

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Your Ref /
Eich Cyf

Our Ref / Ein Cyf CO

Date / Dyddiad 24/02/2012

Ask for / Gofynner am Ceri Owen

Direct Dial / Rhif Union 01352 702350

Fax / Ffacs

Dear Sir / Madam,

A meeting of the **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL** will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, MOLD** on **THURSDAY, 01 MARCH 2012** at **14:00** to consider the following items.

Yours faithfully



Democracy and Governance Manager

AGENDA

1. **PRESENTATION**

A presentation will be made to :-

Christopher Rowe, Accommodation Officer - Has been awarded a Local Hero Commendation by Business in the Community, which is a UK wide charity organisation marking the 10th anniversary of its Business Action on Homelessness programme.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

3. **PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive any Declarations of Interest from Members.

County Hall, Mold. CH7 6NA
Tel. 01352 702400 DX 708591 Mold 4
www.flintshire.gov.uk
Neuadd y Sir, Yr Wyddgrug. CH7 6NR
Ffôn 01352 702400 DX 708591 Mold 4
www.siryfflint.gov.uk

The Council welcomes correspondence in Welsh or English
Mae'r Cyngor yn croesawu gohebiaeth yn y Gymraeg neu'r Saesneg

5. **COUNCIL MINUTES**
To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 31 January, 2012 (copy enclosed).
6. **CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS**
7. **PETITIONS**
8. **NOTICES OF MOTION**
None have been received
9. **QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS ON COMMITTEE MINUTES**
The Minute Book, Edition 7 2011/12 has been circulated to Members. Members are now entitled to ask questions on these minutes, subject to certain limitations and answers will be provided at the meeting. Members are requested to bring to the meeting their copy of the Minute Book. Any questions must have been received by the Democracy and Governance Manager prior to close of business on Monday 6 February 2012.
10. **QUESTIONS**
To note the answers to any questions submitted in accordance with County Council Standing Order No. 9.4(A).
11. **COUNCIL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2012/13**
Report of Head of Finance and Chief Executive enclosed
12. **COUNCIL TAX SETTING 2012-13**
Report of Head of Finance enclosed
13. **COUNCIL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2012/13 TO 2021/22**
Report of Head of Finance and Chief Executive and Director of Environment enclosed
14. **TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY & STRATEGY STATEMENT 2012/13**
Report of Head of Finance enclosed
15. **PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2012/13 TO 2014/15**
Report of Head of Finance enclosed
16. **MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION 2012/13**
Report of Head of Finance enclosed
17. **SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2013/14**
Report of Director of Lifelong Learning enclosed
18. **BUCKLEY COMMON BYELAWS**
Report of Head of Legal and Democratic Services enclosed

19. **SEALING OF DOCUMENTS**

(A) To authorise the Chair and Vice-Chairman, the Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services Officer and Principal Solicitors to affix the Common Seal of the County Council between meetings of the County Council.

(B) To note the Action of the Chair and Vice-Chairman, the Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services Officer and Principal Solicitors in affixing the Common Seal of the County Council as set out in the Seal Register No.13221 - 13278.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
TUESDAY 31 JANUARY, 2012

Minutes of the meeting of Flintshire County Council held at County Hall, Mold on Tuesday 31 January, 2012

PRESENT: Councillor H.J. McGuill (Chair)

Councillors: L.A. Aldridge, J.B. Attridge, S.R. Baker, G.H. Bateman, M. Bateman, R.C. Bithell, C.S. Carver, J.C. Cattermoul, D.L. Cox, P.J. Curtis, R. Davies, A.J. Davies-Cooke, Q.R.H. Dodd, C.J. Dolphin, C.A. Ellis, E.F. Evans, J.E. Falshaw, V. Gay, F. Gillmore, R.J.T. Guest, A.M. Halford, R.G. Hampson, C. Hinds, R. Hughes, H.D. Hutchinson, H.T. Isherwood, C.M. Jones, R.B. Jones, S. Jones, D.I. Mackie, D.L. Mackie, N.M. Matthews, D. McFarlane, A. Minshull, W. Mullin, E.W. Owen, M.J. Peers, P.R. Pemberton, N. Phillips, M.A. Reece, H.G. Roberts, I.B. Roberts, L.A. Sharps, A.P. Shotton, N.R. Steele-Mortimer, C.A. Thomas, W.O. Thomas, D.T. Williams, D.E. Wisinger, A. Woolley and M.G. Wright

APOLOGIES:

Councillors: Eng. K. Armstrong-Braun, D. Barratt, H. Brown, E.G. Cooke, R. Dolphin, B. Dunn, G. Hardcastle, P.G. Heesom, N. Humphreys, R. Johnson, N.M. Jones and C. Legg

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive, Director of Lifelong Learning, Director of Environment, Head of Finance, Head of Streetscene, Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services, Democracy and Governance Manager, Member Engagement Manager and Committee Officer

Alun Lewis; Chair of the Police Authority, Stephen Roberts; Head of Facilities and Logistics Management, Mike Parkin; Director of Finance, Simon Shaw; Acting Assistant Chief Constable, Darren Wareing; Chief Inspector and Douglas Wynne Police Authority Member – In attendance for minute number 110 – North Wales Police Estate Review

107. PRAYERS

The meeting was opened with Prayers said by the Chair's Chaplain.

108. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

The Democracy and Governance Manager confirmed that no questions had been received.

109. COUNCIL MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of Flintshire County Council held on 22 November and 14 December, 2011 had been circulated with the agenda.

22 November, 2011

RESOLVED:

That the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

14 December, 2011

Councillor F. Gillmore asked that his name be included under 'Present' on page 16 of the minutes.

RESOLVED:

That subject to the amendment listed above, the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

110. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor R.J.T. Guest declared a personal interest for Agenda item number 7 – Notice of Motion (v) Adoption of Estate Sewers, Roads and Street Lighting submitted by Councillor R.C. Bithell.

111. NORTH WALES POLICE ESTATE REVIEW

The Chair welcomed Alun Lewis; Chair of the Police Authority, Stephen Roberts; Head of Facilities and Logistics Management, Mike Parkin; Director of Finance, Simon Shaw; Acting Assistant Chief Constable, Darren Wareing; Chief Inspector and Douglas Wynne; Police Authority Member to the meeting, who were in attendance to provide a presentation on the North Wales Police Authority's Financial Plans, Strategic Priorities and Estate Review.

Mike Parkin provided details on the North Wales Police Authority's Financial Plans. The comprehensive spending review in 2011 announced the intention to reduce the police service grant by 20%. For North Wales Police this meant a £22M cut in central funding. The reduction in the policing grant meant nearly £10M savings needed to be made between 2011 and 2013 in North Wales. With 80% of funding expended on staff, the force planned on reducing 150 officers and 150 staff, together with a further £2M reduction in non staff. Since the first plan was produced, higher than expected inflation has added another £1M to the cuts, making the total required £16M.

The Police Force had achieved year 1 of its savings, and had plans in place to meet the subsequent three years. The cuts to date had been achieved through the loss of 131 officers and 112 staff at a combined saving of £7.5M, and a reduction of non staff costs of £1.5M. In the meantime, the Welsh Government (WG) had pledged to provide funding for 101 additional PCSO's in North Wales which would provide a significant increase in capacity to provide a policing presence and engage with communities and reduce crime.

Stephen Roberts gave a presentation on the North Wales Police Estate Review and draft Estate Strategy 2011 which covered the following areas:-

- Key recommendations for corporate buildings;
- Detailed options appraisals;
- Key recommendations for operational accommodation;
- Holywell police station relocation proposals;
- Combined fire and police stations; and
- Public consultation.

Councillor D.L. Mackie, a representative of the North Wales Fire & Rescue Service said that she hoped the options being considered to vacate the joint communications centre in St. Asaph would not jeopardise the opportunity to combine the fire, police and Ambulance Trust at one communication centre.

Mike Parkin explained that the options being considered to vacate the joint communication centre were being considered with the Fire Authority so that if a decision was taken to vacate the premises the Fire Authority would relocate with them. The ambulance service was continuing to look at strategic options to create a tri-service with the fire and police services and this would not be jeopardised by vacating the joint communications centre.

Councillor M.J. Peers spoke in support of the relocation of Holywell police station and asked if there were any plans to review the opening hours of police stations as part of the estate review. He asked if the operational work of the police force had been considered as part of the estate review and if the capital assets received from the sale of police station buildings would be reinvested in the police service.

Stephen Roberts confirmed that the revenue received from the sale of police station buildings would be re-invested. Mike Parkin said that a project was underway to review the operations of police stations which included gathering data to examine the needs of the wider community. This would enable police stations to be more user friendly and meet modern day requirements. Simon Shaw confirmed that the operational work of the police force had been considered as part of the estate review.

Councillor H.D. Hutchinson sought clarification on 15 police stations which were to be reviewed, as detailed in the presentation. Councillor C.A. Ellis asked if there were any plans to have a custody suite for young people in Flintshire. She felt that not having a custody suite would have cost implications with staff having to travel to Wrexham or St. Asaph. She also asked if the police service would escort young people back to Flintshire.

Stephen Roberts explained that the estate review had examined each building in detail, including its current level of use. Each building was evaluated against three key criteria to determine the extent to which it met the needs of delivering effective policing services. He did not envisage the police stations which were to be reviewed being closed following the review. Simon

Shaw explained that the custody suites would only be used if a young person was under arrest. He said that the custody suite based at Wrexham would have a comprehensive technology system and would enable risk assessments on the individual to be carried out and a nurse to be present to assess the individual. He also said that all young persons taken to the custody suite would only be released into the care of an appropriate adult.

Councillor H.G. Roberts commented on the proposals to relocate Holywell police station and asked whether the Police Authority were aware of the future proposals to close Ysgol Y Fron and Perth Y Terfyn schools which could increase the value of the former police station building. Councillor P.J. Curtis also welcomed the relocation of Holywell police station which he believed would provide greater access to the police for the public. He asked that consideration be given to selling the former police station as soon as possible to ensure that the building did not fall into a state of disrepair.

Stephen Roberts said that he was aware of the proposals to close Ysgol Y Fron and Perth Y Terfyn and had been in contact with the Council's Asset Management Team on this matter.

Councillor W Mullin thanked the officers for the presentation. He asked whether the Police Authority had been contacted by the Management of the Broughton Park Shopping Centre who were keen to provide the police with a suite to facilitate police presence at the shopping centre.

Stephen Roberts said that he had visited Broughton Park Shopping Centre to discuss the option for a joint venture. This would have to be considered alongside the options for relocating Saltney police station.

In response to the comments made by Members, the Chief Executive said that there was an opportunity for the Council to work with the Police Authority on the parcel of land next to the former Holywell police station following the School Modernisation review. He also commented that the relocation of Holywell police station was being carried out in conjunction with Flintshire Connects, but this would not always be possible in each of Flintshire's Towns and each opportunity would have to be considered on its own merits.

Alun Lewis thanked the Council for the opportunity to attend the meeting and present the North Wales Police Authority's financial plans, strategic priorities and estate review.

The Chief Executive said that the comments made by Members would be collated and forwarded to the North Wales Police Authority in response to the consultation process.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the presentation be noted; and

- (b) That the comments made by Members be forwarded to the North Wales Police Authority in response to the consultation process.

112. **NOTICES OF MOTION**

Prior to consideration of the notices of motion, the Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services explained that they were all Executive functions and therefore if supported would form a recommendation from the Council to the Executive.

The following Notices of Motion had been received from Councillors: J.B. Attridge, R.C. Bithell, A.P. Shotton, E.F. Evans and I.B. Roberts:-

(i) **Flintshire Armed Forces Day – Councillor A.P. Shotton**

The following Notice of Motion had been submitted by Councillor A.P. Shotton:-

“We welcome the announcement by Carl Sargeant AM, Welsh Government Minister for Local Government to fund an Armed Forces Day event in North Wales and call upon this Council to prepare a bid to host an Armed Forces Day event within the County of Flintshire.”

Councillor Shotton formally proposed the motion and this was duly seconded.

In speaking to his motion, Councillor Shotton said that since 2009 an Armed Forces Day event, previously known as Veterans Day, had been held in the UK to educate young people and show appreciation to the families of the Armed Forces. He welcomed the announcement by Carl Sargeant AM, Welsh Government Minister for Local Government to fund an Armed Forces Day event in North Wales to mirror an event which had been held in South Wales and sought cross party support for Flintshire to enter into discussions with the Welsh Government (WG) to enable an event to be held within the County of Flintshire.

Councillor A. Woolley proposed an amendment to the notice of motion, that the following wording be included at the end of the motion:-

“and, parallel to that activity, to undertake the creation of an Armed Forces Community Covenant between Flintshire County Council and its local armed forces community, such as already exists in Hampshire, North Yorkshire, Oxfordshire, Portsmouth and the Vale of Glamorgan, so that such an Armed Forces Community Covenant can be formally launched at the proposed Armed Forces Day Event”.

The amendment was duly seconded by Councillor N.M. Steele-Mortimer.

Councillor Shotton welcomed the amendment to his notice of motion.

The Chief Executive said that an Armed Forces Day event had been held in Caernarfon, North Wales over the last 2 years. He confirmed that the Minister for Local Government had written to all North Wales Local Authorities in 2011 with a view to holding an Armed Forces Day event on a rotational basis between all six Local Authorities but he was unsure at this time on the view of the Welsh Armed Forces of holding such an event. He reported that a 'Supporting Our Armed Forces Community Conference' had been jointly organised by the WG and Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) and would be held on the 8 February, 2012. He said that he would raise this matter during the Conference with a view to working with the WG and Welsh Armed Forces and provide further information to Members at a later date.

RESOLVED:

That the Council welcomes the announcement by Carl Sargeant AM, Welsh Government Minister for Local Government to fund an Armed Forces Day event in North Wales and calls upon this Council to prepare a bid to host an Armed Forces Day event within the County of Flintshire and, parallel to that activity, to undertake the creation of an Armed Forces Community Covenant between Flintshire County Council and its local armed forces community, such as already exist in Hampshire, North Yorkshire, Oxfordshire, Portsmouth and the Vale of Glamorgan, so that such Armed Forces Community Covenant could be formally launched at the proposed Armed Forces Day Event.

(ii) **Residual Waste Treatment Plant, Deeside – Councillor J.B. Attridge**

Councillor Attridge withdrew his notice of motion.

(iii) **Household Waste Recycling Centres – Councillors: I.B. Roberts, J.B. Attridge, E.F. Evans and A.P. Shotton**

The following Notice of Motion had been submitted by Councillors: I.B. Roberts, J.B. Attridge, E.F. Evans and A.P. Shotton:-

"Council calls on the Executive of Flintshire County Council to reconsider its decision to downgrade Household waste recycling sites at Connah's Quay, Flint and Hope so as to ensure that non-recyclable waste can still be deposited in the said communities."

Councillor I.B. Roberts formally proposed the motion and this was duly seconded.

In speaking to his motion, Councillor Roberts raised a number of concerns on the decision taken at the Executive meeting held on 15 November, 2011 that the waste recycling sites at Connah's Quay, Flint and Hope be downgraded to 'recycling only' sites. He was concerned that this would pose an additional cost to members of the public having to travel further to the household waste recycling sites at Greenfield and Sandycroft. He

commended the staff at the site in Flint and said that over the Christmas period the receptacles had been full which he felt showed a need for it to remain as a household waste recycling site. He said that the All Wales Coastal Footpath was being officially opened at Flint Castle later in the year and was concerned that the downgrading of the waste recycling site would cause an increase in fly-tipping in this area. He asked that all Members support the Executive being asked to re-consider its decision.

Councillor N.M. Matthews, Executive Member for Waste Management reported that the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee had considered a report entitled 'Review of Household Recycling Centres' on the 19 October, 2011. The report had made reference to the Council's Waste Management Strategy 2009-2015 which required a full review of the Household Recycling Centre (HRC) Service. A Member Task and Finish Group assisted officers in conducting the review which looked at five options and scored them all based on set criteria, which included anticipated recycling rates and travel times for residents to the centres. At the end of the review, the Task and Finish Group recommended the Council's future service should consist of four high quality sites capable of receiving both recycling and general waste materials and also that a further three recycling only centres be created.

Councillor L.A. Aldridge commented on the recent Council decision to adopt the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) and the increase this could lead to in the population of Flint. He raised concern about increasing fuel costs and the issues around traffic movements in Shotton which would be a challenge for members of the public having to now travel to the household waste recycling sites at Greenfield and Sandycroft. Councillor A.P. Shotton said that he was concerned about the possible increase in fly tipping and asked whether consultation had been carried out with the wider community who would be affected by the changes.

The Director of Environment confirmed that where similar changes had been introduced at other local authorities there had been no reports of an increase in fly-tipping. He reported that current statistics had shown a decrease of 12.5% on fly tipping incidents in the last year. He said that consultation on the Waste Management Strategy 2009-2015, which had within it the need to review HRC Services, had been carried out with Members, members of the public and Town and Community Councils.

Councillor M.J. Peers, Chairman of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Task and Finish Group confirmed that the Committee had considered the recommendations of the Task and Finish Group and had forwarded these recommendations to the Executive. Councillor C.A. Thomas said that as a Member of the Task and Finish Group her role had been to assist in exploring all options. She said that she had raised concerns during meetings of the Task and Finish Group and had voted against the report when presented to the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor A. Woolley spoke against the motion. He said that the Council would continue to collect household and recycling waste from the homes of residents in Flintshire and supported the decision made by the Executive. A number of Councillors spoke in support of the Executive decision.

In summing up, Councillor Roberts explained that the notice of motion did not instruct the Executive to change its decision; it was asking them to look at the decision again and take into account the concerns of the residents of Flint, Connah's Quay and Hope.

A recorded vote was requested and the requisite number of Members stood in support of this. On being put to the vote the proposal was lost.

For the motion:-

Councillors: L.A. Aldridge, J.B. Attridge, R.C. Bithell, D.L. Cox, P.J. Curtis, R. Davies, E.F. Evans, R.G. Hampson, C. Hinds, C.M. Jones, S. Jones, A. Minshull, W. Mullin, E.W. Owen, P.R. Pemberton, M.A. Reece, I.B. Roberts, A.P. Shotton, C.A. Thomas and D.E. Wisinger.

Against the motion:-

Councillors: S.R. Baker, G.H. Bateman, M. Bateman, C.S. Carver, J.C. Cattermoul, A.J. Davies-Cooke, Q.R.H. Dodd, C.J. Dolphin, C.A. Ellis, J.E. Falshaw, V. Gay, F. Gillmore, R.J.T. Guest, A.M. Halford, R. Hughes, H.D. Hutchinson, H.T. Isherwood, R.B. Jones, D.I. Mackie, D.L. Mackie, N.M. Matthews, D. McFarlane, H.J. McGuill, M.J. Peers, N. Phillips, H.G. Roberts, L.A. Sharps, N.M. Steele-Mortimer, W.O. Thomas and A. Woolley.

(iv) **Waste Collections – Councillor A.P. Shotton, J.B. Attridge and R.C. Bithell**

The following Notice of Motion had been submitted by Councillors: A.P. Shotton, J.B. Attridge and R.C. Bithell:-

"We express serious concern about the managed weekly waste collection service. Many Flintshire residents have been left without their collection commitments which had created both confusion in our Communities and rubbish strewn streets. We recognise the hard work of front-line workers but remain concerned about the manner with which the new waste collection arrangements have been introduced by this administration. Therefore this Council requests the relevant Scrutiny Committee to conduct an immediate inquiry into the adequacy of the new managed weekly collection service and to provide a report upon its findings to a Full County Council meeting."

Councillor R.C. Bithell formally proposed the motion and this was duly seconded.

In speaking to his motion, Councillor Bithell outlined a number of problems that had occurred within his own ward following the introduction of the managed weekly waste collection service. He raised a concern that some of the problems had not been resolved after a number of weeks and said that Members and residents had found it difficult to speak to an officer of the Council due to the high number of telephone calls being made. He appreciated that the service had worked well in certain areas of the County but was concerned that some of the streets were looking untidy due to rubbish not being collected. He asked that an inquiry be undertaken immediately in order to alleviate the concerns of residents.

Councillor Shotton spoke in support of the efforts of the workforce and front line staff and the intentions of the Council in collecting recycled waste. He said that Members across the Council had experienced complaints from residents following the introduction of the service which he said that previously been regarded as an excellent service across the County. He said that he had spoken to a number of front line staff who had raised concerns that they were being 'over-stretched' and asked if the inquiry could examine whether the £850,000 savings made through the introduction of the new service had been contributing to the problems.

Councillor N.M. Matthews, Executive Member for Waste Management reported that the managed weekly waste collection service had been rolled out to all 65,000 households in Flintshire during November, 2011. She said that this was the biggest change project ever undertaken by Flintshire County Council which had involved:-

- Providing wheelie bins to all 65,000 properties.
- Rolling out food waste collections to the remaining 40,000 properties.
- Rolling out green waste collections to all properties wanting them.
- Introducing a weekly (rather than fortnightly) recycling collection to all 65,000 properties.
- Introducing the same day collection for all waste streams.
- Rationalising collection rounds to optimise fuel efficiencies.

In the 12 weeks since the start of the new arrangements the Council had made over 2.3M collections of waste and recyclates. Whilst the vast majority had been implemented successfully, Councillor Matthews recognised that there had been some teething problems, as was expected with a change of this scale and said that the officers had been working tirelessly to address the issues that had been faced. Since Christmas there had been a reduction in the number of calls being received and positive feedback was being received from members of the public.

Councillor Matthews expressed her thanks to the workforce who had worked extremely hard to implement the changes and the public who had embraced the changes with staggering results in terms of diverting waste from landfill sites.

Councillor Attridge raised concern on the waste collections at flats. He said that he had been assured that waste collections at flats would not change but some areas had not had their waste collected for over six weeks. He also raised concern on the receptacles used for recycling which he said were not fit for purpose and had been strewn across many streets during the recent bad weather. Councillor J.C. Cattermoul also raised concern on waste collections at flats within her ward which had caused rubbish to pile up in Mold high street.

Councillor M.J. Peers, Chairman of the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee spoke in support of the motion. He reported that on the 17 December, 2011 the Task and Finish Group had met to discuss a number of calls received from Members raising concerns following the introduction of the new service. He said that he had written to all Members asking them to reply with their areas of concern and the responses received had been shared with the Executive Member for Waste Management and Head of Streetscene. A further meeting of the Task and Finish Group had been held on the 2 January, 2012 to consider further concerns raised.

Councillors A. Minshull and H.T. Isherwood both said that they had written to Councillor Peers to outline their concerns. Councillor Minshull said that the problems in her ward had not been addressed and that the residents were not receiving the service they deserved. Councillor Isherwood thanked Councillor Matthews who had been in contact with a resident in her ward and had resolved the problems.

Councillor W. Mullin spoke in support of the motion and asked if household waste left by the side of black wheelie bins would continue to be collected. He said that if this was to change then it should be clarified to all members of the public. The Director of Environment explained that since November, 2011 the Council had chosen to collect household waste left by the side of the black wheelie bins. Stickers had recently been placed on the wheelie bins informing members of the public that as of the 1 February, 2012 only household waste placed inside the wheelie bins would be collected.

In response to the comments made by Members, the Chief Executive reported that he had met with the Director of Environment and Head of Streetscene on how to proceed with a review of the managed weekly collections service to ensure service operations would run to plan following this motion. This had been on-going and the outcome of the review was due to be reported to the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee on the 21 March, 2012. He commented on the term 'immediate' within the notice of motion and said that there was a need to allow officers to carry out this review which he said could be reported back to Members within approximately 4 weeks. If supported the motion would be referred to the Executive who would consider how best to report the findings of the review.

Councillor S.R. Baker proposed that the motion be put to the vote which was duly seconded. When put to the vote this closure motion was carried.

In summing up, Councillor Bithell said that there was evidence that there were problems across the County. He said that the problems had been on-going for too long and asked that all Members support the motion in order to resolve the issues as soon as possible for members of the public to receive the service they deserve.

A recorded vote was requested and the requisite number of Members stood in support of this. On being put to the vote the proposal was carried.

For the motion:-

Councillors: L.A. Aldridge, J.B. Attridge, S.R. Baker, G.H. Bateman, M. Bateman, R.C. Bithell, C.S. Carver, J.C. Cattermoul, D.L. Cox, R. Davies, Q.R.H. Dodd, C.J. Dolphin, C.A. Ellis, E.F. Evans, J.E. Falshaw, V. Gay, F. Gillmore, R.J.T. Guest, A.M. Halford, R.G. Hampson, C. Hinds, H.D. Hutchinson, C.M. Jones, R.B. Jones, S. Jones, D.I. Mackie, D.L. Mackie, N.M. Matthews, D. McFarlane, A. Minshull, W. Mullin, E.W. Owen, M.J. Peers, P.R. Pemberton, N. Phillips, M.A. Reece, H.G. Roberts, I.B. Roberts, L.A. Sharps, A.P. Shotton, W.O. Thomas, D.T. Williams, D.E. Wisinger, A. Woolley and M.G. Wright.

Against the motion:-

Councillor H.J. McGuill.

RESOLVED:

The Council expresses serious concern about the managed weekly collections service. Many Flintshire residents have been left without their collection commitments which had created both confusion in our Communities and rubbish strewn streets. The Council recognises the hard work of front-line workers but remain concerns about the manner with which the new waste collection arrangements had been introduced by this Administration. Therefore this Council requests the relevant Scrutiny Committee to conduct an immediate inquiry into the adequacy of the new managed weekly collection service and to provide a report upon its findings to a Full County Council meeting.

(v) **Adoption of Estate Sewers, Roads and Street Lighting – Councillor R.C. Bithell**

The following Notice of Motion had been submitted by Councillor R.C. Bithell:-

"In order to reduce future problems over the adoption of sewers, roads and street lighting on a housing estate when a Developer goes into liquidation (such as at Cwrt Rhyd Galed, Mold) Council recommends that the Executive decides how the Council's current procedures can be improved and more publicity given to the advantages for Developers and house purchasers of

having proper legal agreements and adequate bonds in place for the adoption of estate sewers, roads and street lighting."

Councillor Bithell formally proposed the motion and this was duly seconded.

In speaking to his motion, Councillor Bithell asked Members to support the motion which asked the Executive to decide how the Council's current procedures could be improved to reduce future problems over the adoption of sewers, roads and street lighting on a housing estate when a developer goes into liquidation. He said that un-adopted sewers, roads and street lighting could be costly to residents and said that the Council needed to have a more robust system in place.

Councillor R.J.T. Guest proposed the following amended notice of motion:-

- That the Council recommend to the Executive that it decides how the Council's current procedures in respect of adoption of sewer roads and street lighting can be improved and more publicity given to the advantages for developers and house purchasers of having proper legal agreements and adequate bonds in place; and
- That the Council recommend that the Executive request a report on the County housing estate and streets where adoption of sewer roads and street lighting has not taken place with a view to taking such steps as are required to bring about such adoption. This should be limited to those estates or streets where an agreement and bond exist.

Councillor Bithell welcomed the amended motion.

Councillor L.A. Sharps, Executive Member for Environment welcomed the motion and said that he would be requesting that officers undertake a review of the Council's current procedures and on conclusion of this work would submit a report to the Executive outlining any improvements intended to be made.

Councillor Q.R.H. Dodd spoke in support of the motion and said that the Council did have procedures in place but they were not being implemented. He asked if the outcome of the review would be reported to the Executive within the next six months. The Director of Environment confirmed that it would.

In response to comments on un-adopted footpaths, the Director of Environment confirmed that the review would look at recent development where an agreement or bond currently exists.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Council recommend to the Executive that it decides how the Council's current procedures in respect of adoption of sewer roads and street lighting can be improved and more publicity given to the advantages for developers and house purchasers of having proper legal agreements and adequate bonds in place; and
- (b) That the Council recommend that the Executive request a report on the County housing estates and streets where adoption of sewers, roads and street lighting has not taken place with a view to taking such steps as are required to bring about such adoption. This should be limited to those estates or streets where an agreement and bond exist.

113. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS

The Chair explained that details of her communications would be made available in the Members room.

114. PETITIONS

Councillor M.A. Reece submitted a petition seeking the reinstatement of play equipment on Bron Haul play area, Bagilt.

115. QUESTIONS

The Democracy and Governance Manager confirmed that a question had been received from Councillor R.C. Bithell. A copy of the question and response had been circulated to all Members before the start of the meeting.

Councillor H.D. Hutchinson thanked Councillor R.C. Bithell for the question which he said was a good news story. He thanked Councillor Q.R.H. Dodd for raising the issue of dog fouling on school playing fields at a meeting of the County Council on 29 June, 2011 and reported that enforcement would be carried out against dog fouling on school sites. He also thanked Scott Rowley, Interim Environmental Protection Manager for his hard work and confirmed that additional information and statistics on the number of fixed penalty notices imposed by the Council Officers and Police on individuals for littering and allowing their dogs to foul public areas would be circulated to all Members following the meeting.

Councillor Bithell asked that information on the prosecutions be publicised to members of the public.

116. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS ON COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Democracy and Governance Manager advised that no questions had been received.

117. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION PANEL FOR WALES

The Democracy and Governance Manager introduced a report to inform Members of the contents of the Annual Report for 2012/13 of the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales (IRPW) received on the 20 December, 2011. The Annual Report detailed changes to payments to Members that would come into effect in May, 2012.

In relation to reimbursement of travel expenses the Annual Report continued to allow Councils to choose to reimburse travel costs for undertaking constituency responsibilities notwithstanding concerns about how such claims could be verified. At present Flintshire did not make payments for Members undertaking travel as part of their constituency responsibilities and it was recommended that this continue.

Flintshire's current scheme of allowances provided a mileage rate of 40p where the Annual Report provided a rate of 45p. In view of the increasing cost of fuel the Council was asked to review the rate and consider increasing it to 45p from the 7 May, 2012. In relation to reimbursement of subsistence expenses, paragraph 3.34 of the report stated that wherever possible overnight accommodation should be reserved and paid for by the Council itself. The report indicated that the maximum that could be reimbursed for an overnight stay in London was £150 and Flintshire's current scheme had an overnight maximum of £124. It was recommended that Flintshire increase to the maximum in view of the cost of hotel accommodation in London.

Councillor A. Woolley proposed that the Council continue to not make payments for Members undertaking travel as part of their constituency responsibilities; that the mileage rate remain at 40p and that the maximum that could be reimbursed for an overnight stay in London be increased to £150. This was seconded by Councillor C.A. Ellis.

In response to a question on the term 'salaries', the Chief Executive explained that despite the representations Flintshire had made on the draft report, the final report continued to describe the payments as salaries rather than allowances even though Members were not employees.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the provisions set out in the Independent Remuneration Panel for Wales Annual Report for 2012/13 be noted;
- (b) That the Council continue to not make payments for Member undertaking travel as part of their constituency responsibilities;
- (c) That the mileage rate remain at 40p; and
- (d) That the maximum that could be reimbursed for an overnight stay in London be increased to £150.

118. UPDATING COUNCIL CONSTITUTION

The Democracy and Governance Manager introduced a report to enable Members to consider a recommendation from the Constitution Committee meeting of the 18 January, 2012 concerning updating changes to the Council's Constitution.

Due to the length and level of detail contained in the Constitution there was often a need for it to be updated. A copy of its contents together with the updates that had been made in the last 2 years were attached at Appendices 1 and 2 of the report. The amendments that had been made to the Constitution fall into two categories. Firstly those that were substantive changes made following consideration by the Constitution Committee and County Council. Secondly, necessary updates as a result of changes to legislation, officers job titles or because documents incorporated into the Constitution had themselves been updated following a report to the Council or Executive.

At its meeting on the 18 January, 2012 the Constitution Committee considered that whilst substantive changes could continue to be considered by the Constitution Committee and County Council, those that were minor or consequential decisions of the Council or Executive should be made by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services/Monitoring Officer under delegated powers following consultation with political Group Leaders and the Chair of the Constitution Committee.

Councillor N. Phillips proposed that the Council support the recommendation as outlined within the report. This was seconded by Councillor R.J.T. Guest.

RESOLVED:

To amend article 18 of the Constitution to make clear the distinction between changes of substance which need to be approved by the Constitution Committee and County Council, and minor or consequential changes that could be made by the Head of Legal & Democratic Services/Monitoring Officer under delegated powers following consultation with the Chair of the Constitution Committee and political Group Leaders. In the event of any political Group leader or the Chair of the Constitution Committee objecting, the change would be subject to a report to County Council.

119. SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING – SCHOOL MODERNISATION CONSULTATION

The Democracy and Governance Manager introduced a report to enable Members to formally endorse the date of the special Council meeting held to consider the School Modernisation Consultation.

At the County Council meeting on the 28 September, 2011 the Chief Executive provided a verbal update on the school modernisation process which led to a Council decision that following the proposed Members workshops a special County Council meeting be arranged at the earliest opportunity on a Saturday morning. Whilst provisional arrangements had been made to hold a special County Council meeting on Saturday 19 November, 2011 and subsequently Saturday 3 December, 2011, these dates had to be vacated to enable additional Member workshops to be held.

Following a meeting of political Group Leaders on the 15 November, 2011 the final Member workshop was arranged for 1 December, 2011 and for the special County Council meeting to be held on the evening of Wednesday 14 December, 2011.

At the County Council meeting on the 22 November, 2011 when the draft minutes of the Council meeting of the 28 September, 2011 were considered some Members expressed concern that the resolution for a Saturday morning meeting was no longer being complied with. In line with Council procedure rule 14.1 at its meeting on the 13 December, 2011 the Executive endorsed the date of the proposed special Council meeting and that this be reported to County Council so that the 28 September, 2011 Council decision could be rescinded.

Councillor R.J.T. Guest proposed that the Council support the recommendation as outlined within the report. This was seconded by Councillor R.B. Jones.

RESOLVED:

That the Council rescind the County Council decision taken on 28 September, 2011 to hold a special County Council meeting on a Saturday morning.

120. SCHOOL MODERNISATION UPDATE

The Chief Executive explained that during the special County Council meeting held on 14 December, 2011 he had given a commitment to providing an update on school modernisation at all future County Council meetings.

Following the special County Council meeting all resolutions had been enacted and the consultation events would commence on 27 February, 2012 and will run until 19 March, 2012. Copies of the consultation documents had been circulated to all Members for their comment before the consultation re-opened.

Councillor J.C. Cattermoul said that a number of Members had only received the consultation documents before the start of the meeting. The Chief Executive outlined the tight timescales in place in order to re-open the consultation process. The Chair asked that any comments from Members on the consultation documents be forwarded to the Director of Lifelong Learning as soon as possible.

RESOLVED:

That the update be noted.

121. BOUNDARY COMMISSION – 2013 REVIEW OF PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES IN WALES

The Chief Executive introduced a report to inform Members of the process and timetable for the Boundary Commission's 2013 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales.

On the 4 March, 2011 the Commission announced the 2013 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales in accordance with the provision of the Parliamentary Constituencies Act 1986 as amended by the Parliamentary Voting System and Constituencies Act 2011. The Commission had published its initial proposals for public consultation which took account of development since the last general review and in particular the fundamental change to the legislation. A summary of the initial proposals was shown at Appendix 1 of the report.

The period for submitting representations would end on 4 April, 2012; therefore the Chief Executive suggested that consultation be carried out with Group Leaders with a response to the changes to Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales being agreed at a meeting of the County Council before the 4 April, 2012. Members were supportive of this suggestion.

Councillor N. Phillips proposed that the Council support the recommendation as outlined within the report. This was seconded by Councillor R.B. Jones.

RESOLVED:

That the process and timetable for the Boundary Commission's 2013 Review of Parliamentary Constituencies in Wales be noted.

122. MEMBERSHIP OF THE CHILDREN'S FORUM

The Democracy and Governance Manager introduced a report to seek Members agreement to amend the Constitution to reflect an expanded Membership of the Children's Services Forum.

Since the Executive decision on 1 August, 2006 a new political group had been formed and at present it did not have a Member on the Children's Forum. Whilst the political balance legislation did not automatically apply to the Forum, its work was such that it was important that all groups had representation on it. This should reflect the political groupings that currently exist and from May, 2012 the political groupings that then exist.

In recent meetings of the Forum a representative of Betsi Cadwaladr UHB had attended meetings of the Forum as a co-optee but it was believed that this attendance should be put on a more formal basis as a full member of the Forum.

Councillor R.C. Bithell proposed that the Council support the recommendation as outlined within the report. This was seconded by Councillor C.A. Ellis.

RESOLVED:

That the Constitution be amended to reflect the expanded membership of the Children's Forum agreed by the Executive at its meetings on the 1 August, 2006 and 13 December, 2011.

123. SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Chair and Vice-Chairman, the Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Principal Solicitor be authorised to affix the Common Seal of the County Council between meetings of the County Council.
- (b) That the action of the Chair and Vice-Chairman, the Interim Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Principal Solicitor in affixing the Common Seal of the County Council as set out in the seal register numbers 13123 - 13220 be noted.

124. DURATION OF MEETING

The meeting commenced at 2.00 p.m. and ended at 5.22 p.m.

125. ATTENDANCE BY MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

There was one member of the public and four members of the press present.

.....
Chair

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

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL	31 JANUARY, 2012
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MEMBER	ITEM	MIN. NO. REFERS
Councillor R.J.T. Guest	Notices of Motion (v) – Adoption of Estate Sewers. Roads and Street Lighting	112.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 11

REPORT TO: **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**
DATE : **01 MARCH 2012**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF FINANCE AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE**
SUBJECT : **COUNCIL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2012/13**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To provide Members with the recommendations of the Executive for the Council Fund Revenue Budget 2012/13.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 A report on the Final Local Government Settlement for 2012/13 and initial budget proposals for 2012/13 was considered by Executive on 20 December 2011.

2.02 The Executive's initial budget proposals for 2012/13, which at that stage identified a budget gap of £1.718m were also referred to Overview and Scrutiny for consideration.

2.03 The Overview and Scrutiny meetings were held between 16 and 24 January 2012, by which time the budget gap of £1.718m had reduced to £0.135m. Members offered comments and asked a number of questions to clarify issues and a summary of these, together with Officer responses is included in Appendix 11 of the December report.

2.04 The final budget proposals for 2012/13, which show a balanced position, were considered by Executive on 21 February and were recommended to County Council. A copy of this report is attached as Appendix A.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 Details of the final proposed budget and its funding are set out in Section 6. The recommendations of the Executive to County Council are set out in Section 8 of the 21 February report (attached in full at Appendix A)

3.02 Section 3 of the 21 February report provides an overview of the budget strategy for 2012/13, feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny meetings and a summary of how the budget gap of £1.718m reported at December was eliminated. The Section also provides further information on the proposed Schools Budget for 2012/13.

3.03 Section 4 of the 21 February report sets out details of earmarked and unearmarked reserves.

3.04 Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 includes a specific duty on the Chief Finance Officer to report to the Authority when it is considering its Budget and

Date: 24/02/2012

Council Tax on the robustness of the estimates and adequacy of reserves. Section 5 of the 21 February report provides this statement in detail.

- 3.05 Section 7 of the 21 February provides detail on the Council's arrangements for managing its finances over the next few years, by the development of its Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP), which will be produced within the framework of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) which was adopted in June 2011.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 That the Council approves the recommendations of the Executive as set out in Section 8 of the attached report.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 As set out in the report

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

- 6.01 Individual growth and efficiency items may have specific anti-poverty impacts.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 7.01 Individual growth and efficiency items may have specific environmental impacts.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 8.01 Individual growth and efficiency items may have specific equalities impacts.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.01 Individual growth and efficiency items may have specific personnel implications.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

- 10.01 Overview and Scrutiny, Business Ratepayers, School Budget Forum, Flintshire Joint Trades Union Committee.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

- 11.01 Overview and Scrutiny, Business Ratepayers, School Budget Forum, Flintshire Joint Trades Union Committee.

12.00 APPENDICES

- 12.01 Appendix A - Report to Executive on 21 February 2012 - Council Fund Budget 2012/13

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Various budget papers.

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 9

REPORT TO: **EXECUTIVE**
DATE : **21 FEBRUARY 2012**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF FINANCE AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE**
SUBJECT : **COUNCIL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2012/13**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To propose (1) the Council Fund Revenue Budget for 2012/13 and (2) actions to close the previously reported budget 'gap', following consultation with all Overview & Scrutiny Committees.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 A report was presented to Executive on 20 December 2011 which:-

- (1) Advised of the details of the Final Local Government Settlement for 2012/13
- (2) Sought endorsement of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy 2011/15, Medium Term Financial Plan 2012/15 and Budget Strategy for 2012/13
- (3) Presented initial detailed Council Fund revenue budget proposals for 2012/13

2.02 The initial budget proposals for 2012/13 were referred on to all Overview and Scrutiny Committees for consideration. Meetings of the individual Overview and Scrutiny Committee took place between 16 and 23 January 2012. At the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 24 January 2012, which was open to all Members, it was reported that the projected shortfall had been reduced, at that point, from the £1.718m reported to Executive in December to £0.135m.

2.03 The budget strategy and the implications for school budgets were discussed with the School Budget Forum on 8th November 2011 and a further update is scheduled for 28th February 2012.

2.04 The Flintshire Joint Trades Union Committee received a budget update on 7th February 2012.

2.05 The Council Fund budget setting for 2012/13 and setting of the Council Tax for the year will be at County Council on 1st March 2012.

3.00 DEVELOPING THE 2012/13 BUDGET STRATEGY AND CLOSING THE GAP

Context

3.01 The budget strategy for 2012/13 has been developed within the context of the Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2011/15, adopted by the Council in June 2011. The key aims of the MTFS are to:-

- Ensure revenue and capital resources are targeted to achieve priorities and objectives
- Fully integrate revenue and capital plans
- Maintain Council Tax increases at affordable levels
- Optimise opportunities for income generation from fees, charges and grants
- Maintain appropriate level of reserves and provisions
- Provide strong financial services, systems and process to deliver and support the strategy and balanced annual budgets

3.02 Through the MTFS we are aiming to reduce our operating costs, improve services to the public and work collaboratively with other bodies. The reduction in costs will allow the Council to:-

- Reinvest in new, expanded or improved services
- Respond to the reduced level of funding available to local government and the wider public sector
- Minimise the effects on customers and public services

Budget Strategy 2012/13

3.03 For 2012/13, the emphasis has been on reducing internal operating costs and compressing new pressures through careful, evidence based forecasting and a risk management approach. This has been coupled with reviewing opportunities to increase resources through grants and contributions from external bodies and by making an inflationary uplift to existing fees and charges.

Investing in Council Priorities

3.04 The budget strategy, as set out in this and the accompanying capital report demonstrates additional investment to meet the following Council Priorities / Improvement Objectives:-

- Improvement Objective 3 on Employment (Single Status and Equal Pay)
- Improvement Objective 4 on Customer Service (Flintshire Connects, ICT and Channel Shift)
- Improvement Objective 5 on Communities and Safeguarding (Vulnerable People)
- Improvement Objective 6 on Economy (Town Centre Regeneration and Welfare Reform)
- Improvement Objective 7 on Independent and Healthy Living (Social Care for Adults, Accommodation Services and Inclusion Service)
- Improvement Objective 9 on Learning and Leisure (School Funding, Standards, Leisure Services and Facilities and Play Strategy)
- Improvement Objective 10 on environment (Waste and Operational Services, Energy Management and Regeneration)

Budget Headlines

3.05 The final budget proposals which the Executive is recommending to Council, can be summarised as follows:-

- The budget for 2012/13 is now balanced
- There are no significant cuts to services or new job reductions
- There is additional investment in key areas to keep pace with demand and standards (e.g. Schools, Social Care)
- There is a prudent level of investment in 'unsupported borrowing' to fund Council Priorities in the Capital Programme.
- There is a proposed modest increase in council tax and the fees and charges we currently make for services
- The budget is protected for inflationary, economic and demographic impacts on a measured risk basis.

3.06 Achievement of a balanced budget which contains significant investment in Council priorities has been achieved against a background of a 0.2% reduction in funding from Welsh Government and reductions in some specific grants through:-

- Ongoing organisational change
- Completion of Service Reviews
- Projects within the Flintshire Futures Programme
- Effective budget management in 2011/12

Overview and Scrutiny Considerations

3.07 The report to Executive on 20th December 2011 identified a budget shortfall at that stage of £1.718m which included £0.894m for one-off/time limited costs and £0.824m for the ongoing base budget. This report formed the basis of the Overview and Scrutiny meetings held during January:-

1. Lifelong Learning	16 January 2012
2. Environment	17 January 2012
3. Corporate Resources	20 January 2012
4. Housing (inc HRA)	20 January 2012
5. Social & Health Care	23 January 2012

A further Corporate Resources meeting, open to all members was held on 24 January to summarise the key issues discussed and to respond on specific information requests from members.

3.08 Each of the meetings began with a corporate overview of the whole budget and the national and local strategic context jointly presented by the Chief Executive and Head of Finance. This was followed by a portfolio specific presentation on the service strategies behind the service specific budget proposals along with details of the proposed budget growth, pressures and efficiencies for 2012/13 and a forward look at the key service issues for the medium term.

3.09 Members offered comments and asked a number of questions to clarify issues and a summary of these observations and questions, together with the response of officers, is attached as Appendix 11.

3.10 From the scrutiny meetings the key service issues which arose were:-

- The level of the school budget in 2012/13 and the increase from 2011/12
- The % delegation rate to schools
- Home to School Transport
- Waste Collection
- Rural Bus Subsidy
- Concern at the impact on future social care budgets due to reduced WG/Health Funding, demographic change, care standards and entitlements
- Achievement of efficiency savings in the 2011/12 budget

3.11 The principal questions raised at the various Overview and Scrutiny meetings were:-

- What are the changes to the budget since December which have brought it to a provisionally balanced position?
- Can a detailed schools budget build up be provided?
- Can a detailed budget build up be produced by Directorate?
- Detailed analysis of Leisure and Libraries budget changes requested.
- Analysis of Flying Start grant expenditure requested.
- Analysis of the use of one-off costs included in the 2011/12 budget requested.

The responses to all of the above questions were either included in the presentation at the subsequent meeting on 24 January 2012, or were supplied to all members in a handout at the meeting.

Specific Requests from Scrutiny

3.12 There was one specific request from Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny Meeting that the demography efficiency of £0.165m included in the budget proposals be 'recycled' into the Schools Budget. Whilst the final budget proposals do not include this specific item, it should be noted that there has been a year on year increase of £1.2m (1.6%) on the schools budget, including an additional £0.800m of new local funding for additional investment in schools (see paras. 3.23 - 3.30 for further information on schools)

3.13 Arising from the Scrutiny discussion, a small number of areas were identified for further review:-

- School budget formula/sustainability
- Waste Collection
- Rural Bus Subsidy
- Fees and Charges Policy and Levels
- Joint responsibilities with Health and Joint Funding

This work will be programmed for early consideration following completion of the 2012/13 budget round. Assurances were provided to scrutiny that, should any financial implications arise from these review areas, that they would be dealt with in-year and built, if required, into the following years budget planning.

Closing the 'Gap'

- 3.14 During the scrutiny presentation, Members had been advised that the budget gap of £1.178m had provisionally been reduced to £0.135m. It was explained that this had been done largely by the completion and refinement of work in 'corporate budgets' which had a positive impact on the amount of one-off resources available in the useable contingency reserve as at 31 March 2012 and the ongoing base budget, as summarised below:-

	Ongoing £m	One-off £m	Total £m
Projected Shortfall December 2011	0.824	0.894	1.718
Additional investment in Schools Budget	0.800	0.000	0.800
Outcome of refinement of projections	(0.631)	(0.180)	(0.811)
Revised Shortfall before efficiencies	0.993	0.714	1.707
Efficiencies identified	(0.858)	0.000	(0.858)
Use of Usable Contingency Reserve (Month 7)	0.000	(0.714)	(0.714)
Shortfall / (Available) as at January 2012	0.135	0.000	0.135

- 3.15 Since the Overview and Scrutiny Committees, notification has been received from WG of a reduction of £0.149m in Local Transport Grant for 2012/13.
- 3.16 In a report also on this agenda, responses have been received from Town and Community Councils of the contributions that they are able to make in 2012/13 to match fund play area improvements which total £126,500.
- 3.17 Executive Members have considered both of these issues and propose that additional resources be included in the 2012/13 budget on a one-off basis. The reason for this is twofold. Firstly, there is no capacity within the base budget to introduce any further recurring annual expenditure and, secondly, both are suitable for one-off funding pending longer term decisions.
- 3.18 In the case of the Local Transport Grant reduction, the late notification leaves the council with no time to formulate a strategy to deliver services with reduced resources. In order to avoid impact on public services, £0.149m will be provided in 2012/13 to enable a review to be undertaken for managing this in future years.
- 3.19 In the case of Play Areas, the additional £21,500 recognises the response of Town and Community Councils and ensures that the Council's contribution is of an equal amount.

Achieving a Balanced Budget

- 3.20 Officers have continued to work on balancing the budget by taking account of new pressures and reviewing existing pressures, efficiencies and inflation assumptions. This has been done taking into account latest available information, including the impact of the most recent in year budget monitoring position for 2011/12 (Month 8) which is reported elsewhere on the agenda.
- 3.21 The changes made since the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee are detailed below:-

	Ongoing £m	One-off £m	Total £m
Shortfall / (Available) as at January 2012	0.135	0.000	0.135
Recategorisation of Contribution to Balances Pressure	(0.088)	0.088	0.000
Reduction in budget required to fund reduction in Waste Grant	(0.028)	0.000	(0.028)
Final adjustment to inflation calculations	(0.019)	0.000	(0.019)
One-off funding requirement for reduction in Local Transport Grant	0.000	0.149	0.149
Additional one-off funding for Play Areas Match Funding	0.000	0.022	0.022
Additional use of Usable Contingency Reserve (Month 8)	0.000	(0.259)	(0.259)
Current Shortfall / (Available)	0.000	0.000	0.000

- 3.22 The outcome is that a balanced budget position has been achieved. The detail is as shown in section 6. A summary of how the total budget 'gap' reported in December has been eliminated is provided in Appendix 1.

Equality Impact Assessment (EIA)

- 3.23 The Council is committed to ensuring that it fulfills its legal obligation to assess the potential equalities impact of its budget proposals, and to have due regard in its decision making to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation.

An initial assessment has been undertaken in respect of all of the efficiencies included in the budget proposals. Appendix 10 details those areas that have been identified as requiring a full detailed Equality Impact Assessment and further detail as to how this will be undertaken. For those efficiencies which have a potential EIA impact, this information was noted in the information provided to Overview and Scrutiny Committees in January.

Schools Budget

- 3.24 Under the Local Education Authority (LEA) Budget, Schools' Budget and Individual Schools' Budget (Wales) Regulations 2003, local authorities are required to notify WG of the proposed budget for schools for the forthcoming year by mid February each year. For 2012/13, the date was 14 February.
- 3.25 The final settlement included a level of protection for school budgets following the First Minister's commitment to 'spend one percent above the Welsh Government's (WG) revenue block grant every year until we reach a situation where we have parity of funding per head of pupil in England'.
- 3.26 To fulfil the First Minister's commitment, councils will need to ensure that their net (i.e. excluding specific grants) Individual School Budget is adjusted by one percent more than the WG block grant adjustment. For 2012/13 this equates to an increase of 1.58 % reduction (WG block grant - 0.58% plus 1.0% protection). The equivalent increases for the coming two years are 2.08% in 2013/14 and 1.27% in 2014/15. It should be noted that the protection expectation is relative to WG's funding from the UK Treasury and not the level of Individual Council settlements from WG.
- 3.27 The Council is committed to increase the level of school budget and the amount of the school budget delegated to schools. We aim to do this progressively over a number of years. This is within the strategic framework which embraces the school modernisation programme, numbers of children in school (demographic change) and investment through the 21st Century Schools Programme.
- 3.28 The proposed schools budget, as notified to WG, increases from £78.818m in 2011/12 to £79.930m in 2012/13 - an increase of £1.112m (1.41%). When an adjustment is made for demography to provide a comparison on a like for like basis) the increase is 1.62%. This increase includes £0.800m for additional investment in schools beyond amounts to meet projected inflationary pressures.
- 3.29 The Council's developing Medium Term Financial Plan recognises the Council's commitment in 3.27 to meet the WG further growth expectations in 2013/14 and 2014/15 as a minimum.
- 3.30 In addition, WG has announced its intention to provide an additional £32m across Wales to address deprivation in schools in 2012/13. The grant will be distributed via the Council to schools based on the number of children eligible for free school meals. Indications are the the amount will be £450 per child although final details are awaited from WG. At this stage it is anticipated that this grant will be for 2012/13 only.
- 3.31 The Assembly has just notified authorities of their Post 16 Special Education Needs allocation for 2012/13. The allocations for Mainstream Schools with Sixth Forms, Special Educational Needs in Mainstream and Adult Community Learning will increase by 2.5%. Following the decision by the WG last year to set aside the previous method of funding based on actual need (National Planning and Funding

System- NPFS) the council is working closely with secondary schools to develop local funding and allocation arrangements which reflect local needs.

4.00 EARMARKED AND UNEARMARKED RESERVES

4.01 Under the Local Authority Accounting Panel (LAAP) Bulletin 55, the level and utilisation of all reserves must be determined formally by the Council, informed by the advice and judgement of the Chief Finance Officer. As part of the budget process, officers have reviewed all of the reserves and balances held as detailed below. This is to ensure that any reserves held are at a reasonable level for the purpose for which they are intended and, if no longer required, are released back into useable funding.

4.02 Total Revenue Reserves comprise both Council Fund and Specific Reserves, as reported annually in the Statement of Accounts. Council Fund Reserves include Unearmarked and Earmarked Reserves.

4.03 The value of the Council's total reserves as at 1st April 2011 was £38.345m as outlined below:

	£m	
Base Level of Unearmarked Reserves	5.476	
Contingency Reserve	<u>2.099</u>	
Sub -Total	7.575	
Service Balances	4.183	
Corporate Balances	20.380	
Schools' Balances	1.974	Note 1
Other Specific Reserves	<u>4.233</u>	
Total	38.345	

Note 1 - Total comprises schools' delegated balances (£2.847m), less adjustments for future clawback (£0.873m)

Council Fund Unearmarked Reserves

Base Level of Unearmarked Reserves

4.04 The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy includes a commitment to achieving a base level of reserves of 2% of turnover. The base level of reserves as at 1st April

2011 was £5.476m and it is proposed to increase this by £0.088m in 2012/13 taking the base level of reserves to £5.564m.

Contingency Reserve

- 4.05 When the 2011/12 budget was set, the Contingency Reserve was estimated to be £0.291m at 31st March 2011. As a result of the net underspend reported in the final outturn for 2010/11 the actual amount in the Contingency Reserve at the year end was £2.099m.
- 4.06 Executive on 20th September 2011, agreed to utilise some of this additional funding to repay the £1.613m temporarily borrowed from reserves to balance the 2011/12 budget.
- 4.07 The 2011/12 Month 8 Budget Monitoring report which is also on this agenda, shows an estimated balance of £1.387m in the contingency as at 31st March 2012 which allows the one-off costs of £0.973m proposed in the 2012/13 budget to be met in full. This will leave an estimated amount available of £0.414m as at 31 March 2012.
- 4.08 Whilst the base level of reserves is a known sum which is set aside, the level of Contingency reserve is based on the current estimate and is subject to change at the end of the financial year. The level of contingency reserve will continue to be reported through the monthly budget monitoring reports.

Council Fund Earmarked Reserves

- 4.09 Council Fund Earmarked Reserves include service balances, corporate balances and schools' balances.

Service Balances

- 4.10 Service balances are made up of those balances held by departments which Executive has agreed can be carried forward. The estimated opening and closing balances for 2012/13 are as follows -:

	<u>Estimated</u> <u>Balance</u> <u>01/04/12</u>	<u>Estimated</u> <u>Balance</u> <u>31/03/13</u>
	£m	£m
Community Services	0.506	0.000
Environment	0.779	0.230
Lifelong Learning	0.050	0.000
Corporate Services	0.500	0.058
	<u>1.835</u>	<u>0.288</u>

- 4.11 Corporate Balances are held to meet commitments which fall in future years on specific items of expenditure as follows:-

	<u>Estimated</u> <u>Balance</u> <u>01/04/12</u> <u>£m</u>	<u>Estimated</u> <u>Balance</u> <u>31/03/13</u> <u>£m</u>
Equal Pay / Single Status	24.224	See Note 1
	<hr/>	
	24.224	

Note 1 - The use of this balance is subject to the outcomes of a negotiated settlement on Single Status and any agreement on an Equal Pay Settlement scheduled for conclusion by November 2012.

Specific Reserves

- 4.12 In addition to Council Fund Reserves, the Council also holds Specific Reserves. These are set out below showing their purpose and the estimated opening and closing balances for 2012/13. The Head of Finance is satisfied that the level of these reserves is appropriate.

	<u>Estimated</u> <u>Balance</u> <u>01/04/12</u> <u>£m</u>	<u>Estimated</u> <u>Balance</u> <u>31/03/13</u> <u>£m</u>
Insurance Fund - Asbestos	0.100	0.100
Benefits Equalisation	0.255	0.255
Supporting People	1.308	1.308
Building Control	0.150	0.050
Milk quotas	0.073	0.078
Waste disposal	0.586	0.346
Transfer pad facilities	0.069	0.000
Flintshire Business Services	0.146	0.072
Third party insurance claims	0.087	0.075
Flintshire Insurance	1.037	1.037
Minor reserves under £0.050m	0.123	0.074
	<hr/>	
	3.934	3.395

5.00 CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER REPORT ON ESTIMATES AND RESERVES

- 5.01 Section 25 of the Local Government Act 2003 includes a specific duty on the Chief Finance Officer to report to the Authority when it is considering its Budget and Council Tax on the robustness of the estimates and the adequacy of reserves. The Act requires the Council to have regard to this report in making its decisions (the reference to the first person which follows is to the Head of Finance in this role).
- 5.02 The 2012/13 budget has been prepared within the context of reduced funding across the public and third sectors and continuing pressures arising from the economic climate. The Chancellor's recent Statement has highlighted the fact that there will be more constraints on public finances in the years ahead, and projections are that this could continue to the end of the decade.
- 5.03 Consideration of the budget has been within the framework of the Medium Term Financial Strategy 2011/15 adopted in June 2011, with a specific strategy for 2012/13 to reduce internal operating costs and compress pressures wherever possible.
- 5.04 The approach to forecasting has been robust through the use of our Social Business Model and I can confirm the reasonableness of the estimates contained in the proposed budget, having regard to the Council's spending needs in 2012/13. Careful consideration has been given to estimated inflation levels and protection has been built in for specific items (e.g. fuel and energy) at latest predicted rates.
- 5.05 Inevitably in managing a net budget of over £240m across a diverse organisation variations will occur. This will be managed through disciplined in-year budget management which the Council has demonstrated its ability to do in recent years. I believe that the budget assumptions represent a measured and acceptable level of risk.
- 5.06 The level and utilisation of reserves is detailed in Section 4 of this report. The Council is committed to completing its work to establish a clear medium term financial plan by mid 2012/13. This will fully integrate the financial implications of our efficiencies and savings programmes in order to determine the projected shortfall (or surplus) for future annual budgets and allow plans to be put in place to meet them and allocate resources to priorities.
- 5.07 Within this context, I am satisfied that the total level of reserves is adequate to meet currently identified future liabilities and that the Council should maintain the current level of general balances of £5.564m (alongside other specific reserves as outlined) to safeguard its position and be in a strong position to plan ahead to meet the continuing period of constraint in public sector funding, the impacts of the economic downturn and be able to invest in its priorities for the future.

6.00 FINAL BUDGET PROPSALS

- 6.01 As a result of the changes outlined above total expenditure and funding now equates to £280.991m and the total budget build up is outlined below. Details of the figures making up the total budget are attached as Appendices 2-8.

It is recommended that the 2012/13 Council Fund Revenue Budget Requirement be set at £241,203,131 which is £1,738,306 below the calculated Standard Spending Assessment.

		£m
<u>Funding</u>		
Revenue Support Grant (RSG)		143.891
National Non Domestic Rates (NDR)		40.562
Council Tax		56.750
Budget Requirement		<u>241.203</u>
 <u>Unhypothecated Grants</u>		
Improvement (Outcome) Agreement Grant		1.475
Specific Grants (Estimated)		37.341
Utilisation of Contingency Reserves		0.973
Total		<u>280.991</u>
 <u>Expenditure</u>		
Total Budget 2011/12		278.574
Previous Year's Growth / Items Dropping Out	Appendix 2	(3.539)
Pay & Price Inflation	Appendix 3	2.367
Transfers into Settlement	Appendix 4	(0.005)
Pressures - Ongoing	Appendix 5	5.145
Pressures - One-off and Time Limited	Appendix 6	0.973
Efficiencies	Appendix 7	(4.716)
Less Specific Grants 2011/12	Appendix 8	(35.149)
Plus Specific Grants 2012/13 (Estimated)	Appendix 8	37.341
Total		<u>280.991</u>

Income

- 6.02 The budget proposals in this report set a budget requirement of £241,203,131. At this level of spend, the increase on the Band D Council Tax Rate (excluding Police and Town/Community Councils' precepts) is 3.0%. This equates to an increase of £27.16 on 2011/12 and a Band D rate of £932.39.

The Council Tax system in Wales contains nine property bands ranging from Band A to Band I. In order to ensure consistency between councils when reporting Council Tax information it is agreed practice that all related information is expressed in terms of Band D equivalents.

Members are requested to confirm that there be a 3.0% increase in Council Tax at Band D and an assumed 99% collection rate.

- 6.03 The amount of Outcome Agreement Grant available for 2012/13 has been advised by the Assembly. Achievement of this is subject to performance. The Council has been successful in achieving 100% of its grant in previous years and so it is a reasonable assumption for 2012/13.

Members are requested to confirm the inclusion of the Outcome Agreement Grant of £1,474,562m in the budget.

- 6.04 The specific grants figure is provisional, and based on the latest information known at this time. Expenditure levels will be managed within the final figures announced by the Assembly.

Members are requested to confirm that the budget will be adjusted to reflect the actual level of specific grant received.

Expenditure

- 6.05 Inflation of £2.367m is shown in detail in Appendix 3. The proposals assume a zero increase for teaching and non-teaching staff for the full year to reflect the confirmed national position.
- 6.06 Price inflation of £2.182m has been included which represents a 2% increase for all services but only as required. The cross directorate expenditure review carried out during the 2012/13 budget preparation looked in detail at inflationary requirements across all service areas and where reductions have been made they have been with agreement of the relevant Service Manager.
- 6.07 In addition to the standard level of price inflation outlined above, central non-standard inflation of £0.707m has been included, as detailed in Appendix 3, to reflect the increasing costs of energy, fuel and food for which inflation is anticipated to be at higher levels based on national intelligence. This sum will be held centrally until it is demonstrated that there is a requirement for the funding to be released. This will be reported in budget monitoring reports during the year.

It is recommended that items of non-standard inflation are only allocated out to services when the actual increase in cost is known.

- 6.08 Inflation on income amounting to £0.522m, has been assumed on the yield from existing fees and charges which are locally determined by the Authority. This has generally been applied at 3% with the exception of leisure charges which have been applied at 2% to reflect the revised charges implemented in January 2012.

Members are requested to confirm the levels of inflation assumed in the budget.

- 6.09 The final settlement included the transfer in of the Mental Health Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (£0.031m), and the transfer out of mapping services (£0.036m) as detailed in Appendix 3.

Members are requested to confirm the amounts included in the budget relating to transfers into and out of the settlement.

- 6.10 Appendix 5a-f sets out recurring pressures totalling £5.145m recommended for inclusion in the budget. These pressures are proposed to be funded from the base budget.

Members are requested to confirm the inclusion of £5.145m of pressures in the budget.

It is recommended that the Council's adopted practice continues that resource to fund new pressures be approved for the purposes set out. Any proposals to vary the use of the sums allocated are to be the subject of a further report to Executive.

- 6.11 In addition, Appendix 6 details estimated one-off costs of £0.973m which will be funded by way of a contribution from the Contingency Reserve.

Members are requested to confirm the inclusion of estimated one-off costs totalling £0.973m in the budget.

- 6.12 Appendix 7a-e sets out the efficiencies, totalling £4.716m, recommended for inclusion in the budget.

