

Anwen Jones Solicitor/Cyfreithiwr
*Interim Head of Legal and Democratic
Services*
Pennaeth Dros Dro Gwasanaethau
Cyfreithiol a Democrataidd



TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Your Ref /
Eich Cyf

Our Ref / Ein Cyf ^{CO}

Date / Dyddiad 15/02/2012

Ask for / Gofynner am Ceri Owen

Direct Dial / Rhif Union 01352 702350

Fax / Ffacs

Dear Sir / Madam,

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL will be held in the **COUNCIL CHAMBER, COUNTY HALL, MOLD** on **TUESDAY, 21 FEBRUARY 2012** at **14:00** to consider the following items.

Yours faithfully

Democracy and Governance Manager

AGENDA

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
3. HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2012/13 AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2012/13
Report of Head of Finance and Chief Executive and Head of Housing enclosed
4. CLWYD PENSION FUND UPDATE
Report of Head of Finance (Treasurer and Administrator to the Fund) enclosed

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

5. A COMPACT FOR CHANGE BETWEEN THE WELSH GOVERNMENT AND WELSH LOCAL GOVERNMENT
Report of Chief Executive enclosed

6. SCHOOL MODERNISATION UPDATE
To receive a verbal update from the Chief Executive and Director of Lifelong Learning

7. COUNTY COUNCIL DIARY OF MEETINGS 2012/13
Report of Chief Executive enclosed

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 3

REPORT TO: **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**
DATE : **21 FEBRUARY 2012**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF FINANCE AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND HEAD OF HOUSING**
SUBJECT : **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2012/13 AND CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2012/13**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.01 To present the Housing Revenue Account (HRA):-
- 1.02 Revenue budget proposals for the 2012/13 financial year, including proposed rent and service charge changes, key areas of income and expenditure, and the level of closing balance at the year end.
- 1.03 Budget proposals for the HRA capital programme 2012/13, which is year one of a six year improvement programme.

2.00 BACKGROUND

- 2.01 The final proposals for the HRA Revenue and Capital budget for the 2012/13 financial year, including proposed rent and service charge increases were considered by the Executive on 21st February 2012, and recommendations made to County Council. This report is attached as Appendix A.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.01 The outcome of the Executive meeting will be reported verbally to Council, along with a presentation on the main details of the HRA for 2012/13.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 Members are recommended to receive and approve the recommendation from Executive on 21st February 2012.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 As set out in the report to Executive of 21st February 2012.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

- 6.01 None directly as a result of this report.

Date: 15/02/2012

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None directly as a result of this report.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 None directly as a result of this report

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None directly as a result of this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None directly as a result of this report.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None directly as a result of this report

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix A - Report to Executive 21st February 2012

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

2012/13 Budget working papers

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER:

REPORT TO: **EXECUTIVE**
DATE : **21 FEBRUARY 2012**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF FINANCE AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES AND HEAD OF
HOUSING**
SUBJECT : **HOUSING REVENUE ACCOUNT 2012/13 AND CAPITAL
PROGRAMME 2012/13**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.01 To consider the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) budget as set out in 1.02 and 1.03, following consultation with the Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee and receipt of the final HRA Subsidy and Item 8 determinations received from Welsh Government on 1 February 2012.
- 1.02 Revenue budget proposals for the 2012/13 financial year, including proposed rent and service charge changes, key areas of income and expenditure, and the level of closing balance at the year end.
- 1.03 Budget proposals for the HRA capital programme 2012/13, which is year one of a six year improvement programme.

2.00 BACKGROUND

- 2.01 As the Council has a stock of Council housing, it is required by the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 to keep a HRA in accordance with proper accounting practices, and to budget to avoid an end of year deficit.
- 2.02 The HRA is a “ring-fenced” account of certain defined transactions relating to Local Authority Housing. The ring-fenced nature of the account means that funding cannot be transferred between the Council Fund and the HRA and vice versa, other than in certain prescribed circumstances.
- 2.03 Although there is a legal requirement to avoid an end of year deficit, it is also considered to be good practice to budget for a closing balance of at least 3% of the total expenditure of the HRA.
- 2.04 Prior to the start of each financial year, the Welsh Government (WG) consults with Local Authorities on the draft Housing Revenue Account subsidy and Item 8 determinations. These are the key financial determinations set each year by WG which influence Local Authority rent increases, and also the amount of Housing Revenue Account subsidy payable by the Council. The two main elements of the consultation are the “guideline rent increase” and the Management and Maintenance (M&M) element of Housing Revenue Account subsidy.

- 2.05 The guideline rent increase is the amount by which WG considers the Authority should increase weekly rents in order to make progress towards achievement of the key WG objective of “benchmark” rents where Local Authority and Registered Social Landlords (RSL) rents for similar properties in similar areas are broadly the same. WG stipulates that in order to achieve this Local Authority Guideline rents should increase by RPI (Sept figure)+2%, and Housing Association rents by RPI (Sept figure)+1%.
- 2.06 The management and maintenance allowance element of Housing Revenue account subsidy is the amount which WG considers each Local Authority requires per HRA dwelling to manage and maintain the housing stock held within the HRA.
- 2.07 Initial budget proposals for 2012/13 were approved by Executive on 24 January 2012 following consideration by the Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 20 January 2012. The revenue budget and capital programme proposals were welcomed by scrutiny and no changes were requested to the initial budget proposals set out by the Executive. A summary of the questions raised at the scrutiny meeting and responses provided is included as Appendix 5.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

Revenue Budget 2012/13

- 3.01 The final Housing Revenue Account subsidy and Item 8 determinations were received from WG on the 1 February 2012, and there was no change from the figures received at the draft stage as included in the report to Executive on 24 January. It increases the all-Wales weekly guideline rent by 5.1%. This reflects a temporary suspension from the policy of using the September RPI figure (which was 5.6%), and instead utilising the average RPI for the year which is 5.1%. The consultation suspends the rent convergence policy and applies a zero% real increase to both RSL benchmark rents and the all-Wales Local Authority guideline rent for 2012-13.
- 3.02 The final guideline weekly rent increase for Flintshire for 2012/13 as per the consultation is £3.09 per week, (on a 52 week collection basis). This is a percentage increase of 4.75%. (This compares to a 2011/12 average rent increase of 5%). The Management and Maintenance allowance element of Housing Revenue Account Subsidy is increased to £2,448 per dwelling for each local authority, reflecting an increase of £181 per dwelling (8.0%) on 2011/12.
- 3.03 **Rent Increase - Garages**
It is recommended that the guideline rent increase is also applied to all garage rents. The proposed rent level for all HRA garages is £4.05 per week an increase of 19 pence per week.
- 3.04 **Service Charges - Communal Heating Schemes**
The year end balance on the communal heating reserve account at 2010/11 is £0.077m. The proposed changes to current charges are intended to ensure that each

communal heating scheme recovers the full energy cost charged in respect of individual schemes. Details of the proposed charges in 2012/13 for each scheme are provided at Appendix 3.

- 3.05 The current levels of benefit claimants amongst Flintshire housing tenants are illustrated in the table below :-

Flintshire Tenants - Housing Benefit Claimants

<u>Benefit Status :</u>	<u>Tenants :</u>	
	<u>Number</u>	<u>%</u>
Full or partial benefit	4,957	66.7
Full rent	2,491	33.3
Total :	7,448	100.0

As illustrated above, almost 67% of the Council's 7,448 tenants, would face no additional hardship as a consequence of the proposed rent increases. This will be met by housing benefit subject to claimants personal circumstances remaining the same. Those tenants who are not currently in receipt of benefit will naturally have to meet the full increase in rent, unless they become eligible for housing benefit.

KEY AREAS OF EXPENDITURE

- 3.06 **Repairs and Maintenance**

The housing repairs service is continuing its drive to develop into a modern and efficient customer focused service, through the implementation of new technology, lean processes and customer focused working practices to deliver continuous improvement. This is reflected in the budget efficiencies identified in this report and new items of expenditure to support further development in 2012/13. Repairs and Maintenance is the largest element of expenditure within the HRA (38.6%) and equates to a unit cost of £1,179 per property in 2012/13. Therefore just under half of the Management and Maintenance allowance is used on day to day repairs and the running of this service. For comparison in 2012/13 proposals Denbighshire is 22.9% with a unit cost of £814 per property and Wrexham is 41.3% with a unit cost of £1,164 per property.

- 3.07 **Removal of Trading Account**

In December 2011 the Executive approved the ending of the historic accounting arrangements for the Building Maintenance Trading Account and agreed a new set of performance indicators to measure both the cost effectiveness and quality of service delivery. This new system will focus on benchmarking and will enable the Asset Management team to develop a modern, performance driven service with an improved understanding of what drives costs and how to achieve 'value for money'.

The trading account has been removed for the 2012/13 budget and the Repairs and Maintenance budget now includes all costs for the Housing Asset Service.

3.08 **Housing Asset Service Restructure**

The financial impact of the Housing Asset Service restructure has been included in the 2012/13 budget proposals. This restructure supports a modern delivery of the service and will result in savings of £0.119m per annum.

3.09 **Fleet Operation Review**

Following the ongoing review of fleet operations, savings of £0.081m per annum have been included in the 2012/13 budget.

3.10 **Stores Outsourcing**

The materials purchased through stores are to be outsourced to Travis Perkins (decision of the Executive June 2010), and will enable repairs and maintenance to maximise efficiencies through large scale purchasing power. Efficiencies of £0.102m per annum have been included in the 2012/13 budget to reflect this.

3.11 **Relocation of Canton Office Staff**

The relocation of Canton office staff to Flint offices was implemented in 2011/12 following the mobile working and stores outsourcing reviews. This move supported the objectives of the Flintshire Futures Programme in the achievement of both service improvements and organisational efficiencies over the next 3 years. Overall office revenue costs are expected to reduce and anticipated savings of £0.096m per annum have been included in the 2012/13 budget.

3.12 **Mobile Working**

Flintshire were successful in 2011/12 in gaining Invest to Save funding from the Welsh Government which was used to introduce Mobile Working technology. This needs to be repaid over two years and a pressure of £0.014m is included to meet the final payment in 2012/13. However, as can be seen from the detail provided above, this service improvement has delivered operating cost efficiencies.

