7TH OCTOBER 2008

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive of Flintshire County Council held in County Hall, Mold on Tuesday, 17th October, 2008.

PRESENT: Councillor A Woolley (Chairman)

Councillors: P G Heesom, M Higham, H D Hutchinson, N Matthews, L A Sharps, N R Steele-Mortimer and H Yale.

ALSO PRESENT: Councillors J B Attridge, K Armstrong-Braun, R C Bithell, H Bateman, V Gay, R Jones, D Mackie and A P Shotton.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive, Director of Community Services, County Legal & Democratic Services Officer, County Finance Officer, Director of Lifelong Learning, Director of Environment, Assistant Director of ICT and Customer Services and Democratic Services Manager.

100. WELCOME

The Chairman welcomed the Directors of Lifelong Learning and Environment to their first meeting of the Executive.

101. <u>MINUTES</u>

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7th October 2008 were confirmed as a correct record.

102. POST OFFICE CLOSURES

Arising from Minute No. 82 of the Executive, the Chief Executive reported that he was expecting a response this week to the representations made in relation to Post Office closures.

Later in the meeting he received a response confirming that the consultation period would not be extended. He indicated that there were other matters of detail which he wished to investigate and would report back in due course.

103. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received.

104. STRATEGIC REPORTS

The previously circulated report of the Chief Executive was submitted. The purpose of the report was to receive the Review of the Strategic Assessment of Risks and Challenges and to agree the process for sharing the revised Assessment with Overview and Scrutiny Committees and the Audit Committee. The Chief Executive gave a powerpoint presentation to supplement his report.

Circulated at the meeting were the most up-to-date figures relating to the Strategic Assessment of Risks and Challenges and the Chief Executive advised that the document provided the foundations for both the Council Plan and the Regulatory Plan. It defined and detailed the priorities for change and improvement and was supported by the Council's Business Planning processes and disciplines including Service Planning, Risk Management and Financial Monitoring and Review.

The Chief Executive explained that the Strategic Assessment of Risk and Challenges comprised three categories:-

- Community Leadership
- Council Delivery
- Council Governance

It was necessary to review progress against each of these categories. The review document showed the level of risk, pre-action, and provided a commentary as to progress against actions. It also showed the level of risk remaining post action.

He indicated that there were 12 Community Leadership risks, 33 Council Delivery risks and 23 Council Governance risks and commented upon them and the progress that had been made.

The Chief Executive indicated that the Officers were keen to meet the challenges and unless they were absolutely convinced that progress was made, they left the topic in the red category. He explained that the next steps would be for the Audit Committee and Overview and Scrutiny Committees to consider the management of existing risks and review new/emerging risks. Following this the revised position will be presented to the Executive on 6th January 2009.

The Executive Member for Planning and Housing Strategy welcomed the report, particularly the link which would develop between the Scrutiny and Audit Committees and individual Members.

The Executive Member for the Environment suggested that although the outcome of the UDP was still awaited, preparatory work on the Local Development Plan could commence. The Chief Executive indicated that preparatory work was already being undertaken. A number of Members welcomed the format of the report and the "traffic lights" system of identifying the areas of risk.

RESOLVED:

- a) That progress against the Strategic Risk and Challenges, be noted.
- b) That the process for sharing details of progress made against the risks and challenges of the Overview and Scrutiny and Audit Committees, be agreed.

105. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2007/08

The Executive considered the previously circulated report of the Chief Executive, the purpose of which was to endorse the proposed contents of communication plans for the 2007/08 Annual Performance report. The report detailed the background to its preparation and identified the key considerations.

The Chief Executive confirmed that consideration was being given to the document being web based.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the proposed contents of the Communication Plans for the 2007/08 Annual Performance, be endorsed.
- b) That the final draft report be considered at a special meeting of the Executive on 21st October 2008 prior to consideration by County Council on 28th October 2008.

106. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORTING ARRANGEMENTS

The Executive considered the previously submitted report of the Chief Executive, the purpose of which was to advise and update Members on the current arrangements for reporting Performance Management issues. The report also advised Members of methods to ensure consistent and relevant reporting arrangements which inform the organisation in an accurate and timely manner about performance. The Chief Executive supplemented his report with a powerpoint presentation.

