of each financial year.
- Investment Programme consisting of allocations to fund new schemes arising from Portfolio Business Plans. Such schemes will be necessary to achieve revenue efficiencies included within Portfolio Business Plans, the MTFs and our strategic priorities as included in the Council Plan. Approval of such schemes will be through the submission of a full business case identifying the source of capital funding and the asset’s lifetime costs going forward.

**Funding of schemes will be allocated as shown below:**

Statutory / Regulatory Programme		Retained Asset Programme		Investment Programme
General Capital Grant	Supported Borrowing	Capital Receipts	Debt and Alternative Sources of Funding	

Capital Programmes will be set every year covering a timeframe of the next 3 financial years on a rolling basis, reflecting that capital schemes don’t match financial years and span more than 1 financial year. Schemes starting in that first financial year will be approved along with any costs and funding required in the subsequent 2 financial years. Schemes starting later than the first financial year will be given indicative support to enable services to plan, but will ultimately require formal approval through the process of approving the subsequent years’ Capital Programme.

Sufficient headroom will be built into the Capital Programme to facilitate more flexibility, thus allowing smaller schemes to be presented, considered and approved by Cabinet in year. Such schemes arise in year due to, for example, grants that require an element of match funding or unforeseen events such as regulatory works etc.

The development of the Capital Programme will be considered in the context of its impact on the Council’s MTFs and in particular the added pressure the Capital Programme may bring to the revenue budget.

## 5. GOVERNANCE

Planning for the Capital Programme is determined in parallel with service and revenue budget planning process within the framework of the MTFS.

New investment capital schemes will be rigorously appraised through submission of full business cases which will include schemes funded by grants or contributions from 3<sup>rd</sup> parties. Large schemes which are programmes in their own right will be subject to gateway reviews at stages during the programme, for example 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and SHARP. This ensures that the evidence and the case for change when the scheme was initially approved is still valid, and that lessons learned from early stages can be applied to future stages.

Those portfolios with core allocations will submit annual plans for assessment and challenge by the Capital and Assets Programme Board to ensure compliance with the Capital Strategy and the Asset Management Plan.

The Capital Programme, where possible, will be set for each coming financial year before the annual budget, and will include indicative figures spanning the same time frame as the MTFS.

Monitoring of the annual Capital Programme will be undertaken at a Portfolio level by the Capital and Technical Accounting Team, with progress updates given to the Capital and Assets Programme Board. Reporting to Members will take place quarterly to Cabinet and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee including:

- New schemes or additions to existing schemes
- Removal of or reductions to schemes
- Slippage on schemes, and impact on future years capital programme
- Funding virements between schemes
- Other necessary revisions to the scheme

The Capital and Assets Programme Board will develop processes for monitoring the outcomes of capital schemes and measures to monitor the performance of assets.

### Capital expenditure plans

The Council's planned capital expenditure for the period 2022/23 to 2024/25 is summarised below:

**Table 1: Prudential Indicator: Estimates of Capital Expenditure in £ millions**

	<b>2022/23 Estimate</b>	<b>2023/24 Estimate</b>	<b>2024/25 Estimate</b>
Council Fund	37.469	47.350	22.576
Housing Revenue Account	25.074	27.519	27.680
<b>Total</b>	<b>62.543</b>	<b>74.869</b>	<b>50.256</b>

The Council's Capital Programme is due to be approved by Council in December 2021, and details can be found on the Council's website.



The Council is planning a number of significant investments during the period of this strategy. In particular, it is investing substantially in its schools in conjunction with Welsh Government through the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools programme; is undertaking redevelopment of Theatr Clwyd; is making infrastructure improvements at Standard Yard Waste Transfer Station (WTS) in Buckley to accommodate growth in recycling rates and an increase in resilience and processing capacity for future waste streams; has plans, in conjunction with its partners, to create a new archive building to deliver a single archive service for North East Wales, and is planning to relocate the Tri-ffordd day service provision. More detail is available in the Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25 report.

The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a ring-fenced account which ensures that council housing does not subsidise, or is itself subsidised by, other local services. HRA capital expenditure is therefore recorded separately. The Council has plans to invest significantly in housing assets over the period of the strategy, including the building of new homes as part of the SHARP, as well as bringing its stock into line with the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS).

In addition, part of SHARP is to build new homes for rent at intermediate rent levels (between social housing rents and market rents). This is achieved by making capital loans to the Council's wholly owned subsidiary, North East Wales Homes Ltd (NEW Homes) to build affordable homes.

All capital expenditure must be financed, either from external sources (government grants and other contributions), the Council's own resources (revenue, reserves and capital receipts) or debt (borrowing, leasing etc.). The planned financing of the above expenditure is as follows, broken down into the sources detailed above:

**Table 2: Capital Financing in £ millions**

	<b>2022/23 Estimate</b>	<b>2023/24 Estimate</b>	<b>2024/25 Estimate</b>
<b>Council Fund</b>			
<u>External Sources</u>			
USB	4.040	4.040	4.040
GCG	2.492	2.492	2.492
Specific Grants/Contrib's/Loans	24.131	23.853	9.141
<u>Own Resources</u>			
Capital Receipts	3.463	0.000	0.000
CERA	0.000	0.000	0.000
<u>Debt</u>			
Prudential Borrowing	3.343	16.965	6.903
<b>Sub Total - Council Fund</b>	<b>37.469</b>	<b>47.350</b>	<b>22.576</b>

<b>Housing Revenue Account</b>			
<u>External Sources</u>			
MRA	4.968	4.968	4.968
Specific Grants/Contrib's/Loans	0.400	0.400	0.400
<u>Own Resources</u>			
Capital Receipts	0.000	0.000	0.000
CERA	10.898	11.385	11.731
Othe contns	0.000	0.000	0.000
<u>Debt</u>			
Prudential Borrowing	8.808	10.766	10.581
<b>Sub Total - HRA</b>			
	<b>25.074</b>	<b>27.519</b>	<b>27.680</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>			
	<b>62.543</b>	<b>74.869</b>	<b>50.256</b>

Debt is only a temporary source of finance, as any loans or leases must be repaid. Local authorities are required each year under regulations, to set aside some of their revenue resources as provision for the repayment of debt. The annual charge to the revenue account for repaying debt is known as the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP). Planned MRP is as follows:

**Table 3: Minimum Revenue Provision in £ millions**

	<b>2022/23 Estimate</b>	<b>2023/24 Estimate</b>	<b>2024/25 Estimate</b>
Council Fund	3.282	3.460	3.871
Housing Revenue Account	1.590	1.740	1.929

Local authorities are required to set a policy for MRP each financial year. The Council sets its annual MRP policy in February each year and this is available on its website.

Alternatively, capital receipts may be used to repay debt by applying capital receipts to the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR).

The Council's cumulative outstanding amount of capital expenditure financed by debt is measured by the Capital Financing Requirement (CFR). This increases with new debt-financed capital expenditure and reduces with MRP and any capital receipts used to repay debt. Based on the above figures for expenditure and financing, the Council's estimated CFR is as follows:

**Table 4: Prudential Indicator: Estimates of Capital Financing Requirement in £ millions**

	<b>2022/23 Estimate</b>	<b>2023/24 Estimate</b>	<b>2024/25 Estimate</b>
Council Fund	230.815	252.856	263.646
Housing Revenue Account	138.710	149.991	158.839
<b>Total</b>	<b>369.525</b>	<b>402.847</b>	<b>422.485</b>

## 6. TREASURY MANAGEMENT

Treasury Management is concerned with keeping sufficient but not excessive cash available to meet the Council's spending needs as they fall due, while managing the risks involved. Surplus cash is invested until required, while a shortage of cash will be met by borrowing, to avoid excessive credit balances or overdrafts in the bank current account. The Council is typically cash rich in the short-term as revenue income is received before it is spent, but cash poor in the long-term as capital expenditure is incurred before being financed. The revenue cash surpluses are offset against capital cash shortfalls to reduce overall borrowing.

Due mainly to decisions taken in the past, the Council currently (30<sup>th</sup> September 2021) has £288m long term borrowing at an average interest rate of 4.61%, and £17m short term borrowing at an average interest rate at 0.02%. It also has £17m treasury investments at an average interest rate of 0.016%.

**Borrowing strategy:** The Council's main objectives when borrowing are to achieve a low but certain cost of finance while retaining flexibility should plans change in future. These objectives are often conflicting, and the Council therefore seeks to strike a balance between cheap short-term loans (currently available at around 0.03%) and long-term fixed rate loans where the future cost is known but higher (currently 2.15% to 2.51%).

Projected levels of the Council's total outstanding debt (which comprises borrowing and leases) are shown below, compared with the capital financing requirement (see above).

**Table 5: Prudential Indicator: Gross Debt & the Capital Financing Requirement in £ millions**

	<b>2022/23 Estimate</b>	<b>2023/24 Estimate</b>	<b>2024/25 Estimate</b>
Debt (Incl Leases)	364.075	398.584	420.461
Capital Financing Requirement	369.525	402.847	422.485

Statutory guidance is that debt should remain below the Capital Financing Requirement, except in the short-term. As can be seen from Table 5, the Council expects to comply with this in the medium term.

**Affordable borrowing limit:** The Council is legally obliged to set an affordable borrowing limit (also termed the authorised limit for external debt) each year and to keep it under review. In line with statutory guidance, a lower “operational boundary” is also set as a warning level should debt approach the limit.

**Table 6: Prudential Indicators: Authorised Limit & Operational Boundary for external debt in £m**

	<b>2022/23 Limit</b>	<b>2023/24 Limit</b>	<b>2024/25 Limit</b>
Authorised Limit - Borrowing	411	433	448
Authorised Limit - Other long term liabilities	35	35	35
Authorised Limit - Total External Debt	446	468	483
Operational Boundary - Borrowing	391	413	428
Operational Boundary - Other long term liabilities	20	20	20
Operational Boundary - Total External Debt	411	433	448

**Investment strategy:** Treasury investments arise from receiving cash before it is paid out again. Investments made for service reasons or for pure financial gain are not generally considered to be part of treasury management.

The Council’s policy on treasury investments is to prioritise security and liquidity over yield, that is to focus on minimising risk rather than maximising returns. Cash that is likely to be spent in the near term is invested securely, for example with the government, other local authorities or selected high-quality banks, to minimise the risk of loss. Money that will be held for longer terms is invested more widely, including in bonds, shares and property, to balance the risk of loss against the risk of receiving returns below inflation. Both near-term and longer-term investments may be held in pooled funds, where an external fund manager makes decisions on which particular investments to buy and the Council may request its money back at short notice.

**Governance:** Decisions on treasury management investment and borrowing are made daily and are therefore delegated to the Corporate Finance Manager and the Treasury Management team, who must act in line with the Treasury Management Strategy approved annually by the Council in February. Quarterly reports on treasury management activity are presented to the Governance and Audit Committee. The Governance and Audit Committee is responsible for scrutinising treasury management decisions.

The Council sets a Treasury Management Policy Statement, an annual Treasury Management Strategy and Treasury Management Schedules and Practices which contain further details on the Council’s borrowing strategy, investment strategy and treasury management governance which are available on its website.

## 7. COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES

The Council has a portfolio of investment properties, in the form of agricultural property and industrial units. Although these are classified as investment properties, they are legacy assets and the Council is managing down its agricultural portfolio and is reviewing its position in regard to industrial units.

## 8. LIABILITIES

In addition to debt of £288m detailed above, the Council is committed to making future payments to cover its pension fund deficit (valued at £431m). It has also set aside £1m to cover the risks associated with the aftercare of former landfill sites, and £3.4m as a provision against bad debts.

The Council is also at risk of having to pay for any additional works necessary at landfill sites, payments in respect of historic insurance, abuse and housing disrepair claims, costs involved in some employment tribunal cases, and has given pension guarantees on behalf of various alternative service delivery models. The Council has not set aside any funds because of a lack of certainty in estimating the size and timing of these liabilities.

**Governance:** Decisions on incurring new discretionary liabilities are taken by Chief Officers in consultation with the Corporate Finance Manager. The risk of liabilities crystallising and requiring payment is monitored by corporate finance and reported as required to Cabinet.

Further details on liabilities and guarantees are in the contingent liability section in Note 34 of the Council's 2020/21 Statement of Accounts available on its website.

## 9. REVENUE BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

Although capital expenditure is not charged directly to the revenue budget, interest payable on loans and MRP are charged to revenue, offset by any investment income receivable. The net annual charge is known as financing costs; this is compared to the net revenue stream i.e. the amount funded from Revenue Support Grant, Council Tax and business rates (NNDR) for the Council Fund, and the HRA equivalent is the amount to be met from WG grants and rent payers.

**Table 7: Prudential Indicator: Proportion of Financing Costs to Net Revenue Stream**

	<b>2022/23 Estimate</b>	<b>2023/24 Estimate</b>	<b>2024/25 Estimate</b>
Council Fund	4.40%	4.58%	4.90%
HRA	18.35%	19.03%	19.30%

**Sustainability:** Due to the very long-term nature of capital expenditure and financing, the revenue budget implications of expenditure incurred in the next few years will extend for up to 50 years into the future. The Corporate Finance Manager is satisfied that the proposed Capital Programme is prudent, affordable and sustainable because the impact of the existing Capital Programme on the

MTFS has been considered, and the revenue implications of future capital schemes are included when considering the approval of the capital budget. .

Other revenue implications of capital expenditure are included in business cases and are factored into the MTFS.

## **10. KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS**

The Council employs professionally qualified and experienced staff in senior positions with responsibility for making capital expenditure, borrowing and investment decisions. For example, the Corporate Finance Manager is a qualified accountant with significant experience. The Council pays for junior staff to study towards relevant professional qualifications, including CIPFA and AAT.

Where Council staff do not have the knowledge and skills required, use is made of external advisers and consultants that are specialists in their field. The Council currently employs Arlingclose Limited as treasury management advisors. This approach is more cost effective than employing such staff directly, and ensures that the Council has access to knowledge and skills commensurate with its risk appetite.



## CABINET

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Executive Corporate Finance Manager
<b>Report Type</b>	Strategic

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report presents the proposed Capital Programme for the period 2022/23 – 2024/25 for recommendation to Council.

The Council's Capital Programme covers investment in assets for the long term to enable the delivery of high quality and value for money public services. Assets include buildings (such as schools, care homes and day centres), infrastructure (such as highways, IT networks, and waste transfer stations) and assets not owned by the Council (such as works to improve and adapt private sector homes). The proposed capital investments outlined within this report are closely aligned to portfolio service business plans and the Council Plan.

The Council has limited capital resources from Welsh Government to support Council priorities, needs and liabilities. However, it has the powers to fund capital schemes by borrowing - this is temporary and ultimately, the cost and repayment of any borrowing is charged to the Council's revenue budget. Schemes funded by borrowing are carefully considered due to the long-term impacts on the Council's revenue budget.

The report divides the Council Fund Capital Programme into three sections:-

1. Statutory / Regulatory - allocations to cover regulatory and statutory works.
2. Retained Assets - allocations to fund infrastructure works necessary to ensure service and business continuity.

3. Investment - allocations to fund works necessary to remodel services to deliver efficiencies outlined in portfolio business plans and invest in services as outlined in the Council Plan.

Historically, much of the Council's programme has been funded from capital receipts and grants. The Council's ability to generate significant capital receipts is challenging as the assets the Council has available for disposal diminish. Wherever possible every opportunity to identify assets for sale and other sources of funding such as specific grants and revenue contributions will be explored. However, the Council will need to use prudential borrowing to finance more of the programme going forward. In particular, the 21st Century Schools Band B programme, and other schemes included within the investment programme will need to be funded through prudential borrowing.

The Capital Strategy has been updated and is presented separately on the agenda.

The information in this report refers to the Council Fund (CF) programme only, not the housing programme which is funded from the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and which is reported separately.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To approve the allocations and schemes in Table 3 (paragraph 1.09) for the Statutory/Regulatory and Retained Assets sections of the Council Fund Capital Programme 2022/23 - 2024/25.
2	To approve the schemes included in Table 4 (paragraph 1.29) for the Investment section of the Council Fund Capital Programme 2022/23 - 2024/25.
3	To note that the shortfall in funding of schemes in 2022/23, 2023/24 and 2024/25 in Table 5 (paragraph 1.38) at this point in the approval process allows flexibility. Options including a combination of future capital receipts, alternative grants (if available), prudential borrowing or the re-phasing of schemes will be considered during 2022/23, and included in future Capital Programme reports.
4	To consider and approve the schemes included in Table 6 (paragraph 1.44) for the specifically funded section of the Council Fund Capital Programme which will be funded in part through borrowing.



## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	<b>EXPLAINING THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23 – 2024/25</b>
1.01	<p>The Council's Capital Programme encompasses investing significant resources in assets for the long term to enable the delivery of high quality, value for money public services. Assets include buildings (such as schools, care homes and day centres), infrastructure (such as highways, IT networks, and waste transfer stations), and assets not owned by the Council (such as works to improve and adapt private sector homes). The proposed capital investments outlined within this report are closely aligned to portfolio service business plans and the Council Plan.</p> <p>The Council has limited capital resources from Welsh Government (WG) to support Council priorities, needs and liabilities; however, it has the powers to fund capital schemes by borrowing, but this is temporary and ultimately the cost and repayment of any borrowing is charged to the Council's revenue budget. Schemes funded by borrowing are carefully considered due to the long term impacts on the Council's revenue budget.</p> <p>The first half of this report covers parts of the Capital Programme where the Council invests in local infrastructure, facilities and assets, which will be funded from general capital resources (General Capital Grant, Unhypothecated Supported Borrowing and Capital Receipts). Regional programmes such as the Growth Deal for North Wales which will draw on national funds, and the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme, which is separate and includes the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS) work programme and Strategic Housing and Regeneration Programme (SHARP), supplement the Council funded Capital Programme.</p> <p>The second half of the report covers parts of the Capital Programme which includes specific grants as far as information is available at the time of writing, and borrowing. This includes the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Programme, delivered in partnership between the Council and WG.</p>
1.02	<p><b>General Capital Programme 2021/22 – 2023/24 Update</b></p> <p>The Council's Capital Strategy divides the Capital Programme into three parts as follows.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. <b>Statutory / Regulatory section</b> – to cover regulatory and statutory works. Examples include providing support to improve and adapt private sector homes (Disabled Facilities Grants), adaptations to schools for children with disabilities and any works required to keep buildings open by meeting Health and Safety requirements.</li><li>2. <b>Retained Assets section</b> – to ensure service and business continuity. This includes schemes that enhance and improve retained assets and infrastructure to deliver services and meets significant need identified by service plans or through condition surveys etc.</li></ol>

3. **Investment section** – to fund costs incurred when remodelling and investing in services. This includes new schemes arising from portfolio business plans, the Council Plan, other relevant and emerging plans, and other strategies or emerging Council priorities approved through a selection process based on the provision of a business case.

1.03 Table 1 below summarises the updated Council funded Capital Programme for 2021/22 – 2023/24 as reported at Month 6 2021/22:

**Table 1**

<b>ESTIMATED FUNDING 2021/22 - 2023/24</b>				
	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>Funding</b>				
Un-hypothecated Supported Borrowing (USB) <sup>1</sup>	4.040	4.040	4.040	12.120
General Capital Grant (GCG) <sup>1</sup>	2.492	2.492	2.492	7.476
Additional General Capital Grant (GCG) <sup>1</sup>	1.559	0.000	0.000	1.559
Surplus B/Fwd	4.004	0.000	0.000	4.004
<b>Total Funding</b>	<b>12.095</b>	<b>6.532</b>	<b>6.532</b>	<b>25.159</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Total Capital Programme 2021/22 - 2023/24	8.632	6.502	5.878	21.012
	<b>8.632</b>	<b>6.502</b>	<b>5.878</b>	<b>21.012</b>
<b>Surplus / (Shortfall)</b>	<b>3.463</b>	<b>0.030</b>	<b>0.654</b>	<b>4.147</b>
<b><sup>1</sup> As per 21/22 Final Settlement</b>				

1.04 Table 1 shows the current position of the Capital Programme 2021/22 – 2023/24 as reported at Month 6 to Cabinet and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee an overall surplus in funding of £4.147m, with a surplus in 2021/22 of £3.463m.

When the budget was set in December 2020, there was a shortfall in funding of schemes in 2021/22 and surplus in 2022/23 and 2023/24. At that point in the approval process the position was kept flexible and this was explained in the report to Council at that time. Options included a combination of future capital receipts, alternative grants, prudential borrowing or scheme phasing over several years which would be considered during 2021/22.

1.05 Given the current position in setting the Capital Programme for the next 3 years 2022/23 – 2024/25, careful consideration has been given to new schemes proposed for inclusion as, should other sources of funding not materialise, the Council will need to use prudential borrowing to finance the remainder of the programme going forward.

1.06

**Projected General Funding Available 2022/23 - 2024/25**

Table 2 below shows the general capital funding currently projected to be available to fund the Capital Programme over the next 3 years (2022/23 - 2024/25).

**Table 2**

<b>ESTIMATED AVAILABLE FUNDING 2022/23 - 2024/25</b>				
	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>Funding (Excluding Specific Funding)</b>				
Un-hypothecated Supported Borrowing (USB) <sup>1</sup>	4.040	4.040	4.040	12.120
General Capital Grant (GCG) <sup>1</sup>	2.492	2.492	2.492	7.476
Surplus B/Fwd from 2021/22	3.463	0.000	0.000	3.463
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.995</b>	<b>6.532</b>	<b>6.532</b>	<b>23.059</b>
<b>1 As per 21/22 Final Settlement</b>				

1.07

Table 2 assumes that the Un-hypothecated Supported Borrowing allocation and the General Capital Grant received from WG in the years 2022/23 to 2024/25 remains the same as included in the information provided in the 2021/22 final Financial Settlement for Welsh local government. The 2022/23 Provisional Settlement for Welsh local government announcement has been provisionally set for the 20<sup>th</sup> December.

1.08

The figures in Table 2 relate to the Council Fund (CF) only, with the HRA Capital Programme being reported separately.

**General Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25**

1.09

**Statutory / Regulatory and Retained Asset Allocations – 2022/23 – 2024/25**

Table 3 shows the proposed allocations for the period 2022/23 - 2024/25 for the Statutory / Regulatory and Retained Asset sections of the Capital Programme.

**Table 3**

<b>PROPOSED ALLOCATIONS 2022/23 - 2024/25</b>				
	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>Statutory / Regulatory Section</b>				
Equalities Act - Individual pupils	0.500	0.500	0.500	1.500
Disabled Facilities Grants	1.660	1.660	1.660	4.980
Private Sector Housing Renewal	0.040	0.040	0.040	0.120
School building works	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.300
Corporate property works	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.900
Upgrade of kitchen equipment in schools	0.050	0.050	0.000	0.100
School safeguarding works	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.300
Target Hardening	0.030	0.030	0.030	0.090
<b>Total Statutory / Regulatory</b>	<b>2.780</b>	<b>2.780</b>	<b>2.730</b>	<b>8.290</b>
<b>Retained Assets Section</b>				
School building works	1.400	1.400	1.400	4.200
Corporate property works	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.900
Highways asset management plan	1.000	1.000	1.000	3.000
Play areas	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.600
ICT - Equipment at Datacentres	0.050	0.000	0.510	0.560
ICT - Server Technology	0.210	0.000	0.070	0.280
ICT - Laptop / PC Replacements	0.103	0.104	0.092	0.299
Works to the Greenfield Valley Reservoirs	0.038	0.000	0.000	0.038
Base Provision for Leisure and Libraries Estate	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.600
All Weather Pitches	0.300	0.195	0.000	0.495
Public Space CCTV Upgrades	0.045	0.033	0.000	0.078
New Street Car Park - Retaining Wall / Attenuation	0.144	0.000	0.000	0.144
Shredder replacement at Greenfield HRC	0.400	0.000	0.000	0.400
'Headroom'	0.350	0.350	0.350	1.050
<b>Total Retained Assets Section</b>	<b>4.740</b>	<b>3.782</b>	<b>4.122</b>	<b>12.644</b>

1.10 The information in Table 3 in relation to the new and previously approved schemes is explained in more detail in paragraphs 1.11 to 1.28 below.

1.11 Equalities Act – Individual pupils

An annual allocation to adapt and modify schools for children who have disabilities to support and create increasingly inclusive school environments. These works help the Council to meet its obligations under disability legislation, and reduce the potential costs and disruption associated with transporting pupils to alternative sites.

The budget as it currently stands, does not meet the demands for the physical adaptations required. It is proposed to increase the allocation by

	£0.200m, to £0.500m, for 2022/23 to 2024/25 to enable continued delivery of school adaptation works, to meet the needs of pupils with disabilities.
1.12	<p><u>Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG)</u></p> <p>An annual allocation to improve and adapt private sector homes comprising:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disabled Facilities Grants – adaptations enabling residents to continue to live independently in their own homes</li> <li>• Partnership working with Care and Repair to support vulnerable residents</li> </ul> <p>No changes are proposed for 2022/23 to 2024/25.</p>
1.13	<p><u>Private Sector Housing Renewal</u></p> <p>An annual allocation for private sector housing renewal and improvement loan management and administration. This had previously been reported under the DFG section before the services were disaggregated across portfolios.</p> <p>No changes are proposed for 2022/23 to 2024/25.</p>
1.14	<p><u>School building works</u></p> <p>An annual allocation to fund the most urgent property works required at schools split across the regulatory / statutory and retained assets sections of the Capital Programme.</p> <p>A programme of toilet upgrades in both primary and secondary schools to ensure compliance with Education (School Premises) Regulations 1999 and Department for Education and Skills document "Toilets in Schools". There is currently a backlog of such works estimated to be in the region of £1.5m which is often reflected as a Health and Safety issue in Estyn inspections of schools. £0.100m per annum. When building new schools or extending current ones, the Council takes the approach to upgrade to the current standards at that time.</p> <p>Works to upgrade ventilation systems at school kitchens which are failing building regulations and gas safety legislation and are at risk of closure. £0.200m per annum.</p> <p>Fire Inspection Works at schools which are the responsibility of the Local Authority and have been identified during statutory fire risk assessments. £0.200m per annum.</p> <p>No changes are proposed for 2022/23 to 2024/25.</p>
1.15	<p><u>Corporate property works</u></p> <p>An annual allocation to fund the most urgent property works required at non-school premises split across the regulatory / statutory and retained</p>

	<p>assets sections of the Capital Programme, including managing risks from legionella, fire safety, asbestos, accessibility and health and safety.</p> <p>No changes are proposed for 2022/23 to 2024/25.</p>
1.16	<p><u>Upgrade of kitchen equipment in schools</u></p> <p>The equipment in many of the school kitchens is currently very old and inefficient. Investment in new equipment will produce efficiency savings and will also better ensure the health and safety of NEWydd catering staff.</p> <p>No changes are proposed for 2022/23 to 2023/24.</p>
1.17	<p><u>School safeguarding works</u></p> <p>There is a requirement for a three year funding allocation to carry out works/adaptations at schools, to address safeguarding concerns raised about access at main entrances. These works are required to ensure both children and adults can attend schools in a safe and secure environment.</p> <p>New scheme included in 2022/23 – 2024/25</p>
1.18	<p><u>Target Hardening</u></p> <p>The Target Hardening budget requires replenishment over the next three year period to prevent unauthorised use of land or buildings within the County.</p> <p>New scheme included in 2022/23 – 2024/25</p>
1.19	<p><u>Highways Asset Management Plan (HAMP)</u></p> <p>An annual allocation of £1m to fund the HAMP which includes resurfacing of the classified Highway Network, replacement programme for street lighting columns and structural maintenance, with £0.100m to be top sliced for 'streetscape' improvements.</p> <p>Whilst the Council has a statutory duty to maintain the Highways Network in a safe condition for travel, how the Council does this is not defined. WG set targets for road condition indices, and at present Flintshire is performing better than the target set as a result of significant additional investment from WG in recent years (£0.954m in 2019/20, £0.950m in 2020/21 and £0.949m in 2021/22).</p> <p>See paragraph 1.55 for more detail in regard to the position on the potential development of the HAMP.</p> <p>It is proposed to increase the annual allocation by £0.400m, to £1m, for 2022/23 to 2024/25.</p>
1.20	<p><u>Play areas</u></p> <p>An annual allocation of £0.200m to fund the most urgent requirements to replace play equipment that has reached the end of its useful life at play</p>

	<p>areas, as well as upgrades to play areas. This will be delivered by Aura as the Council's management partner.</p> <p>No changes are proposed for 2022/23 to 2024/25.</p>
1.21	<p><u>IT Infrastructure</u></p> <p>Various schemes required to maintain service and business continuity;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICT Equipment at Datacentres - £0.170m had previously been approved in the programme for the replacement of equipment such as High Volume Air Conditioning units and batteries to ensure the power supply to data centres is not interrupted.</li> </ul> <p>£0.390m is proposed in 2024/25, to replace outdated systems with the technologies required to deliver effective datacentres and improve connection to end users devices. Without these technologies the Council will be unable to run either of the datacentres resulting in the requirement to switch off IT systems hosted within these facilities. As there is a high reliance on IT Business Systems and services across the whole of the authority, the impact on Council wide service delivery would be significant.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICT Server Technologies (Business Systems and SQL Servers) - £0.210m had previously been approved in the programme for the provision of replacement server technologies, to ensure adequate resources to provide the capacity required for the delivery of existing IT Business systems and services used across the whole of the Council.</li> </ul> <p>It is proposed that the servers used to support Business systems that utilise SQL as a database technology are replaced in 2024/25, at a cost of £0.070m.</p> <p>The operating lives of server technology was extended from 3 to 5 years to maximise the length from investments. Reliable IT server hardware is key to enabling IT infrastructure that supports the delivery of IT business systems that can cope with the demands of an organisation highly reliant on IT systems to deliver effective and efficient services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ICT - Laptop / PC Replacements - The project will deliver a programme of device replacement based on the "just in time" principle of replacement to ensure the Council maximises the useable life of its laptop estate. It will ensure that the devices used by members of staff are fit for purpose and can deliver the required level of service, and can support the latest operating systems and security software.</li> </ul> <p>The absence of a replacement budget for replacement devices will result in devices that perform poorly and will not be able to accommodate the operating system and security software require to ensure the required level of performance. The inability to operate up to date security software poses a significant cyber security risk.</p> <p>Capital funding is required over a three year programme.</p>

1.22	<p><u>Works to the Greenfield Valley Reservoirs</u></p> <p>The Reservoirs Act 1975 allocates responsibility for reservoir safety and maintenance to Flintshire County Council as ‘undertaker’ to the series reservoirs located within Greenfield Valley Park.</p> <p>In recent years the annual inspections have identified works required across all six of the reservoirs within the park. There is increased public safety risk from failure to manage impounding raised reservoirs of water. The condition of the reservoirs infrastructure is likely to deteriorate further and the associated costs to remedy increase.</p> <p>Unlike Flood Alleviation schemes, Welsh Government Flood Defence Grant in Aid (FDGiA) is not available to fund works on reservoirs as this is considered to be a duty on the Council as a statutory ‘undertaker’.</p> <p>No changes are proposed for 2022/23.</p>
1.23	<p><u>Base Provision for Leisure and Libraries Estate</u></p> <p>An annual allocation to fund the most urgent property works required across the Leisure and Libraries estate. The Council recognises its landlord responsibilities, it has retained ownership of all buildings from which Aura, its strategic Leisure and Libraries partner, delivers its business plan and operates these facilities in accordance with the service contract.</p> <p>No changes are proposed for 2022/24 to 2024/25.</p>
1.24	<p><u>All Weather Pitches</u></p> <p>Replace the playing surface of all weather sport pitches which are in poor condition and have reached the end of their useful lives.</p> <p>A forward work plan has been put together of pitches the Council are responsible for maintaining, to ensure that their life cycle costs are captured.</p> <p>Pitches at Holywell High School and Deeside Leisure Centre will require resurfacing in 2022/23 and 2023/24 respectively, based on the outcome of condition surveys that will be completed.</p> <p>No changes are proposed for 2022/24 to 2023/24.</p>
1.25	<p><u>Public Space CCTV Upgrades</u></p> <p>The upgrade of the public space CCTV cameras and associated control equipment has come through necessity, due to its age and a strong desire to reduce the increasing annual operational costs. Most of the existing analogue cameras have been declared obsolete “end of life”, meaning they and are no longer supported by manufacturer(s) which makes it increasingly difficult to carry out repairs as faults arise. The provision of a public space CCTV scheme forms part of the Councils commitment to the Community Safety Partnership initiative.</p>



	<p>This project will provide the opportunity to upgrade the existing CCTV cameras to state of the art and “future proofed” technologies.</p> <p>Investment in the upgrade of an outdated CCTV system, the infrastructure and camera stock will reduce annual operational costs through projected savings on annual transmission costs and maintenance charges.</p> <p>No changes are proposed for 2022/24 to 2023/24.</p>
1.26	<p><u>New Street Car Park - Retaining Wall / Attenuation</u></p> <p>Urgent flood prevention works relating to the creation of a retaining wall/barrier from New Street Car Park will be carried out in 2021/22 and will require funding from ‘headroom’ in the current programme.</p> <p>The second phase relates to the potential creation of a large attenuation tank underneath the car park to slow flows into the main drainage system and reduce impact of flooding in this area of Mold, which will take place in 2022/23.</p> <p>New scheme included in 2022/23.</p>
1.27	<p><u>Shredder replacement at Greenfield Household Recycling Centre</u></p> <p>Funding required to replace the existing shredder at the Greenfield composting site. The machine has become increasingly expensive to repair annually, and the purchase of a new machine would improve site efficiencies and reduce maintenance costs. Ongoing breakdowns are impacting on the operational management of the service in line with legal requirements.</p> <p>New scheme included in 2022/23.</p>
1.28	<p><u>Funding ‘Headroom’</u></p> <p>‘Headroom’ has been built in to the Capital Programme to enable the programme to be more flexible so that funding can be allocated to small schemes as they present in year either as a result of opportunities or unforeseen circumstances (£0.350m per annum). An example would be the need to complete further highways works as a result of an exceptionally severe winter over and above any planned works funded from the annual allocation.</p> <p>No changes are proposed for 2022/23 to 2024/25.</p>
1.29	<p><b>Investment Section of the Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25</b></p> <p>Table 4 below shows the proposed schemes for the period 2022/23 - 2024/25 for the Investment section of the Capital Programme. Details are provided in paragraphs 1.30 to 1.37.</p>

**Table 4**

<b>PROPOSED INVESTMENT SCHEMES 2022/23 - 2024/25</b>				
	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>Investment Section</b>				
<u>Previously Approved</u>				
Historic Building Conservation	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.050
Foster carers home adaptations	0.060	0.000	0.000	0.060
Joint Archive Facility, FCC and DCC	0.000	1.419	1.364	2.783
	<b>0.110</b>	<b>1.419</b>	<b>1.364</b>	<b>2.893</b>
<u>New Schemes for Approval</u>				
Improvements to Standard Yard Waste Transfer Station	1.475	0.000	0.000	1.475
Penyffordd CP School Extension	0.257	0.000	0.000	0.257
Decarbonisation of the Vehicle Fleet	0.500	0.000	0.000	0.500
Croes Atti Residential Care Home	0.650	0.000	0.000	0.650
Relocation of Tri-ffordd Day Service Provision	0.270	2.430	0.000	2.700
	<b>3.152</b>	<b>2.430</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>5.582</b>
<b>Total Investment Section</b>	<b>3.262</b>	<b>3.849</b>	<b>1.364</b>	<b>8.475</b>

1.30

**Historic Building Conservation**

This allocation grants funding to the owners of historical buildings on a match funding basis to preserve buildings in need of capital works across the County for future generations.

**Direct Cost:**

- £0.050m per annum is utilised from the Council's capital programme budget

**Direct Benefits:**

- Encourages listed building owners to seek advice and guidance in relation to the repair of their listed buildings
- Provides a simple incentive for the owners to seek advice on the right process for repair as well as providing the means to prompt them to invest in essential repairs to their buildings, hence improving and enhancing the long term conservation status of the buildings
- Supports the policy intentions within the Local Built Heritage Strategy and allow the team to work more on a proactive basis, rather than, as is more the case at present, a reactive service
- Potential to attract funding from other sources (e.g. Cadw) which would further enhance the remit of the service and the ability to reach as many listed buildings as possible that are in need of repair. It would also facilitate the opportunity to carry out repairs at an earlier stage, which may be less of an impact on the original fabric of the listed building,

	<p>thereby reducing scope for more complex and costly repairs if left to a later stage of deterioration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provides the opportunity for the service to step in in exceptional circumstances to secure the structure of a building to prevent imminent damage or collapse, and place a charge on the building that is recoverable on resale</li> <li>• There has been no funding available in the Built Conservation Budget for 10 years or more, and the number of listed buildings at risk on the Council's register is as high as ever. The funding will help reduce the number of buildings on the risk register</li> </ul> <p>Indirect Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lessens the need to take negative enforcement action where unauthorised works are found, or neglect of a building has taken place. This allows a more proactive dialogue to take place between the Council and owners</li> <li>• Reduction in officer time spent on enforcement matters relating to historic buildings</li> </ul> <p>No changes are proposed for 2022/23.</p>
1.31	<p><u>Adaptations to Foster Carers' Homes</u></p> <p>This will enable foster carers to carry out adaptations or improvements to their homes to provide a suitable environment to support a child. This will help the increase placements across the County and reduce the annual burden on the Out of County revenue budget.</p> <p>Payments made to foster carers will subject to 'clawback' should they cease being a foster carer within a set period of time.</p> <p>Direct Costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £0.060m per annum is utilised from the Council's capital programme budget. Capital funding will be used for individual projects costing over £0.020m. Funding for projects below £0.020m will be sought from other funding streams including the Integrated Care Fund (ICF), and other grant opportunities. Funding for projects under £0.020m would be the responsibility of Social Services</li> <li>• No direct revenue or human resource implications for the approved revenue budget/workforce structures or roles for this service for the current financial year. Any grant applied for will have its own business case considering the individual circumstance and context and may have an impact on future revenue budgets</li> </ul> <p>Direct Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase the range and choice of available placements for children who require a home outside of their birth family, locally</li> <li>• Enable skilled and able foster carers to extend the number of places they are able to offer, or to maintain existing placements as circumstances or needs change</li> <li>• Seek best value for money from the range of placements available by using them in the most efficient and effective way</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any placements made are first and foremost in the best interests of the children</li> <li>• Secure stability or permanence for a children</li> </ul> <p>Indirect Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enables the Council to seek better value for money in comparison to alternative Out of County or high cost placement options</li> <li>• Offers the Councils more cost effective options for placements for children in its care as well as having a robust and transparent process for doing so</li> </ul> <p>No changes are proposed for 2022/23.</p>
1.32	<p><u>Joint Archive Facility, Flintshire and Denbighshire Councils</u></p> <p>This scheme recognises and responds to the need and demand of the two Councils' archive services. Both services occupy old buildings, unfit for purpose. They lack suitable public spaces and appropriate storage, are too full to accept new collections and are listed buildings lacking scope for adaptation, requiring expensive maintenance. The proposal is to construct a new building adjacent to Theatr Clwyd, Mold, to house both the physical archives and the new service operations.</p> <p>The funding application for Heritage Horizon Award was unsuccessful, with the project board now seeking alternative grant funding from the National Lottery Fund Wales, however this will be at a significantly reduced funding level. Further work will continue to deliver a scaled back scheme, within the funding envelope, which still delivers against the business case for both authorities.</p> <p>Expressions of interest for funding are due to be submitted by the end of November 2021, and a decision on the outcome of this expected in March 2022.</p> <p>Direct Costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estimated funding available for the project is £10.363m, with £5.3m from grant funding, £3.028m from Flintshire County Council and £2.035m from Denbighshire County Council</li> <li>• It has been assumed that borrowing will be required to fund this project. The estimated revenue costs associated with borrowing £3.028m over 50 years totals £8.327m. In year 1 revenue debt costs are estimated to be £0.142m, rising to £0.200m in year 50, with an average of £0.167m over 50 years.</li> </ul> <p>Direct Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable and improved archive service for Denbighshire and Flintshire via the creation of a single shared service.</li> <li>• The construction of a new purpose built Passivhaus building adjacent to Theatr Clwyd, Mold, to house both the physical archives and the new service operations. Provide a sustainable archive repository for the region for the foreseeable future from the perspective of storage space and building maintenance and management.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The overall revenue impact is an estimated saving of £11,647 per annum once the new building is open, with a potential further revenue saving once the joint service is running.</li> </ul> <p>Indirect Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share knowledge and skills between the workforce of both Councils</li> <li>Sphere of health, education and wellbeing (connectivity, involvement, identity) can be achieved.</li> <li>The transferrable skills of our volunteers will develop will contribute to increasing their employability.</li> <li>Deliver the long-term development of a resilient, relevant service: inspiring communities in North East Wales and enacting the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act; securing historic collections, diversifying audiences, volunteers and depositors.</li> <li>Cost avoidance of £10,000 per annum additional revenue storage costs, and in excess of £0.718m to address the need for environmental management equipment, compliant storage areas and upgrading public facilities and access.</li> </ul>
1.33	<p><u>Improvements to Standard Yard Waste Transfer Station</u></p> <p>Infrastructure improvements, renewal and upgrade of large plant, equipment and welfare facilities at Standard Yard Waste Transfer Station (WTS) in Buckley, to accommodate growth in recycling rates and an increase in resilience and processing capacity for future waste streams.</p> <p>Funding of £3.325m has already been secured for the scheme based on costs that were estimated in 2019/20. Over the last 12-18 months, significant work has been undertaken to progress the scheme through the necessary planning consents and environmental permitting processes.</p> <p>However, due to the delays incurred owing to COVID-19, increased costs for design work and planning consultation, along with the complexities around ground investigation work, gas mitigation measures and drainage, additional funding of £1.475m is being requested to ensure that the scheme can be completed.</p> <p>The total cost of the scheme is estimated to be £4.8m.</p> <p>Direct Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Development of the site will ensure that we achieve the 70% target set by WG for recycling, and accommodate increased recyclable materials in the future</li> <li>Proposals are part of the Council's Plan under the theme 'Green Council' for sustainable development and environmental management, which has a sub-priority of affordable and sustainable collection and treatment services for recyclable, compostable and residual waste</li> <li>The new facility will increase recycling rates further, reduce material contamination and increase the quality of the recyclable materials, thereby maximising potential income for recyclable materials for the Council</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Renewing the baling machine, plant and equipment, and introducing increased automated processing on site, with less manual processing. This will increase the efficiency of the site operations</li> <li>• Reduced revenue costs for repairs and maintenance at the site, will increase capacity and resilience, resulting in increased productivity and reduced downtime</li> </ul> <p>Indirect Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved welfare facilities for operatives – resulting in increased job satisfaction and contributes to their well-being</li> <li>• Construction of a new access road to adoptable highway standards will enable improved access for businesses on the industrial estate and allow the WTS to operate over one single site rather than the current operation of both sides of the access road, which has its limitations</li> <li>• Improved hauliers access for processing operations, which in turn would reduce downtime when haulage companies collect baled materials and increase productivity for processing operators</li> </ul>
1.34	<p><u>Penyffordd CP School Extension</u></p> <p>A new replacement school for Penyffordd C.P. was constructed and opened in September 2019. At the time, planning permission was approved to future proof the school for an additional 60 pupil place extension, as a consequence of housing developments in the area. Forecasts indicate that by 2025 the school will be full without any flexibility to accommodate additional pupils from local housing developments. The extension will provide a sufficient number of school places to meet the demands of the local area, with a level of accommodation that meets both School Modernisation and 21st Century schools standards.</p> <p>Direct Costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital investment required is £0.600m, with £0.343m being funded from Section 106 contributions</li> </ul> <p>Direct Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enabling 57% of external investment in the school</li> <li>• Remove the requirement for the provision of two mobile classrooms, along with the associated revenue implications</li> <li>• Provide a sufficient number of school places to meet the demands of the local area, with a level of accommodation that meets both School Modernisation and 21st Century schools standards.</li> </ul> <p>Indirect Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will respond to the needs of the Authority’s Local Development Plan for additional school places in the Flintshire area as a result of approved housing developments</li> <li>• Improving learner outcomes by ensuring that school buildings are effective in creating the conditions for learners to succeed</li> </ul>

1.35	<p><u>Decarbonisation of the Vehicle Fleet</u></p> <p>Investment will be directed to develop Electric Vehicle (EV) Infrastructure at viable County Offices and Depots. Initial investigations are underway to identify capacity and usage at existing sites, and this is being compared against options for operating models of electric vehicles. This work is required to aid the transition to Ultra Low Emission Vehicle (ULEV) fleet to support the County's Carbon Reduction ambitions.</p> <p>Direct Costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital investment required is £0.500m</li> </ul> <p>Direct Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pump-prime the transition to EVs</li> <li>• Proposals are part of the Council's Plan under the theme 'Green Council' for sustainable development and environmental management</li> <li>• Reduction in fuel usage and costs</li> <li>• Reduction in Greenhouse Gas emissions</li> </ul> <p>Indirect Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promote the wider use of Electric Vehicles</li> <li>• Promote Flintshire as a Green Council</li> </ul>
1.36	<p><u>Croes Atti Residential Care Home</u></p> <p>The care sector in Flintshire is working within an increasingly challenging environment as a result of a range of factors, including the complexity of need, an ageing population, rising costs, increasing expectations and regulation and difficulties with recruitment and retention of high quality staff. As a result of these pressures there is limited resilience and Flintshire is particularly challenged, with only a small number of independent providers who are part of a reducing and fragile market. As a Council, we are taking a positive approach to rebalancing the care home provision, taking a lead as a local authority to develop care homes that value older people and provide good quality support that would place the Council in a good position for the future.</p> <p>Croes Atti is a single storey 31 bed care home purpose built for older people, which was refurbished in 2005. The 31 bedrooms are small and less than 12 square metres which makes it increasingly difficult to support people with complex physical care needs and there are only 3 bedrooms with an en-suite facility. The living and day time spaces are well used and whilst we have a number of assisted bathing / shower rooms, they are not all DDA compliant. The existing accommodation does not meet new RISCA regulations in relation to bedrooms and living space and any capital investing into refurbishment or new build must take into account of the new regulatory requirements. The care home is popular locally, is always at capacity and often with a waiting list for support. The home is regulated by the Care Inspectorate Wales (CIW) and achieves good inspection reports.</p> <p>The Council has recently been awarded ICF grant, to fund feasibility works for a potential new build which will increase capacity for a further 25</p>

placements. The new facility is being developed with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) and it is anticipated that support for the scheme will be received from WG, however the value of funding, at this stage, is yet to be confirmed.

Detailed design and development works needs to take place following the feasibility study, which is expected to cost £0.650m. These works will result in detailed costings being completed, which will be used to support a formal application for funding to be submitted to WG for the scheme.

Following clarity on funding obligations, all partners will need to make a decision on the next steps. There may be a need to consider low and sustainable levels of long term borrowing to ensure the scheme is delivered. Should the project not go ahead then the Council's design and development of £0.650m cannot be capitalised and would be a charge to the Council's revenue account.

#### Direct Costs:

- £0.650m required for the design and development stage
- Estimated total costs of the scheme is assessed at £15m
- Following the design and development stage of the project, construction would begin in 2023/24 over a two year period. Funding will be sought from a mix of WG grants, FCC capital receipts and prudential borrowing

#### Direct Benefits:

- Additional provision of residential care placements and through release of placements in other locations across Flintshire currently using step-up/step-down beds
- Additional provision of short term beds in a community setting to allow for more appropriate assessment of need for individual and as a viable alternative to a hospital admission/delayed discharge
- Purpose built accommodation and bespoke service provision to maximise independence and support reablement
- Increase in placements for citizens living in the west of Flintshire to link to acute service provision, supporting greater choice and ability to be in a location of their choosing

#### Indirect Benefits:

- Integrated provision of multi-professional support needed to reduce organisational boundaries and improve outcomes for individuals
- Discharge to Reable and Assess ethos and environment to support improved longer term planning within an enabling environment
- Free up bed space within independent sector care homes, where existing fragilities and lack of capacity are a significant factor and ongoing risk
- At a population level, the equivalent number of beds are available within the care sector to promote choice when long term care is the most appropriate option
- Reduction in risks associated with long term hospital stay
- Potential avoidance of people entering into long term care where this may be unnecessary



1.37

### Relocation of Tri-ffordd Day Service Provision

Tri-ffordd is a day service provision in a horticultural environment set on 1.09 acres in Broughton for adults who have a learning disability, providing an opportunity for meaningful work orientated activity. The individuals who attend have a range of abilities and require varying levels of support and encouragement throughout the day to engage in activities and assist them with their daily needs.

The current building at Tri-ffordd are farm houses, knocked through in to one, with restricted internal space for service users. The site is located on a busy road, and offers no opportunity for further development. Social Services need to relocate the provision to provide a high quality service, taking in to account the needs of the individuals and of the service, in to the future.

Through an options appraisal, a 10 acre site on the outskirts of Mold has been identified as a potential new location for Tri-ffordd's activities, alongside further service developments.

#### Direct Costs:

- Capital investment required is £2.7m, for the development of new workshop buildings, alongside an office and other necessary facilities, toilets, boot room, garage for equipment
- It has been assumed that borrowing will be required to fund this project. The estimated revenue costs associated with borrowing £2.7m over 50 years totals £7.4m. In year 1 revenue debt costs are estimated to be £0.126m, rising to £0.179m in year 50, with an average of £0.149m over 50 years

#### Direct Benefits:

- Improved offer for people with Learning Disabilities in a purpose built facility to meet the needs of people with learning disabilities, including those with mobility issues
- The development of workshops for people supported to undertake their activities safely
- The development of a 'staff' area, with office, meeting space and breakout spaces for those attending. Here those attending undertake other activities. This also includes a reception where the service can sell the items produced at the site, such as plants and hanging baskets, alongside other products made across learning disability services, including crafts and refurbished bikes
- Provision of a 'changing places' facility in the Mold area

#### Indirect Benefits:

- The new site presents an opportunity for service development. There is potential for services to be offered 7 days a week, providing additional support to individuals and families in Flintshire. Primarily, an additional development on the site could include local day services for autistic individuals. Many autistic individuals current access day provision on Wirral, as provision is not available locally

- There is scope for the wider site to develop in to a community asset, not only for the people supported, but for other members of the local community
- Location of a service in Mold would provide a balance of the learning disability day/work opportunities offer across the county, complimenting sites in Queensferry (Hwb Cyfle), Flint (Abbey Upcycling, charity shop and Project SEARCH), Shotton (Rowleys Cafe) and Greenfield (Hwb Dyffryn and Freshfields Café)
- The Tri-ffordd site will be freed up for other uses

1.38

**Summary (Generally funded) Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25**

Table 5 below summarises the generally funded Capital Programme and available funding.

