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Democratic Services Manager

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **22 NOVEMBER 2022** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 5**

REPORT OF: **Corporate Finance Manager**

SUBJECT: **CAPITAL STRATEGY INCLUDING PRUDENTIAL
INDICATORS 2023/24 – 2025/26**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

(1) Cabinet approves and recommends the Capital Strategy to County Council; and

(2) Cabinet approve and recommends to Council:

- The Prudential Indicators for 2023/24 – 2025/26 as detailed within Tables 1, and 4-8 of the Capital Strategy
- Delegated authority be granted 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)

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** 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 17th November 2022, with their comments being fed back to Cabinet verbally before being discussed at County Council in December 2022.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

As set out in the report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.


DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

23rd November 2022.

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **22 NOVEMBER 2022** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 6**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive, Corporate Finance Manager,**
Corporate Manager – Capital Programme & Assets

SUBJECT: **CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2023/24 – 2025/26**

- RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**
- (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 2023/24 - 2025/26;
 - (2) To approve the schemes included in Table 4 (paragraph 1.31) for the Investment section of the Council Fund Capital Programme 2023/24 - 2025/26;
 - (3) To note that the shortfall in funding of schemes in 2024/25 in Table 5 (paragraph 1.37) 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 2023/24, and included in future Capital Programme reports; and
 - (4) To consider and approve the schemes included in Table 6 (paragraph 1.41) for the specifically funded section of the Council Fund Capital Programme which will be funded in part through borrowing.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:**

The proposed Capital Programme will be referred to the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee for comment at its meeting on 17 November 2022, with their comments being fed back to Cabinet verbally before being discussed at County Council in December 2022.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

As set out within the report.

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.

The pressures for previously approved school building works, the Joint Archive Facility and the Tri-Ffordd relocation have been built into the current MTFS. Pressures for borrowing for new schemes will be built into future MTFS calculations as necessary. Those pressures were outlined in the report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **22 NOVEMBER 2022** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 7**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Housing and Communities)**

SUBJECT: **RENTING HOMES (WALES) ACT 2016**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

- (1) Cabinet note changes proposed to the way all landlords in Wales rent their properties for implementation from 1st December 2022; and
- (2) Cabinet note the use of discretion provided in the Act to remove the use of introductory tenancies from our policy.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations, with the addition of a third recommendation as detailed below:

- (3) That the representations made at the Community and Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee be shared with the Minister by the Cabinet Member for Housing and Regeneration.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** There is no consultation required, or appropriate, for implementation of the regulations as it is a legislative requirement and the current tenants will transfer over to a secure contract.

However, the contracts will be reviewed and consideration given to the need to vary some for specific reasons; i.e. garden condition, parking and pets. The consultation process will be defined and structured at the appropriate time after the implementation date.

The report was presented to the Community, Housing and Assets Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 16th November 2022.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

As part of a regional collaboration, we procured the services of Hugh James solicitors. The contract provides the following for us and regional partners:

- Train together: access 5 delegate places at each of the sessions in our unique webinar series developed with Community Housing Cymru.
- Draft together: producing your written statements of terms (occupation contracts) in conjunction with counsel.
- Build policy together: our plain-English manual to help guide your teams through the legislation and understand the new approach. Once you have used that to build your policies, we will carry out a final review of the updated policies you have developed.
- Added value: shared learning across the sector in the form of weekly summaries of all of our clients' questions and answers and 25 hours of bespoke "surgery" style sessions with our team over the 6 month implementation period.

This has reduced the cost of the legal advice as we procured this as a region, it has also provided the forum for shared learning and support with the legal experts and colleagues across North Wales

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

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CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **22 NOVEMBER 2022** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8**

REPORT OF: **Corporate Finance Manager**

SUBJECT: **REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2022/23 (MONTH 6)**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: To note the report and the estimated financial impact on the 2022/23 budget.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** None specific.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: As set out within the report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

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be included in the 2023/24 bills sent to every Council Taxpayer.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.


DISPENSATIONS

None.

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CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **22 NOVEMBER 2022** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 11**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Governance)**

SUBJECT: **CONSULTATION ON THE REFORM OF BUSINESS RATES**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Cabinet is asked to consider the proposals of the Welsh Government Consultation and authorise the Revenues and Procurement Manager in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Governance and Corporate Services including Health and Safety and Human Resources to respond to the consultation questions, as set out in the report.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: The purpose of the report is to provide cabinet with the opportunity to comment on the consultation proposals to reform Business Rates and to consider the proposed responses prepared by officers in the Revenue service.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: Local Authorities in Wales collect Business Rates on behalf of Welsh Government. Billing authorities pay the rates contributions into a central pool which is first split between unitary authorities and the Police and Crime Commissioners throughout Wales and then re-distributed between each local authority according to shares of adult population.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

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CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **22 NOVEMBER 2022** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 12**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy)**

SUBJECT: **LEVELLING UP FUND**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

- (1) That the progress in developing and submitting bids to round two of the UK Government Levelling Up Fund is noted;
- (2) That the risks and mitigations associated with the package of projects are noted; and
- (3) That match funding of up to £1.107 is made available from the capital programme in 2024/2025.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** Ward Members in the target areas have been consulted.