The Chief Executive reported that the Council's approach to target setting had been reviewed to improve reporting, understanding and decision-making. The following categories of targets had been endorsed by the Executive on 5th August 2008:

- Improvement target
- Incremental target
- Maintenance target

The Chief Executive reported that target categorisation had initially been considered by a joint meeting of People and Performance and Corporate Management Overview and Scrutiny Committees to which the Chairs and Vice-Chairs of all other Overview and Scrutiny Committees had been invited. A formal approach had been developed and Executive would receive a mid-year position for quarters 1 and 2 in November.

The Chief Executive explained that Executive Members were accountable for performance in their Portfolios alongside Senior Officers and may request Overview and Scrutiny to undertake further work on their behalf. He further explained that the Overview and Scrutiny Committees would receive service performance data that was relevant to their area on a quarterly basis.

It was noted that Scrutiny's role was to review the progress of performance and advise on the quality and robustness of the Action Plan being followed to achieve performance.

Members were pleased to note the level of progress that had been made but the Executive Members for the Environment and for Planning and Housing Strategy referred to continuing difficulties in the Housing Service. The Chief Executive, whilst acknowledging this, felt it was worth noting the improvements that had been made over the six month period.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the approach to Performance Management Reporting for further development and review at the mid-year point, be endorsed.
- b) That the categorisation of targets be endorsed and that reports be received back from Overview and Scrutiny Committees as to further development, be endorsed.
- c) That an update in the form of a presentation on the Local Government Data Unit's Bulletin published in 2nd October 2008, be received.

107. DRAFT PROCUREMENT STRATEGY 2008/09 – 2010/11

The Executive considered the previously circulated report of the County Finance Officer, the purpose of which was to seek approval for the Flintshire County Council's Draft Corporate Procurement Strategy for 2008/09 – 2010/11. The Strategy provided a three year framework for improving Procurement within the Council. The report detailed the background to its preparation and identified that the Strategy in its current form was draft and that feedback and suggestions would be welcomed. The County Finance Officer expanded upon this point.

The Executive Member for Finance welcomed the report and advised that its substance was sound.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the contents of the draft Procurement Strategy 2008/09 2010/11, be noted; and
- b) That a final version be submitted to the Executive at its meeting scheduled for 18th November 2008.

108. INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY STRATEGY UPDATE

A report of the Assistant Director of ICT and Customer Services, previously circulated, was submitted. The purpose of the report was to provide the Executive with an update on the Corporate Information and Communications Technology (ICT) Strategy. This update was part of the midyear review of all major corporate strategies covering the Council's key resources, information, finance and people and assets.

The report detailed the background to its preparation and identified the key considerations.

RESOLVED:

That the progress made in implementing the Corporate ICT Strategy and the commitment to reduce the environmental impact from ICT, be endorsed.

109. VOLUNTARY SECTOR COMPACT

The report of the Chief Executive, copies of which had been previously circulated, was submitted. The purpose of the report was to note the progress and endorse a revised approach to the Voluntary Sector Compact.

The report detailed the background to its preparation and identified the key considerations. It was noted that considerable progress had been made at Compact meetings and in between. Three meetings had been held and the first meeting in March 2008 centred around three main areas which were identified in the report. It was noted that the forward programme for the Compact was based on two main work streams, which were grant management and local volunteering.

The Executive Member for Lifelong Learning acknowledged the improved relationship with the voluntary sector.

The Executive Member for Planning and Housing Strategy declared that he was a Member of the Board of the Flintshire Voluntary Council.

RESOLVED:

That the revised approach to the Voluntary Sector Compact be endorsed.

110. COMMUNITY SAFETY STRATEGIC PLAN

The report of the Chief Executive, which had previously been circulated, was submitted. The purpose of the report was to approve and adopt the Community Safety Partnership Strategy Plan.

The report detailed the background to its preparation and identified key considerations noting that there was a statutory duty for the Local Authority, Police Authority, Police Service, Local Health Board and Fire Authority/Fire Service to work together for community safety. These Bodies made up the Community Safety Partnership together with the Probation Service and Voluntary Sector representatives and were required each year to produce a Strategic Assessment and Strategic Plan.

The Chief Executive also referred to the Green Paper on Policing which he was pursuing with a possibility of a presentation being made to the meeting of the County Council. The Leader felt that this was an excellent report and commended it to the Executive.

RESOLVED:

That the Community Safety Strategic Plan, be approved and adopted

111. UPDATE ON CHANGES IN THE NHS

The Executive considered the previously submitted report of the Director of Community Services, the purpose of which was to update Members on consultation in respect of a range of developments to make changes in the NHS Wales nationally and regionally.

