

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

**REPORT TO:**           **CONSTITUTION COMMITTEE**

**DATE:**               **WEDNESDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2014**

**REPORT BY:**       **MEMBER ENGAGEMENT MANAGER**

**SUBJECT:**           **WALES AUDIT OFFICE NATIONAL SCRUTINY  
IMPROVEMENT STUDY - ACTION PLAN UPDATE**

**1.00**   **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01    To update the Committee on the progress with the Action Plan arising out of the Wales Audit Office (WAO) National Scrutiny Improvement Study.

**2.00**   **BACKGROUND**

2.01    Members will be aware of this ongoing project from the previous reports which have been made to the Constitution Committee. The Study commenced in September 2012 with a Self Evaluation exercise. Subsequently a "Peer Learning Exchange Team" (PLET) comprising Members and Officers was established.

2.02    There followed an extensive period of activity which saw Flintshire's PLET ( Councillors Mullin, Richard Jones, Carver and Mackie together with the Member Engagement Manager and both Overview & Scrutiny Facilitators) becoming involved in observing at two Denbighshire committees and participating in a range of North Wales workshops.

2.03    Arising out of this activity, an action plan was submitted to the Constitution Committee at its meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2013. The action plan was approved and has been the subject of progress reports subsequently.

**3.00**   **CONSIDERATIONS**

3.01    Arising out of the Study, the Action Plan was identified and the current version is attached as Appendix 1. Whilst the majority of actions have been completed, the inaugural meeting of the Steering Group of Chairs and Vice Chairs has not yet taken place, and work with the Public Engagement Strategy is still ongoing.

3.02    The Chairs and Vice Chairs are currently being consulted on preferences for the Steering meeting – whether this should be a morning, afternoon or evening.

3.03 The Public Engagement Strategy will be submitted to the inaugural meeting of that Group, and subsequently to the Constitution Committee at its meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January 2015.

3.04 Further updates on the development of the Action Plan will be made to the Committee as and when necessary.

#### **4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS**

4.01 That the Committee have regard to the update provided and make such observations as they so wish on the Action Plan arising out of the WAO Study.

#### **5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.01 None

#### **6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT**

6.01 None

#### **7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

7.01 None

#### **8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT**

8.01 None

#### **9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS**

9.00 None

#### **10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED**

10.00 None

#### **11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN**

11.01 None

#### **12.00 APPENDICES**

Appendix 1: Action Plan arising out of the WAO study.

#### **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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