**Table 5**

<b>SUMMARY (GENERALLY FUNDED) CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23 - 2024/25</b>				
	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
Statutory / Regulatory Section	2.780	2.780	2.730	8.290
Retained Assets Section	4.740	3.782	4.122	12.644
Investment Section	3.262	3.849	1.364	8.475
<b>Total (All Sections)</b>	<b>10.782</b>	<b>10.411</b>	<b>8.216</b>	<b>29.409</b>
Estimated available general funding <sup>1</sup>	9.995	6.532	6.532	23.059
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.995</b>	<b>6.532</b>	<b>6.532</b>	<b>23.059</b>
<b>Surplus / (Shortfall) - no borrowing</b>	<b>(0.787)</b>	<b>(3.879)</b>	<b>(1.684)</b>	<b>(6.350)</b>
<b>Schemes requiring funding by borrowing:</b>				
Joint Archive Facility, FCC and DCC	0.000	1.419	1.364	2.783
Relocation of Tri-ffordd Day Service Provision	0.270	2.430	0.000	2.700
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.270</b>	<b>3.849</b>	<b>1.364</b>	<b>5.483</b>
<b>Surplus / (Shortfall) - with borrowing</b>	<b>(0.517)</b>	<b>(0.030)</b>	<b>(0.320)</b>	<b>(0.867)</b>
<sup>1</sup> As per 21/22 Final Settlement				

1.39

Table 5 shows that before any prudential borrowing is considered there is an overall shortfall in projected funding of £6.350m over the 3 year period, with an estimated shortfall of £0.787m in 2022/23.

Given the size of the shortfall, in particular in 2023/24 and 2024/25, it is recommended that the new large investment schemes being proposed are funded from borrowing with the associated costs of borrowing included as revenue pressures within the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS).

	<p>Table 5 above shows which schemes would be funded from borrowing.</p>
<p>1.40</p>	<p>Table 5 shows that after prudential borrowing is considered, there is an overall shortfall in projected funding of £0.867m over the 3 year period, with an estimated shortfall of £0.517m in 2022/23.</p> <p>The Council's contribution towards the construction works at Croes Atti Residential Care Home, will need to be built into next year's programme following confirmation of WG grant funding for the scheme.</p> <p>The Council has developed a prudent policy of allocating its own capital receipts to fund capital projects only when receipts are actually received rather than when it is anticipated the receipt will be received, and this position continues to be the case.</p> <p>In recent years, much of the Council's programme has been funded from capital receipts. However, the Council's ability to generate significant capital receipts is getting harder and is almost exhausted. Although the Council will, wherever possible, seek to identify assets for sale (as appropriate) to fund the Capital Programme.</p> <p>The current projection for capital receipts is expected to cover the shortfall of the three year programme. There is risk relating to these due to their size and complexity. The timing of these receipts are also subject to market forces outside of the Council's control. In line with current policy no allowance can be made for these receipts in funding the deficit above.</p> <p>Options to fund the shortfall include a combination of future capital receipts, alternative grants, and scheme phasing as the expenditure profile of large complex projects such as those included in the investment section of the programme could change. Every effort will be made to ensure that other sources of funding are utilised to fund the programme.</p> <p>Ultimately, should other sources of funding not materialise the Council will need to use prudential borrowing to finance the shortfall. This could be short term during the three years, or if necessary, long term to fund the overall shortfall.</p>
<p>1.41</p>	<p><b>Specific Grants and Borrowing</b></p> <p><b>21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Band B</b></p> <p>WG has approved the Council's in principle submission for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools Band B. The programme is to be funded from specific grant from WG at an agreed intervention rate, with the Council's contribution to be funded by prudential borrowing. The WG intervention rate for funding the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Band B programme has increased from 50% to 65% for schools, 75% for Pupil Referral Units (PRUs) and 81% for Mutual Investment Models (MIM).</p> <p>The current revised financial forecast for the Band B programme is projecting a total cost of £104m against the approved funding envelope from WG of £85m. Discussions have taken place with WG and the national</p>

picture is that other Councils are in the same position. WG's position is that they cannot commit to individual requests for funding currently, but wish to remain flexible with Councils as they work through their programmes.

Each of the projects is subject to individual approval to ensure that each meets the Council's continuing priorities and is affordable in the context of the Council's MTFS.

Over the last number of years, the following 21st Century Schools Band B schemes have been included within the Council capital programme, those being at Connah's Quay High School, Queensferry CP/Plas Derwen PRU, Ysgol Croes Atti, Shotton, Ysgol Croes Atti, Flint, Saltney / Broughton Area and Mynydd Isa Area (MIM project).

In recent months the Council have been reviewing the final individual projects for inclusion in the Band B tranche of funding. These are schemes at Drury Primary School and Elfed High School, Buckley.

The respective estimated costs of these schemes are outlined in the table below:

Band B	Total Cost	WG funded	Council funded
	£m	£m	£m
Connah's Quay HS	4.300	2.795	1.505
Queensferry CP / Plas Derwen PRU	8.000	5.700	2.300
Ysgol Croes Atti, Shotton	0.750	0.488	0.262
Ysgol Croes Atti, Flint	5.500	3.575	1.925
Saltney / Broughton Area	25.000	16.250	8.750
Mynydd Isa Area*	2.718	1.767	0.951
Drury CP	3.650	2.372	1.278
Elfed HS	4.488	2.917	1.571
Total	54.406	35.864	18.542

\* ICT & Fixtures, Fittings & Equipment funded through traditional capital.

WG have confirmed that proposed 3-16 campus project at Mynydd Isa is a national Pathfinder project. This provides the benefit of a WG funded technical team to support officers with Flintshire through the MIM process. Councils who have nominated MIM within their strategic programme projects have signed the Strategic Partnering Agreements. The WEPco (Welsh Education Partnership Company), which is the vehicle being used by WG to deliver MIM projects, was available to LA's and FEI's on the 1st October 2020.

MIM enables WG to deliver infrastructure projects beyond that set by present UK Government borrowing limits. If WG do not use MIM, £500 million pounds of investment in the education estate will not be available to Councils within Wales and this would have implications on the Council's proposed programme locally.

A private sector contractor is appointed via a new WG framework and the contractor finances, constructs and provides a 25 year life-cycled building product. Responsibility for funding and constructing the building, and then repairing and maintaining the building for 25 years once built, remains with the contractor. This results in buildings funded by MIM being maintained at a consistently high level for 25 years.

The Council pays an annual charge which is funded from revenue, similar to a rental payment, called the 'service payment'. Through this programme Councils will receive intervention rate funding at 81% from WG for a period of 25 years, thereafter the building is handed over to the Council. The funding from WG will be received in the form of a specific grant.

The capital works in MIM are managed and funded by the contractor so the Council won't borrow to fund the capital works and the associated risks are transferred to the contractor. Revenue payments will not start until the facilities have been built and become available for use, and will be paid for via a monthly revenue charge over a period of 25-years (the Service Payment).

The required accounting is that the asset remains on the LA's balance sheet matched with the total liability to pay the unitary charge over 25 years. Revenue pressures relating to this scheme will need to be considered at the time of approval.

The benefits and costs of the school improvement programme scheme are:

**Direct Benefits:**

- Enabling 65%-81% external investment in schools
- Continuing to raise educational standards
- Reduction in backlog maintenance costs
- Reduction in fixed costs associated with buildings and leadership focuses investment on learners
- At Drury CP, the removal of mobile classrooms and increase in permanent capacity to meet local demand
- Ysgol Croes Atti, Flint, will be Flintshire's first new build Welsh Medium primary school and is strategically linked to the Council's Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP).
- For Elfed High, the removal of suitability and condition issues through investment
- Energy efficiency improvements

**Direct Costs:**

- Part of bigger development programme in Band B, £85.4m.
- Estimated revenue borrowing costs associated (interest and minimum revenue provision) with each scheme are as follows:

Band B	Year 1	Year 50	Average over 50 years
	£m	£m	£m
Connaah's Quay HS	0.063	0.092	0.075

	Queensferry CP / Plas Derwen PRU	0.096	0.141	0.115
	Ysgol Croes Atti, Shotton	0.011	0.016	0.013
	Ysgol Croes Atti, Flint	0.093	0.130	0.109
	Saltney / Broughton Area	0.423	0.592	0.494
	Mynydd Isa Area	0.046	0.065	0.054
	Drury CP	0.060	0.085	0.070
	Buckley Elfed HS	0.074	0.104	0.086
	Total	0.866	1.225	1.016
	<p>Indirect Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improving learner outcomes by ensuring that school buildings are effective in creating the conditions for learners to succeed</li> <li>• Alignment with the Council's School Modernisation Strategy to ensure schools are fit for purpose</li> <li>• A more secure school estate</li> <li>• A school estate with reduced vandalism</li> <li>• Upgrading ICT provision and enabling new methods of curriculum delivery</li> <li>• Provision of appropriate capacity of school network</li> <li>• Economic benefits of local contractor and sub-contractor spend</li> </ul>			
1.42	<p><u>Theatr Clwyd Redevelopment</u></p> <p>The Theatr Clwyd building is nearing the end of its life and needs updating to ensure it is safe for public and employment use. The scope of the project has been reduced in line with agreed key business plan objectives, with estimated construction costs of £38m.</p> <p>The Council will receive significant levels of external funding for the construction stage of the scheme, with £22m expected to be awarded from WG, £5m from the Arts Council of Wales (ACW) and £4m from Theatr Clwyd. The Council will contribute £7m towards the scheme through low and sustainable levels of long term borrowing. Flintshire's contribution equates to 20% of the scheme costs which indicates the low level of debt to equity on the project.</p> <p>The planned construction start date for the project is April 2022.</p> <p>Current financial commitments from Council will be carried forward. Should the project not go ahead then the Council's share of the design development costs cannot be capitalised and would be a charge to the Council's revenue account.</p> <p>Direct Costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital investment of £38m required with funding commitments shared between WG (£22m), ACW (£5m), Theatr Clwyd (£4m) and the Council (£7m), as detailed above.</li> <li>• The estimated revenue costs associated with borrowing £7m over 50 years totals £19.2m. In year 1 revenue debt costs are estimated</li> </ul>			

	<p>to be £0.328m, rising to £0.463m in year 50, with an average of £0.385m over 50 years</p> <p>Direct Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enabling 80% external investment in Theatr Clwyd</li> <li>• Development to improve and increase the biggest and a highly regarded Welsh theatre</li> <li>• A better facility for Flintshire communities, a base for increased community engagement, and multi-use spaces to be used for community needs</li> <li>• Improved facilities to increase secondary revenue generation restaurant, bars, event spaces, etc</li> <li>• Reduced revenue and capital maintenance costs</li> </ul> <p>Indirect Benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A base for young people to gather, learn and develop (currently 30,000 young people per year engaged with)</li> <li>• Specific spaces for Health and Wellbeing user groups</li> <li>• More facilities for work placed training in building (woodwork, carpentry) and other transferable theatre making crafts as well as hospitality, marketing, IT, arts management</li> <li>• Increase local footfall and marketing of Flintshire across the UK (In 2016 over 200,000 people visited work at Theatr Clwyd and another 220,000 people saw a Theatr Clwyd production elsewhere in the UK)</li> <li>• Improvement of working conditions for employees and protection, and growth, of work for local people (In 2016 nearly 200 local people were directly employed by TC, not including impact of trade with other local suppliers)</li> <li>• Development of economic contribution (currently 46% of Theatr Clwyd’s audiences visit Flintshire from elsewhere in the UK)</li> </ul> <p>The Council will retain ownership of the theatre and is responsible for all of its infrastructure, external envelope and grounds. These assets are specialised and expensive to replace, which is one of the reasons why such major investment is required. However, on the lead up to the major refurbishment scheme and post refurbishment, there will be a need to fund landlord retained service and equipment proportionally, and in line with agreed responsibilities that may be set out in any future management agreement. This is no different than those that exist for the libraries and leisure centres.</p>
1.43	<p><b>Mockingbird Family Model</b></p> <p>The aim of the project is to transform the Fostering Service to meet the placement needs of looked after children and avoid the escalating costs of external care provision.</p> <p>The Mockingbird Family Model (MFM) replicates an extended family and groups foster carers of 6-10 fostering households supported by a central foster carer (Hub Home Carer).</p>

	<p>The number of looked after children has been increasing year on year with greater demand for suitable placements for our children and young people. Overall demand is not being met from in-house provision and reliance is being placed on the use of independent fostering agencies and residential placements which are costly.</p> <p>Children and young people who are provided consistent and stable placements have better outcomes than those who move from placement to placement. Each change of placement, often further away from a child's home, brings a greater sense of detachment and loss and it is common for children's emotional investment in subsequent placements to reduce, perpetuating the cycle of placement breakdown and disconnection. The MFM creates an 'extended family' around our children and young people, promoting their sense of belonging.</p> <p>A detailed business plan has been submitted to WG for an 'Innovate to Save' interest free loan. The intention is to set up the new service gradually over 3 years funded from the interest free loan totalling £1.150m. The loan will be repaid from savings made in years 4 to 7 which are estimated to be £0.530 per annum, which after repaying the loan will be reduced to £0.243m. The project costs are revenue costs, and therefore ordinarily cannot be funded by loans or borrowing. The Welsh Government's 'Innovate to Save' programme requires the revenue costs to be treated as capital, and the only way to achieve this is to gain a Capitalisation Direction from WG Ministers as each year of the project passes. An indication will be given by WG officials if the Capitalisation Direction will be granted when the business plan is approved. This is the final year of the three year funding.</p>
1.44	<p>Details of schemes specifically funded by specific grant and borrowing is shown in Table 6 below:</p>



**Table 6**

<b>SPECIFICALLY FUNDED SCHEMES 2022/23 - 2024/25</b>				
	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>Specifically Funded Schemes</b>				
21st Century Schools - Band B	7.303	17.939	14.360	39.602
Theatr Clwyd Redevelopment	19.000	19.000	0.000	38.000
Mockingbird Family Model	0.384	0.000	0.000	0.384
<b>Total Schemes</b>	<b>26.687</b>	<b>36.939</b>	<b>14.360</b>	<b>77.986</b>
<b>Funding</b>				
Specific Capital Grants	23.747	19.853	9.141	52.741
Unsupported (Prudential) Borrowing	2.556	13.086	5.219	20.861
Theatr Clwyd Contribution	0.000	4.000	0.000	4.000
Innovate to Save Loan	0.384	0.000	0.000	0.384
<b>Total Schemes</b>	<b>26.687</b>	<b>36.939</b>	<b>14.360</b>	<b>77.986</b>

1.45 At the time of setting the budget, the details of many capital grants have not been released by WG, and so are not included in Table 6 above. As details become available they will be reported to Members via the quarterly 2022/23 Capital Programme monitoring reports.

1.46 All of the schemes proposed for inclusion within the Capital Programme invest in assets and / or reconfigure models of service provision. They are pivotal to support the delivery of the Council's strategic priorities outlined in portfolio business plans and the Council Plan.

1.47 **Summary Total Council Fund Capital Programme 2022/23 - 2024/25**  
Table 7 summarises the total proposals for the 2022/23 - 2024/25 Capital Programme.

**Table 7**

<b>SUMMARY CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2022/23 - 2024/25</b>				
	<b>2022/23</b>	<b>2023/24</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b>£m</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Statutory / Regulatory Section	2.780	2.780	2.730	8.290
Retained Assets Section	4.740	3.782	4.122	12.644
Investment Section	3.262	3.849	1.364	8.475
Specific Section	26.687	36.939	14.360	77.986
<b>Total Programme (All Sections)</b>	<b>37.469</b>	<b>47.350</b>	<b>22.576</b>	<b>107.395</b>
<b>Funding</b>				
General Funding <sup>1</sup>	9.995	6.532	6.532	23.059
Grant Funding	23.747	19.853	9.141	52.741
Unsupported (Prudential) Borrowing	2.826	16.935	6.583	26.344
Theatr Clwyd Contribution	0.000	4.000	0.000	4.000
Innovate to Save Loan	0.384	0.000	0.000	0.384
<b>Total Projected Funding</b>	<b>36.952</b>	<b>47.320</b>	<b>22.256</b>	<b>106.528</b>
<b>Surplus / (Shortfall)</b>	<b>(0.517)</b>	<b>(0.030)</b>	<b>(0.320)</b>	<b>(0.867)</b>
<b>1 As per 21/22 Provisional Settlement</b>				

**Potential future schemes**

1.48 All capital schemes need to be considered in the context of the position of the Council's MTFS. All schemes which require prudential borrowing to fund them add revenue pressures in the form of interest charges and charges to the Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP).

1.49 **21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools & Colleges Investment Programme - Band C**

The WG schools investment programme is expected to continue into Band C, with the expectation is that this will run from 2025 to 2030.

Unknown's at this stage are the WG intervention rates and also whether WG will be using MIM funding in Band C, although the Strategic Partnering Agreement set up to deliver MIM projects in Wales has a ten year duration.

WG are also likely to introduce additional criteria for Net Zero Carbon (NZC) in construction and, or operation for new build schools with the next phase of the programme. To this end, early industry indications are that this is likely to increase construction costs by 10% in construction and 20% in operation.

Whilst there are a lot of unknowns currently, early modelling work is already being undertaken in forming the Councils potential Band C programme. This work will be presented at a later date.

1.50	<p><b>Llys Gwenffrwd, Holywell Care Home Review</b></p> <p>Llys Gwenffrwd is a 31 bed, three storey care home built in the 1970s which was refurbished in early 2000. There are challenges associated with the current building as it is built on a sloping site, as a result there are a number of levels requiring the need for ramps to access many areas both inside and outside. It includes the provision of a single undersized lift to reach the three stories which does not meet DDA requirements and there are a number of living and day spaces which are some distance from the bedroom areas. Outside space is difficult to access because of the site levels and parking can be difficult. The Holywell locality has the fewest number of care home placements available and would benefit from a new build facility on a different more accessible site which requires further consideration.</p>
1.51	<p><b>Children’s in-house Residential Care Home</b></p> <p>Three properties have been acquired by the Council using a capital grant from WG. Further grant in 2021/22 has been approved to cover the costs of the refurbishment of the properties. Where possible, the Council will continue to look at other potential in-house residential care opportunities going forward.</p>
1.52	<p><b>Additional Learning Needs Reform</b></p> <p>In previous Cabinet reports, the need for specialist Autism and Moderate Learning Difficulties facilities had been highlight as short/medium term ambition. In reviewing the impact of Additional Learning Needs (ALN) transformation, extending existing ALN provision would also be a requirement along with consideration for a Secondary Phase Behaviour, Emotional &amp; Social Difficulties (BESD) Resourced Unit, the County only has primary provision currently. A technical feasibility is currently being undertaken to provide a range of options with high level cost estimates around effective building solutions. As an alternative option to a Council funded solution, it would be prudent to consider whether ALN transformation could be included as a project (or series of projects) from 2024. For larger value cost options it would be prudent to consider the next phase of the WG 21st Century schools (Band C) investment programme, given that the current intervention rate in this programme for ALN provision is 75% WG funded, with the Councils contribution being 25%.</p>
1.53	<p><b>County Hall Campus</b></p> <p>The redevelopment of the County Hall campus site needs to be progressed through the formulation of a comprehensive and visionary masterplan, which addresses the future needs to the Council and other public sector partners; linking this with an integrated approach around the Courts and theatre, together with a wider site development. This work has started with the demolition of phase 3 and 4 of County Hall, which was completed in November 2020. The site has huge potential being framed within a mature semi-rural landscape; with work on a comprehensive plan currently ongoing.</p>

1.54	<p><b>Review of Industrial Estates</b></p> <p>The Council's industrial estates are widely dispersed throughout the County and provide much needed commercial accommodation to many local businesses, preventing them from leaving the County and maintaining local sources of employment. They also bring into the Council significant revenue through rental income but are of an age where they are now likely to require investment.</p> <p>The Council is currently undertaking a detailed review of two of our industrial estates. This will be a detailed study of various options which will then be explored in more detail. Various factors will be considered such as regeneration, employment opportunities, sustainability and economic viability. This will then form a template approach for the review of the remainder of our industrial portfolio.</p>
1.55	<p><b>Highways Asset Management Plan</b></p> <p>The core Capital Programme includes £1m per annum for the HAMP. In 2021/22, as in previous years, this has been supplemented by additional WG grant. It has been estimated that the investment required to maintain current network performance is £3.2m per annum, an increase of £2.2m per annum. The Council are awaiting an announcement from WG on the level of funding from the Public Highways Refurbishment Grant for the 2022/23 financial year.</p>
1.56	<p><b>Digital Strategy</b></p> <p>A planned programme of projects required to increase the number and range of services available digitally are under consideration. The projects have an impact across a range of services, rather than in a single specific service e.g. web payment portal that will be used for all payments to the council. These will be used to enhance the ability of customers to interact with the Council on line.</p> <p>The capital costs of purchasing new software will be calculated on a project by project basis at the time each project is ready to proceed in order to accurately capture not only the technical requirements for the software but also the costs prevailing at the time.</p> <p>The range of cross cutting projects under consideration include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Software that can automate answering simple telephone calls or email enquiries (so called "chat bots")</li> <li>• A generic web booking system to allow customers to make appointments for services on line</li> <li>• Integration of webchat and email into the Customer Relationship Manager application</li> <li>• A generic facility for customers to upload and store commonly needed documents e.g. proof of entitlement to benefits</li> <li>• Software to link information held in separate databases so that we can update them all at once in a single contact with the customer</li> </ul>

1.57	<p><b>Deeside Leisure Centre</b></p> <p>Deeside Leisure Centre (DLC) is 50 years old and reaching the end of its economic useful life. It is the largest sports facility in the County at 15,000m<sup>2</sup> and is of strategic importance regionally and locally in terms of sports participation and health and wellbeing. It is an ageing building occupying too large a footprint with inefficient energy systems. The building is not sustainable beyond the medium term.</p> <p>DLC is partially occupied by the Health Board at present with the ice rink arena currently being used as a COVID-19 vaccination centre until March 2022. Once the need for additional health care services in North Wales is over, the leisure centre will be returned to full use. The Council is in ongoing discussions with WG regarding 1) financial support to reinstate the facilities at DLC following its initial use as a field hospital, and 2) financial support during the period of phased recovery (loss of income).</p> <p>The Council, and its strategic partner Aura, has recently undertaken a feasibility study and business case of options for the leisure centre going forward, and will review the impact this may have on the Capital Programme and any future potential revenue savings.</p>
1.58	<p><b>Homelessness – Young Persons Hub</b></p> <p>Responding to the needs of young people and particularly those who may be at a risk of homelessness is a key focus for the Council. Consideration needs to be given to not only accommodation needs but also support to assist young people with the key life skills needed to live independently and reduce risks of homelessness. When looking at best practice in this area of work, there are a number of examples of positive practice which seek to not only provide accommodation, but also co-ordinate support and service delivery.</p> <p>Over the next 12 months the Housing &amp; Prevention Service is to consider opportunities for the development of a Young Persons Hub which will seek to provide a number of units of self-contained accommodation with support onsite. This could potentially extend to provision of housing and homelessness advice and support and offered local facilities for co-location of services within a “housing hub”. A feasibility study will be considered to inform this approach which may provide office and community space to ensure a joined up approach within a multi-disciplinary team model.</p> <p>Subject to the outcome of feasibility works, capital funding may be required to deliver on this agenda. External funding streams will also be considered in order to maximise opportunities to develop the Young Persons Hub.</p>
1.59	<p><b>Homelessness – Emergency Bed Provision</b></p> <p>In late 2019, the Council undertook work to develop an Emergency Bed provision for people who are homeless and may otherwise face the prospect of sleeping rough. Significant works were completed within the Glanrafon Resource Centre in Queensferry to transform the building into a Night Shelter offering up to 12 Emergency Beds. The Council, as the</p>

	<p>owner of the building, completed refurbishment works and then partnered with The Wallich, to deliver the support required to safely operate the Night Shelter.</p> <p>Following the COVID-19 pandemic, further guidance has been issued by WG regarding the future direction of homelessness service. In the guidance there is a particular focus on “night shelters” and “bed spaces” with a clear steer on moving away from shared housing models with communal spaces and offering self-contained accommodation for people experiencing homelessness.</p> <p>The Glanrafon Night Shelter was always a medium term solution for rough sleeping in Flintshire with other approaches to be developed in future years with a commitment to develop more support to prevent rough sleeping and ensuring a self-contained accommodation offer. Funding has been secured through WG (Phase 2 Homelessness Funding) which will assist with the immediate pressures on our homeless cohort, but additional capacity and revised models of emergency accommodation will need to be explored and may require capital funding in future years.</p>
1.60	<p><b>Net Zero Carbon Aims</b></p> <p>WG has set out its legal commitment to achieve net zero emissions by 2050 and work towards a net zero public sector in Wales by 2030. One of the Council’s key priorities within the Council Plan is to become a NZC Council by 2030 and to support wider decarbonisation actions across the County. The capital works programme plays a vital role in accelerating the shift towards achieving the NZC target. The Council has been investing in low carbon and renewable energy systems and energy efficiency for over 10 years which has led to a 51% reduction in scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions against a 2007/08 baseline year.</p> <p>Inclusion of this priority within the programme reinforces our commitment to tackling climate change and acknowledges that we have a significant role to play in further reducing our own greenhouse gas emissions. This commitment values energy efficiency, low carbon and smart technologies as a fundamental requirement of reaching net zero for across a multitude of Council services, acting as an important contributing factor towards decarbonisation.</p>
1.61	<p><b>Schools IT Networking Infrastructure (2025 – 2034)</b></p> <p>Flintshire, along with all other authorities in Wales were awarded by WG a significant amount of money to replace old and outdated networking infrastructures within all school. This has provided the schools with a sound digital platform to deliver the curriculum for a number of years. The school infrastructures formed part of the Hwb programme (WG programme) and subsequent funding has been directed towards end users devices.</p> <p>A condition of the grant was that Local Authorities put in place sustainability plans to fund replacement infrastructures when they need replacement.</p>

1.62	<p><b>Abbey Upcycling</b></p> <p>Abbey Upcycling is part of the services operated by Hft for people with Learning Disabilities on behalf of the Council.</p> <p>The service is split into three projects: bike upcycling, electronics and woodwork. This is working well as people are able to choose which activity they want to do the most and which they are enjoying the most. Abbey Upcycling now work in partnership with Sandycroft Household Recycling Centre, where operatives put aside discarded bikes, which are then collected.</p> <p>The site is located in Heinzl Park, Flint with the building continuing to deteriorate. It will require structural repairs in the future to enable the service to continue to occupy the premises.</p>
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<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>																																
2.01	Financial consequences for capital resources are as set out within the report.																																
2.02	<p>As previously stated there are revenue consequences of borrowing in interest costs and revenue provision for debt repayment which will bear on the MTFS as new pressures.</p> <p>Assuming the shortfall is as estimated (£0.867m), and that the asset life of schemes is 50 years the pressures on the revenue budget are shown in the table below. The pressures for previously approved school building works and the Joint Archive Facility have been built into the current MTFS. Pressures for the shortfall in Council funding, along with new school schemes, Theatr Clwyd and Tri-ffordd will be built into future MTFS calculations as necessary.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Pressure in Year 1</th> <th>Pressure in Year 50</th> <th>Average Annual Pressure</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Shortfall in Council Funding (£0.867m)</td> <td>0.041</td> <td>0.057</td> <td>0.048</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Drury CP</td> <td>0.060</td> <td>0.085</td> <td>0.070</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Buckley Elfed HS</td> <td>0.074</td> <td>0.104</td> <td>0.086</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Theatr Clwyd</td> <td>0.328</td> <td>0.463</td> <td>0.385</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tri-Ffordd</td> <td>0.126</td> <td>0.179</td> <td>0.149</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>0.629</b></td> <td><b>0.888</b></td> <td><b>0.738</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The table does not include the Mockingbird Family Model as the loan will be repaid from revenue savings generated as a result.</p>		Pressure in Year 1	Pressure in Year 50	Average Annual Pressure		£m	£m	£m	Shortfall in Council Funding (£0.867m)	0.041	0.057	0.048	Drury CP	0.060	0.085	0.070	Buckley Elfed HS	0.074	0.104	0.086	Theatr Clwyd	0.328	0.463	0.385	Tri-Ffordd	0.126	0.179	0.149	<b>Total</b>	<b>0.629</b>	<b>0.888</b>	<b>0.738</b>
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<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>	
3.01	Any decisions made which involve the Council's assets and its Capital Programme often have very large and long term financial implications. As it seeks approval for its Capital Programme, the Council is required to produce indicators assessing the affordability, prudence and sustainability of the capital plans. These are called the Prudential Indicators and are included in the Capital Strategy report.	
3.02	<b>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact</b>	
Long-term	<p>The development a new facility Joint Archive Facility will provide a sustainable archive repository for the region along with providing annual revenue savings once the service is running.</p> <p>The Theatr Clwyd building is nearing the end of its life. Investment in the building will allow long term sustainability which will support the local economy.</p> <p>The Standard Waste Transfer Station facility is at a critical point and significant investment is required to ensure the continued viability of the site and accommodate future growth in processing capacity and increasing amounts of high-quality recycling which can help stimulate domestic reprocessing and remanufacture necessary for the circular economy – bringing associated environmental impacts and helping develop the domestic green economy.</p> <p>Capital funding assists in securing the future of schools in their local communities.</p>	
Prevention	<p>Works to be completed on the reservoirs at Greenfield Valley to ensure there is no increased risk to public safety and that reservoir maintenance is carried out before further deteriorating.</p> <p>Target Hardening budget prevents unauthorised use of land or buildings within the County.</p> <p>Works at Croes Atti will give additional provision of short term beds in a community setting to allow for more appropriate assessment of need for</p>	



		individual and as a viable alternative to a hospital admission/delayed discharge.
	Integration	<p>The investment on the Highway Network is required to enable maintenance of good transportation infrastructure to support the local economy and public transport links for commuters. This includes school pupils attending schools where the Council is also investing in order to improve the quality of education being delivered. Investment in IT infrastructure supports the Council to deliver these changes along with school digital connectivity and broadband improvements.</p> <p>Development of the Croes Atti residential care home is a joint venture with close working required from both Flintshire County Council and Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board. The success of the project and operational model will be essential to achieving both bodies' well-being goals.</p>
	Collaboration	<p>The Joint Archive Facility identifies collaboration between both Flintshire County Council and Denbighshire County Council to meet the need and demand of the two local Councils archive services. This will allow a sustainable and improved service via the creation of a single shared service and it will improve knowledge and skill sharing between both.</p> <p>The Council have worked closely with WRAP to develop our waste rounds to maximise efficiency and recycling performance levels. This work has been extended to the facility to ensure the project at the WTS supports the Council with meeting the national recycling target of 70% by 2024/25.</p> <p>Working in partnership with the Council's Planning Department to address the requirements of the Local Development Plan.</p>
	Involvement	The Joint Archive Facility will deliver a revolutionary archive offer to the public, which will deliver long-term development of a resilient, relevant service, inspiring

	<p>communities in North East Wales. The facility will secure historic collections, diversify audiences, volunteers and depositors.</p> <p>The proposed schools projects will help promote greater community integration/use/involvement.</p>
<p><b>Well-being Goals Impact</b></p>	
<p>Prosperous Wales</p>	<p>Investment in schools will improve learner outcomes by ensuring that school buildings are effective in creating the conditions for learners to succeed which develops a skilled and well-educated population in the economy.</p> <p>Capital investment directly benefits local supply chain/economy. A percentage of local expenditure is a requirement of the grant funding for school investment.</p>
<p>Resilient Wales</p>	<p>Use of sustainable and recycled materials during construction, more energy efficient, potential reduction in carbon emissions.</p>
<p>Healthier Wales</p>	<p>The Council is investing in residential care, to provide additional services, beds and multidisciplinary support in a community setting. This provides permanent residential beds, as well as beds which prevent hospital admissions, expedites hospital discharges and allows appropriate assessment to reduce care packages to support people in the long term.</p> <p>Improved physical infrastructure and facilities at schools will positively impact on the wellbeing of the school and its community.</p>
<p>More equal Wales</p>	<p>Educational opportunities will enabling people to develop the skills and knowledge to be fulfilled.</p>
<p>Cohesive Wales</p>	<p>Allocation to the Highways Network includes resurfacing, street lighting improvements and structural maintenance which allows residents in the County to travel in safe conditions.</p>

		Investment in foster care home adaptations will help to provide security and stability for children in a safe environment.
	Vibrant Wales	<p>Investment in Welsh Medium schools that supports the Council’s Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP) and enables continued support and potential growth for Welsh Medium provision.</p> <p>Target Hardening will ensure that facilities are available for Community.</p> <p>Investment in historic building conservation to ensure the Council promotes and protects the heritage within the County and preserves it for future generations.</p>
	Globally responsible Wales	<p>Development of the waste transfer station to accommodate the growth in recycling rates, achieved through the Council educating the public around the importance of recycling. This will help to ensure statutory recycling targets are achieved, along with an increased resilience and processing capacity, for future waste streams.</p> <p>Schools capital investment, delivers a more sustainable product, local spend and added benefits for apprenticeships, work experience in construction.</p>
3.03	<p><b>Integrated Impact Assessments</b></p> <p>An integrated impact assessment is not required for statutory / regulatory and retained assets elements of the capital programme, as this investment is required to meet specific obligations (for example improvements and adaptations to private sector homes (Disabled Facilities Grants), adaptations to schools for children with disabilities and works required to keep buildings open by meeting Health and Safety standards) and to ensure business continuity.</p> <p>Individual integrated impact assessments have not been completed for each investment scheme as these programmes of works will be brought back to Cabinet for approval and the integrated impact assessments will be completed as part of the scheme specific reports.</p>	

<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	The proposed Capital Programme will be referred to the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee for comment at its meeting on 11 November 2021, with their comments being fed back to Cabinet verbally before being discussed at County Council in December 2021.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	None.

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	Business Case forms completed by Portfolios.

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<b>Contact Officer:</b> Chris Taylor, Strategic Finance Manager <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 703309 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:christopher.taylor@flintshire.gov.uk">christopher.taylor@flintshire.gov.uk</a>

<b>8.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
8.01	<p><b>Asset Management Plan</b> - A plan maintained by an authority of the condition and suitability of its assets, updated regularly and utilised to assess future capital needs</p> <p><b>Capital Expenditure</b> - Expenditure on the acquisition of <b>Non-current Assets</b> or expenditure that extends the life or value of an existing asset</p> <p><b>Capital Programme</b> - The Council's financial plan covering capital schemes and expenditure proposals for the current year and a number of future years. It also includes estimates of the capital resources available to finance the programme</p> <p><b>Capital Receipt</b> - Receipts (in excess of £10,000) from the disposal of an asset</p> <p><b>Capital Scheme</b> - An individual capital project which is monitored and managed in isolation. The aggregate of all schemes comprises the <b>Capital Programme</b></p> <p><b>Capital Strategy</b> - A corporate document providing clear strategic guidance about an authority's objectives, priorities and spending plans, demonstrating the link to key corporate and service objectives. May be combined with the <b>Asset Management Plan (AMP)</b> to form a single document</p>

**Council Fund** - The fund to which all the Council's revenue and capital expenditure is charged

**Disposal** - The decommissioning or transfer of an asset to another party

**Non-current Asset** - A resource controlled (but not necessarily owned) by the Council, from which economic benefits or service potential are expected to flow to the Council for more than 12 months

**Regulation and Inspection of Social Care (Wales) Act 2016 (RISCA)** - The act builds on the success of regulation in Wales and reflects the changing world of social care. It places service quality and improvement at the heart of the regulatory regime and strengthens protection for those who need it. Regulation will move beyond compliance with minimum standards, and focus more on the quality of services and the impact which they have on people receiving them

**Prudential Code** - The Code of Practice drawn up by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) to underpin the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003 in respect of an authority's duty to determine the affordability, prudence and sustainability of its capital investment needs

**Prudential Indicators** - Required by the **Prudential Code**, these take the form of limits, estimates or actual figures used to support the local decision making process for capital investment

**Unsupported Prudential Borrowing** - Borrowing administered under the **Prudential Code**, whereby authorities can set their own policies on acceptable levels and types of borrowing. The Prudential Framework allows authorities to take out loans in response to overall cash flow forecasts and other factors provided they can show that the borrowing is to meet planned capital expenditure in the current year or the next three years.

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## CABINET

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	Strategic Equality Plan Annual Report 2020/21
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Executive
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present the Strategic Equality Plan Annual Report 2020/21.

The Council published its equality objectives and four year Strategic Equality Plan (SEP) in April 2020, to meet the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duties (PSED) as set out in the Equality Act 2010. The aim of equality objectives is to address the most significant issues and areas of inequality that face people with protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation).

The Equality Act 2010 specific duties for Wales require an annual report be published by 31 March each year outlining progress on meeting the PSED and achieving the equality objectives. The attached report highlights the Council's progress in implementing the SEP and meeting our equality objectives during 2020/2021.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Cabinet note the progress made during the year to meet our statutory duties in relation to equalities.
2	Cabinet endorse the progress made against the Strategic Equality Plan 2020/21, prior to publication of the annual report on the Council website.

## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE STRATEGIC EQUALITY PLAN ANNUAL REPORT
1.01	The Council published its equality objectives and four year Strategic Equality Plan (SEP) in April 2020, to meet the requirements of the Public Sector Equality Duties (PSED) as set out in the Equality Act 2010. The purpose of equality objectives is to address the most significant issues and areas of inequality that face people with protected characteristics e.g. age, disability etc.
1.02	The Act requires that an annual report is produced which specifically outlines progress towards fulfilling each of the Council's equality objectives and includes specified employment information, including information on training and pay (unless this has already been published).
1.03	The report is included at <b>Appendix 1</b> and is the first annual report for the SEP 2020-24 and highlights our progress in meeting our equality objectives during 2020/2021.
1.04	<p>Areas of achievement in meeting the equality duties during 2020/21 are set out below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Theatr Clwyd live streamed into hospitals, care homes and directly into people's homes across North Wales. Live streaming means that people who might not be able to travel to the theatre can still access theatre from home.</li> <li>• Improvements on the Council's Traveller site included improved toilets, washrooms and kitchen facilities and the provision of street furniture for outdoor games.</li> <li>• There has been positive feedback from users of the new Fflecsi travel service providing connectivity to the existing Core Bus Network, and which is making a real difference to users lives. One such example is detailed below:</li> </ul> <p><i>One person who is partially sighted and has not used any public transport for a number of years, is now using the Fflecsi service. He feels very safe and confident with the driver and is now travelling around the community where he has previously been very isolated within his own home.</i></p>
1.05	Although there has been progress, there still needs to be more systematic data collection across services to be able to measure progress and equality outcomes. There is also a need for more employees to complete the Equality e-learning modules to ensure they understand their responsibilities.



1.06	<p><b>Moving Forward</b></p> <p>The production and publication of the annual Workforce Information Report and the Equal Pay Audit reports contribute to this report as they form part of the reporting requirements of the public sector equality duty. These documents are published separately.</p>
1.07	<p>The re-establishment of the Corporate Equality Group will contribute to ensuring that a focussed and joined-up approach is maintained across the Council to achieve our equality objectives, address any issues raised by Welsh Government and to ultimately reduce inequalities.</p>
1.08	<p>A new action plan with new measures is being developed to support the Council to achieve its equality objectives and to address the recommendations of Welsh Government's report into racial inequalities highlighted during the pandemic.</p>

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	<p><b>Revenue/Capital:</b> There are no revenue / capital implications</p> <p><b>Human Resources:</b> There are no implications for additional capacity or for any change to current workforce structures or roles.</p>

<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>												
3.01	<p><b>Integrated Impact Assessments (IIAs)</b></p> <p>An Impact assessment is not required as this is a report on our progress in meeting our equality objectives which aim to have a positive impact on people with protected characteristics. A full impact assessment was completed on the Strategic Equality Plan 2020-24.</p> <p>Under the five ways of working principles of the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015, this report will have the following impact:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Ways of Working</th> <th>Impact</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Long-term</td> <td>No change</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prevention</td> <td>Positive impact through promoting equal access to services and information</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Integration</td> <td>No change</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Collaboration</td> <td>No change</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Involvement</td> <td>No change</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Ways of Working	Impact	Long-term	No change	Prevention	Positive impact through promoting equal access to services and information	Integration	No change	Collaboration	No change	Involvement	No change
Ways of Working	Impact												
Long-term	No change												
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Collaboration	No change												
Involvement	No change												

<b>Well-being Goals Impact</b>	
<b>Well-being Goal</b>	<b>Impact</b>
Prosperous Wales	No change
Resilient Wales	No change
Healthier Wales	Positive impact through reducing health inequalities
More equal Wales	Positive impact through increasing access to services and information
Cohesive Wales	Positive impact through addressing hate crime and fostering good relations between people from different protected groups.
Vibrant Wales	No change
Globally responsible Wales	No change
<p>The Strategic Equality Plan links to the following objectives in our Well-being Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Caring Council</li> <li>• Learning Council</li> </ul>	

<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	Relevant officers and the Chief Officer Team (COT) were consulted in order to update the progress report and provide information for the annual monitoring report.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1: Strategic Equality Plan Annual Report 2020/21.

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	<a href="#">Strategic Equality Plan 2020-24.</a>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Fiona Mocko Strategic Policy Advisor  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702122  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:fiona.mocko@flintshire.gov.uk">fiona.mocko@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
	<p><b>Data collection:</b> is the collection and analysis of information on the profile of customers and employees, for example, people’s age range, disability, gender reassignment, ethnic group, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation to identify actual or potential inequalities.</p> <p><b>Equal Pay Audit:</b> An equal pay audit compares the pay of men and women and employees with other protected characteristics who are doing equal work. The aim is to identify any differences in pay, investigate the causes of any differences and take action to eliminate unequal pay that cannot be justified.</p> <p><b>Protected characteristics:</b> these are the groups protected under the Equality Act 2010. The characteristics are: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion and belief, sex and sexual orientation.</p> <p><b>PSED:</b> Public Sector Equality Duty, places a General Duty and Specific Duty on public bodies. The General Duty requires public bodies to show due regard to the need to: eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and foster good relations. The Specific Duty in Wales requires public bodies to develop equality objectives and publish Strategic Equality Plans. It also includes the requirement to train employees, assess impact of decisions and undertake equality monitoring.</p> <p><b>Workforce Information Report:</b> As part of the Public Sector Equality Duty the Council are required to collect and publish a range of information on the diversity profile of its workforce and key HR processes. This includes reports broken down by protected characteristic on recruitment and selection, those who leave the authority and employees who are subject to disciplinary and grievance procedures. The purpose is to analyse the data to identify areas where there may be potential or actual discrimination and to take action to address this.</p>

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# Strategic Equality Plan Annual Report

April 2020 - March 2021



We can provide this information in alternative formats or in your own language

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Mold  
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Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg.

This document is available in Welsh

# Strategic Equality Plan

## Annual Report 2020/2021

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1. Strategic Equality Plan Progress Monitoring Report	
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## **Executive Summary**

Welcome to the first annual report for Flintshire County Council's Strategic Equality Plan 2020-2024 which sets out the progress we made to achieve our seven equality objectives during 2020/21. The purpose of the Strategic Equality Plan is to reduce inequalities experienced by people with protected characteristics.

During the past 12 months, we have continued to provide services albeit in a different way and have been able to continue to make progress reducing inequalities. This includes improving our Traveller site and providing iPads and support for older residents to maintain virtual contact with their friends and families.

Although the Welsh Government postponed the implementation of Socio-economic duty until 2021, we made a commitment to addressing poverty including this as a priority within our Council plan. Action we have taken included setting up the Well-Fed project which provides fresh food produce and meals to vulnerable individuals and families. This became a particularly crucial service during the COVID-19 lockdown period.

The past 12 months have highlighted deeply entrenched inequalities in our society and we are proud to have made a pledge to zero tolerance to racism by signing Race Council Cymru's campaign "Zero Racism Wales". We will be updating our action plan to reflect the recommendations of Welsh Government's (WG) review into the disproportionate adverse impact of COVID-19 on Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic people. We will also include relevant actions from WG's Race Equality and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT) Equality action plans when published later this year.

Neal Cockerton  
Chief Executive

Councillor Billy Mullin  
Deputy Leader of the Council  
(Governance) and Cabinet Member for  
Corporate Management and Assets

# Strategic Equality Plan Annual Report 2020/2021

## 1. Introduction

1.1 This annual report for the Council's [Strategic Equality Plan](#) (SEP) 2020-2024 covers the period April 2020 to March 2021. The report sets out progress to meet our [equality objectives](#) and provides a summary of achievements during this time.

1.2 The Equality Act 2010 introduces a general public sector duty to

- (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, and victimisation;
- (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it; and
- (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

1.3 The protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act are:

Age	Disability
Gender Reassignment	Marriage and Civil Partnership
Pregnancy and Maternity	Race
Religion and Belief	Sex
Sexual Orientation	

Our commitment to the Welsh language and treating English and Welsh languages on the basis of equality are set out in the [Welsh Language Compliance Notice](#). The action we have taken to meet our statutory responsibilities for Welsh language are covered in a separate [report](#).

The specific equality duties also require public bodies to:-

- publish objectives to address pay differences
- publish a statement setting out the steps it has taken or intends to take to meet the objectives and how long it expects to take to meet each objective
- produce an annual report by 31 March each year, which will include specified employment information, including information on training and pay
- engage with people from protected groups
- assess impact of new and revised policies on people from protected groups
- publish and use equality information

The purpose of the equality objectives is to reduce specific areas of inequality which were identified using both qualitative and quantitative evidence. We have also worked with the other public bodies across North Wales to identify regional equality objectives. Our local equality objectives and the evidence base used to identify the objectives can be found [here](#).








1.4 Alongside the [SEP](#) our work on equality is supported by a [Diversity and Equality policy](#) , and Plain Language Guide and delivered as part of various Council documents such as the Council Plan and Customer Strategy.

## 2. Progress

2.1 Our [equality objectives](#) and [Strategic Equality Plan](#) were published in March 2020. The action plan to meet the SEP is provided in Appendix 1; this also highlights the progress made to meet each action.

2.2 The following table sets out our performance towards achieving the actions we set ourselves for each objective, we have assessed ourselves using the following criteria:

- R** **Limited Progress** - delay in scheduled activity; not on track
- A** **Satisfactory Progress** - some delay in scheduled activity, but broadly on track
- G** **Good Progress** - activities completed on schedule, on track

Equality Objective	Progress
Improve health, well-being and social care outcomes including outcomes for older people and disabled people.	
Reduce gaps in educational attainment between protected groups and implement strategies to improve well-being	
Ensure equal pay within the workplace by having in place fair, open and transparent grading and salary strategies in place	
Improve personal safety for all protected groups	
Increasing access to participation to services and decision making for all protected groups	
Improve living standards of people with different protected characteristics	
Develop our knowledge of the socio economic duty to protect people from poverty	

### 3. Meeting our Equality Objectives 2020/21

3.1 This section sets out our key achievements to meeting our seven equality objectives during 2020/21.

#### Objective 1: Improve health, well-being and social care outcomes including outcomes for older people and disabled people.

##### During 2020/21:

- Theatr Clwyd continued to hold dance and live music sessions for people with Parkinson's albeit virtually. The theatre also held creative activities virtually as part of their Arts from the Armchair, Memory Cafe and Arts Together programmes for adults with early memory loss and /or onset dementia
- Through partnership with "We Mind the Gap" (an organisation supporting young women) Theatr Clwyd delivered weekly virtual sessions to support young women with mental health and resilience.
- We improved our Traveller site, installing street furniture for games and a hard core five a side pitch. We also ensured the COVID-19 vaccine was distributed to Travellers.
- We supported our employees' well-being by promoting our Employee Assistance Programme, Care First, and providing resources to support mental health and isolation, including videos and checklists.
- Employees were provided with appropriate personal protective equipment and risk assessments were completed. The Welsh Government's risk assessment for Covid-19 was adopted for social care employees and shared with the social care sector. This aimed to reduce risks for employees from a Black and minority ethnic background. Our Employee Assistance Programme "Care First" provided support including counselling for our employees.
- Theatr Clwyd set up a four week programme during the summer for vulnerable children and young people and children of key workers which could be attended five days a week. The scheme was designed to be a fun-filled creative experience with music, dance, drama and craft.
- We loaned iPads and supported older people who were isolated to get on-line.

##### Example - Making a difference

Over a period of three years, our Housing team supported an Eastern European service user who could not speak any English and was being evicted from her property. The person suffered poor physical and mental health. Other agencies had withdrawn due to language barriers. The Housing Team supported the person to apply for settled status in the UK and access other agencies for support and to claim benefits to which they were entitled, including those from their original country. The person is now receiving appropriate services including medical services and mental health support from a specialist group. Adaptations have been made to the home and equipment made available, the result has been an improvement to both physical and mental health.

## Objective 2: Reduce gaps in educational attainment between protected groups and implement strategies to improve well-being

### During 2020/21:

- We developed an electronic system for recording and reporting identity based bullying systems in schools
- We developed a model anti-bullying policy for schools and shared Anti bullying Alliance resources with both primary and secondary schools.
- We raised awareness of identity based bullying during anti bullying week
- Modern Slavery and County Lines virtual training was made available to school employees.
- Regular data reviews were undertaken during the year to monitor and identify vulnerable learners who were learning remotely. The Welfare Inclusion Officers undertook home visits to those identified as vulnerable to ensure they had appropriate support.
- Laptops were made available from our IT department to support learners who did not have access to electronic devices whilst they were learning from home.
- Those eligible for free school meals were provided with direct payments, some vulnerable families were provided with additional food parcels with fresh produce and meals.