The Director of Community Services opened the presentation by advising that he understood details had been released whereby the proposals would allow for mental health provision to be a separate National body and that there would be seven Regional Boards.

The report noted that the Minister's most recent statement indicated:

- Agreement that there should be one NHS organisation serving North Wales;
- Support for a new National NHS Board
- A consensus to strengthen the scrutiny role of Community Health Councils

The Director of Community Services advised that there were a number of significant issues for the Local Authorities to consider alongside the proposed NHS reforms and these were referred to in the report. She also advised on the outcome of a report on neuro-surgery services in North Wales and set out the main recommendations in her report.

The Director of Community Services also referred to the significant concerns of officers about the single All Wales Mental Health Service proposed in the Williams' report. These had been summarised in response to the consultation outlining a range of issues from a Local Authority perspective.

The Executive was informed that there was a series of consultation events on the Community Services Redevelopment Project (Glan Clwyd Hospital) which were being organised by North Wales Trusts. Presentations had been made or were planned for a number of strategic partnership groups. It was noted that an event for Flintshire County Council Members and Senior Officers had been provisionally arranged for 14th November 2008.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the consultation responses made to date on the NHS Reform, be supported.
- b) That the attendance by Members at the consultation events at Glan Clwyd Hospital, be supported.

112. <u>REGIONAL TECHNICAL STATEMENT FOR FUTURE AGGREGATES</u> <u>SUPPLY</u>

The report of the Director of Environment, which had been previously circulated, was submitted. The purpose of the report was to advise Members of the Regional Technical Statement (RTS) and to endorse it with reservations to facilitate future Strategic and Local Development Plan (LDP), Policy Development to ensure an uninterrupted and long-term supply of aggregate, was made available for the construction sector.

The report was presented by the Executive Member for Planning and Housing Strategy. He referred in particular to paragraph 2.08 where the Plan was considered on a regional basis. The Executive Member also commented that the Council were fortunate to have in its employ Mr Gary Nancarrow who is highly knowledgeable in this area.

RESOLVED:

That a Regional Technical Statement, with reservations, to facilitate the preparation of future Development Plans and to enable the continued development of the RTS at future review, be endorsed.

113. REGULATORY PLAN : MID-YEAR REVIEW

The report of the Chief Executive, which had been previously circulated, was submitted. The purpose of which was to provide a mid-year report on the management of the Regulatory Plan. The report detailed the background to its preparation.

In presenting his report, the Chief Executive referred in particular to paragraph 3.04, whereby he had stated that it was the aim to reduce core regulator fees by 10% in 2009/10 which would be in the region of £45,000, to reflect a reduction in requirement for Regulation. The improved processes for self-regulation and the reduction in the amount of regulatory work identified, should lead to this reduction in fees.

The Chief Executive reported that the Regulators were also being encouraged to identify efficiency savings from within their own work programmes and also to be transparent in indicating the number of work days and costs of each piece of Regulatory work. This evidence should provide the Council with a better understanding of the costs of Regulatory work in relation to its quality.

The Executive very much welcomed this report and the aims of the Chief Executive to reduce the fees as identified.

In this respect the Executive Member for Planning and Housing Strategy felt that the Chief Executive should be delegated full authority to pursue this matter as actively as necessary.

RESOLVED:

- a) That continuing improvement of the management of the Regulatory Plan, be endorsed and a progress report against the 2007/08 Plan be noted.
- b) That the Chief Executive be granted delegated authority to pursue this matter as necessary.

114. HIGHWAYS INFRASTRUCTURE AUDIT - UPDATE

The report of the Director of Environment, previously circulated, was submitted. The purpose of which was to update Members on the progress being made with the actions arising from the Wales Audit Office (WAO) report on Flintshire County Council's Highway Infrastructure (November 2007). The report was presented by the Executive Member for the Environment who took the opportunity to welcome Mr Carl Longland as the new Director.

The report detailed the background to its preparation and the Director of Environment thanked the Executive for the opportunity to help make the changes necessary to improve the service. The Director of Environment acknowledged that considerable work had already been done but expressed caution that there could be a downside because the Council could lose funding because of the already high standard of its roads. However, he anticipated that the Highways Network Management Plan would help to address this problem.

The Executive Member for Planning and Housing Strategy welcomed the comments, particularly in relation to the work already undertaken by existing members of staff.