3.13 **Estate Management**

The Head of Housing set a target for the Estate Management service to achieve an efficiency of 5% on the 2011/12 budget. (If pressures are offset by efficiencies then an overall saving of 5.4% has been achieved). This was achieved through savings identified within the housing management restructure, communal area cleaning and ground works. A total efficiency of £0.140m per annum. A pressure of £0.020m per annum for a trainee modern apprentice has been included within tenant participation as agreed in the Choices document, as has a £0.020m one year pressure for water rates charges collection on behalf of tenants

3.14 **Home Ownership**

There has been a dramatic decrease in the number of Right to Buy sales in the last four years. Therefore, for budget purposes, zero sales have been assumed for 2012/13. This has a minimal impact on the revenue budget as the only reduction of

revenue income is the minor administration fees which are recoverable against the usable element of the capital receipt.

3.15 **Allocations and Welfare**

The majority of these costs relate to the tenancy applications and allocations service. Also included within this area are the budgets for communal laundries and community meeting rooms for tenants. The Allocations and Welfare budget holders were also set a target to achieve a 5% efficiency saving on the 2011/12 budget. (If pressures are offset by efficiencies then an overall saving of 15% has been achieved). Savings included in the budget are £0.008m per annum for community room cleaning and utilities and Housing management restructure efficiency of £0.032m per annum.

3.16 **Capital Expenditure from Revenue Account**

Capital expenditure from the revenue account (CERA) enables additional investment in the HRA Capital Programme. The use of this additional source of financing for capital improvements helps to progress the efforts to achieve the requirements of the Welsh Housing Quality Standard (WHQS). An investment of £3.937m has been included in the 2012/13 budget which is an increase of £1.152m on the 2011/12 budget.

3.17 **Finance and Support**

Contributing towards the target to achieve a 5% efficiency saving on the 2011/12 budget for finance and support are £0.045m savings per annum identified through the renegotiation of the insurance charges for the HRA, £0.035m savings per annum on conferencing and seminar costs and £0.025m efficiency per annum identified from the restructure of support staff.

3.18 A £0.076m pressure per annum has been included in the budget for a P.A to the Head of Housing and an increased charge for the Head of Housing to the HRA following a review of time allocation.

3.19 A one year pressure of £0.083m has been identified to further improve customer focus and business development. This will enable a number of improvements to be taken forward and include:-

3.20 A one year pressure of £0.055m to implement Voluntas and Housemark (These are benchmarking and independent tenant satisfaction assessment services). These will enable the housing service to benchmark performance against other local authorities on repairs and maintenance.

3.21 A one year pressure of £0.030m to further develop the IBS rents system and Capital programme management system following Lean reviews.

3.22 **Stock Options**

A budget reduction of £0.067m has been included in respect of the provision for statutory consultation costs on the ballot process, due to the removal of a one-off pressure included in 2011/12.

3.23 Capitalised Salaries

A proposal has been developed to create an in-house team to manage the adaptations for HRA disabled facilities grants. This has been included in the budget, subject to approval. This will prevent the need to tender which causes time delays and therefore should enable properties to be adapted more quickly so reducing waiting times whilst supporting the local area by creating additional jobs. The expectation is that this proposal could deliver the same number of adaptations as in 2011/12 with an estimated saving of £0.015m.

3.24 Budget Pressures & Efficiencies

The budget pressures and efficiencies are set out in detail in Appendix 2, resulting in a net budget saving of £0.304m.

3.25 The closing balance is 3.25% of total budgeted expenditure which is a reduction of 0.25% on the closing balance of 3.5% in 2011/12. This is reflective of the increased financial control within the HRA and if not required in year, additional funds could be made available for further works in the capital programme.

3.26 HRA Capital Programme 2012/13

3.27 Executive approved a 6 year capital improvement programme commencing in 2012/13, on 19th July 2011. This will mean that at the end of that time all council homes will have a WHQS standard kitchen, heating system and smoke detector. In addition 1300 homes will have WHQS standard bathrooms. This budget proposes sufficient resource to meet the year 1 capital programme commitments.

The proposed HRA capital programme is £9.398m including £5.200m major repairs allowance from WG, £3.937m CERA contribution and ringfenced land receipts of £0.261m. This ringfenced work will only be undertaken when the capital receipts are realised. Programme details (including those subject to 'ringfencing' arrangements) are included in Appendix 4 to this report.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 Members are asked to approve and recommend to County Council on 21 February 2012 :

- i. The proposed HRA budget for 2012/13 as set out in Appendix 1, incorporating the Pressures and Efficiencies in Appendix 2.
- ii. The level of rent and service charges for 2012/13 as set out in paragraphs 3.02 to 3.04 including the communal heating proposals in Appendix 3.
- iii. The level of projected balances at 31st March 2013 of 3.25% of total expenditure.
- iv. The proposed HRA capital programme as set out in Appendix 4.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 The Council has a statutory duty to review the income and expenditure of the HRA, and to set a budget for the forthcoming financial year which avoids a deficit closing balance position. This report sets out how this can be achieved for the Council in 2012/13. The key financial assumptions on which this is proposed are set out in Appendix 2. The proposed budget estimates a closing balance of 3.25 % of total expenditure.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

- 6.01 HRA activity helps alleviate poverty by providing safe and secure homes that are energy efficient and economical to run. The ongoing capital programme maintains the impetus to upgrade heating etc., to minimise fuel use and thereby boost disposable income.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 7.01 There are no direct environmental impacts arising from the HRA budget as outlined within the report.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

- 8.01 There are no direct equalities impacts arising from this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.01 There are no direct personnel implications arising from this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

- 10.01 Consultation with all tenants over any rent increase must take place and must be at least 28 days before any rent increase is due to come into effect.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

It is the usual practice to hold a special consultation meeting with the Flintshire Federation of Tenants and Residents Associations. A meeting with the Federation took place on 15 January. The Federation supported the proposals contained in the report. In addition early discussions on potential rent increases took place with tenants at the tenants conference on 12 December 2011.

12.00 APPENDICES

- 12.01 HRA Summary - Appendix 1
HRA Budget Pressures and Savings - Appendix 2
Summary of proposed Communal Heating Scheme service charges - Appendix 3
HRA Capital programme - Appendix 4

Summary of questions and responses - Appendix 5

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Various budget monitoring papers.

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APPENDIX 1 - HRA BUDGET 2012/13

	2011/12 Budget	2012/13 Budget	Variance	Variation
INCOME				
Rents (Council Dwellings & Garages)	-24,529,280	-25,355,424	-826,144	3%
Capitalised Salaries	-361,516	-1,075,138	-713,622	197%
Interest on RTB Mortgages	-4,000	-4,000	0	0%
	-24,894,796	-26,434,562	-1,539,766	
EXPENDITURE				
HRA Subsidy (Negative/Deficit)	6,235,153	5,968,474	-266,679	-4%
Capital Financing - Loan Charges	2,329,417	2,349,042	19,625	1%
Building Maintenance Trading Account	0	0	0	
Estate Management	1,811,694	1,730,197	-81,497	-4.5%
Home Ownership	5,775	-1,225	-7,000	-121%
Allocations and Welfare	200,850	170,778	-30,072	-15%
Repairs and Maintenance	9,036,742	8,777,977	-258,765	-3%
Landlord Services	267,000	317,901	50,901	19%
Welsh Housing Quality Standard - CERA	2,785,000	3,937,000	1,152,000	41%
Supporting People Contribution to Council Fund	33,878	0	-33,878	-100%
Finance and Support	2,143,773	2,346,122	202,349	9%
Stock Options	67,000	0	-67,000	-100%
Capitalised Salaries	361,516	1,075,138	713,622	197%
	25,277,798	26,671,404	1,393,606	
(Surplus) / Deficit for the year	383,002	236,842	-146,160	
Opening Balance	-1,486,601	-1,103,599	383,002	
HRA Closing Balance	-1,103,599	-866,757	236,842	
% of Total Expenditure (Guideline 3%)	4.37%	3.25%		

HRA BUDGET PRESSURES & SAVINGS OPTIONS- Appendix 2

Code	Bid Ref	ADDITIONAL CAPITAL INVESTMENT	2012/13 £	Notes
HRP/HRR		CERA	1,152,000	Increased contribution to the Capital programme

Code	Bid Ref	EFFICIENCY SAVINGS OPTIONS	2012/13 £	Notes
HRM	R	SAVINGS ON MATERIALS	-101,600	Negotiation of Travis Perkins contract and outsourcing stores
HRM	R	FLEET	-81,804	Review of Fleet contracts
HRM	R	CANTON DEPOT	-95,605	Relocation to Flint Offices
HRM	R	REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE RESTRUCTURE	-113,126	Restructure of the Housing Assets service
HRG	R	RTB INCOME	-7,000	Capitalised Expenditure
HRX	R	CONFERENCE/SEMINAR	-35,000	Review of conferencing and seminar costs
HRX	R	STOCK OPTIONS	-67,000	Reversal of 1 year pressure
HRX	R	INSURANCE	-45,114	Renegotiation of insurance contract
HRX	R	SALARIES	-27,020	Support staff restructure - Finance and Admin
HRE/HRL	R	SALARIES	-73,533	Housing Management Restructure savings
HRE	R	ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR - WHMS	-25,000	Reversal of one year pressure - Welsh housing management standard
HRE	R	CLEANING CONTRACT	-9,128	Saving on external cleaning costs
HRE	R	GROUND WORKS	-30,000	Savings on Grounds maintenance costs
HRL	R	UTILITIES AND CLEANING CONTRACT	-7,795	Savings on cleaning costs in communal areas
Total Savings			-718,724	

Code	Bid Ref	BUDGET PRESSURES/SERVICE IMPROVEMENTS	2012/13	Notes
HRX	R	SALARIES	76,952	Head of Housing and inclusion of P.A costs
HRE	R	SALARIES	18,809	Trainee Modern Apprentice as per the Choices Document