## Objective 3: Ensure equal pay within the workplace by having in place fair, open and transparent grading and salary strategies in place

### During the past 12 months:

- We completed an annual Equal Pay Audit reviewing the pay differences between men and women, disabled employees and non- disabled employees and between employees from different ethnic backgrounds. The full report is available on our [website](#). A summary is provided in section 4.8.
- During 2020 with the impact of the pandemic we have had a high proportion of the workforce working from home and in some cases unable to fulfil their full role, we have kept these employees on full pay, and focused on what they can do rather than what they can't.
- The 19/20 Project SEARCH interns have graduated from the programme, with four young people now working at more than 16 hours a week, two of whom have secured positions in the Council. Follow on job coaching is still taking place through a job club for those not currently in employment. Seven interns have now begun the next Project SEARCH programme, which is run as a partnership between the Council, Hft, Clwyd Alyn Housing Association and Coleg Cambria. Project SEARCH offer a range of work placements aimed at developing new skills, which are combined with classroom sessions designed to build confidence and cover any training needs

## Objective 4: Improve personal safety for all protected groups

### During 2020/21:

- We provided rapid re-housing to victims of domestic abuse during the COVID-19 restrictions
- There were 183 reports of hate incidents in Flintshire in the period 2020/21.

Type of incident	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21
Racially motivated	33	37	84	76	99	92
Homophobic	6	6	26	29	40	39
Disability Related	6	9	8	14	20	38
Transphobic	0	1	0	1	4	7
Religious	4	6	5	9	5	7
Total	49	59	123	129	168	183

There was a significant increase in disability related hate crime during 2020/21- this seemed to be through increased neighbourhood disputes during COVID-19 restrictions. There were increased reports of transphobic and religious motivated hate crime but a slight reduction in reports of other types of hate crime. Although there has been an increase in reports of hate crime, it is still felt that hate crime is under reported across North Wales; action will continue to encourage reporting. Hate crime is included as a standing item at the North Wales Public Sector Equality Officers' Network. The members of North Wales Public Sector Equality Network (NWPSSEN) have worked together to encourage reporting of hate crime during Hate Crime Awareness week in October every year. We also published tweets and Facebook messages alongside other public bodies to encourage people to report hate crime.

- We raised the Trans Flag on 20 November to commemorate the Transgender Day of Remembrance in memory of all Trans people who have lost their lives to Transphobic violence.
- 50.65% employees have now completed the Welsh Government's Violence against women e-learning training.
- 307 employees completed the Modern Slavery e-learning training.
- The Regional Community Cohesion Officer developed a Hate Crime/Tension monitoring training video which we launched in 2020 and promoted to employees who did not have access to the e-learning modules.

## Example - Making a difference

Our Housing Team supported a young Asian person who was the victim of domestic abuse which had resulted in anxiety and depression. Support provided included accommodation with a registered householder, developing independent living skills, such as budgeting and cooking and help with accessing specialist support. The outcome for this young person is that they are safe and have secured part time employment as well as accessing higher education.

## Objective 5: Increasing access to participation to services and decision making for all protected groups

### During 2020/21:

- Theatr Clwyd live streamed into hospitals, care homes and directly into people's homes across North Wales. Live streaming means that people who might not be able to travel can still access theatre from home.
- Theatr Clwyd was awarded 'Theatre for Sanctuary' for all of their community work with "City for Sanctuary" and Flintshire refugee families over the past three years. Every two weeks the theatre hosted a zoom creative session for young people and their families, working closely with City of Sanctuary in Flintshire, Wrexham and Denbighshire. City of Sanctuary supports a network of villages, towns and regions across the UK and activities intended to welcome people seeking sanctuary
- Theatr Clwyd's "Connect and Flourish" programme is a pilot project to encourage people who might normally not be heard to be listened to.
- The theatre has created an anti-racism working group alongside an Accessibility working group to improve diversity and access within the theatre.
- People living with dementia and their carers worked with us and NEWCIS (an organisation supporting carers) to develop an interactive map and a user guide as part of our commitment to further develop dementia awareness and support across the county. Users will be able to search the map to find dementia friendly locations in their area, alongside bus stops and other community facilities which may help them to plan their journey. The map shows the locations of Dementia Friendly Communities, memory cafés, organisations and services in the county.
- Young Voices Speak Out (YVSO), a group of young people who are looked after or leaving care aged between 13 and 18 years old, have continued to meet online to represent the voices of looked after children in Flintshire. Workshops and discussions have taken place covering health and relationships, and models of fostering. Representatives from the National Assembly for Wales and the Children's Commissioner for Wales have also attended their meetings to seek the views of the group.

- Young Carers have been involved in the development of a new service specification to help in the commissioning of a new service for [Young Carers](#). The engagement was informal, via social media and meetings. Four young carers were also involved in the procurement process, interviewing all bidding organisations by asking questions they had chosen and had an equal say on the outcome of the procurement exercise.
- Learning Disability services relocated to new premises. Families and individuals were invited to view the space and give their input in to how they feel the site should be developed.
- Families of individuals with learning disabilities have been part of commissioning a new supported living service. Two families agreed to be part of the commissioning process and attended several online meetings, provided feedback over email and were members of the interview and evaluation panels. The families voice influenced the service that was being commissioned and were part of selecting the provider that they believed would provide the best care.
- The Youth Service continued to support the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning( LGBTQ) Youth group, albeit virtually.
- Our Direct Payments Support Team have launched a new [Direct Payments Homepage](#). These pages include information on what are Direct Payments alongside information on how to employ a Personal Assistant (PA) and other useful links.
- A new [Personal Assistant Portal](#) also provides a register of Personal Assistants (PAs) available for employment for Flintshire Direct Payment recipients. The register aims to help citizens and their families search for PAs and find the best PA for them, but also to help PAs find suitable employment.

### **Example - Making a difference**

Working in partnership with Transport for Wales, we launched the new Fflecsi Service / Integrated Responsive Transport. This is a pre-bookable service, serving rural areas of Holywell that currently have no current service – providing connectivity to the existing Core Bus Network, which in turn, supports the Commercial Services making them viable. There has been positive feedback from users and is making a real difference to their lives. One person who is partially sighted and has not used any public transport for a number of years, is now using the Fflecsi service. He feels very safe and confident with the driver and is now travelling around the community where he has previously been very isolated within his own home.



## Objective 6: Improve living standards of people with different protected characteristics

### During 2020/21:

- Potential transit site provision for Gypsy Travellers has been identified in our Local Development Plan (LDP).
- We improved toilets, washrooms and kitchen facilities on our Traveller site
- We provided street furniture for outdoor games and a hard core five a side pitch on our Traveller site and supplied play equipment such as footballs, tennis rackets, tennis balls and skipping ropes for the young people.
- We have agreement to become a Global Migration area and are waiting for approval to be an Asylum dispersal area.
- To ensure homeless people were safe during the COVID-19 pandemic we opened up our Night Shelter 24 hours, seven days a week to offer additional support and access to a safe space during the day. Outreach and welfare checks were completed periodically (up to three times a week) for known rough sleepers. We issued phones to known rough sleepers to maintain contact and engagement.
- We offered accommodation for all rough sleepers. Food parcel and welfare packs were provided as appropriate.
- We completed a range of adaptations to our disabled tenants' homes to ensure their accommodation was suitable for their needs and enabling them to continue living in their own home. These included installing:
  - external hand rails to assist access to 50 properties and dropped kerbs outside the homes of 10 properties.
  - grab rails internally and externally.
  - 20 shower seats.
  - 20 internal hoists in bathrooms, bedrooms and living rooms.
- In addition to these adaptations, two of our properties were fully refurbished to ensure they are fully accessible for disabled tenants.

### Example - Making a difference

We supported a homeless Trans young adult to gain specialised mental health support and attended appointments with him. We helped him secure a place on the waiting lists for Supported Accommodation in the area and in another local authority area. We provided support to him until he moved out of the area, liaising with the LGBTQ+ worker who would be providing future support. This young person now has safe, appropriate accommodation and is doing well.

## Objective 7 Develop our knowledge of the socio economic duty to protect people from poverty

The implementation of the Socio-economic Duty was delayed and did not come into force until March 2021. However, we continued to support people living in poverty.

### During 2020/21:

- The Regional Community Cohesion Team facilitated a training course “Understanding Young People from Lower Socio-Economic Groups”
- Social Services and Theatr Clwyd ran a campaign ‘Rainbow shoe boxes’ in which over 200 boxes were made by the community for local vulnerable families.
- Food and creative packs, in partnership with Clwyd Alyn Housing Association, were delivered to four homeless shelters and 40 families in Flintshire.
- During the lockdowns and fire breaks, pupils eligible for free schools meals and unable to attend school full-time have received a secure Direct Payment to give families more flexibility to buy food for children. Some vulnerable families received additional food parcels.
- During the COVID -19 restrictions we circulated information to residents listing key contacts for organisations who could help with food and medicine deliveries or other types of support.
- As part of the Well-Fed Emergency food support programme we delivered fresh meals to everyone who was referred as being hungry or under the threat of having no access to food and were shielding due to WG’s COVID-19 advice. The Well-Fed parcels consist of freshly prepared meals as well as provisions such as bread, milk, eggs and other fresh produce.

## 4. Collating information and engagement

4.1 Systems have been developed within portfolios and services to capture and monitor the profile of our customers by protected characteristic. However, all the services are different and not all protected characteristics are captured on each system. There is insufficient data available for detailed analysis for most services. It is an ongoing action to improve data capture across services.

Categories used to collate diversity data are taken from the [Census 2011](#) where this information is available. Some communities have relatively low numbers which make statistical analysis difficult, in these cases, the results of national research and reports are used. The results from Census 2021 will not be available until March 2022 onwards.

4.2 Despite the challenges in collating data, improvements have been made to our processes. We now:

- record the ethnic details of Social Service users. This is now a mandatory field on the Social Services client database, PARIS.
- monitor the profile of tenants, homelessness applicants and people on the housing waiting lists.
- record the profile of school pupils and school attainment levels.

- record and monitor diversity data to ensure there is no disproportionate representation of service users being supported by the Youth Justice Team.

We are completing an audit of which services are capturing equality monitoring data and where there are gaps. We will plan to address these over the next 12 months.

4.3 Research has been undertaken by Gwynedd Council for the North Wales Public Sector Equality Network (NWPSSEN), a network of all North Wales public bodies' Equality Officers, to help identify the inequalities experienced by protected groups. This information is available for use by services.

4.4 NWPSSEN has developed an exemplar equality monitoring form with a Top Ten Tips Guidance note. This helps ensure consistency amongst the equality monitoring categories used by public bodies across North Wales and will contribute to more effective benchmarking.

4.5 Qualitative data is collated through other means such as surveys and focus groups and through engagement with local groups such as:

- Flintshire Disability Forum
- Flintshire Youth Forum
- Faith contacts
- Older People's Forum
- North Wales Regional Equality Network
- Race Equality First
- School's Councils
- Stonewall Cymru
- Travelling Ahead who work with Gypsies and Travellers
- Unique transgender group
- 50 plus Action Group

During the past 12 months important public health information needed to be cascaded quickly and sometimes urgently to all of our residents and businesses. Our Communications Team worked with other North Wales public bodies to develop a communication plan and list of key stakeholders to ensure that there are mechanisms for effective engagement with all our communities.

We have also worked with the Regional Community Cohesion Team to strengthen engagement with all protected characteristics, this is work in progress.

#### **4.6 Using information to meet the general duty**

The profile of customers/service users is compared against the profile of the community to identify areas of over/under representation or under achievement which enables services to set targets for improvement.

Using data in this way helps services to identify potential and actual areas of discrimination and also identify the opportunity to advance equality of opportunity

through setting improvement targets which will be incorporated into the [SEP](#). This information has also been used to identify the [Council's local equality objectives](#).

Comparisons of satisfaction levels and complaints and information from focus groups is also used to identify any areas of potential and actual discrimination and areas of community tensions which in turn contribute to identifying opportunities for advancing equality and for fostering good relations.

### 4.7 Employment Information

A full diversity profile of the workforce is published separately and includes information required by the specific duties of the Equality Act 2010. This can be found on our website.

#### Workforce Composition

The Council has 6777 (occupied positions), this is not a head count number as a significant proportion of our employees hold multiple positions across the organisation. This is a decrease of 31 (occupied positions) from the 2020 audit.

#### Workforce Composition

Females	% Females	Males	% Males
5235	77%	1542	23 %

Qualitative information is gained through feedback from Trade Union representatives at the Joint Trade Union Consultative Committee and through the employee networks

Qualitative and quantitative information is used to inform equality impact assessments on HR policies and practices and to identify areas of potential/actual inequalities which require further investigation.

### 4.8 Equal Pay

The equal pay audit is published on our website and is available [here](#). We are required to set an equality objective for pay. National research shows that the pay gap between men and women still exists. A summary of the annual Equal Pay Audit for different protected is set out below, the data was extracted from the Council's HR and Payroll system "iTrent" on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021. Relief workers were not included in the data extract. However, temporary employees were included. Data was analysed for all employees irrespective of their terms and conditions to provide an overall gender pay gap, with further analysis focusing on certain groups of employees. Any employees who were furloughed under the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme as at the snapshot date were retained on full pay, therefore any furloughed employees are included in the data.

#### Gender pay gap

The gender pay gap is calculated using the mean and median salaries of female employees expressed as a percentage of the mean and median salaries of male employees doing work of equal value. 'Salary' is the full time equivalent salary.

Overall the average salary for women across all grades and terms and conditions is **£26,474.59** and the average salary for men across all grades and terms and conditions is **£30,694.83** giving an **overall** Gender Pay Gap of **13.75%**. This is using the **mean** method of calculating average pay.

Using the **median method**, the average salary for men across all Grades and terms and conditions is **£25,991** and the average salary for females across all grades and terms and conditions is **£20,502** giving an overall gender pay gap of **21.12%**. This is a slight increase in the median pay gap from 2020 (20.88%) this is likely to be attributable to slight increase in average salary for male employees.

**Gender pay gap by year**

<b>Gender Pay Gap</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>
Overall	16.96%	13.65%	13.40%	13.11%	13.75%
NJC/Green Book	18.60%	16.22%	15.45%	15.00%	15.37%

Our biggest challenge remains occupational segregation. When we look across the County Council as a whole, women are more heavily concentrated in lower paid roles and in particular kinds of roles. Occupational segregation is one of the barriers which prevents women and men fulfilling their potential in the labour market and consequently contributes to the pay gap. Women tend to be concentrated in lower paid jobs and the lower grades within the organisation. We need to ensure that the pool of talent and skills available to employers is not inhibited by stereotypical perceptions of what women and men do and that everyone’s skills are being utilised to the maximum potential.

**Disability**

There is a 6.05%% mean pay gap between disabled employees across the County Council and those who have declared themselves as not disabled. This means the average salary of a disabled person is on average 6.05% lower than a non-disabled person. This data however, is not considered to be robust due to the high proportion (35.75%) of employees who have not declared information on disability.

**Disability analysis of all employees**

<b>Consider Disabled?</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>	<b>Average Salary</b>
No	4194	61.89%	£27,694.05
Not Known	522	7.70%	£29,228.93
Yes	160	2.36%	£26,019.07
(blank)	1901	28.05%	£26,487.91
Grand Total	6777	100.00%	£27,434.36
	<b>Disability Pay Gap</b>		<b>6.05%</b>

It has not been possible to produce a meaningful view of a grade-by-grade comparison and of occupational segregation due to low numbers

**Ethnicity**

**Ethnicity Pay Gap**

<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Average Salary</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Blank/prefer not to say	£27,096.68	2303	33.98%
Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic	£30,347.67	30	0.44%
White	£25,990.41	4444	65.57%
<b>Ethnicity Pay Gap</b>	<b>-16.76%</b>	6777	100%

There are significant numbers of employees who have chosen not to disclose their ethnicity or who have not provided any information on their ethnic origin (**33.98%**) this has slightly improved from 2020, where the figure was 34.30% but, this makes it difficult to undertake a robust analysis of pay by ethnicity.

4,444 employees have disclosed their ethnicity as “white” (**65.57%**) and 30 employees have disclosed their ethnicity as BME (Black or Minority Ethnic) (0.44%.) Please note the ethnic profile of Flintshire County is 98.5% white (2011 census – office for national statistics). The Ethnicity pay gap is -16.76% which shows that BME employees earn on average 16.76% more than those who have disclosed their ethnicity as White. However due to high number of employees who have not stated their ethnicity or we do not have the information this is not considered to be robust enough for meaningful data.

**Religion Pay Gap**

<b>Religion Pay Gap</b>	<b>Average Salary</b>
Christian	£27,761.01
Non-Christian	£25,137.86
<b>Pay Gap</b>	<b>9.45%</b>

The proportion of the total population of employees who have declared their religion or belief as Christian is **32.46%** and **20.02 %** have declared another religion or belief (Such as Buddhist, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh, other or None.) and for **47.51%** religion or belief is unknown. However due to high number of employees who have not stated their Religion or we do not have the information this is not considered to be robust enough for meaningful data.

## 5.0 Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs)

5.1 Equality impact assessments (EIA) is one of the methods being used to mainstream equality and to support services identify specific equality targets.

5.2 A regional template has been developed by NWPSEN which include Equality, Welsh language and Socio-economic impacts. This was shared with both the Equality and Human Rights Commission and Welsh Language Commissioner to seek their feedback before being adopted by NWPSEN members. This has now been incorporated within our Integrated Impact Assessment (IIA) developed to capture the relevant information required for a range of impact assessments- including environment, health, poverty and Welsh language.. Guidance notes are available for each protected characteristic to support IIA authors.

5.3 IIAs must be included within all of our strategic committee reports to ensure decision makers understand the impacts of their decisions.

## 6.0 Training

6.1 Details of how we promote understanding and knowledge about equality is set out in the [SEP](#). There are two e-learning packages specifically on equality:-

- Equality Act 2010
- Equality in the Workplace

These are supported by e-learning packages on:

- Trans awareness
- Modern slavery
- Hate crime

6.2 Diversity and equality is also included in:

- Institute of Leadership and Management (ILM) programme at all levels.
- E-learning modules for new managers.
- Corporate induction

6.3 During 2020/21 in addition to the e-learning programmes, workshops were delivered on:-

- Supporting Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning and Plus (LGBTQ+) young people who are homeless. The aim of this workshop was to raise awareness and promote understanding of the life experiences and challenges faced by LGBTQ+ young people - particularly in relation to the increased risk of homelessness. The workshop looked at how to plan and deliver more inclusive and LGBTQ+ informed services.
- Hate Crime awareness – provided in the form of a video and delivered to Streetscene operatives.
- Modern Slavery including County Lines training delivered by North Wales police. County Lines refers to the transportation of illegal drugs from one area to another, often across police and local authority boundaries, usually by children or vulnerable people who are coerced by gangs.

- The Regional Community Cohesion Team also facilitated workshops on:
  - Impact of sport on anti- social behaviour and youth crime
  - Gypsy and Travellers awareness
  - Modern Day Slavery

## 7.0 Procurement

7.1 Details of how equality is embedded into the procurement process is set out in the [SEP](#). Equality questions are included within our pre-qualification questionnaire (PQQ) for all tenders. Furthermore, community benefit clauses are included within contracts over £1 million; contracts of £10,000 include an element of community benefits in the scoring methods. We have approved a new strategy to increase the social value generated from our procurement activity. Equality is included within our community benefit clauses. Future annual reports will include social value outcomes such as increase of apprenticeship and employment opportunities and health and well-being outcomes.

7.2 We have signed up to Welsh Government's Code of Practice: Ethical Employment in Supply Chains. We have committed to a set of actions to tackle illegal and unfair employment practices. We publish an annual [Modern Slavery statement](#), this sets out the actions we will take to ensure there is no modern slavery within our supply chains.

## 8.0 Conclusion


8.1 This report outlines the progress we are making to meet both the general and specific public sector equality duties. It is however clear that collating some data to monitor progress has been challenging. Our priority is to continue to collecting data to support robust analysis and to update our action plan to reflect the recommendations of WG's review into the disproportionate adverse impact of COVID-19 on Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic people and to reflect their Race Equality and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT) Equality action plans when published later this year.



**Thank you for reading our Strategic Equality Plan Annual Report  
2020/21.**









## Appendix 1 Strategic Equality Plan Action Plan 2020- 2024


### 2020/21 Progress




Strategic Equality Plan- Action Plan Year 1 2020/21		
Objective 1 : Improve health, well-being and social care outcomes including outcomes for older people and disabled people.		
Action	Who	Progress
We will support people to achieve their Health, Well-being and social care outcomes through providing care and support.	Service Managers	This is being progressed through a number of initiatives in close partnership with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB). Examples include increased children's provision and Discharge to Recover and Assess pathways  
We will give people more choice and control over the care and support they receive, which will further reduce inequalities for people with protected characteristics	Service Manager	All assessments for Care and Support include




	(Disability Services)	discussing 'What Matters' to the individual to identify meaningful support  
Ensure people with sensory impairment, including people who are deafblind are able to access Information, Advice and Assistance and/or Care and Support, reducing inequality to access and support.	Commissioning Manager	We have commissioned a service from DSN to support Deafblind people to support access to services  
We will Actively Offer Care and Support through the medium of Welsh, reducing risks of inequality or discrimination.	Commissioning Manager	The active offer is maintained in all Social Services communications and engagement, including integrated equality impact assessments



		
We will Actively Offer Advocacy to people when assessing their needs for care and support, reducing risks of inequality or discrimination.	Commissioning Manager	All clients are given the offer of advocacy when undergoing an assessment  
We will support people to achieve their health, well-being and personal outcomes in care and support settings reducing the likelihood of discrimination and inequality	Commissioning Manager	Progress for Providers implementation ongoing and expanded to Learning Disability Services.  
We will support people to with protected characteristics to remain independent and able to live at home, particularly when impacted by age or disability.	Service Manager (Older People)	We have a number of commissioned and internal services designed to support those living with a disability to remain independent in their own home.

		
We will support people at the earliest opportunity through early intervention and preventative support	Service Managers	There are a wider range of services across Social Services are designed to support people at the earliest opportunity  
Develop and implement a local model of 'Team around the Individual' to support those living with dementia.	Commissioning Manager	A new home and community support model has been introduced, incorporating night time respite support workers, dementia support workers and an allied health professionals therapies team.  


<p>Implement an action plan to ensure we retain “Working towards becoming a Dementia Friendly” organisation status</p>	<p>Commissioning Manager</p>	<p>A Flintshire Dementia Strategy has been developed. This is aligned with the North Wales Regional Dementia Strategy and aims to improve the lives of people living with dementia, and their carers and families, within more informed and supportive communities.</p> <p></p>
<p>We will support carers to continue in their caring role</p>	<p>Commissioning Manager</p>	<p>We are supporting carers and continue to work with NEWCIS (an organisation providing support to unpaid carers). We have also established a</p>




		network to support our employees who are carers.  
Develop project plan to refurbish Traveller site.	Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer	Site refurbished – completed August 2020 (brand new electrical supply, new showers and new fencing)  
Commission contractor to improve greenspaces and play spaces for children on Traveller site.	Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer	Street furniture for games and hard core five a side pitch now in place.  
Develop and implement an action plan in response to the research we have commissioned into the health needs of Travellers.	Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer	Health needs assessment completed by Public Health Wales- waiting final report. COVID Vaccine



		being distributed to Travellers on site. 
Develop a transit site for Travellers to reduce the number of unauthorised encampments at unsafe and unhealthy locations and improve access to health services.	Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer	Proposed site included in Local Development Plan (LDP). Waiting outcome from Planning Inspectorate for Wales. Decision due October 2021 
Implement a Health and Well-being strategy for our employees and introduce initiatives to improve our employees' mental health	Senior manager HR and OD	This has been deferred due to the pandemic 
<b>Objective 2: Reduce gaps in educational attainment between protected groups and implement strategies to improve well-being</b>		
<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Implement an electronic system to record and report on identity based bullying in schools	Learning Advisor, Health,	Reporting System developed. This requires piloting


	Well-being and Safeguarding	before roll out September 2021. The pilot has been delayed due to the pandemic. 
Provide training for school Governors to increase awareness and understanding of cultural issues/the Equality Act 2010	Strategic Policy Advisor	This was delayed because of capacity and will be taken forward by Welsh Government as part of the Race Equality Action plan 
Monitor Estyn Inspection Reports and identify any equalities issues in schools in order to target support to school	Senior Manager School Improvement	Estyn have suspended all inspections and other visits to education and training providers since summer term 2020. This was agreed following discussions with the Welsh





		<p>Government and Care Inspectorate Wales with whom we jointly inspect non-maintained nursery settings. The suspension will continue until further notice</p> <p> A</p>
<p>Monitor compliance by all schools on the Wales Government Respecting Others (statutory guidance)</p>	<p>Learning Advisor, Health, Well-being and Safeguarding</p>	<p>Guidance was circulated to head teachers Autumn term 2020. A model policy for anti-bullying has been developed in line with the guidance and been provided to schools November 2020. Further monitoring on the use of the reporting system will be undertaken once it has been rolled out</p>





		
Monitor school exclusion rates by protected groups in order to target support to schools.	Senior Manager Inclusion	No exclusions due to remote learning and the pandemic  
Monitor persistent school absenteeism by protected characteristic	Senior Manager Inclusion	Regular data reviews were undertaken half termly to identify vulnerable individuals. The Inclusion Welfare team visited any children identified as vulnerable.  
Raise awareness of identify based bullying during anti-bullying week	Learning Advisor, Health, Well-being and Safeguarding	Anti-Bullying Week took place on Monday 16th - Friday 20th November 2020. The Anti-bullying Alliance worked with the Welsh



		Government in 2020 to develop resources for primary and secondary schools to support the 2020 theme which was 'United Against Bullying'. Information was cascaded to schools to promote this.  
Ensure all schools access modern slavery training	Learning Advisor, Health, Well-being and Safeguarding	Training was deferred and is now being provided virtually.  
Ensure all primary schools access "Getting on Together" including Black Lives Matters resources and training	Learning Advisor, Health, Well-being and Safeguarding	Resources circulated. Training has been delayed. Training has been booked for key stages 2, 3 and 4 for 2021/22.

		
Reduce the gap and educational attainment level for those eligible/for /receiving free school meals.	Senior Manager School Improvement	Welsh Government suspended the calculation and publication of Key Stage 4 and legacy sixth form performance measures for the 2019 to 2020 and 2020 to 2021 academic years. 
Continue supporting LGBT Youth group fortnightly	Information and Involvement Officer	During the pandemic young people were supported virtually. "Inspire", a partnership with local authority and third sector, provided on-line activities. Numbers attending




		increased during COVID-19. 
Monitor Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic people entering youth justice system	Youth Justice Manager	Completed – no disproportionately identified. Reports are provided to the Youth Justice Board 
Continue supporting young Traveller weekly sessions	Youth Forum Worker	This was postponed during the year but support was provided through the Traveller Education Service 
Monitor the impact of the Pupil Development Grant (PDG) delegated to schools to close the attainment gap for pupils receiving free school meals.	Senior Manager School Improvement Systems	Schools have to provide an update on how they have spent their pupil development grant to the regional consortia annually. Welsh Government has



		<p>suspended calculation and publication of assessment results at school, local and national levels for 2020 and 2021.</p> <p></p>
Raise profile of STEM subjects to BAME pupils	Senior Manager School Improvement	<p>This action has not been progressed due to the emergency response required to support schools during the pandemic. This action will be carried forward.</p> <p></p>
Provide revised Trans policy guidance and resources to schools	Learning Advisor, Health, Well-being and Safeguarding	<p>Currently on hold pending Welsh Government Guidance expected in 2022</p>





		
<b>Objective 3 Ensure equal pay within the workplace by having in place fair, open and transparent grading and salary strategies in place</b>		
<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Undertake an annual equal pay audit and develop an action to reduce the pay difference between men and women and other protected groups	HR Policy and Reward Officer	Report has been published 
Support people with learning disabilities to gain paid employment through Project Search.	Planning and Development Team	Four interns secured employment of more than 16 hours a week. Seven new interns have been taken on 
Achieve Level 3 Disability Confident Leader – DWP Disability Confident Employer	HR Policy and Reward Officer	We have started to review actions required to achieve level 3 



<p>Continue to work with the “Clean Slate Cymru” project an initiative funded by the Construction Industry Training Board (CITB) to support Refugees and Travellers secure employment</p>	<p>Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer</p>	<p>Four Syrian Refugee males have been referred to the programme for vocational training during 2020/21</p> <p></p>
<p>Continue to collate diversity data from employees to increase response rate</p>	<p>HR Business Information Officer</p>	<p>Diversity data continues to be collated. Non-schools data is captured at recruitment stage, however , there are still gaps in school data. IT are progressing two factor authentication to enable roll out of Employee Self Service to Schools employees.</p> <p></p>









Undertake annual workforce equality monitoring and develop an action plan to address and reduce any inequalities	HR Business Information Officer	Separate report produced annually. Analysis has not yet been completed. 
Undertake annual equality monitoring of our apprentices to identify under representation and develop action plan to address any inequalities	HR Business Information Officer	Report to provide apprentices data produced separately. 
Identify opportunities to use positive action to reduce inequalities	Strategic Policy Advisor	This is on-going, the results of the Workforce Information report will identify where we need to target initiatives. 
Develop a strategic and consistent approach to embedding social value in the procurement process to increase apprenticeship opportunities to disabled people, people from a BME background and women	Social Value Development Officer	Social value has been embedded in procurement for all contracts over £25k and mandatory for




		<p>contracts over £1m. Two placements for Project SEARCH interns have been secured. Outcomes will be reported on from 2022 onwards</p> <p></p>
Increase the number of employees who complete the equality e-learning modules	Strategic Policy Advisor	<p>All employees were encouraged to complete e-learning modules throughout the year. Numbers completing equality e-learning modules: Equality Act -374 Equality in the Workplace -332</p> <p></p>
<b>Objective 4 : Improve personal safety for all protected groups</b>		
<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Continue training employees in key teams to recognise and report a hate motivated incident and hate crime	Regional Community Cohesion Officer	Hate crime training provided through the Regional



		Community Cohesion Team 
Implement an e-learning module on hate incidents and hate crime awareness	Regional Community Cohesion Officer	Complete – module completed and available to all employees 
Develop a policy to support employees who are the victims of hate incidents and hate crime	HR Policy and Reward Officer	This is now included within the Dignity at Work policy 
Raise awareness of hate incidents and hate crime in schools through the Welsh Government, Community Cohesion Grant	Strategic Policy Advisor /Regional Community Cohesion Officer	Training was deferred but now in place for 2021/22 
Develop initiatives to promote community cohesion through the Regional Community Cohesion Grant	Strategic Policy Advisor /Regional Community	A range of activities were undertaken by the Regional

	Cohesion Officer	Community Cohesion Team including the Diverse Together project, bringing people from different backgrounds together virtually 
Explore options to develop resources to promote Black History month	Strategic Policy Advisor /Regional Community Cohesion Officer	Research into grants available to support a project have been undertaken. A potential project is being scoped. 
Participate in LGBT History month	Strategic Policy Advisor	A virtual celebration was held through raising the Rainbow flag and promoting through social media and a press release



		
Participate in the annual hate crime awareness week to increase reports across all protected characteristics.	Strategic Policy Advisor	We worked with the North Wales Public Sector Equality officer Network promoting information through social media 
Increase the number of employees who complete the Welsh Government's Domestic Violence against women e-learning modules.	HR Business Information Officer	50.65% employees have now completed the training 
Increase the number of employees who attend Modern Slavery training	Strategic Policy Advisor	307 employees completed the Modern Slavery e-learning training 
<b>Objective 5: Increasing access to participation to services and decision making for all protected groups</b>		


Action	Who	Progress
Put in place equality monitoring processes in key services to identify potential barriers to access	Strategic Policy Advisor	A mapping exercise of equality monitoring is being undertaken by services. The next stage is to review data and any gaps. 
Complete review of website to ensure it meets accessibility standards	Digital Solutions Architect	Weekly checks are being completed to check compliance 
Review opportunities to improve access to public transport for disabled and older people	Transport Manager	Introduction of the Fflecsi responsive transport service in Holywell. There is an on-going review of the county local travel arrangements (LTA) and




		<p>development of the active travel network. The school streets concept is continuing across the county.</p> <p></p>
Develop an activity plan for the new model of Archive Services which positively targets the engagement of protected groups	Principal Archivist	<p>Submission made to Heritage Lottery for funding. A new submission being made for reduced funding.</p> <p></p>
Explore opportunities to strengthen equality within the procurement process	Strategic Policy Advisor	<p>Procurement process reviewed to strengthen links to equality impact assessments</p> <p></p>





Objective 6: Improve living standards of people with different protected characteristics		
Action	Who	Progress
Develop plan for a transit site for Travellers	Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer	Proposed site included in Local Development Plan (LDP). Waiting outcome from Planning Inspectorate for Wales. Decision due October 2021 
Improve toilets, washrooms and kitchen facilities on the Council owned Traveller site	Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer	This was completed August 2020 
Commission contractor to improve greenspaces and play spaces for children on Traveller site.	Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer	Street furniture for outdoor games and hard core five a side pitch now in place. Play equipment such as footballs, tennis rackets, tennis balls and skipping ropes



		has been supplied to young people living on our site. 
Become a Resettlement area for Asylum Seekers and Refugees	Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer	Agreement to become a Global Migration area. Waiting for approval to be an Asylum dispersal area. 
<b>Objective 7 Develop our knowledge of the socio economic duty to protect people from poverty</b>		
<b>Action</b>	<b>Who</b>	<b>Progress</b>
Provide free sanitary products in secondary schools	Learning Advisor – Health, Well-being & Safeguarding	All secondary schools (13) including Special and Pupil Referral Unit provided with a proportion of Welsh Government grant funding to purchase sanitary products. All female secondary school pupils have access to a selection of

		<p>sanitary products – a total of 4753 pupils.</p> <p>Products have been sent home with pupils and some have been posted during the past year whilst pupils were learning remotely.</p> 
<p>Provide free sanitary products in primary schools</p>	<p>Learning Advisor – Health, Well-being &amp; Safeguarding</p>	<p>All Flintshire primary schools (65) provided with a proportion of grant funding to utilise within the guidelines provided.</p> <p>Products have been sent home with pupils and some have been posted during the past 12 months whilst pupils were learning remotely.</p>

		
Maximize the numbers attending the SHEP (School Holiday Enrichment Programme) school holiday lunchtime programme - four sites offering lunches will be available per year. 40 places will be offered on each site	Learning Advisor – Health, Well-being & Safeguarding	SHEP 2020 was cancelled. However lunches were provided through the Well-Fed project  
Implement Welsh Government's guidance on the Socio- economic duty	Strategic Policy Advisor	The implementation of the Socio-economic duty was delayed by Welsh Government. This action is carried forward into 2021/22
Raise awareness of illegal money lending to protect people who are vulnerable to being exploited.	Regional Community Cohesion Officer	Videos were made and published  
Support a regional conference on illegal money lending.	Regional Community	The conference was cancelled due to the

	Cohesion Officer	regulations that were in place at the time
Continue to raise awareness of Council Tax Reduction scheme and ensure that all low income households are aware of what they are entitled to and how they can make a claim.	Team Manager – Benefits Assessment	Ongoing 
Continue to raise awareness of the Welfare Reform Team who can support any customers impacted by Welfare Reform changes or who are simply struggling financially.	Welfare Reform Team Manager	Ongoing 
Continue to raise awareness to ensure all low income households are aware they may be eligible to receive Free School Meals and a uniform Grant	Team Manager – Grants and Performance	Ongoing 
Provide holistic and financial support to those customers who find themselves in financial difficulty before they fall into poverty.	Welfare Reform Team Manager	Ongoing 



## CABINET

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	Flintshire Housing Need Prospectus
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Housing
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Executive
<b>Type of Report</b>	Strategic

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To provide an overview of the Welsh Government requirement for Local Authorities to produce a Housing Need Prospectus that will inform the Social Housing Grant Programme.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Cabinet note the content of the Flintshire Housing Need Prospectus and provide any feedback or comments for consideration.
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## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE HOUSING NEED PROSPECTUS
1.01	This year the Welsh Government (WG) have requested that each Local Authority (LA) develops a Housing Need Prospectus.
1.02	The aim of the prospectus is to inform affordable housing delivery, shape the Social Housing Grant (SHG) programme by setting out what the LA priorities are and provide a guide about what type of housing is needed and in what locations.
1.03	The WG allocates SHG to the LA based on a pro-rata amount of the all Wales allocation. For 2021/ 22, WG has advised that the Flintshire County Council (FCC) allocation is £10,236,642, a substantial increase on the 2020/ 21 allocation (£5.2m allocated last year).
1.04	WG is currently setting budgets for the next four years. However, the WG Housing Funding Team is anticipating a similar allocation of SHG for 2022/23.
1.05	To access SHG, housing providers (e.g. Registered Social Landlords/ FCC) apply to FCC's Housing Strategy team and WG to request support for funding.
1.06	It is intended that housing providers will refer to the prospectus when they are progressing new affordable housing development sites so they can plan to deliver schemes that better meet the LA priorities and the housing need for the area.
1.07	WG will refer to the prospectus when they are scrutinising SHG applications.
1.08	The draft Flintshire Housing Need Prospectus has been written in collaboration with Social Services, the Homelessness team and Planning and reflects the Council's current demands on services and the ambitions set out in the Flintshire Housing Strategy 2019-24.
1.09	It is intended the prospectus will be refreshed annually and will be an evolving document that can flex as the Council's housing priorities and needs change.
1.10	WG required the prospectus to be submitted by 6 <sup>th</sup> August and the draft Flintshire prospectus was provided to meet this deadline subject to internal approval by COT/ Informal Cabinet.
1.11	A previous version of the draft prospectus was circulated to Chief Officers via email on 11 <sup>th</sup> August 2021 and the prospectus has been amended to reflect comments that were made.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	The Flintshire Housing Need Prospectus is a guidance document.  There are no revenue, capital or human resource implications.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>	
3.01	Key Risks are:  1. The requirement for LA's to develop a Housing Need Prospectus has been imposed by WG. If the LA does not submit this document, future affordable housing schemes that receive SHG support may not meet LA priorities or housing need.	
3.02	<b>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact</b>	
	Long-term	Positive - more affordable homes will be provided in the right location.
	Prevention	Preventing - preventing people becoming homeless by developing accommodation to meet Local Authority priorities.
	Integration	Positive – the delivery of a range of affordable homes will contribute to integration within communities
	Collaboration	Positive – the SHG programme is delivered in partnership with RSLs and WG.
	Involvement	Positive - the SHG programme involves a range of stakeholders to enable its delivery.
	<b>Well-being Goals Impact</b>	
	Prosperous Wales	Positive - ensuring the right homes are built and in the right places.
	Resilient Wales	Positive - new homes are built to a good quality and built to high environmental standards as required by WG as part of the SHG process.
	Healthier Wales	Positive - Ensuring homes meet the needs of all people in our society including those

		who are most vulnerable supporting their well-being.
	More equal Wales	Positive - Providing good quality and decent homes for vulnerable people including homeless accommodation, single household, specially adapted homes etc.
	Cohesive Wales	Positive - Contributing to attractive, viable, safe and well-connected communities through promoting good design and collaborative delivery.
	Vibrant Wales	Positive - Ensuring our communities are diverse by developing a range of property types and tenures based on housing need and LA priorities.
	Globally responsible Wales	Positive – The prospectus will inform newbuild developments that will contribute to improving the economic, social, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	The prospectus has been circulated within the Council as advised in 1.08 and 1.11.
4.02	The report was presented to the Community, Housing and Assets Overview and Scrutiny Committee, who were supportive.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1 – Proposed Flintshire Housing Need Prospectus Appendix 2 – Local Authority Prospectus – Welsh Government guidance

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	Integrated Impact Assessment.



<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Sarah Faire, Housing Strategy Manager  <b>Telephone:</b> 07788389661  <b>E-mail:</b> : <a href="mailto:sarah.faire@flintshire.gov.uk">sarah.faire@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>

<b>8.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
8.01	<p>Social Housing Grant – Welsh Government funding that may be available to housing associations and developing Local Authorities. It is to help fund new affordable housing e.g. for social rent. To qualify for grant homes must comply with <a href="#">Welsh Government Development Quality Requirements (WDQR)</a>.</p>

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## **Draft Flintshire County Council Prospectus**

**July 2021**

### **Summary of LA Priorities**

- General needs for social rent and intermediate affordable housing based on the local areas need as demonstrated via SARTH and Tai Teg
- 1 bedroom accommodation
- Specialist housing provision (wheelchair adapted/ larger properties/ special needs) to be included within all housing schemes where the development site is deemed as suitable and appropriate subject to feasibility and financial viability
- Extra Care scheme in Buckley
- Supported housing for specific client groups (e.g. learning/ physical disabilities/ complex needs/ mental health) and suitable model, progressed in partnership with Social Services and Housing Strategy
- 16-24yrs supported housing and hub
- Homeless temporary accommodation hub

### **Section 1 – Strategic Housing Priorities**

The [Flintshire Housing Strategy and Action Plan 2019-2024](#) sets out the Council's ambition to provide affordable housing across Flintshire. The Strategy identifies three strategic priorities:

Priority 1: Increase supply to provide the right type of homes in the right location.

The Housing Strategy has an accompanying action plan and provides the following outputs:

- To meet the annual shortfall of 238 affordable housing as identified in the Local Housing Market Assessment (LHMA) 2019 by delivering the following tenures:
  - (i) To increase the number of new social rent properties (RSL or Council) by 86 per annum
  - (ii) To increase the number of intermediate rent properties (NEW Homes or RSLs) by 57 per annum

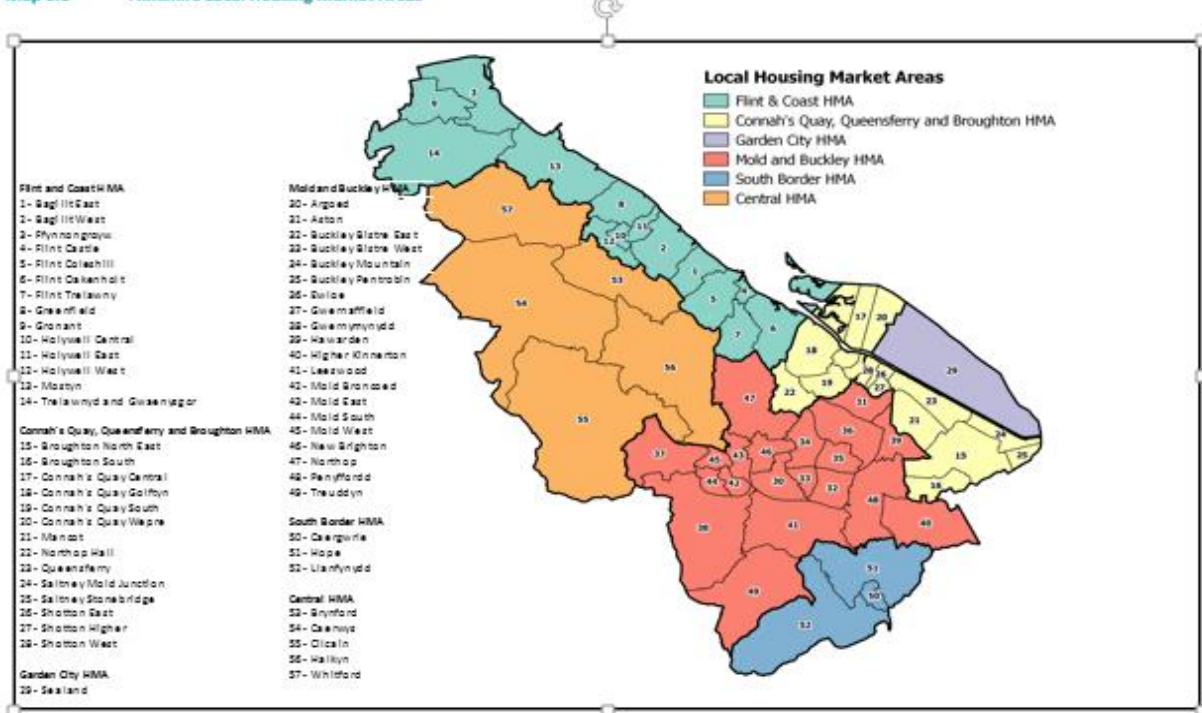
(iii) To increase the number of intermediate ownership properties (through s106 provision or RSLs) by 95 per annum.

- Deliver 5% (10) new build properties per annum to meet demand for specialist provision.
- Increase the percentage of one bedroom social rented properties by 20% (16) per year of all new build social rented properties.

## Section 2 – Housing Need, Demand and Priorities

The [Local Housing Market Assessment \(February 2020\)](#) defines six Housing Market Areas, shown in the map below and detailing Council Ward's.

Map 3.1 Flintshire Local Housing Market Areas



The LHMA identifies an annual shortfall of 238 affordable units. The assessment recommends a need for the following property types:

- 1/2 bedroom (45.6%)
- 3 bedroom (28.3%)
- 4+ bedroom (12%)
- Older persons' stock (14.1%)

The LHMA suggests the tenure split as:

- Social rented (30%),
- Intermediate rent (30%) – where rent levels are usually based on a Local Housing Allowance or 80% of the open market rents
- Affordable ownership (40%)

This tenure split is sought on private developments and secured as planning obligations. However, a different tenure mix will be developed on RSL or Local Authority led schemes where a higher number of social rented homes can be achieved. Instead, tenure mix will be determined on a site specific basis taking into account housing need, size of development, local area, and overall scheme viability.

It is anticipated the LHMA will be updated towards the end of 2022

### **Summary of social housing stock**

There are 9,919 social rent dwellings in Flintshire. The table below shows the property types for the social housing stock (figures includes FCC and RSL stock, 2021 data).

<b>Property Types</b>	<b>Stock numbers</b>	<b>Approx. Percentage</b>
<b>Studio</b>	23	0.2%
<b>1 bed flat</b>	640	6.4%
<b>2 bed flat</b>	538	5.4%
<b>3 bed flat</b>	21	0.2%
<b>1 bed bungalow</b>	332	3.3%
<b>2 bed bungalow</b>	159	1.6%
<b>3 bed bungalow</b>	12	0.1%
<b>4 bed bungalow</b>	2	0.02%
<b>1 bed house</b>	25	0.2%
<b>2 bed house</b>	1435	14.4%
<b>3 bed house</b>	4028	40.6%
<b>4 bed house</b>	183	1.8%
<b>5+ bed house</b>	12	0.1%
<b>Over 55/ sheltered studio</b>	90	0.9%
<b>Over 55/ sheltered 1 bed</b>	1422	14.3%
<b>Over 55/ sheltered 2 bed</b>	969	9.7%
<b>Over 55/ sheltered 3 bed</b>	28	0.2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9919</b>	

Three bedroom houses make up the highest proportion of housing stock at nearly 41% and 25% of all social housing is for the over 55's or sheltered housing.

There are very few larger homes with 4 or more bedrooms or larger bungalows with 3 or more bedrooms. The number of 1 bedroom flats is low in comparison to the number of people who need this size of home.

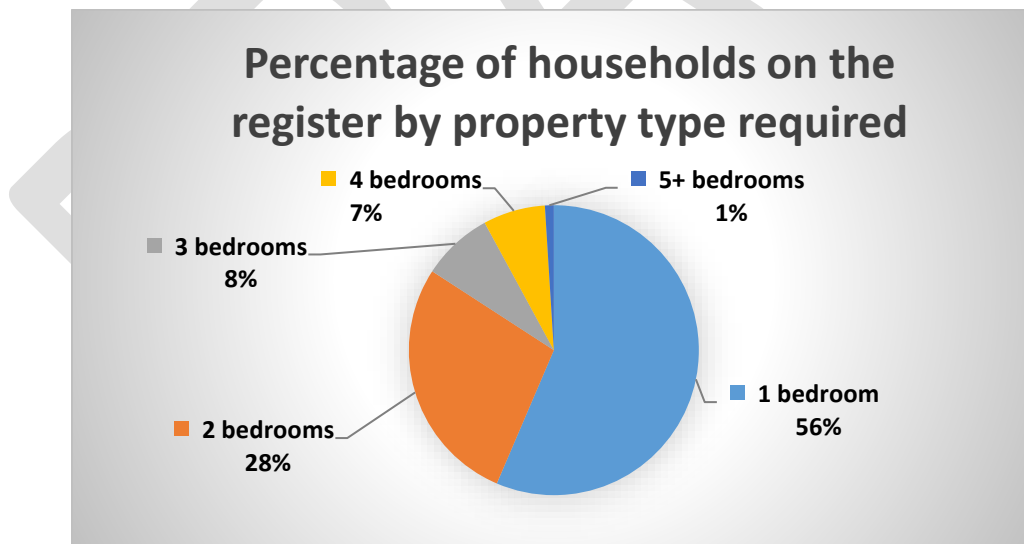
### **Housing Need and Demand**

At a more granular level, housing need is identified through the social housing register, known as SARTH (Single Access Route to Housing) and through the Tai Teg register which holds applicants who wish to apply for intermediate rent or purchase properties. There are 59 different housing areas that people may choose when they apply to the SARTH or the Tai Teg register.

### **SARTH**

#### **Property Types**

There are around 2088 households registered for social housing on the SARTH register (July 2021). As demonstrated in the table below, the majority of these households require 1 bedroom accommodation. The next highest demand property type is 2 bedroom houses and there is a growing need for larger property types 4+ bedrooms.



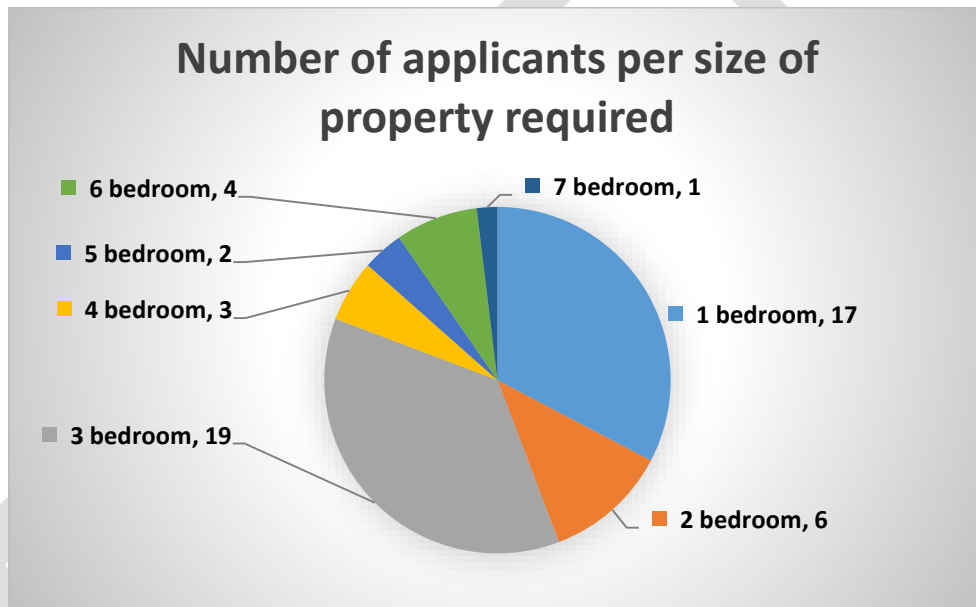
#### **Demand Areas**

The areas with the most significant demand are Mold and Mynydd Isa, Connah's Quay, Shotton, Flint, Buckley and Queensferry.

