

EXECUTIVE
29TH OCTOBER 2008

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive of Flintshire County Council held in County Hall, Mold on Wednesday, 29th October, 2008.

PRESENT: Councillor A. Woolley (Chairman)

Councillors: C. Ellis, P.G. Heesom, H.D. Hutchinson, N. Matthews, N. Phillips, N.R. Steele-Mortimer and H. Yale.

ALSO PRESENT:

Councillors: J.B. Attridge, S.R. Baker, G.H. Bateman, R.C. Bithell, E.G. Cooke, R.G. Hampson, R. Hughes, Mrs C.M. Jones, R.P. MacFarlane, D.I. Mackie, A.P. Shotton and D.E. Wisinger.

APOLOGY:

Councillors: M. Higham, L.A. Sharps and Chief Executive.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Director of Community Services, Director of Environment, Director of Lifelong Learning, County Legal and Democratic Services Officer, County Finance Officer and Head of Committee, Members and Electoral Services.

133. MINUTES

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

Matters Arising

Members Present

Councillor N. Phillips said that he had submitted an apology for this meeting and asked for this to be recorded.

Minute 102 Post Office Closures

In response to a question regarding an update provided at the County Council the previous day the County Legal and Democratic Services Officer referred to the action agreed and Members would be circulated with the response received from the Post Office to date.

134. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were received.

135. MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY/BUDGET 2009/10 PROCESS AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROVISIONAL SETTLEMENT 2009/10

A report of the County Finance Officer, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The County Finance Officer presented the report the purpose of which was to provide the Executive with an update on the work being undertaken on both the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the 2009/10 budget. The report also provided details of the provisional Welsh Local Government settlement 2009/10 which had been announced by the Welsh Assembly Government on 15th October 2008.

The County Finance Officer highlighted sections of the report and to the action plan to implement the principles and activities of the strategy which had been referred to in the 16th September 2008 Executive. This had now been completed and work was underway to enable the deadlines to be met. Service Managers had completed their mid year business reviews which required managers to address the areas of risk, performance, internal/external influences and funding issues as well as identifying future pressures and possible and achievable efficiencies.

Details of the provisional settlement was set out in the report and in addition to this financial support from the Welsh Assembly Government there were two other important aspects in establishing the overall resources available. The first of these was the Local Taxation policy which would set the Council Tax base and upon which a report would be submitted to the Executive on 18th November, 2008. This would review the Council Tax discounts and exemptions and to set the Council Tax base of 2009/10 prior to submission to the Assembly by 30th November, 2008. Secondly, it had previously been agreed that the position as at month six (end of September) would form the basis of planning for 2009/10. Budget monitoring for month six and the resultant estimated level of reserves and balances at 31st March, 2009 would be completed by mid November and would be reported formally to the Executive on 9th December, 2008.

A presentation on the Medium Term Financial Strategy had previously been made to Overview and Scrutiny and a further presentation would be made to the Corporate Management Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held the following day. In addition, the School Budget Forum had received a presentation at its meeting on 2nd October, 2008. The Forum had been asked to submit items it wished the Council to consider when setting the 2009/10 budget. Paragraph 3.09 of the report set out five items which the Forum had requested to be considered as part of the MTFS/budget process.

Members were reminded that the settlement at this stage was provisional and it was expected that the final details would be received on 10th December, 2008. The formal consultation period on the provisional settlement was from 15th October to 18th November and arrangements would be made to co-ordinate the Council's formal response to the Welsh Assembly Government and to include comments from both Executive and Overview and Scrutiny.

The County Finance Officer referred to Aggregate External Finance (AEF) and that the overall increase was 2.9% across Wales. Flintshire's increase was 2.7% bringing the total AEF to £181.502m and Flintshire's calculated SSA had increased by 2.7% to £232.590m. The Assembly had retained a "floor funding" arrangement for 2009/10 which would ensure that all Authorities received a minimum increase in AEF of 1.5%. There were three Authorities receiving additional funding under this arrangement which were Anglesey, Blaenau Gwent and Powys.