HRE	R	TRAVEL	4,106	Budget Realignment
HRE		WATER COLLECTION	20,000	Water charges collection
HRX		CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SURVEY	40,000	Develop tenant satisfaction
HRX		SOFTWARE COSTS	30,000	IBS development costs for Rents, and planned programmed works
HRX	R	HOUSEMARK BENCHMARKING TOOLKIT	13,500	Repairs and maintenance benchmarking other Local Authorities
HRE		CCTV	5,050	Additional ASB measures
HRM		HARDWARE	20,000	AMTECH hardware costs for Electricians
HRM		AGILE WORKING LOAN REPAYMENT	14,000	Paid now over 2 years rather than three. Final year 12/13.
HRD		MAISONETTES - FLINT REGENERATION	150,000	Disruption payments
HRM	R	SUPPLIES	22,124	Increase in mobile phone costs for mobile working
Total Pressures			414,541	

Appendix 3 - Communal Heating Charges

Communal Area	Current Av. Weekly Charge	Weekly Avg. Charge	Variance to current Av. Weekly charge
Bolingbroke Heights	£7.69	£6.89	(0.79)
Richard Heights	£7.72	£6.92	(0.79)
Coleshill Lea	£9.18	£8.24	(0.95)
Earls Lea	£9.18	£8.24	(0.95)
Feathers Lea	£9.18	£8.24	(0.95)
Hills Lea	£9.18	£8.24	(0.95)
Castle Heights	£9.67	£8.65	(1.01)
Mumforth Walk	£10.79	£9.66	(1.13)
Swan Walk	£11.00	£9.85	(1.15)
Sydney Walk	£10.84	£9.71	(1.13)
Rosemary Walk	£10.92	£9.77	(1.14)
Perrins Walk	£10.97	£9.82	(1.15)
Muspratt Walk	£10.89	£9.75	(1.14)
Mount Walk	£10.91	£9.77	(1.14)
Duke Walk	£10.41	£9.32	(1.09)
Llwyn Beuno	£10.15	£7.91	(2.24)
Llwyn Aled	£9.59	£8.38	(1.21)
Panton Place	£7.44	£6.54	(0.91)
Acacia Close	£10.89	£8.85	(2.04)
Glan-y-Morfa Court	£6.30	£5.90	(0.40)
Chapel Court	£7.56	£6.15	(1.41)

Proposed HRA Capital Programme 2012/13

HRA Capital programme 2012/13	Base Programme £m	Work dependant on Capital Receipts £m	Total Programme £m	Prioritisation of Capital Receipts work
Smoke Alarm Installations	0.269		0.269	
Heating Replacement - Programme	2.735		2.735	
Kitchen Replacements - Programme	3.818	0.221	4.039	1
Bathroom Replacement - Programme	0.215		0.215	
HRA contribution to Flintshire Connects	0.050		0.050	
Disabled Facility Grants (DFG) - Mandatory	0.810	0.040	0.850	2
Flint Maisonettes - Regeneration	0.150		0.150	
Minor Adaptations	0.150		0.150	
Vacant Properties - General	0.130		0.130	
Urgent Health and Safety works	0.450		0.450	
Capitalised Salaries	0.360		0.360	
2012/13 Budget	9.137	0.261	9.398	

Funding - Base Programme

	£m	£m	£m
M.R.A	5.200		
CERA	3.937		
	<u>9.137</u>		

Capital Receipts

RTB's 12/13		0.000	
Land Receipts		0.261	
		<u>0.261</u>	

HRA Capital Funding 2012/13 Programme**9.398**

OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY
Housing Revenue Account - Initial Budget Proposals 2012/13
Appendix 5

No.	Comments and Questions:	Responses:
1.0	<p><u>HRA revenue budget 2012/13</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the total cost for training and development in the HRA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ £32.5k is in the 2012/13 HRA budget for training and development.
2.0	<p><u>HRA Capital programme 2012/13</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Will some tenants have a new kitchen and a bathroom within the 6 year programme? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Tenants will have either a new kitchen or bathroom, although if a tenant has recently had one of these fitted they may have both within the next 6 years as the programme is rolled out.
3.0	<p><u>General –</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Progress on the audit of empty properties 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ This is a key part of regional funding with £5m identified for Flintshire. Harder to let properties are to be used to provide some temporary units for those experiencing homelessness.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 4

REPORT TO: **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**
DATE : **21 FEBRUARY 2012**
REPORT BY: **HEAD OF FINANCE (TREASURER AND ADMINISTRATOR TO THE FUND)**
SUBJECT : **CLWYD PENSION FUND UPDATE**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To update Members on issues relating to the Clwyd Pension Fund ("the Fund").

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 As set out in previous reports to Council, the Clwyd Pension Fund is a defined benefit final salary scheme under which the benefits are specified in the governing legislation (the Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations). The required levels of employee contributions are also specified in the Regulations. Employer contributions are determined in accordance with the Regulations which require that an actuarial valuation is completed every 3 years.

2.02 The Fund is administered by Flintshire County Council on a "lead authority" basis. Flintshire County Council is a member of the Fund along with Wrexham County Borough Council, Denbighshire County Council and a range of other scheduled and admitted bodies.

2.03 Pension Fund matters are a Council rather than Executive function. Authority to manage the Clwyd Pension Fund is delegated to the Head of Finance who is Treasurer and Administrator to the Fund. The Clwyd Pension Fund Panel, made up of elected Members from Flintshire, Wrexham and Denbighshire, is an advisory body on pension fund issues. The Panel also has a Staff/Union Observer nominated by Trade Unions and is advised by an Independent Adviser/Consultant.

2.04 The Pension Fund Panel holds quarterly meetings, the minutes of which are available from the Contact Officer.

2.05 The Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) require Administering Authorities to publish an Annual Report. The Clwyd Pension Fund Annual Report contains an update on the Fund's:-

- Governance arrangements;
- Funding Strategy;
- Investment Strategy;
- Administration;
- Communication Strategy.

Date: 15/02/2012

The Annual Report is available on the Clwyd Pension Fund website, www.clwydpensionfund.org.uk.

- 2.06 The Fund's Annual Joint Consultative Meeting (AJCM) with employers and employee representatives, was held on 4th November 2011. Presentations were received from the Treasurer and Administrator to the Fund, Clwyd Pension Fund Manager the Fund's Independent Advisor / Consultant and the Fund's Actuary (Mercers).
- 2.07 Since 31st March 2011, the market value of the Fund has marginally reduced from £1,051bn to £1.041bn, as at 31st December 2011, as volatility in global financial markets continues.
- 2.08 To assist Member's, the Treasurer and Administrator's commentary, which is an extract from the Annual Report 2010/11 is shown as Appendix 1. This commentary covers the period from April 2010 to September 2011. The remainder of this report summarises the main issues currently being considered by the Clwyd Pension Fund Panel.

3.00 UPDATE

- 3.01 Following a review of public sector pension provision led by Lord Hutton, the Government, employers and unions are involved in on-going negotiations on potential changes to Local Government Pension Scheme. The details of these discussions are not known at this time.
- 3.02 The Society of Welsh Treasurers (Pensions Sub-Group) has commissioned work to look at collaboration opportunities across the eight Funds in Wales. A Project Initiation Document (PID) for an All Wales Pensions Collaboration Project has been agreed. The project will produce an Outline Business Case (OBC) for the optimal number of LGPS funds in Wales and the most appropriate organisational structure. This will also include proposals for external collaboration, including joint procurement opportunities and other efficiency measures. The project features in the COMPACT on collaboration in Wales following the Simpson Review. It is planned that an Outline Business Case report will be completed by October 2012. Pension Officers from across the 8 Welsh Pension Funds are contributing to the Outline Business Case. The Clwyd Fund is represented by the Head of Finance on the Project Board, and the Clwyd Pension Fund Manager is a member of the Project Team. Two other senior pension officers from the Council are contributing to the project through specific workstreams.
- 3.03 The Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) has published a new Code of Practice, The CIPFA Knowledge and Skills Framework. This has been adopted by the Fund and will be used by Members and Officers going forward to identify any knowledge or skills gaps so that appropriate training can be arranged. The Council will be asked to endorse the adoption of this new Code by incorporating appropriate statements into the Council's Financial Procedures. A report

recommending changes to the Council's Financial Procedures is planned to be submitted to Council in March 2012.

- 3.04 Employing bodies, including Flintshire County Council, started to make revised contributions into the Pension Fund from 1st April 2011, following the 2010 Actuarial Valuation. The contributions have been agreed for three years up to and including 2013/14 and, unless otherwise decided by Central Government, cannot be changed. This provides budget certainty for pension costs for this period, irrespective of the investment performance of the Pension Fund.
- 3.05 As required by LGPS Investment Regulations, investments are monitored quarterly and performance reported in detail to the Clwyd Pension Fund Panel. Since the Actuarial Valuation date of March 2010, financial markets have continued to be extremely volatile and gilt yields have been at historically low levels. A combination of these factors impacts on the return possible from the investments but also the low gilt yield increases the value of pension fund liabilities. These market factors are impacting on the performance of all pension funds in both the public and private sector. Although the Clwyd Pension Fund has a complex investment strategy and has been recognised for excellence through industry award nominations, it is not immune to the current economic climate. The funding position (assets as a percentage of liabilities) was 72% as at the last Valuation date in March 2010, but is now estimated to have fallen to 59% as at December 2011. As noted earlier, this is not an immediate problem for employers as this will not impact on employer contributions until 2014/15, by which time it is hoped the economic environment will improve.
- 3.06 In relation to the above, pension officers and adviser are currently researching methods of further reducing funding risk. Pension Fund Panel Members have received training in the concept of a 'flight-path' back to 100% funding and a tender for a partner to implement a strategy will be issued later in the year. The Fund will be one of the first Local Government Pension Funds to implement such an approach.
- 3.07 The Fund's Communication Strategy continues to be implemented and employers, members and pensioners receive various updates on the Pension Fund and any changes.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 Members are asked to note the report.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 None directly as a result of this report.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

- 6.01 None directly as a result of this report.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None directly as a result of this report.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 None directly as a result of this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None directly as a result of this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None directly as a result of this report.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None directly as a result of this report.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Extract from Clwyd Pension Fund Annual Report

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Clwyd Pension Fund Annual Report

Contact Officer: Philip Latham
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Treasurer and Administrator's Report

Introduction

The financial year 2010/11 was a year of review, decision and implementation for the Clwyd Pension Fund through the completion of the triennial valuation, and the implementation of a revised investment strategy. Through this Annual Report, I would like to set out the main issues which have been addressed during the year and give a progress update for 2011/12.