A breakdown of demand for each property type is available by SARTH housing area and can be provided on request.

### Specialist Housing Register

The Specialist Housing Register consists of households who have applied to SARTH and who cannot be easily rehoused within the existing housing stock. There are 52 people on the specialist housing register requiring a fully wheelchair adapted home or a larger property (5 or more bedrooms). The greatest need is for 1 and 3 bedroom properties and the preferred property type is a bungalow. There is demand in most areas of Flintshire.



### Homelessness

In 2020/21, 723 households presented to the Council as homeless and were owed duties under the Housing Wales Act. Single person households account for 60% of those who were eligible for homelessness assistance.

As at 31/03/21 there were 44 people in emergency temporary accommodation. This was made up of 37 single people, 1 couple, and 6 families.

During 2020/21 there were 323 presentations from young people (age 16-25 years) and as of July 2021, there were 21 young people occupying emergency/ temporary accommodation.

Due to the shortage of suitable homes, the move on from temporary accommodation is challenging and can take a long time. The Council aims to ensure that everyone that has been provided with temporary accommodation will be supported into long-term housing.

To assist with the Council's aspirations for rapid rehousing; greater provision of 1 bedroom homes (with tenancy support) is required to help people move to settled, secure and suitable homes as quickly as possible. The rapid rehousing transformation plan is due to be submitted to Welsh Government in March 2022.

### **Tai Teg Register**

On the affordable housing register there are 148 households registered for affordable rent and 146 households for affordable ownership (Tai Teg data (figures are for people who have been approved and ready to apply for properties), July 2021).

The highest demand areas for intermediate rent are Mold and Mynydd Isa, Buckley, Connah's Quay, Flint, Hawarden, Ewloe and Shotton.

The highest demand areas for intermediate purchase are Mold and Mynydd Isa, Buckley, Connah's Quay, Flint, Penyffordd (Chester), Hawarden and Ewloe.

For either tenure, most applicants on the Tai Teg register require a two or three bedroom house. However, there is some demand for two bedroom flats (for intermediate rent) and four bedroom houses (both intermediate rent and purchase).

A breakdown of demand for each property type/ tenure is available for individual housing areas and can be provided on request.

### **Extra Care Housing**

Across Wales, all local authorities are projected to see an increase in people aged 65 or over, with large increases projected for people aged 75 or over. In Flintshire, it is projected that the number of people aged 65+ will increase from 32,652 in 2018 to 42,297 by 2043 (Office for National Statistics 2018-based national population projections/ StatsWales). The number of people aged 65+ and living with dementia is projected to increase from 2,374 people in 2020 to 3,817 people in 2040 (Social Care Wales Population Projections Platform, [www.daffodilcymru.org.uk](http://www.daffodilcymru.org.uk)).

The development of an additional Extra Care scheme is a priority in the Flintshire Local Housing Strategy. Extra Care provides independent living with the benefit of including care and support for older people and those living with dementia, and can provide an alternative to residential care.



There are currently Extra Care schemes in Flint, Mold, Holywell and Shotton. The Flintshire model of Extra Care, provides high quality units, in-house home care provision and 24h hour support. The model has proven successful with no long term vacancies and high levels of resident satisfaction.

The existing Extra Care schemes are detailed in the table below. Each scheme holds a waiting list of people who have expressed an interest for accommodation and provides an indication of demand levels.

<b>Extra Care Scheme</b>	<b>No. of Properties at Scheme</b>	<b>Number of Applicants on Waiting List</b>
<b>Llys Raddington, Flint</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>39 (8 approved)</b>
<b>Llys Jasmine, Mold</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Plas Yr Ywen, Holywell</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Llys Eleanor, Shotton</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>46 (16 approved)</b>

Following the development of one further Extra Care scheme, there would be approx. 300 homes, and within this figure Flintshire Social Services estimate they would support approx. 550 people at any one time. This is believed to be a reasonable level of provision for the known and anticipated level of demand, and this is confirmed by applications.

When considering the geographical spread of existing Extra Care schemes that can support the local community, there is a gap in provision in the Buckley area.

### **Supported Housing – Learning Disabilities, Mental Health and Complex Needs**

There is a shortfall of suitable housing for people with learning disabilities, mental health and complex needs and some individuals may also require physical adaptations and some people are currently living in out of County placements. One of the key priority areas of the Regional Partnership Board is to enable people to return to their own communities or at least closer to home.

The Flintshire Social Services Accommodation Panel has identified the following housing need (July 2021):

- There are currently 47 people waiting for supported housing for learning disabilities.
- There are 69 adults with a learning disability who currently live with their older parents/family/ carer and may need accommodation in the future.
- There are 65 people accommodated in out of County placements, Flintshire County Council aims to reduce this number.

- It is expected there may be 121 young adults/ school leavers who may need supported accommodation in the near future (2020-2025).
- There are currently 15 people with mental health problems requiring accommodation and this is reflective of the ongoing need.

Due to diverse needs, the model of support and type of accommodation required will vary depending on an individual's assessed need and this may include the group living setting e.g. shared house, or self-contained accommodation within a wider housing development. However, it is preferred that schemes have good access to local services and facilities and the preferred locations for schemes are Mold, Flint and Connah's Quay.

### **Supported Housing – Young persons (16-24 years) and community hub**

The Flintshire Housing Strategy provides an aspiration to develop a youth homeless hub, providing emergency provision and consisting of 6-8 self-contained units with onsite staff support. It may provide a facility where advice, education, training facilities and other support services are available for the young people in residence as well as the wider community. It is important that this facility can integrate within the local area, be easily accessible and having shops and amenities close by. Preferred locations are Mold and the Deeside area.

### **Supported Housing –Temporary accommodation for single homeless people**

Flintshire County Council currently operates a Homeless Hub providing 23 units of self-contained portacabin style accommodation which was established as part of the emergency covid response. The Council recognises that this is not a suitable long term option.

As an alternative provision, the Council would like to develop approx. 18 self-contained units that can be used as temporary accommodation with on-site staff support. This may be provided as one larger facility or in smaller sized blocks of flats. The preferred location would be the Deeside area.

### **Section 3 – Programme Development Plan (PDP) Schemes**

Schemes should be progressed in collaboration with Housing Strategy and early discussions are welcomed so that schemes can be developed and informed by the housing need demonstrated via SARTH and the Tai Teg register. To achieve mixed communities and to take into account ongoing housing management practicalities it is

acknowledged that a flexible approach may be necessary for the given location and some property types/ tenures will not be suitable.

RSLs should submit schemes to Housing Strategy using the Welsh Government template form.

Schemes will be prioritised for inclusion within the main programme PDP that –

- Are in areas with higher housing need (social and intermediate)
- Provide 1-bed homes
- Provide specialist housing (wheelchair/ larger property)
- Provide supported housing for identified client group
- Schemes over 25 units should be mixed tenure
- Planning permission will be in place/ submitted and well advanced

Schemes will not be included in the PDP that have known planning objections which cannot be overcome or significant challenges which cannot be addressed. Pre-application planning advice should be sought for schemes that are intended for inclusion on the main programme PDP and where available copy of the positive pre-application response included with any submission.

#### **Section 4 – Monitoring and Governance**

A summary of the PDP for 2021/22 is provided at appendix 1 and details the property types and tenures it is expected to deliver.

The PDP will be monitored by Flintshire Housing Strategy Team in partnership with Welsh Government and RSL partners via:

- Flintshire Strategic Housing Board – quarterly meeting attended by Chief Executives/ Senior Officers from partner RSLs, Flintshire Housing Strategy Team and Homelessness Team.
- Flintshire Development Partners Meeting – attended by RSL Development Teams, Flintshire Housing Strategy, Welsh Government Funding Team. Meetings will monitor the PDP, encourage open communication, identify challenges and share information. The 2021/ 22 dates have been set to coincide ahead of PDP quarterly submissions. The meeting dates are:  
10/8/21 @ 10am  
2/11/21 @ 10am  
18/1/22 @ 10am

- Quarterly individual meetings between Flintshire County Council Housing Strategy and each RSL Development Team to discuss schemes in more detail and new opportunities. Additional meetings held as deemed necessary.

The prospectus will be refreshed on an annual basis.

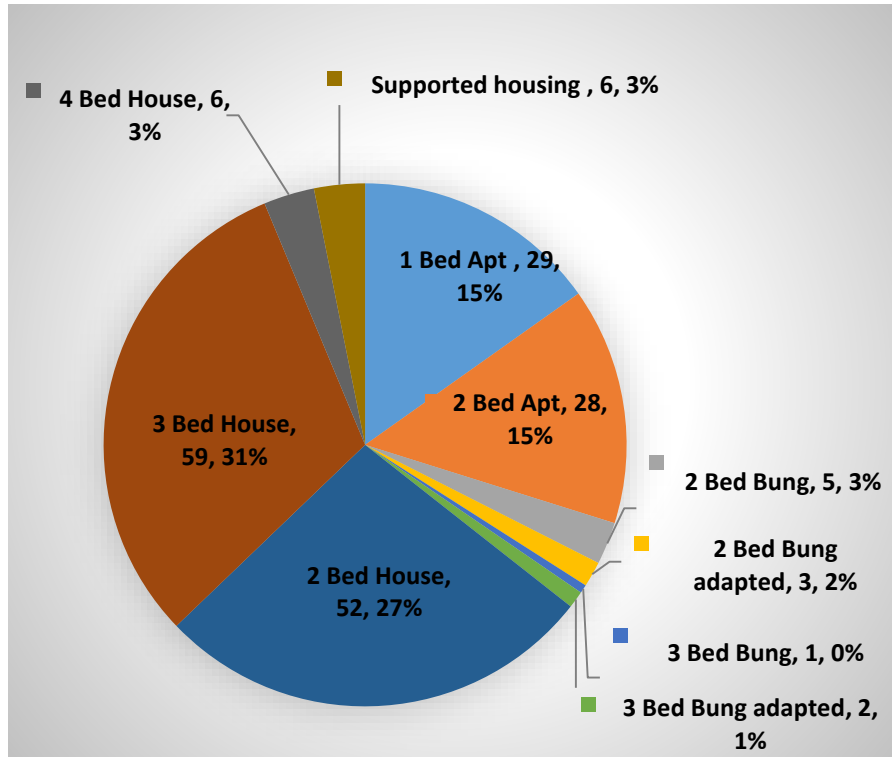
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Appendix 1

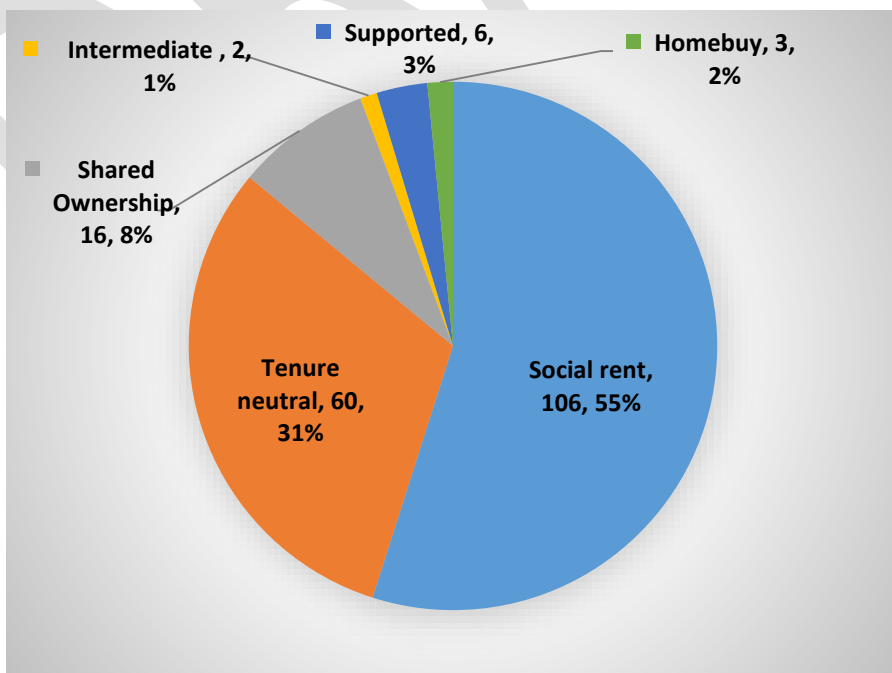
Summary of Programme Development Plan 2021/ 2022 (to be agreed by Welsh Government)

Main Programme 20/21											Tenure						
Provider	Site	1 Bed Apt	2 Bed Apt	2 Bed Bung adapted	3 Bed Bung	3 Bed Bung adapted	2 Bed House	3 Bed House	4 Bed House	Supported housing	Social rent	Tenure neutral	Rent to Own	Shared Ownership	Intermediate	Supported	Homebuy
Clwyd Alyn	66a Mold Road, Mynydd Isa	4				1	24	25			17	39					
	Princess Avenue, Buckley	8	2				2				12						
	Northern Gateway Strategic Site Deeside	6	18	2			20	24	6		42	21		16			
	Homebuy - Englefield Crescent, Mynydd Isa				1												1
First Choice	FCHA 2036 - 9 Taylors View, Shotton, CH5 1PN									3						3	
	FCHA 1127 - Complex Health & Learning Disability Scheme									3						3	
	FCHA 2120 – 3 Ash Grove, Bedol, Flintshire. CH5 3RX			1							1						
	FCHA 2109 - Property to be identified					1					1						
Adra	Pen Y Coed, Drury							8			8						
Wales and West	Land at Brunswick Road, Buckley	7	2								9						
Grwp Cynefin	Rhewl Fawr, Penyffordd Holywell						6	2			6				2		
	Homebuy x2 (property type tbc)																2
Flintshire	Ffordd Hiraethog, Mostyn	4	6								10						
<b>Total</b>		<b>29</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>

### Property Types Expected To Be Delivered From Main Programme Schemes 21/22



### Expected Tenure of Properties Delivered Through Main Programme Schemes 21/22



<b>PDP - Reserve/ Potential Schemes</b>			
<b>Provider</b>		<b>Site</b>	<b>Estimated No. of units</b>
<b>Reserve</b>	Flintshire / NEW Homes	Airfields, Northern Gateway (intermediate NEW Homes)	<b>10</b>
		Ffordd Llanarth, Connah's Quay (Social)	<b>10</b>
		Ffordd Llanarth, Connah's Quay (intermediate NEW Homes)	<b>9</b>
		Alyn Road, Buckley	<b>5</b>
		Canton Depot, Bagillt	<b>51</b>
	Clwyd Alyn	Extra Care Buckley	<b>65</b>
		LD bungalows Buckley (extra care site)	<b>12</b>
		Well Street, Buckley	<b>56</b>
	Adra	Northop Road, Flint - Phase 1	<b>36</b>
	<b>Potential</b>	Wales and West	Ewloe Social Club, Old Mold Road, Ewloe, CH5 3AU
Land at Vounog Hill, Penyffordd			<b>20</b>
First Choice		FCHA 2114 Flintshire Learning Disability scheme	<b>8</b>
Cartrefi Conwy		Mill Lane, Buckley	<b>12</b>
		Woodfield Avenue, Flint	<b>22</b>
		Packet House, Mostyn Road, Greenfield	<b>12</b>
North Wales Housing Association		Innisfree, Nant Mawr Road, Buckley	<b>8</b>
Flintshire		Wirral View, Hawarden	<b>4</b>
<b>Total</b>			<b>367</b>

Schemes in the Reserve/ Potential list will be in the early stages of development and may be prior to planning application submissions. Should schemes receive negative pre-planning application advice or refused planning they will be withdrawn from the PDP list.

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Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

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## ***Local Authority Prospectus***

# **Welsh Government Guidance**

***Issued: May 2021***

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# Local Authority Prospectus

## *Guidance from Welsh Government*

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### **Background**

There will be challenging targets in the next few years for the delivery of affordable housing. We recognise that we need to develop tools to make the process as effective as possible and that starts with making sure we have identified what type of housing is needed and where.

As part of the new grant framework, Local authorities (LAs) will be required to identify their priorities for Social Housing Grant. The Prospectus will be the first step in presenting a summary of strategic housing priorities clearly and consistently across all local authorities in Wales, while accepting that no one authority is the same and each will have different requirements.

### **Purpose of the Prospectus**

- Welsh Government are asking for a brief document which provides a clear and concise summary of the housing need and demand in your area and which succinctly identifies your housing priorities.
- Your prospectus should explain the type of provision that you plan to deliver with Welsh Government Social Housing Grant in order to meet your housing priorities.
- Your prospectus will be published by Welsh Government within the new Social Housing Grant Framework guidance.

### **Who will use it and why?**

- **RSLs and LAs** – it will provide an accessible and transparent summary of housing need and strategic priorities to enable the right type of affordable housing development to be delivered in the right places.
- **Welsh Government** – it will provide evidence to allow final decisions to be made about schemes which will be included in your programme (both Main and Reserve programmes)

### **What are Welsh Government looking for in the Prospectus?**

- The Prospectus should provide the information that your partners need to bring forward affordable housing schemes which meet the local needs and priorities of the authority.
- The prospectus should be clear, concise and no more than 4-6 pages in a word or pdf document.
- It should be easy to read, and easily understandable.
- You should discuss your Prospectus with your delivery partners.
- As a minimum, the Prospectus should be signed off by the Head of Housing
- Please use the Prospectus template on page 4.

### **Transitional Arrangements**

- The Review of the Quarter 1 PDP (2021-22) will primarily focus on the Main Programme for this financial year.
- The New Grant Framework Guidance will be issued in September and will detail how the Social Housing Grant Programme will operate from 2022-23 onwards.
- As part of the new Grant Framework, Welsh Government will use the Quarter 3 PDP (due on November 15) to approve and sign off the programme for 2022-23 onwards.
- In approving the PDP, Welsh Government will use your Prospectus to ensure that schemes are meeting your identified need and priorities.

### **Submission Details**

Please submit your prospectus to the Social Housing Grant Programme mailbox – [socialhousinggrantprogramme@gov.wales](mailto:socialhousinggrantprogramme@gov.wales) by 6<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

### **WG contact details**

If you have any queries about the guidance or your Prospectus, please contact Helga Warren using the Social Housing Grant Programme Mailbox shown above.

# ***Prospectus Template***

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## **Section 1 – Strategic Housing Priorities**

This section should state your key strategic housing priorities for delivering social/affordable housing in your area and should focus on no more than 4 or 5 key bullet points.

## **Section 2 – Housing Need, Demand and Priorities**

- This section should provide:
  - a brief description of your area by local housing market area, community council or ward (including maps or tables if helpful)
  - a summary of the current social housing stock in your area
  - a description of the housing need and demand in your area
  - an assessment of the gap in provision of affordable housing by location, size of property, tenure and specific need (i.e. who the housing is intended for and number of homes required).
  
- The prospectus should clearly outline the types of provision required from the list below by property size and geographical area and also give an indication of the relative priorities.
  - General needs
  - Older persons
  - Extracare
  - Disabled
  - Homelessness Provision (Temporary accommodation)
  - Supported Housing/Specialist Provision
    - Learning Disabilities
    - Mental Health Difficulties
    - Domestic Violence
    - Ex-offenders
    - Drug & Substance Misuse
    - Young Vulnerable
  - Empty Properties
  - Existing Dwellings
  - Rural Housing
  - Homebuy
  - Mortgage Rescue
  - Regeneration of Town Centres
  - Other (e.g. cultural requirements)

## **Section 3 - Programme Development Plan Schemes**

- The purpose of this section is for you to provide information on how schemes are prioritised in your PDP for approval and sign off by Welsh Government.
- This section should explain how schemes obtain LA support to get into the PDP and how all partners are expected to work together.

- This section should also explain how you will ensure any adhoc requests for specific/specialist accommodation will be considered in your programme.
- It is essential the above processes are discussed with both RSL partners and authorities' internal departments and clearly documented so that the process is fully open and transparent.

#### **Section 4 – Monitoring and Governance**

The purpose of this section is to confirm how your Social Housing Programme will be monitored in terms of meetings and information requirements. This will include the timing of:

- Individual RSL/stock retaining LA meetings
- Joint RSL/LA/WG PDP meetings
- Submission of PDP information
- Communication and information sharing

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## CABINET

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	Disabled Facilities Grant Policy
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Housing
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Executive
<b>Type of Report</b>	Strategic

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 places a mandatory duty on Local Authorities to provide disabled facilities grants. The grant is available for adapting or providing facilities for a disabled persons in a dwelling.

As part of the Internal Audit review of the Disabled Facilities Grant service in June 2018, it was identified that the current policy required a review in order to make the process and detail clearer and easier to understand.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Cabinet support the report and the revised Disabled Facility Grant Policy.
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## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	<b>EXPLAINING THE DISABLED FACILITIES GRANT POLICY</b>
1.01	<p>A Disabled Facility Grant (DFG) is a mandatory grant to help individuals living with a disability with financial support towards the cost of adapting their homes to enable them to continue living at their home with the maximum amount of independence.</p> <p>The administration of DFG is carried out within the Housing and Asset portfolio following a referral from an Occupational Therapist once the appropriate considerations have determined that the best option for the individual is to have an adaptation to the property they live in.</p>
1.02	<p>A DFG is available to owner occupiers, private tenants, Local Authority tenants and for tenants in social housing with registered social landlords. In these cases the tenant is required to request any adaptations directly with their landlord.</p>
1.03	<p>The maximum amount of grant available in Wales is £36,000 per application within a 5 year period. However, applications can be made within this period if the customers condition has changed, this case would then be reviewed with the Occupational Therapist upon application.</p>
1.04	<p>Where the application is for a child, or the applicant is in receipt of certain qualifying benefits, there is no means test and the cost of the adaptation up to the maximum grant will generally be awarded.</p>
1.05	<p>Where the application is for an adaptation under £10,000, these medium sized cases will no longer require a means test in line with the revised Welsh Government Housing Adaptations Service Standards.</p>
1.06	<p>For other applications the amount of the grant will vary from zero to the maximum grant depending on the cost of the approved works and the financial circumstances of the applicant.</p> <p>A means test will be carried out to establish, based on the financial circumstances of the applicant, whether the applicant will be required to make a financial contribution to the adaptation costs.</p>
1.07	<p>The Welsh Government Housing Adaptations Service Standards (revised March 2021) provides all Local Authorities with the guidance on the level of service expected including adaptation categories, timeframes and performance measures.</p>
1.08	<p>The policy was last reviewed and approved in October 2019; however it has since been identified that current practices in operation within the service are not aligned to the current policy and adherence would further delay the delivery of the required adaptations to our customers.</p>
1.09	<p>Work has been ongoing since then to identify and implement process improvements to further expedite delivery and recommendations for a</p>



	<p>policy exemption were put forward and approved in September 2020. The approved changes have been incorporated into the revised policy and they include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Utilisation of Local Land Charges as opposed to Legal Charges to be utilised for all Discretionary Top up Grants.</li> <li>• Discretionary Top up Grant amount increased from £20,000 to £26,000.</li> <li>• Remove the need, for the equity to be available as part of the criteria for the Discretionary Top up Grant Loan.</li> </ul>
1.10	A significant amount of work has also been carried out to ensure that our customers, and the professionals who support them, have all the relevant information at the earliest opportunity. This work is now reflected in the revised policy and related appendices that are appended to this report.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	None as a direct result of this report.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>										
3.01	<p>Under the five delivery principles of the Well-being of Future Generations Act the revised Disabled Facilities Grant Policy can have the following impacts:</p> <p><b>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact</b></p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Long-term</td> <td>Positive impact on longer term solutions to enable people living with disabilities to remain in their own home for longer.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prevention</td> <td>Positive - Enabling the grant will have a significant positive preventative impacts for people.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Integration</td> <td>Positive- The Grants policy and the wider best practice group that reviews and aligns best practice is a positive example of integration across sectors.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Collaboration</td> <td>Positive - As above.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Involvement</td> <td>Positive - The policy has been through a consultation process and user/customer satisfaction will be built into processes to ensure user involvement in shaping improvements to service.</td> </tr> </table>	Long-term	Positive impact on longer term solutions to enable people living with disabilities to remain in their own home for longer.	Prevention	Positive - Enabling the grant will have a significant positive preventative impacts for people.	Integration	Positive- The Grants policy and the wider best practice group that reviews and aligns best practice is a positive example of integration across sectors.	Collaboration	Positive - As above.	Involvement	Positive - The policy has been through a consultation process and user/customer satisfaction will be built into processes to ensure user involvement in shaping improvements to service.
Long-term	Positive impact on longer term solutions to enable people living with disabilities to remain in their own home for longer.										
Prevention	Positive - Enabling the grant will have a significant positive preventative impacts for people.										
Integration	Positive- The Grants policy and the wider best practice group that reviews and aligns best practice is a positive example of integration across sectors.										
Collaboration	Positive - As above.										
Involvement	Positive - The policy has been through a consultation process and user/customer satisfaction will be built into processes to ensure user involvement in shaping improvements to service.										

<b>Well-being Goals Impact</b>	
Prosperous Wales	No Impact
Resilient Wales	No Impact
Healthier Wales	Positive - The Disabled Facilities Grants are there to support people living with disabilities to be in a position to live safely and more comfortably in their own home for longer. The revised policy sets out the process for disabled facilities grant in a clear and easy to understand way.
More equal Wales	Positive - By supporting people living with disabilities to live more comfortably and safely in their own homes will also contribute to enabling them to fulfil their potential no matter what their background.
Cohesive Wales	No Impact
Vibrant Wales	No Impact
Globally responsible Wales	No Impact
<p>The revision of the Disabled Facilities Grants Policy, when implemented will contribute to the Council's Well-being objective of 'Caring Council' through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of appropriate interventions (i.e. support or adaptations) to assist people to remain in their homes wherever possible</li> </ul>	

<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	Review and initial consultation with an Officer Working Group undertaken to review and revise the previous policy.
4.02	The Policy was presented to the Community and Housing Assets Overview and Scrutiny Committee, who were supportive of the revised policy.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1 – Draft Policy
5.02	Appendix 2 – Revised Housing Standards

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	Integrated Impact Assessment

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Jen Griffiths, Benefits Manager  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702929  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:jen.griffiths@flintshire.gov.uk">jen.griffiths@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>

<b>8.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
8.01	<p><b>Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG)</b> – A statutory grant of up to £36,000 to help individuals living with a disability with the cost of adapting their homes to enable them to continue living at their residence with the maximum amount of independence.</p>

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# **PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING**

# **DISABLED FACILITIES GRANTS POLICY**

**2021 – 2023**

Version Number	Author	Purpose/Change	Reviewer	Date
1.0	Robin Davies	Revised Mandatory Grant conditions. Implemented Discretionary Grant. Revised Discretionary Grant Conditions and Amount.	Neal Cockerton	22/09/21

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### **1. Introduction**

Local authorities have a statutory duty to provide grants to assist with the delivery of adaptations

for a disabled person in a dwelling. An applicant is entitled to apply for a Disabled Facilities Grant if they are a homeowner, a tenant renting from a private landlord, a resident of a park home or living on a houseboat. Discretionary assistance for adaptations in addition to, or instead of, a mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant may be awarded in exceptional circumstances.

For the purpose of the grant, a person is considered disabled if one of the following applies:

- Sight, hearing, or speech is substantially impaired;
- Having a mental disorder, or impairment of any kind;
- Are substantially physically disabled by illness, injury, impairment present since birth, or otherwise;
- Are registered (or could be registered) disabled with the Social Services Department.

#### Resource implications

Generally, the Council will resource the Policy through a combination of the following: -

- Capital allocations received from the Council's Capital Programme.
- Specific complementary funding made available by Welsh Government from the Enable support for independent living fund.
- Support to deliver smaller adaptations through the Care and Repair charity, utilising their resources to provide a whole house approach to care and support.

#### Review and revision

This Policy shall remain in force until it is required to be reviewed and revised accordingly in-line with any Welsh Government review of Housing Adaptations Service Standards..

The Council will advise members of the public of any amendments to this Policy, for example due to minor legislative changes, via press releases and our website as appropriate.

#### Equality and diversity

This Policy produces significant positive outcomes for vulnerable groups and those with disabilities. It reduces inequalities experienced by those groups in respect of health, housing and income.

We aim to continuously improve the quality of our services for our customers and are committed to giving an equal service to all members of the public regardless of age, disability, race, religion or belief, gender or sexual orientation.

#### Appeals and applications for assistance falling outside the Policy

Although this Policy will be the primary consideration in determining applications for assistance, all such applications shall be dealt with on an individual basis, based on the merits of each particular case. The Council will not refuse to consider an application that falls outside this Policy.

It is recognised that there will always be exceptional circumstances. Exceptional cases will be considered for Welsh government provided Enable funds by the Disabled Facilities Manager, and the Service Manager in conjunction with representatives from Social Services and the Lead Occupational Therapist.



## **2. Alternative Assistance**

The Council works in partnership with Care and Repair North East Wales, which is a Community Benefit Society with charitable status that provides advice and support on adaptations and delivers minor adaptations to properties.

Care and Repair can carry out a provisional test of resources if requested, to see if an applicant is eligible for a grant or provide alternative solutions if the applicant is not eligible. They can assist with completing application forms and obtaining evidence required for the means test.

Care and Repair have a wholly owned subsidiary company called For You Property Services Ltd which provides property repairs, maintenance and adaptations service if required.

Care and Repair can be contacted:

- Via telephone on 01352 758700 or 03001113333 or online on [www.careandrepairnew.co.uk](http://www.careandrepairnew.co.uk)
- Via email at [enquiries@careandrepairnew.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@careandrepairnew.co.uk) or by post at Care and Repair North East Wales, Place for You, Rowley's Drive, Shotton, Flintshire, CH5 1PY

It has been agreed until further notice that when a customer requires modular ramping, this will be processed by Care & Repair to utilise their recycled stock, this is more environmentally friendly and cost effective.

## **3. General conditions**

All forms of assistance referred to in this Policy document are subject to a number of general conditions.

We provide every customer with confirmation of our terms and conditions, the following list is not exhaustive;

- All applications for assistance must be made on the Council's official adaptation request forms.
- All applicants will be required to have their property registered with HM Land Registry.
- The payment or part payment of grants is conditional on the eligible works being carried out to the satisfaction of the Council and the receipt of an acceptable invoice for the works and any ancillary or professional fees.
- One application can only be made within a 5 year period, unless the customer's condition has changed, this would be reviewed with the OT upon application.

Unless stated otherwise, any additional funding utilising a grant will be secured as a local land charge against the property where breach of a condition would require repayment of all or part of the financial assistance. This charge will not be removed until either the conditions expire or until the financial assistance is repaid.

No grant assistance will be awarded for works that have commenced prior to the date of formal notification of grant approval.

- Where it is ascertained that an application for assistance has been determined on the basis of inaccurate or incomplete information, the Council can withhold or demand repayment of monies from the applicant.

- If an applicant knowingly makes a false statement, in respect of any information they provide as part of an application for financial assistance or payment, including details of income and savings, the Council may refer the matter to the Police with a view to prosecution.
- In exceptional cases, where the property must be vacated in order for works to be carried out, the Council may be able to assist in finding temporary accommodation. Applicants must be unable to arrange temporary accommodation privately e.g. with family or friends and will be liable for the cost of any rent, removals or furniture storage costs incurred. However, if the applicant would suffer undue hardship, the Council may be able to provide discretionary assistance.

#### Exceptions to repayment conditions

It is recognised that there will be certain situations where it would be inappropriate or unreasonable for a disabled person to be required to repay the grant on disposal of their dwelling. A written request for a repayment waiver must be made to the Council, explaining the circumstances of the case and the reasons why repayment of grant would cause undue hardship. The particulars of each individual case will be considered on their own merits and the applicant will be notified of the outcome in writing.

Where a property is vested in another individual's name under a will or intestacy, the death of the owner will trigger repayment, unless the property was the inheriting person's main residence at the time of application. In this case the condition to repay the loan or grant assistance and occupy the property will transfer to the new owner.

#### Revisions after grant approval

Where, owing to circumstances beyond the control of the applicant, the eligible works cannot be completed for the estimated costs submitted with the application, the Council will continue with the work without considering any additional charge to the client.

#### Adaptations falling outside grant assistance

In the event the cost of the adaptation is in excess of the total assistance available by the Council, the applicant may choose to relocate or be placed on the Council's Specialist Housing Register.

## **4. Legislation**

The Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 is the legislative framework governing the delivery of Disabled Facilities Grants. Local authorities have a statutory duty to provide grant aid to assist with the delivery of adaptations for a disabled person in a dwelling. In July 2002 the Government made significant changes to housing grant legislation, introducing Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance) (England & Wales) Order 2002. This order allows local authorities to formulate their own flexible financial assistance policies to their funding to address specific local needs and priorities.

In April 2021 Government amended the Housing Service Standards to remove mandatory means testing for all medium adaptations and transferring powers to local authorities under the Regulatory Reform Order to be able to create their own discretionary policies.

Consequently, it is incumbent upon Local Authorities to ensure that their financial assistance policy is updated to reflect the terms of this scheme and any other assistance offered.

In addition, the Local Government Act 2000 created a discretionary power referred to as 'the well-being power' which enables Local Authorities to do anything that they consider is likely to promote or improve the economic, social or environmental well-being of the area and/or persons in it, provided that they are not restricted from doing so by other legislation.

Section 25, Local Government Act 1988, states that consent from the Secretary of State or Minister is required for provision of financial assistance, unless the assistance or benefit is provided in exercise of any power conferred by Article 3 of the Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance) (England & Wales) Order 2002.

Consequently, the broad nature of the Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance) (England & Wales) Order 2002 and the general 'well-being' powers contained in the Local Government Act 2000, means that Local Authorities will be able to provide financial assistance through the provision of discretionary grants and loan schemes to the full range of applicants and can attach such conditions or terms that they consider appropriate in the circumstances.

## **5. Purpose of Grant**

Prior to a Disabled Facilities Grant being approved, Flintshire Council needs to be satisfied that the works are necessary and appropriate to meet the long term needs of the disabled customer, and that it is reasonable and practicable to carry out the works having regard to the age and/or the condition of the building. To establish this, the Disabled Facilities Team will assess the application in consultation with the Occupational Therapy Team.

The property is inspected to assess the proposed works are technically feasible, that there are no other reasonable alternative solutions, and there are no health and safety issues.

Based on the above inspection, a decision will be made in consultation with the applicant as to whether to proceed to a Disabled Facilities Grant, a Disability Relocation Grant, or to explore alternative housing solutions.

In order for a Disabled Facilities Grant to be made available, one or more of the following reasons must be established:

- Help a disabled occupant with access to and from their premises (such as widening doors or installing ramps);
- To allow access to internal rooms, specifically a main living room, bathroom, bedroom or kitchen facilities (such as by providing a stair lift);
- To have easier access and movement around the home to enable the disabled person to care for someone dependent on them, who also lives there (such as a child, husband, wife or partner);
- To make the building safe for the disabled occupant or other people living with the disabled occupant;
- To improve any heating system in a dwelling to meet the specific specialist needs of the disabled occupant. In the event a heating system is not in place or is not suitable, to provide a suitable heating system;
- To allow access to and from a garden by a disabled occupant or making a garden safe for a disabled occupant.

The relevant works are limited to, or include, such works as is believed to be necessary to achieve the purposes stated above.

## **6. Grants Application Process**

To make an enquiry or an application for a Disabled Facilities Grant, an individual should contact the Single Point of Access team, the Social Services Duty Team, Social Services on 01352 702642. The Social Services Duty Team will be able to advise whether an applicant meets the criteria for assessment by an Occupational Therapist.

In the event an assessment has been completed and it is deemed an adaptation is required, the Occupational Therapist will complete an Adaptation Recommendation Form and will advise the client of the process which will be followed. Disabled Facilities Grants are subject to a 'means test' unless the application relates to a child. Applicants will be asked to provide financial information to help calculate whether they are eligible for a grant and whether they are required to make a contribution towards the cost of the work.

A Building Surveyor and the Occupational Therapist will discuss the recommendations to ensure the work can be reasonably and practicably carried out. There may be a requirement to inspect the property to facilitate this assessment.

Information leaflets are provided to client which provide a summary of the types of assistance available, including details on eligibility criteria, levels of assistance and any conditions that apply. This information is also available on the Council's website [www.flintshire.gov.uk](http://www.flintshire.gov.uk) under the Housing Grants section.

### Utilisation of Own Contractors

On occasion, applicants may request to utilise their own contractors. In order for this to be facilitated, the contractors will need to join the Council's Tendering System. This will ensure the contractors are bona-fide, have all the appropriate insurances, and are financially stable. This will also facilitate the payment for the works completed directly to the contractors.

### Payments

Grant payments will be made directly to the main contractors, subject to the work being completed to a satisfactory standard and supported by an accurate invoice. Interim payments can be made on the larger works, subject to conditions.

Upon notification of completion of the works, a full inspection will be undertaken. The final payment will only be released when all works have been completed satisfactorily and all relevant invoices, guarantees and certificates have been received and conditions met. In cases of dispute between the applicant and the contractor over the satisfactory completion of grant works, the Council reserve the right to adjudicate and release payment to the contractor if deemed appropriate, however, the contractual arrangement for quality and warranties is between the client and the contractor.

## **7. Financial Assistance**

In terms of assessing potential contributory funding to the property adaptations, eligible applicants may be means tested, unless they are in receipt of one or more of the following passported benefits: -

- Income Support
- Housing Benefit

- Council Tax Benefit (excluding single persons discount)
- Income Based Job Seekers Allowance
- Working Families Tax Credit
- Child Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit
- Pension Credit Guarantee
- Universal Credit
- Income Related Employment Support Allowance

In some circumstances the Council facilitates the lending of money to home owners in exchange for a share in the value of the property. There are no regular repayments or interest added to the grant. The Council recovers its money either when the property is next sold or transferred to a new owner within a set period of time. This is completed through the placement of local land charges. The charges are removed after the set period of time has elapsed and the property has not been sold or transferred. No monies are due to be repaid at this time.

### **8. Disabled Facilities Assistance**

The council has a duty to consider all applications for Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) which are administered under Housing Grants, Construction and Regeneration Act 1996 (HGC&RA). The council also provides discretionary assistance in the form of a fast track grant for smaller adaptations. Other products for disabled facilities assistance are also provided on a discretionary basis. All applications for assistance will be subject to an assessment by the Social Services Occupational Therapy Team.

This policy provides criteria to ensure grants are awarded fairly and consistently. The council's intention is to meet performance targets and service standards as set out by Welsh Government for the delivery of disabled facilities assistance.

<b>MINOR ADAPTATIONS</b>	
<b>Purpose</b>	Minor adaptations are classed as those which cost less than £1,000 and these are dealt with directly by Care and Repair North East Wales in-line with the Service Level Agreement.
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Referral to Care & Repair by Occupational Therapist confirming that works are necessary and appropriate.
<b>Conditions</b>	None
<b>Amount</b>	Less than £1000

<b>Purpose</b>	DFG's are available to adapt a property to suit the particular needs of a disabled person who resides at the property.
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Referral by Occupational Therapist confirming that works are necessary and appropriate. Adaptation is the most satisfactory course of action subject to a reasonable and practicable assessment.</p> <p>Available to homeowners, tenants renting from a private landlord, a resident of a park home or living on a houseboat.</p> <p>Amount of Disabled Facilities Grant depends on the income and savings of the disabled person and his or her partner, even if the disabled person is not the applicant for the grant (such as when an application is made by a landlord with a disabled tenant).</p> <p>If the income and savings are below the test limits (£6,000), a contribution will not be required.</p> <p>If the income and savings are greater than the test limits, a contribution will be required towards the cost of the works.</p> <p>There is no requirement for a means test for all Children's Disabled Facilities Grants (under the age of 19).</p> <p>There is no requirement for a means test if an applicant is in receipt of any of the following passported benefits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Income Support</li> <li>• Income-based Employment and Support</li> <li>• Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance</li> <li>• Guarantee Pension Credit</li> <li>• Housing Benefit</li> <li>• Council Tax Reduction</li> <li>• Universal Credit</li> <li>• Working Tax Credit and/or Child Tax Credit provided that the annual income for the purposes of assessing entitlement to the tax credit is less than £15,050</li> </ul>
<b>Conditions</b>	<p>Any grant over £10,000 requires a Means Test. (except children/passported benefits)</p> <p>Any grant over £20,000 requires a Local Land Charge.</p> <p>As set out in the Housing, Grants Construction and Regeneration Act 1996, the grant will only be paid when the Council are satisfied that the work is being completed to their satisfaction and in accordance with the grant approval.</p> <p>Repayment of any grant above £20,000 requires a maximum repayment amount of £10,000 in accordance with HGC&amp;RA1996 General Consent Conditions 2008, if the applicant chooses to move within 10 years of the completion date. Page 170</p>

	<p>land charge against the property.</p> <p>Where a property is vested in another individual's name under a will or intestacy, the death of the owner will trigger repayment, unless the property was the inheriting person's main residence at the time of application. In this case the condition to repay the loan or grant assistance and occupy the property will transfer to the new owner.</p> <p>Adaptations made at a property for a private tenant will require the approval of the private landlord prior to a decision on the adaptation being made.</p>
<b>Amount</b>	<p>Maximum of £36,000.</p> <p>If the Council is managing the adaptation construction works on behalf of the client then any unforeseen costs that cause the cost of the work to exceed the grant maximum of £36,000 will be met by the Council. This will not apply where the client is managing the works themselves or where the extra costs arise from additional items requested by the client which did not form part of the original grant agreement with the Council.</p>

<b>DISCRETIONARY ADAPTATIONS</b>	
<b>Purpose</b>	<p>The eligible works of a Mandatory Disabled Facilities Grant are extensive, however it is considered prudent that monies be set aside to enable, enhance, or provide more cost effective solutions, where it is reasonable and practicable to do so, to a particular disabled persons assessed needs. For example; The provision of smaller scale adaptations with a less bureaucratic process. The Welsh Government review of adaptations supports this and the Regulatory Reform (Housing Assistance) (England &amp; Wales) Order 2002 allows Local Authorities to implement it.</p>
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Eligibility for a Discretionary Adaptation Grant is the same as eligibility for a DFG, without the requirement for a means test.</p>
<b>Conditions</b>	<p>None</p>
<b>Amount</b>	<p>Maximum of £10,000.</p> <p>Where appropriate, adaptations above £10,000 may be considered as eligible for a discretionary grant.</p>

<b>DISCRETIONARY TOP UP &lt; £3K</b>	
<b>Purpose</b>	<p>If the work is likely to be in excess of the current statutory limit (currently</p>



	£36,000) then a discretionary top up maybe offered, or there may be a need for the applicant to provide contributory funding.
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Applicant eligible for a Disabled Facilities Grant which requires a top up.  Applicant has an owner's interest in the property.
<b>Conditions</b>	The grant will only be paid when the Council are satisfied that the work is being completed to their satisfaction and in accordance with the grant approval.  A local land charge will be placed against the property for a period of 10 years.
<b>Amount</b>	Maximum of £3,000.

<b>DISCRETIONARY TOP UP GRANT &gt; £3K</b>	
<b>Purpose</b>	This grant will be considered in instances where the required expenditure to provide the disabled adaptation is above the statutory limit (currently £36,000) and above £39,000.  It will only be provided to owner occupiers and the grant amount will be registered as a local land charge against the property.
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	Applicant eligible for a Disabled Facilities Grant which requires a top up. Applicant has an owner's interest.  An Assessment Panel comprising of senior officers from Social Services and Housing will determine whether a Top-Up can be issued.  Subject to means testing.  The grant is discretionary and the availability is dependent upon the detail of each individual case.
<b>Conditions</b>	Property must be occupied by the applicant or a family member (in the case of a child) as their main residence until the grant is released.  If the property has a mortgage, it is the responsibility of the owner to advise the mortgage lender a charge will be placed against the property.  Repayment of the grant is required if the applicant chooses to move within 10 years of the completion date.  Where a property is vested in another individual's name under a will or intestacy, the death of the owner will trigger repayment, unless the property



	<p>was the inheriting person's main residence at the time of application. In this case the condition to repay the grant assistance and occupy the property will transfer to the new owner.</p> <p>Voluntary early repayment may be made at any time and the charges will be removed.</p>
<b>Amount</b>	Maximum of £26,000.

<b>RELOCATION GRANT</b>	
<b>Purpose</b>	A Relocation Grant or the exploration of alternative housing solutions will be considered in the event the adaptation is not feasible, reasonable, practical, or cost effective.
<b>Eligibility Criteria</b>	<p>Current property is unsuitable for adaptation, does not meet the long term needs of the applicant or it is more cost effective to move rather than adapt. The Council must be satisfied that the new property can be more easily and cost effectively adapted to meet the long term needs of the disabled occupant.</p> <p>Referral by Occupational Therapist confirming the adaptation works are necessary and appropriate.</p> <p>Applicant has an owner's interest in the property. Subject to means testing.</p>
<b>Conditions</b>	<p>Repayment of grant will be required if applicant chooses to move within 10 years of the completion date, up to a maximum repayment of £10,000. Subject to means testing.</p> <p>The grant is discretionary and the availability is dependent upon the detail of each individual case.</p>
<b>Amount</b>	<p>Maximum of £20,000 available to help bridge the affordability gap between the value of the applicants existing home and the purchase price of the new property.</p> <p>Maximum of £2,000 available for removal expenses.</p>

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Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Welsh Government

# Housing Adaptations Service Standards

Date of issue: [Revised March 2021](#) ~~April 2019~~

Mae'r ddogfen yma hefyd ar gael yn Gymraeg.  
This document is also available in Welsh.

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## 1. Aim

The Welsh Government recognises the essential role housing adaptations play in supporting disabled and older people to live safely and independently, improving the health and wellbeing of the individual, their families, carers and reducing pressures on frontline services such as health and social care.

The preventative work which housing adaptations offer is very much in line with the principles of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act, Social Services and Wellbeing Act and the approach set out in Prosperity for All and Healthier Wales. Housing Adaptations should also be considered within the wider context of Equalities Act 2010 and the UN Principles for Older Persons and service providers should pay due regard to them in providing support to service users.

The provision of support for housing adaptations in Wales is complex and is a reflection of the multiple partners involved in the care and support arrangements of disabled and older people.

The aim of the standards is to set out the level of service expected for the delivery and installation of a **housing adaptation** that service users, regardless of their geographic location and tenure, can expect. The service Standards should ensure service providers deliver **housing adaptations** in a more consistent manner and inform service users on the level of service to expect when they seek support for a housing adaptation.

The service standards should be viewed as a planning and delivery tool by service providers to align their procedures and systems with the standards as much as possible and to coordinate and integrate their work with other relevant service providers that operate within their region.

## 2. Key Issues

Recent independent reviews have highlighted the complexity of the different ways in which housing adaptations are provided. Examples of reports include:

- A review of Independent Living Adaptations: Welsh Government (2015) <sup>1</sup>
- Housing Adaptations: Wales Audit Office (2018) <sup>2</sup>
- Housing and Disabled People: Equalities and Human Rights Commission (2018) <sup>3</sup>
- Housing Adaptations: Report of the Public Accounts Committee (2018)<sup>4</sup>

Each report has identified issues of funding complexity and the challenging arrangements for accessing services across Wales. The multiple funding programmes in place for providing adaptations in Wales has resulted in service

<sup>1</sup> <https://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/review-independent-living-adaptations/?lang=en>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.audit.wales/system/files/publications/housing-adaptations-2018-english.pdf>

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/sites/default/files/housing-and-disabled-people-wales-hidden-crisis.pdf>

<sup>4</sup> <http://www.assembly.wales/laid%20documents/cr-ld11703/cr-ld11703-e.pdf>

users receiving different levels of service dependent upon their tenure and where they live.

### **3. Scope**

These standards will be applied to all housing adaptations, and will be relevant to:

- Local Authorities
- Care and Repair Agencies
- Registered Social Landlords
- Large Scale Voluntary Transfer (LSVT) organisations
- Occupational Therapists
- Service Users or their representatives

In addition to the above, the service standards will be relevant for Healthcare and Social Service Professionals e.g. community nurses and social workers.

The Welsh Government will keep the standards under review, and may publish amended standards as appropriate.

Legislation requirements for the delivery of specific types of adaptation overrides any services standards outlined in this document, and service providers should seek their own legal advice where needed.

### **4. Service Standards for the delivery of Housing Adaptations**

The service standards set the expected levels of service for the installation of a Housing Adaptation and can be seen at **Figure 1**. There is a responsibility on both the service user (or their representative) and provider to work constructively and collaboratively together towards agreed outcomes, with neither party acting unreasonable which could result in unnecessary delays or an unsatisfactory outcome.

Setting service levels will help to ensure housing adaptations are delivered in a consistent manner, regardless of a service user's location and tenure, whilst giving flexibility to service providers to determine the best way to utilise their own resources to meet the standards. In meeting the needs of a service user, it should be noted that in some situations it may be more appropriate that other measures are considered and explored before a housing adaptation is considered e.g. re-ablement or re-housing to more suitable accommodation where this is an option.

Due to the complexity of delivering some housing adaptations, especially larger sized adaptations, the process can result in a number of steps that may involve input from wider stakeholders such as the planning department, building control teams and utility companies. These steps have to be taken to ensure that the adaptation will provide the help and assistance needed for the service user and meets broader legislative requirements. As a result, the timeframes for delivering a housing

adaptation can vary. The 'Expected Timeframes' service standard in **Figure 1** has been split to reflect the following key phases that can be involved in deciding if a Housing Adaptation should be provided:



- **First Point of Contact** - The time it takes from a service user making first contact with a relevant service provider (this could be a Local Authority, Care and Repair Agency, Housing Association or from their health or social services contacts) to being assessed by a competent person (such as an Occupational Therapist or Trusted Assessor) and;
- **Housing Adaptation confirmed as necessary** - The timescale for an Occupational Therapist (or another suitably competent person) report/referral/recommendation being provided to the service provider outlining the adaptation works required.
- **Installation of Housing Adaptation** - The date of referral (or decision, recommendation, report) made by the competent person when the adaptation is confirmed as needed to installation. This is to ensure that alternative forms of assistance (e.g. re-ablement) are considered before deciding a housing adaptation is needed.