The County Finance Officer referred to the Assembly's draft budget which had announced an additional £10.0m of funding for Local Government across Wales which included the floor funding (£3.0m), LABGI funding (£3.0m) and pay and price pressures (£4.0m). The settlement details highlighted the inclusion of additional responsibilities across Wales for learner travel which was an extension of free school transport and Flintshire would receive £0.154m. Details were still awaited for the specific grants – revenue but additional specific grant funding had been announced to support the role out of the Foundation Phase which would provide £20.0m at the all Wales level. In respect of unhyphocated grants Flintshire would receive deprivation grants of £0.225m and improvement agreement grants of £1.497m. In respect of the capital settlement Flintshire, for general capital funding had remained unchanged at £10.431m which was divided into general capital grant of £2.604m and £7.827m support within the settlement for borrowing.

In conclusion, the County Finance Officer referred to the recommendations of the report and for Members to provide her with any comments on the provisional settlement by 10th November in order that these comments, together with those of Overview and Scrutiny, could be reported to the Welsh Assembly Government by 18th November, 2008 which was the end of the consultation period.

Councillors P.G. Heesom and N.R. Steele-Mortimer referred to the submission from the School Budget Forum to address the gap between the revenue expenditure and the Indicator Based Assessment and this needed to be seen as an emerging issue and to be taken on board.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the work already undertaken and planned to develop the MTFS and establish the 2009/10 budget proposals and timetable, be noted.
- (b) That the 2009/10 provisional settlement information, be noted.
- (c) That the County Finance Officer be provided with any comments on the provisional Local Government settlement by 10th November in order that these comments together with those of Overview and Scrutiny could be reported to the Welsh Assembly Government by 18th November, 2008 which was the end of the consultation period.
- (d) That the County Finance Officer collate comments on the provisional settlement and that they be shared with Executive Members before they are reported to the Welsh Assembly Government.

136. DRAFT IMPROVEMENT AGREEMENT WITH WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT

A report of the Chief Executive, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Executive Member for Corporate Governance and Strategy presented the report the purpose of which was to provide Members with a clear process for approving the Council's improvement agreement and accessing the improvement agreement grant.

RESOLVED:

That the process for approving the improvement agreement as outlined in section 3.05 of the report, be endorsed.

137. COUNCIL PLAN REVIEW

A report of the Chief Executive, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members was submitted. The Executive Member for Corporate Governance and Strategy, presented the report the purpose of which was to update Members on the review of the Council Plan and to outline a clear process for its development and approval.

The Director of Lifelong Learning reported that the Council had had a Council Plan since 2005 which had been reviewed each year. Its served two main purposes, firstly to inform ongoing business planning within services and secondly to provide part 1 of the Council's Improvement Plan as the annual forward planning document. Since 2008, the Council Plan 2008-2012 had been under review pending a number of interlinking and formative developments. These included the adoption and review of the strategic assessment of risks and challenges, a categorisation of indicator targets and the development of the Council's improvement agreement with the Welsh Assembly Government. The priorities of the new administration also needed to be reflected within the emerging Council Plan.

RESOLVED:

That the proposed process as outlined in paragraph 3.03 of the report for the development and approval of the Council Plan, be approved.

138. "PLANNING POLICY CHANGES TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL AREAS – MEETING HOUSING NEEDS" – WELSH ASSEMBLY GOVERNMENT DRAFT POLICY CONSULTATION

A report of the Director of Environment, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Executive Member for Housing Strategy and Planning presented the report the purpose of which was to inform Members of the main issues raised by the Welsh Assembly Government recent consultation on "Planning Policy Changes to Support Sustainable Development in Rural Areas – Meeting Housing Needs" which

had been issued in July 2008 and sought Members approval for the proposed response to the consultation.

The Executive Member referred to the report which reflected some Officers concerns that it was weakening the existing policies and that their observations should be supported. These related to the issues of essential dwellings in the countryside for farm or forestry workers and affordable housing in rural areas and these would be a matter for consideration in the Local Development Plans.

Councillors N.R. Steele-Mortimer and N. Matthews said that they wished to support the recommendations from the Welsh Assembly Government and could not support the recommendations of the report and would be voting against them.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the comments and responses to the Welsh Assembly Government consultation document as set out in the report and contained within Appendix 1 and 2 of the report, be endorsed.
- (b) That the Welsh Assembly Government be informed that the draft to these comments already submitted by the deadline represent the formal views of the Council.