RESOLVED:

That the progress being made and the actions arising from the Welsh Audit Office Highways Infrastructure Review, be noted

115. OUTCOMES OF THE CARE AND SOCIAL SERVICES INSPECTORATE WALES (CSSIW) OF THE FLINTSHIRE FOSTER CARE SERVICES 2006 AND 2007

The report of the Director of Community Services, previously circulated, was submitted. The purpose of which was to advise and inform the Executive of the Inspection of the Foster Care Services for 2006/07 by the Care and Social Services Inspection Wales (CSSIW). The report was presented by the Director of Community Services.

The Chief Executive, supported by the Leader, paid tribute to the Foster Carers who undertook such excellent work on behalf of the Council. As part of the background to the report, the Director of Community Services expanded upon the role of the Foster Carers in the various categories. She also expanded upon the details of the two Inspection reports and identified the conclusions, which referred to two areas:

- Achievements of the Foster Care Service 2006/07
- Areas for Improvement highlighted in 2006/07

It was noted that both reports reflected a service which continued to demonstrate continuous improvement year on year.

RESOLVED:

That the continuous improvement of the Foster Care Service, as evidenced by the CSSIW Inspection Report for 2006/07, be noted.

116. NORTH WALES REGIONAL COLLABORATION

The joint report of the Chief Executive and Assistant Director of ICT and Customer Services, previously circulated, was submitted. The purpose of which was to update Members on the Portfolio collaborative projects in progress across the six North Wales Councils. The report detailed the background to its preparation and identified a number of considerations. Attached as an Appendix to the report was the Board's Operating report which provided an outline of the current project Portfolio identifying the project status and progress to date.

The Chief Executive indicated that a more detailed report would be submitted in due course.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted.

117. <u>MAKING THE CONNECTIONS – MAKING THE MOST OF OUR</u> <u>RESOURCES</u>

The report of the County Finance Officer, previously circulated, was submitted, the purpose of which was to provide the Executive with details of the efficiency gains achieved in 2008 as set out in Making the Connections Agenda. The report was presented by the County Finance Officer who reported upon the levels of efficiencies in 2007/08 and projected for 2008/09 against target and how they had been included in the budget. Details of efficiency gains would be included in the 2007/08 Annual Performance Report.

The Executive Member for Finance indicated extensive work was on target in this area. It was also suggested that the improved procurement strategy would add to the efficiency targets.

RESOLVED:

That the efficiency gains achieved by the Authority, be noted.

118. <u>PLANNING DEVELOPMENT CONTROL – REVIEW OF PERFORMANCE</u> <u>AND IMPROVEMENTS</u>

The Executive considered the previously submitted report of the Director of Environment, the purpose of which was to inform Members of the Planning Development Control (DC) service, both in relation to the statistics submitted to the Welsh Assembly Government in connection with the quarterly survey of Welsh Local Planning Authorities and the improvements to the service identified through various reports and included in the Directorate Service Plan 2008/09.

The report was presented by the Director of Environment who explained that this was the first quarter report and identified the background to its preparation. Particular reference was made to the situation whereby the Development Control Section was currently preparing for the switch over to the National Standard Planning Application Form, which was termed (1APP) and would replace all existing types of planning application forms, except minerals, within Wales. It was noted that this process was geared to the electronic submission of applications. The report expanded upon the operation of this system.

The figures for each of the following areas were fully detailed in the report:

- Planning Applications;
- Appeals;
- Enforcements

In commenting upon the report, the Member for Planning and Housing Strategy indicated that the scope of Planning required to be as transparent as possible and he felt that these reports would benefit that.

RESOLVED:

That the contents of the report be noted and that quarterly reports be presented to the Executive on Performance Improvements in the Planning Development Control Services.

119. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2008/09 (MONTH 4)

A report of the County Finance Officer, copies of which had been previously circulated, was submitted. The County Finance Officer presented the report which provided an update on the Council's financial position for 2008/09 in respect of the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account.

Members were requested to note the project overspend of £0.069m on the General Fund and the projected underspend of £0.116m on the Housing Revenue Account. It was noted that as it was at a very early stage in the year there were many risks associated with the projections and some of these were identified in paragraph 2.16 of the report. Members were also requested to note that unallocated non-standard inflation of £1.529m and central contingencies of £0.085m were assumed to be spent and future allocations would be monitored through subsequent monitoring reports (section 3). On the basis that all non ring-fenced underspends would be returned to the reserve and that the net ring-fenced overspends would be met from the reserve, the contingency sum available at 31st March 2009 (above the base level of £5.112m) would be £2.947m (para 4.01). However this would reduce to £2.250m if the current projected Directorate non ring-fenced overspends were not managed within the cash limited budget (para 4.03). Taking into account the projected underspend of £0.116m on the Housing Revenue Account, the level of balances at 31st March 2009 would be £1.366m (para 5.06), however this could reduce following further work undertaken on issues surrounding the Building Maintenance Trading Account (Part 04).