Kerry Feather

The Clwyd Pension Fund Panel meets quarterly and the agenda covers three main areas: Governance, Investment and Administration. My report follows these three main themes.

Governance

Two major external reviews were completed, the results of which will eventually have a major impact on the Fund, employers and members.

1. The Public Service Pensions Commission, led by John Hutton, which had been commissioned by the UK Government to conduct a structural review of public service pension provision, including the Local Government Pension Scheme.
2. PricewaterhouseCoopers had been commissioned by the Society of Welsh Treasurers (Pensions Sub Group) to report on whether there is a business case for future collaborative models for the eight Welsh Local Government Pension Funds. Options could range from closer collaboration, sharing some functions or a single fund across Wales.

The 'Hutton Report' made 27 recommendations on public sector pension provision and the Government has accepted the broad principles as a basis for consultation. Long term reforms are unlikely to come into force before 2015 but the new headline scheme design for the LGPS should be submitted to the Treasury by October 2011.

In the shorter term, the Government has targeted savings from the LGPS of £900m by 2014/15, which is equivalent to an average increase of 3.2% on employee contributions, when compared with other public pension schemes. However, the Government have recognised that the funded nature of the LGPS means that other options can be considered to make the saving. The Local Government Group and Trade Unions have been invited to consider a package of measures, so statutory consultation can commence in October 2011, with amended Regulations coming into force from 1st April 2012.

In terms of the management of the eight pension funds in Wales, the Pensions Sub Group concluded, on the basis of the findings of the PWC report, that there is a 'prima facie' case to rationalise the number of Local Government Pension Funds in Wales which could improve efficiency and service standards. This work is being taken forward and features in the draft COMPACT on collaboration in Wales following the Simpson Review.

The changes outlined above increase the demands on resources and pension officers who will be required to both contribute to and implement these changes. The new organisational structure already agreed for Pensions, in anticipation of such reforms, will be implemented in 2011/12, to meet the challenges ahead and maintain and improve the service to employers and members.





This Annual Report includes details of attendance by members at Panel meetings and the training they have received during the year. These details reflect the commitment to the Fund from the elected representatives from Denbighshire County Council, Flintshire County Council and Wrexham County Borough Council. In addition, CIPFA are consulting on a new Code of Practice, CIPFA Knowledge and Skills Framework. This will be adopted by the Fund and will be used by Members and Officers going forward to identify any knowledge or skill gaps, so that appropriate training can be arranged.

Internal and external audit reports are reported to the Panel. There were three internal audits relating to 2010/11, governance, investments and administration. Two received the highest level of assurance and governance the second level. This relates to an known issue where the management of the Fund, which is currently delegated to me, as Treasurer and Administrator for the Fund supported by an advisory Member Panel would, in order to follow best practice guidance, transfer to a newly constituted Pension Fund Committee and that there should be wider representation of stakeholders. I am in agreement with this recommendation and so are the members of the Clwyd Pension Fund Panel. The intention is to consult with employers when more is known about the future management of funds in Wales.

The external auditors, Wales Audit Office, have not raised any major issues about the management of the Fund. The audit opinion was unqualified but an 'emphasis of matter' has been included under the audit opinion to draw the readers' attention to the uncertainties relating to the valuation of unquoted investments. The enclosed Accounts comply with new International Accounting Standards and readers may notice the increased level of detail required in the disclosures on investment risk management.

For further information on the governance arrangements for the Fund please refer to the Governance and Compliance Statement which is included in this Annual Report.

Investment and Funding Strategy

After the dramatic events in financial markets in 2008/09, and the recovery in 2009/10, 2010/11 saw a return to more normal levels of investment return. However at the time of writing we now appear to be faced with financial market volatility and there is some doubt whether we have escaped the downturn that commenced in 2007.

As at the 31st March 2011, the Fund was valued over £1bn for the first time, an increase of approximately £100m from 31st March 2010. It is estimated that the funding level had marginally improved from 72% as at the Actuarial Valuation date of 31st March 2010 to 74%, as at 31st March 2011.

The Fund undertakes a fundamental review of its investment strategy at least every four years. The recommendations from the 2010 Review were agreed by the Panel in August 2010. The new investment strategy and fund management arrangements were in place by 1st April 2011. The aim of the investment strategy remains to generate returns to meet future pension liabilities and contribute towards repaying the current deficit. In simple terms, it is more beneficial to stakeholders for the assets to fund liabilities than employee and employer contributions.

Although, the current investment strategy has been recognised as being advanced and has won several awards for its diversification, it did not protect the Fund value as hoped during the financial crisis. This Fund will always learn from experience and change its approach as the global financial environment changes. The main themes include an increased allocation to developing markets and a reduction in the allocation to equity risk in favour of fund managers with the flexibility to move between assets classes.



The Clwyd Pension Fund's investment strategy differs from the average Local Government Pension Fund in terms of asset allocation. The average equity allocation is 64% compared with the Fund's 43%. In the main the difference is invested in a variety of alternative investment strategies which the Fund believes will either provide additional return or reduce the volatility of returns or partially hedge some of the key liability risks, such as inflation. As a result, peer group performance comparison will also vary in the short and medium term. A further summary can be found in the Investment Section of this Annual Report and the details in the enclosed revised Statement of Investment Principles (SIP).

The SIP includes a Sustainability Policy for the Fund and a new policy, the Financial Reporting Council's Stewardship Code. The Fund has always considered Responsible Ownership as part of the SIP; however, these Policies further enhances the approach and work will continue towards compliance in these areas.

The triennial Actuarial Valuation was completed along with a revised funding strategy after consultation with employers. The new employer contribution rates were introduced from 1st April 2011. Although, experience varied from employer to employer the overall objective to stabilise employer contributions was broadly achieved through changes to the funding strategy and extending the deficit recover period. At the previous Valuation the average employer contribution rate was 21.6% of pensionable pay which has reduced to 20.7% at the 2010 Valuation. The co-operation received from employers during this process is appreciated. The new Funding Strategy is enclosed and the Actuarial Valuation is on the Fund's website.

Administration

The demands on the Section continued in 2010/11 with a continuing increase in membership numbers.

A Pensions Administration Update is included in the Annual Report which outlines performance and developments within the service. The Fund is committed to enhancing communication with all stakeholders. For example a new web-site was launched in 2010 and 26 drop in surgeries were held which have been well received by members.

Recent developments which impact on employers and members are the changes to tax regulations and auto-enrolment into pension schemes. The Communication Strategy is included in the Annual Report.

It is more essential than ever that we are able to work jointly with all employers in the Fund over the coming years given the potential for changes to the scheme. This will ensure a quality service for the scheme members.

Conclusion

I would like to thank all those involved with management and administration of the Fund for their hard work and dedication during the year.

Finally, I invite any stakeholder to contact me or my officers with any comments or suggestions for improvement on any aspect on the management of the Fund.

Kerry Feather
Treasurer and Administrator for the Clwyd Pension Fund
September 2011.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 5

REPORT TO: **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**
DATE : **21 FEBRUARY 2012**
REPORT BY: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**
SUBJECT : **A COMPACT FOR CHANGE BETWEEN THE WELSH GOVERNMENT AND WELSH LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To recommend the adoption of the Compact between the Welsh Government and Welsh Local Government for referral to and adoption by Council.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The Compact for Change between the Welsh Government and Welsh Local Government report will be presented to Executive on the 21st February 2012. A copy of the report is attached as Appendix A to this report.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 A verbal update will be provided to Members at the meeting following consideration of this item at Executive.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That the Council recommend that Flintshire become a signatory to the Compact subject to sufficient governance arrangements being in place (as set out in 3.01 of the Executive report).

4.02 The Council reaffirm its commitment to collaboration with other local authorities and public bodies where the interests of Flintshire to protect/improve public services and to achieve efficiencies can be met.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 There should be no additional financial implications arising from this report as the financial implications of each project are carefully examined.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 Each of the three implementation contracts have a positive anti-poverty impact.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

Date: 15/02/2012

7.01 None arising directly from this report but to be considered within individual projects.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 Each of the three implementation contracts have a positive equalities impact.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None arising directly from this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Publication of this report constitutes consultation.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Publication of this report constitutes consultation.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Executive report dated 21 February 2012

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

As indicated in the report.

Contact Officer: Colin Everett
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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: _____

REPORT TO: **EXECUTIVE**
DATE : **21 FEBRUARY 2012**
REPORT BY: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**
SUBJECT : **A COMPACT FOR CHANGE BETWEEN THE WELSH
GOVERNMENT AND WELSH LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.01 To recommend the adoption of the Compact between the Welsh Government and Welsh Local Government for referral to and adoption by Council.

2.00 BACKGROUND

- 2.01 In the first quarter of 2011, the Welsh Government published the *Local, Regional and National: What services are best delivered where?* report (The Simpson Review) along with national reports on the delivery of education (Thomas Review) and social services (Sustainable Social Services). A key recommendation of the Simpson report was that:

"A Compact detailing the development of collaborative and national service delivery will be agreed by the Assembly Government and the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA). This Compact will set down a realistic but challenging timeline for dealing with our recommendations."