Members are requested to confirm the inclusion of efficiencies of £4.716m in the budget.

It is recommended that if it should become apparent that achievement of any of the savings (in full or in part) is proving to be not as anticipated, that this is dealt with corporately, with the Corporate Management Team bringing options to Executive for consideration.

- 6.13 Full details of the total budget will be included in the 2012/13 Budget Book which will be made available early in the new financial year.

7.00 LOOKING AHEAD

- 7.01 The Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) 2011-15 was adopted by the Council in June 2011 and is now available on the website. The MTFS provides a framework for the financial principles through which revenue and capital resources are forecast, organised and managed to deliver the Council's vision and strategic objectives.
- 7.02 Integral to the MTFS is the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) which forecasts funding levels and resource requirements over the medium term, identifies the 'gap' between the two and enables specific actions to be identified and taken to balance the budget and manage resources.
- 7.03 When the MTFS was adopted, it was noted that planning for the 2012/13 budget and beyond had already started and an early forecast for the period 2012/13 to 2014/15 was provided. This work has continued and has been reported throughout the 2012/13 budget round.
- 7.04 Moving forward, the Council is committed to complete its work to establish a clear medium term financial plan by mid 2012/13 that fully incorporates the financial implications of its efficiencies and savings programmes in order to determine the projected shortfalls (or surplus) for future annual budgets and to put plans in place to meet them and to allocate resources to priorities. The latest position on our MTFP is detailed in appendix 9.
- 7.05 The forward projections of funding from WG for RSG of 1.1% for 2013/14 and 0.4% for 2014/15 are already factored into the MTFP and provide a level of assurance about the funding which supports some 80% of our net budget. We are aware, for 2012/13, of the reduction in some significant specific grants which support service delivery. Careful monitoring will be needed to anticipate future reductions which are almost inevitable as WG reallocates and re-prioritises funding to new priorities or areas outside local government. The implications of changes to Health Funding and the impact of reduced funding for Council Tax Benefit will be particularly important to track.
- 7.06 During 2012/13, the Council plans to conclude and implement a Single Status Agreement and reach an outcome in relation to Equal Pay. Financial provision exists in a reserve and base budget. The outcome of the negotiated settlement will determine the impact for the Council's future paybill and hence the base budget.
- 7.07 The developing capital strategy and 10 year capital programme will come back for detailed member discussion starting in the summer of 2012, alongside determination of the detailed school modernisation programme. This will provide detailed revenue implications for inclusion in the MTFP to include borrowing costs and revenue savings resulting from the capital investment.

- 7.08 On income, the Council has the potential to significantly add to its revenue resources through consideration of new or increased fees and charges for services as outlined at the member workshop in November 2011.
- 7.09 The renewed concentration on the opportunities from the projects in the Flintshire Futures Programme which has begun in early 2012 will provide details of efficiency savings to be built into the MTFP on a short, medium and long term basis. The development of a robust benefits realisation framework will give clarity to the status of estimated savings i.e. whether they are aspirational goals or fully costed and capable of being included within the MTFP and the risks and assumptions attached to them.
- 7.10 Having achieved a balanced budget for 2012/13 which meets our strategy of reducing internal costs and not impacting on public services, the Council is now well placed to move without delay into the cross organisational work which will be required to achieve a comprehensive medium term plan to support its strategic planning and which ensures service and financial planning are fully integrated.

8.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.01 That the Executive makes the following recommendations to County Council on 1st March 2012:-
1. That the 2012/13 Council Fund Revenue Budget Requirement be set at £241,203,131 which is £1,738,306 below the calculated Standard Spending Assessment (6.01).
 2. That there be a 3.0% increase in Council Tax at Band D and an assumed 99% collection rate (6.02).
 3. The inclusion of the Outcome Agreement Grant of £1.475m in the budget (6.03).
 4. That the budget will be adjusted to reflect the actual level of specific grant received (6.04).
 5. The levels of inflation assumed in the budget (6.05-6.06).
 6. That items of non-standard inflation are only allocated out to services when the actual increase in cost is known (6.07).
 7. The amounts included in the budget relating to transfers into and out of the settlement (6.09).
 8. The inclusion of £5.145m of pressures in the budget (Appendix 5a-f).
 9. That the Council's adopted practice continues that resources to fund new pressures be approved for the purpose set out. Any proposals to vary the

use of the sums allocated are to be the subject of a further report to Executive (6.10).

10. The inclusion of estimated one-off costs totalling £0.973m in the budget (Appendix 6), to be funded from the contingency reserve.
11. The inclusion of efficiencies of £4.716m in the budget (4.12 and Appendix 7 a-e).
12. That if it should become apparent that achievement of any of the savings (in full or part) is proving to be not as anticipated that this is dealt with corporately, with the Corporate Management Team bringing alternatives to Executive for consideration (4.12).

8.02 That the Executive note that the effect of the budget proposals will be to increase the budget requirement by £1.307m over the level in 2011/12 and increase the Band D Council Tax Rate by 3.0% on the level in 2011/12.

9.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 As set out in the report.

10.00 ANTI-POVERTY IMPACT

10.01 Individual growth and efficiency items may have specific anti-poverty impacts.

11.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

11.01 Individual growth and efficiency items may have specific environmental impacts.

12.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

12.01 Individual growth and efficiency items may have specific equalities impacts.

13.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

13.01 Individual growth and efficiency items may have specific personnel implications.

14.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED/ UNDERTAKEN

14.01 Overview and Scrutiny, Business Ratepayers, School Budget Forum, Flintshire Joint Trades Union Committee.

15.00 APPENDICES

- 15.01 Appendix 1 - Changes to Budget Since December
Appendix 2 - Previous Years' Growth/Items Dropping Out
Appendix 3 - Inflation

- Appendix 4 - Transfers Into/Out of Settlement
- Appendix 5 - Pressures - Ongoing
- Appendix 6 - Pressures - One-off and Time Limited
- Appendix 7 - Efficiencies
- Appendix 8 - Specific Grants
- Appendix 9 - Medium Term Financial Plan
- Appendix 10 - Equalities Impact Assessment
- Appendix 11 - Overview & Scrutiny Committees - Comments/
Questions

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

2012/13 Budget Working Papers

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Changes To The Budget Since December - Detailed Analysis

	Base Budget £m	One-off Items £m	Total £m
Shortfall as reported to Executive on 20th December 2011	0.824	0.894	1.718
Increased Investment in Schools Budget	0.800		0.800
<u>Outcome of ongoing refinement of Inflation / Pressures / Efficiencies (new & prior years)</u>			
<i>Inflation:</i>			
Energy Inflation reduction - latest intelligence	(0.419)		(0.419)
Standard Inflation reduction on final budget calculations	(0.088)		(0.088)
<i>Pressures:</i>			
Fire Levy - final figure notified by the Fire Authority	0.013		0.013
One-off pressure to mitigate reduction in Local Transport Services Grant		0.149	0.149
Reduction in pressure for Sustainable Waste Management Grant (based on revised allocations)	(0.028)		(0.028)
Out of County Placements - as per projection at Month 7	0.097		0.097
Food Waste - increased diversion from landfill	(0.368)		(0.368)
Identification of one-off pressure (increase Base Level of Reserves to 2% of Turnover)	(0.088)	0.088	0.000
Play Areas Additional Allocation for Match Funding		0.022	0.022
Public Sector Broadband Aggregation - reduction in budget requirement		(0.180)	(0.180)
<i>Efficiencies:</i>			
Discretionary Rate Relief - Removal of previous year efficiency	0.115		0.115
Management of Approved Contractors - reduced efficiency	0.020		0.020
Digital Television Service - removal of previous year pressure	(0.020)		(0.020)
Revised Shortfall before Efficiencies	0.858	0.973	1.831
<u>Efficiencies identified in 2011/12 (Month 7 and 8 monitoring report)</u>			
Ongoing base budget savings:			
Review of employer's pension budget required following 2011 valuation	(0.683)		(0.683)
Review of relief workers budget requirement	(0.150)		(0.150)
Review of Senior Officer pay budget requirement	(0.025)		(0.025)
Use of Usable Contingency Reserve at Month 7 to fund one-off pressures		(0.714)	(0.714)
Use of Usable Contingency Reserve at Month 8 to fund one-off pressures		(0.259)	(0.259)
Subtotal Efficiencies already identified:	(0.858)	(0.973)	(1.831)
Shortfall / (Available)	0.000	0.000	0.000

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Previous Years' Growth / Items Dropping Out

	£m	£m
<u>APPROVED 2010/11 BUDGET</u>		
<u>Community Services</u>		
Commissioning capacity for Older People Services	(0.058)	
Transition - LD	0.812	
Transition - PD&SI	0.073	
Increase in adoption allowances	0.002	
Refocus of residential care budget for Older People	(0.050)	
Preserved Rights	(0.019)	
	<hr/>	
	0.760	
<u>Environment</u>		
Impact of economic downturn on rent income & occupancy	(0.010)	
Reduced Planning Fees due to economic downturn	(0.050)	
Land charges - reduced fee income	(0.010)	
Building Control - loss of income	(0.020)	
NNDR vacant property legislation	(0.020)	
Increase in Landfill Tax	0.032	
	<hr/>	
	(0.078)	
<u>Lifelong Learning</u>		
Loss of income - Leisure Services	(0.025)	
Saltney Library - lease	(0.015)	
Continuation of Mobile Classrooms	(0.190)	
	<hr/>	
	(0.230)	
<u>Corporate Services</u>		
Finance Function Review	(0.100)	
	<hr/>	
	(0.100)	
		<hr/>
		0.352

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Previous Years' Growth / Items Dropping Out

	£m	£m
<u>APPROVED 2011/12 BUDGET</u>		
<u>Community Services</u>		
Transition - demography	0.175	
Supporting People - shortfall on funding services	0.200	
Money Advice Officer	0.009	
Mold Extra Care Scheme - Early Estimate	0.500	
Joint Working Special Grant	(0.050)	
Review of Admin and Financial Support Services	(0.050)	
Provision of Hired Transport	(0.469)	
Remodelling of services/structures	(0.075)	
Review Eligibility criteria / building community capacity	(0.500)	
Team Manager capacity	(0.046)	
LD and Mental Health Ringfenced budget	(0.050)	
Minor Adaptations Refocus	(0.030)	
Reduction of PARIS team	(0.028)	
Rent Abatement	(0.013)	
Review of LD Work and Day Services	(0.025)	
Rural Enabler	(0.010)	
Social Work Capacity	(0.100)	
	<hr/>	
	(0.562)	
<u>Environment</u>		
Managed Weekly Collections	0.024	
Additional energy cost as a result of new street lighting	0.060	
Loss of rental income following sale of smallholdings	0.015	
NNDR charges for vacant properties	(0.026)	
Food Waste funding requirement	0.577	
Carbon Reduction Commitment	0.270	
Building Control Income	0.045	
Rationalisation of Leaseholds Accommodation	(0.017)	
Energy Awareness initiative	0.002	
Rationalisation of Traffic Orders and Traffic Counter Site budgets	0.007	
Re-drafting of the SLA with the Energy Efficiency Advice Centre	0.002	
Landfill Tax Adjustment	0.370	
Efficiencies resulting from Planning Services Review	(0.090)	
Provision of Managed Weekly Collection and service reorganisation	(0.269)	
Streetscene Review	(0.250)	
	<hr/>	
	0.720	
<u>Lifelong Learning</u>		
Continuation of provision for Mobile Classrooms	0.190	
Development of Broadband	(0.113)	
Moodle Server replacement	0.150	
Rationalisation of number of school kitchens	(0.125)	

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Previous Years' Growth / Items Dropping Out

	£m	£m
<u>Lifelong Learning continued</u>		
Reduction to delegated budgets - secondary schools	(0.280)	
Reduction to delegated budgets - nursery schools	(0.001)	
Reduction to delegated budgets - special schools	(0.027)	
Reduction to delegated budgets - primary schools	(0.320)	
Rationalisation of 5 small Libraries	(0.015)	
Rationalisation of Inclusion Welfare Provision	(0.035)	
Rationalisation of Personal Social Education support	(0.026)	
Removal of funding over and above the match funding element to Welsh Language Board Grant	(0.040)	
Transport policy review - rationalisation of Non Statutory entitlement	(0.348)	
Transport route and procurement review	(0.146)	
Savings from North Wales Regional Review School Improvement	(0.025)	
Deletion of Senior Information Librarian Post	(0.009)	
Rationalisation of ICT Teacher Adviser section	(0.038)	
Reduction of opening hours of Hawarden Records Office	(0.007)	
Rationalisation of LEA run Music Service	(0.177)	
	<hr/>	
	(1.392)	
<u>Corporate Services</u>		
Employers' Pension - LGPS	0.346	
2% vacancy savings shortfall	(0.205)	
Hardware Maintenance	(0.025)	
Telephone System Maintenance	(0.031)	
Intrusion Detection & Prevention System Options	0.048	
Event & Log Management Solutions	(0.035)	
Reduction in Administration Grant	0.194	
HR & OD - Cost of Employment	(1.000)	
Chief Execs - Voluntary Sector Efficiencies	(0.007)	
ICT - Reduced Supplies and Services Spend	(0.001)	
Legal & Democratic - Member Training	0.007	
Corp Finance - Discretionary Rate Relief	(0.097)	
Single Persons Discount Review	0.328	
	<hr/>	
	(0.478)	
<u>One-Off and Time Limited</u>		
Implementation Costs - Staff Exit Costs (Base Budget)	(2.159)	
Single person discount contract costs	(0.020)	
Repayment of Reserves as per 2011/12 approved budget	1.613	
Repayment of Reserves as per 2011/12 approved budget - repaid in 2011/12	(1.613)	
	<hr/>	
	(2.179)	
		<hr/>
		(3.891)
Total Previous years items		<hr/> (3.539)

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Inflation

		£m
Pay		-
Price		
2% General Price Inflation	2.537	
Reduction due to Cross Directorate Expenditure Review	<u>(0.355)</u>	
		2.182
Non Standard		
Energy - Street Lighting	0.078	
Energy - Increased cost	0.300	
Fuel - Increased cost	0.196	
Food	<u>0.133</u>	
		0.707
Income		(0.522)
Total Inflation		<u><u>2.367</u></u>

Budget 2012/13**Council Fund - Revenue****Transfers Into / Out of Settlement**

£m

Transfers In From Specific Grant Funding

Mental Health Act & Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards 0.031

Total 0.031**Transfers Out Of Settlement**

Mapping Services (0.036)

Total (0.036)

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Summary of Pressures

		2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
		£m	£m	£m
Economic Impact	Appendix 5a	0.450	0.606	0.656
Demography	Appendix 5b	0.866	1.013	2.088
Welsh Government Policy / Legislative	Appendix 5c	0.091	0.184	0.231
Other Pressures	Appendix 5d	0.736	1.144	1.290
Council Priority / Invest to Save	Appendix 5e	1.226	1.388	1.557
Subtotal New Pressures		3.369	4.335	5.822
Pressures from Previous Years Items	Appendix 5f	1.776	2.245	2.163
Subtotal Previous Years Adjustments		1.776	2.245	2.163
Total		5.145	6.580	7.985

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue
Pressures - Economic Impact

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
	£m	£m	£m
<u>Community Services</u>			
Increase in Homelessness	0.250	0.356	0.356
	<u>0.250</u>	<u>0.356</u>	<u>0.356</u>
<u>Environment</u>			
Rental Income Shortfalls and NNDR charges for vacant Properties	0.200	0.250	0.300
	<u>0.200</u>	<u>0.250</u>	<u>0.300</u>
Total	<u><u>0.450</u></u>	<u><u>0.606</u></u>	<u><u>0.656</u></u>

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Pressures - Demography

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
	£m	£m	£m
<u>Community Services</u>			
Homecare - Increased complexity of care	0.100	0.200	0.300
Transition to Adulthood	0.254	0.321	1.296
Occupational Therapy Service	0.062	0.042	0.042
	<u>0.416</u>	<u>0.563</u>	<u>1.638</u>
<u>Lifelong Learning</u>			
Inclusion Service - Demand for one to one Pupil Support	0.300	0.300	0.300
Post 16 College Transport	0.150	0.150	0.150
	<u>0.450</u>	<u>0.450</u>	<u>0.450</u>
Total	<u><u>0.866</u></u>	<u><u>1.013</u></u>	<u><u>2.088</u></u>

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Pressures - Welsh Government Policy/Legislative

	2012/13 £m	2013/14 £m	2014/15 £m
<u>Community Services</u>			
Safeguarding for Adults	0.044	0.090	0.090
	<u>0.044</u>	<u>0.090</u>	<u>0.090</u>
<u>Environment</u>			
Sustainable Waste Management - reduction in grant funding	0.047	0.094	0.141
	<u>0.047</u>	<u>0.094</u>	<u>0.141</u>
Total	<u>0.091</u>	<u>0.184</u>	<u>0.231</u>

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Other Pressures

	2012/13 £m	2013/14 £m	2014/15 £m
<u>Community Services</u>			
Health Funding - Reassessment of patient /service user need	0.316	0.316	0.316
Increase in Foster Care Allowances	0.030	0.030	0.030
Housing Renewal Agency - Reduced Income	0.088	0.075	0.179
Cleaning and Catering Service Level Agreements	0.149	0.149	0.149
Transfer of Responsibility for Community Centres from HRA	0.035	0.036	0.036
	<u>0.618</u>	<u>0.606</u>	<u>0.710</u>
<u>Corporate Services</u>			
Clwyd Pension Fund Recharge	0.030	0.030	0.030
Internal Insurance Fund	0.000	0.150	0.150
Business Systems - Software Maintenance Costs	0.045	0.064	0.085
	<u>0.075</u>	<u>0.244</u>	<u>0.265</u>
<u>Environment</u>			
Revenue Loss due to phased disposal of Agricultural Estates	0.018	0.044	0.070
Implementation of Highways Asset Management Plan (HAMP)	0.000	0.225	0.225
Ground Water monitoring at former Castle Landfill site	0.025	0.025	0.020
	<u>0.043</u>	<u>0.294</u>	<u>0.315</u>
Total	<u><u>0.736</u></u>	<u><u>1.144</u></u>	<u><u>1.290</u></u>

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Pressures - Council Priority/Invest to Save

	2012/13 £m	2013/14 £m	2014/15 £m
<u>Corporate Services</u>			
Modern Trainees (Corporate Funding)	0.245	0.245	0.245
Voice/Video Conferencing	0.016	0.016	0.016
Prudential Borrowing Requirement for Capital Investment	0.165	0.277	0.446
	<u>0.426</u>	<u>0.538</u>	<u>0.707</u>
<u>Lifelong Learning</u>			
Extension of the centrally hosted school Moodle VLE virtual server farm and supporting infrastructure	-	0.050	0.050
Investment in Delegated Schools Budgets	0.800	0.800	0.800
	<u>0.800</u>	<u>0.850</u>	<u>0.850</u>
Total	<u><u>1.226</u></u>	<u><u>1.388</u></u>	<u><u>1.557</u></u>

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Pressures from Previous Years Items

	2012/13 £m	2013/14 £m	2014/15 £m
<u>Community Services</u>			
Projected shortfall in achievement of Provision of Hired Transport efficiency	0.200	0.817	0.817
	<u>0.200</u>	<u>0.817</u>	<u>0.817</u>
<u>Corporate Services</u>			
Central Loans and Investment Account	0.061	0.061	0.061
Adjustment in procurement saving pending implementation of new Regional Procurement solution	0.511	0.511	0.511
ISA Registration	0.025	0.025	0.025
Re-instatement of Discretionary Rate Relief Budget	0.115	0.115	0.115
2% additional vacancy savings shortfall	0.205	0.205	0.205
	<u>0.917</u>	<u>0.917</u>	<u>0.917</u>
<u>Lifelong Learning</u>			
Projected Shortfall in Cleaning Service Efficiencies	0.070	0.070	0.070
Flintshire Futures - Transport Policy Review - rationalisation of Non Statutory entitlement	0.348	0.072	0.000
Music Service - Adjustment to reflect decision in 2011/12 budget	0.160	0.278	0.278
Flintshire Futures - Rationalisation of Youth / Community premises	0.066	0.066	0.066
Saltney Library - Lease	0.015	0.025	0.015
	<u>0.659</u>	<u>0.511</u>	<u>0.429</u>
Total	<u>1.776</u>	<u>2.245</u>	<u>2.163</u>

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Pressures - One-Off and Time Limited

	2012/13 £m	2013/14 £m	2014/15 £m
<u>Lifelong Learning</u>			
Review of Kitchens	0.150	-	-
Pay Areas Additional Allocation for Match Funding	0.022	-	-
Flint Leisure Centre - disruptions due to Redevelopment	0.076	-	-
School Maternity Costs	0.060	-	-
Redundancy and early retirement costs from schools	0.219	-	-
	0.527	-	-
<u>Environment</u>			
Local Transport Services Grant shortfall	0.149	-	-
	0.149	-	-
<u>Corporate Services</u>			
Public Sector Broadband Aggregation	0.098	-	-
Base Level of Reserves - 'Top-Up to 2% of Turnover	0.088	-	-
Telephone Maintenance	0.031	-	-
County Elections - May 2012	0.080	-	-
	0.297	-	-
Total	0.973	-	-

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue
Summary of Efficiencies

		2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
		£m	£m	£m
Collaborative Projects	Appendix 7a	0.090	0.116	0.141
Customer Facing - Service Change and Modernisation	Appendix 7b	-	0.075	0.075
Internal - Service Change and Modernisation	Appendix 7c	0.537	1.007	1.040
Other Efficiencies	Appendix 7d	1.989	1.989	1.989
Efficiencies Relating to Previous Years Items	Appendix 7e	2.100	1.405	1.208
Total		<u>4.716</u>	<u>4.592</u>	<u>4.453</u>

Budget 2012/13

Council Fund - Revenue

Efficiencies - Collaborative Projects

	2012/13 £m	2013/14 £m	2014/15 £m
<u>Community Services</u>			
Management Efficiencies Through Collaborative Working	0.000	0.026	0.051
	<hr/> 0.000	<hr/> 0.026	<hr/> 0.051
<u>HR & OD Corporate Services</u>			
Occupational Health Review	0.090	0.090	0.090
	<hr/> 0.090	<hr/> 0.090	<hr/> 0.090
Total	<hr/> 0.090 <hr/>	<hr/> 0.116 <hr/>	<hr/> 0.141 <hr/>

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Efficiencies - Customer Facing - Service Change and Modernisation

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
	£m	£m	£m
<u>Corporate Services</u>			
Methods of Payment	0.000	0.075	0.075
	<u>0.000</u>	<u>0.075</u>	<u>0.075</u>
Total	<u>0.000</u>	<u>0.075</u>	<u>0.075</u>

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Efficiencies - Internal Service Change and Modernisation

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
	£m	£m	£m
<u>Council Wide</u>			
Asset Management - planned closure of externally leased properties	0.065	0.162	0.162
	<u>0.065</u>	<u>0.162</u>	<u>0.162</u>
<u>HR & OD - Corporate Services</u>			
HR Management Information System (Phase 2)	0.003	0.003	0.006
	<u>0.003</u>	<u>0.003</u>	<u>0.006</u>
<u>Finance - Corporate Services</u>			
Finance Function Review	0.095	0.095	0.095
	<u>0.095</u>	<u>0.095</u>	<u>0.095</u>
<u>ICT & Customer Services - Corporate Services</u>			
Telephone Equipment Lease	0.042	0.042	0.042
IBM System Software Maintenance	0.035	0.035	0.035
Consolidation of Microsoft Software Licensing	0.010	0.010	0.010
Cessation of Lotus Software Maintenance Agreement	0.120	0.120	0.120
Review of Admin and Support	0.000	0.300	0.300
Printer & Printing Review	0.040	0.040	0.040
Procurement Review	0.008	0.030	0.060
	<u>0.255</u>	<u>0.577</u>	<u>0.607</u>
<u>Community Services</u>			
Team Manager's Post Efficiency	(0.005)	0.046	0.046
Children's Services Management Rationalisation	0.100	0.100	0.100
Realignment of management charge between HRA and Council Fund	0.024	0.024	0.024
	<u>0.119</u>	<u>0.170</u>	<u>0.170</u>
Total	<u><u>0.537</u></u>	<u><u>1.007</u></u>	<u><u>1.040</u></u>

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Efficiencies - Other

	2012/13 £m	2013/14 £m	2014/15 £m
<u>Corporate Finance - Corporate Service</u>			
Reduction In Audit Fee	0.073	0.073	0.073
Reduction in Fire Levy	0.070	0.070	0.070
Cross Directorate Expenditure Review - Reduction in budget for Non Domestic Rates due to current over-provision	0.073	0.073	0.073
Cross Directorate Expenditure Review - Increase in Matrix efficiency	0.060	0.060	0.060
Cross Directorate Expenditure Review - Increase in Nursery Vouchers / Cycle to Work Efficiency	0.016	0.016	0.016
Cross Directorate Expenditure Review - Core Costs	0.001	0.001	0.001
	0.293	0.293	0.293
<u>Chief Executive - Corporate Services</u>			
Digital Television Service	0.020	0.020	0.020
	0.020	0.020	0.020
<u>Community Services</u>			
Cross Directorate Expenditure Review - Core Costs	0.021	0.021	0.021
Cross Directorate Expenditure Review - Reduction Out of County Placement Costs	0.362	0.362	0.362
	0.383	0.383	0.383
<u>Environment</u>			
Charge for minerals and waste site monitoring	0.012	0.012	0.012
Cross Directorate Expenditure Review - Core Costs	0.027	0.027	0.027
Cross Directorate Expenditure Review - Reduction in budget for Bus Subsidy due to current over-provision	0.125	0.125	0.125
Cross Directorate Expenditure Review - Capitalisation of Corporate Property Maintenance Expenditure	0.500	0.500	0.500
Cross Directorate Expenditure Review - Reduction in budget for Non Domestic Rates	0.025	0.025	0.025
	0.689	0.689	0.689
<u>Lifelong Learning</u>			
Demography - decrease in pupil numbers	0.165	0.165	0.165
Cross Directorate Expenditure Review - Core Costs	0.016	0.016	0.016
Cross Directorate Expenditure Review - Reduction Out of County Placement Costs	0.423	0.423	0.423
	0.604	0.604	0.604
Total	1.989	1.989	1.989

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Efficiencies - Relating to Previous Years Items

	2012/13 £m	2013/14 £m	2014/15 £m
<u>Community Services</u>			
Mold Extra Care Scheme	0.300	-	-
	<u>0.300</u>	<u>0.000</u>	<u>0.000</u>
<u>Environment</u>			
Continuation of 2011/12 Landfill Tax efficiency	0.402	0.257	0.064
Carbon Reduction Scheme	0.050	0.050	0.050
Food Waste - increased diversion from landfill	0.368	0.240	0.236
	<u>0.820</u>	<u>0.547</u>	<u>0.350</u>
<u>Finance - Corporate Services</u>			
Changes to Housing Benefit/Council Tax Benefit Administration Grant	0.122	-	-
Review of Superannuation Contingency	0.683	0.683	0.683
Review of Relief Worker Contingency	0.150	0.150	0.150
Review of 1st and 2nd Tier Officer Contingency	0.025	0.025	0.025
	<u>0.980</u>	<u>0.858</u>	<u>0.858</u>
Total	<u><u>2.100</u></u>	<u><u>1.405</u></u>	<u><u>1.208</u></u>

Budget 2012/13
Council Fund - Revenue

Specific Grants

		Budget 2011-12	Projection 2012-13	Variance to 2011-12	Confirmed (C) or Estimated (E)
		£	£	£	
Lifelong Learning	Appetite For Life	128,220	128,233	13	E
	Basic Skills	316,000	316,000	0	E
Non Delegated	Community Learning Cymorth ¹	3,198	3,278	80	C
	Families First ¹	1,437,465	0	-1,437,465	C
	Post 16 SEN provision in schools	0	1,676,539	1,676,539	C
	Education of Travellers	1,189,421	1,484,465	295,044	E
	Flying Start	73,381	81,534	8,153	E
	Foundation Phase	1,526,181	1,566,170	39,989	E
	Foundation Phase Pilot/Early Start Funding	4,430,321	4,818,344	388,023	E
	Free School Milk	39,581	39,581	0	E
	Free Swimming 60+	179,773	179,773	0	E
	Free Swimming Children/Young People	60,000	60,000	0	E
	Funding for Youth Work Training in Wales	104,807	104,807	0	E
	Learning Pathways 14-19	22,983	22,000	-983	E
	Minority Ethnic Achievement	774,980	664,080	-110,900	E
	NE Wales Play Forum	97,746	101,822	4,076	E
	Primary School Free Breakfast Initiative	61,660	61,660	0	E
	School Effectiveness Grant	595,991	707,382	111,391	E
	School Uniform Financial Assistance Scheme	1,078,580	1,078,580	0	E
	School-based counselling services	23,575	30,080	6,505	E
	Unlocking the Potential of Special Schools	195,320	228,134	32,814	E
	Welsh Language (Athrowen Bro and WEG)	45,572	45,572	0	E
	Welsh Medium Bilingual Grant	116,626	218,568	101,942	C
	Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes	46,940	46,940	0	E
	Youth Service Revenue Grant	78,250	87,320	9,070	E
		90,330	90,330	0	E
		12,716,901	13,841,192	1,124,290	
Delegated	DCELLS (Post 16 provision in schools)	5,878,176	6,025,131	146,955	E
		5,878,176	6,025,131	146,955	
Community Services	Early Support to Vulnerable Children	26,500	0	-26,500	C
	Funding to Implement the Mental Health Act 2007	12,770	12,770	0	E
	LD Strategy Resettlement	1,649,536	1,649,536	0	E
	Mental Capacity Act 2005 Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Funding ²	23,254	0	-23,254	C
	Social Care Workforce Development Programme	378,909	346,969	-31,940	E
	Supporting People ³	5,644,891	7,109,307	1,464,416	E
	Well Being Activity	25,000	25,000	0	E
	Youth Service Community Safety Grants	60,851	60,851	0	E
	YOT / Youth Justice Board	502,366	327,280	-175,086	E
		8,324,077	9,531,713	1,207,636	
Environment	Communities First	873,205	873,205	0	E
	Concessionary Travel	1,860,750	1,917,131	56,381	E
	Crime Reduction and Anti Social Behaviour	144,461	144,461	0	E
	Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator Funding	27,500	27,500	0	E
	Local Transport Services	561,570	397,572	-163,998	E
	Planning - Delivering for Wales	70,000	70,000	0	E
	Safer Communities Fund	205,446	205,446	0	E
	Substance Misuse	833,165	833,165	0	E
	Sustainable Waste Management	3,465,113	3,334,303	-130,810	E
	Tidy Towns	138,309	90,233	-48,076	E
		8,179,519	7,893,016	-286,503	
Corporate Services	LSB Development Support Grant	50,000	50,000	0	E
		50,000	50,000	0	
Total		35,148,673	37,341,051	2,192,378	

1. Families First has now taken over from Cymorth

2. Transferring into settlement

3. Grant now includes SPRG element - activity previously funded direct by WG - overall 4% reduction in funding

Financial Projection - as at February 2012

	2012/13 £'000	2013/14 £'000	2014/15 £'000
Funding			
Revenue Support Grant (RSG)	143,891	146,010	146,742
NNDR	40,562	40,562	40,562
Council Tax	56,750	58,598	60,508
SSA / Budget Requirement	241,203	245,170	247,812
Unhypothecated Grants	1,475	1,475	1,475
Specific Grants	37,341	37,341	37,341
Use of Contingency Reserve	973		
Total Funding	280,991	283,986	286,627
Expenditure			
Base Budget	278,574	280,991	286,322
Inflation:			
Pay	-	1,527	1,542
Price	2,182	2,314	2,360
Price - NSI Energy	378	285	308
Price - NSI Fuel	196	187	210
Price - NSI Food	133	141	149
Fees & Charges	(522)	(538)	(554)
Other known items:			
Effect of Previous Years Budget Decisions	(3,539)	750	
Movement in Specific Grants	2,192		
Transfers into/out of Settlement	(5)		
Base Level of Reserves - 2% Turnover		79	53
NEW PRESSURES:			
Economic Impact	450	156	50
Demography	866	147	1,075
WG Policy / Legislative	91	93	47
Other Pressures	736	408	146
Council Priority / Invest to Save	1,226	162	169
Amendments to Previous Years Figures	1,776	469	(82)
One off and Time Limited	973	(973)	-
NEW EFFICIENCIES:			
Collaborative Projects	(90)	(26)	(25)
Customer Facing - Service Change & Modernisation	-	(75)	-
Internal - Service Change & Modernisation	(537)	(470)	(33)
Other Efficiencies	(1,989)	-	-
Amendments to Previous Years Figures	(2,100)	695	197
Total Expenditure	280,991	286,322	291,933
Funding Shortfall / (Available)	(0)	2,336	5,306
Annual increase/(decrease) in shortfall	(0)	2,336	2,970

Notes:

1) The outcomes of Single Status will be incorporated into the MTFP as details emerge from the negotiations during 2012.