139. EMERGING FLINTSHIRE UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN: PUBLIC ENQUIRY FEES – ADDITIONAL COSTS

A report of the Director of Environment, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Executive Member for Housing Strategy and Planning presented the report the purpose of which was to seek Members approval to finance the additional costs incurred by the UDP Public Inquiry process from the contingency reserve fund.

The Director of Environment referred to the high number of objections arising from the consultation which had necessitated the Inspector spending a considerable amount of time to consider each objection. An estimate of the cost had been received and there was a shortfall of £0.240m for which there was no budget provision. The Inspectors report was expected in March 2009 and the final sum may be less than estimated.

RESOLVED:

That the UDP Public Inquiry additional costs identified in the report in the sum of £0.240m be financed from the Council's contingency reserve fund.

140. FLINT TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE INITIATIVE BID UPDATE

A report of the Director of Environment, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Director presented the report the purpose of which was to provide an update on the progression of the Stage 2 development work for the Flint Townscape Heritage Initiative, to

seek delegated powers for the Director to approve the content of the Stage 2 bid and submit the bid by 1st December on behalf of the Authority and to advise Members on the current position regarding funding partners and their contributions to the proposed THI common fund and the implications for the Authority as lead partner.

The Director referred to the background to this report and to the authorisation for Officers to bid for the proposed scheme which had been approved by the Executive on 24th April, 2007. This Stage 1 bid had been submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund in May 2007 who had announced in October 2007 that the Flint scheme was one of only three towns in Wales and one of 13 in the UK to be successful in its Stage 1 application. As part of the submission process a more detailed Stage 2 application bid required submission to the Heritage Lottery Fund by 1st December, 2008.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Heritage Lottery Funds decision to approve the commencement of the Stage 2 development work be noted and that this would require a conservation area appraisal, boundary review and management plan to be produced as part of the Stage 2 submission bid.
- (b) That delegated authority be given to the Director of Environment to agree and submit the contents of the bid in order that the deadline for the Heritage Lottery Funds submission on 1st December, 2008 could be met; and
- (c) That the reduction in the common fund as a result of the Welsh Assembly Government Department for the Economy and Transport withdrawal from the scheme subject to written confirmation and that the agreed contribution from Flintshire County Council would remain at £305,000.

141. ESTYN REPORT ON THE QUALITY OF ADULT COMMUNITY BASED LEARNING IN FLINTSHIRE

A report of the Director of Lifelong Learning, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Executive Member for Education and Youth presented the report the purpose of which was to provide Members with information on the outcome of Estyn's inspection of adult community based learning in Flintshire which was conducted in May 2008. The results of the inspection team and their judgments were set out in paragraph 3.01 and 3.02 of the report and also made a number of recommendations which were set out in paragraph 3.03.

RESOLVED:

That the conclusions and recommendations of the Estyn inspection report be noted.

142. OUT OF COUNTY PLACEMENTS

A joint report of the Director of Lifelong Learning and Director of Community Services, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted.

The Director of Lifelong Learning presented the report the purpose of which was to provide an update on the ring fenced joint “out of authority” placements budget. The Director in presenting the report explained that the over spend was not a new position and was not unique to Flintshire County Council. Work was ongoing to monitor the budget through procurement and that there was scope to work sub regionally and to develop commissioning strategies.

The Executive Members for Education and Youth and Social Services supported the recommendations of the report and emphasised the need for this budget to be considered carefully as part of the 2009/10 budget preparation.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the contents of the report and the steps taken to reduce the dependency on this budget wherever possible, be noted.
- (b) That it be noted that the Directors of Lifelong Learning and Community Services would commission further work in accordance with paragraphs 3.05 and 3.06 of the report.

143. LEISURE CENTRE ENHANCEMENT STRATEGY: MOLD SPORTS CENTRE

A report of the Director of Lifelong Learning, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Executive Member for Leisure and Public Protection presented the report the purpose of which was to advise on the outcome of the tender process with regard to the refurbishment works at Mold Sports Centre. He referred to the tendering exercise for this project and had previously suggested that a re-tendering exercise be undertaken but had been persuaded by the Officers that they could negotiate a reduction in the tender price and this report reflected that action.