- 2.02 On 5th December 2011, the Welsh Government and the WLGA signed a Compact (copy attached as appendix 1). The Compact is an agreement between the Welsh Government and the WLGA, and both have requested that each local authority 'sign up' to demonstrate their commitment to collaboration and national policy. The Compact reflects progress and ambition for collaboration; discussions with the Welsh Government and the WLGA have emphasised that its delivery will help to strengthen the case for investment in Councils ahead of the next spending review. Also attached as appendix 2 is a letter from Carl Sergeant AM, the Minister for Local Government and Communities to Welsh Council Leaders, which he had asked be shared with all Members at the earliest opportunity.
- 2.03 There are three Implementation 'Contracts', which underpin the Compact based around (1) Education (2) Social Services and (3) other services. These 'contracts' set out actions and outline time tables for the collaborative work.
- 2.04 Flintshire has already committed to working in collaboration on a number of projects and service areas, not only with local authorities but across all public sector organisations. There are a number of significant collaboration programmes which are already underway in the region, for example:

Date: 15/02/2012

- Residual and food waste
 - School improvement
 - Transport
 - Social Services Commissioning
 - Planning: minerals and waste
 - ICT infrastructure
- 2.05 The Compact is consistent with the approach to collaboration which Flintshire is following and is broadly in partnership under the North Wales Regional Programmes.
- 2.06 An earlier version of this report was considered by the Corporate Resources O&S Committee at its meeting on 19th January. In inviting that Committee to consider the Compact, the potential risks and benefits for Flintshire were explored.
- 2.07 Within the Compact it is emphasised that:
- 'Transparent performance management and governance arrangements which allow councillors continued engagement in service scrutiny are prerequisites for effective collaboration. Increasingly councillors will also have to give due consideration to their role as community leaders and engage positively in the reform process, recognising that their role extends beyond their own borders.' and that
- 'There may be occasions when the case for change may be less strong or broadly neutral for one partner in collaboration than another. Relative scale of benefits should not be a reason to avoid working together where the outcome for public services will meet the criteria outlined above' (relating to greater good)
- 2.08 Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny resolved:
- "That having considered the contents and the implications of the Compact, both for Flintshire and the wider Local Government family and its relationship with the Welsh Government, the Committee recommends that Flintshire should be a signatory, with the following caveat "that this Council's commitment to collaboration with other local authorities and public bodies be re-affirmed, whenever this can either provide existing services more efficiently and/or provide better services at no additional cost, as long as a business case is provided and local sovereignty is protected through appropriate levels of democratic input and scrutiny".

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.01 Following assurances sought by Scrutiny and Audit Committee members to directly address the governance of collaboration and performance monitoring arrangements to protect the interests of Flintshire, the protocol outlined below, based on current practice, is proposed to strengthen the Compact:

- 1. For new collaborations** - the appropriate Overview & Scrutiny Committee will have a full report at the three stages of inception, outline

business case (OBC) and final business case (FBC) for major projects and that Committee's full input will be presented to Executive as part of the formal decision-making process;

- 2. Post-implementation of new collaborations** - the appropriate Overview & Scrutiny Committee will receive regular post-implementation performance reports (*at intervals to be agreed, for example, quarterly*) for the first 12 months following implementation and thereafter main-streamed reporting in our local performance reporting;
- 3. Members information on service changes** - bearing in mind the recent lessons learnt , the protocol for transition discussed at the Audit Committee at its meeting on 30th January 2012 will include the above and prior detailed notice to all Members over operational changes (e.g contacts, performance standards, service failure remedy routes etc); and
- 4. Regional scrutiny post implementation** - arrangements will be considered over and above the local arrangements on key collaborations e.g school improvement. This could have the shape, for example and using the same example, of the six local respective scrutiny chairs meeting to oversee implementation and to ensure thorough and timely reporting to their constituent authorities.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 That the Executive recommend to Council that Flintshire become a signatory to the Compact subject to sufficient governance arrangements being in place (as set out in 3.01 above).
- 4.02 The Council reaffirm its commitment to collaboration with other local authorities and public bodies where the interests of Flintshire to protect/improve public services and to achieve efficiencies can be met.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.01 There should be no additional financial implications arising from this report as the financial implications of each project are carefully examined.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

- 6.01 Each of the three implementation contracts have a positive anti-poverty impact.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

- 7.01 None arising directly from this report but to be considered within individual projects.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 Each of the three implementation contracts have a positive equalities impact.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None arising directly from this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Publication of this report constitutes consultation.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Publication of this report constitutes consultation.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 A Compact for Change between the Welsh Government and Welsh local government

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Report to Corporate Resources O&SC, 19th January 2012 together with resultant minute

Contact Officer: Robert Robins
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A Compact for Change between the Welsh Government and Welsh local government

Introduction

This Compact sets out the terms of a new relationship between the Welsh Government and local government, based on mutual respect and partnership. Its provisions and their delivery underpin the funding to be provided to local government over the period 2012 – 2014 and set the framework and realistic milestones for reform. Ultimately these reforms are intended to improve performance, efficiency and outcomes for the people of Wales.

Context

Public service delivery is at the heart of the Welsh Government's Programme for Government. Local government is a major service provider in Wales accounting for £5 billion of the Welsh Government budget. Welsh Ministers and locally elected councillors are committed to working in partnership to secure significant service improvement and greater efficiency by increasing the pace of public service reform. Strong collaborative leadership is critical to deliver that reform.

This Compact represents a clear statement of commitment by the Welsh Government and local government to prioritise actions that form the bedrock of substantial service reform and change in local government, bringing together the implementation of two major reviews and a Government policy statement that were published in the spring of 2011¹.

While this agreement is between the Welsh Government and local government, the Welsh Government is seeking more widely to achieve effective, locally-responsive services through collaborations across public service organisations as a part of the overall public service reform agenda.

The Compact provides clarification on timelines and accountability for delivering the necessary reforms and a robust monitoring and reporting framework will be established to support its implementation. A reformed Partnership Council will be responsible for monitoring progress.

Public Service Reform

Strengthening democratic accountability is a key commitment within the Welsh Government's Programme for Government. Decisions about how public services are planned and managed need to be taken through local democratic frameworks. Welsh Government and the 22 Welsh councils are committed to the local government model of democratically accountable unitary authorities close to their communities. Nevertheless, it is clear at a practical level that the harsh economic climate and increasing service

¹ The Simpson Review '*Local, Regional, National: What Services are Delivered Where*'; The Vivian Thomas Review: '*The Structure of Education Services in Wales*'; and '*Sustainable Social Services for Wales, A Framework for Action*'

demands have led to significant challenges in relation to performance. Collaboration is one of the key tools in dealing with the challenges of variable service quality, fragmented delivery, duplication of effort and inefficiency.

The Compact is based on the development of voluntary collaborations between councils. The 2009 Local Government Measure provides vital enabling power to remove any statutory or other obstacles to councils collaborating to secure their duty towards continuous improvement and meet their improvement objectives. There should therefore be few if any legal barriers remaining. The 2009 Measure gives Welsh Ministers reserve powers to direct collaboration and they would be obliged to consider the use of these powers in the face of evidence that a collaborative opportunity had not been taken where there was a clear business case.

The purpose of this Compact is to deliver resource savings and demonstrable improvements in service delivery for the people of Wales. The case for change must be evidenced against these criteria. Where there is a transparent case for change with demonstrable service or resource benefits collaboration is expected to proceed. There may be occasions when the case for change may be less strong or broadly neutral for one partner in collaboration than another. Relative scale of benefits should not be a reason to avoid working together where the outcome for public services will meet the criteria outlined above.

The Welsh Government's established Collaborative Footprint for Public Services² provides clarity around regional areas based on the Local Health Board and police authority boundaries to provide a stable and coherent framework that supports collaborative relationships. There is a shared expectation that future collaborative working will be aligned to this footprint, including aggregation of these areas where larger scale regional delivery of services is required or appropriate.

The Role of the Welsh Government

The Welsh Government will continue to ensure that local government in Wales receives an appropriate settlement to help them to protect vital services in the face of severe funding pressures and plan and implement reform in a coherent and strategic way.

Following discussions with the WLGA the Welsh Government undertakes to help local authorities meet increasing revenue pressures, while optimising levels of unsupported borrowing in support of shared infrastructure priorities. In particular, this help would take the form of ongoing funding to address revenue pressures, allowing local authorities to switch resources into capital investment programmes. The funding would be available over an agreed period. In return, local government undertakes to ensure that capital

²

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/localgovernment/partnership/council/agendas/37thmeeting/?lang=en>

investment programmes financed with newly released funds are additional to planned capital investment, and would be used to finance shared and mutually agreed capital investment priorities.

To support the implementation of the Compact the Welsh Government will:

- support the principles of this Compact for the period of this Government, reviewing the achievements and future ambitions through the Partnership Council;
- foster an environment to support delivery and address barriers and issues which lie outside the control of Local Government;
- simplify the constraints and requirements within which Local Government plan;
- support the development of single integrated plans in an area to help to ensure that Local Government and public services are designed and delivered collaboratively according to community need;
- continue to work closely with local government to maximise investment under the National Infrastructure Plan;
- explore opportunities for strengthening the connection between the provision of funding and the delivery of outcomes; and
- seek to reduce the number of specific grants and hypothecated funding.

The Role of Local Government

Local Government will undertake to deliver the commitments set out in this Compact in partnership with Welsh Government. For local councillors, hand in hand with their responsibility to voice the needs and aspirations of their communities, is a growing role in supporting collaborative activity in pursuit of securing service or efficiency improvements. Given their engagement with local issues councillors are well placed to identify the need for services across areas and to rigorously challenge and scrutinise service design and delivery. The Compact fully recognises the vital role that local councillors undertake. To sustain services councillors will need to encourage and support collaborative arrangements when they reduce cost and / or improve services.

Transparent performance management and governance arrangements which allow councillors continued engagement in service scrutiny are prerequisites for effective collaboration. Increasingly Councillors will also have to give due consideration to their role as community leaders and engage positively in the reform process, recognising that their role extends beyond their own borders.

Governance

A robust monitoring and reporting framework will be established to support the implementation of the Compact and this responsibility will lie with a reformed Partnership Council for Wales.

Supporting the Partnership Council in monitoring public service improvement will be the Public Service Leadership Group (PSLG). The Organisational

Development and Simpson Implementation national work programme of the PSLG will act as the Programme Board for the implementation of the Simpson Review. Within the Implementation Contracts there are specific commitments in the areas of education and social services, which will be monitored through existing Ministerial governance arrangements. Where appropriate, issues will be taken to other fora, such as the Workforce Partnership Council and the Third Sector Partnership Council for consideration or agreement.