Annual Budget Efficiency Proposal 2012- 2013 - Summary of Equality Impact Assessments

Budget Reduction Proposal	Equality impact	Actions
Finance Function Review	Full EIA required	EIA is currently being undertaken
Management Efficiencies	Full EIA required	EIA will be undertaken as part of Transforming Social Services for Adults (TSSA) agenda.
Homelessness Service	Full EIA required	An EIA will be considered as part of the development of the proposals.
Demography- increase/decrease in projected pupil numbers	Full EIA required	EIA will be undertaken as part of the School Modernisation project.
Review of Admin and Support	Full EIA required A full equality impact assessment will be undertaken on this proposal as part of the project definition which will start towards the end of the financial year. This potentially could have a gender equality impact as more females are employed in Administrative and support roles than males	The Organisational Change and Redundancy Policy has been impact assessed and includes measures to support employees at risk of redundancy
Printer and Printing Review	An EIA has been undertaken.	Identified needs of disabled employees will be accommodated within the review ensuring disabled employees are not disadvantaged.
Asset Management	Full EIA required .	There are various workstreams involved in the assets management project therefore it is proposed that individual EIAs are completed as necessary e.g. when an office move is due to take place
HRMIS (Phase 2)	EIA has been completed.	Display Screen Risk Assessments will be undertaken to identify and meet the needs of employees who have a visual impairment.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Lifelong Learning – Initial Budget Proposals 2012/13

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
1.0	<u>Corporate Comments / Issues</u>	
1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assurance was sought regarding the need to maintain the quality of services when Collaborative Working arrangements were undertaken. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> FCC will always need to make sure that quality of service is maintained.
2.0	<u>Lifelong Learning Comments / Issues</u>	
2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At what stage are we at with the Youth Service Delivery Plan? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There are no proposals relating to this in the Budget Strategy. Currently part-way through consultation with Local Areas.
2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A request was made for a breakdown of the budget impact on Leisure and Libraries. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The breakdown was provided at the final Corporate Resources OSC.
2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the Pupil Premium be included in school indicative budgets? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance on the distribution of the Pupil Premium is expected by first week in February after which further information will be provided.
2.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When will Schools receive their indicative budgets? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim is to inform schools regarding their indicative budgets at the end of February half-term.
2.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request for more information regarding Security Service for schools “out of hours” support? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pressure to provide an out of hours key-holder service for schools to deal with Lone Worker legislation. Pressure ‘de minimus’ and to be funded from within LLD.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Lifelong Learning – Initial Budget Proposals 2012/13

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
2.6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the Play Areas match funding budget agreed in 10/11 budget still available? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, this now forms part of the base budget.
2.7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An explanation was requested regarding the pressure for School Maternity Costs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The pressure has been reduced from £0.234m to £0.060m due to further analysis of the costs and the assumption that the risk would be taken over by Primary Schools by agreement from September 2012.
2.8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The sustainability of the current approach to school transport was questioned and an update on the regional transport project was requested 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There will be a Policy Options paper out for consultation by mid-summer 2012.
2.9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members asked for an update on the Music Service. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was confirmed that no new proposals are included in the 12/13 budget proposals and that the service would be given chance to settle down.
2.10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concerns were expressed that invoices do not appear to have been sent out. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Officers are aware of some recent problems with administrative support, however the issue will be looked into.
2.11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A request was made that the Executive consider recycling the estimated effect of changes in pupil numbers of £0.165m into the delegated budget for schools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scrutiny supported the recommendation. It was pointed out that any changes to the budget strategy would require funding being identified from elsewhere.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Lifelong Learning – Initial Budget Proposals 2012/13

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
2.12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How will the estimated increase in the Foundation Phase Grant be spent? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase will be spent on training and the monitoring of training as well as improving classrooms and learning environments.
2.13	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many years do the grant funding figures relate to? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Levels of grant funding are confirmed on an annual basis. Indicative figures for future years are given for some grants.
2.14	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A breakdown of the Flying Start grant expenditure was requested. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The breakdown was provided at the final Corporate Resources OSC.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Environment – Initial Budget Proposals 2012/13

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
1.0	<u>Corporate Resources Comments / Issues</u>	
1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can a breakdown be provided of how the projected shortfall of £1.7m in the December report has been met. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A complete breakdown of all changes to the budget since December will be available at the final Corporate Resources meeting on 24 January 2012. (This was provided)
2.0	<u>Environment Comments / Issues</u>	
2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can Executive revisit whether additional funding can be made available for the waste collection service? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If it became apparent in-year that additional funding was required for operational reasons the council would collectively need to identify funding.
2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regarding the rental income shortfall of £200k, the Council needs to look at reducing rents and rates. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The reason for the shortfall is that the council is struggling to let premises. Reducing rental income is likely to increase the pressure. There is nothing we can do with regard to business rates as NDR is a national scheme.
2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can more information be provided on the £125k efficiency in respect of bus subsidy? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within the current year, and in previous years there has been an underspend in this area. The efficiency is not for a specific service but an adjustment to the budget to reflect operational need.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Environment – Initial Budget Proposals 2012/13

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
2.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why is there an efficiency for bus subsidy in light of the report on the Deeside Shuttle Service? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Deeside Shuttle Service is a separate issue with a stand alone budget. A review of subsidised services will take place during 2012-13. This will consider the rationale for the routes funded and the potential for Community Transport Partners to support service delivery.
2.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is anything included in the budget proposals from the fees and charges work undertaken by Deloittes? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no conclusions arising from the Member Workshop so it has not been progressed at this stage. There are no new charges included in the budget proposals, but there is an assumed 3% increase to existing charges. The work undertaken so far with Deloittes will need to be picked up in the medium term.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Social & Health – Initial Budget Proposals 2012/13

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
1.0	<u>Social & Health Comments / Issues</u>	
1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why does the pressure for transition to adulthood increase significantly in 2014/15? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An estimate of the increased budgetary requirement for 2012/13 and 2013/14 has already been included through previous budget decisions and is shown on a separate slide. A complete breakdown of all changes to the Social Care budget will be available at the final Corporate Resources meeting on 24 January 12. (This was provided).
1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does Wales benefit from the new health lottery? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no reason why not as it a UK wide scheme.
1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can the methodology used in respect of care fees be explained? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An amount is currently included within standard inflation. The council is included in a three way partnership to develop a methodology for providers.
1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why is the transfer into the settlement £31k when the specific grant received previously was £23k. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The amount of £31k is calculated by Welsh Government and our budget strategy is to passport this amount to the relevant service where required.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Housing Strategy – Housing Council Fund – Initial Budget Proposals 2012/13

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
1.0	<p><u>Corporate Comments / Issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has there been any pressure for a Council Tax freeze from the Welsh Government? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no expectation or funding available from the Welsh Government for a Council Tax freeze. The proposal for a 3% increase is in line with the strategy agreed as part of the Medium Term Financial Strategy.
2.0	<p><u>Housing Council Fund Comments / Issues</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The work of the Welfare Rights Unit was welcomed and assurance was sought that the Unit would be able to continue to provide the service while coping with the increase in demand. • Why is there a pressure for Homelessness when an efficiency was given up last year? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Unit has responded well this year and will be kept under review to ensure that the quality of service is maintained. • The pressure for 12/13 of £0.250m relates specifically to the impact of Welfare Reform and the expectation that demand will increase. The efficiency last year related to the aim of reducing Bed and Breakfast accommodation through the use of alternative accommodation. This work will continue and has been factored into the calculation of the pressure for 12/13.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Housing Strategy – Housing Council Fund – Initial Budget Proposals 2012/13

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:																				
2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please provide a note with the breakdown on the homeless figure to support the budget pressure. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please see breakdown below: Scenario 1 - 25% Homelessness utilising 8 Flintshire Hard to lets <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 80%;"></th> <th style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">12/13</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: center;">25%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2, 2 bed flats, 6, 3 bed houses, 2 LHA 2 bed flats</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£123,155</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£64,680</td> </tr> <tr> <td>B and B Costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£187,835</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Housing Advice Officer 1.0 fte</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£23,325</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yearly rent on 2 bed flats</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£4,820</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Yearly rent on 3 bed houses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£16,020</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Set up costs for properties - £2,250 per property</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£18,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total Projected costs</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£250,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		12/13		25%	2, 2 bed flats, 6, 3 bed houses, 2 LHA 2 bed flats	£123,155		£64,680	B and B Costs	£187,835	Housing Advice Officer 1.0 fte	£23,325	Yearly rent on 2 bed flats	£4,820	Yearly rent on 3 bed houses	£16,020	Set up costs for properties - £2,250 per property	£18,000	Total Projected costs	£250,000
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OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Corporate Services – Initial Budget Proposals 2012/13

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
PART ONE – Corporate Services		
<u>Corporate Comments / Issues</u>		
1.0		
1.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A request was made for a full breakdown of the effect of the budget proposals for each directorate year on year from 2011/12 to 2012/13. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The breakdown was provided at the final Corporate Resources OSC.
1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do we have enough in the Single Status reserve (£24m)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The current projection is deemed to be a reasonable estimate. The final negotiated settlement will need to be affordable.
1.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there an agreed national framework for Equality Impact Assessments (EIAs)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> EIAs will be undertaken following national guidance.
1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is there a list of the ‘de minimus’ pressures under £25k? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All pressures raised by directorates have been included in the information provided to Members for each OSC meeting including those that are not included in the initial proposals on the basis that they are under £25k. Directorates will be expected to fund these items from within existing resources.
1.5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What are the plans to cope with the reductions in grants highlighted in the December report? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Specific issues relating to grants will be dealt with in the relevant Scrutiny Committees. However the MTFs states that service expenditure will need to be reduced in line with the reduction in grant funding.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Corporate Services – Initial Budget Proposals 2012/13

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
2.0	<p><u>Corporate Services Comments / Issues Finance and Corporate Finance</u></p>	
2.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do we have a Prudential Borrowing Strategy? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Details of the full Capital Strategy will be dealt with in the meeting on 23rd January. However there are 6 theme areas identified for investment which may be financed through prudential borrowing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ School Modernisation ○ Public / Civic Buildings ○ Infrastructure / Regeneration ○ Leisure ○ ICT ○ Energy
2.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the pressure for the Insurance Fund relate to internal or external insurance? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pressure relates to our internal insurance fund. Self-insuring and paying for excess allows for reduced external insurance premiums.
2.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does the pressure for 'Clwyd Pension Fund Recharge' relate? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a reduction in recharge to Clwyd Pension Fund following a thorough review of services provided by FCC to the Pension Fund. It mainly consists of changes to percentages of staff time.
2.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does the Prudential Borrowing pressure relate to? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Capital Expenditure. Details of the schemes are to be provided at the Corporate Resources OSC on 23rd January. (This was provided)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Corporate Services – Initial Budget Proposals 2012/13

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
3.0	<p><u>Corporate Services Comments / Issues</u> <u>Human Resources and Organisational Development</u></p>	
3.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why has the pressure for the Modern Trainee Scheme been reduced from £0.489m to £0.245m? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The original figure was based on the total cost of the scheme. Further analysis has shown that existing trainees are being funded from a variety of sources including vacancy savings and base budget within directorates. The pressure has therefore been reduced to reflect this and placements will be financed on a "match funded" basis in the future.
4.0	<p><u>Corporate Services Comments / Issues</u> <u>ICT and Customer Services</u></p>	
4.1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In relation to the efficiency of £0.120m relating to the cessation of Lotus Software Licensing, does the Capital scheme to acquire the Microsoft Enterprise Solution instead include the ongoing annual maintenance cost. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The capital bid is a prudent estimate of the costs that will be required including the initial maintenance costs. However until the details of the agreement are known the ongoing effect in future years on the revenue cannot accurately be determined.

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Corporate Services – Initial Budget Proposals 2012/13

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
PART 2 – Corporate Resources including Overview		
<u>Corporate Resources Comments / Issues</u>		
5.0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was questioned whether the level of vacancy savings in the in year monitoring meant that these posts were not required. An update on the progress of the Provision of Hired Transport efficiency within Community Services identified during the 11/12 budget process was requested. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The majority of the vacancy savings relate to service reviews such as the Transforming Social Services for Adults. Efficiencies are already built into the 2012/13 budget for such reviews Following Member engagement during 2011 the indicative efficiencies for 2012/13 and 2013/14 have been reduced to reflect the progress made on the assessments regarding the eligibility criteria for transport. Initial estimates have been reduced to allow for increased complexity of new cases and change in service user needs, and now in need of funded transport. The estimates were also reduced to take account of possible appeals and hardship cases.
5.1		
5.2		
5.3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Will the School Budget Formula be reviewed? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work is ongoing to review the Budget Formula by working with schools in order to maintain a consensus on the best way forward.
5.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> How does the specific grant which is likely to represent £450 per pupil eligible for Free School Meals compare with England? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is no like for like scheme in place in England.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 12

REPORT TO: **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

DATE : **01 MARCH 2012**

REPORT BY: **HEAD OF FINANCE**

SUBJECT : **COUNCIL TAX SETTING 2012-13**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 For Council to agree the statutory and other necessary resolutions for the purpose of administering Council Tax and Non-Domestic Rates for 2012-13.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 Also on this agenda is consideration of the General Fund Budget for 2012-13. The recommendation of the Executive is that the General Fund Budget Requirement for 2012-13 be set at £241,203,131 which will result in Council Tax charges as detailed in this report.

3.00 PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS

3.01 The Council Tax resolution includes elements relating to Flintshire, North Wales Police Authority and all Town/Community Councils.

3.02 The proposed resolutions as detailed in Appendix A to this report are split into the following sections :-

3.02.1 section 1 details the Council Tax Base set for 2012-13, which shows the number of properties (shown in total and for each specific Town/Community Council) expressed as Band 'D' equivalents, taking into account appropriate adjustments for statutory discounts and exemptions.

3.02.2 section 2 (a) to 2 (i) details the expenditure and income of Flintshire County Council and Town/Community Councils. It also sets out details of the amount of Council Tax to be charged across the various Valuation Bands in respect of the County Council precept and each Town/Community Council precept.

3.02.3 section 3 details the amount of Council Tax to be charged in each Valuation Band in respect of North Wales Police Authority as resolved at a meeting of the Police Authority on 17th February 2012.

3.02.4 section 4 details the overall amount of Council Tax that taxpayers will be required to pay from April 2012. This is made up of three chargeable precepts, Flintshire County Council, North Wales Police Authority, and the Town/Community Councils.

Date: 24/02/2012

- 3.02.5 section 5 re-affirms the Councils policy for 2012-13 not to grant discounts on second and long term empty properties which are defined by Regulations under three Prescribed Classes of Dwellings - Class A dwellings are second home which are unoccupied and furnished with a restriction on occupancy for a period of at least 28 consecutive days in any 12 month period. Class B dwellings are second homes which are unoccupied and furnished, with no restriction on occupancy. Class C dwellings are long empty and unfurnished dwellings and have been such for a period of over 6 months in most cases.
- 3.02.6 section 6 gives the Head of Finance the authority to make payments to the North Wales Police Authority in twelve equal instalments payable on the 15th day of each month from April 2012 (adjusted to the next working day as necessary) to March 2013.
- 3.02.7 section 7 provides authority to specified officers to issue legal proceedings for non payment of Council Tax and to appear on behalf of the Council to prosecute in cases of non payment.
- 3.02.8 section 8 provides similar authority to specified officers to collect Non-Domestic Rates .
- 3.02.9 section 9 provides for the advertisement of the Council Tax for 2012-13 in the local press, as defined by Regulations.
- 3.03 The result of these resolutions would be that Council Tax is levied across all areas of the County as set out in Appendix A and further analysed in Appendix B by amounts and percentage increases.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 That members agree all resolutions as detailed in Appendix A.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 As set out in the report

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

9.01 None

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix A to this report details all resolutions necessary to set the 2012-13 Council Tax charges.

12.02 Appendix B to this report provides Members with some statistical information relating the breakdown of Council Tax charges for 2012-13 by Town & Community Council area.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Local Government Finance Act 1992
Local Government Act 2003
Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (Wales) Regulations
Local Government Act 1972

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Telephone: 01352 703652
E-Mail: David_Barnes@flintshire.gov.uk

**STATUTORY & OTHER NECESSARY COUNCIL TAX
RESOLUTIONS FOR 2012-13**

1. That it be noted that at its meeting on 15th November 2011 the Council calculated interim amounts, subsequently modified as follows, for the year 2012-13 in accordance with the regulations made under Section 33(5) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992

60,865 being the amount calculated in accordance with Regulation 3 of the Local Authorities (Calculation of Council Tax Base) Wales Regulations 1995, as its Council Tax base for the year, broken down into the following Town/Community areas :-

Argoed	2,467.60
Bagillt	1,447.29
Broughton & Bretton	2,387.49
Brynford	469.17
Buckley	6,114.79
Caerwys	606.68
Cilcain	732.05
Connahs Quay	5,948.33
Flint	4,459.37
Gwernaffield	1,012.34
Gwernymynydd	559.38
Halkyn	1,352.56
Hawarden	6,080.94
Higher Kinnerton	787.59
Holywell	3,210.99
Hope	1,774.39
Leeswood	829.96
Llanasa	1,887.38
Llanfynydd	825.36
Mold	4,100.86
Mostyn	707.11
Nannerch	267.63
Nercwys	302.19
Northop	1,492.70
Northop Hall	718.06
Penyffordd	1,645.75
Queensferry	691.94
Saltney	1,768.15
Sealand	1,118.48
Shotton	2,161.18
Trelawnyd & Gwaenysgor	415.95
Treuddyn	716.78
Whitford	1,141.65
Ysceifiog	662.91

TOTAL BAND "D" PROPERTIES	<u>60,865.00</u>
----------------------------------	-------------------------

being the amounts calculated in accordance with regulation 6 of the Regulations as the amounts of its Council Tax base for the year for dwelling in those parts of its area to which special items relate.

2. That the following amounts be now calculated by the Council for the year 2012-13 in accordance with Sections 32 to 36 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992:-
- | | | |
|-----|--|--------------|
| (a) | Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for the items set out in Section 32 (2) (a)-(d) (including Community Council precepts totalling £2,246,867). | £384,485,940 |
| (b) | Aggregate of the amounts which the Council estimates for items set out in Section 32 (3) (a) and 32 (3) (c). | £141,035,942 |
| (c) | Amount by which the aggregate at 2(a) above exceeds the aggregate at 2(b) above calculated in accordance with Section 32 (4) as the budget requirement for the year. | £243,449,998 |
| (d) | Aggregate of the sums which the Council estimates will be payable for the year into its Council Fund in respect of redistributed Non-Domestic Rates, Revenue Support Grant or Additional Grant. | £184,453,214 |
| (e) | The amount at 2(c) above less the amount at 2(d) above, all divided by the amount at 1(a) above, calculated in accordance with Section 33 (1) as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year. | £969.31 |
| (f) | Aggregate amount of all special items referred to in Section 34 (1). | £2,246,867 |
| (g) | Amount at 2(e) above less the result given by dividing the amount at 2(f) above by the amount at 1(a) above calculated by the Council, in accordance with Section 34 (2) of the Act, as the basic amount of Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which no special items relate. | £932.39 |
| (h) | The amounts given by adding to the amount at 2(g) above the amounts of special items relating to dwellings in those part of the Council's area mentioned below, divided in each case by the amount at 1(b) above, calculated in accordance with Section 34(3) as the basic amounts of its Council Tax for the year for dwellings in those parts of the area to which special items relate. | £0.00 |

**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL CHARGES (BAND D) 2012-13
(Including Community/Town Councils)**

	<u>£</u>
Argoed	956.40
Bagillt	956.24
Broughton & Bretton	969.67
Brynford	967.39
Buckley	976.71
Caerwys	969.07
Cilcain	958.78
Connahs Quay	978.88
Flint	969.84
Gwernaffield	947.21
Gwernymynydd	957.42
Halkyn	959.75
Hawarden	966.92
Higher Kinnerton	966.67
Holywell	975.99
Hope	948.73
Leeswood	979.38
Llanasa	964.71
Llanfynydd	965.17
Mold	981.74
Mostyn	966.33
Nannerch	967.39
Nercwys	978.39
Northop	946.39
Northop Hall	957.46
Penyffordd	960.22
Queensferry	982.97
Saltney	974.73
Sealand	979.78
Shotton	977.57
Trelawnyd & Gwaenysgor	961.24
Treuddyn	975.18
Whitford	965.39
Ysceifiog	958.56

- (i) The amounts given by multiplying the amounts at 2(h) above by the number which in the proportion set out in Section 5(1) of the Act is applicable to dwellings listed in a particular valuation band divided by the number which in that proportion is applicable to dwellings listed in valuation band D calculated in accordance with Section 36(1) of the Act as the amounts to be taken into account for the year in respect of categories of dwellings listed in different valuation bands.

APPENDIX A

Area	VALUATION BANDS								
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £	I £
Argoed	637.60	743.86	850.13	956.40	1,168.94	1,381.47	1,594.00	1,912.80	2,231.60
Bagillt	637.49	743.74	849.99	956.24	1,168.74	1,381.24	1,593.73	1,912.48	2,231.23
Broughton & Bretton	646.44	754.19	861.93	969.67	1,185.15	1,400.64	1,616.11	1,939.34	2,262.57
Brynford	644.92	752.41	859.90	967.39	1,182.37	1,397.35	1,612.31	1,934.78	2,257.25
Buckley	651.14	759.66	868.19	976.71	1,193.76	1,410.81	1,627.85	1,953.42	2,278.99
Caerwys	646.04	753.72	861.39	969.07	1,184.42	1,399.77	1,615.11	1,938.14	2,261.17
Cilcain	639.18	745.72	852.25	958.78	1,171.84	1,384.91	1,597.96	1,917.56	2,237.16
Connahs Quay	652.58	761.35	870.11	978.88	1,196.41	1,413.94	1,631.46	1,957.76	2,284.06
Flint	646.56	754.32	862.08	969.84	1,185.36	1,400.88	1,616.40	1,939.68	2,262.96
Gwernaffield	631.47	736.72	841.96	947.21	1,157.70	1,368.20	1,578.68	1,894.42	2,210.16
Gwernymynydd	638.28	744.66	851.04	957.42	1,170.18	1,382.94	1,595.70	1,914.84	2,233.98
Halkyn	639.83	746.47	853.11	959.75	1,173.03	1,386.31	1,599.58	1,919.50	2,239.42
Hawarden	644.61	752.05	859.48	966.92	1,181.79	1,396.67	1,611.53	1,933.84	2,256.15
Higher Kinnerton	644.44	751.85	859.26	966.67	1,181.49	1,396.31	1,611.11	1,933.34	2,255.57
Holywell	650.66	759.10	867.55	975.99	1,192.88	1,409.77	1,626.65	1,951.98	2,277.31
Hope	632.48	737.90	843.31	948.73	1,159.56	1,370.39	1,581.21	1,897.46	2,213.71
Leeswood	652.92	761.74	870.56	979.38	1,197.02	1,414.66	1,632.30	1,958.76	2,285.22
Llanasa	643.14	750.33	857.52	964.71	1,179.09	1,393.47	1,607.85	1,929.42	2,250.99
Llanfynydd	643.44	750.69	857.93	965.17	1,179.65	1,394.14	1,608.61	1,930.34	2,252.07
Mold	654.49	763.57	872.66	981.74	1,199.91	1,418.07	1,636.23	1,963.48	2,290.73
Mostyn	644.22	751.59	858.96	966.33	1,181.07	1,395.81	1,610.55	1,932.66	2,254.77
Nannerch	644.92	752.41	859.90	967.39	1,182.37	1,397.35	1,612.31	1,934.78	2,257.25
Nercwys	652.26	760.97	869.68	978.39	1,195.81	1,413.23	1,630.65	1,956.78	2,282.91
Northop	630.92	736.08	841.23	946.39	1,156.70	1,367.01	1,577.31	1,892.78	2,208.25
Northop Hall	638.30	744.69	851.07	957.46	1,170.23	1,383.00	1,595.76	1,914.92	2,234.08
Penyffordd	640.14	746.84	853.53	960.22	1,173.60	1,386.99	1,600.36	1,920.44	2,240.52
Queensferry	655.31	764.53	873.75	982.97	1,201.41	1,419.85	1,638.28	1,965.94	2,293.60
Saltney	649.82	758.12	866.43	974.73	1,191.34	1,407.95	1,624.55	1,949.46	2,274.37
Sealand	653.18	762.05	870.91	979.78	1,197.51	1,415.24	1,632.96	1,959.56	2,286.16
Shotton	651.71	760.33	868.95	977.57	1,194.81	1,412.05	1,629.28	1,955.14	2,281.00
Trelawnyd & Gwaenysgor	640.82	747.63	854.43	961.24	1,174.85	1,388.46	1,602.06	1,922.48	2,242.90
Treuddyn	650.12	758.47	866.83	975.18	1,191.89	1,408.60	1,625.30	1,950.36	2,275.42
Whitford	643.59	750.86	858.12	965.39	1,179.92	1,394.46	1,608.98	1,930.78	2,252.58
Ysceifiog	639.04	745.54	852.05	958.56	1,171.58	1,384.59	1,597.60	1,917.12	2,236.64

3. That it be noted that for the year 2012-13 the North Wales Police Authority has stated the following amounts in precepts issued to the Council, in accordance with Section 40 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:-

	Valuation Bands								
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £	I £
Precept	143.04	166.88	190.72	214.56	262.24	309.92	357.60	429.12	500.64

4. Having calculated the aggregate in each case of the amounts at 2(i) and 3 above, the Council in accordance with Section 30(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 hereby sets the following amounts as the amounts of Council Tax for the year 2012-13 for each of the categories of dwellings shown below:

Area	VALUATION BANDS								
	A £	B £	C £	D £	E £	F £	G £	H £	I £
Argoed	780.64	910.74	1,040.85	1,170.96	1,431.18	1,691.39	1,951.60	2,341.92	2,732.24
Bagillt	780.53	910.62	1,040.71	1,170.80	1,430.98	1,691.16	1,951.33	2,341.60	2,731.87
Broughton & Bretton	789.48	921.07	1,052.65	1,184.23	1,447.39	1,710.56	1,973.71	2,368.46	2,763.21
Brynford	787.96	919.29	1,050.62	1,181.95	1,444.61	1,707.27	1,969.91	2,363.90	2,757.89
Buckley	794.18	926.54	1,058.91	1,191.27	1,456.00	1,720.73	1,985.45	2,382.54	2,779.63
Caerwys	789.08	920.60	1,052.11	1,183.63	1,446.66	1,709.69	1,972.71	2,367.26	2,761.81
Cilcain	782.22	912.60	1,042.97	1,173.34	1,434.08	1,694.83	1,955.56	2,346.68	2,737.80
Connahs Quay	795.62	928.23	1,060.83	1,193.44	1,458.65	1,723.86	1,989.06	2,386.88	2,784.70
Flint	789.60	921.20	1,052.80	1,184.40	1,447.60	1,710.80	1,974.00	2,368.80	2,763.60
Gwernaffield	774.51	903.60	1,032.68	1,161.77	1,419.94	1,678.12	1,936.28	2,323.54	2,710.80
Gwernymynydd	781.32	911.54	1,041.76	1,171.98	1,432.42	1,692.86	1,953.30	2,343.96	2,734.62
Halkyn	782.87	913.35	1,043.83	1,174.31	1,435.27	1,696.23	1,957.18	2,348.62	2,740.06
Hawarden	787.65	918.93	1,050.20	1,181.48	1,444.03	1,706.59	1,969.13	2,362.96	2,756.79
Higher Kinnerton	787.48	918.73	1,049.98	1,181.23	1,443.73	1,706.23	1,968.71	2,362.46	2,756.21
Holywell	793.70	925.98	1,058.27	1,190.55	1,455.12	1,719.69	1,984.25	2,381.10	2,777.95
Hope	775.52	904.78	1,034.03	1,163.29	1,421.80	1,680.31	1,938.81	2,326.58	2,714.35
Leeswood	795.96	928.62	1,061.28	1,193.94	1,459.26	1,724.58	1,989.90	2,387.88	2,785.86
Llanasa	786.18	917.21	1,048.24	1,179.27	1,441.33	1,703.39	1,965.45	2,358.54	2,751.63
Llanfynydd	786.48	917.57	1,048.65	1,179.73	1,441.89	1,704.06	1,966.21	2,359.46	2,752.71
Mold	797.53	930.45	1,063.38	1,196.30	1,462.15	1,727.99	1,993.83	2,392.60	2,791.37
Mostyn	787.26	918.47	1,049.68	1,180.89	1,443.31	1,705.73	1,968.15	2,361.78	2,755.41
Nannerch	787.96	919.29	1,050.62	1,181.95	1,444.61	1,707.27	1,969.91	2,363.90	2,757.89
Nercwys	795.30	927.85	1,060.40	1,192.95	1,458.05	1,723.15	1,988.25	2,385.90	2,783.55
Northop	773.96	902.96	1,031.95	1,160.95	1,418.94	1,676.93	1,934.91	2,321.90	2,708.89
Northop Hall	781.34	911.57	1,041.79	1,172.02	1,432.47	1,692.92	1,953.36	2,344.04	2,734.72
Penyffordd	783.18	913.72	1,044.25	1,174.78	1,435.84	1,696.91	1,957.96	2,349.56	2,741.16
Queensferry	798.35	931.41	1,064.47	1,197.53	1,463.65	1,729.77	1,995.88	2,395.06	2,794.24
Saltney	792.86	925.00	1,057.15	1,189.29	1,453.58	1,717.87	1,982.15	2,378.58	2,775.01
Sealand	796.22	928.93	1,061.63	1,194.34	1,459.75	1,725.16	1,990.56	2,388.68	2,786.80
Shotton	794.75	927.21	1,059.67	1,192.13	1,457.05	1,721.97	1,986.88	2,384.26	2,781.64
Trelawnyd & Gwaenysgor	783.86	914.51	1,045.15	1,175.80	1,437.09	1,698.38	1,959.66	2,351.60	2,743.54
Treuddyn	793.16	925.35	1,057.55	1,189.74	1,454.13	1,718.52	1,982.90	2,379.48	2,776.06
Whitford	786.63	917.74	1,048.84	1,179.95	1,442.16	1,704.38	1,966.58	2,359.90	2,753.22
Ysceifiog	782.08	912.42	1,042.77	1,173.12	1,433.82	1,694.51	1,955.20	2,346.24	2,737.28

5. In line with the existing policy of the Council, that for 2012-13, in accordance with Section 12 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 (as amended by Section 75 of the Local Government Act 2003 and the Council Tax (Prescribed Classes of Dwellings) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2004, no discounts shall be granted to second homes subject to Council Tax which are unoccupied and furnished, (defined as Prescribed Classes A and B) and long term empty and unfurnished properties (defined as Prescribed Class C)

6. That the Head of Finance be authorised to make payments under section 38(9) Local Government (Wales) Act 1994 and the Local Authorities (Precepts) (Wales) Regulations 1995 from the Council Fund by equal instalments on the 15th day of each month from April 2012 (adjusted to the next working day as necessary) to March 2013 in respect of the precept levied by North Wales Police Authority in the sum of £13,059,194.