The Director of Lifelong Learning referred to the work being completed on the preparation of a leisure strategy which would provide a clear and prioritised programme of leisure provision. This particular project needed to be considered in isolation and the reasons for this was much needed work on the Mold Sports Centre for which a sum of £200,000 had been awarded from the Pool Improvement Fund operated by the Sports Council for Wales. This grant needed to be used in the current financial year.

The Director referred to the tender process and to the lowest tender being considerably higher than expected. Negotiations had been entered into

with the lowest tenderer and a reduction of £55,000 had been achieved. It was recommended that an allocation of a maximum £150,000 from within the existing Leisure Enhancement Capital Fund be approved to enable this project to proceed with immediate effect and with completion within the current financial year.

RESOLVED:

That the allocation of a maximum £150,000 from within the existing Leisure Enhancement Capital Fund of £500,000, to enable this project to proceed with immediate effect and with completion with the current financial year, be approved.

144. RACE EQUALITY SCHEME – ANNUAL REPORT 2007-2008

A report of the Chief Executive, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Executive Member for Corporate Governance and Strategy presented the report the purpose of which was to present the Race Equality Scheme Annual report for May 2007 – May 2008 for consideration and approval.

The Director of Lifelong Learning referred to the report and to the Race Equality Scheme being a key strategic policy. A number of improvements had been made across the Council and these were highlighted in the annual report and referred to in paragraph 3.01 of the report. Although progress was being made it was not always consistent across the Council and there remained key areas where continued progress and outcomes were now required. These included training, interpretation, equality monitoring and equality impact assessments details of which were contained in section 3.02 of the report.

The Leader of the Council referred to the reference to training which sought to ensure every employee and elected Member understood their responsibilities. A training and awareness programme across the Authority was essential and he had attended this course and recommended it for all Members.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the annual report be approved before it was published and made available to the public.
- (b) That the areas for improvement be noted.

145. HOUSING REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE SERVICE MID YEAR REVIEW

A report of the Director of Community Services, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Executive Member for Estate Management presented the report which provided the Executive with a mid year review of the housing maintenance service which included updates in relation to the public interest report on the housing repair

service, an update on the progress being made in the implementation of key areas of activity within the housing repair service and an update on the current projected financial position of the building maintenance trading account.

The Director of Community Services referred to the considerable efforts that were being made to improve the housing repair and maintenance service. The report provided information on the schedule of rates update, diagnostic reporting and vehicle locator/tracking system. The report also provided information on other initiatives including financial management which was the subject of a further report on the Agenda.

The Executive Member for Education and Youth commended the diagnostic reporting and welcomed the new repairs handbook.

RESOLVED:

That the service improvements that had been undertaken and challenges that remained be noted and that support be given to the ongoing management initiatives designed to rectify the current financial position whilst continuously improving the service to customers.

146. BUILDING MAINTENANCE TRADING ACCOUNT 2008/09

A report of the Director of Community Services, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Director presented the report the purpose of which was to inform Members of the current projected financial position of the building maintenance trading account and to confirm measures to control expenditure within the available budget as the position had worsened since the last reported position at Month 04.

The Director explained that this was a high volume service and served approximately 7,500 houses. As indicated in a previous report a number of new approaches had been adopted to improve effectiveness and efficiency of service. This together with the appointment of a temporary Head of Housing and a new DSO Manager would assist this process. An analysis was also being undertaken into the level of activity that was not in line with budget provision. Performance reports in relation to trade activity had been developed through the new management systems linked to the IBS computerised system. One of the highest levels of expenditure and cause for concern was sub-contractors where it appeared that financial controls had failed. There was a challenge to try and mitigate the overspend.

The Director referred to paragraph 3.10 of the report which set out a number of measures which were being deployed to bring the trading account into budget or to minimise the deficit.

Members referred to the current unacceptable length of time for repairs and renewals and it was hoped that the six bullet points referred to in paragraph 3.10 would help achieve an improvement.

The Executive Member for Housing Strategy and Planning referred to the failure of financial control and issues of productivity and he and the Executive Member for Estate Management would support the new officer structure but it was important that financial control and productivity were sorted. He paid tribute to the previous administration and their attempt to address this problem.