The Executive Member for Planning and Housing Strategy commented upon the level of work being undertaken relating to Housing funding.

120. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2008/09 (MONTH 4)

The report of the County Finance Officer, which had previously been circulated, was submitted. The report was presented by the County Finance Officer, the purpose of which was to provide Members with the latest Capital Programme information for 2008/09. It was noted that the Council approved the Capital Programme for 2008/09 of £48.590m at its meeting on 4th March 2008.

As part of the consideration, the report identified movements within the Programme and these were identified in a table which showed how the Programme had changed during 2008/09. Detailed information relating to each Programme area was summarised within the report, provided at Appendix A to the report. The report also identified the movement during the given period within the various categories.

The County Finance Officer also referred to contractually uncommitted generally financed budgets and identified savings. The report also identified how the Capital Programme was financed and the shortfall in anticipated capital receipts for both the General Fund and the Housing Revenue Account.

The Executive Member for Finance supported the recommendation.

RESOLVED:

That the report be noted and approved.

121. <u>ENFORCEMENT POLICY – HEALTH AND SAFETY SECTION, PUBLIC</u> <u>PROTECTION</u>

The previously circulated report of the Director of Environment was submitted, the purpose of which was to seek approval for the Enforcement Policy (Health and Safety Section, Public Protection). The report was presented by the Director of Environment.

It was noted that this section of the Authority was responsible for enforcing Health and Safety Legislation in approximately 2,700 premises within the County. As part of the Improvement Agenda it was necessary to have an up to date enforcement policy which had been approved by the Council.

The Executive Member for Leisure enquired how small businesses would be informed of the relevant policies and the Leader indicated that it would be via the Federation of Small Businesses.

RESOLVED:

That the Council be recommended to approve the Enforcement Policy of the Health and Safety Section, Public Protection as detailed in the report.

123. ENFORCEMENT POLICY - LICENSING SECTION, PUBLIC PROTECTION

The report of the Director of Environment, previously circulated, was submitted for consideration. The purpose of the report was to seek approval for the Enforcement Policy (Licensing Section, Public Protection) and was presented by the Director of Environment.

The Director of Environment advised that it was necessary for the Licensing Committee to formally approve this Policy. The report detailed the background to its preparation and identified the key considerations.

RESOLVED:

That the Enforcement Policy of the Licensing Section, Public Protection, as detailed in the report be approved and recommended to the Licensing Committee.

123. <u>PROPOSED DEDICATION OF COUNCIL-OWNED LAND AS PUBLIC</u> FOOTPATH AT CASTLE PARK, FLINT

The report of the County Legal and Democratic Services, previously circulated, was submitted. The purpose of the report was to seek approval in principle for the dedication of Council-owned land as a public right of way on foot i.e. a public footpath and grant delegated powers to the Director of Community Services to give effect of this dedication.

The report noted that the dedication of this way as a public footpath would provide a valuable addition to the Public Right of Way network as well as linking Flint with the coastal hinterland and public footpaths which would, by 2012, form part of an All Wales Coastal Footpath.

The Executive Member for Planning and Housing Strategy indicated that this proposal would not affect any possible future development, such as a Flint By-pass.

RESOLVED:

- a) That approval be given, in principle, to the dedication of land in the ownership of the Council for public use as a footpath as identified by a bold broken line on the map attached to the report.
- b) That delegated authority be given to the Director of Community Services to give effect the Dedication upon the completion of a statement in a form prepared by the County Legal and Democratic Services Officer setting out the terms of the dedication.
- c) In the event of the County Legal and Democratic Services Officer considering that there is sufficient evidence in the Council's ownership of the two areas of land in respect of which there are no Title Deeds,

delegated authority be given to the Director of Community Services to include these two areas in the Dedication or in a separate Dedication in the same terms as in a) above.

124. SURFACE WATER SEWER AT YR YDLAN, BRYN ROAD, BRYN-Y-BAAL

The report of the County Legal and Democratic Services Officer, previously circulated, was submitted. The purpose of which was for the Executive to consider providing guarantees to Dwr Cymru to enable it to adopt the perforated land drain which constituted a surface water sewer serving the residential developments at this location.