A wider consultation with the community took place early in 2022 as well as detailed consultation with the businesses and communities directly impacted by the proposals.

Any successful bids would require detailed local consultation to be carried out as part of the design phase for projects.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: Any successful LUF bids will require:

a) Match funding from the capital programme for 2024/2025. For the Alyn and Deeside bid, based on the value of the bid, this is £630k.

For the Delyn bid, this is £476k. These values also include the match funding required to draw down the management costs for the programme.

b) Staff resources to deliver the programme. A core team of delivery staff are fully costed into the bids submitted to UK Government.

Additional staff resources required to support delivery can't easily be quantified but will be essential to deliver the two Council projects against challenging timescales.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

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CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **22 NOVEMBER 2022** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 13**
REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy)**
SUBJECT: **BIODIVERSITY DUTY UPDATE**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Members note the content of this update and confirm their support for officers in their ongoing work associated with improving biodiversity.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** Some areas of work have been subject to consultation with the regional nature partnership. Where changes in land management and or biodiversity enhancement are planned consultation often involves, a wide range of internal colleagues, Councillors, communities and local Town and Community Councils.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: FCC revenue budget enables employment of one part time Biodiversity Officer, who works closely with the wider Access & Natural Environment Service and other portfolio colleagues to maximise resources for biodiversity benefit.

Additional revenue grant funding has been secured on a short term basis to enable the recruitment of supplementary biodiversity staff. This ensures delivery of grant funded projects and statutory functions and allows for additional biodiversity action within the climate change strategy, effective survey and monitoring and proactive environmental education, publicity and promotion.

Grant income raised for biodiversity projects within the three year reporting round has significantly increased and now supports widespread change for biodiversity benefit across the public realm in Flintshire.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

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CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **22 NOVEMBER 2022** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 14**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy)**

SUBJECT: **SHARED PROSPERITY FUND**

- RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**
- (1) Members are asked to note the progress made in developing the SPF programme both regionally and locally;
 - (2) Members are asked to review and approve the broad outline of the structures and processes to be used to deliver the programme and delegate authority to the Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) and the Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Economy to amend and finalise these as needed, once the approval for the programme has been received from UK Government and final terms and conditions are available; and
 - (3) Members are asked to review and approve the proposed outline uses of 2022/2023 funds by the Council and the proposed projects under development for subsequent years, and delegate authority to the Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) and the Cabinet Member for Climate Change and Economy to finalise these once the approval for the programme has been received from UK Government.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:**

Consultation events were held with stakeholders in May 2022 as part of the development of the regional investment strategy. The Council met again with consultees in October 2022 to provide an update on the development of the programme and raise awareness of forthcoming funding opportunities.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

Four percent of the value of the programme can be drawn down by the regional lead body for programme governance, administration and monitoring and evaluation. Funds can be allocated from this sum to each local authority to cover programme management costs so the programme should not present an additional burden to Council finances.

Match funding is not required by UK Government for the SPF programme although it is intended that projects offering match funding will score better during the assessment process. The Council therefore does not face any additional financial pressures from the delivery of the programme.

Individual services submitting proposals for funding from the programme will need to plan the delivery and administrative resources needed to deliver and account for their projects effectively, some of this resource can be included within the eligible costs for each project.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

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DATE OF MEETING: **22 NOVEMBER 2022** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 16**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Social Services)**

SUBJECT: **NEW RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITY IN FLINT –
'CROES ATTI 2'**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

- (1) Cabinet confirms its support for the 'Croes Atti 2' project as a strategic priority; and
- (2) Cabinet notes the key upcoming project activities including developing and implementing the operational model with the Health Board.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** Public consultations will be carried out as part of the process of seeking planning permission.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: The cost for the build project is currently estimated at approximately £16,050,000 based on the feasibility study. However this is only an indicative figure at present. The project is currently included as part of Flintshire's capital programme with £950,000 previously approved for the design and development element of the build. The project team are currently looking to secure significant contributions from Welsh Government of approximately £10,000,000 to support the capital spend to construct the building. This will leave the remainder to be approved through Flintshire's capital programme.

Colleagues within Social Services, in close partnership with BCUHB, are

currently developing the model of care that will be delivered on site upon completion. BCUHB are providing a revenue contribution of at least £200,000 pa which will support the operation of the building and are ensuring that appropriate health capacity is available to the building in order to manage the pull-on resources, facilitating residents' wellbeing and recovery.

To deliver this model of care we will be recruiting additional care support staff as well as reviewing the management model of the site now that it will be substantially larger. This work will be completed by Mid-2024 and it is expected that residents will first utilise the site in Early 2025.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

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