The Leader of the Council referred to the restructuring of housing which had not yet been finalised and emphasised the need for knowledge and understanding of budget control to be disseminated down to all levels in the staff structure.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be noted and that regular update reports be received on tracking progress of activities being undertaken to control expenditure; and
- (b) That a further report be made to the next meeting concerning the financial management issues identified in the report.

147. VACANT DESIGNATED WARDEN ACCOMMODATION

A report of the Director of Community and Services, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Executive Member for Estate Management presented the report the purpose of which was to update Members on the current position regarding vacant designated resident warden service accommodation and to recommend that these properties be brought back into tenanted use as soon as practical.

Members supported the recommendations of the report and consultation with elected Members from the Ward where the schemes were sited.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the proposal to return to use, at the earliest possible opportunity, the 16 vacant designated warden properties, be supported.
- (b) That the proposal to provide secure tenancies to three ex wardens who were currently still residing in their old service accommodation, be supported.

148. FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ADOPTERS AND GUARDIANS

A report of the Director of Community Services, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Director presented the report the purpose of which was to agree the use of a financial assessment tool which determined the level of financial support to adopters

and those who sought to look after children under a special guardianship order.

The Director referred to the Family Placement Team which operated as a Registered Adoption Agency and was regulated by the CSSIW. In September 2007 the team had introduced the standardised means test model for adoption and special guardianship. This was recommended by the Department for Children, Schools and Families as it was deemed to be fair and sought to deliver a standard approach to arriving at the level of financial support given to adopters by Local Authorities. Internal audit, in May 2008, had also recommended the use of this assessment tool and to support it with a number of guidance and policy documents. It was also recognised that the budget impact could not be determined until further reassessment of applying the tool to historical adoptions had been completed.

The Executive Member for Social Services supported the report which would allow the Family Placement Team to demonstrate compliance with best practice and provide applicants with full information about a complex arrangement.

RESOLVED:

That the sensitive introduction of the new policy for allowances for adoption and special guardianship orders be endorsed.

149. DESIGN CONSULTANCY FEE INCOME FOR 2008/09

A report of the Director of Environment, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Director presented the report the purpose of which was to advise on the current position regarding the Design Consultancy fee income projections for the financial year 2008/2009 and the impact on end of year projections.

The Director explained that Design Services was a business unit where fee income recovered should, as a minimum, cover the running costs. He referred to the financial implications of the report and to a projected overspend of £0.165m. Discussions were ongoing and he was confident that this situation would improve and further reports would be made as part of the budget monitoring process.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be noted.
- (b) That a budget pressure be noted at this stage.
- (c) That further consideration be given to this matter during the budget process.

150. BUSINESS RATES – WRITE-OFFS

A report of the County Finance Officer, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Executive Member for Finance and Asset Management presented the report the purpose of which was to request authorisation to write-off two business rates debts relating to the same company to the value of £55,297.25. She explained that there would be no financial implications to the Council or to Tax payers as the Council collected business rates on behalf of the Welsh Assembly Government through the National Collection Pool for Wales.

RESOLVED:

That the write-off of this debt, amounting to £55,297.25 be approved.

151. BUSINESS RATES – SMALL BUSINESS RATE RELIEF SCHEME

A report of the County Finance Officer, copies of which have been previously been circulated to Members, was submitted. The Executive Member for Finance and Asset Management presented the report the purpose of which was to provide Members with a further update on the Welsh Assembly proposals to enhance the small business rate relief scheme.

The County Finance Officer explained that there were no direct financial implications to the Council Tax payers since the cost of awarding small business rate relief was borne by the Assembly Government and offset against the Council's contribution to the National Collection Pool for Wales. The scheme, would however, have benefits for small businesses in Flintshire provided they met the eligibility to receive rate relief.

RESOLVED:

That the final details of the enhanced rate relief scheme be noted.

152. EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS

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

The actions taken were set out as below:-

(a) Community and Housing.

- approval of a temporary fixed term appointment for an additional Customers Services Officer to assist with the increase in customer demand relating to the introduction of new kerbside schemes.
- transfer freehold title of CAB premises, Post Office Lane, Holywell to the CAB.