7. Authorisations - Council Tax
 - a) That the holders of the posts of Head of Finance, Revenues & Benefits Manager, Revenues Manager, Revenues Team Leaders, Court/Prosecutions Officer, Revenues Officers within Finance for the time being be authorised under Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1972 to issue legal proceedings and to appear on behalf of the County Council at the hearing of any legal proceedings in the Magistrates Court by way of an application for the issue of a Liability Order in respect of unpaid Council Taxes and penalties under Part VI of the Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations 1992; by way of an application for the issue of a warrant of commitment to prison under Part VI of the Council Tax (Administration and Enforcement) Regulations 1992; to require financial information to make an Attachment of Earnings Order; to levy the appropriate amount by distress and sale of goods; and to exercise all other enforcement powers of the County Council under the Council Tax (Administration and Enforcements) Regulations 1992 and any subsequent amendments of such Regulations.
 - b) That the Head of Finance be authorised to engage the services of bailiffs for the levying of distress and sale of goods where Liability Orders are awarded, obtaining financial information where necessary and enforcing warrants of arrest and warrants of commitment in certain cases on behalf of the Courts and in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Finance Act 1992 and any Regulations made there under.

8. Authorisations - National Non-Domestic Rates
 - a) That the holders of the posts of Head of Finance, Revenues & Benefits Manager, Revenues Manager, Revenues Team Leaders, Court/Prosecutions Officer, Revenues Officers within Finance for the time being be authorised under Section 223 of the Local Government Act 1972, to institute legal proceedings and to appear on behalf of the Council at the hearing of any legal proceedings in the Magistrates Courts by way of application for the issue of a liability order in respect of unpaid rates; by way of an application for the issue of a warrant of commitment; and to exercise all other powers of enforcement of the County Council under the Non-Domestic (Collection and Enforcement) (Local Lists) Regulations 1989 and any amendment thereto.
 - b) That the Head of Finance be authorised to engage the services of bailiffs to levy distress, sale of goods as may be necessary and to enforce warrants of arrest and warrants of commitment on behalf of the Courts as may be necessary to recover outstanding rates.

9. That notices of the making of the said Council Taxes for 2012-13, signed by the Head of Finance, be given by advertisement in the local press under Section 38(2) of the Local Government Finance Act 1992.

Appendix B

2012-13 Council Tax Charges

Lowest to Highest Amounts by Town/Community Council

Community Councils	BAND D			
	Community	Flintshire	Police	Total
	£	£	£	£
Northop	14.00	932.39	214.56	1,160.95
Gwernaffield	14.82	932.39	214.56	1,161.77
Hope	16.34	932.39	214.56	1,163.29
Bagillt	23.85	932.39	214.56	1,170.80
Argoed	24.01	932.39	214.56	1,170.96
Gwernymynydd	25.03	932.39	214.56	1,171.98
Northop Hall	25.07	932.39	214.56	1,172.02
Ysceifiog	26.17	932.39	214.56	1,173.12
Cilcain	26.39	932.39	214.56	1,173.34
Halkyn	27.36	932.39	214.56	1,174.31
Penyffordd	27.83	932.39	214.56	1,174.78
Trelawnyd & Gwaenysgor	28.85	932.39	214.56	1,175.80
Llanasa	32.32	932.39	214.56	1,179.27
Llanfynydd	32.78	932.39	214.56	1,179.73
Whitford	33.00	932.39	214.56	1,179.95
Mostyn	33.94	932.39	214.56	1,180.89
Higher Kinnerton	34.28	932.39	214.56	1,181.23
Hawarden	34.53	932.39	214.56	1,181.48
Brynford	35.00	932.39	214.56	1,181.95
Nannerch	35.00	932.39	214.56	1,181.95
Caerwys	36.68	932.39	214.56	1,183.63
Broughton & Bretton	37.28	932.39	214.56	1,184.23
Flint	37.45	932.39	214.56	1,184.40
Saltney	42.34	932.39	214.56	1,189.29
Treuddyn	42.79	932.39	214.56	1,189.74
Holywell	43.60	932.39	214.56	1,190.55
Buckley	44.32	932.39	214.56	1,191.27
Shotton	45.18	932.39	214.56	1,192.13
Nercwys	46.00	932.39	214.56	1,192.95
Connahs Quay	46.49	932.39	214.56	1,193.44
Leeswood	46.99	932.39	214.56	1,193.94
Sealand	47.39	932.39	214.56	1,194.34
Mold	49.35	932.39	214.56	1,196.30
Queensferry	50.58	932.39	214.56	1,197.53

Appendix B

2012-13 Council Tax Charges

Amounts in Town / Community Council order

Community Councils	BAND D			
	Community	Flintshire	Police	Total
	£	£	£	£
Argoed	24.01	932.39	214.56	1,170.96
Bagillt	23.85	932.39	214.56	1,170.80
Broughton & Bretton	37.28	932.39	214.56	1,184.23
Brynford	35.00	932.39	214.56	1,181.95
Buckley	44.32	932.39	214.56	1,191.27
Caerwys	36.68	932.39	214.56	1,183.63
Cilcain	26.39	932.39	214.56	1,173.34
Connahs Quay	46.49	932.39	214.56	1,193.44
Flint	37.45	932.39	214.56	1,184.40
Gwernaffield	14.82	932.39	214.56	1,161.77
Gwernymynydd	25.03	932.39	214.56	1,171.98
Halkyn	27.36	932.39	214.56	1,174.31
Hawarden	34.53	932.39	214.56	1,181.48
Higher Kinnerton	34.28	932.39	214.56	1,181.23
Holywell	43.60	932.39	214.56	1,190.55
Hope	16.34	932.39	214.56	1,163.29
Leeswood	46.99	932.39	214.56	1,193.94
Llanasa	32.32	932.39	214.56	1,179.27
Llanfynydd	32.78	932.39	214.56	1,179.73
Mold	49.35	932.39	214.56	1,196.30
Mostyn	33.94	932.39	214.56	1,180.89
Nannerch	35.00	932.39	214.56	1,181.95
Nercwys	46.00	932.39	214.56	1,192.95
Northop	14.00	932.39	214.56	1,160.95
Northop Hall	25.07	932.39	214.56	1,172.02
Penyffordd	27.83	932.39	214.56	1,174.78
Queensferry	50.58	932.39	214.56	1,197.53
Saltney	42.34	932.39	214.56	1,189.29
Sealand	47.39	932.39	214.56	1,194.34
Shotton	45.18	932.39	214.56	1,192.13
Trelawnyd & Gwaenysgor	28.85	932.39	214.56	1,175.80
Treuddyn	42.79	932.39	214.56	1,189.74
Whitford	33.00	932.39	214.56	1,179.95
Ysceifiog	26.17	932.39	214.56	1,173.12

Appendix B

2012-13 Council Tax Charges

Lowest to Highest % amounts by Town / Community Council

Community Councils	BAND D			
	Community	Flintshire	Police	Total
	%	%	%	%
Trelawnyd & Gwaenysgor	-7.41	3.00	2.49	2.62
Shotton	-5.60	3.00	2.49	2.55
Argoed	-0.99	3.00	2.49	2.82
Northop Hall	-0.56	3.00	2.49	2.83
Halkyn	-0.04	3.00	2.49	2.83
Connahs Quay	0.00	3.00	2.49	2.79
Northop	0.00	3.00	2.49	2.87
Saltney	0.00	3.00	2.49	2.80
Caerwys	0.05	3.00	2.49	2.81
Gwernymynydd	0.08	3.00	2.49	2.84
Brynford	0.09	3.00	2.49	2.82
Bagillt	0.51	3.00	2.49	2.86
Nercwys	0.57	3.00	2.49	2.81
Flint	1.35	3.00	2.49	2.86
Llanfynydd	2.05	3.00	2.49	2.88
Broughton & Bretton	2.22	3.00	2.49	2.88
Buckley	2.43	3.00	2.49	2.89
Treuddyn	2.47	3.00	2.49	2.89
Hawarden	2.49	3.00	2.49	2.89
Mold	3.01	3.00	2.49	2.91
Whitford	3.13	3.00	2.49	2.91
Hope	3.16	3.00	2.49	2.91
Mostyn	3.19	3.00	2.49	2.91
Holywell	3.20	3.00	2.49	2.92
Leeswood	3.82	3.00	2.49	2.94
Cilcain	3.98	3.00	2.49	2.93
Sealand	4.68	3.00	2.49	2.97
Llanasa	5.24	3.00	2.49	2.97
Nannerch	6.06	3.00	2.49	3.00
Gwernaffield	7.63	3.00	2.49	2.96
Penyffordd	8.12	3.00	2.49	3.02
Queensferry	10.22	3.00	2.49	3.19
Ysceifiog	25.64	3.00	2.49	3.32
Higher Kinnerton	35.01	3.00	2.49	3.62

Appendix B

2012-13 Council Tax Charges

% Amounts in Town / Community Council order

Community Councils	BAND D			
	Community	Flintshire	Police	Total
	%	%	%	%
Argoed	-0.99	3.00	2.49	2.82
Bagillt	0.51	3.00	2.49	2.86
Broughton & Bretton	2.22	3.00	2.49	2.88
Brynford	0.09	3.00	2.49	2.82
Buckley	2.43	3.00	2.49	2.89
Caerwys	0.05	3.00	2.49	2.81
Cilcain	3.98	3.00	2.49	2.93
Connahs Quay	0.00	3.00	2.49	2.79
Flint	1.35	3.00	2.49	2.86
Gwernaffield	7.63	3.00	2.49	2.96
Gwernymynydd	0.08	3.00	2.49	2.84
Halkyn	-0.04	3.00	2.49	2.83
Hawarden	2.49	3.00	2.49	2.89
Higher Kinnerton	35.01	3.00	2.49	3.62
Holywell	3.20	3.00	2.49	2.92
Hope	3.16	3.00	2.49	2.91
Leeswood	3.82	3.00	2.49	2.94
Llanasa	5.24	3.00	2.49	2.97
Llanfynydd	2.05	3.00	2.49	2.88
Mold	3.01	3.00	2.49	2.91
Mostyn	3.19	3.00	2.49	2.91
Nannerch	6.06	3.00	2.49	3.00
Nercwys	0.57	3.00	2.49	2.81
Northop	0.00	3.00	2.49	2.87
Northop Hall	-0.56	3.00	2.49	2.83
Penyffordd	8.12	3.00	2.49	3.02
Queensferry	10.22	3.00	2.49	3.19
Saltney	0.00	3.00	2.49	2.80
Sealand	4.68	3.00	2.49	2.97
Shotton	-5.60	3.00	2.49	2.55
Trelawnyd & Gwaenysgor	-7.41	3.00	2.49	2.62
Treuddyn	2.47	3.00	2.49	2.89
Whitford	3.13	3.00	2.49	2.91
Ysceifiog	25.64	3.00	2.49	3.32

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 13

REPORT TO: **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**
DATE : **01 MARCH 2012**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF FINANCE AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND
DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT**
SUBJECT : **COUNCIL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2012/13 TO 2021/22**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To present to Council the recommendations of the Executive in respect of the Council Fund Capital Programme 2012/13 to 2021/22.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 At its meeting of 21 February 2012, the Executive considered the report of the Head of Finance, Chief Executive and Director of Environment in respect of the Council Fund Capital Programme 2012/13 to 2021/22.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The recommendations of the Executive to County Council are set out in Section 4.00 of the report to Executive of 21 February 2012, a copy of which is included as Appendix 1 to this report.

3.02 At its meeting of 23 January 2012, the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee was consulted on the Executive's recommendations. Details of any programme amendments, comments made and questions asked (together with the responses given) are included within the report to Executive of 21 February 2012 (as attached).

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 Council is requested to agree the recommendations of the Executive as set out in the attached report.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 As set out in the report.

6.00 ANTI-POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 Individual capital programme schemes may have specific anti-poverty impacts

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Date: 24/02/2012

7.01 Individual capital programme schemes may have specific environmental impacts.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 Individual capital programme schemes may have specific equalities impacts.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None directly as a result of this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 All Members, and Overview & Scrutiny.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 An initial workshop on capital was held on 6th December 2011 for all Members; a public consultation survey was open between 21st November and 16th December 2011; Overview and Scrutiny on January 23rd 2012.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1 - Report to Executive 21st February 2012 : Council Fund Capital Programme 2012/13 to 2021/22.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

2012/13 budget papers, including related Welsh Government papers

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 10**

REPORT TO: **EXECUTIVE**
DATE : **21 FEBRUARY 2012**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF FINANCE AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND**
 DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT
SUBJECT : **COUNCIL FUND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2012/13 TO 2021/22**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To propose the Council Fund Capital Programme for 2012/13 and provide indicative details for 2013/14 to 2021/22 following consultation with the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 Proposals for the Council Fund Capital Programme 2012/13 to 2021/22, together with details of the continuing work in developing a capital strategy were reported to Executive on 20th December 2011.

2.02 The proposals included in the report of 20th December 2011, took account of the Welsh Government's Finance Settlement for 2012/13, together with the indicative allocations for financial years 2013/14 and 2014/15. It was reported that the final settlement of £7.744m was £0.119m less than notified at the Provisional Settlement Stage, and £0.242m less than previous planning assumptions.

2.03 The report of 20th December 2011 also confirmed that the indicative allocation of £6.859m for each of the financial years 2013/14 and 2014/15 was £0.750m less in each year than previous planning assumptions.

2.04 At its meeting of 23rd January 2012, the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee was consulted on the Executive's recommendations. The key issues arising from the Overview & Scrutiny debate are:-

- Members were in agreement with a Council wide debate on long term asset management and capital programme development.
- It was acknowledged that the 10 year programme details as currently set out are a starting point which will be subject to a rolling review.
- There should be exploration of ways to utilise S106 monies to create additional school capacity and reduce the use of mobile classrooms.
- There is a need to ensure a clear understanding of the long term implications of prudential borrowing to the revenue budget.

Date: 15/02/2012

- 2.05 Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee endorsed the recommendations of the 20th December report subject to consideration of a specific request to bring forward funding for the football pitch at Dock Road Connah's Quay.
- 2.06 Overview and Scrutiny also made a number of comments and a number of questions were asked; details of these, together with the responses provided are included in Appendix 5.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.01 The development of the Capital Strategy and Capital Programme 2012/13 was set out in detail in the report to Executive on 20th December, 2011 (Appendix 6).
- 3.02 The report to Executive on 20th December, identified the core capital programme requirements over the ten year capital programme period, in areas such as Schools and Highways Maintenance; details are as set out in Appendix 1 attached.
- 3.03 The allocation of resources to core schemes in 2012/13 amounting to £10.465m left £4.299m headroom after taking account of the projected funding available, as set out in Appendix 2 attached.
- 3.04 The report also set out a number of potential new capital investment projects for inclusion in the capital programme which would be reliant in full or in part on the use of unsupported (prudential) borrowing, as detailed in Appendix 3; the projects were categorised into the following 6 investment programme areas:
- School Modernisation
 - Public / Civic Buildings
 - Infrastructure/Regeneration
 - Leisure
 - ICT
 - Energy
- 3.05 In response to the request made by Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny it is now proposed that the Dock Road, Connah's Quay football pitch scheme works (estimated at £0.060m) be brought forward from 2014/15 to 2012/13. This produces a revised 'headroom' figure of £3.903m and a reduced total of £0.396m available to fund other projects.
- 3.06 The proposed funding for the 2012/13 new schemes totalling £7.071m (net) relies on the use of part of the available headroom (£3.903m of the £4.299m, as referred to in 3.02 above), and unsupported (prudential) borrowing of £3.168m.
- 3.07 On schemes to be funded from prudential borrowing, the cost of borrowing to be met from the revenue account would be £0.165m in 2012/13, rising to £1.987m in 2019/20. Of this amount, £1.6m is for funding the Council's contribution to the schools modernisation programme recently approved by the Welsh Government.

- 3.08 In addition to general capital funding, the Council receives specific capital grants. When the 2012/13 indicative amount of specific grant funding of £6.289m is added, total programme funding for 2012/13 rises to £24.221m. Of this, £23.825m is allocated, with £0.396m remaining uncommitted as described above.
- 3.09 Programme details for the 2012/13 core programme, new capital investment projects and specific grant funded schemes (as referred to in 3.03, 3.06 and 3.08 above) are brought together to produce the 2012/13 Capital Programme as shown in Appendix 4.
- 3.10 A report on the Council's Highways Asset Management Plan is also on this agenda and advises of additional funding that has been made available under the Local Government Borrowing Initiative. An amount of £4m has been made available across wales in 2012/13, rising to £8m in 2013/14 and £12m in 2014/15. This funding is to be used to support the revenue borrowing costs of capital highway improvement investment. Flintshire's allocation for 2012/13 is £192,616 which it is estimated would provide additional funding of £2.7m. Once approval is provided by Welsh Government this initiative will be incorporated into the overall capital programme.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 Taking account of the detail contained in the report to Executive on 20th December and the positive response from Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny, Executive is asked to recommend to Council on the 1st March that they:
- (a) Note the work which has been undertaken (and continues) to develop a Council Fund Capital Strategy and 10 year capital programme.
 - (b) Note the estimated capital funding available over the 10 year period 2012/13 to 2021/22.
 - (c) Approve the inclusion in the programme of the core allocations for 2012/13 (as shown in Appendix 1), and the proposed new capital investment schemes 2012/13 (as set out in Appendix 3), noting that some projects have prior approval.
 - (d) Note the total Council Fund Capital Programme for 2012/13 (as set out in Appendix 4) which arises from these approvals, and the indicative core programme details for 2013/14 to 2021/22 (as set out in Appendix 1).
 - (e) Note the further funding being provided by Welsh Government to support highway improvement investment.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 As set out in the report.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 Individual Capital Programme Schemes may have specific anti-poverty impacts.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 Individual Capital Programme Schemes may have specific environmental impacts.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 Individual Capital Programme Schemes may have specific equalities impacts.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None directly as a result of this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 All Members, and Overview & Scrutiny.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 An initial workshop on capital was held on 6th December 2011 for all Members; a public consultation survey was open between 21st November and 16th December 2011; Overview and Scrutiny on 23rd January 2012.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1 - Core capital programme schemes

Appendix 2 - Available funding

Appendix 3 - Proposed new capital investment schemes

Appendix 4 - Schemes including new capital investment and specific grant funded

Appendix 5 - Responses from Overview and Scrutiny

Appendix 6 - Executive Report 20th December, 2011.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

2012/13 budget papers, including Welsh Government papers

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	2012/13 Estimate £m	2013/14 Indicative £m	2014/15 Indicative £m	2015/16 Indicative £m	2016/17 Indicative £m	2017/18 Indicative £m	2018/19 Indicative £m	2019/20 Indicative £m	2020/21 Indicative £m	2021/22 Indicative £m	TOTAL £m
SUMMARY											
COUNCIL FUND											
COMMUNITY SERVICES	3.275	2.950	2.650	2.650	2.650	2.650	2.650	2.650	2.650	2.650	27.425
ENVIRONMENT	3.325	3.155	2.995	2.995	2.995	2.995	2.995	2.995	2.995	2.995	30.440
LIFELONG LEARNING	3.265	2.965	2.695	2.695	2.695	2.695	2.695	2.695	2.695	2.695	27.790
CORPORATE SERVICES	0.600	0.930	0.905	0.905	0.905	0.905	0.905	0.905	0.905	0.905	8.770
TOTAL - COUNCIL FUND	10.465	10.000	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	94.425

	2012/13 Estimate £m	2013/14 Indicative £m	2014/15 Indicative £m	2015/16 Indicative £m	2016/17 Indicative £m	2017/18 Indicative £m	2018/19 Indicative £m	2019/20 Indicative £m	2020/21 Indicative £m	2021/22 Indicative £m	TOTAL £m
FINANCING											
Unhypotheated Supported Borrowing (USB)	5.141	4.254	4.254	4.254	4.254	4.254	4.254	4.254	4.254	4.254	43.427
General Capital Grant	2.603	2.605	2.605	2.605	2.605	2.605	2.605	2.605	2.605	2.605	26.048
Capital Receipts	7.020	5.360	6.732	5.550	2.420	4.344	4.200	4.200	4.200	2.725	46.751
Specific Capital Grants	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
(Unallocated) / Under Financing - Headroom	(4.299)	(2.219)	(4.346)	(3.164)	(0.034)	(1.958)	(1.814)	(1.814)	(1.814)	(0.339)	(21.801)
TOTAL - FINANCING	10.465	10.000	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	94.425

	2012/13 Estimate £m	2013/14 Indicative £m	2014/15 Indicative £m	2015/16 Indicative £m	2016/17 Indicative £m	2017/18 Indicative £m	2018/19 Indicative £m	2019/20 Indicative £m	2020/21 Indicative £m	2021/22 Indicative £m	TOTAL £m
COMMUNITY SERVICES											
Grants											
Various	3.000	2.700	2.425	2.425	2.425	2.425	2.425	2.425	2.425	2.425	25.100
Shotton	0.275	0.250	0.225	0.225	0.225	0.225	0.225	0.225	0.225	0.225	2.325
TOTAL - COMMUNITY SERVICES	3.275	2.950	2.650	2.650	2.650	2.650	2.650	2.650	2.650	2.650	27.425
ENVIRONMENT											
Administrative Buildings											
Various	0.200	0.180	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	0.175	1.780
Various	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	3.000
Various	0.080	0.075	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.715
Various	0.080	0.075	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.715
Various	0.065	0.060	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.565
Various	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	0.100	1.000
Various	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	0.500	5.000
Engineering											
Various	0.100	0.080	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.780
Various	0.135	0.120	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.110	0.110	1.135
Highways											
Various	0.885	0.800	0.725	0.725	0.725	0.725	0.725	0.725	0.725	0.725	7.485
Various	0.175	0.160	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	0.150	1.535
Various	0.225	0.200	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	1.865
Various	0.225	0.200	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	0.180	1.865
Regeneration											
Flint	0.065	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	0.115	1.100
Various	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.190	0.190	1.900
TOTAL - ENVIRONMENT	3.325	3.155	2.995	2.995	2.995	2.995	2.995	2.995	2.995	2.995	30.440

CORE CAPITAL PROGRAMME SCHEMES

APPENDIX 1

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	TOTAL
	Estimate	Indicative	Indicative	Indicative	Indicative	Indicative	Indicative	Indicative	Indicative	Indicative	
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
LIFELONG LEARNING											
Education - General											
Various School Buildings Repairs and Maintenance	2.835	2.555	2.300	2.300	2.300	2.300	2.300	2.300	2.300	2.300	23.790
Various Disability Discrimination Act - Individual Pupils	0.280	0.275	0.270	0.270	0.270	0.270	0.270	0.270	0.270	0.270	2.715
Various Furniture and Equipment	0.070	0.060	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.055	0.570
School Modernisation											
Primary Schools											
Various Learning Environments (Foundation Phase)	0.080	0.075	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.070	0.715
TOTAL - LIFELONG LEARNING	3.265	2.965	2.695	2.695	2.695	2.695	2.695	2.695	2.695	2.695	27.790

CORPORATE SERVICES											
ICT and Customer Services											
General ICT Infrastructure	0.285	0.255	0.230	0.230	0.230	0.230	0.230	0.230	0.230	0.230	2.380
Corporate Finance											
General Minor Capital Works - Health & Safety	0.090	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.075	0.765
General Corporate Provision - Feasibility Studies	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.200	0.200	2.000
General Housing Stock Options (Subject to Housing Review) *		0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	0.375	3.375
Clwyd Theatr Cymru											
General Provision	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.250
TOTAL - CORPORATE SERVICES	0.600	0.930	0.905	0.905	0.905	0.905	0.905	0.905	0.905	0.905	8.770
TOTAL - COUNCIL FUND	10.465	10.000	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	9.245	94.425

* Subject to the availability of a capitalisation direction from Welsh Government in each year across 20 years.

	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Total
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Financing (Excluding Specific Grants)											
Unhypotheated Supported Borrowing (USB)	5,141	4,254	4,254	4,254	4,254	4,254	4,254	4,254	4,254	4,254	43,427
General Capital Grant (GCG)	2,603	2,605	2,605	2,605	2,605	2,605	2,605	2,605	2,605	2,605	26,048
Capital Receipts	7,020	5,360	6,732	5,550	2,420	4,344	4,200	4,200	4,200	2,725	46,751
Total	14,764	12,219	13,591	12,409	9,279	11,203	11,059	11,059	11,059	9,584	116,226
Expenditure											
Core Capital Programme Schemes - Appendix 1	10,465	10,000	9,245	9,245	9,245	9,245	9,245	9,245	9,245	9,245	94,425
Total	10,465	10,000	9,245	9,245	9,245	9,245	9,245	9,245	9,245	9,245	94,425
AVAILABLE(SHORTFALL)	4,299	2,219	4,346	3,164	0,034	1,958	1,814	1,814	1,814	0,339	21,801
Cumulative	4,299	6,518	10,864	14,028	14,062	16,020	17,834	19,648	21,462	21,801	

* WG funding assumptions - USB
 2012/13 per Final Settlement
 2013/14/15 ref (2012/13) Final Settlement
 2015/16 → as 2013/14/15
 2011/12 = USB £5,788m

WG funding assumptions - GCG
 2012/13 per Final Settlement
 2013/14/15 ref (2012/13) Final Settlement
 2015/16 → as 2013/14/15
 2011/12 = GCG £2,602m

PROPOSED NEW CAPITAL INVESTMENT SCHEMES - 2012/13

FUNDED FROM AVAILABLE 'HEADROOM'		COST	FUNDED	NET
		£m	£m	£m
Corporate Services	Agile Working Investment	0.400		0.400
Corporate Services	Conferencing Solution	0.120		0.120
Corporate Services	Electronic Document & Record Management System (EDRMS) Implementation	0.100		0.100
Corporate Services	Information & Communication Technology Infrastructure	0.330		0.330
Corporate Services	Microsoft Enterprise Agreement	1.233		1.233
Corporate Services	Website Infrastructure	0.450		0.450
Environment	Renewable Energy Installations	0.480		0.480
Environment	Daniel Owen Centre Roof	0.150		0.150
Lifelong Learning	School Kitchen Ventilation	0.085		0.085
Lifelong Learning	Mynydd Isa Community Centre Boiler	0.045		0.045
Community Services	Supervised Contact Space	0.050		0.050
Corporate Services	Flintshire Connects *	0.250		0.250
Lifelong Learning	Swimming Pools - DDA Compliance	0.150		0.150
Lifelong Learning	Dock Road, Connah's Quay Football Pitch	0.060		0.060
		3.903		3.903
FUNDED FROM PRUDENTIAL BORROWING				
Lifelong Learning	Band A Schemes *	0.750		0.750
Lifelong Learning	Amalgamation of Taliesin & Shotton Infants *	0.848	(0.365)	0.483
Environment	Alltami Depot *	0.450		0.450
Environment	Sandycroft Household Recycling Centre *	1.000	(0.430)	0.570
Lifelong Learning	Health & Safety - School Kitchen Refurbishment	0.500		0.500
Environment	Highways Asset Management Plan	0.415		0.415
		3.963	(0.795)	3.168
<i>* Part of an ongoing programme and/or prior approval given</i>				
TOTAL FUNDING		7.866	(0.795)	7.071

	Estimate 2012/13 £m
SUMMARY	
COUNCIL FUND	
COMMUNITY SERVICES	3.669
ENVIRONMENT	9.124
LIFELONG LEARNING	7.549
CORPORATE SERVICES	3.483
TOTAL - COUNCIL FUND	23.825

		Estimate 2012/13 £m
COMMUNITY SERVICES		
Grants		
Various	Private Sector Renewal and Improvements	3.000
Shotton	Housing Renewal Area Support	0.619
Children's Services		
General	Supervised Contact Space	0.050
TOTAL - COMMUNITY SERVICES		3.669

		Estimate 2012/13 £m
ENVIRONMENT		
Administrative Buildings		
Various	Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) Works	0.200
Various	Energy Efficiency Measures	0.300
Various	Renewable Energy Installations	0.480
Various	Asbestos Removal	0.080
Various	Legionella Monitoring	0.080
Various	Upgrading Fire and Intruder Alarms	0.065
Various	Fire Safety Order Works	0.100
Various	Corporate Property Maintenance	0.500
Mold	Daniel Owen Centre Roof	0.150
Alltami	Depot Rationalisation	0.450
Sandycroft	Household Recycling Centre	0.570
Engineering		
Various	Land Drainage Works - General	1.600
Various	Coast Protection Works - General	0.135
General Environmental Enhancement		
Various	Contaminated Land	0.300
Highways		
Various	Highways Infrastructure	0.885
Various	Bridge Assessments and Replacement	0.175
Various	Street Lighting Replacement	0.225
Various	Structural Maintenance	0.225
Various	Highways Asset Management Plan	0.415
Regeneration		
Flint	Townscape Heritage Initiative	0.299
Various	Town Centre Regeneration	0.190
Transportation		
Various	Regional Transport Plan	1.200
Various	Local Road Safety Schemes	0.500
TOTAL - ENVIRONMENT		9.124

		Estimate 2012/13 £m
LIFELONG LEARNING		
Education - General		
Various	School Buildings Repairs and Maintenance	2.835
Various	Disability Discrimination Act - Individual Pupils	0.280
Various	Furniture and Equipment	0.070
Various	School Kitchen Ventilation	0.085
Various	School Kitchen Health & Safety	0.500
School Modernisation		
Connah's Quay	Custom House Lane CP Junior/Dee Road Infant	1.846
Shotton	Taliesin Junior/Shotton Infant	0.848
Various	21st Century Schools	0.750
Primary Schools		
Various	Learning Environments (Foundation Phase)	0.080
Swimming Pools		
Various	DDA Compliant Changing Rooms	0.150
Community Centres		
Mynydd Isa	Community Centre Boiler	0.045
Recreation - Other		
Connahs Quay	New Football Pitch - Dock Road	0.060
TOTAL - LIFELONG LEARNING		7.549

		Estimate 2012/13 £m
CORPORATE SERVICES		
ICT and Customer Services		
General	ICT Infrastructure	0.615
General	Agile Working Investment	0.400
General	Conferencing Solution	0.120
General	EDRMS Implementation	0.100
General	Microsoft Enterprise Agreement	1.233
General	Website Infrastructure	0.450
Corporate Finance		
General	Minor Capital Works - Health & Safety	0.090
General	Corporate Provision - Feasibility Studies	0.200
General	Housing Stock Options (Subject to Housing Review)	
Flintshire Connects		
Various	Flintshire Connects Centres - Development Works	0.250
Clwyd Theatr Cymru		
General	Provision	0.025
TOTAL - CORPORATE SERVICES		3.483

TOTAL - COUNCIL FUND	23.825
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	Estimate 2012/13 £m
FINANCING	
TOTAL - COUNCIL FUND	23.825
Unhypothecated Supported Borrowing (USB)	5.141
General Capital Grant	2.603
Capital Receipts	7.020
Specific Capital Grants	6.289
Unsupported (Prudential) Borrowing	3.168
(Unallocated) / Under Financing - Headroom	(0.396)
TOTAL - FINANCING	23.825

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Corporate Resources – Council Fund Capital Programme

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
1.0	<p><u>School Modernisation</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Urgent need to address school maintenance backlog (£40m) ▪ Greater investment in schools would eliminate the need for mobile classrooms and the ongoing drain on the revenue account ▪ If we reach 50% of the cost of removing mobile classrooms from Section 106 (S106) monies can the balance be funded via unsupported (prudential) borrowing? ▪ Need to make more use of S106 monies to address issues in schools ▪ There is concern that S106 monies are attached to particular schools – a pooling arrangement would be more beneficial ▪ Castell Alun gymnasium refurbishment - perhaps earlier consideration could be given 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The core programme includes a commitment of £23.79m over the 10 year period 2012/13 to 2021/22 (in addition to the £19m that was in the programme from 2008/09 to 2011/12) ▪ Schemes identified as 'Band C' in the 10 year programme include works to eliminate the need for mobile classrooms ▪ Schemes identified as 'Band C' in the 10 year programme include works to eliminate the need for mobile classrooms ▪ S106 monies are restricted in their use to increase capacity at a school as a result of new housing build ▪ The matter will be pursued taking into account related planning/legal guidance

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Corporate Resources – Council Fund Capital Programme

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
2.0	<p><u>Public / Civic Buildings</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Where is the cost of demolition of County Hall? ▪ When was the study into County Hall and Clwyd Theatr Cymru (CTC) commissioned and by whom? Can the ‘Council Spokesman’ referred to in recent press articles be identified? ▪ Both County Hall and CTC need to be whole Council decisions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The cost of demolition is not included in the £15m on the schedule ▪ Study was commissioned June 2011. A study is necessary in order to attract Arts Council funding. The Chief Executive was the Council spokesman

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Corporate Resources – Council Fund Capital Programme

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
3.0	<p><u>Infrastructure / Regeneration</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Local Authority Mortgage Scheme (LAMS) – the costs are not recorded on the schedule ▪ Has an approach been made to the Welsh Government concerning Broughton Park intersection? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An Executive report in January set out details of a potential LAMS scheme, following a report to Housing Scrutiny. Further work is needed to determine if there will be an actual capital cost to the Council as there are various options. At this stage, the LAMS scheme is ‘flagged’ as a possible item in the future programme ▪ As a Trunk road, this is the responsibility of the Welsh Government (Highways Agency) and would not feature in the Council’s highways programme
4.0	<p><u>Leisure</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Leisure Centres - does it include Saltney? ▪ Library Strategy - does it include Saltney? ▪ Dock Road, Connahs Quay football pitch, only £60k - it needs to be brought forward to 2012/13 rather than being in 2014/15 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The exact details of the scheme are yet to be worked up ▪ The exact details of the scheme are yet to be worked up ▪ This request will be put forward to the Executive for consideration

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Corporate Resources – Council Fund Capital Programme

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are the various works at Leisure Centres? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The exact details of the scheme are yet to be worked up
5.0	<p><u>ICT</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Microsoft Enterprise Agreement - is there a revenue efficiency in terms of the maintenance cost? ▪ Are we the only north Wales local authority still using Lotus Notes, if not are we in consultation with others concerning the migration to Microsoft? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The revenue consequences cannot be quantified at this time until the full details of the Enterprise Agreement are known ▪ We are not the only one and we are in consultation with the others
6.0	<p><u>Unsupported (Prudential) Borrowing</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Does committing to 2012/13 schemes imply commitment to future year costs? ▪ What is the current level of prudential borrowing and what period is it over? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yes, committing to those schemes will mean commitment to all future year costs ▪ Currently only borrowing for items such as vehicles/wheelie bins where this is cheaper than leasing (£0.409m in 2009/10 and £0.757m in 2010/11)

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Corporate Resources – Council Fund Capital Programme

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
7.0	<p><u>General Comments</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Was the 10 year schedule (as despatched to Members), the information that was agreed to go out to Members? ▪ What are the consequences of a 'No' vote in the Housing Ballot? ▪ How is the Asset Management Strategy drawn up and by whom? ▪ Capital receipts - where are these from? ▪ Will local Members be consulted when assets are due to be disposed of? ▪ Will the current economic climate affect the cost of borrowing? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Yes, all Executive Members had prior sight of the schedule and were aware of the information contained therein ▪ If the Housing Ballot results in a No vote there would need to be high level discussions with the Welsh Government. However this would be an HRA capital issue not Council Fund ▪ The Asset Management Strategy is drawn up by the Asset team within Valuation and Estates ▪ Capital receipts arise from the disposal of surplus assets (including the agricultural estate) ▪ Local members should be consulted as a matter of course on disposals within their ward ▪ The Council borrows from the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) and therefore the global economic situation is not as much a factor as it would be if we borrowed from commercial organisations

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

REPORT TO: **EXECUTIVE**
DATE : **20 DECEMBER 2011**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF FINANCE AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND**
 DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT
SUBJECT : **CAPITAL STRATEGY AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2012/13**
 TO 2021/22

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 The purpose of the report is to -

- (a) Set out the work that has been undertaken (and continues), to develop a Council Fund Capital Strategy and 10 year capital programme for the Council.
- (b) List the new schemes or programme areas which have been identified for possible inclusion in the 10 year programme and will be the subject of Member consideration for 2012/13 and onwards.
- (c) Provide details of the capital element of the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2012/13, together with indicative allocations for financial years 2013/14 and 2014/15.
- (d) Set out the estimated funding available over the 10 year period.
- (e) Note those projects which have prior approval.
- (f) Propose the allocation of funding to the core capital programme in 2012/13 (with indicative allocations for future years), and also propose the allocation of funding for potential new capital investment schemes, for consideration by Overview & Scrutiny.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The Council has a rolling 4 year programme. In June 2011, the Council formally adopted its Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS). Two of the key objectives of the MTFS are to ensure that revenue and capital resources are targeted to achieve the Council's priorities and objectives, and to fully integrate revenue and capital expenditure plans. Achievement of this requires longer term planning of capital than hitherto, and clarity on the revenue implications (costs or savings) of capital expenditure proposals and for these to be built into the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP).