The Welsh Government expect service providers to work in collaboration with Occupational Therapists (or other competent persons who can advise and identify the required adaptation) as well as service users to determine the best possible outcome is achieved, while still reflecting the principles of all work being **necessary** and **appropriate, reasonable** and **practicable**.

Definitions of the different types of housing adaptations (Small, Medium or Large) are listed in **Figure 2**. These are included to provide a guide for service providers to determine how to record the most appropriate type of adaptation (Small, Medium or Large). For situations that are considered urgent e.g. to facilitate a hospital discharge, support a palliative care package, or prevent admission to hospital or a care home, these instances should be prioritised and delivered as soon as practicable.

The definitions in **Figure 2** also aims to help service users understand the different types of adaptations and what they can expect in how they are delivered by the service provider.

The Welsh Government recognises there may be situations or individual cases which do not fit within the categories of **Figure 2** for a variety of reasons. In these cases, **service providers should use their professional judgement to decide the most appropriate category to use based on sound judgement and evidence.**

## **5. Monitoring and enforcement of Service Standards**

Performance monitoring data will be submitted to the Welsh Government using the data collection methodology for 'Housing Adaptations Data Monitoring', which will help evidence progress on delivery of the service standards. The data collected through this process will be published on an annual basis. The Welsh Government has revised the terms of conditions for a number of grants it provides for housing adaptations for service providers to work in line with the service standards.

## **6. Complaints and concerns**

If a service user is not satisfied with the level of service received, they have the right to make a complaint. Any complaints should be directed to the service provider and handled in accordance with their organisational complaints procedure.



**Figure 1 - Housing Adaptations Service Standards**

Service Standard	Level of Service Expected
<p><b>Standard 1: Purpose</b></p>	<p>The purpose of a housing adaptation can provide a number of benefits, but is primarily to help disabled and/or older people and support their carers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to remove barriers that can lead to people being disabled by their environment and not by their impairments (social model of disability);</li> <li>• to remain or become more independent within their own home;</li> <li>• to facilitate an earlier hospital discharge; and</li> <li>• to prevent any further falls.</li> </ul> <p>The adaptation provided should be necessary and appropriate, as well as reasonable and practicable.</p>
<p><b>Standard 2: Equality and Diversity</b></p>	<p>Disabled and/or older people can expect that they will be treated fairly and respectfully. Service providers will ensure they have equality and diversity policies in place to ensure this and that staff have undertaken the appropriate disability awareness training.</p>
<p><b>Standard 3: Communication</b></p>	<p>Communication should be a two way process between the service provider and service user (or their representative), and based on the principles of coproduction and the ‘what matters’ conversation as endorsed in the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act and Social Services and Wellbeing Act. Information and communication will be in a format which most effectively meets a service users’ needs, such as Welsh and English, and accessible formats including braille, large fonts, audio versions and other languages. At the start of the process the service user (or their representative) will be informed of the key steps to install an adaptation. The service user should be meaningfully included in the decision making process on the design and delivery of an adaptation where practicable. They will also be informed of the expected timeframes, be regularly updated on progress and invited to provide feedback during and at the end of installation.</p>

<b>Standard 4:</b> <b>Quality of Service</b>	<p>The work will be completed by a suitably competent person, either an employee of the service provider or someone from their approved contractors list which is regularly monitored by the service provider and subject to clear selection, retention and quality assurance procedures. If a service user decides to use their own contractor to carry out the work it will be the service user's responsibility to deal with and resolve any issues and will need the appropriate consent and permissions from their landlord where this is appropriate. Service users can also be signposted to other organisations or given initial advice to find the support they may need.</p>
<b>Standard 5:</b> <b>Quality of Equipment</b>	<p>Any equipment installed will be compliant with relevant health and safety requirements, technical specifications and be appropriate for the purpose which they were intended. Service user should also be informed and made aware of; warranty information, service charges and maintenance requirements where it is appropriate to do so.</p>
<b>Standard 6:</b> <b>Expected Timeframes</b>	<p><b>For Small Adaptations:</b>  The solution will usually (i.e. for 90% of cases) be installed within 3 weeks (if urgent) or 4 weeks (if non urgent) from date of first contact with the service provider who have deemed it necessary for the adaptation to be installed.</p> <p><b>For Medium Adaptations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- From first point of contact with the service provider, the service user can expect to be assessed within 2 months by a competent person e.g. an Occupational Therapist, or Trusted Assessor.</li> <li>- If the adaptation is confirmed as necessary the Occupational Therapist or Trusted Assessor will provide a report/referral/recommendation to the service provider within 2 weeks of the decision.</li> <li>- Solution usually installed within 4 months (or in line with legislative requirements) from date of referral/recommendation from a competent person.</li> </ul> <p><b>For Large Adaptations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- From first point of contact with the service provider, the service user can expect to be assessed within 2 months by a competent person e.g. an Occupational Therapist.</li> <li>- Once the adaptation is confirmed as necessary the Occupational Therapist will provide a report/referral/recommendation to the service provider within 2 weeks of the decision.</li> <li>- Solution usually installed within 15 months (or in line with legislative requirements) from date of referral from a competent person, to reflect steps taken in some cases, e.g. planning permission.</li> </ul>

<b>Standard 7: Eligibility Checks</b>	<p><b>For Small Adaptations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Means Test is not required.</li> <li>- Occupational Therapist assessment not required.</li> <li>- Trusted Assessor assessment may be required.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>For Medium Adaptations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Means Test <u>is not</u> <del>may be</del> required <del>(only in relation to a Disabled Facilities Grant).</del></li> <li>- Occupational Therapist Assessment may be required. If not, a Trusted Assessor will be required.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>For Large Adaptations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Means Test may be required (only in relation to a Disabled Facilities Grant).</li> <li>- Occupational Therapist Assessment will be required.</li> <li>- Trusted Assessor assessment would not be appropriate in these cases.</li> </ul>

**Figure 2 – Definitions of different types of Housing Adaptations**

Category	Nature of Work Required	Example of Work	Funding Source
<p><b>Small Adaptions</b>                      adaptations are inexpensive items, which can be provided very quickly. It would generally fit into the description of 'immediate falls prevention' or 'urgent for hospital discharge' and can be assessed and installed within days or the same day if urgent. It can be identified by a number of health/ social services/ other appropriately trained staff e.g. RSL staff, Care and Repair Staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor home modification required</li> <li>• Not a specialised solution</li> <li>• No building/planning approval required</li> <li>• Adjustable / Flexible</li> <li>• Simple &amp; Intuitive</li> <li>• Minimal maintenance and/or servicing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grab rails</li> <li>• Stair rails</li> <li>• Small ramps</li> <li>• Accessible taps</li> <li>• Key safes</li> <li>• Mop stick hand rails</li> <li>• Outdoor rails</li> <li>• External / staircase lights</li> <li>• Additional electrical sockets.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENABLE</li> <li>• RRAP</li> <li>• RSL Funds</li> <li>• LA own funds</li> <li>• Self funded</li> </ul>
<p><b>Medium Adaptations</b>                      anything which is not classed as small or large.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major home modification may be required, but building/planning approval not required.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Walk in shower</li> <li>• Stair lifts</li> <li>• Large ramps</li> <li>• A combination of adaptations installed as one job</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ENABLE</li> <li>• RSL Funds</li> <li>• LA own funds</li> <li>• Physical Adaptation Grants (PAG)</li> <li>• Disabled Facility Grant (DFG)s</li> <li>• Self funded</li> </ul>
<p><b>Large Adaptations</b>                      these are works which will require specialist assessments, statutory approvals and major adaptations to a property such as extensions and through floor lifts. An Occupational Therapists assessment will be required and planning permission may be needed.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major home modification / structural change required</li> <li>• Specialised / Innovative solutions required</li> <li>• Building / planning approval required</li> <li>• Fixed / permanent / long term</li> <li>• Complex / unfamiliar / requires training &amp; supervision</li> <li>• Solution requires expertise for installation and maintenance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building an extension to provide a downstairs bedroom and/or bathroom</li> <li>• Through floor lift</li> <li>• Significant internal structural modifications e.g. relocate bathroom or kitchen</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disabled Facilities Grant</li> <li>• Physical Adaptations Grants</li> <li>• RSL Funds</li> <li>• LA own funds</li> <li>• Self funded</li> </ul>



## CABINET

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

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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

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

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

### RECOMMENDATIONS

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

## **REPORT DETAILS**

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

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

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

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

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



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

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

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	A 'Plan for Shotton' can be found at <b>Appendix 1</b> .

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

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<b>Contact Officer:</b> Kelly Oldham-Jones – Strategic Executive Officer <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702143 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:kelly.oldhamjones@flintshire.gov.uk">kelly.oldhamjones@flintshire.gov.uk</a>

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

**A  
Plan  
for  
Shotton**

**September 2021**

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

DRAFT

## Section 1: An Introduction to Shotton

- 1.1 Flintshire is a county in North Wales spanning the north east coastline and hugging the Dee Estuary. Flintshire is the most populated of the North Wales Local Authorities with around 155,600 inhabitants and 355.6 people per square kilometre<sup>1</sup>. Flintshire benefits from regional collaboration, and economic and social links, with other North Wales Counties. Flintshire also borders Cheshire with transport links into the North West of England.
- 1.2 Shotton is a town in Deeside, Flintshire. Deeside is largely an industrial urban area made up of towns and villages that sit on the Wales/England border near the River Dee. Shotton is bordered by the Flintshire towns of Queensferry, Connah's Quay and Aston/Ewloe.
- 1.3 Shotton is made up of three wards: Shotton East and Shotton West, which are divided by the borderlands train line, and Shotton Higher, which is delineated by the train line to the West and the A494 Aston Expressway to the East.



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<sup>1</sup> Welsh Government (2020)

## Section Two: Challenges, Assets and Opportunities

### Local amenities

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

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

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

### Transport links

Shotton has benefited from a railway line and station since the late nineteenth century with the last significant investment in the station being made in 2010<sup>2</sup>.

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

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

### Health

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

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<sup>2</sup> Transport for Wales (2021)

### Housing

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

### Leisure, Culture and Recreation

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

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

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

### Employment

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

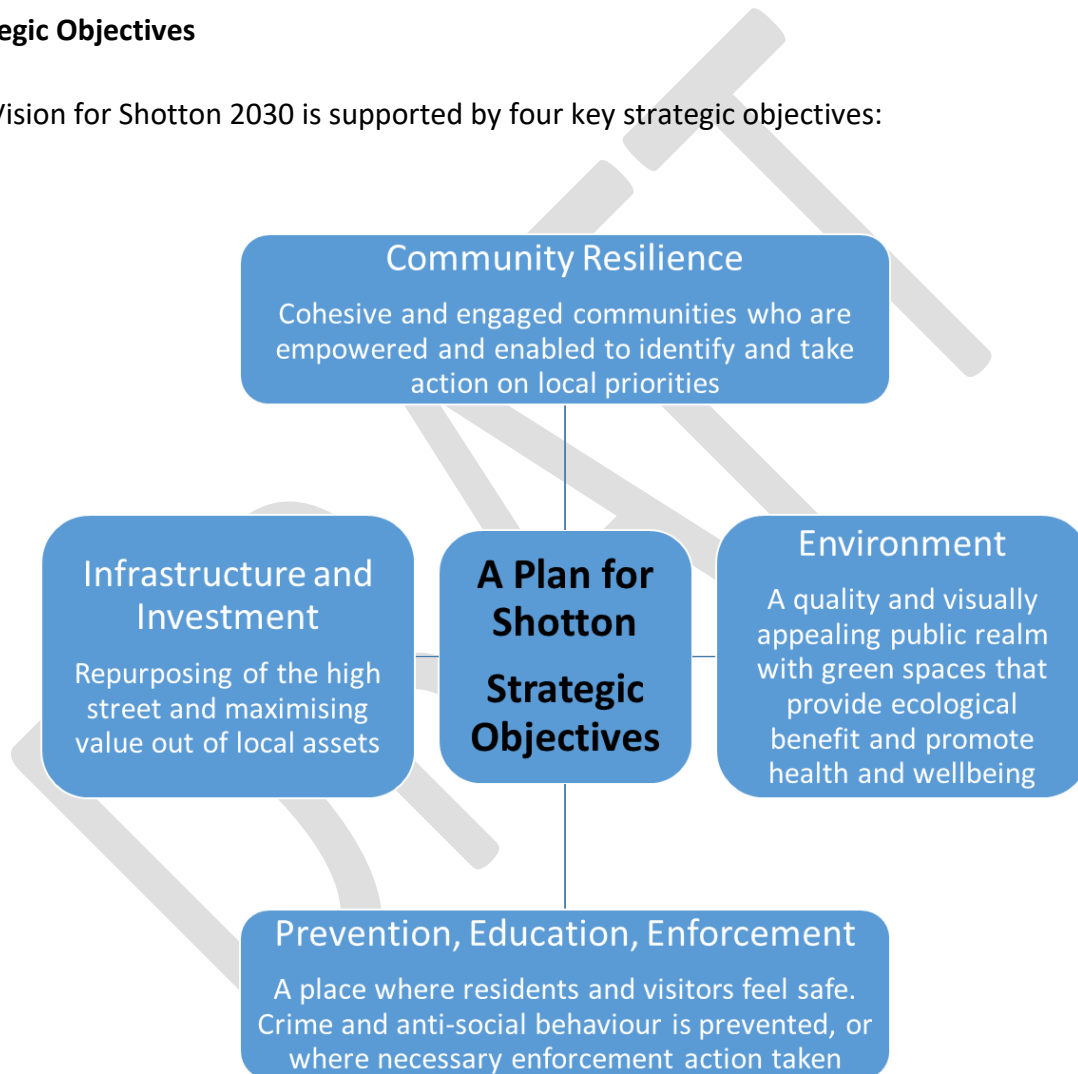
## Section Three: Future Vision, Strategic Objectives and Priority Actions/Goals

### The Vision

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

### Strategic Objectives

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





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

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

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

<sup>3</sup> Welsh Government (2019)

## Section Four: Delivering Change

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

### Initial Actions

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

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

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

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

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

### First 12 months

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

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

### Medium and Longer Term Projects

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

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

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

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

## References

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

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

Intellectual Property Office © Crown copyright 2015

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

Data available through the Open Government Licence:

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



## CABINET

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	Revenue Budget Monitoring 2021/22 (Month 6)
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement
<b>Report Author</b>	Corporate Finance Manager
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This monthly report provides the latest detailed revenue budget monitoring position in 2021/22 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account for the financial year and presents the position, based on actual income and expenditure, as at Month 6.

This report projects how the budget would stand at the close of the financial year, without new actions to reduce cost pressures and/or improve the financial return on efficiency planning and cost control is:

#### **Council Fund**

- An operating surplus of (£0.227m) (excluding the impact of the pay award which will be met by reserves), which is a favourable movement of (£0.045m) from the surplus figure of (£0.182m) reported at Month 5.
- A projected contingency reserve balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022 of £6.322m

#### **Housing Revenue Account**

- Net in-year revenue expenditure forecast to be £0.755m higher than budget
- A projected closing balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2022 of £3.717m

To assist with managing risks and mitigating the overall projected overspend, the review of non-essential spend and a vacancy management process continues.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To note the report and the estimated financial impact on the 2021/22 budget.
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## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	<b>EXPLAINING THE REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2021/22</b>																																																				
1.01	<p><b>Council Fund Projected Position</b></p> <p>The projected year end position, without mitigation to reduce cost pressures and improve the yield on efficiency planning, is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An operating surplus of (£0.227m) (excluding the impact of the pay award which will be met by reserves)</li> <li>• A projected contingency reserve available balance as at 31 March 2022 of £6.322m.</li> </ul> <p>To assist with managing risks and mitigating the overall projected overspend, the review of non-essential spend and a vacancy management process continues.</p> <p>Our ability to mitigate financial risks arising from the pandemic largely depends on the continuation of funds for hardship and income loss by Welsh Government which is now confirmed to March 2022, which includes some changes to eligibility criteria.</p>																																																				
1.02	<p><b>Table 1. Projected Position by Portfolio</b></p> <p>The table below shows the projected position by portfolio:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Portfolio/Service Area</th> <th>Approved Budget £m</th> <th>Projected Outturn £m</th> <th>In-Year Over / (Under) spend £m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Social Services</td> <td>70.627</td> <td>70.922</td> <td>0.295</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Out of County Placements</td> <td>12.921</td> <td>13.772</td> <td>0.851</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education &amp; Youth</td> <td>9.030</td> <td>8.649</td> <td><b>(0.381)</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Schools</td> <td>101.937</td> <td>101.937</td> <td>0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Streetscene &amp; Transportation</td> <td>31.466</td> <td>32.078</td> <td>0.612</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning Env &amp; Economy</td> <td>6.160</td> <td>6.100</td> <td><b>(0.061)</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>People &amp; Resources</td> <td>4.631</td> <td>4.395</td> <td><b>(0.236)</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governance</td> <td>10.223</td> <td>9.586</td> <td><b>(0.637)</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strategic Programmes</td> <td>4.648</td> <td>4.641</td> <td><b>(0.007)</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Housing &amp; Assets</td> <td>17.172</td> <td>16.790</td> <td><b>(0.382)</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chief Executive</td> <td>2.350</td> <td>2.257</td> <td><b>(0.093)</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Central &amp; Corporate Finance</td> <td>26.292</td> <td>26.103</td> <td><b>(0.189)</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Portfolio/Service Area	Approved Budget £m	Projected Outturn £m	In-Year Over / (Under) spend £m	Social Services	70.627	70.922	0.295	Out of County Placements	12.921	13.772	0.851	Education & Youth	9.030	8.649	<b>(0.381)</b>	Schools	101.937	101.937	0.000	Streetscene & Transportation	31.466	32.078	0.612	Planning Env & Economy	6.160	6.100	<b>(0.061)</b>	People & Resources	4.631	4.395	<b>(0.236)</b>	Governance	10.223	9.586	<b>(0.637)</b>	Strategic Programmes	4.648	4.641	<b>(0.007)</b>	Housing & Assets	17.172	16.790	<b>(0.382)</b>	Chief Executive	2.350	2.257	<b>(0.093)</b>	Central & Corporate Finance	26.292	26.103	<b>(0.189)</b>
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	<b>Total</b>	<b>297.457</b>	<b>297.230</b>	<b>(0.227)</b>
1.03	The reasons for the favourable net movement of (£0.045m) from the previous month are shown in Appendix 1. The reasons for the overall projected variances are summarised within Appendix 2 showing the detail of all variances over £0.050m and a summary of minor variances for each portfolio.			
	<b>Significant Movements from Month 5</b>			
1.04	<b>Social Services £0.098m</b>			
	The adverse movement in the projected overspend is as a result of a number of factors :			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Adult Social Care - Older People £0.059m</u> The movement represents an increased demand for Council provided Homecare.</li> <li>• <u>Adult Social Care - Adults of Working Age £0.078m</u> The movement represents an increase in the cost of care packages.</li> <li>• Minor movements across the Portfolio account for the remainder (£0.039m)</li> </ul>			
1.05	<b>Out of County Placements £0.171m</b>			
	<u>Children's Services £0.172m</u>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased costs of 2 new placements (£0.124m) with the remainder mainly due to rate changes and some offsetting reductions due to an existing placement change</li> </ul>			
	<u>Education &amp; Youth (£0.001m)</u>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minor reduction in placements costs.</li> </ul>			
1.06	<b>Education &amp; Youth (£0.053m)</b>			
	<u>Integrated Youth Provision (£0.033m)</u>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vacancy savings due to delayed recruitment</li> </ul>			
	Minor movements across the Portfolio account for the remainder (£0.020m)			
1.07	<b>Housing &amp; Assets (£0.095m)</b>			
	<u>Centralised Costs (£0.072m)</u>			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A positive movement follows the reduced consumption on Gas, Electric and Water. The expenditure will be closely monitored over the winter months.</li> </ul>			
	<u>Benefits (£0.046m)</u>			

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A positive movement is the reflection of continuing funding support from the Welsh Government COVID-19 Hardship Fund for additional staffing costs for the period October to March, 2022.</li> </ul> <p>Minor adverse variances across the Portfolio account for the remainder of £0.023m.</p>
1.08	<p><b>Governance (£0.096m)</b></p> <p><u>Revenues (£0.071m)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The favourable movement is due to an increase in the projected potential surplus on the Council Tax Collection Fund at the half year stage (£0.025m)</li> <li>Higher than anticipated fee income from Council Tax Fines (£0.033m)</li> <li>Vacancy savings (£0.013m)</li> </ul> <p>Minor movements across the Portfolio account for the remainder (£0.025m).</p>
1.09	<p><b>Tracking of In-Year Risks and Emerging Issues</b></p> <p>Members were made aware when setting the budget that there were a number of open risks that would need to be kept under close review. An update on these is provided below.</p>
1.10	<p><b>Council Tax Income</b></p> <p>57.23% of Council Tax has been collected up to month 6 and latest projections indicate this as being 0.1% ahead of monthly targets to eventually achieve an outturn collection rate of at least 97.6% by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. Collection rates are steadily improving and are on track to achieve targets for 2021/22, although they still remain 0.53% lower than pre-pandemic levels. Collection levels, along with write off levels, continue to be tracked on a monthly basis.</p>
1.11	<p><b>Pay Award (Teacher and Non Teacher)</b></p> <p>Based on the UK Government position on public sector pay no general provision was included in the 2021/22 budget other than funding to reflect the intention to provide for those staff earning less than £0.024m.</p> <p><u>NJC (Green Book)</u></p> <p>National negotiations are ongoing and the initial offer by Employers of a 1.5% uplift would add a minimum further £0.160m to the pay bill for schools and £0.799m for non-schools. In the absence of any further funding being made available this will need to be met from the Contingency Reserve and built into the base budget from 2022/23. This offer has been increased to 1.75% which will further increase the impact on reserves.</p> <p><u>Teachers</u></p>



	<p>The September 2021 national pay award for Teachers has now been confirmed at 1.75% which adds a further £0.736m to the pay bill for schools in 2021/22, with the full year impact in 2022/23 being £1.282m. The Minister for Education in announcing the pay award, also confirmed additional funding of £6.4m across Wales to support the cost of the pay award in schools. The Council's share of the allocation is £0.304m for schools and £0.019m for Post 16. This additional funding will fund the pay award in part and as in previous years the Council will share the shortfall in costs in 2021/22 equally with schools.</p>
1.12	<p><b>Council Tax Reduction Scheme</b></p> <p>Based on current demand, costs are currently projected to be within budget although there is potential for a surge in demand from October when the UK Government furlough scheme ends.</p> <p>No additional funding is currently anticipated from Welsh Government in 2021/22 although this is expected to be subject to review in the event of significant pressures emerging across Wales in the second half of the year.</p>
1.13	<p><b>Social Care Grant Funding</b></p> <p>Further details are awaited from Welsh Government following an additional funding announcement for Social Care and Health totalling £42.72m across Wales. The grant will support Children's Services, Integrated Health and Social Care, unpaid carer direct payments, early intervention and prevention, along with improved advertising and recruitment for social care. It is anticipated that some of this funding can be assigned to existing cost pressures within the Portfolio which will have a positive impact on the outturn – updates will be provided in future reports.</p>
1.14	<p><b>Other Tracked Risks</b></p> <p>In addition, there are a number of risks being tracked that may be subject to change and these are summarised below:</p>
1.15	<p><b>Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) Impact</b></p> <p>Stage 1 of the Budget Process 2022/23 was concluded in July and an additional budget requirement of £16.750m was reported to Cabinet and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This is expected to rise significantly due to the recent announcement of increases to National Insurance employer contributions.</p> <p>Stage 2 of the budget process was undertaken through September and October with feedback from all Overview and Scrutiny Committees reported to Cabinet and this Committee in October.</p> <p>Stage 3 will be undertaken following receipt of the Welsh Government Provisional Settlement which is due to be received on 21<sup>st</sup> December.</p>

	<p>All Portfolios will continue to consider their financial position, the risks within their service and the impacts over the Medium Term on a monthly basis as part of their Portfolio Management Team meetings.</p>
1.16	<p><b>Out of County Placements</b></p> <p>There continues to be significant pressure on this volatile budget arising from the full year impacts of new placements made during 2020/21, including several new high cost placements which were agreed in March after the budget for 2021/22 had been set.</p> <p>A contribution of £0.500m has been made from the Social Care Recovery Fund which leaves a projected overspend of £0.851m for the remainder of the year. However, this is likely to increase with another 6 months of the year remaining.</p>
1.17	<p><b>Homelessness</b></p> <p>There is a risk that demands on the service will continue to increase with the impacts of removal of restrictions on landlords to seek repossessions.</p> <p>In addition, the economic impacts on residents in the rented sector and owner occupiers following the end of the furlough scheme at the end of September continue to cause concern.</p> <p>There is additional support in place with strategic use of the increased Housing Support Grant funding, but this may still not be sufficient.</p>
1.18	<p><b>Achievement of Planned In-Year Efficiencies</b></p> <p>The 2021/22 budget contains £2.363m of specific efficiencies which are tracked and monitored throughout the year. In 2020/21 the level of efficiency achievement was 100% which was an improvement on the 90% achieved during the previous year. The Council aims to achieve a 95% rate in 2021/22 as reflected in the MTFs KPI's.</p> <p>The current assessment of the efficiencies to be achieved in 2021/22 shows that 100% of the efficiencies will be achieved. The risk remains that any under-achievement of efficiencies will have a negative impact on the 2021/22 budget. Further details on the current status on efficiencies can be seen in Appendix 3.</p>
1.19	<p><b>Emergency Funding</b></p> <p>The Local Government Hardship fund was initially allocated £206.6m to support local government for the first six months of 2021-22 in the Welsh Government Final Budget 2021-22. In addition £23.3m was allocated to support free school meals during the school holidays.</p> <p>A further £97.5m has subsequently been allocated until the end of the financial year based on spend patterns to date, any changes to policy approaches (for example tapering of social care uplifts and void payments) and the current alert level.</p>

	<p>The Principles and Guidance for the Hardship Fund have been revised by WG from 1<sup>st</sup> October with changes impacting on eligibility for various service areas including schools costs, additional waste tonnages (reduced to 50%) and vehicle costs due to social distancing being removed from eligibility altogether. Costs for additional cover where staff are off sick due to COVID or self-isolating are eligible until December, pending further review. The potential significant impacts of this will be reflected in future reports, although where able mitigating actions will be put in place.</p> <p>During 2021/22 to date, additional cost claims for April to September have totalled £5.009m and Quarter 1 and 2 Income Loss claims were £1.096m (which include claims for Aura, Newydd and Cambrian Aquatics).</p>
1.20	<p><b>Unearmarked Reserves</b></p> <p>The final level of Council Fund Contingency Reserve brought forward into 2021/22 was £5.973m as detailed in the 2020/21 outturn report. However, this increased to £6.444m when taking account of the budgeted contribution to Reserves in the 2021/22 budget. This is the amount available for general purposes following the set-aside of £3.0m for a COVID-19 Emergency Funding.</p> <p>However, there will be a requirement to meet the unfunded impacts of the pay awards from the Contingency Reserve as detailed in para 1.11 following the outcome of the national pay award negotiations.</p> <p>Taking into account the projected in-year position and previously agreed allocations the amount remaining within the Contingency Reserve is £6.322m (prior to the impact of pay awards) (Appendix 4).</p> <p>The £3m emergency ring-fenced fund would have an amount of £2.009m remaining after allowing for currently known ineligible items. However, there are still a number of holding items and income loss claims still being considered by the Grants Panel. In addition, the impacts of the grant eligibility criteria changing from the 1<sup>st</sup> October will also need to be factored in.</p>
1.21	<p><b>Housing Revenue Account</b></p> <p>The 2020/21 Outturn Report to Cabinet on 13 July 2021 showed an un-earmarked closing balance at the end of 2020/21 of £5.039m and a closing balance of earmarked reserves of £1.869m.</p>
1.22	<p>The 2021/22 budget for the HRA is £37.825m which includes a movement of £0.566m to reserves.</p>
1.23	<p>The adverse movement this month of £0.122m is as a result of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• increase in void losses £0.031m</li> <li>• increased insurance premium costs £0.054m</li> <li>• early recruitment of new posts £0.035m</li> </ul> <p>Minor movements account for the remainder £0.002m</p>

1.24	The monitoring for the HRA is projecting in year expenditure to be £0.755m higher than budget and a closing un-earmarked balance as at 31 March 2022 of £3.717m, which at 9.73% of total expenditure satisfies the prudent approach of ensuring a minimum level of 3%. Appendix 5 provides further detail.
1.25	The budget contribution towards capital expenditure (CERA) is £13.442m.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	As set out within the report.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
3.01	The Revenue Budget Monitoring Report reflects the three categories of risks covered in the main section of the report. These are in-year risks and emerging issues, achievement of planned in-year efficiencies and other tracked risks. These risks are included from paragraph 1.04 to 1.17.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	None specific.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1: Council Fund – Movement in Variances from Month 5 Appendix 2: Council Fund – Budget Variances Appendix 3: Council Fund – Programme of Efficiencies Appendix 4: Council Fund – Movement on Un-earmarked Reserves Appendix 5: Housing Revenue Account Variances

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	Various budget records.

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<b>Contact Officer:</b> Dave Ledsham Strategic Finance Manager <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 704503 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:dave.ledsham@flintshire.gov.uk">dave.ledsham@flintshire.gov.uk</a>

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8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
	<p><b>Budget:</b> a statement expressing the Council's policies and service levels in financial terms for a particular financial year. In its broadest sense it includes both the revenue budget and capital programme and any authorised amendments to them.</p> <p><b>Council Fund:</b> the fund to which all the Council's revenue expenditure is charged.</p> <p><b>Financial Year:</b> the period of twelve months commencing on 1 April.</p> <p><b>Housing Revenue Account:</b> the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a local authority account showing current income and expenditure on housing services related to its own housing stock. The account is separate from the Council Fund and trading accounts and is funded primarily from rents and government subsidy.</p> <p><b>Intermediate Care Fund:</b> Funding provided by Welsh Government to encourage integrated working between local authorities, health and housing.</p> <p><b>Projected Outturn:</b> projection of the expenditure to the end of the financial year, made on the basis of actual expenditure incurred to date.</p> <p><b>Reserves:</b> these are balances in hand that have accumulated over previous years and are held for defined (earmarked reserves) and general (general reserves) purposes. Councils are required to regularly review the level and purpose of their reserves and to take account of the advice of the Chief Finance Officer.</p> <p><b>Revenue:</b> a term used to describe the day-to-day costs of running Council services and income deriving from those services. It also includes charges for the repayment of debt, including interest, and may include direct financing of capital expenditure.</p> <p><b>Variance:</b> difference between latest budget and actual income or expenditure. Can be to date if reflecting the current or most up to date position or projected, for example projected to the end of the month or financial year.</p> <p><b>Virement:</b> the transfer of budget provision from one budget head to another. Virement decisions apply to both revenue and capital expenditure heads, and between expenditure and income, and may include transfers from contingency provisions. Virements may not however be approved between capital and revenue budget heads.</p>

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**Budget Monitoring Report**  
**Council Fund Variances**

**MONTH 6 - SUMMARY**

Service	Movement between Periods (£m)	Narrative for Movement between Periods greater than £0.025m
<b>Social Services</b>		
<b>Older People</b>		
Resources & Regulated Services	0.059	Increased demand for Council provided homecare
Minor Variances	-0.021	
<b>Adults of Working Age</b>		
Resources & Regulated Services	0.078	Increased care package costs
Minor Variances	-0.022	
<b>Children's Services</b>		
Minor Variances	0.017	
<b>Safeguarding &amp; Commissioning</b>		
Impact of Covid-19	-0.009	
Minor Variances	-0.006	
<b>Total Social Services (excl Out of County)</b>	<b>0.098</b>	
<b>Out of County</b>		
Children's Services	0.172	In the main, this is due to 2 new placements totalling £0.124m, with the remainder relating to rate changes and some offsetting reductions due to a placement change.
Education & Youth	-0.001	
<b>Total Out of County</b>	<b>0.171</b>	
<b>Education &amp; Youth</b>		
Integrated Youth Provision	-0.033	Vacancy savings due to delayed recruitment to a vacant position
Minor Variances	-0.020	
<b>Total Education &amp; Youth</b>	<b>-0.053</b>	
<b>Schools</b>	<b>-0.000</b>	
<b>Streetscene &amp; Transportation</b>		
Service Delivery	0.083	Increase in Workforce due to agency costs driven by high sickness rates and cover for absent staff.
Transportation	-0.027	School Transport and Social Services transport costs reduced due to a reduced demand in services required.
Regulatory Services	-0.073	Positive movement due to improving market rates for the sale of recyclable materials.
Impact of Covid-19		
Other Minor Variances	-0.010	
<b>Total Streetscene &amp; Transportation</b>	<b>-0.027</b>	
<b>Planning, Environment &amp; Economy</b>		
Development	-0.023	Higher than anticipated fee income within Development Management
Minor Variances	0.003	
<b>Total Planning &amp; Environment</b>	<b>-0.020</b>	
<b>People &amp; Resources</b>		
HR & OD	-0.024	Minor movements across the service
Corporate Finance	0.004	
Impact of Covid-19	-0.000	
<b>Total People &amp; Resources</b>	<b>-0.020</b>	
<b>Governance</b>		
Internal Audit	-0.023	Minor movements across the service
Customer Services	-0.024	Minor movements across the service
Revenues	-0.071	Favourable Movement due to increase in the projected potential surplus on the Council Tax Collection Fund (£0.025m) at the half year stage; increase in anticipated fee income from Fines (£0.033m); minor movements across the service
Minor Variances	0.022	
<b>Total Governance</b>	<b>-0.096</b>	

**Budget Monitoring Report**  
**Council Fund Variances**

**MONTH 6 - SUMMARY**

Service	Movement between Periods (£m)	Narrative for Movement between Periods greater than £0.025m
<b>Strategic Programmes</b>		
ADM's & CAT's	-0.002	
<b>Total Strategic Programmes</b>	<b>-0.002</b>	
<b>Housing &amp; Assets</b>		
Centralised Costs	-0.072	Reduced consumption on Gas, Electric and Water contributing to the positive variance. To be monitored closely over the winter months.
Benefits	-0.046	Improvement is due to the reflection of continuing funding support from the WG COVID-19 Hardship fund for additional staffing costs from October to March
Minor Variances	0.023	
<b>Total Housing &amp; Assets</b>	<b>-0.095</b>	
<b>Chief Executive's</b>	<b>-0.006</b>	
Impact of Covid-19		
<b>Central &amp; Corporate Finance</b>	<b>0.003</b>	
Impact of Covid-19		
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>-0.045</b>	



**Budget Monitoring Report**  
**Council Fund Variances**

**MONTH 6 - SUMMARY**

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
<b>Social Services</b>							
<b>Older People</b>							
Localities	19.316	19.175	-0.142		-0.138	The net cost of residential care is reporting an overspend of £0.077m. This includes the cost of residential care placements net of the income received for this service, such as property charges and contributions from health. Day care is £0.025m under budget and will not resume until safe to do so, this is currently assumed to be at the beginning of January 2022. Domiciliary and Direct Payments are reporting a combined underspend of £0.078m. The Localities staff budget is underspent by £0.075m due to temporary vacancies and not all staff being paid top of grade. The Minor Adaptations budget is £0.030m underspent based on current demand.	
Resources & Regulated Services	8.627	8.355	-0.272		-0.330	The Councils in-house care provision is projected to underspend by £0.272m. Day care is underspent by £0.010m, day centres are closed and will only reopen once safe to do so. Homecare is £0.066m overspent and there continues to be a growing demand for this service. Residential care is expected to underspend by £0.259m although there is an assumption that ICF slippage and Winter Pressure funding will occur this year and contributions from these are included within the financial projections. Extra care is underspent by £0.069m due to service demand.	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
Minor Variances	1.235	1.205	-0.029		-0.011		
<b>Adults of Working Age</b>							
Resources & Regulated Services	26.875	27.058	0.183		0.104	The overspend is the cost of social care for people with learning disabilities or physical disabilities. These costs include nursing and residential care, domiciliary care and Direct Payments which are required to meet their care needs.	
Professional and Administrative Support	0.339	0.267	-0.072		-0.062	Not all staff are currently paid at top of grade and there are also some staff who are seconded from this service.	
Residential Placements	1.791	2.139	0.349		0.353	The overspend is the cost of social care for people within the Mental Health service. These costs include nursing and residential care, domiciliary care and Direct Payments.	
Minor Variances	4.038	3.954	-0.084		-0.077		
<b>Children's Services</b>							
Family Placement	2.700	2.826	0.126		0.129	The overspend is due to service demand from the number of foster placements. In some instances these avoid having to make expensive Out of County placements. The main pressures are payments to foster carers, foster agencies and special guardianship payments.	

**Budget Monitoring Report**  
**Council Fund Variances**

**MONTH 6 - SUMMARY**

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
Grants	0.268	0.210	-0.059		-0.059	There is an assumption that the Welsh Government will allow for a flexible approach in the use of grants, similar to that which occurred in 2020/21, which would result in some costs within this service to be funded from grant.	
Legal & Third Party	0.210	0.563	0.353		0.349	Legal costs are overspent due to the number of cases going through the courts and use of some external legal professionals. Direct Payments have also increased in demand.	
Residential Placements	0.549	0.443	-0.106		-0.104	This is an in-year underspend associated with the opening of a registered Childrens Home within Flintshire, in-year grant funding from the Young People and Childrens Services Transformation Fund is being used to offset start-up costs.	
Professional Support	5.387	5.723	0.335		0.325	To support adequate levels of child protection, the established staffing structure needs to be at a sufficient level to meet mandatory safeguarding standards. Vacancies are therefore minimised and additional temporary posts are sometimes required.	
Minor Variances	0.843	0.864	0.021		0.013		
<b>Safeguarding &amp; Commissioning</b>							
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	-0.309	-0.309	-0.309	-0.300	Welsh Government is providing financial assistance, through the hardship funding, for the Councils in-house residential, supported living, homecare and extra care services. Most additional costs incurred due to Covid are staff costs which are reported within their respective service areas.	
Minor Variances	-1.552	-1.551	0.001		0.009		
<b>Total Social Services (excl Out of County)</b>	<b>70.627</b>	<b>70.922</b>	<b>0.295</b>	<b>-0.309</b>	<b>0.197</b>		
<b>Out of County</b>							
Children's Services	8.417	9.284	0.868		0.695	The projected overspend reflects the costs of the current cohort of placements with the budget pressure being influenced by the full year impacts in 2021/22 of significant numbers of new placements made in the latter part of 2020/21. This has continued during 2021/22 with a further influx of new placements. The true pressure level has been partly mitigated by an allocation of one-off grant income of £0.500m from the WG Social Care Recovery Fund.	
Education & Youth	4.504	4.488	-0.016		-0.015		
<b>Total Out of County</b>	<b>12.921</b>	<b>13.772</b>	<b>0.851</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.680</b>		
<b>Education &amp; Youth</b>							

**Budget Monitoring Report**  
**Council Fund Variances**

**MONTH 6 - SUMMARY**

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
Inclusion & Progression	4.462	4.386	-0.076		-0.071	Favourable variance due to in year efficiencies identified within the MEAG (Minority Ethnic Achievement Grant) service and Education Psychology service. The MEAG service received £200k more in WG funding for 2021-22, which has been used to recruit temporary posts, resulting in core budget being underspent. The Education Psychology service have recruited 3 Assistant EPs. The saving here has arisen due to posts not being at full year cost. Underspend also due to minor variances across all services within Inclusion.	
Integrated Youth Provision	1.018	1.018	0.000		-0.059	Due to savings on building cleaning at Youth Centres closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic	
School Improvement Systems	1.823	1.671	-0.152		-0.155	The underspend in Early Entitlement includes the maximisation of the Early Years Pupil Deprivation Grant (EYPDG) by allocating existing staff against the grant - £18,500. An efficiency of £0.100m has been identified in relation to WG top-up funding for non-maintained settings, releasing core budget of £0.095m and resources mitigated by utilising EYPDG £0.005m. £0.050m contingency remains within the budget to cover any increased Spring Term 22 costs.	
Minor Variances	1.726	1.573	-0.153		-0.044		
<b>Total Education &amp; Youth</b>	<b>9.030</b>	<b>8.649</b>	<b>-0.381</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>-0.328</b>		
<b>Schools</b>	<b>101.937</b>	<b>101.937</b>	<b>-0.000</b>		<b>0.000</b>		
<b>Streetscene &amp; Transportation</b>							
Service Delivery	8.696	8.792	0.096		0.013	The service has a recurring revenue pressure of £0.050m for security costs following vandalism at the Household Recycling Centres. Plant hire and repairs incurring additional costs of £0.050m, which is attributable to aging plant and equipment. Street lighting is also incurring a £0.120m revenue pressure on the Community Council Income Budget. However, this has largely been offset by workforce agency costs, which have been recovered through Covid Hardship funding claims.	
Highways Network	7.847	7.939	0.091		0.101	Highways service area incurred overspend in excess of £0.050m in staff costs relating to flooding and drainage costs. There are also cumulative minor variances totalling £0.037m across the service, including some additional staff recharges.	

**Budget Monitoring Report**  
**Council Fund Variances**

**MONTH 6 - SUMMARY**

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
Transportation	9.750	9.854	0.104		0.132	Local bus services incurred a revenue pressure of: £0.100m as a result of the Service 5 reprourement and £0.115m implementation of the Deeside Shuttle Bus Service at the new DIP Park and Ride. Also, additional costs incurred of £0.049m due to the increased number of school days, 7 days as opposed to budgeted 5 additional school days. The total additional costs have been partially offset by projected Underspend of (£0.149) in Social Services Transport has offset some of the overspend as not all services have returned to full operation following the pandemic. However, this underspend could significantly reduce, once services start to resume.	Risk that the cost of the reprourement of Service 5 could increase further.
Regulatory Services	5.173	5.173	0.001		0.073	Car parking income currently reflects a loss of £0.239m, through maximising eligible funding from the WG Income Loss fund. There has been a positive movement of (£0.073m) due to improving market rates for the sale of recyclable materials. The service has been largely offset by savings in recruitment and maintenance costs of parking machines.	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.320	0.320	0.320	0.320	Service Delivery has a recurring revenue pressure of £0.050m for additional cleaning and maintenance costs in Alltami depot as a result of the pandemic. Waste operations are showing additional costs of £0.090m in receptacles due to higher demand in waste collections as an impact of people working from home. This service area is also experiencing additional an revenue pressure of £0.090m in plant hire, maintenance and repairs. Additional costs of £0.090m incurred in contractors spend and Traffic Management, as the service was unable to provide the required training and has also faced recruitment delays during the Covid-19 Pandemic.	
<b>Total Streetscene &amp; Transportation</b>	<b>31.466</b>	<b>32.078</b>	<b>0.612</b>	<b>0.320</b>	<b>0.639</b>		
<b>Planning, Environment &amp; Economy</b>							
Community	0.883	0.993	0.110		0.093	Adverse variance due to the shortfall in Fee Income in Licensing and Pest Control Services	
Development	0.019	-0.037	-0.056		-0.033	Favourable variance following higher than anticipated Fee Income for Development Management and Land Charges	
Management & Strategy	1.311	1.188	-0.123		-0.111	Staff savings due to vacant posts	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	-0.000	-0.000	0.116	0.000		
Minor Variances	3.947	3.955	0.008		0.009		
<b>Total Planning &amp; Environment</b>	<b>6.160</b>	<b>6.100</b>	<b>-0.061</b>	<b>0.116</b>	<b>-0.041</b>		
<b>People &amp; Resources</b>							

**Budget Monitoring Report**  
**Council Fund Variances**

**MONTH 6 - SUMMARY**

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
HR & OD	2.465	2.315	-0.149		-0.126	Favourable variance is due to the projected income from the agreed recharge for overheads claimed for the Test, Trace, Project Project for hosting the service on behalf of the region to March, 2022	
Corporate Finance	2.166	2.080	-0.086		-0.090		
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
<b>Total People &amp; Resources</b>	<b>4.631</b>	<b>4.395</b>	<b>-0.235</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>-0.216</b>		
<b>Governance</b>							
Democratic Services	2.125	2.033	-0.092		-0.098	The majority of the favourable variance follows the reduced take up of Members Allowances and savings from travel expenses due to remote meetings, together with commitment challenge across the service	
Customer Services	1.030	0.943	-0.087		-0.063	Favourable variance is due to higher than anticipated fee income levels resulting from the resumption of Ceremonies following the relaxation of COVID restrictions	
Revenues	0.475	0.127	-0.348		-0.277	Favourable variance is in the main due to the projected potential surplus on the Council Tax Collection Fund (£0.193m), Welsh Government Lockdown Admin Grant and minor variances across the service	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.038	0.000		
Minor Variances	6.593	6.483	-0.110		-0.103	Cumulative minor variances across the portfolio	
<b>Total Governance</b>	<b>10.223</b>	<b>9.586</b>	<b>-0.637</b>	<b>0.038</b>	<b>-0.541</b>		
<b>Strategic Programmes</b>							
ADM's & CAT's	4.648	4.641	-0.007		-0.006		
<b>Total Strategic Programmes</b>	<b>4.648</b>	<b>4.641</b>	<b>-0.007</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>-0.006</b>		
<b>Housing &amp; Assets</b>							
Caretaking & Security	0.262	0.200	-0.062		-0.057	Projected underspend is due to salary savings on vacant posts	
Industrial Units	-1.237	-1.467	-0.230		-0.230	Additional unbudgeted income from new power generation lease	
Centralised Costs	2.783	2.585	-0.197		-0.125	Underspend on Gas and Electric due to continued reduced consumption	
Minor Variances	15.364	15.472	0.107		0.125		
<b>Total Housing &amp; Assets</b>	<b>17.172</b>	<b>16.790</b>	<b>-0.382</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>-0.287</b>		
<b>Chief Executive's</b>							
Staff savings due to vacant posts	2.350	2.257	-0.093		-0.087		
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000	-0.000		

**Budget Monitoring Report**  
**Council Fund Variances**

**MONTH 6 - SUMMARY**

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
Central & Corporate Finance	26.292	26.103	-0.189		-0.192	Over recovery of planned pension contributions recouped against actuarial projections based on the level of contributions received during the year. Projected outturn on Matrix rebates and inflation pressures anticipated, but not required to date.	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>297.457</b>	<b>297.230</b>	<b>-0.227</b>	<b>0.165</b>	<b>-0.182</b>		

2021/22 Efficiencies Outturn Tracker - M6

Efficiency Description	Accountable Officer	Efficiency Target	Projected Efficiency	(Under)/Over Achievement	Efficiency Open/Closed (O/C)	Confidence in Achievement of Efficiency Based on (see below) R = High Assumption A = Medium Assumption G = Figures Confirmed
		2021/22 £m	2021/22 £m	2021/22 £m		
<b>Portfolio</b>						
<b>Corporate</b>						
Employer Pension Contributions	Reduced requirement due to recovery	Rachel Parry Jones	0.300	0.300	0.000	C G
Workforce - Vacant Post	Reduction of Post	Rachel Parry Jones	0.030	0.030	0.000	C G
Remote Working Impacts	Reduced Operating Costs	Rachel Parry Jones	0.070	0.070	0.000	C G
Remote Working Impacts	Reduced Travel	All	0.200	0.200	0.000	C G
Price Inflation	Removal of Price Inflation	Rachel Parry Jones	0.113	0.113	0.000	C G
<b>Total Corporate Services</b>			<b>0.713</b>	<b>0.713</b>	<b>0.000</b>	
<b>Housing &amp; Assets</b>						
Property Savings (inc Demolition of Phases 3&4; utility savings)		Neal Cockerton	0.450	0.450	0.000	C G
NDR Inflationary Savings		Neal Cockerton	0.120	0.120	0.000	C G
Climate Change Levy		Neal Cockerton	0.295	0.295	0.000	C G
<b>Total Housing &amp; Assets</b>			<b>0.865</b>	<b>0.865</b>	<b>0.000</b>	
<b>Social Services</b>						
Vacancy Management Saving	Appropriate Vacancy Management	Neil Ayling	0.030	0.030	0.000	O G
Strategic Use of Grant Funding	Core Funding Replacement Solution	Neil Ayling	0.060	0.060	0.000	O G
Social Care Workforce Grant		Neil Ayling	0.430	0.430	0.000	O G
<b>Total Social Services</b>			<b>0.520</b>	<b>0.520</b>	<b>0.000</b>	
<b>Education &amp; Youth</b>						
Integrated Youth Provision	Youth Centres - Premises	Claire Homard	0.020	0.020	0.000	O G
<b>Total Education &amp; Youth</b>			<b>0.020</b>	<b>0.020</b>	<b>0.000</b>	
<b>Streetscene &amp; Transportation</b>						
Discretionary Transport Review - Post 16 Transport	Joint with Education	Steve O Jones	0.200	0.200	0.000	O R
<b>Total Streetscene &amp; Transportation</b>			<b>0.200</b>	<b>0.200</b>	<b>0.000</b>	
<b>Planning, Environment &amp; Economy</b>						
Planning Policy	Reduction of Post	Andy Roberts	0.045	0.045	0.000	C G
<b>Total Planning, Environment &amp; Economy</b>			<b>0.045</b>	<b>0.045</b>	<b>0.000</b>	
<b>Total 2021/22 Budget Efficiencies</b>			<b>2.363</b>	<b>2.363</b>	<b>0.000</b>	

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	%	£
Total 2021/22 Budget Efficiencies	100	2.363
Total Projected 2021/22 Budget Efficiencies Underachieved	0	0.000
Total Projected 2021/22 Budget Efficiencies Achieved	100	2.363
Total 2021/22 Budget Efficiencies (Less Previously agreed Decisions)		
Total Projected 2021/22 Budget Efficiencies Underachieved	0	0.000
Total Projected 2021/22 Budget Efficiencies Achieved	0	0.000

Corporate Efficiencies Remaining from Previous Years

Income Target Remaining	£m
Income Target Efficiency remaining from Previous Years	All Portfolios 0.051
<b>Total Income Efficiency Remaining</b>	<b>0.051</b> (0.051)

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**Movements on Council Fund Unearmarked Reserves**

	£m	£m
Total Reserves as at 1 April 2021	14.061	
Less - Base Level	(5.769)	
<b>Total Reserves above base level available for delegation to Cabinet</b>		8.292
Add - Transfer to Reserve Budget 2021/22		0.471
Add - Transfer from Earmarked Reserves (approved Month 5)		0.585
Less - COVID-19 Emergency Funding Allocation*		(2.317)
Less - Investment in Change (approved Month 2)		0.400
Less - Severe Weather (approved Month 2)		0.250
Less - Organisational Capacity Estimate (approved month 5)		0.103
Less - Childrens Services Social Work Costs (approved Month 5)		0.183
Add - Month 6 projected outturn		(0.227)
Less - projected national pay award increase		
<b>Total Contingency Reserve available for use</b>		<b>6.322</b>

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**Budget Monitoring Report**  
**Housing Revenue Account Variances**

**MONTH 6 - SUMMARY**

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
<b>Housing Revenue Account</b>						
Income	(37.259)	(36.728)	0.530	0.500	We are currently projecting a pressure of £0.441m due to loss of income in relation to vacant properties. Of this, £0.311m relates to void properties, £0.056m relates to the utilities charges on void properties and £0.074m relates to void garages. There is also a pressure of £0.083m relating to an assumed reduction in rental income on new build properties which were included in the Business Plan. There are other minor variances of £0.006m.	
Capital Financing - Loan Charges	8.047	8.047				
Estate Management	1.931	1.938	0.006	(0.028)	Minor variances	
Landlord Service Costs	1.469	1.505	0.036	0.036	Minor variances	
Repairs & Maintenance	10.431	10.414	(0.017)	(0.020)	Minor variances	Early indications from our supplier suggest an increase in the costs of some sourced Materials, this will be monitored closely over the next couple of months.
Management & Support Services	2.658	2.857	0.199	0.145	Efficiency in respect of salary costs of (£0.059m). Additional cost of the IT project work £0.050m. Pressure in relation to insurance costs of £0.208m.	
Capital Expenditure From Revenue (CERA)	13.442	13.442				
HRA Projects	(0.153)	(0.152)	0.001	0.001	Minor variances	
Contribution To / (From) Reserves	(0.566)	(0.566)				
<b>Total Housing Revenue Account</b>	<b>(0.000)</b>	<b>0.755</b>	<b>0.755</b>	<b>0.633</b>		

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## CABINET

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	Capital Programme Monitoring 2021/22 (Month 6)
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement
<b>Report Author</b>	Corporate Finance Manager
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report summarises changes made to the Capital Programme 2021/22 since it was set in December 2020 to the end of Month 6 (September 2021), along with expenditure to date and projected outturn.