Supporting the Delivery of the Compact

There will be instances when greater collaboration will bring financial benefits to a group of organisations but there will be a range of benefits accruing to the participants and for some the initial investment costs may reduce the attractiveness of the proposition. Schemes such as Invest to Save and the European Social Fund can play an important role as well as other transitional or transformative funding in supporting projects where the initial investment costs are a significant inhibitor to change.

The successful delivery of change also requires significant investment in change management and organisational development, to effectively support the various important staffing issues that will ensue. The Workforce Partnership Council will be responsible for supporting the workforce through the necessary changes to service delivery. The WLGA will continue to facilitate relevant trade unions consultation on a regional basis in line with the Joint Council for Wales' revised 'Managing Change in Partnership Position Statement'. At the heart of this commitment is the value and emphasis we place on supporting and developing the public service workforce.

Consequences

The three Implementation Contracts that make up this Compact set out agreed actions and timelines for the delivery of change in the way services are delivered by local government. These milestones and deadlines are realistic but challenging. Both the Welsh Government and local government are agreeing this Compact in expectation that it will be delivered.

Delivery of the Compact by local government will help to strengthen the case for investment in councils ahead of the next spending review. The key features contained in the three Implementation Contracts have been subject to extensive negotiations between Welsh Government and local government. The clear expectation is that local government will now fully deliver on these commitments and that Welsh Government will support them in this undertaking.

Local government accepts that in light of such agreements that non delivery would see recourse to a range of legislative and other options by Welsh Government to determine the future structure and direction of services. This applies in particular in the critical areas of the education and social care implementation contracts.

Conclusion

This Compact is a very significant agreement. For the first time the Welsh Government and local government have an agreed programme of change. This sits within and supports a clear framework of national policies and priorities for delivery set out in the Programme for Government. Both the Welsh Government and local government accept that the delivery of this programme will require clarity and support from the Welsh Government as well as strong leadership at a local level to consider the benefits to services and citizens more widely.

The financial challenges for the public sector are unlikely to ease in the next spending review period. Making these fundamental changes quickly is therefore critically important to protecting and improving public services. This Compact is a visible symbol of the commitment of the Welsh Government and local government to work together in partnership to tackle the challenges we face to support communities and people across Wales.

On behalf of the



Welsh Government



Welsh Local Government Association

Leighton Andrews, AM

Minister for Education and Skills

Cllr Meryl Gravell MBE

Presiding Officer, WLGA

Implementation Contracts

The following three sections of the Compact are specific Implementation Contracts with local government. They address education, social services and the recommendations of the Simpson Report.

Of the 21 recommendations of the Simpson Report recommendations 4 & 5 are addressed in the Education Contract; recommendations 6 & 7 are addressed in the social service contract; and recommendations 8 -19 are contained within the Simpson Implementation Contract. Recommendations 1, 2,3,20 are addressed in the narrative of the Compact.

There are also a small number of commitments contained within the Contracts that have arisen as a consequence of the Simpson Review but were not explicit recommendations.

Whilst this agreement is primarily with local government there will be circumstances when the delivery and achievement of commitments can only be achieved through working with partners such as the Third Sector, Housing Associations, Emergency Services and others. We consider that the Third Sector should be engaged when seeking to deliver each of the commitments in the 'implementation contracts' where appropriate. It is for those identified as responsible to ensure appropriate engagement with the Third Sector.

Some actions have already been completed but they have been included in the contracts because of their importance to the overall package of public service reforms.

The Education Implementation Contract

Commitment	Milestones	Responsibility
Local Government to meet the Welsh Government's 20 point Education Action Plan.	As specified in the Education Action Plan	Local Government
Local Government to work with the Welsh Government to deliver a new model for the delivery of school improvement in Wales and deliver the new model for school improvement via four regional areas. ³	September 2012	Local Government Minister for Education and Skills
Local Government to work with the Welsh Government to deliver a wider specific range of education services (to be agreed) on a regional basis.	September 2014	Local Government Minister for Education and Skills
Local Government to increase schools' funding delegation rate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initially to 80%; and then work towards 85%. 	September 2012 September 2014	Local Government
Welsh Government to work with Local Government to implement a new model for the delivery of student finance based on an all Wales service and ensure the continuity of service through the transition.	September 2016	Minister for Education and Skills Local Government
Local Government and the Welsh Government's School Standards' Unit to implement a system of school banding.	September 2011	Local Government Minister for Education and Skills
Local Government with the support of Welsh Government and the WLGA to implement a kite marked good practice initiative "Learning From Our Best".	March 2012	Local Government Minister for Education and Skills

3

SWAMWAC: Carmarthen, Pembrokeshire, Ceredigion, Neath Port Talbot, Swansea & Powys;
North Wales: Anglesey, Conwy, Gwynedd, Wrexham, Flintshire & Denbighshire;
South East: Caerphilly, Newport, Blaenau Gwent, Torfaen & Monmouth;
Central South: Vale, Cardiff, Merthyr, RCT & Bridgend.

Commitment	Milestones	Responsibility
Welsh Government to support Local Government in developing school federations and associated work on simplifying and speeding up the school reorganisation process.	March 2012	Minister for Education and Skills Local Government

The Social Services Implementation Contract

Commitment	Milestones	Responsibility
<p>Welsh Government and Local Government to set up and maintain new leadership arrangements for social services across Wales to drive forward the transformational change programme that is required.</p>	<p>October 2011</p>	<p>Deputy Minister for Social Services Local Government</p>
<p>Local Government to engage fully with the new leadership arrangements and provide leadership at regional and local level for implementation of change programme.</p>	<p>October 2011</p>	<p>Local Government</p>
<p>Local Government to provide a co-ordinated single response to the Deputy Minister for Children and Social Services to her letter of 23 March 2011 ensuring that the response:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • properly reflects the priorities of 'sustainable social services for Wales'; • reflects the regional footprint for public services announced by Welsh Government in July 2011; • sets out proposals for collaborative working at both a strategic and operational level which tackle complexity and duplication and how Local Government will use its capacity in a more efficient and effective way; and • sets out proposals for a more strategic approach to commissioning which includes regional and national proposals. 	<p>December 2011</p>	<p>Local Government</p>
<p>Local Government to develop and agree an implementation programme to begin on 1 April 2012 for the changes flowing from the response to the Deputy Minister and bring to the Partnership Forum.</p>	<p>March 2012</p>	<p>Local Government</p>

The Other Services Implementation Contract

Commitment	Milestones	Responsibility
<p>Local Government, in line with the national policy of the Welsh Government, to deliver collaborative waste treatment infrastructure procurement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 18 LAs in 7 hubs for food waste • 21 LAs in 6 hubs for residual waste 	<p>2012-2014 for food waste 2016-2018 for residual waste</p> <p>Phase 1 – April 2012 Phase 2 – April 2013 Phase 3 – April 2014</p>	<p>Local Government</p>
<p>Local Government with the support of Welsh Government to implement the collaborative change programme for all local authority waste management services.</p>	<p>June 2012</p>	<p>Local Government Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development</p>
<p>Local Government and Welsh Government to review the interface between the Trunk Road Agencies and the Regional Transport Consortia's constituent authorities and joint working between highway engineering services to support the planning, management and delivery of strategic highways services. Local Government with support of Welsh Government to identify and implement quick wins by Regional Transport Consortia. To develop a business case and implement change.</p>	<p>March 2013 March 2013 – March 2014</p>	<p>Minister for Local Government and Communities Regional Transport Consortia</p>
<p>Welsh Government, NHS and Local Government to complete the business case for the National Procurement Service.</p>	<p>June 2012</p>	<p>Minister for Finance and Leader of the House Minister for Local Government and Communities Public Service Leadership Group Local Government</p>

<p>Local Government with the support of Welsh Government to continue to implement the Public Services ICT Strategy, beginning with collaborative procurement frameworks for ICT hardware and shared ICT Infrastructure.</p>	<p>March 2012</p>	<p>Minister for Finance and Leader of the House Minister for Local Government and Communities Minister for Enterprise Technology & Science Public Service Leadership Group Local Government</p>
<p>Local Government to have completed their individual council business cases for xchangewales; and if adopting Local Government to have made their commitment by June 2012.</p>	<p>February 2012 June 2012</p>	<p>Local Government Minister for Finance and Leader of the House Minister for Local Government and Communities Public Service Leadership Group</p>
<p>Local Government to fully adopt the generic standard supplier qualification questions (SQUID).</p>	<p>March 2012</p>	<p>Minister for Finance and Leader of the House Minister for Local Government and Communities Public Service Leadership Group Local Government</p>
<p>Local Government with the support of Welsh Government to develop and implement a set of standard Contract Procedure Rules.</p>	<p>June 2012</p>	<p>Local Government Minister for Finance and Leader of the House Minister for Local Government and Communities Public Service Leadership Group</p>
<p>Local Government, supported by Welsh Government, to use Community Benefits clauses in contracts in excess of £2 million</p>	<p>March 2012</p>	<p>Local Government Minister for Finance and Leader of</p>

where community benefits can be realised.		the House Minister for Local Government and Communities Public Service Leadership Group
Local Government to work with Welsh Government to develop revised Guidance for the Supporting People Programme and the role and operation of regional committees.	March 2012	Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage Local Government
Local Government and service providers to establish Supporting People Regional Collaborative Committees in line with the revised guidance.	June 2012	Local Government Providers of services (Registered Social Landlords and the third sector)
Welsh Government and Local Government to take forward collaboration in the delivery of planning services , including specialist services and the planning application process, informed by the Independent Advisory Panel established by the Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development.	September 2012	Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development Local and National Park Authorities
Welsh Government with the support of Local Government and other parts of the public sector to review the scope for standard Contract Terms & Conditions across the public sector.	February 2012	Minister of Finance and Leader of the House Minister for Local Government and Communities and the Public Service Leadership Group Local Government
Welsh Government and Local Government to regionalise the delivery of emergency planning services within 2 years and with other partners on a multi-agency basis within 4 years where practicable.	September 2013 September 2015	First Minister Minister for Local Government and Communities Local Government Local Resilience Forums
Welsh Government and Local Government to review the scope for collaboration in the future delivery of support for listed and historic	September 2012	Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage

buildings.		Local planning authorities Historic environment sector, including third sector
Local Government to review the options for the administration and collection of local taxation (Council Tax and NNDR) in Wales at either a regional or national level.	June 2012	Local Government Society of Welsh Treasurers
Local Government to review the organisation of the local authority pension funds in Wales considering the number of funds and their organisational structure.	October 2012	Local Government Welsh Pension Funds
Local Government to review the scope for collaboration in the future delivery of a range of corporate services (to be agreed) such as payroll, legal services and human resources.	March 2013	Local Government
Welsh Government and Local Government to review existing collaborative arrangements in the library services ; and agree an implementation plan for further collaborative arrangements.	September 2012	Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage Local Government
Welsh Government and Local Government to review the scope for collaboration in the future delivery of archive services .	November 2012 September 2012	Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage Local Government
Welsh Government and Local Government to review and prioritise the key areas for regional working in housing services and produce an action plan for implementation subject to evaluation.	March 2012	Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage Local Government
Local Government with the support of Welsh Government to review the scope for collaboration in the future delivery of culture and leisure services .	March 2012	Local Government Minister for Housing, Regeneration and Heritage,
Welsh Government to confirm the policy intent for the future shape of Trading Standards services . Local Government and the Welsh Government to review the scope for collaborative service delivery in Trading Standards following confirmation.	March 2012 September 2012	Minister for Local Government and Communities Local Government