- (b) Community Services – Capital Minor Works Programme 2008/09
- (c) Environment and Regeneration – Temporary conversion of post within Trading Standards.
 - adoption of Rights of Way Improvement Plan.
- (d) Legal and Democratic Services – change of duties to a vacant post of Corporate Solicitor. Post had been accordingly changed to Solicitor “Childcare” to reflect the services required by the Council.

153. 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 items were considered to be exempt by virtue of paragraphs 12, 13, 14 and 15 of Part 1 or Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

154. AD WASTE

A report of the Chief Executive, County Finance Officer, Monitoring Officer and Director of Environment, copies of which have been previously been circulated to Members, was submitted.

The Executive Member for Waste Strategy and Management presented the report the purpose of which was to inform Members of the findings of the Strategic Business Review of the Council’s Local Authority Waste Disposal Company AD Waste undertaken by KPMG and to recommend a course of action to protect service continuity and protect the Council’s interests (risks and liabilities) as the sole shareholder.

RESOLVED:

That the company be taken in-house and the Director of Environment be given delegated authority to arrange a valuation of the company’s assets and liabilities.

155. NORTH WALES WASTE TREATMENT PROJECTS

A joint report of the Chief Executive, County Finance Officer, Monitoring Officer and Director of Environment, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Executive Member for Waste Strategy and Management presented the report the purpose of which was to update the Executive on the progress of the North Wales Waste Treatment Project. The report also sought approval to continue to progress the partnership for the procurement of a residual waste treatment solution as detailed in the project initiation document which was attached as an appendix to the report. The report also sought to continue to progress the procurement

of food waste treatment infrastructure as a separate procurement project as negotiated amongst the partnership and supported by advice by Partnership UK and the Welsh Assembly Government.

RESOLVED:

That the recommendations be agreed noting that the draft inter-authority agreement attached to the report was likely to be further amended to focus on this specific project.

156. SENIOR MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE – ORGANISATIONAL DESIGN PHASE II

A report of the Chief Executive, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members was submitted. The Executive Member for Corporate Governance and Strategy presented the report the purpose of which was to seek endorsements of the approach to, and contents of Phase 2 of organisation change and redesign.

The Leader of the Council referred to the recommendations of the report and supported the involvement of Overview and Scrutiny and emphasised the importance of open consultation including staff, Trade Unions and Members.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the approach to Phase 2 of organisational change and redesign be endorsed.
- (b) That the selection of services and functions for Phase 2 of organisational change and redesign be endorsed.
- (c) That further work on the scopings for each of the reviews be commissioned.
- (d) That the approach for the respective Overview and Scrutiny Committee be consulted on the scopings for each review be endorsed and that it be noted that initial consultation would be held with the Trade Unions.

157. VOLUNTARY SECTOR GRANT MANAGEMENT PRACTICE

A report of the Chief Executive, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted.

The Executive Member for Corporate Governance and Strategy presented the report the purpose of which was to advise Members of the proposed principles and model for future voluntary sector funding arrangements. Secondly, to propose recommendations for those voluntary organisations which would receive a three year core funding arrangement from 1st April, 2009 as these organisations were currently funded corporately through either corporate service level agreements or development grants.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the principles and model for future funding arrangements for voluntary organisations be approved.
- (b) That the recommendations for those voluntary organisations which would receive a one or three year core funding arrangement from 1st April, 2009 be approved.

158. SCHOOL PLAYING FIELDS GROUND MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

A report of the Director of Lifelong Learning, copies of which have been previously circulated to Members, was submitted. The Director presented the report the purpose of which was to inform Members of the outcomes of the tendering process and to approve the award of the contract from 1st January, 2009 onwards.

RESOLVED:

That the award of the grounds maintenance contract for school playing fields to P&W Maintenance Limited with effect from 1st January, 2009 be approved subject to satisfactory completion of all arrangements.

159. DURATION OF MEETING

The meeting commenced at 9.30 am and ended at 11.45 am.

160. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There were two members of the press and two members of the public present.

.....
Chairman

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

EXECUTIVE	DATE: 29th October 2008
------------------	---

MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS
NO DECLARATIONS WERE MADE		