The Capital Programme has seen a net decrease in budget of £2.174m during the period which comprises of:-

- Net budget increase in the programme of £2.435m (See Table 2 - Council Fund (CF) £6.200m, Housing Revenue Account (HRA) (£3.765m));
- Carry Forward to 2022/23, approved at Month 4 of (£4.099m) (all CF)
- Identified savings at Month 6 of (£0.510m) (CF).

Actual expenditure was £37.698m (See Table 3).

Capital receipts received in the second quarter of 2021/22, along with savings identified, total £1.352m. This gives a revised projected surplus in the Capital Programme at Month 6 of £4.147m (from a Month 4 funding position surplus of £2.795m) for the 2021/22 – 2023/24 Capital Programme, prior to the realisation of additional capital receipts and/or other funding sources.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

	Cabinet are requested to:
1	Approve the overall report.
2	Approve the carry forward adjustments, as set out in 1.14.
3	Approve the additional allocations, as set out in 1.16.

## REPORT DETAILS

<b>1.00</b>	<b>EXPLAINING THE CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING POSITION – MONTH 6 2021/22</b>																																																																																																																				
1.01	<p><b>Background</b></p> <p>The Council approved a Council Fund (CF) Capital Programme of £12.706m for 2021/22 at its meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020 and a Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Capital Programme of £34.835m for 2021/22 at its meeting on 16 February 2021.</p>																																																																																																																				
1.02	For presentational purposes the Capital Programme is shown as a whole, with sub-totals for the CF and HRA. In reality the HRA programme is ‘ring fenced’ and can only be used for HRA purposes.																																																																																																																				
1.03	<p><b>Changes since Budget approval</b></p> <p>Table 1 below sets out how the programme has changed during 2021/22. More detailed cumulative information relating to each Portfolio is provided in Appendix A:-</p> <p><b>Table 1</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">REVISED PROGRAMME</th> <th>Original Budget 2021/22</th> <th>Carry Forward from 2020/21</th> <th colspan="3">2021/22 Previously Reported</th> <th>Savings - This Period</th> <th>Changes - This Period</th> <th>Revised Budget 2021/22</th> </tr> <tr> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>Changes</th> <th>Carry Forward to 2022/23</th> <th>Savings</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>People &amp; Resources</td> <td>0.350</td> <td>0.260</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>(0.070)</td> <td>0.540</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governance</td> <td>0.422</td> <td>0.505</td> <td>0.004</td> <td>(0.095)</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.836</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education &amp; Youth</td> <td>5.877</td> <td>7.570</td> <td>2.993</td> <td>0.200</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>4.264</td> <td>20.904</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social Services</td> <td>1.020</td> <td>0.598</td> <td>1.551</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>(0.450)</td> <td>0.315</td> <td>3.034</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning, Environment &amp; Economy</td> <td>0.168</td> <td>0.850</td> <td>1.162</td> <td>(0.572)</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>(0.060)</td> <td>0.138</td> <td>1.686</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Streetscene &amp; Transportation</td> <td>2.015</td> <td>2.527</td> <td>14.292</td> <td>(1.976)</td> <td>(0.400)</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>1.417</td> <td>17.875</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strategic Programmes</td> <td>0.550</td> <td>1.425</td> <td>1.200</td> <td>(0.959)</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.018</td> <td>2.234</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Housing &amp; Assets</td> <td>2.304</td> <td>1.900</td> <td>0.773</td> <td>(0.697)</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.118</td> <td>4.398</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Council Fund Total</b></td> <td><b>12.706</b></td> <td><b>15.635</b></td> <td><b>21.975</b></td> <td><b>(4.099)</b></td> <td><b>(0.400)</b></td> <td><b>(0.510)</b></td> <td><b>6.200</b></td> <td><b>51.507</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>HRA Total</b></td> <td><b>34.835</b></td> <td><b>0.000</b></td> <td><b>(7.615)</b></td> <td><b>0.000</b></td> <td><b>0.000</b></td> <td><b>0.000</b></td> <td><b>(3.765)</b></td> <td><b>23.455</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Programme Total</b></td> <td><b>47.541</b></td> <td><b>15.635</b></td> <td><b>14.360</b></td> <td><b>(4.099)</b></td> <td><b>(0.400)</b></td> <td><b>(0.510)</b></td> <td><b>2.435</b></td> <td><b>74.962</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	REVISED PROGRAMME	Original Budget 2021/22	Carry Forward from 2020/21	2021/22 Previously Reported			Savings - This Period	Changes - This Period	Revised Budget 2021/22	£m	£m	Changes	Carry Forward to 2022/23	Savings	£m	£m	£m	People & Resources	0.350	0.260	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.070)	0.540	Governance	0.422	0.505	0.004	(0.095)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.836	Education & Youth	5.877	7.570	2.993	0.200	0.000	0.000	4.264	20.904	Social Services	1.020	0.598	1.551	0.000	0.000	(0.450)	0.315	3.034	Planning, Environment & Economy	0.168	0.850	1.162	(0.572)	0.000	(0.060)	0.138	1.686	Streetscene & Transportation	2.015	2.527	14.292	(1.976)	(0.400)	0.000	1.417	17.875	Strategic Programmes	0.550	1.425	1.200	(0.959)	0.000	0.000	0.018	2.234	Housing & Assets	2.304	1.900	0.773	(0.697)	0.000	0.000	0.118	4.398	<b>Council Fund Total</b>	<b>12.706</b>	<b>15.635</b>	<b>21.975</b>	<b>(4.099)</b>	<b>(0.400)</b>	<b>(0.510)</b>	<b>6.200</b>	<b>51.507</b>	<b>HRA Total</b>	<b>34.835</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(7.615)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(3.765)</b>	<b>23.455</b>	<b>Programme Total</b>	<b>47.541</b>	<b>15.635</b>	<b>14.360</b>	<b>(4.099)</b>	<b>(0.400)</b>	<b>(0.510)</b>	<b>2.435</b>	<b>74.962</b>
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1.04	<p><b>Carry Forward from 2020/21</b></p> <p>Carry forward sums from 2020/21 to 2021/22, totalling £15.635m (CF £15.635m, HRA £0.000m), were approved as a result of the quarterly monitoring reports presented to Cabinet during 2020/21.</p>																																																																					
1.05	<p><b>Changes during this period</b></p> <p>Funding changes during this period have resulted in a net increase in the programme total of £2.435m (CF £6.200m, HRA (£3.765m)). A summary of the changes, detailing major items, is shown in Table 2 below:-</p> <p><b>Table 2</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3" style="text-align: center;"><b>CHANGES DURING THIS PERIOD</b></th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><b>Para</b></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><b>£m</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b><u>COUNCIL FUND</u></b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b>Increases</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>School Modernisation</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.06</td> <td style="text-align: right;">2.249</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Primary Schools</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.07</td> <td style="text-align: right;">1.982</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Highways</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.08</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.866</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Secondary Schools</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.09</td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.584</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Aggregate Increases</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.719</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">6.400</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b>Decreases</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Aggregate Decreases</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">(0.200)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">(0.200)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>6.200</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b><u>HRA</u></b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b>Increases</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Aggregate Increases</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.400</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">0.400</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b>Decreases</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>SHARP</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.10</td> <td style="text-align: right;">(2.701)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other Aggregate Decreases</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">(1.464)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">(4.165)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>(3.765)</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>CHANGES DURING THIS PERIOD</b>				<b>Para</b>	<b>£m</b>	<b><u>COUNCIL FUND</u></b>			<b>Increases</b>			School Modernisation	1.06	2.249	Primary Schools	1.07	1.982	Highways	1.08	0.866	Secondary Schools	1.09	0.584	Other Aggregate Increases		0.719			6.400	<b>Decreases</b>			Other Aggregate Decreases		(0.200)			(0.200)	<b>Total</b>		<b>6.200</b>	<b><u>HRA</u></b>			<b>Increases</b>			Other Aggregate Increases		0.400			0.400	<b>Decreases</b>			SHARP	1.10	(2.701)	Other Aggregate Decreases		(1.464)			(4.165)	<b>Total</b>		<b>(3.765)</b>
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1.08	There has also been an introduction of grant funding from WG, relating to the highways service, for charging infrastructure points and the purchase of electric shuttle buses.																																																																																																																								
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1.11	<p><b>Capital Expenditure compared to Budget</b></p> <p>Expenditure as at Month 6, across the whole of the Capital Programme, was £37.698m. The breakdown of expenditure is analysed in Table 3, along with the percentage spend against budget.</p> <p>This shows that 50.29% of the budget has been spent (CF 52.37%, HRA 45.73%). Corresponding figures for Month 6 2020/21 were 29.61% (CF 27.13%, HRA 34.00%).</p>																																																																																																																								
1.12	<p>The table also shows a projected underspend (pending carry forward and other adjustments) of £0.939m on the Council Fund and a break even position on the HRA.</p> <p><b>Table 3</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>EXPENDITURE</th> <th>Revised Budget</th> <th>Cumulative Expenditure Month 6</th> <th>Percentage Spend v Budget</th> <th>Projected Outturn</th> <th>Variance Budget v Outturn (Under)/Over</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> <th>%</th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>People &amp; Resources</td> <td>0.540</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>0.00</td> <td>0.540</td> <td>0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governance</td> <td>0.836</td> <td>0.414</td> <td>49.52</td> <td>0.828</td> <td>(0.008)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education &amp; Youth</td> <td>20.904</td> <td>13.773</td> <td>65.89</td> <td>20.811</td> <td>(0.093)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social Services</td> <td>3.034</td> <td>2.355</td> <td>77.62</td> <td>3.034</td> <td>0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning, Environment &amp; Economy</td> <td>1.686</td> <td>0.851</td> <td>50.47</td> <td>1.661</td> <td>(0.025)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Streetscene &amp; Transportation</td> <td>17.875</td> <td>6.991</td> <td>39.11</td> <td>17.875</td> <td>0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strategic Programmes</td> <td>2.234</td> <td>1.137</td> <td>50.90</td> <td>1.807</td> <td>(0.427)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Housing &amp; Assets</td> <td>4.398</td> <td>1.451</td> <td>32.99</td> <td>4.012</td> <td>(0.386)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Council Fund Total</b></td> <td><b>51.507</b></td> <td><b>26.972</b></td> <td><b>52.37</b></td> <td><b>50.568</b></td> <td><b>(0.939)</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Buy Back / Strategic Acquisition</td> <td>0.400</td> <td>0.400</td> <td>100.00</td> <td>0.400</td> <td>0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Disabled Adaptations</td> <td>0.850</td> <td>0.323</td> <td>38.00</td> <td>0.850</td> <td>0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Energy Schemes</td> <td>0.960</td> <td>1.372</td> <td>142.92</td> <td>1.372</td> <td>0.412</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Major Works</td> <td>0.726</td> <td>0.219</td> <td>30.17</td> <td>0.726</td> <td>0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Accelerated Programmes</td> <td>0.561</td> <td>0.289</td> <td>51.52</td> <td>0.561</td> <td>0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WHQS Improvements</td> <td>15.958</td> <td>8.046</td> <td>50.42</td> <td>15.546</td> <td>(0.412)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SHARP Programme</td> <td>4.000</td> <td>0.077</td> <td>1.93</td> <td>4.000</td> <td>0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Housing Revenue Account Total</b></td> <td><b>23.455</b></td> <td><b>10.726</b></td> <td><b>45.73</b></td> <td><b>23.455</b></td> <td><b>(0.000)</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Programme Total</b></td> <td><b>74.962</b></td> <td><b>37.698</b></td> <td><b>50.29</b></td> <td><b>74.023</b></td> <td><b>(0.939)</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	EXPENDITURE	Revised Budget	Cumulative Expenditure Month 6	Percentage Spend v Budget	Projected Outturn	Variance Budget v Outturn (Under)/Over		£m	£m	%	£m	£m	People & Resources	0.540	0.000	0.00	0.540	0.000	Governance	0.836	0.414	49.52	0.828	(0.008)	Education & Youth	20.904	13.773	65.89	20.811	(0.093)	Social Services	3.034	2.355	77.62	3.034	0.000	Planning, Environment & Economy	1.686	0.851	50.47	1.661	(0.025)	Streetscene & Transportation	17.875	6.991	39.11	17.875	0.000	Strategic Programmes	2.234	1.137	50.90	1.807	(0.427)	Housing & Assets	4.398	1.451	32.99	4.012	(0.386)	<b>Council Fund Total</b>	<b>51.507</b>	<b>26.972</b>	<b>52.37</b>	<b>50.568</b>	<b>(0.939)</b>	Buy Back / Strategic Acquisition	0.400	0.400	100.00	0.400	0.000	Disabled Adaptations	0.850	0.323	38.00	0.850	0.000	Energy Schemes	0.960	1.372	142.92	1.372	0.412	Major Works	0.726	0.219	30.17	0.726	0.000	Accelerated Programmes	0.561	0.289	51.52	0.561	0.000	WHQS Improvements	15.958	8.046	50.42	15.546	(0.412)	SHARP Programme	4.000	0.077	1.93	4.000	0.000	<b>Housing Revenue Account Total</b>	<b>23.455</b>	<b>10.726</b>	<b>45.73</b>	<b>23.455</b>	<b>(0.000)</b>	<b>Programme Total</b>	<b>74.962</b>	<b>37.698</b>	<b>50.29</b>	<b>74.023</b>	<b>(0.939)</b>
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1.13	Details of the variances for individual programme areas are listed in Appendix B, which includes the reasons, and remedial actions which may be required, where those variances exceed +/- 10% of the revised budget. In addition, where carry forward into 2022/23 has been identified, this is also included in the narrative.																																							
1.14	<p><b>Carry Forward into 2022/23</b></p> <p>During the quarter, carry forward of £0.939m (all CF) has been identified which reflects reviewed spending plans across all programme areas; these amounts can be split into 2 areas, those required to meet the cost of programme works and/or retention payments in 2022/23.</p>																																							
1.15	<p>Information relating to each programme area is contained in Appendix B and summarised in Table 4 below:</p> <p><b>Table 4</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"><b>CARRY FORWARD INTO 2022/23</b></th> <th colspan="2"></th> <th><b>Total</b></th> </tr> <tr> <th><b>Month 4 £m</b></th> <th><b>Month 6 £m</b></th> <th><b>£m</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Governance</td> <td>0.095</td> <td>0.008</td> <td>0.103</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education &amp; Youth</td> <td>(0.200)</td> <td>0.093</td> <td>(0.107)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning, Environment &amp; Economy</td> <td>0.572</td> <td>0.025</td> <td>0.597</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Streetscene &amp; Transportation</td> <td>1.976</td> <td>0.000</td> <td>1.976</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strategic Programmes</td> <td>0.959</td> <td>0.427</td> <td>1.386</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Housing &amp; Assets</td> <td>0.697</td> <td>0.386</td> <td>1.083</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Council Fund</b></td> <td><b>4.099</b></td> <td><b>0.939</b></td> <td><b>5.038</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>TOTAL</b></td> <td><b>4.099</b></td> <td><b>0.939</b></td> <td><b>5.038</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>CARRY FORWARD INTO 2022/23</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>Month 4 £m</b>	<b>Month 6 £m</b>	<b>£m</b>	Governance	0.095	0.008	0.103	Education & Youth	(0.200)	0.093	(0.107)	Planning, Environment & Economy	0.572	0.025	0.597	Streetscene & Transportation	1.976	0.000	1.976	Strategic Programmes	0.959	0.427	1.386	Housing & Assets	0.697	0.386	1.083	<b>Council Fund</b>	<b>4.099</b>	<b>0.939</b>	<b>5.038</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4.099</b>	<b>0.939</b>	<b>5.038</b>
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1.16	<p><b>Additional Allocations</b></p> <p>Additional allocations have been identified in the programme in this quarter as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ewloe Green CP School - £0.090m. An opportunity presented itself to purchase a parcel of land to the rear of the school to facilitate development of the site, to meet the current and future demand for pupil places in the area.</li> <li>• B5101 – Ffrith Land Slip - £0.120m. Adverse weather during the first quarter of the year caused landslips on the B5101, Ffrith. Funding is required to complete remedial works and install remote alert systems at the site, to monitor any future movements within the embankment, allowing the highway to be reopened.</li> <li>• New Street Car Park, Mold - £0.048m. Urgent flood prevention works requiring immediate action. A long term solution has been identified in the 2022/23 capital programme.</li> </ul>																																							

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Northop Hall CP School - £0.092m. Funding to support a permanent classroom extension at the school, in place of providing a mobile classroom provision. The school will contribute an additional £0.053m towards the project.</li> </ul> <p>All can be funded from within the current 'headroom' provision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Target Hardening works - £0.035m. Funding required for a programme of target hardening works in year.</li> </ul> <p>This can be funded from within the current health and safety provision.</p>																														
1.17	<p><b>Savings</b></p> <p>The following savings have been identified in the programme in this quarter.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marleyfield House Residential Care Home - £0.450m. A saving has been identified on the scheme now all works have been completed, which can be released back into the capital programme.</li> <li>Group Repair Scheme - £0.060m. A budget provision was set to resolve any legacy issues arising from the historic group repair programmes. It is deemed that this budget is no longer required.</li> </ul>																														
1.18	<p><b>Funding of 2021/22 Approved Schemes</b></p> <p>The position at Month 6 is summarised in Table 5 below for the three year Capital Programme between 2021/22 – 2023/24:-</p> <p><b>Table 5</b></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3">FUNDING OF APPROVED SCHEMES 2021/22 - 2023/24</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>£m</th> <th>£m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Balance carried forward from 2020/21</td> <td></td> <td>(1.968)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Increases</b></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shortfall in 2021/22 to 2023/24 Budget</td> <td>1.317</td> <td>1.317</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Decreases</b></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Additional GCG - 2021/22 Confirmed</td> <td>(1.461)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Actual In year receipts</td> <td>(1.125)</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Savings</td> <td>(0.910)</td> <td>(3.496)</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Funding - (Available)/Shortfall</b></td> <td></td> <td><b>(4.147)</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	FUNDING OF APPROVED SCHEMES 2021/22 - 2023/24				£m	£m	Balance carried forward from 2020/21		(1.968)	<b>Increases</b>			Shortfall in 2021/22 to 2023/24 Budget	1.317	1.317	<b>Decreases</b>			Additional GCG - 2021/22 Confirmed	(1.461)		Actual In year receipts	(1.125)		Savings	(0.910)	(3.496)	<b>Funding - (Available)/Shortfall</b>		<b>(4.147)</b>
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1.19	<p>The final outturn funding surplus from the 2020/21 – 2022/23 Capital Programme was £1.968m.</p>																														

The 2021/22 – 2023/24 Capital Programme was approved on the 8<sup>th</sup> December 2020, with a funding deficit of £1.317m. Following the final local government settlement, the Council received additional funding and this resulted in the programme being in a surplus position of £0.144m over the three year period. This surplus carry forward led to an opening funding position surplus of £2.112m.

Capital receipts received in the second quarter of 2021/22, along with savings identified, total £1.352m. This gives a revised projected surplus in the Capital Programme at Month 6 of £4.147m (from a Month 4 funding position surplus of £2.795m) for the 2021/22 – 2023/24 Capital Programme, prior to the realisation of additional capital receipts and/or other funding sources.

**1.20 Investment in County Towns**

At its meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2017, the Council approved a Notice of Motion relating to the reporting of investment in county towns. The extent and format of the reporting was agreed at the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

1.21 Table 6 below shows a summary of the 2020/21 actual expenditure, the 2021/22 revised budget and budgets for future years as approved by Council at its meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2020. Further detail can be found in Appendix C, including details of the 2021/22 spend to Month 6.

**Table 6**

<b>INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS</b>			
	<b>2020/21 Actual £m</b>	<b>2021/22 Revised Budget £m</b>	<b>2022 - 2024 Budget £m</b>
Buckley / Penyffordd	10.157	2.899	5.598
Connah's Quay / Shotton	1.412	2.286	3.442
Flint / Bagillt	2.181	0.738	8.144
Holywell / Caerwys / Mostyn	1.457	6.038	4.060
Mold / Treuddyn / Cilcain	5.655	6.438	7.346
Queensferry / Hawarden / Sealand	5.825	9.954	3.878
Saltney / Broughton / Hope	4.841	4.832	0.000
Unallocated / To Be Confirmed	1.256	3.450	17.676
<b>Total</b>	<b>32.784</b>	<b>36.635</b>	<b>50.144</b>

1.22 The inclusion of actuals for 2020/21 and approved schemes for future years allows a slightly fuller picture of investment plans. However, expenditure which has occurred in years' prior to 2020/21 has not been included, and the expenditure and budgets reported should be considered in that context.

1.23	There are two significant factors which increase allocations to particular areas, these are homes developed under SHARP, and new or remodelled schools. The impact of these can be seen in the detail shown in Appendix C.																											
1.24	Some expenditure cannot yet be allocated to specific towns as schemes are not yet fully developed or are generic in nature and not easily identifiable to one of the seven areas. As such schemes are identified the expenditure will be allocated to the relevant area.																											
1.25	Information on the split between internal and external funding can be found in Appendix C.																											
1.26	<p>In addition to the information contained in Appendix C, there is also considerable capital expenditure on the HRA Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS), which was originally outside the scope of this analysis. A summary is provided in Table 7 below, albeit using a slightly different catchment area basis.</p> <p><b>Table 7</b></p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="3" style="text-align: left;"><b>WHQS Programme</b></th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><b>2020/21 Actual £m</b></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><b>2021/22 Budget £m</b></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Holywell</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0.136</td> <td style="text-align: center;">4.930</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Flint</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0.189</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.130</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Deeside &amp; Saltney</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2.151</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2.730</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Buckley</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.568</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.630</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Mold</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.160</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.030</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Connah's Quay &amp; Shotton</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0.632</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0.877</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>7.836</b></td> <td style="text-align: center;"><b>18.327</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>WHQS Programme</b>				<b>2020/21 Actual £m</b>	<b>2021/22 Budget £m</b>	Holywell	0.136	4.930	Flint	0.189	3.130	Deeside & Saltney	2.151	2.730	Buckley	3.568	3.630	Mold	1.160	3.030	Connah's Quay & Shotton	0.632	0.877	<b>Total</b>	<b>7.836</b>	<b>18.327</b>
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<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	Financial implications - As set out in the body of the report.
2.02	Personnel implications - None directly as a result of this report.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
3.01	The impact of the pandemic will continue to be monitored closely during this financial year. Due to the re-profiling of schemes from the 2020/21 and resources available to manage and deliver schemes, the levels of planned

	<p>expenditure in 2021/22 may be affected, resulting in a high level of carry forward requests to re-phase budgets into the 2022/23 programme.</p> <p>In addition to the above, there are currently indications that material supplies, and demand, are being impacted by overseas supply market disruption leading to potential cost increases, higher tender prices and project delays.</p> <p>Grants received will also to be closely monitored to ensure that expenditure is incurred within the terms and conditions of the grant. The capital team will work with project leads to report potential risks of achieving spend within timescales and assist in liaising with the grant provider.</p> <p>The Council has a prudent policy of allocating its own capital receipts to fund capital projects only when receipts are actually received rather than when it is anticipated the receipt will be received, and this position continues to be the case. Due to the pandemic, there may be a delay in obtaining capital receipts as the timing of these receipts are also subject to market forces outside of the Council's control. In line with current policy, no allowance has been made for these receipts in reporting the Council's capital funding position.</p>
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<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	No consultation is required as a direct result of this report.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix A: Capital Programme - Changes during 2021/22
5.02	Appendix B: Variances
5.03	Appendix C: Investment in Towns

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	Capital Programme monitoring papers 2021/22.

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Chris Taylor, Strategic Finance Manager  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 703309  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:christopher.taylor@flintshire.gov.uk">christopher.taylor@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p><b>Budget Re-profiling:</b> Capital schemes are very dynamic and a number of factors can influence their timing and funding. Budget re-profiling assures that the correct resources are available in the correct accounting period to finance the actual level of expenditure.</p> <p><b>Capital Expenditure:</b> Expenditure on the acquisition of <b>non-current assets</b> or expenditure which extends the useful life of an existing asset</p> <p><b>Capital Programme:</b> The Council's financial plan covering capital schemes and expenditure proposals for the current year and a number of future years. It also includes estimates of the capital resources available to finance the programme.</p> <p><b>Capital Receipts:</b> Receipts (in excess of £10,000) realised from the disposal of assets.</p> <p><b>Carry Forward:</b> Carry forward occurs when schemes due to be completed in a given financial year are delayed until a subsequent year. In this case the relevant funding is carried forward to meet the delayed, contractually committed expenditure.</p> <p><b>CERA:</b> Capital Expenditure charged to Revenue Account. The Council is allowed to use its revenue resources to fund capital expenditure. However the opposite is not permissible.</p> <p><b>Council Fund (CF):</b> The fund to which all the Council's revenue and capital expenditure is charged.</p> <p><b>Housing Revenue Account (HRA):</b> The fund to which all the Council's revenue and capital expenditure relating to its housing stock is charged.</p> <p><b>MRA:</b> Major Repairs Allowance. A general capital grant from WG for HRA purposes.</p> <p><b>Non-current Asset:</b> A resource controlled (but not necessarily owned) by the Council, from which economic benefits or service potential are expected to flow to the Council for more than 12 months.</p> <p><b>Section 106:</b> Monies are received from developers/contractors pursuant to Section 106 of the Town &amp; Country Planning Act 1990. These sums are available for use once the relevant terms of the individual agreement have been met. The monies are most commonly used for educational enhancement, play areas, highways and affordable housing.</p> <p><b>Target Hardening:</b> Measures taken to prevent unauthorised access to Council sites.</p> <p><b>Unhypothecated Supported Borrowing (USB), commonly referred to as Supported Borrowing -</b> Each year Welsh Government provide Councils with a Supported Borrowing allocation. Councils borrow to fund capital expenditure equivalent to that annual allocation, Welsh Government then include funding to cover the revenue costs associated</p>

with the borrowing for future years within the Revenue Support Grant. The Council decides how this funding is spent.

**Unsupported (Prudential) Borrowing:** Borrowing administered under the Prudential Code, whereby Authorities can set their own policies on acceptable levels and types of borrowing. The Prudential Framework allows Authorities to take out loans in response to overall cash flow forecasts and other factors provided they can show that the borrowing is to meet planned capital expenditure in the current year or the next three years.

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## CAPITAL PROGRAMME - CHANGES DURING 2021/22

	Original Budget 2021/22	Carry Forward from 2020/21	2021/22 Previously Reported			Savings (Current)	Changes (Current)	Revised Budget 2021/22
			Changes	Carry Forward to 2022/23	Savings			
	£m	£m	£m	£m		£m	£m	£m
<b>Council Fund :</b>								
<b>People &amp; Resources</b>								
'Headroom'	0.350	0.210	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.070)	0.490
Corporate Finance - H & S	0.000	0.050	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.050
	<b>0.350</b>	<b>0.260</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(0.070)</b>	<b>0.540</b>
<b>Governance</b>								
Information Technology	0.422	0.505	0.004	(0.095)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.836
	<b>0.422</b>	<b>0.505</b>	<b>0.004</b>	<b>(0.095)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.836</b>
<b>Education &amp; Youth</b>								
Education - General	0.445	3.454	(0.515)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.351)	3.033
Primary Schools	1.400	0.400	0.680	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.982	4.462
Schools Modernisation	3.525	0.217	1.504	0.000	0.000	0.000	2.249	7.495
Secondary Schools	0.207	3.400	0.884	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.584	5.075
Special Education	0.300	0.099	0.440	0.200	0.000	0.000	(0.200)	0.839
	<b>5.877</b>	<b>7.570</b>	<b>2.993</b>	<b>0.200</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>4.264</b>	<b>20.904</b>
<b>Social Services</b>								
Services to Older People	0.656	0.506	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.450)	0.158	0.870
Children's Services	0.364	0.092	1.551	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.157	2.164
	<b>1.020</b>	<b>0.598</b>	<b>1.551</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(0.450)</b>	<b>0.315</b>	<b>3.034</b>
<b>Planning, Environment &amp; Economy</b>								
Closed Landfill Sites	0.000	0.250	0.000	(0.250)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Engineering	0.038	0.372	0.075	(0.262)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.223
Energy Services	0.000	0.000	0.711	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.711
Ranger Services	0.040	(0.022)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.018
Townscape Heritage Initiatives	0.050	0.180	0.173	(0.060)	0.000	0.000	0.001	0.344
Private Sector Renewal/Improv't	0.040	0.070	0.203	0.000	0.000	(0.060)	0.137	0.390
	<b>0.168</b>	<b>0.850</b>	<b>1.162</b>	<b>(0.572)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(0.060)</b>	<b>0.138</b>	<b>1.686</b>
<b>Streetscene &amp; Transportation</b>								
Waste	1.150	1.230	2.216	(1.930)	(0.400)	0.000	0.122	2.388
Cemeteries	0.265	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.265
Highways	0.600	1.234	1.178	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.866	3.878
Local Transport Grant	0.000	0.017	10.898	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.429	11.344
Solar Farms	0.000	0.046	0.000	(0.046)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
	<b>2.015</b>	<b>2.527</b>	<b>14.292</b>	<b>(1.976)</b>	<b>(0.400)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>1.417</b>	<b>17.875</b>

	Original Budget 2021/22	Carry Forward from 2020/21	2021/22 Previously Reported			Savings (Current)	Changes (Current)	Revised Budget 2021/22
			Changes	Carry Forward to 2022/23	Savings			
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
<b>Strategic Programmes</b>								
Leisure Centres	0.250	0.107	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.357
Play Areas	0.200	0.350	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.018	0.568
Libraries	0.000	0.009	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.009
Theatr Clwyd	0.100	0.959	1.200	(0.959)	0.000	0.000	0.000	1.300
	<b>0.550</b>	<b>1.425</b>	<b>1.200</b>	<b>(0.959)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.018</b>	<b>2.234</b>
<b>Housing &amp; Assets</b>								
Administrative Buildings	0.644	0.424	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.070	1.138
Community Asset Transfers	0.000	0.697	0.000	(0.697)	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Affordable Housing	0.000	0.000	0.582	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.582
Disabled Facilities Grants	1.660	0.779	0.191	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.048	2.678
	<b>2.304</b>	<b>1.900</b>	<b>0.773</b>	<b>(0.697)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.118</b>	<b>4.398</b>
<b>Housing Revenue Account :</b>								
Buy Back / Strategic Acquisition	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.400	0.400
Disabled Adaptations	1.114	0.000	-0.264	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.850
Energy Schemes	0.510	0.000	0.450	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.960
Major Works	0.726	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.726
Accelerated Programmes	0.561	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.561
WHQS Improvements	16.530	0.000	-0.450	0.000	0.000	0.000	(0.122)	15.958
Modernisation / Improvements	1.342	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	(1.342)	0.000
SHARP Programme	14.052	0.000	(7.351)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(2.701)	4.000
	<b>34.835</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(7.615)</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>(3.765)</b>	<b>23.455</b>
<b>Totals :</b>								
<b>Council Fund</b>	12.706	15.635	21.975	(4.099)	(0.400)	(0.510)	6.200	51.507
<b>Housing Revenue Account</b>	34.835	0.000	(7.615)	0.000	0.000	0.000	(3.765)	23.455
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>47.541</b>	<b>15.635</b>	<b>14.360</b>	<b>(4.099)</b>	<b>(0.400)</b>	<b>(0.510)</b>	<b>2.435</b>	<b>74.962</b>

## PEOPLE &amp; RESOURCES

## Capital Budget Monitoring 2021/22 - Month 6

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
'Headroom'	0.490	0.000	0.490	0.000	0	0.000		Corporate provision - to be allocated as requested and approved.	Any unspent allocation will be the subject of a carry forward request at outturn.
Corporate Finance - Health & Safety	0.050	0.000	0.050	0.000	0	0.000		Corporate provision - to be allocated as requested and approved.	Any unspent allocation will be the subject of a carry forward request at outturn.
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.540</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.540</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.000</b>			

## GOVERNANCE

## Capital Budget Monitoring 2021/22 - Month 6

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Information Technology	0.836	0.414	0.828	(0.008)	-1	(0.095)	Air conditioning replacement retentions will fall into 2022/23.	<b>Carry Forward</b> - Request approval to move funding of <b>£0.008m</b> to 2022/23.	
<b>Total</b>	<b>0.836</b>	<b>0.414</b>	<b>0.828</b>	<b>(0.008)</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>(0.095)</b>			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

## EDUCATION &amp; YOUTH

## Capital Budget Monitoring 2021/22 - Month 6

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Education - General	3.033	0.648	3.021	(0.012)	-0	0.000	Repairs and maintenance retentions will fall into 2022/23.	<b>Carry Forward</b> - Request approval to move funding of <b>£0.012m</b> to 2022/23.	
Primary Schools	4.462	2.169	4.396	(0.066)	-1	0.000	Glanrafon capital project retention to fall into 2022/23.	<b>Carry Forward</b> - Request approval to move funding of <b>£0.066m</b> to 2022/23.	
Schools Modernisation	7.495	6.576	7.495	0.000	0	0.000			
Secondary Schools	5.075	4.310	5.060	(0.015)	-0	0.000	Mold Alun work retentions will fall into 2022/23.	<b>Carry Forward</b> - Request approval to move funding of <b>£0.015m</b> to 2022/23.	
Special Education	0.839	0.070	0.839	0.000	0	0.200			
<b>Total</b>	<b>20.904</b>	<b>13.773</b>	<b>20.811</b>	<b>(0.093)</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>0.200</b>			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

## SOCIAL SERVICES

## Capital Budget Monitoring 2021/22 - Month 6

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Services to Older People	0.870	0.487	0.870	0.000	0	0.000			Saving identified of £0.450m in relation to the scheme at Marleyfield House Residential Home.
Children's Services	2.164	1.867	2.164	0.000	0	0.000			
<b>Total</b>	<b>3.034</b>	<b>2.355</b>	<b>3.034</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.000</b>			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

## PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT &amp; ECONOMY

## Capital Budget Monitoring 2021/22 - Month 6

Programme Area	Total Budget	Actual Exp.	Projected Outturn	Variance (Under)/ Over	Variance %age	Variance Prev Qtr	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	£m	%	£m			
Closed Landfill Sites	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0	(0.250)			
Engineering	0.223	0.001	0.223	0.000	0	(0.262)			
Energy Services	0.711	0.272	0.711	0.000	0	0.000			
Ranger Services	0.018	0.002	0.018	0.000	0	0.000			
Townscape Heritage Initiatives	0.344	0.215	0.319	(0.025)	-7	(0.060)	Underspend in relation to the Building Repair Scheme. This is a 2 year project, with progress in year being delayed due to the pandemic.	Carry Forward - Request approval to move funding of £0.025m to 2022/23.	
Private Sector Renewal/Improvement	0.390	0.361	0.390	0.000	0	0.000			Expenditure is driven by demand. Saving identified of £0.060m in relation to the Group Repair Scheme.
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.686</b>	<b>0.851</b>	<b>1.661</b>	<b>(0.025)</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>(0.572)</b>			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

## STREETSCENE &amp; TRANSPORTATION

## Capital Budget Monitoring 2021/22 - Month 6

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Waste Services	2.388	0.693	2.388	0.000	0	(1.930)			
Cemeteries	0.265	0.001	0.265	0.000	0	0.000			
Highways	3.878	1.159	3.878	0.000	0	0.000			
Local Transport Grant	11.344	5.138	11.344	0.000	0	0.000			
Solar Farms	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0	(0.046)			
<b>Total</b>	<b>17.875</b>	<b>6.991</b>	<b>17.875</b>	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(1.976)</b>			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

## STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES

## Capital Budget Monitoring 2021/22 - Month 6

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Leisure Centres	0.357	0.013	0.207	(0.150)	-42	0.000	Roofing works at Deeside Leisure Centre will not take place in 2021/22 due to the ongoing reinstatement works.	<b>Carry Forward</b> - Request approval to move funding of <b>£0.150m</b> to 2022/23.	
Play Areas	0.568	0.063	0.291	(0.277)	-49	0.000	Funding of £0.210m is unlikely to be spent in 2021/22. Works at Bailey Hill should be completed early next year, however play areas equipment may not be received until next financial year, £0.067m.	<b>Carry Forward</b> - Request approval to move funding of <b>£0.277m</b> to 2022/23.	
Libraries	0.009	0.000	0.009	0.000	0	0.000			
Theatr Clwyd	1.300	1.061	1.300	0.000	0	(0.959)			
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.234</b>	<b>1.137</b>	<b>1.807</b>	<b>(0.427)</b>	<b>-19</b>	<b>(0.959)</b>			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn



## HOUSING &amp; ASSETS

## Capital Budget Monitoring 2021/22 - Month 6

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Administrative Buildings	1.138	0.196	1.138	0.000	0	0.000			
Community Asset Transfers	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		(0.697)			
Affordable Housing	0.582	0.582	0.582	0.000	0	0.000			
Disabled Facilities Grants	2.678	0.673	2.292	(0.386)	-14	0.000	Works scheduled to be completed in 2021/22 have been delayed due to a shortage of staff in the team, supply chain issues and a national shortage in social care staff, which has resulted in delayed referrals from occupational therapists. The delayed works are scheduled to be complete in 2022/23.	<b>Carry Forward</b> - Request approval to move funding of <b>£0.386m</b> to 2022/23.	DFG spend is customer driven and volatile.
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.398</b>	<b>1.451</b>	<b>4.012</b>	<b>(0.386)</b>	<b>-9</b>	<b>(0.697)</b>			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

## HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT

## Capital Budget Monitoring 2021/22 - Month 6

Programme Area	Total Budget £m	Actual Exp. £m	Projected Outturn £m	Variance (Under)/ Over £m	Variance %age %	Variance Prev Qtr £m	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
Buy Back / Strategic Acquisition	0.400	0.400	0.400	0.000	0	0.000			
Disabled Adaptations	0.850	0.323	0.850	0.000	0	0.000			
Energy Services	0.960	1.372	1.372	0.412	43	0.450	Energy spend above budget allocation will be met through income generated from the feeding tariffs and potential WHQS underspends.		
Main Works	0.726	0.219	0.726	0.000	0	0.000			
Accelerated Programmes	0.561	0.289	0.561	0.000	0	0.000			
WHQS Improvements	15.958	8.046	15.546	(0.412)	-3	(0.450)	Potential WHQS underspend to be utilised within Energy Services.		
Modernisation / Improvements	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000					
SHARP	4.000	0.077	4.000	0.000	0	0.000			
<b>Total</b>	<b>23.455</b>	<b>10.726</b>	<b>23.455</b>	<b>(0.000)</b>	<b>-0</b>	<b>0.000</b>			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

## SUMMARY

## Capital Budget Monitoring 2021/22 - Month 6

Programme Area	Total Budget	Actual Exp.	Projected Outturn	Variance (Under)/ Over	Variance %age	Variance Prev Qtr	Cause of Variance	Action Required	Comments
	£m	£m	£m	£m	%	£m			
People & Resources	0.540	0.000	0.540	0.000	0	0.000			
Governance	0.836	0.414	0.828	(0.008)	-1	(0.095)			
Education & Youth	20.904	13.773	20.811	(0.093)	-0	0.200			
Social Services	3.034	2.355	3.034	0.000	0	0.000			
Planning, Environment & Economy	1.686	0.851	1.661	(0.025)	-1	(0.572)			
Streetscene & Transportation	17.875	6.991	17.875	0.000	0	(1.976)			
Strategic Programmes	2.234	1.137	1.807	(0.427)	-19	(0.959)			
Housing & Assets	4.398	1.451	4.012	(0.386)	-9	(0.697)			
<b>Sub Total - Council Fund</b>	<b>51.507</b>	<b>26.971</b>	<b>50.568</b>	<b>(0.939)</b>	<b>-2</b>	<b>(4.099)</b>			
Housing Revenue Account	23.455	10.726	23.455	0.000	0	0.000			
<b>Total</b>	<b>74.962</b>	<b>37.698</b>	<b>74.023</b>	<b>(0.939)</b>	<b>-1</b>	<b>(4.099)</b>			

Variance = Budget v Projected Outturn

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INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS - 2020/21 ACTUAL SPEND

APPENDIX C

TOWN FUNDING	20/21 ACTUAL £000	BUCKLEY		CONNAH'S QUAY		FLINT		HOLYWELL		MOLD		QUEENSFERRY		SALTNEY		UNALLOCATED		TOTALS			
		Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Total £000	
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>																					
<b>HOUSING - HRA</b>																					
SHARP	1,152	122		20		51		187		227		366					179		1,152	0	1,152
<b>EDUCATION &amp; YOUTH</b>																					
Connah's Quay High School	264			69	195														69	195	264
Queensferry Campus	3,303												3,303						0	3,303	3,303
Ysgol Glanrafon	770										770								0	770	770
Castell Alun High School	3,511													3,511					3,511	0	3,511
<b>SOCIAL CARE</b>																					
Marleyfield EPH	8,005	4,225	3,780																4,225	3,780	8,005
<b>PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT &amp; ECONOMY</b>																					
Solar PV Farms	2,058			433		1,625													2,058	0	2,058
<b>STREETSCENE &amp; TRANSPORTION</b>																					
Highways Maintenance	1,259		131		54				398		156		53		243		140	84	140	1,119	1,259
Transport Grant	6,136		45		641		505	164	708		30		2,103		1,087			853	164	5,972	6,136
Improvements to Standard Yard Waste Transfer Station	447		447																0	447	447
<b>STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES</b>																					
Theatr Clwyd - Redevelopment	1,808										1,808								0	1,808	1,808
<b>HOUSING &amp; ASSETS</b>																					
County Hall Demolition	1,042										1,042								1,042	0	1,042
Affordable Housing	3,029	1,407									1,622								3,029	0	3,029
	32,784	5,754	4,403	522	890	1,676	505	351	1,106	2,891	2,764	366	5,459	3,511	1,330	319	937	15,390	17,394	32,784	
<b>AREA TOTAL</b>			10,157	1,412	2,181	1,457	5,655	5,825	4,841	1,256											

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INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS - 2021/22 REVISED BUDGET

APPENDIX C (Cont)

TOWN FUNDING	REVISED BUDGET £000	BUCKLEY		CONNAH'S QUAY		FLINT		HOLYWELL		MOLD		QUEENSFERRY		SALTNEY		UNALLOCATED		TOTALS			
		Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Total £000	
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>																					
<b>HOUSING - HRA</b>																					
SHARP	4,000					262		3,738											4,000	0	4,000
<b>EDUCATION &amp; YOUTH</b>																					
Queensferry Campus	6,482											2,166	4,316						2,166	4,316	6,482
Ysgol Glanrafon	2,398									311	2,087								311	2,087	2,398
Castell Alun High School	3,700													3,121	579			3,121	579	3,700	
<b>SOCIAL CARE</b>																					
Marleyfield EPH	712		712																712	0	712
Ty Nyth, Children's Residential Care	1,100										1,100								0	1,100	1,100
<b>PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT &amp; ECONOMY</b>																					
Solar PV Farms	699				699														699	0	699
<b>STREETSCENE &amp; TRANSPORTION</b>																					
Improvements to Standard Yard Waste Transfer Station	853		853																0	853	853
Improvements to Greenfield Waste Transfer Station	768							50	718										50	718	768
Highways Maintenance	2,697		28						421		433		180		73	1,562	0	1,562	1,135	2,697	
Transport Grant	11,344		1,306		1,587		476	17	1,094		625		3,292		1,059		1,888	17	11,327	11,344	
<b>STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES</b>																					
Ffynistr Clwyd - Redevelopment	1,300									100	1,200								100	1,200	1,300
<b>HOUSING &amp; ASSETS</b>																					
Affordable Housing	582										582								582	0	582
	36,635	712	2,187	699	1,587	262	476	3,805	2,233	993	5,445	2,166	7,788	3,121	1,711	1,562	1,888	13,320	23,315	36,635	
<b>AREA TOTAL</b>			2,899		2,286		738		6,038		6,438		9,954		4,832		3,450				

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TOWN FUNDING	ACTUAL TO DATE £000	BUCKLEY		CONNAH'S QUAY		FLINT		HOLYWELL		MOLD		QUEENSFERRY		SALTNEY		UNALLOCATED		TOTALS				
		Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Total £000		
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>																						
<b>HOUSING - HRA</b>																						
SHARP	77					20		57												77	0	77
<b>EDUCATION &amp; YOUTH</b>																						
Queensferry Campus	6,138											1,822	4,316							1,822	4,316	6,138
Ysgol Glanrafon	1,872										1,872									0	1,872	1,872
Castell Alun High School	3,646													3,121	525					3,121	525	3,646
<b>SOCIAL CARE</b>																						
Marleyfield EPH	488	488																		488	0	488
Ty Nyth, Children's Residential Care	12										12									0	12	12
<b>PLANNING, ENVIRONMENT &amp; ECONOMY</b>																						
Solar PV Farms	237			237																237	0	237
<b>STREETSCENE &amp; TRANSPORTION</b>																						
Improvements to Standard Yard Waste Transfer Station	233		233																	0	233	233
Improvements to Greenfield Waste Transfer Station	461								461											0	461	461
Highways Maintenance	1,136		28						421		433		180		73					0	1,135	1,135
Transport Grant	5,138		826				447	2	429		451		2,395		572		16		2	5,136	5,138	
<b>STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES</b>																						
Theatr Clwyd - Redevelopment	1,061										1,061									0	1,061	1,061
<b>HOUSING &amp; ASSETS</b>																						
Affordable Housing	582									582										582	0	582
	<b>21,081</b>	<b>488</b>	<b>1,087</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>1,311</b>	<b>582</b>	<b>3,829</b>	<b>1,822</b>	<b>6,891</b>	<b>3,121</b>	<b>1,170</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>16</b>		<b>6,329</b>	<b>14,751</b>	<b>21,080</b>	

AREA TOTAL

1,575      237      467      1,370      4,411      8,713      4,291      16

INVESTMENT IN COUNTY TOWNS - 2022- 2024 BUDGET

APPENDIX C (Cont)

TOWN FUNDING	FUTURE BUDGET £000	BUCKLEY		CONNAH'S QUAY		FLINT		HOLYWELL		MOLD		QUEENSFERRY		SALTNEY		UNALLOCATED		TOTALS			
		Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Internal £000	External £000	Total £000			
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>																					
<b>HOUSING - HRA</b>																					
SHARP	10,052	968		817		44		4,060		3,285		878							10,052	0	10,052
<b>EDUCATION &amp; YOUTH</b>																					
Ysgol Croes Atti, Shotton	1,125			262	863														262	863	1,125
Ysgol Croes Atti, Flint	5,500					1,925	3,575												1,925	3,575	5,500
Drury County Primary	2,700	945	1,755																945	1,755	2,700
Joint Archive Facility, FCC and DCC	2,783									2,783									2,783	0	2,783
<b>SOCIAL CARE</b>																					
Mockingbird	384																384		384	0	384
<b>STREETSCENE &amp; TRANSPORTION</b>																					
Improvements to Standard Yard Waste Transfer Station	1,930	1,930																	1,930	0	1,930
Highways Asset Management Plan	1,200																1,200		1,200	0	1,200
<b>STRATEGIC PROGRAMMES</b>																					
Theatr Clwyd - Redevelopment	960									960									960	0	960
<b>HOUSING &amp; ASSETS</b>																					
Affordable Housing	23,510			1,500		2,600				318		3,000					16,092		23,510	0	23,510
	50,144	3,843	1,755	2,579	863	4,569	3,575	4,060	0	7,346	0	3,878	0	0	0	0	17,676	0	43,951	6,193	50,144

AREA TOTAL

5,598

3,442

8,144

4,060

7,346

3,878

0

17,676





## CABINET

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 16 November 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	Council Tax Base for 2022/23
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Governance)
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Setting of the Council Tax Base is integral to the revenue budget and Council Tax setting process for 2022/23 and allows the Council, Police & Crime Commissioners Office for North Wales and Town/Community Councils to calculate next year's Council Tax precept.