2.02 One of the Council's 10 priorities is to 'Be a modern, efficient and cost effective public organisation through our four resource strategies - MTFS, People, Asset

Management and ICT'. The Asset Management Strategy is key to determining which assets the Council wishes to have in its portfolio for future service delivery. From this, plans can be drawn up as to where capital investment is required (in new or upgraded facilities), and where there are opportunities to release resources through asset disposals.

- 2.03 This report is concerned with the Council Fund only. The Housing Revenue Account (HRA) capital programme will be considered alongside the HRA revenue budget proposals for 2012/13. This will be reported to Executive and Scrutiny in January 2012 prior to the final proposals being made by Executive to County Council in February 2012.

3.00 CAPITAL STRATEGY

- 3.01 The aim of the Capital Strategy is to have in place a 10 year affordable, prioritised programme of all capital needs.

- 3.02 In developing the strategy, the following 6 theme areas have been identified for investment, which might be financed (in full or in part) through unsupported (prudential) borrowing -

- School Modernisation
- Public/Civic Buildings
- Infrastructure/Regeneration
- Leisure
- ICT
- Energy

- 3.03 In reports to Executive on 21st December 2010 and 15th February 2011, it was noted that there was considerable uncertainty at that time in respect of those projects that would require capital funding in the medium to long term. As a result, the 2011/12 programme consisted mainly of core capital allocations, with remaining resources left unallocated until greater clarity was provided.

- 3.04 Significant work has been undertaken by officers over the last 6 - 9 months to identify potential schemes or programme areas for inclusion in the future capital programme - see Section 4 below.

- 3.05 At the same time as considering potential capital schemes, a significant review has been undertaken on options for asset disposal. The capital receipts position is detailed in Section 6.01 below.

- 3.06 A significant part of the future capital programme which has been unknown until now is the School Modernisation Programme, and the contribution to capital costs from Welsh Government through 21st Century Schools finance. The recent work carried out by the Council in formulating its school modernisation plans and the announcement by Welsh Government of funding support of 50% towards estimated

costs of £64.2m, means that we are now able to plan this into the forward capital programme and the Medium Term Financial Plan.

4.00 POTENTIAL NEW CAPITAL INVESTMENT SCHEMES

4.01 The potential new capital schemes or programme areas which have been identified over the last 6 -9 months were shared with Members at the workshop held on 6th December 2011 and are detailed in Appendix 1.

4.02 At this stage, 2012/13 in-year costs and funding only are shown for those schemes proposed to commence in 2012/13.

5.00 FINAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT SETTLEMENT 2012/13

5.01 The Final Local Government Settlement for 2012/13 was received on 8th December 2011; the Council will receive General Capital Funding of £7.744m (£2.603m General Capital Grant and £5.141m Unhypothecated Supported Borrowing). This level of funding is £0.119m less than notified at the Provisional Settlement stage, and £0.242m less than our previous planning assumptions.

5.02 The indicative position for 2013/14 and 2014/15 is £6.859m in each year, which is £0.750m less in each year than our previous planning assumptions.

5.03 It is important to recognise that General Capital Grant is only one aspect of Welsh Government grant support for capital, with other significant sums also being available through specific capital grants; details of these are not known at this stage.

5.04 A further £12m of capital funding (across Wales) for highways infrastructure projects, which is not included in the Settlement, is to be made available in 2012/13 and will be the subject of a further announcement by Welsh Government in the new year.

6.00 CAPITAL FUNDING AVAILABLE

6.01 Capital funding comes from a variety of sources -

- Unhypothecated Supported Borrowing (USB)
- General Capital Grant (GCG)
- Specific Capital Grants
- Capital Receipts
- Released Funding (if available)
- Unsupported (Prudential) Borrowing

6.01.1 USB and GCG are as advised by Welsh Government through the Finance Settlement, and are available for the Council to determine their use. Specific Grants are also received from Welsh Government (and other funding bodies), but allocated for specific purposes defined by the relevant funding body.

- 6.01.2 Capital Receipts are the proceeds from asset disposals - land and buildings.
- 6.01.3 Released funding represents 'freed' up' funding made available in circumstances such as programmed schemes no longer proceeding, or uncommitted programme schemes requiring re-consideration.
- 6.01.4 Unsupported (Prudential) Borrowing is that borrowing which, as the name implies, is not supported by Welsh Government - borrowing costs (principal and interest) have to be met by the Council from the revenue budget.
- 6.02 The total projected funding over the 10 year period 2012/13 to 2021/22, from all of the above sources, amounts to £116.226m as detailed in Appendix 2 (attached); the Core Programme Scheme expenditure (as referred to in Section 7.02 below) is included in Appendix 2, which produces the total available to fund other programme schemes.

7.00 CAPITAL SCHEMES

Core Capital Programme Schemes

- 7.01 'Core' schemes are those that require capital works on an on-going basis in order to ensure life and use enhancement; such schemes include Energy Efficiency Measures, Highways Infrastructure Works, and School Building Works.
- 7.02 The proposed Core schemes (as outlined at the Capital Workshop on 6th December 2011), are detailed in Appendix 3 as attached. The impact on the available funding resources of funding these schemes is recorded in Appendix 2.
- 7.03 As noted in Section 6.02 above, the total available funding is £116.226m. The value of core allocations (if they continue at a constant rate with current levels) over the 10 year period would be £94.425m. This would leave funding available to allocate to other schemes (or headroom) of £21.801m. In relation to 2012/13, the headroom available if the core allocations are approved is £4.299m which would be available to fund further schemes.

Potential New Capital Investment Schemes

- 7.04 The schemes proposed for inclusion in the programme in 2012/13, in addition to the core allocations, are as set out in the table below -

POTENTIAL NEW CAPITAL INVESTMENT SCHEMES

A - FUNDED FROM AVAILABLE 'HEADROOM'		COST	FUNDED	NET	
		£m	£m	£m	
Corporate Services	Agile Working Investment	0.400		0.400	A
Corporate Services	Conferencing Solution	0.120		0.120	A
Corporate Services	Electronic Document & Record Management System (EDRMS) Implementation	0.100		0.100	A
Corporate Services	Information & Communication Technology Infrastructure	0.330		0.330	A
Corporate Services	Microsoft Enterprise Agreement	1.233		1.233	A
Corporate Services	Website Infrastructure	0.450		0.450	A
Environment	Renewable Energy Installations	0.480		0.480	A
Environment	Daniel Owen Centre Roof	0.150		0.150	A
Lifelong Learning	School Kitchen Ventilation	0.085		0.085	A
Lifelong Learning	Mynydd Isa Community Centre Boiler	0.045		0.045	A
Community Services	Supervised Contact Space	0.050		0.050	A
Corporate Services	Flintshire Connects *	0.250		0.250	A
Lifelong Learning	Swimming Pools - DDA Compliance	0.150		0.150	A
		3.843		3.843	
B - FUNDED FROM PRUDENTIAL BORROWING					
Lifelong Learning	Band A Schemes *	0.750		0.750	B
Lifelong Learning	Amalgamation of Taliesin & Shotton Infants *	0.848	(0.365)	0.483	B
Environment	Alltami Depot *	0.450		0.450	B
Environment	Sandycroft Household Recycling Centre *	1.000	(0.430)	0.570	B
Lifelong Learning	Health & Safety - School Kitchen Refurbishment	0.500		0.500	B
Environment	Highways Asset Management Plan	0.415		0.415	B
		3.963	(0.795)	3.168	
		<i>* Part of an ongoing programme and/or prior approval given</i>			
TOTAL FUNDING		7.806	(0.795)	7.011	

7.05 The rationale for the inclusion of these schemes for 2012/13 ahead of others which have been identified, is because they fall into the groups below. It is considered that these schemes need to proceed whilst consideration of the longer term programme is developed and agreed.

- Part of an ongoing programme and / or prior approval given
- Investment needed to secure modernisation of the organisation to provide service delivery and secure financial efficiencies for the future
- Urgency / compliance requirements

7.06 The rationale for the groupings in the table above reflect the nature of the schemes. Those in group A are shorter term projects where borrowing could only be over a short period e.g. for I.T infrastructure to support the modernisation of Council services and customer contact, whereas those in Group B represent investment in assets where it would be appropriate to borrow monies to fund these given the long term investment in fixed assets, e.g. schools, Alltami Depot and the Sandycroft Recycling centre.

- 7.07 In total, these schemes would cost £7.011m (net of grants received) in 2012/13. It is proposed that the schemes shown in Group A are met from the “headroom” available of £4.299m and that the schemes shown in Group B are met from unsupported (prudential) borrowing. Brief scheme details including total cost and the phasing over future years are shown in Appendix 4 (Group A) and Appendix 5 (Group B). In relation to the schemes to be funded from prudential borrowing, the cost of borrowing to be met from the revenue account would be £0.165m in 2012/13 rising over a period of time to £1.987m in 2019/20. It can be seen from the appendices that the borrowing for the schemes varies over 25 - 50 years from the point of expenditure being incurred, and so the commitment to borrowing is ongoing, with repayments continuing through until 2068/69. The prudential borrowing calculations are based on the use of annuity loans, which provide for a constant repayment sum throughout the period of the loan, but with an increasing principal/reducing interest element year-on-year.
- 7.08 The impact of the proposed funding of these schemes would be to leave £0.456m headroom unallocated. It is considered prudent to leave a proportion unallocated to provide a contingency which, subject to approval, could be utilised to meet additional unexpected capital expenditure requirements which arise in year or to meet either an overspend on a project or a shortfall in funding e.g. if an anticipated capital receipt did not come in at the expected time.
- 7.09 In addition to the brief scheme details shown in Appendix 4 and 5, the following information is provided in relation to schemes which already have prior approval, or are linked to an ongoing programme:-

Prior Approval

- 7.10 The Alltami Depot and the Sandycroft Household Recycling Centre schemes were approved by the Executive in November 2011 to be funded by prudential borrowing which is financed from savings from within the service.

Ongoing Programmes

- 7.11 The Schools Modernisation Programme has been profiled into the forward programme, following the announcement by Welsh Government. The allocation of £0.750m in 2012/13 is to fund related feasibility/design costs. The expenditure on the schools programme (which, subject to approval of the full business case will be 50% funded by WG), is currently profiled to commence in 2014/2015. However, it is important that this is recognised at this stage, so the that impact on the capital programme and the revenue impacts on the MTFP can be clearly identified and planned for.
- 7.12 The scheme for the amalgamation of Taliesin and Shotton Infants Schools is the final School Improvement Scheme to be funded from School Buildings Improvement Grant (SBIG) for which the Council has been successful in securing Welsh Government grant of £4.5m, to meet 70% of the cost of £6.3m. It is proposed that the balance of £1.8m is met from prudential borrowing funded from savings achieved from the

amalgamation. A report will come forward to Members in the new year outlining the statutory processes for the amalgamation consultation.

- 7.13 The proposed allocation of funds from the “headroom” for Flintshire Connects is to provide funding for the ongoing programme beyond the pilot site in Holywell which is currently being planned. In a report to the Executive on 14th December 2011, approval was given to the funding of the Holywell Connects Centre through the re allocation of funding in year.

8.00 CONSULTATION

- 8.01 Meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees have been scheduled between 16th and 26th January 2012. One of these meetings will be dedicated to consider the capital programme proposals as set out in this paper. The scrutiny meeting will be open to all Members of the Council.

- 8.02 A public consultation survey which covers aspects of the Council's Revenue and Capital Budget Strategies was open between 21st November and 16th December 2011; the results of the survey will be provided to Members in January.

9.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.01 Members are recommended to:

- (a) Note the work which has been undertaken (and continues) to develop a Council Fund Capital Strategy and 10 year capital programme.
- (b) Note the new schemes or programme areas which have been identified for inclusion in the programme and which will be the subject of Member consideration for 2012/13 onwards.
- (c) Note the capital element of the Local Government Finance Settlement for 2012/13, together with indicative allocations for financial years 2013/14 and 2014/15.
- (d) Note the estimated capital funding available over the 10 year period 2012/13 to 2021/22.
- (e) Note the projects in Section 7.10 with prior approval/funding.
- (f) Approve the allocation of funding to the core capital programme in 2012/13 as shown in Appendix 3 (and note the indicative allocations for future years), and approve the potential new capital investment schemes (as set out in Section 7.04), subject to input by Overview & Scrutiny, excluding those projects with prior approval outlined in Section 7.10.

10.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

10.01 As set out in the report.

11.00 ANTI-POVERTY IMPACT

11.01 Individual Capital Programme Schemes may have specific anti-poverty impacts.

12.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

12.01 Individual Capital Programme Schemes may have specific environmental impacts.

13.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

13.01 Individual Capital Programme Schemes may have specific equalities impacts.

14.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

14.01 None directly as a result of this report.

15.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

15.01 All Members, and Overview and Scrutiny.

16.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

16.01 An initial workshop on capital was held on 6th December 2011 for all Members. A public consultation survey was open 21st November and 16th December 2011.

17.00 APPENDICES

17.01 Appendix 1- Potential New Capital Investment Schemes

Appendix 2 - Available Funding

Appendix 3 - Core Capital Programme Schemes

Appendix 4 - Proposed New Capital Investment Schemes Funded by Unsupported (Prudential) Borrowing

Appendix 5 - Proposed New Capital Investment Schemes Funded from 'Headroom'.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Welsh Government Final Local Government Settlement 2012/13
Various Budget Working Papers

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 14

REPORT TO: **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**
DATE : **01 MARCH 2012**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF FINANCE**
SUBJECT : **TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY & STRATEGY**
STATEMENT 2012/13

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.01 To present to Council the recommendations of the Executive in relation to the Treasury Management Policy Statement for 2012/13.

2.00 BACKGROUND

- 2.01 The Council adopted the 2009 edition of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance (CIPFA) Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice, from 1st April 2010. This requires the Council to approve a Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Statement before the start of each financial year, a mid year report and an annual report after the end of each financial year. CIPFA have now published a revised code of Practice which the Council is recommended to adopt.
- 2.02 The Council delegates responsibility for the implementation and regular monitoring of its treasury management practices to Executive and for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions to the Head of Finance, who acts in accordance with the Council's Policy and Strategy Statement and Treasury Management Practices.
- 2.03 The Council nominates Audit Committee to be responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of the treasury management strategy and policies. Treasury management updates will be provided to the Audit Committee at each quarterly meeting during 2012/13.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.01 A meeting of the Audit Committee on 30th January 2012 reviewed the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Statement for 2012/13 and the Treasury Management Practices. The Audit Committee recommended to Executive that the Council approves the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Statement for 2012/13 which includes all Treasury Management Indicators and limits required by CIPFA and WG.
- 3.02 A meeting of the Executive on 21st February 2012 received the recommendation from Audit Committee and resolved to recommend the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Statement for 2012/13 to Council. The Executive also resolved to recommend Council to approve the adoption of The Chartered Institute of Public

Date: 24/02/2012

Finance (CIPFA) Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice 2011.

3.03 The Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Statement 2012/13 is attached as Appendix A.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That Council approves the adoption of The Chartered Institute of Public Finance (CIPFA) Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice 2011.

4.02 That Council approves the Council's Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Statement for 2012/13.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 None directly as a result of adoption of the Policy and Strategy Statement. The effect on Council budgets is reported and monitored through the Central Loans and Investment Account (CLIA).

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

9.01 None.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Sterling Consultancy Services.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Sterling Consultancy Services.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 As listed.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- (i) CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services Code of Practice
- (ii) WAG Investment Guidance
- (iii) Local Government Act 2008

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

DRAFT

TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY & STRATEGY STATEMENT

2012/13

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1.0 TREASURY MANAGEMENT POLICY STATEMENT

The Council defines the policies and objectives of its treasury management activities as follows: -

- 1.1 "The management of the authority's investments and cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks".
- 1.2 The Council regards the successful identification, monitoring and control of risk to be the prime criteria by which the effectiveness of its treasury management activities will be measured. Accordingly, the analysis and reporting of treasury management activities will focus on their risk implications for the Council, and any financial instruments entered into to manage these risks.
- 1.3 The Council acknowledges that effective treasury management will provide support towards the achievement of its business and service objectives. It is therefore committed to the principles of achieving value for money in treasury management, and to employing suitable comprehensive performance measurement techniques, within the context of effective risk management.
- 1.4 The Council greatly values revenue budget stability and will therefore borrow the majority of its long-term funding needs at long-term fixed rates of interest. Short-term and variable rate loans will only be borrowed to the extent that they either offset short-term and variable rate investments or can be shown to produce revenue savings.
- 1.5 The Council will set an affordable borrowing limit each year in compliance with the *Local Government Act 2003*, and will have regard to the *CIPFA Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities* when setting that limit. It will also set limits on its exposure to changes to interest rates and limits on the maturity structure of its borrowing in the treasury management strategy report each year.
- 1.6 The Council's primary objectives for the investment of its surplus funds are to protect the principal sums invested from loss, and to ensure adequate liquidity so that funds are available for expenditure when needed. The generation of investment income to support the provision of local authority services is an important, but secondary, objective.
- 1.7 The Council will have regard to Welsh Government Guidance on Local Government Investments and will approve an investment strategy each year as part of the treasury management strategy. The strategy will set criteria to determine suitable organisations in which cash may be invested, limits on the maximum duration of such investments and limits on the amount of cash that may be invested with any one organisation.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In 2009, the Council adopted the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's Treasury Management in Public Services: Code of Practice 2009 Edition (the CIPFA Code) which requires the Council to approve a treasury management strategy before the start of each financial year.
- 2.2 The Institute published a revised version of the CIPFA Code in November 2011 in light of the additional financial freedoms available to local authorities in the Localism Act 2011. The Council is therefore asked to formally adopt the Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice 2011 Edition. The new Code of Practice requires some amendments to the Council's Treasury Management Policy Statement and the Council is asked to formally adopt the new policy statement.
- 2.3 In addition, Welsh Government (WG) issued revised guidance on local authority investments in March 2010 that requires the Council to approve an investment strategy before the start of each financial year.
- 2.4 This report fulfils the Council's legal obligation under the Local Government Act 2003 to have regard to both the CIPFA Code and WG Guidance.
- 2.5 The treasury management framework within which councils operate consists of::
- Clauses to be formally adopted within Financial Procedures
 - A Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Statement, stating the authority's policies and objectives.
 - Treasury Management Practices, stating how those policies and objectives will be achieved.
 - Accompanying schedules, giving specific details of the systems and routines to be employed and the records to be maintained.
 - Regular reporting to elected members.
- 2.6 CIPFA recommends that all public sector organisations adopt four clauses in Financial Procedures. The Council has adopted the following:
1. The Council will create and maintain, as the cornerstones for effective treasury management:
 - a treasury management policy statement, stating the policies, objectives and approach to risk management of its treasury management activities
 - suitable treasury management practices (TMPs), setting out the manner in which the organisation will seek to achieve those policies and objectives, and prescribing how it will manage and control those activities

The content of the policy statement and TMPs will follow the recommendations contained in Sections 6 and 7 of the Code, subject only to amendment where necessary to reflect the particular circumstances of the Council. Such amendments will not result in the Council materially deviating from the Code's key principles.

2. The Council will receive reports on its treasury management policies, practices and activities, including, as a minimum, an annual strategy and plan in advance of the year, a mid-year review and an annual report after its close, in the form prescribed in its TMPs.
3. The Council delegates responsibility for the implementation and regular monitoring of its treasury management policies and practices to the Executive, and for the execution and administration of treasury management decisions to Head of Finance, who will act in accordance with the organisation's policy statement and TMPs and, if he/she is a CIPFA member, CIPFA's *Standard of Professional Practice on Treasury Management*.
4. The Council nominates Audit Committee to be responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of the treasury management strategy and policies.

3.0 TREASURY MANAGEMENT STRATEGY STATEMENT

3.1 Introduction

This Treasury Management Strategy Statement details the expected activities of the treasury function in 2012/13. The production and submission of the Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Statement to the Audit Committee for scrutiny, Executive and Council for approval is a requirement of the Council's Financial Procedure Rules. Its content is that recommended in CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice (the Code) 2011 as adopted by County Council from 1st April 2011 and the Guidance from WG on Local Government Investments under section 15 (1) & 24 of the Local Government Act 2003.

The strategy covers:

- Economic Context
- Investment Strategy
- Borrowing Strategy;
- Treasury Management Indicators
- Other Treasury Issues

3.2 Economic Context – as provided by Sterling Consultancy Services

Economic Outlook – as at November 2011

The UK economy is continuing its weak recovery from the 2008/09 recession, with Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth forecast to be around just 1.0% in 2011 and likely to remain sluggish throughout much of 2012. Government spending cuts, rising unemployment and uncertain export markets are conspiring to keep demand low, and a “double dip” recession cannot be ruled out. Consumer price inflation (CPI), which peaked at 5.2% in September, is expected to fall sharply as one-off factors like 2010’s VAT increase and fuel price rises fall out of the annual comparison.

In these circumstances, the Bank of England is unlikely to raise Bank Rate for several months, and additional quantitative easing is seen by many as being more likely than rate increases in the near future. However, once a more robust recovery appears to be taking root, the Bank is likely to prefer to gradually raise interest rates earlier, rather than waiting too late and needing to make a sharp correction.

The Eurozone sovereign debt crisis remains a major driver of market sentiment and with the UK seen a safe haven, gilt yields and hence PWLB rates have fallen markedly this year. Assuming that there is some resolution to the crisis, long-term rates are likely to climb back to more normal levels in 2012/13.

A second UK recession or a European sovereign default would see short and long term interest rates remaining lower for longer, while a faster economic recovery and a bold solution to the Eurozone crisis would likely see rates rise more quickly.

The Eurozone debt crisis prompted renewed caution by banks and other financial institutions, resulting in similar conditions to the 2008 credit crunch. The uncertainty regarding counterparty exposure to struggling Eurozone nations, particularly Greece, led banks to hoard cash, causing problems for those banks more reliant on wholesale funding. The problems were somewhat alleviated by central bank action, but bank funding levels remain elevated.

Interest rate forecasts

Sterling Consultancy Services central interest rate forecast – November 2011

	Bank Rate	1 month LIBOR	3 month LIBOR	12 month LIBOR	25 year PWLB
Current	0.50	0.73	1.01	1.79	4.06
Q1 2012	0.50	0.70	1.00	1.75	4.20
Q2 2012	0.50	0.70	1.00	1.70	4.40
Q3 2012	0.50	0.75	1.00	1.80	4.50
Q4 2012	0.75	0.85	1.05	1.90	4.50
H1 2013	1.00	1.10	1.25	2.00	4.60
H2 2013	1.50	1.60	1.75	2.50	4.70
H1 2014	2.00	2.10	2.25	3.00	4.80
H2 2014	2.50	2.60	2.75	3.50	4.90

HM Treasury Survey of Forecasts – November 2011

	Average annual Bank Rate %			
	2012	2013	2014	2015
Highest	1.1	2.6	3.0	3.7
Average	0.6	0.9	1.7	2.7
Lowest	0.5	0.5	0.9	1.4

3.3 Investment Strategy

3.3.1 The Council holds surplus funds which represent income received in advance of expenditure plus balances and reserves held. Both the CIPFA Code and WG Guidance require the Council to invest prudently and to have regard to security and liquidity of its investments before seeking the highest rate of return or yield.

3.3.2 Part 1 of the Local Government Act 2003, which introduced the Prudential Capital Finance System, gives a local authority power to invest for any purposes relevant to its functions under any enactment, or for the purposes of the prudent management of its financial affairs. The Act requires an authority to 'have regard to guidance issued by Welsh Government (WG)'.

3.3.3 WG requires a local authority, before the start of each financial year, to draw up an Investment Strategy which must be approved by the full council and be published. This document should contain certain investment limits. As allowed by the Guidance, Flintshire County Council incorporates the requirements into this Policy Statement. WG Guidance requires the Council to approve certain investment limits and other related information on the following:

- Specified Investments
- Non-specified Investments
- Investments which can be prudently committed for more than one year

- Credit Risk Assessment
- Investment Consultants
- Investment Training
- Investment of money borrowed in advance of need.

3.3.4 Specified Investments and Credit Risk

Specified investments are those expected to offer relatively high security and liquidity, and can be entered into with the minimum of formalities. WG guidance defines specified investments as those:

- Denominated in sterling
- Due to be repaid within 12 months of arrangement
- Not defined as capital expenditure by legislation
- Invested with one of the UK Government, UK Local Authority or a body awarded a high credit quality.

The Council defines the following as having a high credit quality:

	FITCH			MOODY'S			STANDARD & POORS		
Rating Type	UK & Overseas Banks	Building Societies		UK & Overseas Banks	Building Societies		UK & Overseas Banks	Building Societies	
Short Term	F1	F2		P1	P2		A-1	A-2	
Long Term	A	A-		A2	A3		A	A-	

NB: The definition of these credit ratings is included in the Treasury Management Practices.

- Investment decisions will be made based on ratings from the three credit rating agencies above. The Council is informed of credit rating changes by our advisers. If a counterparty no longer meets the investment criteria, no further investments will be made with that counterparty and consideration will be given to recalling the monies. If a counterparty is at risk of falling below the Council's criteria because it is on review for possible downgrade, no further investments will be made in that counterparty.
- Overseas banks must be from a country with a minimum rating of AA+ unless UK incorporated. Although they are subsidiaries of foreign banks they are incorporated in the UK, have substantial domestic operations and are subject to full oversight by the FSA.
- Sterling Consultancy Services (the Council's Treasury Management Advisors) will also inform the Head of Finance of any other market information that they have (e.g. credit default swap prices, news, reports and opinions). Full regard will be given to this information and no investments will be made with an organisation if there are substantive doubts about its credit quality even though it may meet the credit rating criteria.

Other limits for specified investments are:

- Counterparty limit of £7m (or 25% of total portfolio if balances are below £30m)
- Counterparty limit on lower and non-rated building societies is £5m.
- There is no sector limit on UK Government and UK Local Authorities, but a counterparty limit of £7m. applies for each local authority.
- Building Society Sector Limit of 60% of total investments
- A group of banks under the same ownership will be treated as a single organisation for limit purposes.
- Individual overseas country limit is £10m
- Total overseas sector limit is 25% of total portfolio.

Where investment limits are expressed as a percentage, these will apply at the time the investment is made.

Building Societies

UK Building Societies without credit ratings or those which are lower rated will be considered to be of 'high credit quality', but subject to a lower cash limit (£5m) and shorter time period than higher rated building societies in the table above. The Council takes additional comfort from the building societies' regulatory framework and insolvency regime where, in the unlikely event of a building society liquidation, the Council's deposits would be paid out in preference to retail depositors. Investments in lower rated and unrated building societies will be reviewed if the insolvency regime is amended in future.

However, no investments will be made with building societies that hold a long term credit rating lower than BBB or equivalent, due to the increased likelihood of default implied by this rating.

The minimum asset size of the building society must be £1bn.

3.3.5 Non-specified Investments

Any investment not meeting the definition of a specified investment is classed as non-specified. The Council does not intend to make any investments in foreign currencies, nor any with low credit quality bodies, nor any that are defined as capital expenditure by legislation (such as company shares), with the exception of Money Market Funds. Current Welsh legislation provides that the purchase of shares in a money market fund by a local authority counts as capital expenditure.

The limits for these investments are as follows:-

- Deposits and government investments greater than 1 year (including forward deals): £20m

- Money Market Funds (AAA rated constant net asset value): £7m per fund

Each investment greater than 1 year is non-specified by definition and approval is required from the Head of Finance before such an investment is made. The total value of all non-specified investments will not exceed £50m.

3.3.6 Money Market Funds

Money market funds are pooled investment vehicles consisting of instruments similar to those used by the Council. They have the advantage of providing wide diversification of investment risks, coupled with the services of a professional fund manager. Fees of between 0.10% and 0.20% per annum are deducted from the interest paid to the Council.

Investments in money market funds involve the acquisition of share capital, and are therefore counted as capital expenditure under WG regulations. However, since withdrawals from funds count as capital receipts, these will be used to fund the capital expenditure, leaving no overall impact on the Council's capital programme.