<p>Local Government with the support of the Welsh Government to review the scope for collaboration in environmental health services.</p>	<p>December 2012</p>	<p>Local Government First Minister Minister for Local Government and Communities</p>
<p>Welsh Government with the support of Local Government to develop a full business case and, if appropriate, a subsequent implementation plan setting out agreed proposals for greater collaborative action in the delivery and procurement of Welsh translation services.</p>	<p>December 2012</p>	<p>Minister for Local Government and Communities Minister for Education and Skills Local Government</p>
<p>The Welsh Local Government Association to provide a report to the Partnership Council which clarifies its various roles and makes clear the separation between its service delivery and policy roles.</p>	<p>March 2012</p>	<p>Welsh Local Government Association</p>

Carl Sargeant AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau
Minister for Local Government and Communities



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref MB/CS/7852/11

January 2012

Dear Leader

I am writing to initiate a new dialogue with you as part of my commitment to building relationships between the Welsh Government and Local Government. Whilst sometimes we will have different views on specific issues, we have much common ground as well. In particular, we are all interested in protecting and improving the public services that people across Wales rely on in their daily lives.

Now is a good time to start that dialogue. As you may know, the Partnership Council for Wales is the statutory forum for Welsh Government and Local Government democratic engagement. At our meeting on 5 December a range of leaders from across Local Government met with Welsh Government Ministers and made progress on a number of key issues, notably agreeing the 'Compact for Change' between the Welsh Government and Local Government.

Our relationship is critical to successful delivery for the people of Wales in these challenging times and the Compact is a joint commitment to actions which together will achieve better services for people and lower costs while retaining and strengthening local democratic accountability. It will ensure an informed and constructive dialogue on how best a range of local government services is delivered and whether the services should be on a local, regional or national footprint. The Compact can be found using the weblink below¹ or can be obtained in hard copy from your member services.

Collaboration is one of our key tools to secure consistent high quality services against the background of the current harsh economic and financial climate, and increasing service demands. In order for greater collaboration to achieve its full potential there is the need for visionary leadership at all levels. Your strong political leadership is critical to this, as decisions about how public services are planned and managed will continue to be taken through local democratic frameworks.

¹ <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/improving-services/publications/compact/?lang=en>

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Printed on 100% recycled paper

Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

As community leaders, you can engage positively with this agenda by using transparent performance information and governance arrangements to continue to scrutinise service delivery – whether it is delivered locally, regionally or nationally. Together with the introduction of powers for joint scrutiny, the regional collaborative footprint should help here in bringing stability and clarity to the development of future collaborations. As I have said on a number of occasions, it is not intended to break up established successful partnerships, but the new arrangements provide strong foundations for future working and I am looking to local authorities to seize all opportunities to work on this basis.

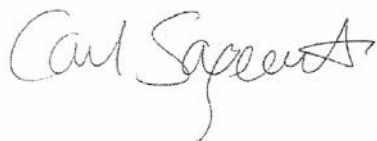
I was also pleased that the Partnership Council considered how it should itself be structured to ensure that it could reflect and challenge the cross public service nature of delivery for individuals in Wales. Proposals for the new Council include widening membership and placing local authority representation on a regional footprint.

The local government settlement which I announced on 7 December delivers a cash increase in revenue funding for local government in Wales. This is against a backdrop of reducing budgets in many other areas of public spending. Over the four-year spending review period, core funding for local government in Wales is due to increase whilst comparable funding in England is set to fall. I am distributing the whole RSG pot to local authorities, giving you the freedom to decide locally to freeze council tax if you so choose. I understand the difficult choices you will be making over the next few months as you consider your budgets.

The Partnership Council also noted the very positive progress on a new Local Government Borrowing initiative. This will provide up to £12m annually in revenue support to allow local authorities to release funds for capital investment in highways. That could mean over £170m of new investment to bring real benefits to local people as well as to the Welsh economy. There is still work to be done on the detail but I hope that this initiative can be taken forward very quickly in the New Year. This new funding initiative complements the Minister for Education and Skills' recent announcement of £1.4 billion of investment in the 21st Century Schools Programme.

I hope that this letter is useful in setting out key recent developments, and that you will support your Council in stepping up to the challenges ahead.

I am copying this to John Davies and Steve Thomas at the WLGA and would be grateful if you could share a copy of this letter with all the Councillors for your local authority at the earliest opportunity.



Carl Sargeant AC / AM

Y Gweinidog Llywodraeth Leol a Chymunedau
Minister for Local Government and Communities

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

AGENDA ITEM NUMBER: 7

REPORT TO: **SPECIAL MEETING OF THE FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

DATE : **21 FEBRUARY 2012**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

SUBJECT : **COUNTY COUNCIL DIARY OF MEETINGS 2012/13**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To consider the diary of meetings for 2012/13 as set out in the attached schedule.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 Following a decision of County Council in March 2010, the diary of meetings is based on a 10 week cycle.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 In addition to the County Council meetings in the 10 weekly cycle there are additional meetings scheduled for the Statement of Accounts, the Budget and the Annual meeting. In total, there are 9 meetings of County Council scheduled throughout the diary.

3.02 There are also five reserved slots in the diary should any special meetings need to be called.

3.03 Overview and Scrutiny Committees are scheduled to meet approximately twice in the 10 week cycle. This enables more timely reporting for budget and performance reports, with performance reporting dates being identified throughout the diary.

3.04 In addition and where possible, meetings have been avoided in the main school holidays.

3.05 Dates of LSG meetings are included in the attached version of the diary but will be removed when the diary is submitted to County Council for approval.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That the draft diary of meeting 2012/13 be approved.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 None.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

Date: 15/02/2012

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 Group Leaders, Corporate Management Team, Policy, Performance & Partnerships Team and Overview & Scrutiny Team.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Draft diary of meetings 2012/13.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.

Contact Officer: Nicola Gittins
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E-Mail: nicola_gittins@flintshire.gov.uk

DIARY 2012/13

<u>WEEK</u>	<u>DAY / DATE</u>	<u>10.00AM</u>	<u>2.00PM</u>
	Details included of the Current Diary until end of July 2012		
4	Monday 2 July 2012		
	Tuesday 3 July 2012		
	Wednesday 4 July 2012	Constitution Committee	
	Thursday 5 July 2012	Corporate Resources O&S	
5	Monday 9 July 2012	Licensing Sub Committee	Standards (6pm)
	Tuesday 10 July 2012	Executive (9.30am)	
	Wednesday 11 July 2012	Environment O&S	
	Thursday 12 July 2012	Lifelong Learning O&S	
6	Monday 16 July 2012	Community Profile & Partnerships O&S	JCC
	Tuesday 17 July 2012	Audit	County Council
	Wednesday 18 July 2012		Children's Services Forum (4.30pm)
	Thursday 19 July 2012		
	Friday 20 July 2012	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
7	Monday 23 July 2012	Planning Site Visits SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Tuesday 24 July 2012	Licensing Committee SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Wednesday 25 July 2012	Housing O&S SCHOOLS CLOSED	Planning (1pm)
	Thursday 26 July 2012	SCHOOLS CLOSED	Social & Health Care O&S
	Friday 27 July 2012	Planning Protocol Working Group SCHOOLS CLOSED	
8	Monday 30 July 2012	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Tuesday 31 July 2012	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	END OF CURRENT DIARY		

	START OF NEW DIARY	AUGUST RECESS 1 TO 31 AUGUST	
9	Monday 3 September 2012	Planning site visits SCHOOLS CLOSED	Standards (6pm)
	Tuesday 4 September 2012		
	Wednesday 5 September 2012		Planning (1pm)
	Thursday 6 September 2012	Community Profile & Partnerships O&S (Performance Reporting)	
10	Monday 10 September 2012		
	Tuesday 11 September 2012		County Council
	Wednesday 12 September 2012	Environment O&S (Performance Reporting)	
	Thursday 13 September 2012	Corporate Resources O&S (Performance Reporting)	
1	Monday 17 September 2012		
	Tuesday 18 September 2012	Executive (9.30am)	
	Wednesday 19 September 2012		Children's Services Forum (4.30pm)
	Thursday 20 September 2012	O&S Co-ordinating Committee	Lifelong Learning O&S (Performance Reporting)
2	Monday 24 September 2012		
	Tuesday 25 September 2012	Audit (Statement of Accounts)	County Council (Statement of Accounts)
	Wednesday 26 September 2012	Housing O&S (Performance Reporting)	
	Thursday 27 September 2012		Planning Protocol Working Group
3	Monday 1 October 2012		Standards (6pm)
	Tuesday 2 October 2012		
	Wednesday 3 October 2012		
	Thursday 4 October 2012		Social & Health Care O&S (Performance Reporting)
4	Monday 8 October 2012	Planning Site visits	
	Tuesday 9 October 2012		