The report detailed the background to its preparation, the report also detailed the relevant considerations.

RESOLVED:

That the Council gave an assurance to Dwr Cymru that it will maintain the perforated land drain in perpetuity on condition that Dwr Cymru adopt the surface water sewer system servicing the development.

125. <u>RECRUITMENT OF NEW MEMBERS AND RE-APPOINTMENT OF</u> <u>EXISTING MEMBERS TO THE FLINTSHIRE LOCAL ACCESS FORUM</u>

The Joint report of the County Legal and Democratic Services Officer and Director of Environment, previously circulated, was submitted. The purpose of which was to approve the proposed recruitment and appointment process for the new Membership of the Flintshire Local Access Forum. The report detailed the background to its preparation and referred to the key considerations relevant to the appointment to the Forum.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the Executive note, and endorse, the proposed recruitment process for the establishment of the new Membership of the Flintshire Local Access Forum.
- b) That the County Legal and Democratic Services Officer and the Director of Environment be given delegated authority, jointly, to appoint Members of the new Forum, to appoint replacement Members when necessary and to determine the number of Members of the new Forum such members not to exceed 15.

126. <u>GREENFIELD VALLEY TRUST LTD – ACCOUNTS FOR 2007</u>

The report of the Director of Lifelong Learning, previously circulated, was submitted. The purpose of which was to submit, to the County Council, the accounts of the Greenfield Valley Trust Ltd for the period 1st January – 31st December 2007. The report detailed the background to its preparation and it was noted that under the terms of the Management Agreement, the Trust must submit to the Council an audited set of year end accounts.

It was noted that the audited accounts for the financial year 1st January to 31st December 2007, were available for inspection in the Members' Library.

RESOLVED:

That the report be received.

127. EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS

An information report of the Chief Executive, copies of which had been previously circulated, was submitted. The purpose of the report was to inform Members of the actions taken under delegated powers.

The actions taken were set out below:

a) Community and Housing

- Sale of Land to the rear of Connah's Quay Shopping Precinct and Fronting Fron Road for the development of a primary health care centre.

b) Community and Housing

Deed of Rectification relating to access/egress for 54 Fraser Drive, Buckley.

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

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting as the following item was considered to be exempt by virtue of paragraph 15 of Part 1 of Schedule 12 (a) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended)

129. NORTH EAST WALES COMMUNITY EQUIPMENT SERVICE

The joint report of the Director of Community Services and the Director of Environment, previously circulated, was submitted for consideration. The purpose of the report was to seek approval for the proposed acquisition of the new premises for the North East Wales Community Equipment Service with the Council's partner Authority, Wrexham County Borough Council.

A similar authorisation process was being undertaken at Wrexham and authorisation at both Authorities would be required to release the total sum concerned. The report detailed the background to its preparation.

The Executive Member for Planning and Housing Strategy initially expressed reservations about the proposal but the Director of Community Services explained the level of funding that would be received from the Welsh Assembly Government, and he accepted this.

The Executive Member for Environment explained he did not support the proposal, not on the basis of the service which he felt was essential, but the principle of collaboration with another Authority.

The Chief Executive reminded the Executive that the initial approval for this scheme had been agreed by the Executive at its meeting held on 3rd June 2008.

RESOLVED:

- a) That the acquisition of the building selected at Hawarden, Unit 3 Hawarden Business Park on terms as agreed by the Head of Technical Services and County Legal Officer to protect Flintshire and Wrexham's interests in liaison with Officers of both Authorities, be approved.
- b) That the building is acquired and held jointly or in trust for Wrexham's benefit as Officers from each Authority may consider appropriate to protect the respective Authority's interests.

130. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

A copy of the Executive Work Programme for months 09.08 - 11.08 as considered by the Executive on 5th August 2008 together with an update, were enclosed for information. An updated copy of the Executive Work Programme months 12.08 - 04.09 was circulated at the meeting.

131. DURATION OF MEETING

The meeting commenced at 9.30am at ended at 11.30 am.

132. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There was 1 member of the press in attendance.

Chairman

SUMMARY OF DECLARATIONS MADE BY MEMBERS IN ACCORDANCE WITH FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL'S CODE OF CONDUCT

EXECUTIVE DATE: 7th October 2008

MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS
NO DECLARATIONS WERE MADE		