3.3.7 Liquidity of Investments (Non-specified by definition)

The amounts that can be prudently invested for longer than one year have been ascertained by estimating short term cash flow requirements. The maximum period of an investment will be 5 years.

3.3.8 External Fund Managers and Treasury Management Advisors

The performance of external cash managers is monitored by Sterling Consultancy Services and if it is considered appropriate in the future to appoint such a manager, a recommendation will be made to Council via the Audit Committee and Executive.

Treasury management advisors are appointed via competitive tender which clearly states the services required. The contract period is usually 3 years with an option to extend. The Council's Contract Procedure Rules are applied.

The responsibility for decisions remains with the Council. Sterling Consultancy Services provide information and advice to assist the Head of Finance. Sterling Consultancy Services provide:

- Advice and guidance on relevant policies, strategies and reports
- Advice on credit ratings and changes.
- Other information on credit quality
- Advice on debt management decisions
- Forecast interest rates
- Accounting advice.

- A 'health check' on the Council's Treasury Management Practices
- Training courses
- Assist with other treasury issues on request.

The quality of the service is monitored by the Head of Finance and reviewed as part of the contract review process.

3.3.9 Investment Training

In house expertise is required which will be supported by advice from the treasury management advisors.

The Head of Finance is a member of CIPFA and as such must follow a Statement of Professional Practice (SOPP) and has a professional responsibility to ensure that relevant staff are appropriately trained.

All treasury officers are qualified to Association of Accountancy Technician Level as a minimum. Officer training is reviewed as part of the Council's Employee Appraisal Process. All officer training is recorded on a divisional database.

Flintshire County Council is a member of the CIPFA Treasury Management Network. Treasury officers receive weekly updates from the Network and attend seminars organised by the Network, as required.

Flintshire County Council is lead authority for the Clwyd Pension Fund. The Clwyd Pension Fund Manager is currently responsible for advising the Head of Finance in the discharge of her duties for the Council's treasury function and other duties outlined in Treasury Management Practices. The Clwyd Pension Fund Manager has received training to fulfil this role.

The Finance Function Review will be implemented during 2012/13 and responsibility for advising the Head of Finance will transfer from the Clwyd Pension Fund Manager to the Corporate Finance Manager. There will be a period of transition between the two members of the Senior Finance Team.

3.3.10 Investment of Money Borrowed in Advance of Need

The Council will only invest money borrowed in advance of need for known debt maturities or to finance the borrowing requirement for the year concerned.

3.4 Planned Investment Strategy for 2012/13

- 3.4.1 The current market conditions affect the creditworthiness of all organisations and this is not generally reflected in the credit ratings but can be seen in other market measures. The current approach is as follows:

- Money “on call” with banks
- Deposits with other local authorities
- Use of AAA rated Money Market Funds
- Use of Debt Management Office (DMO) as last resort

The extent to which these restrictions continue into 2012/13 will be in line with the prevailing market conditions. If these circumstances continue the estimated income is £460k. However, in the hope that market conditions improve, the planned strategy will return to the following approach.

3.4.2 The cash flow forecast will be used to divide surplus funds into three categories:

- Short Term (less than 1 month) – cash required to meet known cash outflows in the next month, plus a contingency to cover unexpected cash flows.
- Medium Term (1 month – 12 months) - cash required to manage the annual seasonal cash flow.
- Long Term (1 year to 5 years) – cash not required to meet cash flows and used primarily to generate investment income.

3.4.3 Short term funds are required to meet cash flows in the next month or so, and preservation of capital and liquidity. Investment return is of limited concern. Instant access bank accounts or Money Market Funds will be the main method used to manage short term cash which should return base rate. Where limits are reached, the Government’s Debt Management Office could be used but rates will be lower than base rate. It is estimated that about 35% of surplus monies will be short term for cash flow purposes, although this may vary depending on changes to the interest rate yield curve.

3.4.4 Medium term funds which may be required in the next one to twelve months will be managed concentrating on security, with less importance on liquidity but slightly higher emphasis on yield. The majority of the investments will be in the form of fixed term deposits with banks and building societies. A wide spread of counterparties and maturity dates will be maintained to maximise the diversification of credit and interest rate risks. It is estimated that about 55% of surplus funds will be medium term. However, again this may vary depending on changes to the interest rate yield curve.

3.4.5 Cash that is not required to meet any liquidity need can be invested for the longer term with a greater emphasis on returns that will support spending on local authority services. However, in the current economic and financial environment it is likely that only a small percentage, about 10% will be invested longer term, probably over two years in fixed term deposits or callable deposits. Another option will be to appoint an external manager to diversify into a wider range of instruments including certificates of deposits, treasury bills and gilts.

3.4.6 Assuming current interest rate forecasts quoted earlier in this Strategy Statement and a cash balance which is estimated to average around £64m,

by implementing this strategy income generated is estimated to be £640K. However, for reasons of prudence, the budget has been set at the lower estimate of £460k but progress of this strategy will be reported to Members quarterly and considered as part of the Council's revenue budgeting.

3.5 Borrowing Strategy

3.5.1 The Head of Finance will:

- Manage the Council's debt maturity profile, i.e. to leave no one future year with a high level of repayments that could cause problems in re-borrowing with the limits stated in this Strategy Statement. Appendix A analyses the debt portfolio of the Council, as at 31st December, 2011.
- To effect borrowing required in 2012/13 at the cheapest cost commensurate with future risk based on interest rate forecasts.
- To monitor and review the level of variable interest rate loans in order to take greater advantage of interest rate movements, within the limits stated in this Strategy.
- Continue to monitor options for debt-restructuring and debt re-payment.

3.5.2 The Head of Finance will monitor the interest rate market and adopt a pragmatic approach to any changing circumstances, reporting any decisions and actions taken under delegated powers to Executive via the Audit Committee.

3.6 Planned Borrowing Strategy for 2012/13

The Council's debt portfolio position as at 31st December 2011 is:

	Type	Principal £m	Average Interest Rate** %
Fixed Rate Funding	PWLB	144.66	5.88%
Variable Rate Funding	PWLB	10.00	0.71%
	Market*	18.95	4.53%
Total Long Term Debt		173.61	5.43%

* The above market loans are LOBO's (Lenders Option, Borrowers Option) with had fixed interest rate periods of 12, 16 and 23 months followed by a 33, 34 and 35 year variable period, with an option in the variable period to repay the principal prior to maturity if the Lender increases the interest rate.

** If any debt re-structuring or repayment opportunities are implemented before 31st March 2012, this may impact on the average interest rate.

- 3.6.1 The efficient management of cash flow should mean that no short term borrowing is required unless as a short term measure during debt re-structuring, so it is assumed the cost of short term borrowing will be zero. The Council has an overdraft limit with the bank of £300,000.
- 3.6.2 The Council has nearly £174m of long term debt. Most of this debt is with the Public Loans Works Board (£154m of PWLB debt). Loans of £144.66m are at a fixed rate of interest which has the advantage of providing budget certainty. The interest payment on this debt is £8.5m per annum. A loan of £10 million is at a variable rate (currently 0.66%), which cost the Council £70k in 2011/12. The PWLB allows authorities to repay loans before maturity and either pay a premium or receive a discount according to a formula based on current interest rates. There may be opportunities to re-structure debt in 2012/13 by replacing some higher rate loans with new loans at a lower rate where this will lead to an overall saving or reduce risk. However, given current expectations of interest rates, this is unlikely.
- 3.6.3 The remainder of the long term debt (£19m) has been borrowed from banks in the form of three LOBOs (Lenders Option, Borrowers Option). These have a short fixed interest rate period (which has now passed for these loans) followed by a longer variable rate period. There is an option for the Council to repay the loan during the variable rate period if the lender increases the interest rate. The advantage of using these loans is that the interest rate, during the fixed rate period especially, can be lower than the PWLB.
- 3.6.4 The interest cost on these loans is estimated to be £860K in 2012/13 but they are all in their variable rate period and the lender could increase the interest rate, albeit given the current expectations for interest rates this is unlikely.
- 3.6.5 For a number of years the Council has not taken any new long term borrowing and used cash reserves to fund capital expenditure. The Council's Capital Programme, including Prudential Borrowing will be reviewed to consider the most financially advantageous method of financing future debt. The situation is monitored on an on-going basis by the Head of Finance.
- 3.6.6 All the above is being considered as part of the Council's budget process for 2012/13.

3.7 Treasury Management Indicators

- 3.7.1 The key indicators proposed to be set by full Council are shown in the table below. The limits for 2013/14 and 2014/15 are indicative figures only and could be changed next year.
- 3.7.2 The Authorised Limit and Operational Boundary for external debt are Prudential Indicators and will be approved alongside the Capital Programme.

	2012/13 £m	2013/14 £m	2014/15 £m
Operational boundary – borrowing	178.0	181.6	183.6
Operational boundary – other long-term liabilities	<u>9.6</u>	<u>9.6</u>	<u>9.6</u>
Operational boundary – TOTAL	187.6	191.2	193.2
Authorised limit – borrowing	198.0	201.6	203.6
Authorised limit – other long-term liabilities	<u>9.6</u>	<u>9.6</u>	<u>9.6</u>
Authorised limit – TOTAL	207.6	211.2	213.2

3.7.3 Interest rate exposures are set to control the Council's exposure to interest rate risk. The upper limit on net debt indicator was introduced in 2011 and is intended to highlight where the Council borrows in advance of need. Since net debt does not change when loans are borrowed and the proceeds re-invested, it is not yet clear how this indicator will work. CIPFA has not yet produced guidance on its use, and so the Council is being asked to set a deliberately high limit this year.

Indicator Type	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Upper Limit on fixed interest rate exposures	£200m	£200m	£200m
Upper Limit on variable interest rate exposures	£40m	£40m	£40m
Upper Limit on net debt	100%	100%	100%

3.7.4 The table below proposes the upper and lower limits for the maturity of loans which are internally set so that no future year is left with a high level of repayments and controls exposure to re-financing risk. These limits are proposed for 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15.

Upper and Lower Limits for maturity structure of borrowing	Lower Limit	Upper Limit
Under 12 months	0%	15%
12 months and within 24 months	0%	10%
24 months and within 5 years	0%	30%
5 years and within 10 years	0%	50%
10 years and above	10%	100%

3.7.5 The purpose of this indicator is to control the Council's exposure to the risk of incurring losses by seeking early repayment of investments.

Prudential limits for principal sums invested in periods longer than 364 days	£ 30 million
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This limit is proposed for 2012/13, 2013/14 and 2014/15

Long term investments will only be made with institutions of the highest credit quality as shown in the table below

		Time limit
Banks and other organisations whose lowest published long-term credit rating from Fitch, Moody's and Standard & Poor's is:	AA+	5 years
	AA	4 years
	AA-	3 years
	A+	2 years
	A	1 year

3.7.6 Policy on Use of Financial Derivatives

The Localism Act 2011 includes a general power competence that removes the uncertain legal position over English local authorities' use of standalone financial derivatives (i.e. those that are not embedded into a loan or investment). Although this change does not apply to Wales, the latest CIPFA Code requires authorities to clearly detail their policy on the use of derivatives in the annual strategy.

In the absence of any legislative power, the Council's policy is not to enter into standalone financial derivatives transactions such as swaps, forwards, futures and options. Embedded derivatives will not be subject to this policy, although the risks they present will be managed in line with the overall treasury risk management strategy.

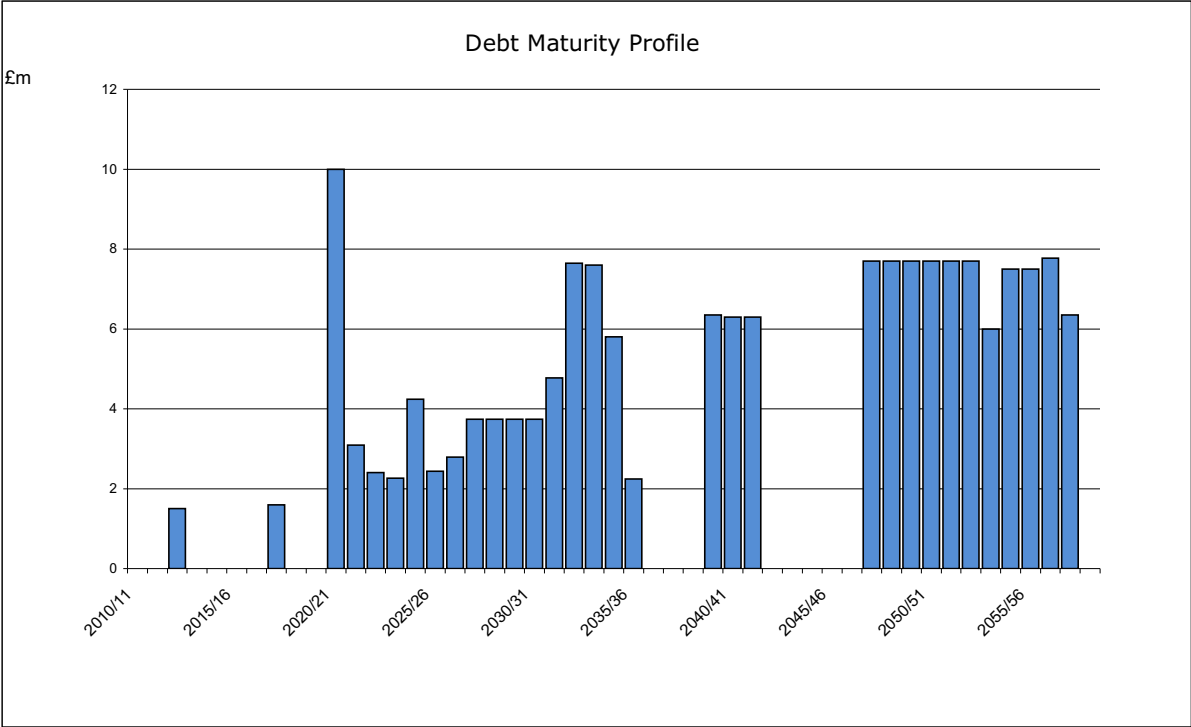
3.8 Other Treasury Issues

3.8.1 Treasury Management Practices (TMPs)

As part of the compliance with CIPFA's Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice (the Code) 2011, the following TMPs have been documented:-

- TMP 1 Treasury Risk management
- TMP 2 Performance measurement
- TMP 3 Decision - making and analysis
- TMP 4 Approved instruments, methods and techniques
Organisation, clarity and segregation of responsibilities, and dealing arrangements
- TMP 6 Reporting requirements and management information arrangements
- TMP 7 Budgeting, accounting and audit arrangements
- TMP 8 Cash and cash flow management
- TMP 9 Money laundering
- TMP 10 Staff training and qualifications
- TMP 11 Use of external service providers
- TMP 12 Corporate governance

APPENDIX A – DEBT MATURITY PROFILE



FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 15

REPORT TO: **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**
DATE : **01 MARCH 2012**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF FINANCE**
SUBJECT : **PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2012/13 TO 2014/15**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To present to Council the recommendations of the Executive in relation to the setting of a range of prudential indicators.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 At its meeting of 21 February 2012, the Executive considered a report from the Head of Finance in respect of the setting of Prudential Indicators for the period 2012/13 to 2014/15.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The recommendations of the Executive to County Council are set out in Appendix A (Prudential Indicators).

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 Council is requested to agree the recommendations of the Executive as set out in the attached report.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 As set out in the report.

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

9.01 None.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix A - Report to Executive 21st February 2012 : Prudential Indicators 2012/13 to 2014/15.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Various WAG and CIPFA papers

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 13

REPORT TO: **EXECUTIVE**
DATE : **21 FEBRUARY 2012**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF FINANCE**
SUBJECT : **PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2012/13 TO 2014/15**

1.00 **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

1.01 To present proposals for setting a range of prudential indicators in accordance with the Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities (the Prudential Code).

2.00 **BACKGROUND**

2.01 The Prudential Code has been developed by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) as a professional code of practice to support local authorities in determining their programmes for capital investment in fixed assets. Local authorities are required by Regulation to have regard to the Prudential Code when carrying out their duties under Part 1 of the Local Government Act 2003.

2.02 The framework established by the Prudential Code is intended to support local strategic planning, local asset management planning and robust option appraisal. The objectives of the Code are to ensure, within a clear framework, that the capital investment plans of local authorities are **affordable, prudent and sustainable**, and that treasury management decisions are taken in accordance with good professional practice.

2.03 The Prudential Code sets out the indicators that must be used, and the factors that must be taken into account in preparing such.

3.00 **CONSIDERATIONS**

3.01 The prudential indicators required by the Prudential Code are designed to support and record local decision making; they are not designed to be comparative performance indicators - the use of them in this way would be likely to be misleading and counter productive. They are considered in parallel with the treasury management indicators required by the CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes, as reported elsewhere on the agenda.

3.02 In reviewing the prudential indicators, there is a requirement to have regard to the following:

- service objectives, eg strategic planning for the authority
- stewardship of assets, eg asset management planning
- value for money, eg option appraisal

- affordability, eg implications for Council Tax and Council housing rents
- prudence and sustainability, eg implications for external borrowing
- practicality, eg achievability of the forward plan.

The Prudential Code recognises that in making its capital investment decisions the Council must have explicit regard to option appraisal, asset management planning, strategic planning for the authority and achievability of the forward plan. The Code does not specify how the Council should have regard to these factors, but instead concentrates on the means by which it demonstrates that the proposals are affordable, prudent and sustainable.

- 3.03 Affordability is the ultimate constraint on the amount that a local authority can spend or borrow. In practice, when making a decision to invest in a capital asset, the authority must do more than simply determine whether it can afford the immediate cost. In order to ensure long-term affordability, decisions have also to be prudent and, in the long term, sustainable. Borrowing has to be prudent because, since future interest rates and revenue streams are uncertain, it must involve an element of risk. Furthermore, if the Council is unable to deliver its capital programme, or to afford the cost of running and maintaining the new facilities, the chosen level of capital investment will not be sustainable in the long term. Prudence and affordability are related concepts.
- 3.04 The Prudential Code specifies that prudential indicators are required to be calculated for the forthcoming financial year and two subsequent financial years; this process links in with the development of the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Predictions regarding the levels of future Housing Revenue Account (HRA) funding beyond 2012/13 have not been made at this point in time, pending the outcome of the ballot in February and March 2012, and are not included in the HRA budget report (reported elsewhere on this agenda); those indicators that rely on such forward information are thereby not included within sections 3.05 - 3.08 below.
- 3.05 Based on those resources currently allocated (including specific grants, but excluding any rephasing of expenditure from 2011/12 to future years), the estimates of capital expenditure to be incurred in 2012/13 (and the following two years in the case of the Council Fund), are as indicated in the table below; unsupported (prudential) borrowing of £10.796m has been assumed in the three year period for Council Fund purposes. This is in line with the capital programme proposals recommended to commence in 2012/13 in the Council Fund Capital Programme 2012/13 to 2021/22 report which is included elsewhere on this agenda.

CAPITAL EXPENDITURE			
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	£m	£m	£m
Council Fund	23.825	21.326	23.380
Housing Revenue Account	9.398	n/a	n/a
Total	33.223	-	-

The prudential indicators for capital expenditure, based on the Council's capital programme that takes into account the Council's capital investment strategy, asset management planning and option appraisal requirements, are the starting point for the calculation of the prudential indicators.

The capital programme totals are supplemented (for capital accounting purposes) by the value of those finance leases associated with the redevelopment of Flint Pavilion which is currently estimated at £2.530m in 2012/13.

The capital expenditure totals essentially provide the base financial data from which all other indicators follow.

Prudential Indicators for Affordability

- 3.06 Estimates of the ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream for 2012/13 based on those expenditure assumptions outlined in the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account budget reports (both included elsewhere on this agenda), are as included in the table below; these indicators of affordability address the revenue implications of the Council's financial strategy.

RATIO OF FINANCING COSTS TO NET REVENUE STREAM			
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	%	%	%
Council Fund	5.959	5.642	5.347
Housing Revenue Account	8.343	n/a	n/a

The Council Fund net revenue stream is the amount to be met from Welsh Government (WG) grants and local taxpayers, and the HRA equivalent is the amount to be met from WG grants and from rent payers. The Council Fund ratio reflects an increasing burden of total external interest being borne by the Council Fund due to the continuing reduction in HRA debt outstanding (but within an overall reducing financing cost total), as a percentage of an increasing level of revenue stream income. The estimate of financing costs includes current commitments and the proposals included in the capital programme report. The HRA ratio as calculated, reflects a

reducing financing cost attributable to the continuing reduction in HRA debt outstanding as a percentage of an increasing level of revenue stream income.

- 3.07 The Prudential code requires that the estimate of the incremental impact of capital investment decisions as proposed in the capital budget report for the period 2012/13 to 2014/15, over and above capital investment decisions that have previously been taken by the Council are reported in terms of their impact on Band D Council Tax and Housing Rents, and are shown in the table below:

ESTIMATE OF INCREMENTAL IMPACT OF CAPITAL INVESTMENT			
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	£	£	£
Band D Council Tax	2.68	4.49	7.22
Average Weekly Housing R	Nil	n/a	n/a

The incremental impact of capital investment on the Council Tax reflects the inclusion of annual unsupported (prudential) borrowing charges included in the revenue budget report totals for the first time in 2012/13 which is included elsewhere on this agenda.

Whilst the impact of capital investment decisions is nominally shown in terms of impact on Council Tax levels, the actual level of Council Tax increase each year will be in accordance with the Council's policy of 3% to 3.5% as set out in the Medium Term Financial Strategy. Detailed medium term financial planning will identify efficiencies to enable investment to take place whilst maintaining Council Tax levels as agreed.

Prudential Indicators for Prudence

- 3.08 Estimates of the capital financing requirement, as described in Section 3.09 below, for 2012/13 are:

CAPITAL FINANCING REQUIREMENT			
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	£m	£m	£m
Council Fund	153.535	156.668	157.524
Housing Revenue Account	26.286	n/a	n/a
Total	179.821		

- 3.09 The capital financing requirement measures the authority's underlying need to finance capital expenditure by borrowing or other long-term liability arrangements. In accordance with best professional practice, Flintshire County Council does not associate debt with particular items or types of expenditure. The authority has an integrated treasury management strategy and has adopted the CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes. Flintshire County Council has, at any point in time, a number of cash flows both positive and negative, and manages its treasury position in terms of its debt and investments in accordance with its approved treasury management policy and strategy. The Treasury Management Policy and Strategy Statement for 2012/13 appears elsewhere on this agenda following consideration by the Audit Committee in January 2012. In day to day cash management, no distinction can be made between revenue cash and capital cash. External debt arises as a consequence of all the financial transactions of the authority and not simply those arising from capital spending. In contrast, the capital financing requirement reflects the authority's underlying need to finance capital expenditure by borrowing or other long-term liability arrangements.
- 3.10 CIPFA's *Prudential Code for Capital Finance in Local Authorities* includes the following as a key indicator of prudence:

"In order to ensure that over the medium term net debt will only be for a capital purpose, the local authority should ensure that net external debt does not, except in the short term, exceed the total of capital financing requirement in the preceding year plus the estimates of any additional financing requirement for the current and next two financial years."

The Head of Finance reports no difficulty in meeting this requirement for the future period to which the prudential indicators apply. This view takes into account current commitments, existing plans, and all budget proposals.

Prudential Indicators for External Debt and Treasury Management

- 3.11 In respect of its external debt, it is recommended that the Council approves the following authorised limits for its total external debt gross of investments for the next three financial years. These limits separately identify borrowing from other long term liabilities such as finance leases. The Council is asked to approve these limits and to delegate authority to the Head of Finance, within the total limit for any individual year, to effect movement between the separately agreed limits for borrowing and other long term liabilities, in accordance with option appraisal and best value for money for the authority. Any such changes made will be reported to the Council at its next meeting following the change.

AUTHORISED LIMIT FOR EXTERNAL DEBT			
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	£m	£m	£m
All Borrowing (Capital/Revenue)	198.020	201.570	203.560
Other Long Term Liabilities	9.600	9.600	9.600
Total	207.620	211.170	213.160

The Head of Finance reports that these authorised limits are consistent with the authority's current commitments, existing plans and the proposals in the capital programme report, and with its approved treasury management policy and strategy statement. The Head of Finance confirms that they are based on the estimate of most likely, prudent position with, in addition, sufficient headroom over and above this to allow for operational management, for example unusual cash movements. Risk analysis and risk management strategies have been taken into account, as have plans for capital expenditure, estimates of the capital financing requirement and estimates of cashflow requirements for all purposes.

- 3.12 The Executive is also asked to approve the following operational boundary for external debt for the same time period. The proposed operational boundary for external debt is based on the same estimates as the authorised limit but reflects directly the Head of Finance's estimate of the most likely, prudent position, without the additional headroom included within the authorised limit to allow for example for unusual cash movements, and equates to the maximum of external debt projected by this estimate. The operational boundary represents a key management tool for in year monitoring by the Head of Finance. Within the operational boundary, figures for borrowing and other long term liabilities are separately identified. The Council is also asked to delegate authority to the Head of Finance, within the total operational boundary for any individual year, to effect movement between the separately agreed figures for borrowing and other long term liabilities, in a similar fashion to the authorised limit. Any such changes will be reported to the Council as its next meeting following the change.

OPERATIONAL BOUNDARY FOR EXTERNAL DEBT			
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
	Estimate	Estimate	Estimate
	£m	£m	£m
All Borrowing (Capital/Revenue)	178.020	181.570	183.560
Other Long Term Liabilities	9.600	9.600	9.600
Total	187.620	191.170	193.160

The figure for all borrowing has increased in line with the assumption made in 3.05 that for Council Fund purposes there is a requirement to borrow £10.796m through unsupported (prudential) borrowing over the three year period. In addition, the figure for other long term liabilities has increased to reflect the value of those finance leases associated with the redevelopment of Deeside Leisure Centre and Flint Pavilion.

- 3.13 It should be noted that actual external debt is not directly comparable to the authorised limit and operational boundary, since the actual external debt reflects the position at one point in time.

The Council is asked to note that the authorised limit determined for 2012/13 (see Section 3.11 above) will be the statutory limit determined under section 3 (1) of the Local Government Act 2003.

- 3.14 The prudential indicator in respect of treasury management is confirmation that the Council has adopted the CIPFA *Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes* (as reported elsewhere on the agenda). The aim of this indicator is to ensure that treasury management is led by a clear and integrated forward treasury management strategy.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 That Members approve and recommend to County Council on 1st March 2012 -

(a) the prudential indicators as detailed in Section 3 of the report -

- Capital expenditure (Section 3.05)
- Ratio of financing costs to net revenue stream (Section 3.06)
- Incremental impact of capital investment decisions on the council tax (Section 3.07)
- Incremental impact of capital investment decisions on housing rents (Section 3.07)
- Capital financing requirement (Section 3.08)
- Net debt and the capital financing requirement (Section 3.10)
- Authorised limit for external debt (Section 3.11 and 3.13)
- Operational boundary for external debt (Section 3.12)
- Adoption of the CIPFA *Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice and Cross-Sectoral Guidance Notes* (Section 3.14).

(b) delegated authority for the Head of Finance to effect movements between the separately agreed limits within the authorised limit for external debt and the operational boundary for external debt (Sections 3.11 and 3.12).

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 As set out in the report.

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

9.01 None.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 None

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Various Welsh Government and CIPFA papers

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 16

REPORT TO: **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**
DATE : **01 MARCH 2012**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF FINANCE**
SUBJECT : **MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION 2012/13**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To present to Council the recommendations of the Executive in relation to the setting of a prudent minimum revenue provision for the repayment of debt.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 At its meeting of 21 February 2012, the Executive considered the Head of Finance's report in respect of the calculation of Minimum Revenue Provision for 2012/13.

2.02 The report of 21 February 2012 detailed the requirements and associated guidance, in respect of -

- the 4 available options for making prudent provision.
- the circumstances for using the options, 2 of which are available in respect of capital expenditure funded by way of Welsh Government supported borrowing, and a further 2 in respect of that funded by unsupported (prudential) borrowing.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The recommendations of the Executive to County Council are set out in Section 4.00 of the report to Executive of 21 February 2012, a copy of which is included as Appendix A to this report.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 Council is requested to agree the recommendations of the Executive, being that -

(a) Option 1 (Regulatory Method) be used for the calculation of the minimum revenue provision in 2012/13 for all supported borrowing.

(b) Option 3 (Asset Life Method) be used for the calculation of the minimum revenue provision in 2012/13 for all unsupported (prudential) borrowing.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 As set out in the report.

Date: 24/02/2012

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

9.01 None.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None required.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None required

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix A - Report to Executive 21st February 2012 : Minimum Revenue Provision 2012/13.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Various WAG papers.

Contact Officer: Liz Thomas
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E-Mail: liz_thomas@flintshire.gov.uk

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 12

REPORT TO: **EXECUTIVE**
DATE : **21 FEBRUARY 2012**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF FINANCE**
SUBJECT : **MINIMUM REVENUE PROVISION 2012/13**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To present proposals for the setting of a prudent minimum revenue provision for the repayment of debt in 2012/13, as required under the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and Accounting) (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 ('the 2008 Regulations').

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 Local authorities are required each year to set aside some of their revenues as provision for the repayment of debt i.e. a provision in respect of capital expenditure financed from borrowing or credit arrangements.

2.02 Regulation 22 of the 2008 Regulations requires an authority to each year make an amount of Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) which it considers to be 'prudent', but the regulation does not itself define 'prudent provision'. However, the Welsh Government (WG) has provided guidance which makes recommendations to authorities on the interpretation of the term; the guidance was last updated in April 2010.

2.03 Authorities are required to prepare an annual statement of their policy on making MRP, which mirrors the existing requirements to report on the prudential borrowing limit and investment policy.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 Meaning of 'Prudent Provision'

3.01.1 The WG guidance provides a number of options for making 'prudent provision'.

It explains that provision for the borrowing which financed the acquisition of an asset should be made over a period bearing some relation to that over which the asset continues to provide a service.

3.02 Options for Prudent Provision

3.02.1 Option 1: Regulatory Method

For debt which is supported by Revenue Support Grant (RSG), authorities may continue to use the formulae specified in the Local Authorities (Capital Finance and

Accounting) (Wales) Regulations 2003 (the regulations which preceded the 2008 Regulations), since the RSG is calculated on that basis, i.e. authorities are able to calculate MRP exactly as if the 2003 Regulations were still in force.

3.02.2 Option 2: Capital Financing Requirement Method

This is a technically simpler alternative to Option 1 and may also be used in relation to supported debt. While still based on the concept of the Capital Financing Requirement [CFR], which is easily derived from the balance sheet, it avoids the complexities of the formulae in Regulation 22. However, for most authorities it will probably result in a higher level of provision (and subsequent impact on service budgets) than Option 1, as it would for Flintshire County Council.

3.02.3 Option 3: Asset Life Method

For new borrowing under the Prudential system for which no Government support is being given and is therefore self-financed, there are two options. Option 3 is to make provision in equal annual instalments over the estimated life of the asset for which the borrowing is undertaken. This is a possibly simpler alternative to the use of depreciation accounting (Option 4), though it has some similarities to that approach.

3.02.4 Option 4: Depreciation Method

Alternatively, for new borrowing under the Prudential system for which no WG support is being given, Option 4 may be used. This means making MRP in accordance with the standard rules for depreciation accounting.

3.03 Conditions for Using the Options

3.03.1 The intention is that Options 1 and 2 should be used only for WG supported borrowing. Options 3 and 4 should be used in relation to all capital expenditure which is to be financed by unsupported borrowing or credit arrangements.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That Members approve and recommend to County Council on 1st March 2012 -

(a) Option 1 (Regulatory Method) be used for the calculation of the minimum revenue provision in 2012/13 for all supported borrowing; this represents a continuation of the approved and adopted policy for 2011/12.

(b) Option 3 (Asset Life Method) be used for the calculation of the minimum revenue provision in 2012/13 for all unsupported (prudential) borrowing; this also represents a continuation of the approved and adopted policy for 2011/12.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 The 2012/13 Council Fund revenue budget provides for the minimum revenue provision in respect of all supported borrowing, on the basis of the Option 1 - Regulatory Method calculation.