The Base for has been calculated at 65,194 Band 'D' equivalent properties, after taking into account the total number of properties that will be subject to Council Tax, less those which are exempt from Council Tax or where statutory household discounts apply.

Setting in the Tax Base at 65,194 Band 'D' equivalents also represents marginal growth in the Tax Base of 0.26% compared to the previous year, equivalent to an increase of 168 band D equivalent properties after taking into account the natural movement in discount and exemption levels.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Approve the Tax Base of 65,194 band D equivalent properties for tax setting purposes (as shown in Appendix 1) for the financial year 2022/23.
2	Continue to set a 'nil' discount for properties falling within any of the Prescribed Classes (A, B or C) and for this to apply to the whole of the County area.
3	Continue to set a 50% Premium for 2022-23 on long term empty property and second homes falling into the Council Tax Premium scheme.

## **REPORT DETAILS**

<b>1.00</b>	<b>EXPLAINING THE COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2022/23</b>
1.01	The Council fulfils the role of 'billing authority' for the collection of Council Tax and each year is required to set the Council Tax Base for the following tax year.
1.02	The calculation of the Base, expressed as an equivalent number of Band 'D' properties, is always set as at the end of October in each year which then allows the Council, the Police & Crime Commissioner for North Wales and Town/Community Council's to calculate next year's Council Tax precepts.
1.03	The Council has previously made a determination to use discretionary powers to charge a 50% Council Tax Premium on long term empty homes and second homes. The continuation of this scheme in 2022/23 forms part of the Council Tax Base for Tax setting purposes. The public consultation to review the premium scheme is a separate exercise.
1.04	Once approved, the Tax Base calculations (before adjusting for the assumed losses in collection) are also supplied to Welsh Government and are then used for the calculation of entitlements to Revenue Support Grant for 2020/21 and this figure will appear in The Local Government Finance Report (No 1) (Wales) 2022/23. This information will also be published in a national statistical release in January 2022.
1.05	The calculation of the Tax Base is the measure of the annual taxable capacity for all areas in the County, including the additional taxable capacity for the Council Tax Premium, and is calculated in accordance with prescribed rules. The starting point for determining the Base is the Valuation List supplied by the Valuation Office Agency. The total number of properties in each band is then reduced by exemptions, disregards and discounts. Discounts include, for example, reductions for single-persons or students.
1.06	Collection of Council Tax, both locally and nationally, remains challenging in the current economic environment, the loss of committal action for non-payment and the disruptions as a result of the global coronavirus pandemic.
1.07	The latest Tax Base has been calculated using a projected collection level of 98.5% - a reduction of 0.2% compared to the 98.7% projection for the previous years' Tax Base in 2021/22. The reduction also reflects the fall in the outturn 'in-year' collection levels for 2020/21 and the ongoing difficulties of collecting all sums that are due. In other words, setting an assumed collection level of 98.5% is the level at which the Council may eventually collect from what is due to be paid - allowing for an overall provision of 1.5% for potential bad debts.
1.08	To determine the final level of the Base, the Council is also required to determine what discount, if any, is awarded to owners of second or holiday

	homes (otherwise known as Prescribed Discount Class A and B properties) or long term empty properties (Prescribed Discount Class C).
1.09	The Council Tax Base for 2022/23 has also been calculated in line with current policies of not awarding discounts to any Prescribed Class coupled with the fact that some properties are liable to pay the 50% Premium. The recent decision of Cabinet to review the Council Tax Premium scheme does not impact on the setting of the latest Tax Base. Any amendments to the scheme, including the chargeable levels, would not take effect until 2023/24
1.10	The continuation of the Council Tax Discount scheme for Local Authority Foster Carers from April 2022 is not incorporated into the Tax Base since locally-funded discretionary discounts or exemptions made by billing authorities under section 13a of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 are specifically excluded from the Tax Base calculations. This is because any decrease in the Tax Base made as a result of such discounts or exemptions would lead to an increase in entitlement to Revenue Support Grant (RSG) and hence to the discounts being funded by central rather than local government.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	Setting the Tax Base is part of an annual process of determining Council Tax charges for the next financial year as part of the Councils budget preparations.
2.02	The Tax Base is also used by the Police & Crime Commissioner and Town/Community Council's to set their new Council Tax precepts and which will be included in the bills sent to every Council Tax payer in March 2022

<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
3.01	The Council has a statutory duty to set a Council Tax Base and the proposed Tax Base is a complex calculation across 34 Town and Community areas requiring an accurate forecast for the next financial year of the number of chargeable properties after taking into account new builds, property exemptions and discount schemes, including those properties that are subject to the Council Tax Premium scheme.
3.02	The key risks centre around financial prudence and accuracy of forecasts used to determine the Tax Base.
3.03	The Tax Base is based on current property data and discount but includes an increased bad debt provision of 1.5% for non-collection, giving a forecasted eventual collection rate of 98.5%.

3.04	The Council Tax Base at 65,194 sets a Base at an accurate level to ensure, as far as possible, that a deficit does not occur in the Collection Fund.
3.05	Officers carefully track and monitor the Tax Base and Collection Fund performance on a monthly basis and the results feed into corporate budget monitoring and reporting processes.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	None.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1 to this report shows the breakdown of the Tax Base for 2022/23 by Town and Community area.

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local Government Finance Act 1992 – sections 22b(7) and 68</li> <li>• Local Authorities (Calculation of C.Tax Base) (Wales) Regs 1995</li> <li>• The Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) (Wales) (Amendment) Regs 2016</li> <li>• Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (Wales) Regs 2004</li> <li>• Housing (Wales) Act 2014 – section 139</li> </ul>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<p><b>Contact Officer:</b> David Barnes, Revenues Manager  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 703652  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:david.barnes@flintshire.gov.uk">david.barnes@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>

<b>8.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
8.01	<p><b>Revenue Support Grant:</b> the annual amount of money the Council receives from Welsh Government to partly fund services, alongside revenue from Council Tax and other income the Council raises locally. Councils can decide how to use this grant across services although their freedom to allocate according to local choice can be limited by guidelines set by Government.</p> <p><b>Tax Base:</b> is a measure of the Councils ‘taxable capacity’ taking into account the number of chargeable properties after exemptions and discounts.</p> <p><b>Chargeable Dwellings:</b> are all properties deemed to fall liable to Council</p>

Tax which appear in the Valuation List.

**Prescribed Discount Classes:** Special rules apply to certain dwellings where no-one is resident. In these cases, a Welsh billing authority may make a determination to apply a lower rate of discount or, to apply no discount at all. These classes are:

- Class A – property which is unoccupied and furnished but where occupation is prohibited by law for over 28 days each year
- Class B – property which is unoccupied and furnished and where occupation is not prohibited by law
- Class C – property which is unoccupied and substantially unfurnished beyond the normal exemption period.

**Council Tax Premium:** an additional amount of Council Tax of up to 100% (a premium) can be charged by local authorities in Wales for property defined as either being second homes or long term empty property. For the purposes of charging a premium a long term empty home is defined as a property which is unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for a continuous period of at least 1 year. A second home is defined as a dwelling which is not a person's sole or main residence and is substantially furnished. There are some exceptions from the Council Tax premium for a period of up to 12 months. For example, if the property is being actively marketed for rent or sale.

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## APPENDIX 1 - COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2022-23

Community	2022-23 Properties at Band 'D' Equivalent	2021-22 Properties at Band 'D' Equivalent
Argoed	2,519.39	2,517.93
Bagillt	1,466.97	1,480.35
Broughton & Bretton	2,749.90	2,775.64
Brynford	469.24	477.16
Buckley	6,692.00	6,723.22
Caerwys	670.27	651.31
Cilcain	740.69	745.85
Connahs Quay	6,193.33	6,186.68
Flint	5,020.23	4,949.11
Gwernaffield & Pantymwyn	1,016.37	1,017.54
Gwernymynydd	574.85	575.12
Halkyn	1,344.58	1,355.15
Hawarden	6,338.45	6,362.18
Higher Kinnerton	887.06	879.91
Holywell	3,379.85	3,380.78
Hope	1,850.10	1,846.57
Leeswood	850.96	856.88
Llanasa	1,978.65	1,984.19
Llanfynydd	889.43	881.64
Mold	4,475.77	4,441.17
Mostyn	701.48	707.57
Nannerch	277.84	280.01
Nercwys	300.75	309.41
Northop	1,580.15	1,591.30
Northop Hall	835.10	843.55
Penyffordd	2,171.00	2,060.53
Queensferry	702.91	708.56
Saltney	1,944.34	1,953.05
Sealand	1,367.40	1,221.57
Shotton	2,195.43	2,220.17
Trelawnyd & Gwaenysgor	415.16	418.66
Treuddyn	756.70	760.10
Whitford	1,149.39	1,168.32
Ysceifiog	688.26	694.82
<b>Total Band 'D' Equivalent Properties</b>	<b>65,194.00</b>	<b>65,026.00</b>

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## CABINET

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	Welsh Government Consultation on Local Taxes for Second Homes and Self-catering Accommodation
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Governance)
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Welsh Government (WG) are now consulting on potential changes to the local tax system, with the aim of supporting local authorities to manage the impact of second homes and self-catering accommodation on the communities in which they are located. As part of this consultation, WG are also seeking views on:

- How effective has the use of the premium scheme been in addressing housing issues
- How could local authorities' best use the premium to help bring empty or underused properties back into use?
- How funds raised from the premium should be used and whether local authorities should be more transparent about how funds raised from the premium have been spent
- Is the current maximum premium of 100% appropriate? If not, what would be considered to be appropriate and fair?
- What are the positive and negative impacts of self-catering accommodation
- The current criteria and thresholds for defining property as self-catering accommodation and liable for Business Rates instead of Council Tax
- The eligibility of self-catering accommodation for 100% Small Business Rates Relief once owners are subject to Business Rates.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Support the responses to the consultation as set out in this report.
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## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	<b>EXPLAINING THE PREMIUM SCHEME AND THE WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION</b>
1.01	<p>Welsh Government (WG) are now consulting on potential changes to the local tax system, with the aim of supporting local authorities to manage the impact of second homes and self-catering accommodation on the communities in which they are located. As part of this consultation, WG are also seeking views on a number of areas, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• How effective has the use of the premium scheme been in addressing housing issues</li><li>• How could local authorities' best use the premium to help bring empty or underused properties back into use?</li><li>• How funds raised from the premium should be used and whether local authorities should be more transparent about how funds raised from the premium have been spent</li><li>• Is the current maximum premium of 100% appropriate? If not, what would be considered to be appropriate and fair?</li><li>• What are the positive and negative impacts of self-catering accommodation</li><li>• The current criteria and thresholds for defining property as self-catering accommodation and liable for Business Rates instead of Council Tax</li></ul> <p>The eligibility of self-catering accommodation for 100% Small Business Rates Relief once owners are subject to Business Rates.</p>
1.02	<p>In response to the consultation, officers have reviewed the consultation paper and set out the following responses for cabinet endorsement and approval:</p> <p><b><i>How effective has the use of the premium scheme been in addressing housing issues?</i></b></p> <p>Anecdotal evidence suggests the premium of 50% set locally has encouraged many home owners to bring long-term empty properties back into use, but not in every case. Solving housing problems and meeting demand is a complex strategy involving national and local government and increasing the level of the Council Tax premium will not be the 'silver bullet' to resolving local demand for affordable housing which is showing a demand of 2,120 applications in SARTH register for social/affordable housing.</p> <p>Using the local taxation system is an important mechanism though and in many cases levying a premium has discouraged owners from leaving properties empty and unused. For this reason, we believe the scheme has been of benefit in addressing housing issues.</p>

***How could local authorities' best use the premium to help bring empty or underused properties back into use?***

The current 50% premium provides incentive for homeowners to bring empty properties back into use.

There may be occasions when there are barriers to this happening with a common obstacle being the lack of funding to carry out the repairs or renovations required.

If funds are sufficient to deliver core Council services, a proportion of the premium could, in future, be allocated to provide grants and funding to further enhance and extend the provisions currently available through the Empty Home Scheme to provide owners of empty properties access to funding or advice if required to undertake works to turn long-term empty properties into quality housing stock.

***How funds raised from the premium should be used and whether local authorities should be more transparent about how funds raised from the premium have been spent***

Funds raised to date through the scheme have been clearly identifiable and have been put to significant use to protect Council services, especially at a time of reduced funding for local government services.

Without the additional funds raised through the premium scheme, all residents of Flintshire would have been faced with an additional increase in Council Tax or a reduction in services.

Whilst we believe that revenue from the premium should support initiatives to increase the supply of affordable quality housing in Flintshire, we feel that the additional funds should not be ring-fenced to only addressing housing problems. They should instead provide flexibility and scope to support changing priorities across the Council to ensure continuous improvement, deal with unexpected challenges and future-proof service delivery.

***Is the current maximum premium of 100% appropriate? If not, what would be considered to be appropriate and fair?***

Flintshire currently has 772 properties that are subject to a 50% premium charge and could be affected by the outcome of this consultation. This equates to 1.1% of all domestic properties in the county.

There is already scope within the scheme to increase the premium to 100% should members elect to use their discretionary powers.

The current legislation to allow a premium of up to 100% is therefore considered appropriate and fair and the anecdotal evidence in Flintshire indicates is achieving the objectives of the scheme.

***What are the positive and negative impacts of self-catering accommodation?***

Having an abundance of quality self-catering accommodation in the county, attracts many visitors to Flintshire and provides opportunity for these tourists to extend their stay to more than just a day.

Most self-catering accommodation are operated by local small businesses or individuals and the tourists they accommodate also bring additional income to our local retail, hospitality and leisure sector.

Some, but not all self-catering accommodation are former residential dwellings. Converting former homes to holiday lets therefore takes further vital housing out of a market that is already in short supply. This can be particularly acute in rural areas.

***The current criteria and thresholds for defining property as self-catering accommodation and liable for Business Rates instead of Council Tax***

One of the key aspects of the consultation is considering the circumstances in which properties may be transferred between the Council Tax Valuation List and the Business Rating List, especially as owners benefit from 100% Business Rates Relief when properties transfer into the commercial rating list.

Owners of second homes may currently apply to the Valuation Office Agency to have their property removed from Council Tax listing and added to the Business Rating List if they meet the following qualifying criteria:

- The property has been available to let for at least 140 days in the previous 12 months and will continue to be so for the following 12 months;
- In the previous 12 months, the property has been commercially let for at least 70 days within this period

Properties that qualify and are transferred to the Business Rating List, no longer have liability for Council Tax and are typically eligible to pay no business rates under the provisions of the Small Business Rates Relief Scheme.

There are currently 78 self-catering properties in Flintshire that are currently on the non-domestic rating list with nearly all qualifying for full Small Business Rate Relief or Retail Relief meaning they have no local tax to pay. A proportion, but not all, of these properties would have transitioned from originally having a Council Tax liability and having previously been designated as residential type property.

Within the UK tax system, HMRC applies special tax rules and reliefs for properties that qualify as furnished holiday lets but these rules currently differ significantly from the criteria and thresholds used to determine whether properties should be liable for Council Tax or business rates

To be eligible for these HMRC reliefs, a property must be:

- available for letting for at least 210 days in the financial year, and
- Commercially let for a minimum of 105 days in that year.

	<p>Increasing local taxation thresholds and aligning the thresholds with those of HMRC would ensure a more joined-up and consistent approach, ensuring only those self-catering properties which are available for letting for the majority of the year are able to be transferred into the Business Rating List.</p> <p>This would reduce the number of properties transferring from the Council Tax Valuation List, reducing the risk of a loss of Council Tax income for the Council.</p> <p><b><i>The eligibility of self-catering accommodation for 100% Small Business Rates Relief once owners are subject to Business Rates.</i></b></p> <p>We welcome a comprehensive review and further research being undertaken by Welsh Government around the pros and cons of awarding 100% rate relief to businesses that typically trade from properties that have previously been, or could in the future, be treated as residential type property, particularly when converting former residential homes to holiday lets could take vital residential housing out of a market that is already in short supply.</p> <p>We believe there could be merit in limiting the amount of rate relief that could be awarded to self-catering accommodation, as exceptional cases, notwithstanding that businesses with small rateable values usually qualify for 100% rate relief.</p>
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<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	If the criteria of HMRC is adopted to determine whether properties should be treated as Council Tax or business rates, there is a possibility of increasing the Council Tax yield and to use any additional revenue generated to help meet local housing needs, in line with the policy intentions of the premium.
2.02	Should Welsh Government choose to legislate to increase the maximum level of premium from the current 100%, and the Council used their discretionary powers to increase the premium in Flintshire from the existing level of 50%, this also would potentially increase the Council Tax yield.
2.03	However, there is already provision within existing legislation to increase the premium up to 100% should cabinet and full Council decide this is appropriate. In other words, this latest consultation will not impact on the decision by cabinet on 21 September 2021 to review the existing level of the premium charged.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
3.01	None as a direct result of the consultation paper.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	<p>Welsh Government have published an open consultation on the discretionary powers which allow local authorities to levy a higher rate of Council Tax on second homes and long-term empty properties.</p> <p>They are also asking for views and evidence on the criteria used to define a property as self-catering accommodation for local tax purposes.</p> <p>The closing date for response to the consultation is 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021.</p>
4.02	<p>As the Council undertakes the statutory function by acting as the billing authority for the assessment and collection of Council Tax and non-domestic rates, Cabinet is asked to endorse and support the consultation response as set out in this report.</p>

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	None.

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing (Wales) Act 2014</li> <li>• Local Government Finance Act 1992, sections 12A and 12B</li> <li>• Section 66 (2bb) of the Local Government Finance Act 1988</li> <li>• Non-Domestic Rating (Definition of Domestic property)(Wales) Order 2010</li> <li>• Non-Domestic Rating (Definition of Domestic property)(Wales) Order 2016</li> <li>• Welsh Government Consultation - Local Taxes for Second Homes and Self-catering Accommodation <a href="https://gov.wales/local-taxes-second-homes-and-self-catering-accommodation">https://gov.wales/local-taxes-second-homes-and-self-catering-accommodation</a></li> <li>• HMRC HS253 Furnished Holiday Letting Guidance 2020 <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/furnished-holiday-lettings-hs253-self-assessment-helpsheet/hs253-furnished-holiday-lettings-2020">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/furnished-holiday-lettings-hs253-self-assessment-helpsheet/hs253-furnished-holiday-lettings-2020</a></li> </ul>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<p><b>Contact Officer:</b> David Barnes, Revenues Manager  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 703652  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:david.barnes@flintshire.gov.uk">david.barnes@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>

8.00	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
8.01	<p><b>Council Tax Premium:</b> an additional amount of Council Tax of up to 100% (a premium) can be charged by local authorities in Wales for property defined as either being second homes or long term empty property. There are some exceptions from the Council Tax premium for a period of up to 12 months. For example, if the property is being actively marketed for rent or sale.</p> <p><b>Long Term Empty property:</b> is defined as a property which is both unoccupied and substantially unfurnished for a period of six months or more, but to be liable for a premium, it would be unoccupied and unfurnished for a continuous period of one year or longer.</p> <p><b>A second home:</b> is defined as a property which is not a person's sole or main residence and is substantially furnished.</p>

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## Cabinet

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday 16 November 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	Audit Wales review of Town Centre Regeneration
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Economic Development
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy)
<b>Type of Report</b>	<b>Operational</b>

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Audit Wales published a review of town centre regeneration in September 2021. The report sets out recommendations for all levels of government to respond to. In accordance with the Council protocol, the formal responses are to run through the Committee system before being submitted to Audit Wales.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the Audit Wales recommendations are noted and the proposed response to Audit Wales is approved.
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### REPORT DETAILS

<b>1.00</b>	
1.01	<p>Audit Wales published a review of town centre regeneration in September 2021 (<a href="#">link</a>). It summarises the pressures and trends facing town centres in Wales and actions undertaken so far by the public sector to respond. The report includes recommendations for all levels of Government. Audit Wales have asked local authorities to review the recommendations relevant to them and to provide a formal response.</p> <p>The report sets out six recommendations, three of which it asks local government to respond to. The response to each recommendation is set out below.</p>

R1 Non-domestic rates have not been reviewed in recent years, and the levels charged do not reflect the current rents being achieved in many town centres. We recommend that the Welsh Government review non-domestic rates to ensure that the system better reflects town centre conditions when the payments holiday ends in March 2022.

R2 Many town-centre businesses are impacted adversely by charging for car parking, access to public transport and poor transport infrastructure. We recommend that the Welsh Government work with local authorities to review transport challenges facing town centres and agree how best to address these.

R3 The Welsh Government has directly provided and levered in just under £900 million through 13 funding schemes to help regenerate town centres. However, some aspects of the Welsh Government's management of the funding are considered problematic. To ensure local authorities are able to maximise the impact of funding and tackle the more difficult and longstanding problems that would help transform their town centres, we recommend that the Welsh Government:

- consolidate funding to reduce bureaucracy by streamlining processes and grant conditions and keeping requests for information and supporting materials to a minimum;
- move away from annual bidding cycles to multi-year allocations; and
- rebalance investment from capital to revenue to help local authorities address staff capacity and skills shortages.

R4 The Welsh Government has provided all 22 local authorities with training on how best to use existing enforcement, financial assistance and debt recovery powers, but they are not being consistently nor effectively utilised to support regeneration. We recommend that local authorities take appropriate action, using these existing powers and resources available to achieve the best possible outcome for town centres by:

- using alternative methods of enforcement before using Compulsory Purchase Orders as a last resort;
- integrating enforcement strategies with wider departmental strategies across housing, environmental health, planning and regeneration teams to make more effective use of existing skills and resources; and
- ensuring there is capacity and the right expertise to use the full range of powers, working in collaboration with other councils to achieve good outcomes.

R5 The Welsh Government's 'Town Centres First' approach looks to put the health of town centres at the heart of the decisions taken by the Welsh Government, local authorities, the wider public sector, businesses and communities. This requires a high degree of integration between cross-cutting policy frameworks and decision making to promote town centres above much else. We recommend that the Welsh Government sets out how it plans to deliver this in practice, its expectations of partners and the practical steps it will take to make this ambition a reality.

R6 Town centres are changing, and local authorities need to be receptive to these changes and plan to manage these shifts. We recommend that local authorities use our regeneration tool to self-assess their current

	<p>approaches to identify where they need to improve their work on town-centre regeneration.</p> <p>The Council's proposed formal response follows.</p>
1.02	<p>R1 Non-domestic rates have not been reviewed in recent years, and the levels charged do not reflect the current rents being achieved in many town centres. We recommend that the Welsh Government review non-domestic rates to ensure that the system better reflects town centre conditions when the payments holiday ends in March 2022.</p> <p>Although the Council has not been asked to respond on this recommendation business rates are a frequent area for concern raised by businesses in town centres and the review process has been highlighted as needing action by Welsh Government.</p>
1.03	<p>R2 Many town-centre businesses are impacted adversely by charging for car parking, access to public transport and poor transport infrastructure. We recommend that the Welsh Government work with local authorities to review transport challenges facing town centres and agree how best to address these.</p> <p>The proposed response is:</p> <p>Parking has been free in Flintshire County Council operated car parks since March 2020 to support the local economy during the response to the pandemic. The normal charges remained suspended to help local businesses as they came out of lockdown last summer until recently.</p> <p>Now that the country is at Alert Level 0, and following the reopening of all town centre businesses and hospitality venues, parking charges were reintroduced from 1st October. As both Governments promote economic recovery and are bringing to a close national emergency funds on which public bodies have relied, councils can no longer continue to offset a resumption to some "normality".</p> <p>Charging for designated public car parks is adopted Council policy. The rationale for the original policy covers easing potential congestion and ensuring fair access to parking spaces in the short-stay car parks through a local traffic control system that includes charging. Our charges remain very competitive and we will consider options of special seasonal arrangements e.g. pre-Christmas. We are also open to working in partnership with Town Councils on local options where they are workable.</p> <p>In Flintshire, we have been instrumental over the last four years in leading on North Wales Metro projects and promoting Active Travel across the County with successful bids made to the Welsh Government each year to deliver transport schemes across the county. We have our own county-wide Integrated Transport Strategy for Flintshire, which forms a key element of the North East Wales Metro proposals which are supported and promoted by Welsh Government (WG). We recognise that, in order to provide a long term sustainable transport solution, it is essential that all modes of transport are successfully integrated, whilst maintaining and promoting at its heart, a sustainable, affordable and environmentally</p>

	<p>friendly public transport service, with links to all of Flintshire and the wider region.</p> <p>Active travel and sustainable travel options is a priority for us in the Council Plan and we will be looking to provide opportunities for increasing levels of walking and cycling, and enable access to other alternative and sustainable methods of travel. Additionally, ensuring effective transport connectivity and that the network facilitates and supports recovery and growth is a priority in the Council Plan.</p>
1.04	<p>R3 The Welsh Government has directly provided and levered in just under £900 million through 13 funding schemes to help regenerate town centres. However, some aspects of the Welsh Government’s management of the funding are considered problematic. To ensure local authorities are able to maximise the impact of funding and tackle the more difficult and longstanding problems that would help transform their town centres, we recommend that the Welsh Government:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consolidate funding to reduce bureaucracy by streamlining processes and grant conditions and keeping requests for information and supporting materials to a minimum;</li> <li>• move away from annual bidding cycles to multi-year allocations; and</li> <li>• rebalance investment from capital to revenue to help local authorities address staff capacity and skills shortages.</li> </ul> <p>Although the Council has not been asked to respond on this recommendation the current system of funding for regeneration is in need of review. Annual bidding cycles considerably reduce the ability of the Council to plan long term regeneration work programmes and the delivery of capital projects within the structure of inflexible financial years hampers delivery and increases costs. In the absence of longer term revenue funding from Welsh Government local government capacity to develop and deliver regeneration projects is limited and forms a significant constraint to progress.</p>
1.05	<p>R4 The Welsh Government has provided all 22 local authorities with training on how best to use existing enforcement, financial assistance and debt recovery powers, but they are not being consistently nor effectively utilised to support regeneration. We recommend that local authorities take appropriate action, using these existing powers and resources available to achieve the best possible outcome for town centres by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• using alternative methods of enforcement before using Compulsory Purchase Orders as a last resort;</li> <li>• integrating enforcement strategies with wider departmental strategies across housing, environmental health, planning and regeneration teams to make more effective use of existing skills and resources; and</li> <li>• ensuring there is capacity and the right expertise to use the full range of powers, working in collaboration with other councils to achieve good outcomes.</li> </ul> <p>The proposed response is:</p> <p>The Council already uses a range of regulatory powers to tackle empty and problem properties. However, use of these powers can be extremely</p>

	<p>time consuming and can ultimately place considerable financial burdens on the Council which cannot always be recouped. The Welsh Government support is therefore welcomed.</p> <p>This approach is featured within the Council’s agreed strategic approach to town centre regeneration adopted in March 2020 and included in the current Council Plan.</p> <p>Following the training provided by Welsh Government earlier in the year, the Council has developed a panel of officers from the different regulatory and regeneration services to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a shared list of vacant or problem properties is maintained and reviewed regularly;</li> <li>• action by the Council is co-ordinated effectively across the different teams;</li> <li>• owners of properties are offered effective support and encouragement before enforcement action is commenced; and</li> <li>• limited resources are managed through the careful prioritisation of enforcement action based on the length of time properties have been vacant and the scale of problems they are causing to neighbours and communities.</li> </ul>
1.06	<p>R5 The Welsh Government’s ‘Town Centres First’ approach looks to put the health of town centres at the heart of the decisions taken by the Welsh Government, local authorities, the wider public sector, businesses and communities. This requires a high degree of integration between cross-cutting policy frameworks and decision making to promote town centres above much else. We recommend that the Welsh Government sets out how it plans to deliver this in practice, its expectations of partners and the practical steps it will take to make this ambition a reality.</p> <p>Although the Council has not been asked to respond on this recommendation the further clarity recommended by Audit Wales would be welcomed. The principle of “Town Centres First” is fully supported by the Council but a clear delivery plan and resources are needed to underpin the policy.</p>
1.07	<p>R6 Town centres are changing, and local authorities need to be receptive to these changes and plan to manage these shifts. We recommend that local authorities use our regeneration tool to self-assess their current approaches to identify where they need to improve their work on town-centre regeneration.</p> <p>The proposed response is:</p> <p>The Council has undertaken the self-assessment recommended by Audit Wales and has identified a number of areas for further development. Some of these are already in hand but not yet fully realised. Extra staff capacity to deliver these has been agreed by Cabinet and recruitment is underway. Particular areas for further development include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further work is required to engage stakeholders in the individual towns and translate the County level strategic approach into local delivery plans.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue work on data gathering for town centres to improve Council, partner and business decision-making.</li> </ul> <p>A copy of the self-assessment is included at appendix 1.</p> <p>The overall strategic approach to town centre regeneration will be reviewed to take account of these findings.</p>
1.06	<p>The reporting timetable for the response to Audit Wales, in line with the Council's protocol, is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee 9 November 2021</li> <li>Cabinet 16 November 2021</li> <li>Audit and Governance Committee 17 November 2021</li> </ul>

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	None arising from this report.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
3.01	None.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	None.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Council self-assessment – Appendix 1.

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	Audit Wales report.

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Niall Waller (Enterprise and Regeneration Manager)  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702137  <b>E-mail:</b> niall.waller@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

<b>8.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
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	None

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# Regenerating Town Centres in Wales

Self Evaluation Tool

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# Intention

Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
We have a long-term vision for all our town centres.		The Council has set out an ambitious long-term strategy for town centre regeneration. This is included in the Council Plan. However, this has not yet been translated into action plans for each of the towns in Flintshire. Development of an action plan for Shotton is underway. The Council has committed extra resources to the regeneration team to facilitate this work.
We have committed, highly visible political leaders for town centre regeneration.		The Council has set out a clear public leadership position on town centre regeneration, including within the Council Plan. However, more needs to be done to raise awareness of the Council's approach and to engage stakeholders locally in each town centre.
Our approach to town centre regeneration is integrated with our key strategies and plan – eg Wellbeing Plan, corporate priorities and other community, council and regional strategies.	The Council approach to regeneration is highlighted within the Council Plan alongside other strategic priorities.	
We have set SMART objectives for town centre regeneration.		Further work is needed to develop and articulate objectives with stakeholders in each town.

We are clear on the benefits and risks of town centre regeneration for citizens, the local economy and local communities.

Further work is needed to develop and articulate objectives with stakeholders in each town.

Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
We have a clear accountability framework to govern and scrutinise our decisions in regenerating town centres.	Progress on town centre regeneration is reported at both Cabinet and Overview and Scrutiny committees.	
We have agile and effective decision-making processes when approving our work on town centres.	Internal decision making processes have been able to respond effectively and efficiently to the needs of the towns both during the pandemic and as the recovery process begins. The Council has established both a multiagency Economic Recovery Group and an internal co-ordinating Places group to help with this.	
We act in a transparent way and everyone is clear on how decisions on town centre regeneration activities are made and by whom.	The work of the groups above and internal decision making processes are transparent and open to scrutiny.	
Those who make decisions on town centre regeneration are accountable for their choices and are held to account through clear governance arrangements.	The work of the groups above and internal decision making processes are transparent and open to scrutiny.	

Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
We have enough staff and resources to undertake town centre regeneration work.		The team has been too small for some years to meet the regeneration aspirations of the Council. However, the Council has invested in extra staff resources to support the programme. Capital resources are scarce and WG funding is too limited to make a transformative impact. The Council bids for external resources wherever viable opportunities occur.
We have staff in the right services and with the required seniority to undertake town centre regeneration work.		Further recruitment is currently underway which will fill the remaining gap needed.
We have a can-do culture and entrepreneurial mindset within the council for town centre regeneration.	The culture and mindset within the Council facilitates innovation and experimentation in regeneration. Capacity (as above) has traditionally limited the ability to try new approaches rather than culture.	
We can recruit the right people with the right skills to deliver our town centre regeneration work.		This is extremely challenging. Regeneration posts can be very difficult to fill.

<p>We have embedded regeneration with programmes of long-term transformation and/or recovery from COVID-19.</p>	<p>Regeneration and wider economic and community recovery are fully integrated through the structures highlighted above.</p>	
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Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
<p>We are able to secure the resources we need to undertake town centre regeneration.</p>		<p>Limited staff resources have impacted on the ability of the Council to develop shovel-ready projects but this work is now underway. Capital and revenue resources are limited which reduces potential impact. External resources are bid for wherever viable opportunities arise. WG funding can often be short term, offered late in the financial year and with restrictive criteria which reduces availability of resources.</p>

# Involvement

Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
<p>We effectively communicate internally and externally about what the council and its partners are trying to achieve through our town centre regeneration work.</p>		<p>Further work is needed to articulate the Council's strategic approach to town centre regeneration. Development of action plans with stakeholders in each town is required. Internally, a Places Group facilitates effective communication about town centre regeneration across the relevant Council departments. The Council has appointed an officer to focus on communication with stakeholders, especially the town centre business communities.</p>
<p>We draw on the expertise and knowledge of partners, businesses, citizens and stakeholders when identifying and agreeing our priorities for town centre regeneration.</p>		<p>Development of action plans with stakeholders in each town is required. The Council has appointed an officer to focus on communication with stakeholders, especially the town centre business communities.</p>
<p>Our priorities for town centre regeneration reflect the feedback we receive from partners, businesses, citizens and stakeholders.</p>		<p>As above.</p>



Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
<p>We enable all our stakeholders to be fully involved in identifying and agreeing town centre regeneration priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elected Members</li> <li>• Welsh Government</li> <li>• Local Health Board</li> <li>• Fire and Rescue Authority</li> <li>• National Park Authority</li> <li>• Police</li> <li>• Police and Crime Commissioner</li> <li>• Town and Community Councils</li> <li>• Business Improvement Districts</li> <li>• Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>• Social Enterprises</li> <li>• Local community groups</li> <li>• Individual citizens</li> </ul>		<p>Development of action plans with stakeholders in each town is required. The Council has appointed an officer to focus on communication with stakeholders, especially the town centre business communities.</p>
<p>We encourage partners, businesses, citizens and stakeholders to develop solutions that help regenerate our town centres.</p>		<p>Development of action plans with stakeholders in each town is required. The Council has appointed an officer to focus on communication with stakeholders, especially the town centre business communities.</p>

Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
<p>We support community-led regeneration and actively encourage our partners, businesses, citizens and stakeholders to lead on town centre regeneration by encouraging and working through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business Improvement Districts</li> <li>• Town and Community Councils</li> <li>• Place Plans</li> </ul>		<p>Development of action plans with stakeholders in each town is required.</p>
<p>We draw on and utilise the skills and knowledge of our local partners, businesses and stakeholders to help us develop our regeneration programme.</p>		<p>As above.</p>
<p>We actively seek feedback from the community on an ongoing basis about our planned, ongoing and future town centre regeneration work.</p>		<p>As above.</p>

Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
<p>We use a wide range of data to understand our town centres and identify the priorities for action.</p>		<p>The Council has a number of areas of work underway to improve availability of data for its decision making and to share with partners and businesses. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment of towns across North Wales including a wide range of data sets (including many of those suggested by Audit Wales).</li> <li>• Business mix and vacancy data for Flintshire towns 2010-21 commissioned.</li> <li>• Participating in WG Smart Towns programme to which will include footfall counters in all town centres.</li> <li>• Hoping to purchase mobile phone data as part of regional project to map demographics of town centre users, catchment areas and movement patterns.</li> </ul>
<p>Our data covers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Footfall</li> <li>• Digital – Wi-Fi usage, social media interactions, travel movements, etc</li> <li>• Property – rent, profit margins and empty units</li> <li>• Catchment demographics</li> <li>• Interdependency of towns</li> </ul>		
<p>We make transparent decisions based on good quality information when deciding on town centre regeneration.</p>		<p>This will be the case once the above is in place.</p>

Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
<p>We receive good quality information to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• judge whether we should approve a town centre regeneration project; and</li> <li>• monitor and fully evaluate performance of our delivery of town centre regeneration</li> </ul>		<p>This will be the case once the above is in place.</p>
<p>We have a confident decision-making culture and elected members are not afraid of challenging officers and holding people to account.</p>	<p>The Council committee structure enables this to take place.</p>	
<p>We regularly review our town centre regeneration work to ensure our actions and decisions are the right ones.</p>		<p>Although this is reviewed at the County level further work is needed at the town level.</p>
<p>We amend our town centre regeneration programmes to reflect changing needs and demands.</p>	<p>The current strategic approach is reviewed and amended annually.</p>	

Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
<p>We set targets and measures of success for town centre regeneration to judge improvement over time, and monitor these when they have been agreed.</p>		<p>Individual projects are monitored but, in the absence of the data sets above, assessment of overall improvement has not been possible. This will be easier in the future.</p>
<p>We jointly take corrective action as a result of our ongoing evaluation of town centre regeneration programmes.</p>		<p>Individual projects are monitored but, in the absence of the data sets above, assessment of overall improvement has not been possible. This will be easier in the future.</p>
<p>We share learning and draw on evidence from other councils in Wales and elsewhere to learn what does/does not work, the challenges we face and the potential rewards.</p>	<p>There is a strong regional partnership for town centre regeneration with active shared learning and joint working.</p>	
<p>We have robust performance management arrangements in place to monitor evaluation of past regeneration programmes.</p>		<p>There have been very few past regeneration programmes due to a historic lack of funding in the region. Where there have been programmes they have been for capital investment in public realm and building improvements which remain in place.</p>

Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
<p>We review the effectiveness of our past decisions on town centre regeneration to understand what worked and what did not.</p>		<p>In the absence of the data sets above, assessment of overall improvement has not been possible. This will be easier in the future.</p>
<p>We undertake post-implementation evaluation of individual town centre regeneration schemes to check that the objectives we set were delivered.</p>		<p>There have been very few past regeneration programmes due to a historic lack of funding in the region. Where there have been programmes they have been for capital investment in public realm and building improvements which remain in place.</p>
<p>We can draw on robust information that shows how our regeneration work is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improving local people’s social and health wellbeing;</li> <li>• improving the quality of buildings and homes in our town centres; and</li> <li>• delivering carbon reduction targets and improving green infrastructure.</li> </ul>		<p>The Council, as it develops current projects, is able to articulate the benefits to these areas. Direct impacts cannot always be easily attributed though so further work is needed.</p>

# Intervention

Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
<p>We have defined and clarified roles, responsibilities and our legal powers to support our town centre regeneration work.</p>	<p>The Council has established a cross-department panel to co-ordinate and combine use of legal powers in respect of town centre property intervention.</p>	
<p>We can draw on and utilise the skills and knowledge of our partners, the Welsh Government and stakeholders to help us take legal action to regenerate town centres.</p>	<p>The Council has fully engaged the WG support for enforcement.</p>	

Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
<p>We provide landlords, businesses, partners and stakeholders with good quality advice and guidance including:</p> <p>Advice to landlords on options for sale, rent and ownership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• List of agents to help sell/rent</li> <li>• Discounted fees through Auctioneer Scheme</li> <li>• Identify and list potential Investors/Developers</li> <li>• List of approved Builders/Architects</li> <li>• Free composite Schedule of Works</li> </ul>		<p>The Council has established a cross-department panel to co-ordinate and combine use of legal powers in respect of town centre property intervention. This will also help to co-ordinate support to property owners. This is newly established.</p>



Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
<p>We support landlords to tackle empty premises by offering a wide range of services including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use LA website to promote/ advertise land/buildings for owners</li> <li>• Home Improvement Agency</li> <li>• Council run Private Sector Leasing scheme</li> <li>• Social lettings scheme to match applicants to private rented homes</li> <li>• Public Request Ordering Proposals</li> <li>• Direct purchase by LA or RSL</li> <li>• LOTS and HARPS to create homes above shops</li> </ul>		<p>The Council has used incentives for many years to support property owners, when recourses have been available to do so. These resources have fluctuated over time. Further work is required to structure these approaches as part of the overall approach to enforcement and town level action plans.</p>

Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
<p>We provide landlords, businesses, partners and stakeholders with financial support to help regenerate town centres including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Improvement grants linked to nominations to properties</li><li>• Loans for improvement work (interest free or interest bearing)</li><li>• Commercial lending advice</li><li>• Discount VAT and/or Capital Allowance schemes</li></ul>	<p>The Council, wherever resources allow, provides incentives to property owners for regeneration including grants and loans. Resources tend, though, to fluctuate over time.</p>	

Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
<p>We proactively take enforcement action to regenerate town centres fully using:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• S.215 of the Town and Country planning Act 1990 – CPO</li> <li>• S.77-79 of the Building Act 1984 – dangerous structures, ruinous and dilapidated</li> <li>• Housing Acts 1985 and 2004 – improvement notices, EDMOs, demolition, clearance and CPO</li> <li>• S.79-80 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 – statutory nuisance</li> <li>• S.4 of the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949 – treat pests</li> <li>• S.29 Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 – boarding up</li> <li>• Listed Buildings/Urgent Works notice</li> <li>• Public Health Acts 1936 and 1961 – filthy and verminous</li> <li>• Naming and shaming landlords (publicity)</li> </ul>		<p>The Council already uses a range of regulatory powers to tackle empty and problem properties. However, use of these powers can be extremely time consuming and can ultimately place considerable financial burdens on the Council which cannot always be recouped.</p> <p>Following the training provided by Welsh Government earlier in the year the Council has develop a panel of officers from the different regulatory and regeneration services to ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a shared list of vacant or problem properties is maintained and reviewed regularly;</li> <li>• action by the Council is co-ordinated effectively across the different teams;</li> <li>• owners of properties are offered effective support and encouragement before enforcement action is commenced; and</li> <li>• limited resources are managed through the careful prioritisation of enforcement action based on the length of time properties have been vacant and the scale of problems they are causing to neighbours and communities.</li> </ul>

Action needed	Yes, we are good at this and no further work is required	No, there is more for us to do
<p>We use our powers to encourage empty buildings to be brought back into use in town centres:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Council Tax, Statutory Debts or Business Rates debt recovery (Bankruptcy, charging orders or Bailiffs)</li><li>• County Court or Enforced Sales Procedure</li><li>• Empty Homes and Holiday Homes Premium</li><li>• Prosecution</li><li>• Compulsory Purchase Order</li><li>• Empty Management Dwellings Order</li><li>• Enforced Sales Procedure</li><li>• Direct Purchase</li></ul>		As above.



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## CABINET

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> November, 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	Review of Local Toilets Strategy
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Streetscene
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation)
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In July 2017, the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 received Royal Assent, bringing together a range of practical actions for improving and protecting health. Part 8 of the Act included Provision of Toilets and introduced new responsibilities for local authorities to provide local toilets strategies.

The Act provides specific timescales that must be followed in relation to the preparation and review of local toilets strategies. The statutory timetable must be followed, even if a local authority decides, for operational reasons, to voluntarily publish a review or update the strategy document between key reporting points in the statutory timetable.

Flintshire's local toilet strategy was approved and published in May 2019. National guidelines state that the policy should be reviewed every two years from when the local authority last published or last reviewed its strategy and within one year of every ordinary local government election.

The purpose of this report is to update Cabinet on progress against the local toilets strategy action plan in line with the statutory requirements and to set out the approach for further review in 2022-2023.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the Cabinet supports the review and notes the progress to date against the local toilets strategy action plan.
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## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	BACKGROUND OF LOCAL TOILETS STRATEGY REVIEW
1.01	<p>In July 2017, the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 ('the Act') received Royal Assent, and brought together a range of practical actions for improving and protecting public health in Wales. Part 8 of the Act introduced the provision of toilets and specifically the Act placed a duty on each local authority in Wales to prepare, publish and maintain a local toilets strategy for its area.</p> <p>The Act provided that this strategy must include an assessment of the community's need for toilets, including changing facilities for babies and changing places facilities for disabled persons. The duty to prepare a local toilets strategy does not in itself require local authorities directly to provide and maintain public toilets, but it does require them to take a strategic view across their area on how these facilities can be provided and accessed by their local population.</p>
1.02	<p>Flintshire's local toilets strategy was approved and published in May 2019 following public consultation, which is attached in <b>Appendix 1</b>.</p> <p>Consultation for the proposed Local Toilets Strategy was held between 4<sup>th</sup> February 2019 and 26<sup>th</sup> April 2019. The consultation received nearly 200 responses, which informed the proposed strategy's 12-point action plan for the following two-year period (<b>Appendix 1 – Page 10</b>)</p>
1.03	<p>The Act provides specific timescales that must be followed in relation to the review of local toilets strategies. The statutory timetable must be followed, even if a local authority decides, for operational reasons, to voluntarily publish a review or update the strategy document between key reporting points in the statutory timetable.</p>
1.04	<p>This interim progress report identifies the achievements and challenges against our action plan, which is required to be published within six months of the 2-year anniversary of the publication date.</p>
1.05	<p>We are also required to review the local toilet strategy within one year of every ordinary local government election. The next local government election date in Wales is Thursday, 5 May 2022, which means that the latest date for review is 4 May 2023, with a further full review of the strategy due to be undertaken at that time. The current strategy will be revised following this review</p>
1.06	<p>The extracted action plan is attached (<b>Appendix 1- Page 10</b>) and has been reviewed; however progress on this action plan has been limited over the last 18 months due to the impact of the global pandemic and the subsequent lockdown periods from March 2020 and December 2020.</p> <p>During this time, officers and resources throughout the portfolio were reallocated to frontline service response and recovery during the pandemic, whilst access to many public facilities were restricted or temporarily closed. Partnership working with social and health care settings ceased due to COVID-safe building adaptations and mitigation measures in place to reduce the spread of COVID-19.</p>



1.07	Subsequently, Town Centres began to reopen in June 2020 and this was supported with the reopening of our toilet facilities in Mold, Holywell and Talacre, with revised operating procedures and additional mitigation measures in place.
1.08	Although momentum has been lost against our action plan, the principles of the strategy have been maintained and we continue to adopt an enabling approach by promoting the use of existing toilets in Council buildings such as libraries and Flintshire Connects Centres, which people feel more confident and comfortable using, rather than isolated facilities, which regularly attract anti-social behaviour that ultimately puts people off using them. Additionally, work will be undertaken to raise awareness of the strategy with key stakeholders and review and improve access to toilet facilities.
1.09	We will continue to monitor the impact of the pandemic throughout the coming winter months with a full review of what is achievable and a reassessment of needs and provisions to follow the May 2022 elections in line with the statutory requirements set out in this report.
1.10	Following a review of the toilet facilities in Mold, the costs identified for reconditioning and improving the standard of the facilities in New Street Car Park were not economically viable. Consequently, improved facilities have been developed within the Bus Station complex, which are within the same distance from the centre of town as the New Street facilities. The improved facilities at Mold Bus Station provide an alternative upgraded site within the transport hub for the town.
1.11	As mentioned previously, the duty to prepare a local toilets strategy does not require local authorities to provide and maintain public toilets directly nor are they required to provide additional dedicated facilities. They must, however, take a strategic view on how facilities can be provided and accessed, taking account of such things as location, accessibility, type of facilities, frequency of use and the quality of existing sites, as well as determining whether additional or fewer sites are required by the local population. The legislation published by Welsh Government has no funding for additional provisions attached to it.
1.12	Community Asset Transfer (CAT) still being explored for the facilities at Holywell and contact has been made about additional provision by the community council.
1.13	Officers have received contact and are engaging with community groups that are looking at toilet provision across North East Wales and in Shotton in particular.
1.14	Welsh Government has also been out to consultation on Changing Place facilities, to gather views on increasing provision of Changing Places Toilets (CPTs) and Baby Nappy Changing Facilities (BNCFs) in certain types of buildings. This includes views on the increased provision of CPTs and BNCFs, the revision of guidance on compliance with the Building Regulations, and whether to allow local planning authorities to enhance the provision of CPTs over and above the minimum required. This consultation ended on 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2021, and the responses to the consultation are currently being reviewed by the Welsh Government; details of the outcome will be published in due course.

1.15	We are also engaging with suppliers to review developments in the provision of facilities, particularly Changing Place facilities, for future opportunities.
1.16	Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee noted that signage across towns could be improved, and in response to these comments officers will commit to review signage for all facilities, including identifying those facilities that no longer support publicising general public use.
1.17	Following the review, updates will be made to correctly publicise facilities that are available to the public on all relevant websites.
1.18	It was also requested that a working group be formed to align the 2022 Local Toilet Strategy review with town centre regeneration and post-pandemic recovery work.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	The revenue account for the provision, maintenance and repair of public toilets is managed within Streetscene & Transportation budgets.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
3.01	Equalities Impact Assessment to be reviewed.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	The Cabinet member for Streetscene has been consulted and confirmed his support.
4.02	This interim progress report has been presented to Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee, and their comments have been reflected in this report.
4.03	Original work to develop the strategy involved broad consultation across the County to ensure the inclusion of any disadvantaged or vulnerable groups of individuals, with an invitation sent to town and community councils to participate and statutory public consultation through <a href="http://www.flintshire.gov.uk">www.flintshire.gov.uk</a>

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1 - Local Toilet Strategy.

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	<p>Welsh Government Consultation Document: Draft Policy Changes - Changing Places Toilet and Baby Nappy Changing Provision –</p> <p><a href="https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2021-03/changing-places-toilets-and-baby-nappy-changing-provision-consultation-document.pdf">https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/consultations/2021-03/changing-places-toilets-and-baby-nappy-changing-provision-consultation-document.pdf</a></p>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Barry Wilkinson, Highway Network Manager  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 704656  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:barry.wilkinson@flintshire.gov.uk">barry.wilkinson@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>

<b>8.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
8.01	<p><b>Toilet(s):</b> we use this to mean a toilet facility that the general public can use that may be in public or private ownership, within a variety of premises and which does not require the user to be a customer or make a purchase.</p> <p><b>Traditional public toilet(s):</b> by this we mean a purpose-built toilet facility in local authority ownership or control provided for use by the public. Some quotes in the text from legislation etc. use the term ‘public toilet’, and in these cases we have not included the word ‘traditional’.</p> <p><b>Gender neutral toilet(s):</b> we use this expression in this document to mean a toilet that is not designated for exclusively male or female use, but can be used by anyone. This type of toilet may previously have been termed ‘unisex’.</p> <p><b>Changing Place(s):</b> these are fully accessible toilets with a height adjustable changing bench, a hoisting system, a peninsular toilet, and enough space for a person with a disability, his/her wheelchair and two carers.</p> <p><b>Standard accessible toilet(s):</b> these are specially designed cubicles in separate-sex toilets or a self-contained gender neutral toilet. These may also be known as ‘disabled toilets’.</p>

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# Local Toilets Strategy



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Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg. Cysylltwch â Barry Wilkinson i gael fersiwn Gymraeg

## Executive Summary

In July 2017, the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 received Royal Assent, bringing together a range of practical actions for improving and protecting health. Part 8 of the Act includes Provision of Toilets and introduces new responsibilities for Local Authorities to provide local toilet strategies.

To deliver a strategic approach to the provision of toilets across Wales, the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 requires Local Authorities to assess local needs and facilities, and to publish a local toilets strategy for its area.

The duty to prepare a local toilets strategy does not require councils to provide and maintain public toilets directly, nor are they required provide additional dedicated facilities. They must however take a strategic view on how facilities can be provided and accessed, taking account of such things as location, accessibility, facilities, frequency of use and quality of existing sites, as well as determining whether additional or fewer sites are required by their local population. The legislation published by Welsh Government has no funding for additional provisions attached to it.

Since 2012 Flintshire County Council has undertaken two separate reviews of toilet provision across the County. These reviews highlighted that isolated facilities regularly attract antisocial behaviour, which puts people off using them. As a result Flintshire adopted a more enabling approach by promoting the use of existing toilets in Council buildings such as libraries and Connects Centres, which people feel more confident and comfortable using.

This Strategy sets out to develop on the work previously been undertaken in rationalising the provision and quality of the Local Toilet being offered by the Council, and to assess the need of the local communities, along with the facilities being offer. The Strategy set out an action plan for the next two years, at which time the strategy will need to be reviewed, and also identify some areas that are for future consideration.

## Background & Introduction

In the guidance provided to Local Authorities in preparation for implementation of Local Toilet Strategies, the Welsh Government Cabinet Secretary for Health and Social Services explains that “Accessible, clean toilets that are well located in places such as town centres, parks, promenades, cycle trails and walking routes can help encourage people to take exercise and stay more physically active. This has clear health and economic benefits. Conversely, toilets that are poorly designed, inadequately maintained and inappropriately located can create an atmosphere of neglect that discourages use. A lack of adequate toilet facilities can impact on a person’s physical and mental health, as well as affecting the wider environmental health of the population.” This appreciation of the benefits of available facilities is further noted when they go on to state “Toilets for public use matter to everybody and remain a high-profile issue. They are, however, even more important to certain groups within society, including older people, people with disabilities, people with particular needs (including certain medical problems), women, children and young people and their families. These groups can be disproportionately affected by poor provision.”

Flintshire County Council has recognised the benefits and issues related to public conveniences, and started the process of reconciling the facilities under the Council’s control back in 2012. At this time a report to Cabinet was submitted that identified that the County was at the time supporting 12 distinct sites, although the Council has no statutory requirement to provide a Public Convenience service and does not have a formal Policy to determine the location or type of facilities provided and that inconsistency has developed both in the location of the facilities and quality of the service provided across the County. It was also noted at the time that some of the locations have been linked to anti-social behaviour, with reports received of substance misuse and vandalism taking place at the facilities. Whilst the majority of the information was anecdotal, there were records of complaints being received by the Council concerning specific sites. The site in Alexandra Street, Shotton was closed since June 2012, due to specific complaints of anti-social behaviour.

At the time of this report, it was noted that the Public Convenience service was managed within Streetscene with a budget allocation of £173,187 in 2012 -13. Repairs and maintenance at all of the facilities were being carried out by private contractors.

As a solution to some of the issues being encountered, it was identified that the Council was developing a programme of one stop shops, Flintshire Connects Centres, across the County and also manages numerous other Council buildings in close proximity to existing standalone Public Convenience facilities. The new Flintshire Connects Centres and the other facilities i.e. Leisure Centres could offer toilet facilities both for their own use and for use as wider Public Conveniences.

It was also recognized at that time that it is important that the Public Convenience service complements wider strategic Council objectives such as the promotion of Tourism and



Town Centre marketing and the proposed new service provision will do this by ensuring well maintained facilities are provided in key locations across the County and that utilising Flintshire Connects Centres, other Council buildings and (where appropriate) privately owned facilities will both rationalise and improve accessibility to the service, providing the following advantages over the current service that included potentially longer opening hours which are more targeted to local need, and the reduced instances of anti-social behaviour and vandalism.

Consideration was given at the time to introducing a charge for using the facilities but concluded that such a charge would be more expensive to introduce and manage than would be raised as income, thus creating a further budget pressure on the Council. Charging would also increase the threat of vandalism at the facilities. Likewise the introduction of a 'Superloo' system was considered, but the cost was found to be prohibitive.

In 2016, a further report was present to the Cabinet with the intention of recognising that Flintshire's new strategy identified that isolated Public Toilet facilities regularly attracted antisocial behaviour and that many people would not use the facilities for this reason. It was proposed that the Council should promote the use of existing toilet facilities, within Council buildings e.g. Libraries and Flintshire Connects Centres, rather than the dedicated and often isolated facilities previously provided. This final stage of the review would consider the future of the remaining Public Convenience facilities in the County. This report recognized that the current budget to provide the public convenience service was £ 93,998 and made recommendations to reduce the existing provision of standalone dedicated facilities further to just 2 sites across the County. However, the Authority did offer the opportunity for Community Asset Transfer for these sites to the local community and Town & Community Councils, and although these were explored, none have been developed far enough to result in the transfer, however due to these on-going discussions, only one site was closed, with the County in 2019 still operating 4 stand-alone facilities, which are as follows:

- New Street, Mold
- Bus Station, Mold
- Off High Street, Holywell
- Station Road, Talacre

So it can be seen that Flintshire County Council has already started the process of developing a strategy to manage the provision of local toilets, and in the first instance this looked to rationalise and improve the facilities offered to the public for use. To move forward with this process and align with the requirement of Part 8 of the Public Health Act (Wales), as back in the 2016 Cabinet Report it was noted that the Public Health Bill unveiled by the Welsh Government in June 2015 places a duty on local authorities to prepare and publish strategies for the provision of toilets for public use within their area, and whilst the Council has closed a number of dedicated facilities, access to other Council owned toilets have been improved.

An example of this approach would be the closure of dedicated facilities in Connah's Quay, that were replaced with access to improved toilets facilities at a shared-use site that reduces maintenance and cleaning costs, removes the anti-social behaviour that the dedicated site attracted and improving the overall facilities on offer to the public in the area.

This approach will continue to be the basis of the strategy when it is required to be produced by the new legislation. It is clear that the Authority is aware that this is the start of a long-term process, and that not all existing toilet facilities at the time need to remain, especially if there are better alternatives. Efforts to increase the provision of additional local toilets has also identified that not all potential facilities within buildings can be made accessible to the public. And we accept that by making use of existing resources that this means that not every toilet brought into public use is likely to be fully accessible to everyone due to building limitations, and what is proportionate change to make the toilet fully accessible, however a much wider range of available toilets is to the benefit of all.

The 2016 Cabinet Report also recommended that the dedicated stand-alone facilities in New Street, Mold and Holywell be closed, and the details and actions within this strategy should support the provision of reasonable alternatives to the benefit of improving the overall facilities on offer to the public in the area.

## The Benefits of this Strategy

Toilets for public use matter to everybody who goes "away from home" for some reason and remain a high-profile issue. They are, however, even more important to certain groups within society, including older people, people with disabilities, people with particular needs (including certain medical problems), women, children and young people and their families. These groups can be disproportionately affected by poor provision; for example, poor provision is understood to have particular negative impacts on older people, as some may be less likely to leave their homes without having confidence that adequate facilities will be available to them. This can contribute to increased social isolation and inactivity, as well as affecting people's ability to maintain independence and dignity in later life.

This strategy contributes toward achieving accessible and clean toilets wherever people live, work or visit. Need is likely to grow through new housing developments and through tourism. This is an opportune time to set a strategy for promoting access to toilet facilities where they are needed.

Part 8 of the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017: Provision of Toilets came into force on 31 May 2018 and places a duty on each local authority in Wales to prepare and publish a local toilets strategy for its area. The strategy is built around the principles of co-production, through local authority engagement with a broad range of potential providers and users.

Local authorities in Wales now have the responsibility to:

- Assess the need for toilet provision for their communities;
- Plan to meet those needs;
- Produce a local toilets strategy; and
- Review the strategy, update and publicise revisions.

Local authorities must prepare and publish their strategies within one year from 31 May 2018. The duty to prepare a local toilets strategy does not require local authorities to provide and maintain public toilets directly. The Local Authority must take a strategic view on how facilities can be provided and accessed by their local population. Upon review of this strategy, Flintshire County Council is required to publish a statement of progress.

The aim of this strategy is to review the quality and quantity of local toilets throughout the county and to provide or facilitate the provision of clean, safe, accessible and sustainable toilets for residents and visitors to the County at locations where the need for such facilities has been identified.

To achieve this Strategy we will:

- Identify the current level of provision of public toilets
- Analyse the findings of the completed assessment of need activities for toilets available for use by the public in their area;
- Consider the requirements of the general population;
- Identify the needs for particular user groups;
- Survey the condition and usage of existing facilities;
- Identify any gaps in current provision;
- Adopt the use of new technologies and communications that it is envisaged will lead to an increased awareness of the locations of local toilets; and
- Provide a statement setting out the steps which the Local Authority proposes to take to meet this need; and any other information which the council considers appropriate.

## Reviewing the Strategy

As set out in the Public Health (Wales) Act 2017 – Part 8: Provision of Local Toilets, Flintshire County Council will prepare an interim progress report setting out the steps taken in line with their strategy every two years commencing from the date of the last published strategy. The interim progress report will be published within six months of the end date of the two year period. Therefore, following publication in May 2019, the review will take place before the end of May 2021 and be published before the end of November 2021.

Flintshire County Council will also review the local toilet strategy within a year of each ordinary election for its area. The next election date in Wales is Thursday 5 May 2022 so the latest date for review is 4 May 2023. If no changes are made to the strategy following the post-election review then the County will publish an interim progress statement covering a two year period commencing from the date of the last election.

Flintshire County Council may review its strategy at any time, following which it must publish a statement of the steps which it has taken in accordance with the strategy. If following a review, should the County decide to revise the strategy, it will publish the revised strategy and then prepare an interim progress report covering the two year period commencing from the date of publication.

## Mapping Locations

It is intended that the information collated as part of preparing this strategy is replicated and made available in the most convenient manner so that people who need to visit a toilet can easily access information about the location, opening times, accessibility and type of facilities available.



Participating premises will also display a sticker in a prominent place, indicating that toilets are available for the public. The sticker will display the logo stipulated by Welsh Government. It is also intended that Flintshire County Council adopt this signage to promote consistency across the area for those that wish to use facilities.

The British Toilet Association also recommends that signs be fitted on the outside with information like opening hours, contact information for reporting problems and the specific facilities provided inside, such as whether there is a baby-changing room.

The Council will periodically review and update the Welsh Government “Lle” data repository to allow access to accurate information by guide and map publishers, residents and visitors.

Once we have identified the toilets that will be publicised as available for use by the general public, Flintshire County Council will prepare a dataset to a given specification, and make it available as open data on the council website. The dataset will consist of the location and specified characteristics of the identified toilets. This data will also be consumed by the Welsh Government system and joined to other LA datasets to produce the national dataset for the Lle map. Lle is a geo-portal that serves as a hub for data and information covering a wide spectrum of topics, but primarily around the environment. Lle will generate all-Wales maps based on the datasets provided by local authorities that can be configured to focus on either the national picture, or on more local areas. The data included in the Lle map will be available as an open data service accessible to everyone.

The link to the Lle portal is below:

<http://lle.gov.wales/home>

For data to be classed as open data it must be made available under an open licence. Within the Public Sector this can be achieved by publishing data under the Open Government Licence (OGL).

As the data provided by local authorities is to be made available as open data, it will be available for reuse by third parties, either directly from the local authority's own website, or via the joined dataset behind the Lle map. This might include other online map services, app developers or commercial interests, as well as being available for reuse by other public sector organisations.

The dataset will be available in Welsh and English. The public will be able to see and search the data as it appears on the Lle website, to see the whole of Wales or to look at particular areas.

Flintshire County Council will also show a link on its website to the Lle map as a whole to assist people in searching the data for other areas they may be visiting. Flintshire County Council promotes the use of The Dewis Cymru ([www.dewis.wales](http://www.dewis.wales)) website as a resource that brings together local information, and the information relating to Local toilets will be published on this website also.

## Action Plan

### **Flintshire County Council will:**

1. Explore options which include working with the private sector, voluntary services and Community Councils to make local toilets available in places where they are most needed.
2. Promote equal opportunities to provide appropriate, accessible and effective services and facilities to all sections of the community without prejudice or bias.
3. Ensure that the toilet logo sticker will be displayed at entrances at all appropriate Council buildings and private businesses that have agreed to be mapped.
4. Work with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and health care providers; to encourage them to make the facilities available to the public, participate in the mapping scheme and to display the toilet logo sticker, in appropriate premises.
5. Improve awareness and information available on toilet provision in the County by updating information on the Flintshire County Council website and will regularly update the Lle open access data repository with WG, and the Dewis Cymru website.
6. Review existing contracts and service provision to monitor cleansing operations and standards on a periodic basis to ensure the most efficient and effective provision within allocated resources.
7. Review existing facilities to ensure that the best options for the provision of accessible toilets provisions are made that best suit the need of the community and the local area
8. Streetscene & Transportation officers, along with other relevant officer of the County are to continue to work with the Police and residents, community groups and others to ensure that the facilities are as safe as possible.
9. Not charge residents to use toilet facilities in council buildings where there is provision.
10. Ensure that sustainable development and energy is taken into consideration facilitating the provision of local toilets.
11. Ensure that officers raise the need for changes to Planning Policy and legislation in relation to toilet provision and access.
12. Review the strategy in line with the stipulations of the legislation, or before.

## Details of Existing County Facilities Available to the Public

Name of Location	Postcode	What facilities are available?															
		Dedicated Facility	Male only	Female only	Unisex toilet	Baby change					Disabled						A place incorporating adult changing facilities, hoists, etc. for people with profound disabilities and their carers?
						male toilet	female toilet	unisex toilet	Separate to toilets	disabled toilet	Open access			Locked (RADAR)			
male only	female only	unisex	male only	female only	unisex												
New Street Car Park, Mold	CH7 1NH	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N
Bus Station, Mold	CH7 1LA	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N
Station Road, Talacre	CH8 9RP	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N	Y	N	N	N	N
Off High Street, Holywell	CH8 7TR	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N	N

## Details of Existing County Facilities Available to the Public

Name of Location	Postcode	Opening Times													
		Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday		Saturday		Sunday	
		Open	Close	Open	Close	Open	Close	Open	Close	Open	Close	Open	Close	Open	Close
New Street Car Park, Mold	CH7 1NH	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00
Mold, Bus Station	CH7 1LA	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00
Talacre Toilets	CH8 9RP	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00
Holywell Toilets	CH8 7TR	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00	08:00	17:00

Name of Location	Postcode	Are the toilets closed on any of the below days?										
		Are the toilets closed off peak?	Are services reduced off peak?	Christmas Day	Boxing day	New Years day	May bank holiday	Good Friday	Easter Sunday	Easter Monday	Spring bank holiday	August bank holiday
		No/Yes	No/Yes	No/Yes	No/Yes	No/Yes	No/Yes	No/Yes	No/Yes	No/Yes	No/Yes	No/Yes
New Street Car Park, Mold	CH7 1NH	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Mold, Bus Station	CH7 1LA	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Talacre Toilets	CH8 9RP	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No
Holywell Toilets	CH8 7TR	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No



## Additional Facilities within the County

Below is a list of the facilities available throughout the county that are available to the public for use:

- Clwyd Riding Centre, Llanfynnydd (Changing Place Facilities)
- Buckley Town Centre Public Toilets
- Cilcain, Village Community Centre
- Caerwys, Drivers Lane
- Connah's Quay, Fron Road
- Buckley Leisure Centre
- Flint Leisure Centre
- Mold Leisure Centre
- Deeside Leisure Centre
- Buckley Library
- Connah's Quay Library
- Flint Library
- Holywell Library
- Mold Library
- Shell Garage, A55
- Daniel Owen Centre, Mold
- Broughton Shopping Park
- Flint Train Station
- Queensferry, Daleside Garden Centre
- Holywell Leisure Centre (Changing Place Facilities)

## Needs Assessment

In an effort to capture the available facilities and the demand in an objective way, the following needs assessment has been developed. It is not intended to use this in isolation, and the information that becomes available through the engagement survey, and the full consultation will influence the holistic need for local toilets across the County.

	Need Score		Description				No. of Private Toilets										
	0=	N/A	1=	Very Low	2=	Low	3=	Medium	4=	High	5=	Very High	0	1	2	3	4
	Identifying Need				Existing Toilet Provision												
Page 33 of 38	Town/Village	Shopping Need	Attraction Need	Transport Interface Need	Special Circumstances Need	Need Score	LA Operated Facilities	Other Public Sector Toilets e.g. Leisure Centres, Libraries, etc.	Community Council	Private	Has Need Been Met?						
	Magd	5	5	4	4	18	2	2	1	1	Yes						
	Holywell	4	4	3	3	14	1	1			Yes						
	Flint	3	3	4	3	13		2		1	Yes						
	Connah's Quay	4	3	3	3	13		1		1	Yes						
	Broughton	5	3	5	0	13		1		1	Yes						
	Buckley	3	3	3	3	12		2	1		Yes						
	Queensferry	3	3	3	3	12		1		2	Yes						
	Shotton	4	2	4	0	10					No						
	Saltney	2	2	3	2	9				1	Yes						
	Talacre	1	5	2	0	8	1				Yes						
	Hawarden	1	3	1	0	5					Yes						
	Mostyn	1	1	2	0	4					Yes						
	Sealand	1	1	1	0	3					Yes						
	Mynydd Isa	1	1	1	0	3					Yes						
	Ewloe	0	2	1	0	3					Yes						
	Caergwrle	0	0	3	0	3					Yes						
	Northop	1	1	0	0	2					Yes						

Town/Village	Identifying Need				Need Score	Existing Toilet Provision			Has Need Been Met?
	Shopping Need	Attraction Need	Transport Interface Need	Special Circumstances Need		LA Operated Facilities	Other Public Sector Toilets e.g. Leisure Centres, Libraries, etc.	Community Council	
Halkyn	0	2	0	0	2				Yes
Greenfield	0	1	0	0	1				Yes
Bagillt	1	0	0	0	1			1	Yes
Caerwys	0	0	1	0	1			1	Yes
Aston	0	0	1	0	1				Yes
Hope	0	1	0	0	1				Yes
Ffynnongroew	0	0	0	0	0				Yes
Gronant	0	0	0	0	0				Yes
Trelawnyd	0	0	0	0	0				Yes
Whitford	0	0	0	0	0				Yes
Northop Hall	0	0	0	0	0			1	Yes
Cubain	0	0	0	0	0			1	Yes
Brynford	0	0	0	0	0				Yes
Gwernaffield	0	0	0	0	0				Yes
Gwernymynydd	0	0	0	0	0				Yes
New Brighton	0	0	0	0	0				Yes
Mancot	0	0	0	0	0				Yes
Higher Kinnerton	0	0	0	0	0				Yes
Leeswood	0	0	0	0	0				Yes
Treuddyn	0	0	0	0	0				Yes
Llanfynydd	0	0	0	0	0				Yes

It needs to be reiterated that the duty to prepare a Local Toilets Strategy does not require councils to provide and maintain public toilets directly, nor are they required provide additional dedicated facilities.

## Outcome of Public Engagement

The statutory consultation for the proposed Local Toilets Strategy was open between 4 February 2019 and 26 April 2019. The consultation has received 195 responses.

The returns from the consultation period have been analysed and where necessary and appropriate they have been included within this Local Toilets Strategy which has now been approved by Flintshire County Council's Cabinet.

## Future Options

### Letting policies

The Council could possibly consider options to introduce a clause in leasing agreements whereby when the Council is letting its own property to a suitable business like a shop or café, to include public access to toilet facilities. However, whilst this could be considered for the small number of shop units leased out, tenants may well raise issues around cleaning, maintenance and availability and the requirement could conceivably deter prospective tenants from taking a lease.

### Future needs provided by the commercial sector through Council strategy and planning channels

Community Infra-structure Levy enables the Flintshire Local Planning Authority to raise funds from developers undertaking new building projects in their area. The funds can be used for a wide range of infrastructure costs, such as education, healthcare, police and fire and rescue, which is needed as a result of new housing for example. This may be one way to secure funding for future public toilet provision within or near new developments, on a need and demand-driven basis and depending on the prioritisation between new infrastructure needs. Consideration will be given to including local toilet provision in new schemes devised under the Community Infra-structure Levy.

### Major Development proposals (Planning conditions)

Some large-scale commercial developments that are going to include cafes, bars, shops, entertainments for example, could possibly be required, as a Planning condition, to allow general public access to any toilet facilities that are being built in the premises. However, there is no policy support at national level for the imposition of planning conditions to allow the general public access to toilet facilities at private commercial premises. Therefore any such condition would fail the test that it must be necessary to make the development acceptable from a planning point of view.

## **Embed the Review of Local Toilets Provision into broader Council Initiatives**

When reviewing plans and strategies across the organisation, Flintshire County Council will consider the need and provision for Local Toilets. This will include, but not be restricted to the review of the following:

- Local Well-being Plans
- Population Needs Assessments
- Local Development Plans
- Active Travel Routes and Maps; and
- Partnerships for Growth.

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## CABINET

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> November 2021
<b>Report Subject</b>	School Modernisation – Consultation on enlargement of premises at Drury C.P. School and Penyffordd C.P. School
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Leader of the Council & Cabinet Member for Education
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Education and Youth)
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report seeks approval to consult through 'The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, School Organisation Code' for an enlargement of the premises at two schools - Drury C.P. School and Penyffordd C.P. School.

The Code sets out Regulated Alterations to Community, Foundation and Voluntary Schools requirements in relation to the enlargement of school premises.

The proposed investment projects at Drury C.P. and Penyffordd C.P. meet the triggers that require consultation on increased capacity for each school through the Welsh Government's legal framework.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Cabinet approves consultation through 'The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, School Organisation Code' for an enlargement of the premises at Drury C.P. School and Penyffordd C.P. School.
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## **REPORT DETAILS**

<b>1.00</b>	<b>BACKGROUND</b>
1.01	<b><u>Drury C.P.</u></b>  Drury C.P. School forms part of the 21st Century Schools, Band “B” investment programme which is jointly funded through Welsh Government and Flintshire County Council.
1.02	On the 16th March 2021, Cabinet agreed to move forward with the investment project at Drury C.P.
1.03	The original feasibility study was completed in 2017. At the time, Drury C.P. school capacity was 124 Full Time (FT) pupils with an Admission Number of 17 and this included one mobile classroom. The feasibility study assumed a new capacity of 150 FT.
1.04	Since, September 2021, based on Welsh Government guidance, the capacity has increased to 160 FT with an Admission Number of 22 as the second mobile classroom has been on site for four years, which triggers its inclusion within the schools capacity assessment.
1.05	Having reviewed the pupil number and projections, it is proposed to increase the scope of the project further. The proposal would be to extend and refurbish the school to cater for an increased capacity of 180 FT.
1.06	This means that the capacity will increase over the 25% within a five year period and this triggers the requirement to consult through ‘The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, School Organisation Code’ for an enlargement of school premises.
1.07	<b><u>Penyffordd C.P.</u></b>  A new primary school was constructed to replace the former infant and junior school with the school taking occupation of the new facility in September 2019.
1.08	The original planning approval for the new school at Penyffordd included a planned two classroom extension which would increase the capacity of the school to 375 FT pupils.
1.09	This project is now being brought forward due to local demand and is funded from a combination of Section 106 developer contributions to education and the Council’s own capital programme.



1.10	However, the current proposals to increase the capacity at the school require consultation through 'The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013 School Organisation Code' for an enlargement of the premises of a school (excluding nursery and special schools), as there would be a 25% increase in capacity within a five year period.
1.11	For both schools, delivery of these schemes cannot proceed until such time that statutory proposals to increase the capacity of the schools have been published and consulted upon.
1.12	Subject to Cabinet approval the consultation would start in January 2022. This provides time for officers to prepare the appropriate paperwork. The anticipated time line for consultation is noted as Appendix 1.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	Consultation will be conducted by the School Modernisation Team.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
3.01	All projects are managed using a risk register. Risks are managed accordingly, and financial risks are managed through a project contingency. Any high level risk which cannot be managed with the projects/programme will be incorporated into the risk register for the Education and Youth Portfolio.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT</b>
4.01	Subject to Cabinet agreement, consultation will be carried out, through the School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2013, School Organisation Code.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1 – Copy of Anticipated Consultation Timeline.

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	School Organisation Code – The School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2018  <a href="https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-10/school-organisation-code-second-edition.pdf">https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2018-10/school-organisation-code-second-edition.pdf</a>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS</b>
7.01	<p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Damian Hughes  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 704135  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:damian.hughes@flintshire.gov.uk">damian.hughes@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>

<b>8.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
8.01	<p><b>School Organisation Code</b> – The new School Standards and Organisation (Wales) Act 2018 makes Local Authorities responsible (rather than the Welsh Ministers prior to October 2018) for the determination of most statutory school organisation proposals that receive objections.</p> <p><b>21st Century Schools</b> - Is a collaboration between the Welsh Government (WG), the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) and local authorities. It is a major, long-term and strategic capital investment programme with the aim of creating a generation of 21st century schools in Wales.</p> <p><b>S106</b> – Is an agreement between a developer and the local Planning Authority, which assists in reducing impact of a development on a community.</p>

## Anticipated Timeline

### Drury Community Primary School and Penyffordd Community Primary School Consultation on School Enlargement

DATE	SCHOOL TERM	KEY MILESTONES
November 2021	Autumn Term	Cabinet approval to commence with Statutory Proposals
January 2022	Spring Term	Consultation document published Must be published on a school day (42 days with 20 school days)
February 2022	Spring Term	Consultation Ends
February/March 2022	Spring Term	Consultation Report must be published within 3 months
July 2022	Summer Term	Cabinet – seeking approval to go to next phase (Statutory Proposals)
September 2022	Autumn Term	Statutory Notice (28 days, with 15 school days) Must be published on a school day
October 2022	Autumn Term	End of Objection Period
October/November 2022	Autumn Term	Objection Report published within 28 days and within Cabinet of 35 days
November 2022	Autumn Term	Cabinet Decision

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## EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS - DECISIONS TAKEN REPORTED TO CABINET – 16.11.21

### Streetscene and Transportation

- **The Flintshire County Council – Ffordd Owen, Ffordd Gwynedd, Ffordd Glyndwr, Ffordd Edwin High Street, St Peters Park and Connah’s Quay Road, Northop – Proposed Prohibition of Waiting at any Time**  
To advise Members of the objections received following the advertisement of the proposed Prohibition of Waiting on the roads listed above.
- **Amendments to Flintshire County Councils Cemetery Regulations**  
Flintshire County Council’s Cemetery Regulations govern the operations undertaken within all its cemeteries and provides guidance on the requirements expected from visitors to the cemeteries and those people who own graves within the cemeteries. Periodically these Regulations are required to be reviewed to ensure that they are up to date and in line with industry standards and still fit for purpose. The amendments outlined will ensure that this is the case for the period 2021 to 2025.

### Revenues

- **Council Rent – Application to Write Off Housing Tenancy Arrears**  
Individual bad debts in excess of £5,000 needing to be written off are considered by the Corporate Finance Manager and the Cabinet Member for Housing and Assets.

A decision to write off a housing rents case has been taken in respect of one tenant who is subject to a Bankruptcy Order. Rent Arrears of £7,268.89 are included in the Bankruptcy Order and as a result of the judgement the arrears are no longer recoverable.

- **Council Rent – Write Off of Former Tenancy Arrears Following Eviction**  
Financial Procedure Rules (Section 5.2) stipulates that individual bad and irrecoverable debts in excess of £5,000 are written off through delegated powers in conjunction with the relevant Cabinet Member.

The decision to write off is in respect of 1 case of unpaid housing rent in circumstances where the tenant abandoned the property prior to an eviction taking place to bring the tenancy to an end. Following the legal steps taken to end this tenancy the rent arrears of £10,100 are deemed to be irrecoverable and there is no prospect of securing payment.

### Planning, Environment and Economy

- **Planning Performance Agreement**  
Delegated powers sought to enter into a planning performance agreement to cover costs incurred by the Council for the provision of pre-application advice for a Development Consent Order and Planning Application for a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project.

## **Housing and Assets**

- **Proposed Dedication of Council-Owned Land as a Public Footpath on a Section of the Disused Railway Line Between Public Footpath No 5 & 6 in the Community of Buckley Retrospectively**

To dedicate land as a Public Footpath which is currently within the ownership of Flintshire County Council, as shown as a black dashed line between point A and point B on the plan.

- **Community Asset Transfer, Penyffordd Youth Centre and Scout Hut**  
The Community Asset Transfer of Penyffordd Youth Centre and Scout Hut, Hawarden Road, Penyffordd, Flintshire.

## **Education and Youth and Housing and Assets**

- **Disposal of Surplus Building**  
Joint declaring Surplus to Requirements – Flintshire County Council buildings known as Penyffordd Youth Centre (E&Y) and Scout Hut, Hawarden Road, Penyffordd (H&A) Flintshire prior to transfer as a Community Asset Transfer to Penyffordd and Penymynydd Community Group (CIC) on a 27 year lease.

Copies of the Delegated Powers reports are retained by the Team Leader – Committee Services and available to view on request by Members.

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME ITEMS  
COUNCIL, CABINET, AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE & SCRUTINY  
1 October 2021 TO 31 March 2022**

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
October					
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12/10/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (Env &amp;E )</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Cabinet Member for Streetscene
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12/10/21	Planning, Environment and Economy	<b>Empty Homes (E&amp;E OSC)</b> To provide an overview of the work undertaken by the Empty Homes Services	Operational	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12/10/21	Planning, Environment and Economy	<b>The North Wales Growth Deal Quarterly Performance Report</b> To provide members with the Quarter 1 update on the North Wales Growth Deal	Operational	Cabinet Member for Economic Development
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12/10/21	Streetscene and Transportation	<b>Review of 'O' Licence</b> To give assurance the working arrangements and processes are effective and robust.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Streetscene
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12/10/21	Streetscene and Transportation	<b>Review of Public Convenience Strategy</b> To update Scrutiny on progress against the Local Toilet Strategy Action Plan in line with the statutory requirements, and to set out the approach to a further review in 2022-23.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Streetscene



COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12/10/21	Finance	<b>Budget 2022/23 - Stage 2 (E&amp;E OSC)</b> That the Committee reviews and comments on the Streetscene and Transportation and Planning, Environment and the Economy cost pressures and overall budget strategy, and advises on any areas of cost efficiency it would like to see explored further.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Cabinet Member for Streetscene
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	13/10/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Community Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	13/10/21	Finance	<b>Budget 2022/23 - Stage 2</b> That the Committee reviews and comments on the Community, Housing and Assets cost pressures and overall budget strategy, and advises on any areas of cost efficiency it would like to see explored further.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement, Cabinet Member for Housing
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	13/10/21	Housing and Assets	<b>Disabled Facilities Grant (DFG) Policy</b> To provide an update on the ongoing work to improve the service.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	13/10/21	Planning, Environment and Economy	<b>Progress of Empty Homes Scheme in Flintshire</b> To provide an overview of the work undertaken by the Empty Homes Service.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	13/10/21	Housing and Assets	<b>Flintshire Housing Need Prospectus</b> To inform affordable housing delivery, shape the Social Housing Grant (SHG) programme by setting out what Local Authority priorities are and provide a guide about housing type need in what locations.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	14/10/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Action Tracking</b> To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	14/10/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee.	Operational	
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	14/10/21	Governance	<b>Work of the Coroner's Office</b> To receive a presentation from John Gittins on the work of the Coroner's Office.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	14/10/21	Finance	<p><b>Medium Term Financial Strategy / Budget 2022/23 - Stage 2 - Overview &amp; Scrutiny Responses</b></p> <p>To receive the feedback from the Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committees on Stage 2 of the 2022/23 budget setting process.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	14/10/21	Finance	<p><b>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2021/22 (Month 5)</b></p> <p>This regular monthly report provides the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2021/22 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account. The position is based on actual income and expenditure as at Month 5, and projects forward to year-end.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	19/10/21	Chief Executive's	<p><b>Medium Term Financial Strategy / Budget 2022/23 - Stage 2 -Overview &amp; Scrutiny Responses</b></p> <p>To receive the feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committees on Stage 2 of the 2022/23 budget setting process.</p>	Strategic	
Cabinet	19/10/21	Chief Executive's	<p><b>Annual Performance Report 2020/21</b></p> <p>To recommend adoption of the annual plan by Council.</p>	Strategic	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Cabinet	19/10/21	Chief Executive's	<p><b>NEWydd Catering &amp; Cleaning Limited: Services Concession Agreement Extension</b></p> <p>To seek approval for an extension of the Services Concession Agreement with NEWydd Catering &amp; Cleaning Ltd.</p>	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	19/10/21	Housing and Assets	<p><b>Housing Rent Income - Audit Wales</b> To acknowledge the Audit Wales Report and note the recommendations on the collection of additional data and performance reporting.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Cabinet	19/10/21	Housing and Assets	<p><b>Procurement of Voids Contractor Framework</b> To approve the procurement of contactors through a framework agreement in order to complete major voids to its housing properties.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Cabinet	19/10/21	Chief Executive's	<p><b>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2021/22 (Month 5)</b> This regular monthly report provides the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2021/22 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account. The position is based on actual income and expenditure as at Month 5, and projects forward to year-end.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	19/10/21	Governance	<p><b>Consultation on the Removal of Eligible Care Leavers' Liability for Payment of Council Tax</b> To provide an update on the proposal to remove the risk to care leavers of being held liable for the payment of Council Tax where another person (who is not exempt) in the household fails to pay their Council Tax.</p>	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Cabinet	19/10/21	Housing and Assets	<p><b>Ending of the Universal Credit Uplift</b> To provide an update on the predicted effect on Flintshire residents when the Universal Credit uplift ends.</p>	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	19/10/21	Social Services	<b>Social Services Workforce - Child Care Social Workers</b> To discuss options to support the recruitment and retention of experienced level 3 child care social workers in Social Services	Strategic	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets, Deputy Leader of the Council (Partnerships) and Cabinet Member for Social Services
Flintshire County Council	19/10/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Annual Performance Report 2020/21</b> To adopt the Annual Performance Report 2020/21		
Flintshire County Council	19/10/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Chief Officer, Team Capacity</b> To seek members approval of a number of changes to the current operating model		



COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Flintshire County Council	19/10/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Treasury Management Annual Report</b> To present to Members the draft Annual Treasury Management Report for 2020/21		
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee  Page 341	21/10/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (EY&amp;C)</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Education Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	21/10/21	Education and Youth	<b>School Holiday Enrichment Programme Review</b> To provide the Committee with an overview of the SHEP Summer Programme and its contribution to the poverty priorities within the Council Plan	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	21/10/21	Education and Youth	<b>Elective Home Education</b> To provide the Committee with an update on the levels of pupils being Electively Home Educated and the Council's oversight of this group of learners.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
November					
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	4/11/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (S &amp; H)</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Partnerships) and Cabinet Member for Social Services

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/11/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<p><b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (Env &amp; E )</b>            To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment &amp; Economy Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Cabinet Member for Streetscene
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee Page 3 of 3	9/11/21	Planning, Environment and Economy	<p><b>Greenfield Valley Strategy</b>            To receive a progress report on the work to establish a new strategy for Greenfield Valley Heritage Park. To inform members of the findings from the public and partner consultations and to seek the views of the committee on the key elements of the strategy.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Economic Development
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/11/21	Planning, Environment and Economy	<p><b>Audit Wales review of Town Centre Regeneration</b>            To consider the key recommendations of the Audit Wales review of Town Centre Regeneration and the Council's response</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Economic Development

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/11/21	Streetscene and Transportation	<b>Impact of the pandemic on prioritising highway schemes, gulley emptying, grass cutting, and flooding.</b> Request from the Recovery Committee	Operational	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Cabinet Member for Streetscene
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/11/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Community Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/11/21	Housing and Assets	<b>Housing Strategy and Action Plan</b> To review progress made on the Housing Strategy Action Plan and provide feedback and comments.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/11/21	Housing and Assets	<b>Void Properties within the Housing Revenue Account</b> To note the update report in relation to voids managed by the Housing Service and provide any comments or observations.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/11/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Action Tracking</b> To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/11/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee.	Operational	
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/11/21	Chief Executive's	<b>North Wales Councils - Regional Emergency Planning Service (NWC-REPS) - Annual Report 2020/21</b> To receive the NWCREPS Annual Report for 2020/21.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/11/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Employment and Workforce Quarterly Update</b> This report covers strategic updates in addition to the quarterly workforce statistics and their analysis.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee 1809 346	11/11/21	Housing and Assets	<b>Housing Rent Income - Audit Wales</b> To acknowledge the Audit Wales Report and note the recommendations on the collection of additional data and performance reporting.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Housing
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/11/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Capital Strategy 2022/23 – 2024/25</b> To present the Capital Strategy 2022/23 - 2024/25 for review.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/11/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Capital Programme 2022/23 - 2024/25</b> To present the Capital Programme 2022/23 - 2024/25 for review.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/11/21	Chief Executive's	<p><b>Annual Improvement Letter from the Auditor General for Wales</b></p> <p>To advise Members of the Council's Annual Improvement Letter from the Auditor General for Wales.</p>	Strategic	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/11/21	Chief Executive's	<p><b>Annual Audit Summary for Flintshire County Council 2020/21</b></p> <p>To receive the Annual Audit Summary from the Auditor General for Wales and note the Council's response.</p>	Strategic	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/11/21	Chief Executive's	<p><b>People Strategy Review and Protocol for Returning to Work</b></p> <p>To receive an update on progress with the People Strategy and the Protocol for Returning to Work.</p>	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/11/21	Finance	<p><b>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2021/22 (Month 6) and Capital Programme (Month 6)</b></p> <p>The purpose of this report is to provide Members with the Revenue Budget Monitoring 2020/21 (Month 6) Report and the Capital Programme 2020/21 (Month 6) Report and Significant Variances.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement
Cabinet	16/11/21	Streetscene and Transportation	<p><b>Shotton Master Plan</b></p> <p>To present the Shotton Master Plan.</p>	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Economic Development
Cabinet	16/11/21	Chief Executive's	<p><b>Core Funding Review</b></p> <p>To present the outcomes of the Core Funding Review.</p>	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets



COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	16/11/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Strategic Equality Plan Annual Report</b> To present the 2020/21 annual report for the Strategic Equality Plan.	Strategic	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Cabinet	16/11/21	Streetscene and Transportation	<b>Review of Local Toilets Strategy</b> To provide an update on progress against the Local Toilet Strategy Action Plan in line with the statutory requirements, and to set out the approach to a further review of the Strategy in 2022-23.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Streetscene
Cabinet	16/11/21	Education and Youth	<b>School Modernisation – Consultation on enlargement of premises at Drury C.P. School and Penyffordd C.P. School</b> To seek approval to consult on the enlargement of school premises at both Drury and Penyffordd County Primary Schools.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	16/11/21	Housing and Assets	<b>Flintshire Housing Need Prospectus</b> To present the Flintshire Housing Need Prospectus in advance of its onward transmission to Welsh Government.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Housing
Cabinet	16/11/21	Housing and Assets	<b>Disabled Facilities Grant Policy</b> To approve the revised Disabled Facility Grant Policy.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Housing
Cabinet	16/11/21	Governance	<b>Welsh Government Consultation on Local Taxes for Second Homes and Self-catering Accommodation</b> To set out the Councils response on policy and practical considerations on the use of local taxes for the self-catering accommodation sector and the use of the Council Tax premium scheme for second homes and long term empty properties.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	16/11/21	Governance	<b>Council Tax Base for 2022/23</b> To approve the Council Tax Base for the financial year 2022/23 as part of the process of the revenue budget setting and Council Tax setting process for the new year.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Cabinet	16/11/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Capital Strategy 2022/23 – 2024/25</b> To present the Capital Strategy 2022/23 – 2024/25 for recommendation to Council	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement
Cabinet	16/11/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25</b> To present the Capital Programme 2022/23 – 2024/25 for recommendation to Council	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement
Cabinet	16/11/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Capital Programme Monitoring 2021/22 (Month 6)</b> To present the Month 6 capital programme information for 2021/22.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	16/11/21	Chief Executive's	<p><b>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2021/22 (Month 6)</b>            This regular monthly report provides the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2021/22 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account. The position is based on actual income and expenditure as at Month 6, and projects forward to year-end.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement
Governance and Audit Committee	17/11/21	Finance	<p><b>Certification of Grants and Returns 2020/21</b>            To inform Members of the grant claim certification by Audit Wales for the year ended 31 March 2021.</p>	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement
Governance and Audit Committee	17/11/21	Housing and Assets	<p><b>Housing Rent Income - Audit Wales</b>            To acknowledge the Audit Wales Report and note the recommendations on the collection of additional data and performance reporting.</p>	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Housing

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Governance and Audit Committee	17/11/21	Housing and Assets	<b>Asset Disposal and Capital Receipts Generated 2020/21</b> To inform Members of the 2020/21 asset disposals.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Governance and Audit Committee	17/11/21	Governance	<b>Audit Committee Annual Report</b> To report on activities of the Committee during 2020/21.	All Report Types	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Governance and Audit Committee	17/11/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Treasury Management Mid-year Review 2021/22</b> To present to Members the draft Treasury Management Mid-Year Review 1st April – 30th September 2021 for comments and recommendations for approval to Cabinet.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement
Governance and Audit Committee	17/11/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Risk Management Update</b> To receive an update on actions to mitigate the strategic risks contained within the Council Plan.	Strategic	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Governance and Audit Committee	17/11/21	Planning, Environment and Economy	<p><b>Audit Wales review of Town Centre Regeneration</b> To consider the key recommendations of the Audit Wales review of Town Centre Regeneration and the Council's response</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Economic Development
Governance and Audit Committee	17/11/21	Governance	<p><b>Internal Audit Progress Report</b> To present to the Committee an update on the progress of the Internal Audit Department.</p>	All Report Types	
Governance and Audit Committee	17/11/21	Governance	<p><b>Governance and Audit Committee Self-Assessment</b> To inform Members of the results of the Committee's self-assessment which will feed into preparation of the Annual Governance Statement. It will also form the basis for the provision of any further training required by the Committee.</p>	All Report Types	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Governance and Audit Committee	17/11/21	Governance	<b>Governance and Audit Committee Action Tracking</b> To inform the Committee of the actions resulting from points raised at previous Governance and Audit Committee meetings.	All Report Types	
Governance and Audit Committee	17/11/21	Governance	<b>Forward Work Programme</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Internal Audit Department.	All Report Types	
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); font-weight: bold; margin-right: 5px;">Page 35</div> <div>December</div> </div>					
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	2/12/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (EY&amp;C)</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Education Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	2/12/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Mid-year Performance Indicators for Recovery, Portfolio and Public Accountability Measures</b> To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	2/12/21	Education and Youth	<b>Supporting Service Children in Education Update</b> To provide the Committee with an update on how Flintshire schools are supporting service children.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	7/12/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (Env &amp; E )</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Cabinet Member for Streetscene



COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	7/12/21	Planning, Environment and Economy	<b>HyNet Hydrogen Project</b> To receive an update on the HyNet Hydrogen Project	Operational	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	7/12/21	Planning, Environment and Economy	<b>North Wales Growth Deal Quarterly Performance report</b> To provide members with the Quarter 1 update on the North Wales Growth Deal	Operational	Cabinet Member for Economic Development
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	7/12/21	Streetscene and Transportation	<b>Update on Van Permits</b> As requested at the Committee on 14 September 2021	Operational	Cabinet Member for Streetscene
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	7/12/21	Streetscene and Transportation	<b>Integrated Network Maps</b> To receive the outcome of the formal consultation on the Council's Integrated Network Maps	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Streetscene

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	7/12/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Mid-year Performance Indicators for Recovery, Portfolio and Public Accountability Measures</b> To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Cabinet Member for Streetscene
Page 358 Flintshire County Council	7/12/21	Governance	<b>Amendments to the Planning Code of Practice</b> To review the Planning Code of Practice in line with a resolution of the Committee and Council earlier in the year		
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	8/12/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (CH &amp; E)</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Community Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	8/12/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Mid-year Performance Indicators for Recovery, Portfolio and Public Accountability Measures</b> To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets, Cabinet Member for Housing
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee Page 359	8/12/21	Housing and Assets	<b>Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016</b> To provide an update on the Renting Homes (Wales) Act 2016 following it becoming fully enacted.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/12/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (S &amp; H)</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Partnerships) and Cabinet Member for Social Services

<b>COMMITTEE</b>	<b>MEETING DATE</b>	<b>CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO</b>	<b>AGENDA ITEM &amp; PURPOSE OF REPORT</b>	<b>REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)</b>	<b>PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)</b>
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/12/21	Social Services	<b>North Wales Population Needs Assessment</b> To provide an overview of the North Wales Population Needs Assessment 2022 which has been produced as a requirement of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Partnerships) and Cabinet Member for Social Services
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/12/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee.	Operational	
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/12/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Mid-year Performance Indicators for Recovery, Portfolio and Public Accountability Measures</b> To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/12/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Action Tracking</b> To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/12/21	Governance	<b>Public Services Ombudsman for Wales</b> To share the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual Letter 2020-21 and Complaints made against Flintshire County Council Services in the first half of 2021-22 (April-September 2021)	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/12/21	Finance	<b>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2021/22 (Month 7)</b> This regular monthly report provides the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2021/22 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account. The position is based on actual income and expenditure as at Month 7, and projects forward to year-end.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/12/21	Chief Executive's	<b>Mid-year Performance Indicators for Recovery, Portfolio and Public Accountability Measures</b> To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Partnerships) and Cabinet Member for Social Services
Cabinet	14/12/21	Governance	<b>Public Services Ombudsman for Wales</b> To share the Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual Letter 2020-21 and Complaints made against Flintshire County Council Services in the first half of 2021-22 (April-September 2021)	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Cabinet	14/12/21	Social Services	<b>Microcare Evaluation Report</b> To provide an update to members on the progress to date.	Operational	Cllr Christine Jones
January					

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/01/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<p><b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (Env &amp; E )</b>            To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment &amp; Economy Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Cabinet Member for Streetscene
<span style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);">Page 3 of 3</span> Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/01/22	Planning, Environment and Economy	<p><b>Entrepreneurial grant support from Welsh Government and how the Local Authority could be involved</b>            Request from the Recovery Committee</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Economic Development
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12/01/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<p><b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (CH &amp; E)</b>            To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Community Housing &amp; Assets Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	13/01/22	Finance	<p><b>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2021/22 (Month 8)</b>            This regular monthly report provides the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2021/22 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account. The position is based on actual income and expenditure as at Month 8, and projects forward to year-end.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	13/01/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<p><b>Forward Work Programme (CROSC)</b>            To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Corporate Resources O &amp; S Committee</p>	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	13/01/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<p><b>Action Tracking (CROSC)</b>            To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings</p>	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets



COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	18/01/22	Social Services	<b>North Wales Population Needs Assessment</b> To provide an overview of the North Wales Population Needs Assessment 2022 which has been produced as a requirement of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.	Strategic	Cllr Christine Jones
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	20/01/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (S &amp; H)</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Partnerships) and Cabinet Member for Social Services
Governance and Audit Committee	26/01/22	Governance	<b>Governance and Audit Committee Action Tracking</b> To inform the Committee of the actions resulting from points raised at previous Governance and Audit Committee meetings.	All Report Types	

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Governance and Audit Committee	26/01/22	Governance	<b>Internal Audit Progress Report</b> To present to the Committee an update on the progress of the Internal Audit Department.	All Report Types	
Governance and Audit Committee	26/01/22	Governance	<b>Forward Work Programme</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Internal Audit Department.	All Report Types	
February <span style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg); position: absolute; left: -40px; top: 50%; font-weight: bold;">Page 5 of 66</span>					
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	3/02/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (EY&amp;C)</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Education Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	8/02/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<p><b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (Env &amp; E )</b>            To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment &amp; Economy Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Cabinet Member for Streetscene
Page 367 Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/02/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<p><b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (CH &amp; E)</b>            To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Community Housing &amp; Assets Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/02/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<p><b>Forward Work Programme (CROSC)</b>            To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Corporate Resources O &amp; S Committee</p>	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/02/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Action Tracking (CROSC)</b> To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/02/22	Housing and Assets	<b>Asset Strategy Review</b> To receive an update on the Asset Strategy Review.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/02/22	Finance	<b>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2021/22 (Month 9) and Capital Programme (Month 9)</b> The purpose of this report is to provide Members with the Revenue Budget Monitoring 2020/21 (Month 9) Report and the Capital Programme 2020/21 (Month 9) Report and Significant Variances	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Flintshire County Council	15/02/22	Social Services	<b>North Wales Population Needs Assessment</b> To provide an overview of the North Wales Population Needs Assessment 2022 which has been produced as a requirement of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014.		
March					
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee Page 69	3/03/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (S &amp; H)</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Partnerships) and Cabinet Member for Social Services

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	8/03/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<p><b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (Env &amp; E )</b>            To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment &amp; Economy Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Cabinet Member for Streetscene
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/03/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<p><b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (CH &amp; E)</b>            To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Community Housing &amp; Assets Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/03/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<p><b>Forward Work Programme (CROSC)</b>            To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Corporate Resources O &amp; S Committee</p>	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/03/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Action Tracking (CROSC)</b> To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council (Governance) and Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/03/22	Finance	<b>Revenue Budget Monitoring 2021/22 (Month 10)</b> This regular monthly report provides the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2021/22 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account. The position is based on actual income and expenditure as at Month 10, and projects forward to year-end.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance, Social Value and Procurement
Governance and Audit Committee	23/03/22	Governance	<b>Internal Audit Progress Report</b> To present to the Committee an update on the progress of the Internal Audit Department.	All Report Types	

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Governance and Audit Committee	23/03/22	Governance	<b>Forward Work Programme</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Internal Audit Department.	All Report Types	
Governance and Audit Committee	23/03/22	Governance	<b>Governance and Audit Committee Action Tracking</b> To inform the Committee of the actions resulting from points raised at previous Governance and Audit Committee meetings.	All Report Types	
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	24/03/22	Overview and Scrutiny	<b>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (EY&amp;C)</b> To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Education Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education



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