	Wednesday 10 October 2012		Planning (1pm)
	Thursday 11 October 2012	Corporate Resources O&S	
5	Monday 15 October 2012	Community Profile & Partnerships O&S	
	Tuesday 16 October 2012	Executive (9.30am)	Reserved Slot
	Wednesday 17 October 2012	Environment O&S	SACRE
	Thursday 18 October 2012		
	Friday 19 October 2012	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
6	Monday 22 October 2012		
	Tuesday 23 October 2012		
	Wednesday 24 October 2012		Constitution Committee
	Thursday 25 October 2012		Lifelong Learning O&S
7	Monday 29 October 2012	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Tuesday 30 October 2012	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Wednesday 31 October 2012	Housing O&S SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Thursday 1 November 2012	SCHOOLS CLOSED	Social & Health Care O&S
	Friday 2 November 2012	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
8	Monday 5 November 2012	Planning Site Visits	Standards (6pm)
	Tuesday 6 November 2012		
	Wednesday 7 November 2012		Planning (1pm)
	Thursday 8 November 2012		
9	Monday 12 November 2012		
	Tuesday 13 November 2012		County Council
	Wednesday 14 November 2012		Children's Services Forum
	Thursday 15 November 2012	ELECTION POLICE AND CRIME COMMISSIONERS	

10	Monday 19 November 2012	Corporate Resources O&S	JCC
	Tuesday 20 November 2012	Executive (9.30am)	
	Wednesday 21 November 2012	Environment O&S	FCC TCC
	Thursday 22 November 2012		
1	Monday 26 November 2012	Community Profile & Partnerships O&S	
	Tuesday 27 November 2012		
	Wednesday 28 November 2012		
	Thursday 29 November 2012	Licensing Committee	Planning Protocol Working Group
2	Monday 3 December 2012		Standards (6pm)
	Tuesday 4 December 2012		
	Wednesday 5 December 2012	Housing O&S (Performance Reporting)	
	Thursday 6 December 2012	O&S Co-ordinating Committee	Lifelong Learning O&S (Performance Reporting)
3	Monday 10 December 2012	Planning site visits	
	Tuesday 11 December 2012		Reserved Slot
	Wednesday 12 December 2012	Audit	Planning (1pm)
	Thursday 13 December 2012	Corporate Resources O&S (Performance Reporting)	
4	Monday 17 December 2012		Social & Health Care O&S (Performance Reporting)
	Tuesday 18 December 2012	Executive (9.30am)	Special Executive (Budget)
	Wednesday 19 December 2012		
	Thursday 20 December 2012		
CHRISTMAS RECESS			
5	Monday 31 December 2012	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Tuesday 1 January 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Wednesday 2 January 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	

	Thursday 3 January 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Friday 4 January 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
6	Monday 7 January 2013	Community Profile & Partnerships O&S (Performance Reporting) SCHOOLS CLOSED	Standards (6pm)
	Tuesday 8 January 2013		
	Wednesday 9 January 2013	Environment O&S (Performance Reporting)	Children's Services Forum (4.30pm)
	Thursday 10 January 2013		Lifelong Learning O&S
7	Monday 14 January 2013	Planning Site visits	
	Tuesday 15 January 2013		
	Wednesday 16 January 2013		Planning
	Thursday 17 January 2013	Corporate Resources O&S	
8	Monday 21 January 2013	O&S Budget	
	Tuesday 22 January 2013	Executive (9.30am)	O&S Budget
	Wednesday 23 January 2013	Housing O&S	
	Thursday 24 January 2013	O&S Budget	Social & Health Care O&S
	Friday 25 January 2013	O&S Budget	O&S Budget
9	Monday 28 January 2013	O&S Budget	O&S Budget
	Tuesday 29 January 2013		County Council
	Wednesday 30 January 2013	Audit	Constitution Committee
	Thursday 31 January 2013	O&S Budget	Planning Protocol Working Group
10	Monday 4 February 2013	Community Profile & Partnerships	JCC (2pm) Standards (6pm)
	Tuesday 5 February 2013		
	Wednesday 6 February 2013	Environment O&S	
	Thursday 7 February 2013		

1	Monday 11 February 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Tuesday 12 February 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Wednesday 13 February 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Thursday 14 February 2013	Corporate Resources O&S SCHOOLS CLOSED	Lifelong Learning O&S
	Friday 15 February 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
2	Monday 18 February 2013	Planning site visits	
	Tuesday 19 February 2013	Executive (9.30am)	County Council (HRA)
	Wednesday 20 February 2013		Planning (1pm)
	Thursday 21 February 2013	Housing O&S	
3	Monday 25 February 2013		
	Tuesday 26 February 2013	Licensing Committee	
	Wednesday 27 February 2013		FCC TCC
	Thursday 28 February 2013		Social & Health Care O&S
	Friday 1 March 2013		County Council (Budget)
4	Monday 4 March 2013		Standards (6pm)
	Tuesday 5 March 2013		
	Wednesday 6 March 2013	Environment O&S (Performance Reporting)	SACRE (2pm) Children's Services Forum (4.30pm)
	Thursday 7 March 2013	O&S Co-ordinating Committee	
5	Monday 11 March 2013	Community Profile & Partnerships O&S (Performance Reporting)	
	Tuesday 12 March 2013		Reserved Slot
	Wednesday 13 March 2013	Audit	
	Thursday 14 March 2013	Corporate Resources O&S (Performance Reporting)	Planning Protocol Working Group

6	Monday 18 March 2013	Planning Site Visits	
	Tuesday 19 March 2013	Executive (9.30am)	
	Wednesday 20 March 2013		Planning (1pm)
	Thursday 21 March 2013	Housing O&S (Performance Reporting)	Lifelong Learning O&S (Performance Reporting)
7	Monday 25 March 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Tuesday 26 March 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Wednesday 27 March 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Thursday 28 March 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Friday 29 March 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	GOOD FRIDAY
8	Monday 1 April 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	EASTER MONDAY
	Tuesday 2 April 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Wednesday 3 April 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Thursday 4 April 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Friday 5 April 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
9	Monday 8 April 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	Standards (6pm)
	Tuesday 9 April 2013		
	Wednesday 10 April 2013	Environment O&S	
	Thursday 11 April 2013		Social & Health Care O&S (Performance Reporting)
10	Monday 15 April 2013	Planning Site Visits	
	Tuesday 16 April 2013		County Council
	Wednesday 17 April 2013		Planning (1pm)
	Thursday 18 April 2013	Corporate Resources O&S	
1	Monday 22 April 2013	Community Profile & Partnerships O&S	
	Tuesday 23 April 2013	Executive (9.30am)	

	Wednesday 24 April 2013	Housing O&S	Constitution Committee
	Thursday 25 April 2013		Lifelong Learning O&S
2	Monday 29 April 2013		
	Tuesday 30 April 2013		
	Wednesday 1 May 2013		
	Thursday 2 May 2013		
3	Monday 6 May 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED Bank Holiday	
	Tuesday 7 May 2013		
	Wednesday 8 May 2013		Children's Services Forum (4.30pm)
	Thursday 9 May 2013	Licensing Committee	Social & Health Care O&S
4	Monday 13 May 2013	Planning site visits	Standards (6pm)
	Tuesday 14 May 2013	County Council Annual Meeting	
	Wednesday 15 May 2013		Planning (1pm)
	Thursday 16 May 2013	Corporate Resources O&S	Planning Protocol Working Group
5	Monday 20 May 2013	Community Profile & Partnerships O&S	JCC
	Tuesday 21 May 2013	Executive (9.30am)	Reserved Slot
	Wednesday 22 May 2013	Environment O&S	
	Thursday 23 May 2013		
6	Monday 27 May 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED Bank Holiday	
	Tuesday 28 May 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Wednesday 29 May 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Thursday 30 May 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Friday 31 May 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
7	Monday 3 June 2013		
	Tuesday 4 June 2013		

	Wednesday 5 June 2013	Housing O&S (Performance Reporting)	
	Thursday 6 June 2013		Lifelong Learning O&S (Performance Reporting)
8	Monday 10 June 2013		Standards (6pm)
	Tuesday 11 June 2013		
	Wednesday 12 June 2013	Audit	
	Thursday 13 June 2013	Corporate Resources O&S (Performance Reporting)	
9	Monday 17 June 2013	Planning Site visits	
	Tuesday 18 June 2013	Executive (9.30am)	
	Wednesday 19 June 2013		Planning (1pm)
	Thursday 20 June 2013	O&S Co-ordinating Committee	Social & Health Care O&S (Performance Reporting)
10	Monday 24 June 2013	Community Profile & Partnerships O&S (Performance Reporting)	
	Tuesday 25 June 2013		County Council
	Wednesday 26 June 2013	Environment O&S (Performance Reporting)	FCC TCC
	Thursday 27 June 2013		
1	Monday 1 July 2013		
	Tuesday 2 July 2013		
	Wednesday 3 July 2013		SACRE
	Thursday 4 July 2013		
2	Monday 8 July 2013		Standards (6pm)
	Tuesday 9 July 2013	Licensing Committee	
	Wednesday 10 July 2013	Housing O&S	Children's Services Forum (4.30pm)
	Thursday 11 July 2013	Corporate Resources O&S	Lifelong Learning O&S
3	Monday 15 July 2013		JCC
	Tuesday 16 July 2013	Executive (9.30am)	

	Wednesday 17 July 2013	Audit (Statement of Accounts)	Constitution Committee
	Thursday 18 July 2013		Planning Protocol Working Group
4	Monday 22 July 2013	Planning Site Visits SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Tuesday 23 July 2013	Environment O&S SCHOOLS CLOSED	Reserved Sot
	Wednesday 24 July 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	Planning (1pm)
	Thursday 25 July 2013	Community Profile & Partnerships O&S SCHOOLS CLOSED	Social & Health Care O&S
	Friday 26 July 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
5	Monday 29 July 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Tuesday 30 July 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	Wednesday 31 July 2013	SCHOOLS CLOSED	
	AUGUST RECESS SCHOOLS CLOSED		