5.02 Any planned use of unsupported (prudential) borrowing, will need to take account of the revenue consequences of the Option 3 – Asset Life Method calculation, as part of the overall options appraisal and budget setting processes.

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

9.01 None.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 None.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Various Welsh Government papers

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 17

REPORT TO: **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**
DATE : **01 MARCH 2012**
REPORT BY: **DIRECTOR OF LIFELONG LEARNING**
SUBJECT : **SCHOOL ADMISSION ARRANGEMENTS 2013/14**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 That County Council approve the outcome of the statutory consultation exercise on the admission arrangements for September 2013 following Executive approval.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 Members will be aware that the local authority is required each year to undertake a statutory consultation exercise on its admission arrangements for the following year. For September 2013, the authority must have determined its arrangements by 15 April 2012 and the consultation must be concluded by 1 March 2012. Statutory consultees are the governing bodies of all schools, admission authorities for all other maintained schools in the area, the diocesan authorities and neighbouring authorities.

2.02 Consultation must cover the full admission arrangements, including the admissions policy, oversubscription criteria, the timetable for admissions and the Admission Numbers for each school. This information is attached as Appendices 1 and 2.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The current admission arrangements have been in place since 2003 and the vast majority of parental preferences (98%) continue to be met in Flintshire. The number of admission appeals is relatively low. In the 2010/11 academic year, there were 49 appeals in total, 36 in the secondary sector and 13 in primary. As anticipated, the total number of appeals to date in the current academic year is slightly higher, standing at 53. While appeals in the secondary sector has remained fairly constant at 34 so far, the number in the primary sector has increased slightly, to 19. This is due largely to oversubscription at Reception stage in a small number of primary schools, mainly in the Hawarden and Buckley areas. In respect of secondary school appeals, the effect of parental preference has resulted in oversubscription at two secondary schools (Hawarden High and Castell Alun).

3.02 There are no changes proposed to the current admissions policy or oversubscription criteria. However, in order to clarify the process for offering a place at the next nearest school should the school applied for be full, it is proposed that the following be added after criterion (d) in the oversubscription criteria for primary and secondary and after criterion (f) in respect of junior schools:
"If the authority is unable to comply with the parental preference(s) expressed then the parent will be offered a place at the next nearest appropriate school with an

Date: 24/02/2012

available place". This is current practice, but the addition of this wording will help clarify the policy for both parents and appeal panels.

- 3.03 The admissions timetable has been drawn up in consultation with neighbouring authorities and takes in to account factors such as allowing parents sufficient time to visit schools and express their preferences, the time needed to process applications, chase up late applications, etc. The timetable does not differ significantly from last year's.
- 3.04 There is one change proposed to the Admission Number for Ysgol Glanrafon, Mold, to reflect a re-calculation of the capacity of the school as a result of reorganising the use of teaching space. It is proposed to increase the Admission Number from 35 to 41, thus ensuring that the local authority is able to continue to meet demand for Welsh medium education in the Mold area.
- 3.05 The consultation exercise for 2013/14 was carried out between 25 October and 16 December 2011. No comments were received.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 That, for clarification, the following be added to the admissions policy after criterion (d) for primary and secondary and after criterion (f) for junior schools:
"If the authority is unable to comply with the parental preference(s) expressed then the parent will be offered a place at the next nearest appropriate school with an available place".
- 4.02 That the proposed admission arrangements for 2013/14 be approved.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 None.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

- 6.01 None.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 7.01 The capacity assessments for schools ensure that the use of teaching space and other rooms is accurately and consistently calculated and provide useful information relating to surplus spaces or oversubscription.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 8.01 All parents have an opportunity to express a preference for a particular school and all applications are dealt with in an open and transparent manner in accordance with the criteria.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 No further consultation is required.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 All schools were consulted about their capacity assessments and admission numbers in 2007/8 and any subsequent changes to capacity have been agreed with schools. All statutory consultees and Flintshire's Schools' Admission Forum have been consulted regarding the admission arrangements for 2013/14.

11.02 The Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee (19.01.12) was advised of the outcome of the consultation exercise and supported the recommendations above.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix 1 - Admission Arrangements 2013/14
Appendix 2 - Admission Numbers

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.

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School Admission Arrangements 2013/14

APPENDIX 1

Admission Phase	Admissions packs available to parents w/c	Parents' consideration period	Completed forms returned by LA closing date	Allocation period by LA/admitting authority	Parents informed by:
Secondary	03/09/12	03/09/12 - 29/10/12	29/10/12	30/10/12 - 01/02/13	01/03/13
Infant - Junior	01/10/12	01/10/12 - 03/12/12	03/12/12	04/12/12 - 08/03/12	22/03/13
Reception	1/10/12	01/10/12 - 03/12/12	03/12/12	04/12/12 - 08/03/12	22/03/13
Nursery	08/01/13	08/01/13 - 25/02/13	25/02/13	26/02/13 - 05/04/13	19/04/13

Application forms must be returned to the Local Authority by the closing date. Your child may have less opportunity to be allocated to your preferred school if your application is received after the closing date.

Late applications will be considered after those received by the closing date, unless the Local Authority considers that there are good reasons for the application form being late which must be included with the application form. For example, exceptional medical reasons preventing an earlier application, recent move of house – supporting evidence must be provided.

The process for offering school places

If you express a preference for a voluntary aided school or foundation school in Flintshire the relevant school will be sent your details. These schools are responsible for considering your child's application against others received in accordance with their own admission criteria. The school governors should use the school's own admission criteria to rank applications and make offers of places. Any preferences not met will be returned to the local authority and will be treated equally with other preferences expressed for Flintshire Community Schools.

If you apply for a place at a Flintshire Community School the local authority applies their own published admission criteria to rank all preferences expressed to see who can be offered a place. The place that is offered is at the school where the pupil best meets the criteria and in the order the parent has expressed on the child's preference form.

Please note neighbouring local authorities' timetables may be different to those above but Flintshire will work closely with neighbouring LAs to

coordinate admission arrangements. If the school, for which you wish to express a preference, is in another county, please contact the respective LA to ensure you do not miss the closing date.

Policy and Process for Admissions to Schools

The County Council, as the Local Authority, is responsible for determining the arrangements for admissions, and for admissions to all Community Primary, Secondary and Special Schools and Voluntary Controlled Schools. The LA will consult annually with school Governing Bodies and the Diocesan Education Authorities in relation to admissions.

The LA will comply with statutory requirements and will give full recognition to the expression of parental preference, and, in the case of sixth form admissions, to the expression of a preference by a young person, in the context of its duty to ensure the provision of effective education and the efficient use of education resources. The LA will admit pupils up to the Admission Number and will not refuse applicants for a particular school unless that school has reached its Admission Number.

The LA will comply with its duty to ensure the provision of effective education and the efficient use of resources. In so doing, the LA will have regard to the total resources, including accommodation and staffing, available to each school and any constraints imposed by the school organisation and curriculum. It will also consider the resource implications for the authority and impact on other education policies. The Admission Number for each school relates to the number of children that can be admitted to each year group during the school year. The Admission Number for each school is indicated on the 'Schools List'. The LA will not, however, expand a school to meet demand which does not comply with the admissions criteria.

Admissions Procedure

The annual admissions procedure applicable to the relevant age group will include the following stages:

- Publication of the 'Guide to Education Services'.
- Arrangements to enable parents to express a preference for a school they wish their child/children to attend, and, in the case of sixth form admissions, expression of a preference by a young person.
- Consideration of preferences in accordance with the admissions criteria, up to the Admission Number for each school.

Please Note

Expressing a preference does not guarantee a place at your chosen school if that school is oversubscribed. If more parents apply for places at the school than the number of places available, the Authority will apply the oversubscription criteria for allocating places as set out in this Guide.

Admission Phases

Early Entitlement to Education

A part-time education place is available for every child the term after his/her third birthday.

Children born in...	Entitled to...
Autumn Term	2 terms of educational provision (Spring and Summer)
Spring Term	1 term of educational provision (Summer)

Children born in the Summer term receive their education entitlement in the school nursery classes in the Autumn term after their 3rd birthday. Parents may state a preference for an approved setting which may be a pre school playgroup (English or Welsh), a private day nursery, a 'network' childminder or school nursery class. Applications for early entitlement are made directly to the setting. Forms are available all year.

Notes:

1. Admission to an Early Entitlement setting at a particular school does not guarantee subsequent admission to nursery at that school.
2. No transport is provided.

For further information on approved settings please contact: The Early Years Advisor, Tel: 01352 704104.

Nursery

A child becomes eligible for a place at a nursery class in the September following the child's 3rd birthday. Nursery education is not compulsory and parents have no right of appeal regarding nursery admissions under the School Standards and Framework Act 1998.

Nursery schooling in all schools/units will be provided on the basis of 5 x 2.5 hour sessions per week for each child.

Parents may express a preference for any nursery irrespective of where the child's home is in relation to the school. However, expressing a preference does not guarantee a place at that nursery. In the event of oversubscription, applications for nursery places will be dealt with by applying the admissions criteria in respect of primary schools as set out in this Guide.

When making the decision about the 'nearest suitable school' the Authority will accept only the pupil's home address and not that, for example, of childminder or grandparents. Parents will be asked to provide official documentation showing home address. Parents are advised that a school place may be lawfully withdrawn if the information given on their application form is fraudulent or misleading.

Application forms for nursery school admission are available from the Admissions Team, all nursery/infant/primary schools and on

www.flintshire.gov.uk/education. The forms will be available according to the admissions timetable as set out in this Guide.

Notes:

- 1. Admission to a nursery class at a particular Infant or Primary School does not guarantee subsequent admission to reception class at that school.**
- 2. No transport is provided.**

Primary

The Authority will admit a child to a maintained infant/primary school at the beginning of the school year if the child has achieved his/her 4th birthday on or before August 31st of that calendar year.

Admission will be based on the criteria listed below.

For pupils transferring from infant to junior school a parental preference form will be sent to each parent/guardian. Parents may express a preference for their nearest junior school or may insert the name of another school should they prefer that school.

In accordance with legislation, infant class sizes (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) are restricted to a limit of no more than 30 per school teacher. In respect of junior classes (Year 3 to Year 6), the target is no more than 30 per school teacher.

Criteria to be applied in order of priority by the Authority for admission to Nursery, Infant, Junior or Primary Schools:

- a) the LA will consider the needs of a 'looked after child' (child in care) and pupils with a statement of special educational needs which includes a named school
- b) pupils for whom the preferred school is the nearest appropriate school to the pupil's home address
- c) pupils who have expressed a preference for a school which is not the nearest to their home address will be admitted if they have a sister or brother attending the preferred school
- d) pupils for whom the preferred school is not the nearest to their home address.

If there are more applicants than places in any of the above categories, priority will be given to applicants living nearest the school, measured from the child's home address to the recognised main entrance of the school.

Junior School

Parents of pupils transferring from Infant to Junior School will be given the opportunity to express a preference and places will be allocated using the following criteria:

- a) the LA will consider the needs of a 'looked after child' (child in care) and pupils with a statement of special educational needs which includes a named school
- b) pupils for whom the preferred school is the nearest appropriate school to the pupil's home address
- c) pupils who have attended the 'feeder' infant school and for whom the preferred school is the nearest appropriate school
- d) pupils who have expressed a preference for a school which is not the nearest to their home address will be admitted if they have a sister or brother attending the preferred school
- e) pupils who attend the 'feeder' infant school but for whom the preferred school is not the nearest to their home address
- f) pupils for whom the preferred school is not the nearest to their home address.

Secondary

Pupils will normally be transferred from a primary to a secondary school in the September following their eleventh birthday. A Parental Preference Form will be sent to each parent (*please see timetable for admissions*), and parents are invited to express a preference for one or more schools and may give a reason for the preference/s. However, where a school is oversubscribed, places will be allocated up to the Admission Number in accordance with the admissions criteria set out in priority order as described below.

Criteria to be applied in order of priority by the Authority for admissions to Secondary Schools:

For entry into a designated secondary school, the following specific arrangements will apply:

- a) the LA will consider the needs of a 'looked after child' (child in care) and pupils with a statement of special educational needs which includes a named school
- b) pupils for whom the preferred school is the nearest appropriate school to the pupil's home address
- c) where a preference is expressed for a school other than the nearest to a pupil's home address, where an older brother or sister is registered and will still be attending when the younger sibling will be starting, the younger sibling will be admitted to that school. The 'sibling rule' will only be applied for the statutory period of education i.e. between the Years 7-11 to enable the Local Authority to plan the provision of school places. Where an older sibling is continuing to attend the same secondary school for their Post-16 courses, the Authority will look to apply the 'sibling rule' in the case of the younger child
- d) where a preference has been expressed for a school other than the nearest to a pupil's home address and there is no brother or sister attending that school, pupils will be admitted in order of proximity to that alternative school and up to its Admission Number.

If there are more applicants than places in any of the above categories, priority will be given to applicants living nearest the school, measured from the child's home address to the recognised main entrance of the school.

The nearest appropriate school is interpreted as:

- (a) the school nearest to the child's home measured from child's home address to the recognised main entrance of the school.
- (b) the nearest Welsh medium school where parents wish their children to receive their education through the medium of Welsh.
- (c) the nearest Denominational school where parents wish to have their children educated in a denominational school.

The Council uses Routefinder, a network analysis system fully integrated into the Geographical Information System (GIS) software, to calculate home to school distance in miles. The shortest route is calculated from an applicant's home address to the recognised main entrance of the school.

It should be noted that transport will only be provided in accordance with the Transport policy.

Sibling (brother/sister)

A sibling is defined as a full, half, step or foster brother or sister living together as one household at the same address and where the elder sibling is of statutory school age and will still be registered at the preferred school (or, in the case of an infant school, attending the partner junior school) when the younger child is eligible to attend.

Admissions to schools other than those maintained by the LA

Parents wishing to express a preference for a school in a county other than Flintshire should still use the Flintshire LA preference form and it will be passed to the relevant local Authority, with the exception of Cheshire West and Chester Council who request you contact them directly. Please be aware of each Authority's admission timetable and closing dates.

Accepting or Declining Places Offered

Parents will be required to accept or decline the school place offered by returning a proforma by a set deadline. The Local Authority reserves the right to withdraw places not accepted by the deadline.

Waiting Lists

If a parent is refused a place for their child at their preferred school for admission in the following September, the parent may request that the child's name is placed on a waiting list until 31 August in the school year in which they apply. If additional places become available while the waiting list is in operation, and before any appeals are heard, they will be allocated to applicants on the waiting list in accordance with the oversubscription criteria

and not according to the date the application was submitted. Placing a name on a waiting list, however, is not a guarantee of an eventual place at the school applied for and also does not affect the parent's right of appeal.

Admission of Pupils from outside Flintshire

Children residing outside Flintshire will only be admitted in accordance with the admissions criteria.

Change of School within Flintshire at times other than normal transfer Points

Schools in Flintshire have an agreed protocol for transfers from one nominated school to another other than at the normal transition point. A parent seeking such a transfer should initially speak to the headteacher of the child's current school to discuss the reasons for that transfer. If, following this discussion, the parent wishes to continue the process, contact should then be made with the headteacher of the new school. Headteachers will refer parents to an officer of the Local Authority, particularly in cases where pupil numbers in the new school have exceeded the Admission Number in the appropriate year group. In such circumstances admission to the new school may be refused. Parents who are dissatisfied with this may give notice of appeal, as outlined below.

Appeals Procedure

If the Authority is unable to comply with the parental preference then the parent will be offered a place at another school. The parent may then accept the alternative placement, or may give notice of appeal. Further details about the appeals process will be made available to parents by contacting the Access Officer (01352 704068).

Appeals must be made in writing giving reasons, and sent to the Access Officer. The Authority will initiate the appeals procedure in accordance with the School Standards and Framework Act 1998. The parents, or parent accompanied by a friend if desired, will be given an opportunity to appear before an Independent Appeal Panel. The decision of the Independent Appeal Panel will be final and binding on all parties. Details describing the appeals procedure are outlined in a leaflet which is available on request or on www.flintshire.gov.uk/education.

Provision for Children with Additional Needs

The Authority, and schools have regard to the Code of Practice for Special Educational Needs when identifying, assessing and providing for children with additional needs. Some children may require special educational provision which is over and above that which a mainstream school could reasonably be expected to provide. The Authority will assess the needs of such pupils in accordance with the guidelines laid down by the Code of Practice. Where the assessment indicates this to be necessary, it will arrange for extra provision to be made for them. This provision will be included in a statement of special

educational need for the child concerned. This document is negotiated with parents and schools. It states the child's needs and how and where those needs will be met. All Governing Bodies have a Governor with responsibility for the Special Needs Policy, which parents are entitled to see. Each school has an Additional Needs Co-ordinator who oversees the day to day operation of the policy. Parents who wish to discuss any aspect of their child's additional educational needs should first contact his or her Headteacher.

Admissions to Special Schools

Special Schools will normally only admit pupils with a statement of special educational need issued under the 1996 Education Act. In exceptional circumstances, they will admit pupils who are being assessed under the 1996 Education Act. The statementing procedure is administered by the Inclusion Service at County Hall. (Telephone: 01352 704028/704029)

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

LEA No 664

LEA Name Flintshire

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
School Number	School Name	Type of School	Age Range	Number on Roll Yr 7 -11	Number on Roll Yr 12 - 13	TOTAL Number on Roll	Admission Number
4012	Holywell High School		11-18	542	85	627	186
4011	Elfed High School		11-18	571	86	657	175
4019	John Summers High School		11-18	336	49	385	104
4018	Ysgol Maes Garmon	Welsh	11-18	455	108	563	120
4021	Flint High School		11-18	592	78	670	143
4013	St. David's High School		11-18	504	81	585	117
4022	Connah's Quay High School		11-18	862	137	999	198
4600	St. Richard Gwyn High School	R.C.	11-18	837	129	966	173
4006	Alun High School		11-18	1228	501	1729	250
4000	Hawarden High School		11-18	965	201	1166	195
4042	Argoed High School		11-16	578	0	578	116
4017	Castell Alun High School		11-18	1060	271	1331	211
						10256	

NOR figures based on September 2011

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 18

REPORT TO: **FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**
DATE : **01 MARCH 2012**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES**
SUBJECT : **BUCKLEY COMMON BYELAWS**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To recommend that the County Council approve the making of new byelaws in respect of Buckley Common.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 On the 19 October 2010 the County Council resolved to approve new byelaws which sought to control the use of Buckley Common with current local environmental and other issues in mind. The Welsh Assembly Government have requested minor and inconsequential amendments to reflect new regulations that had come into force since the original model byelaws were circulated in 2003. The Council's resolution of 19 October 2010 referred specifically to the byelaws attached to the committee report at that time and in the interests of certainty the amended byelaws are attached to this report for approval.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 Not applicable.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 The County Council is recommended to approve the amended byelaws.

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

Date: 24/02/2012

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Buckley Town Council and Welsh Assembly Government have been consulted and the attached byelaws have been approved. Welsh Assembly Government have since adjusted the Byelaws to refer to more recent Regulations that have superseded regulations previously referred to in the Byelaws the County Council approved on the 19 October 2011.

11.02 Executive 24 January 2012.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Proposed Buckley Common Byelaws

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

BYELAWS

Byelaws made by Flintshire County Council under the Scheme of Regulation made pursuant to section 1 of the Commons Act 1889 by the Buckley Urban District Council on 13 June 1933 and approved by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries on 4 July 1933 and under all other enabling powers, in respect of the Buckley Lower, Middle and Upper Commons.

1. INTERPRETATION

In these Byelaws:

“the Council” means Flintshire County Council

“the Common” means Buckley Commons, the area of which is more particularly delineated on the attached plan

“the Scheme” means the aforementioned Scheme of Regulation

2. AIRCRAFT

No person shall, except in cases of emergency or with the consent of the Council, take off from or land upon the Common in an aircraft, helicopter, hang-glider or hot-air balloon.

3. ANGLING

No person shall on the Common cast any net or line used or intended for use in angling except upon any waters comprised in the Common where fishing is permitted by the Council.

4. ARCHERY

No person shall on the Common, except in connection with an event organised by or with the consent of the Council, engage in the sport of archery.

5. BATHING

No person shall, without reasonable excuse, bathe or swim in any waterway comprised in the Common, except in an area where a notice exhibited by the Council permits bathing and swimming.

6. BOATS

No person shall, without the consent of the Council, launch, operate or sail on any waterway comprised in the Common any boat, power craft, dinghy, canoe, sailboard, inflatable or any like craft.

7. CAMPING

No person shall on the Common, without the consent of the Council, erect a tent or use any vehicle, including a caravan, or any other structure for the purpose of camping, except on any area which may be set apart and indicated by a notice as a place where camping is permitted.

8. CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS

(1) No person who has attained the age of 14 years shall use any apparatus on the Common which, by a notice placed on or near thereto, has been set apart by the Council for the exclusive use of persons under the age of 14 years.

(2) No person who has attained the age of 14 years shall enter or remain in the children's play area known as Higher Common Play Area.

(3) This by-law shall not apply to any person who is in charge of a child under the age of 14 years.

9. CLIMBING

No person shall, without reasonable excuse, climb any wall or fence on or enclosing the Common, or any tree, barrier, railing, post or other structure.

10. CRICKET BALLS

No person shall use a cricket ball, except on any part of the Common which by a notice placed in a conspicuous position has been set aside by the Council as an area where a cricket ball may be used.

11. CYCLING

(1) No person shall, without reasonable excuse, ride a cycle on the Common, except in any part of the Common where there is a right of way for cycles, or along such routes as may be fixed by the Council and indicated by signs placed in conspicuous positions on the Common.

(2) In this Byelaw, “cycle” means a bicycle, tricycle or a cycle having four or more wheels, not being in any case a motor cycle or motor vehicle.

12. DISCUS THROWING

No person shall on the Common, except in connection with an event organised by or with the consent of the Council, engage in the sport of discus throwing.

13. ERECTION OF STRUCTURES

No person shall on the Common without the consent of the Council, erect any post, rail, fence, pole, tent, booth, stand, building or other structure.

14. FIRES

(1) No person shall on the Common intentionally light a fire, or place, throw or let fall a lighted match or any other thing so as to be likely to cause a fire.

(2) This byelaw shall not prevent the lighting or use of a properly constructed camping stove or cooker in any area set aside for the purpose in such a manner as not to cause danger of or damage by fire.

15. GAMES

(1) Where the Council has, by a notice placed in a conspicuous position on the Common, set apart an area on the Common for the playing of such games as may be specified in the notice, no person shall :-

(a) play in such an area any game other than the game for which it has been set apart.

(b) use any such area so as to give reasonable grounds for annoyance to any person already using that area for any purpose for which it has been set apart ; or

(c) play any game so specified in any other part of the Common in such a manner as to exclude any person not playing the game from the use of that part.

(2) No person shall, in any area of the Common which may have been set apart by the Council for any game, play any games when the state of the Common or other cause makes it unfit for use and a notice is placed in a conspicuous position prohibiting play in that area of the Common.

- (3) (a) No person shall on the Common play any game ;
- (i) so as to give reasonable grounds for annoyance to any other person on the Common ; or
 - (ii) which is likely to cause damage to any tree, shrub or plant on the Common.
- (b) This byelaw shall not extend to any area set apart by the Council for the playing of any game.

16. GATES

Where the Council indicates by a notice conspicuously exhibited on or alongside any gate on the Common that leaving that gate open is prohibited, no person, having opened that gate, or caused it to be opened, shall leave it open.

17. GOLF

No person shall on the Common drive, chip or pitch a hard golf ball except on land set aside by the Council for use as a golf course, golf driving range, golf practice area or putting course.

18. GRAZING

No person shall, without the consent of the Council, turn out or permit any animal to graze on the Common.

19. HAMMER THROWING

No person shall on the Common, except in connection with an event organised by or with the consent of the Council, engage in the sport of hammer throwing.

20. HORSES : (DANGEROUS RIDING)

No person shall on the Common intentionally or negligently ride a horse to the danger of any other person using the Common.

21. HORSES : (ONLY IN DESIGNATED AREAS)

Where any part of the Common has, by a notice placed in a conspicuous position on the Common, been set apart by the Council as an area where horse riding is permitted,

no person shall, without the consent of the Council, ride a horse on any other part of the Common.

22. INTERFERENCE WITH LIFE-SAVING EQUIPMENT

No person shall, except in case of emergency, remove from or displace on the Common or otherwise tamper with any life-saving appliance provided by the Council.

23. JAVELIN THROWING

No person shall on the Common, except in connection with an event organised by or with the consent of the Council, engage in the sport of javelin throwing.

24. KITES

No person shall on the Common fly or cause or permit to be flown any kite in such a manner as to cause a danger or annoyance to any other person on the Common.

25. METAL DETECTORS

No person shall on the Common use any device designed or adapted for detecting or locating any metal or mineral in the ground.

26. MISSILES

No person shall on the Common, to the danger or annoyance of any other person on the Common, throw or discharge any missile.

27. MODEL AIRCRAFT

(1) In this byelaw :-

“model aircraft” means an aircraft which either weighs not more than 7 kilograms without its fuel or is for the time being exempted (as a model aircraft) from the provisions of the Air Navigation Order 2009 (S.I. 2009/3015);

“power-driven” means driven by the combustion of petrol vapour or other combustible vapour or other combustible substances or by one or more electric motors or by compressed gas.

(2) (a) no person shall on the Common release any power-driven model aircraft for flight or control the flight of such an aircraft ;

(b) no person shall cause any power-driven model aircraft to take off or land on the Common.

28. MODEL BOATS : (ONLY IN DESIGNATED AREAS)

No person shall, without the consent of the Council, operate or sail on any waterways comprised in the Common any model boat, except in an area where a notice exhibited by the Council permits the use of such boats.

29. MODEL BOATS (POWER DRIVEN) : (ONLY IN DESIGNATED AREAS)

(1) No person shall operate or sail on any waterway comprised in the Common any power-driven model boat, except in any area where a notice exhibited by the Council permits the use of such boats.

(2) In this bye-law, “power-driven” means driven by the combustion of petrol vapour or other combustible vapour or other combustible substances.

30. NOISE

(1) No person on the Common shall, after being requested to desist by an officer of the Council, or by any person annoyed or disturbed, or by any person on his behalf

- (a) by shouting or singing,
- (b) by playing on a musical instrument, or
- (c) by operating or permitting to be operated any radio, gramophone, amplifier, tape recorder or similar instrument,

cause or permit to be made any noise which is so loud or so continuous or repeated as to give reasonable cause for annoyance to other persons on the Common.

(2) This byelaw shall not apply to any person holding or taking part in any entertainment held with the consent of the Council.

31. OVERNIGHT PARKING

No person shall, without the consent of the Council, leave any vehicle or cause or permit any vehicle to be left on the Common at any time.

32. POLLUTION OF WATERWAYS

No person shall intentionally, carelessly or negligently foul or pollute any waterway comprised in the Common.

33. PROTECTION OF FLOWER BEDS, TREES, GRASS ETC.

(1). No person who brings or causes to be brought on to the Common a vehicle shall wheel or park it over or upon :

(a) any flower bed, shrub or plant, or any ground in the course of preparation as a flower bed or for the growth of any tree, shrub or plant; or

(b) any part of the Common where the Council, by a notice placed in a conspicuous position in the ground, prohibits its being wheeled or parked.

(2) No person shall on the common tread upon :

(a) any flower bed, shrub or plant, or any ground in the course of preparation as a flower bed, or for the growth of any tree, shrub or plant ; or

(b) any part of the common set aside for the renovation of grass or turf, where an adequate notice to keep off such grass or turf is exhibited.

34. PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE

(1) No person shall on the Common intentionally kill, injure, take or disturb any animal or fish, or engage in hunting, shooting or fishing, or the setting of traps or nets, or the laying of snares.

(2) This byelaw shall not prohibit any fishing which may be authorised by the Council.

35. PUBLIC SHOWS, EXHIBITIONS AND STRUCTURES

No person shall on the Common, without the consent of the Council, place or take part in any show or exhibition, or set up any swing, roundabout or other like thing.

36. REMOVAL OF STRUCTURES

No person shall, without reasonable excuse, remove from or displace on the Common any barrier, railing, post or seat, or any part of any structure or ornament, or any implement provided for use in the laying out or maintenance of the Common.

37. REMOVAL OF SUBSTANCES

No person shall remove from or displace on the Common any stone, soil or turf, or the whole or any part of any plant, shrub or tree.

38. REMOVAL OF VEHICLES, ANIMALS AND STRUCTURES

Any officer of the Council may, after due warning, remove from the Common any vehicle or animal drawn, driven or placed on the Common, or any structure (including a caravan) erected or placed thereon, in contravention of the Scheme or of any of these byelaws.

39. REPAIRING OF VEHICLES

No person shall clean, paint or carry out repairs to any vehicle parked on the Common, except in the event of an accident, breakdown or other emergency.

40. SHOT-PUTTING

No person shall on the Common, except in connection with an event organised by or with the consent of the Council, engage in the sport of shot-putting.

41. SKATEBOARDING AND ROLLER SKATING

No person shall on the Common skate on rollers, skateboards, wheels or other mechanical contrivances in such a manner as to cause danger or nuisance or give reasonable grounds for annoyance to other persons on the Common.

42. TRADING

No person shall on the Common, without the consent of the Council, sell or expose for sale, or let to hire, or offer or expose for letting to hire, any commodity or article.

43. VEHICLES

(1) No person shall, without reasonable excuse, ride or drive a motor cycle, motor vehicle or any other mechanically propelled vehicle (other than a cycle) on the Common, or bring or cause to be brought on to the Common a motor cycle, motor vehicle, trailer or any other mechanically propelled vehicle (other than a cycle), except in any part of the Common where there is a right of way for that class of vehicle.

(2) If the Council has set apart a space on the Common for use by vehicles of any class this bye-law shall not prevent the riding or driving of those vehicles in the space so set apart, or on a route, indicated by signs placed in conspicuous positions, between it and the entrance to the Common.

(3) This byelaw shall not extend to invalid carriages.

(4) In this byelaw :-

“invalid carriage” means a vehicle, whether mechanically propelled or not, the unladen weight of which does not exceed 150 kilograms, the width of which does not exceed 0.85 metres and which has been constructed or adapted for use for the carriage of one person, being a person suffering from some physical defect or disability, and is used solely by such a person.

“motor cycle” means a mechanically propelled vehicle, not being an invalid carriage, intended or adapted for use on roads.

“trailer” means a vehicle drawn by a motor vehicle, and includes a caravan.

44. WATERCOURSES

No person, shall knowingly cause or permit the flow of any drain or watercourse on the Common to be obstructed or diverted, or open, shut or otherwise work or operate any sluice or similar apparatus on the land.

45. OBSTRUCTION

No person shall on the Common :

(a) intentionally obstruct any officer of the Council in the proper execution of his duties ;

(b) intentionally obstruct any person carrying out an act which is necessary to the proper execution of any contract with the Council ; or

(c) intentionally obstruct any other person in the proper use of the Common, or behave so as to give reasonable grounds for annoyance to other persons on the Common.

46. SAVINGS

(1) An act necessary to the proper execution of his duty on the Common by an officer of the Council, or any act which is necessary to the proper execution of any contract with the Council, shall not be an offence under these byelaws.

(2) Nothing in or done under any of the provisions of these byelaws shall in any respect prejudice or injuriously affect any public right of way through the Common, or the rights of any person acting legally by virtue of some estate, right or interest in, over or affecting the Common or any part thereof.

47. PENALTY

Any person offending against any of these byelaws shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding level 2 on the standard scale.

48. CONSENTS

Where in these Byelaws a person is required to obtain the consent of the Council, he/she should apply for such consent in writing to the Proper Officer of the Council at County Hall, Mold, CH7 6NR.

49. REVOCATION

The byelaws made by the Urban District Council of Buckley on 12th December 1933 and confirmed by the Minister of Health on 9th February 1934 relating to the Common are hereby revoked.

GIVEN under the Common Seal of Flintshire County Council this _____ day of 2011.

THE COMMON SEAL of
FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL
was hereunto affixed in the
presence of :-

A person authorised by the Council

In the exercise of the functions vested in the Welsh Ministers, the foregoing Byelaws are hereby confirmed by authority of the Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development acting on behalf of the Welsh Government.

The Byelaws shall come into force on the _____ day of _____ 2011.

SIGNED by _____ under authority of the Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development, one of the Welsh Ministers

Date: