

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **23 APRIL 2013** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 4**

REPORT OF: **Director of Environment**

SUBJECT: **DESIGNATION OF CITY REGIONS IN WALES**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Members note the contents of the Haywood report, attached as Appendix 1 and approve the draft response set out in 3.02.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: This will be undertaken by Welsh Government.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Considerable consultation has been undertaken, involving stakeholders from both sides of the border as well as the wider North Wales region.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: None directly, but City Region status has the potential to increase access to EU and other funding.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 24 April 2013

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **23 APRIL 2013** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 6**

REPORT OF: **Director of Environment**

SUBJECT: **WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON THE
EUROPEAN STRUCTURAL FUNDS AND RURAL
DEVELOPMENT PLAN PROGRAMMES 2014-2020**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That the current Welsh Government consultation on the programmes is noted and the proposed responses to Welsh Government are approved.

That Members support the bid for continued Assisted Area designation in Flintshire and work with appropriate partners within the region to achieve this.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: None.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The two programmes have contributed significantly to the work of the Council in the 2007-13 period.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 24 April 2013

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

CONSULTATION REQUIRED:

A proposal to formally amend the Neighbourhood Housing Services allocations policy would need to be subject to appropriate consultation with stakeholders.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN:

A briefing note on the housing benefit reforms for social housing tenants and the implications for Housing Service policies was circulated to all elected Members in January 2013.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The financial pressures upon the Council's Neighbourhood Housing Service that may be created by the full impact of the housing benefit reforms are significant. These pressures include a £700,000pa reduction in the level of Central Government revenue that is paid to assist tenants with low incomes to pay their rent. The Council is also anticipating an increase in expenditure with all costs associated with the provision and management of emergency and temporary accommodation for tenants who lose their accommodation as a result of accruing rent arrears due to having their housing benefit reduced.

A budget of £250,000 has been approved within the Housing Revenue Account to cover the expected budgetary increase in expenditure on various issues linked to the impacts that will be generated by the provisions within the Welfare Reform Act 2012.

The creation of the two 12 month fixed term scale 6 posts, noted within this report, will require additional funding of £61,206. This funding has been provided for by the welfare reform budget within the Housing Revenue Account and this amount represents additional costs deemed necessary to support our tenants and maximise our income collection.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

24 April 2013

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **23 APRIL 2013** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8**

REPORT OF: **Head of Finance**

SUBJECT: **DISCRETIONARY HOUSING PAYMENT (DHP)
POLICY 2013/14**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Members are recommended to:-

- (a) Note the report
- (b) Adopt the DHP Policy for 2013/14.
- (c) Support quarterly reporting to CROSC and Cabinet as set out in 3.12

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: None.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee, Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Flintshire Advice Management Board.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Central Government's allocation to Flintshire County Council in 2013/14 is £242,119. This means that the overall expenditure limit for DHP is £605,298. The 2013/14 budget now contains a provision for Flintshire County Council to contribute £302,526; £167,526 was allocated to the budget and an additional £135,000 which will now provide a total available for DHP to be £544,645

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 24 April 2013

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **23 APRIL 2013** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 9**

REPORT OF: **Head of Finance**

SUBJECT: **FAIR DEBT POLICY**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Cabinet approves the Fair Debt Policy as set out in the Appendix.

DECISION: That Cabinet approves the Fair Debt Policy as set out in the Appendix to the report with the additional paragraph relating to comments, compliments and complaints as circulated at the meeting.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: None.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Lead Officers across the Corporate Services team and Community Services Directorate, working alongside representatives of the Flintshire CAB, have sought to introduce recognised best practice into the policy.

The Advice Management Board has also been consulted about the introduction and content of this policy.

The introduction of this policy has also been referred to Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: None directly as a result of this report but collection of monies owed to the Council is an important aspect of the Council's financial management strategy.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

24 April 2013

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **23 APRIL 2013** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 10**

REPORT OF: **Director of Community Services**

SUBJECT: **SUPPORTING PEOPLE COMMISSIONING PLAN**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Cabinet agrees the Flintshire Supporting People Commissioning Plan.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: A joint Supporting People and Homeless Forum which includes a range of stakeholders will be held in May to consult on the Flintshire Homeless Prevention Strategy and the Supporting People Commissioning Strategy. The commissioning Strategy will be presented to the Regional Collaborative Committee. The Supporting People Team will meet all providers individually to discuss their projects and explore opportunities to make best use of resources.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Flintshire Supporting People have had a three year commissioning strategy in place which was developed in partnership with stakeholders and providers. Flintshire Supporting People Team hold a provider forum annually to keep providers informed about local, regional and national developments and consult on changes within the annual plans.

Information on need, supply and gaps is collected through information provided from service users, providers and wider stakeholders through the needs mapping exercise, the annual supply return, quarterly monitoring meeting and formal reviews.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The Supporting People Grant is a specific grant for funding housing related support services. For 2013-2014 Flintshire County Council have been informed of a reduction to the grant of £284,374, with further reductions expected in the following years as a result of redistribution.

The LCP highlights new services for priority development. However, services will only be developed according to available funding.

The LCP has identified a need to reduce funding to some services which are deemed ineligible for Supporting People funding. This will have an impact on Adult Social Services and as such Adult Social Services have planned for and managed this reduction.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

24 April 2013

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **23 APRIL 2013** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 11**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **REGIONAL CLOSED CIRCUIT TELEVISION (CCTV) SERVICE**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

That in balancing the benefits and risks of a local need and a regional model for future CCTV services the proposed regional model should not be supported as offering value for money and being in the best interests of the Council unless significant non-repayable national capital/revenue funding is awarded.

The proposed regional model cannot be supported and the Council considers its options for a future service including a continuing local service and a sub-regional option with one or more councils and North Wales Police.

That the Council scope the second phase review in partnership with North Wales Police and other partners as set out in 3.16.

DECISION:

As detailed in the recommendations and that the Council invite the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable to review Police investment in the local CCTV network and service as part of reviewing future options.

REASON FOR DECISION:

As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED:

None.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN:

Various phases of regional and local consultation over a four year period.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The financial information is outlined in

paragraphs 3.01.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

24 April 2013

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **23 APRIL 2013** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 12**

REPORT OF: **Director of Lifelong Learning**

SUBJECT: **HOME TO SCHOOL TRANSPORT POLICY**
CHANGES - POST-16

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That the proposed changes to the Home to School post 16 transport policy as detailed in paragraph 3.1 of the report be approved.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation with the addition that post 16 transport to Yale College be continued.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Full consultation must be carried out prior to any changes in policy being agreed, to involve all stakeholders likely to be affected by any change.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Consultation was carried out from 1 March to 12 April 2013. A copy of all responses received has been placed in the Members' library.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Savings related to changes to the post 16 transport policy were originally estimated at £30k part year and £51k in a full year. These figures were based on no longer providing post 16 transport to out of county sites including Yale College. Any proposed change to this situation would reduce the level of estimated savings.

*Note the approval that free transport to Yale College be continued.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

24 April 2013

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **23 APRIL 2013** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 13**

REPORT OF: **Director of Environment**

SUBJECT: **REVIEW OF SUBSIDISED BUS SERVICES**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Members:-

- (a) Note the changes to bus funding from 1 April 2013
- (b) Approve the Policy at Appendix 2
- (c) Note that a review will be undertaken in accordance with the Policy and that a further report will be brought to a future Cabinet on it's conclusion.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Key stakeholder and service user groups, bus companies, Town and Community Councils and Members of the County Council.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: This is an initial paper that considers the need for wider consultation and engagement from key stakeholder groups.

A report was presented to Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 6 February 2013.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: In monetary terms, the reduction in LTSG is anticipated to reduce our revenue budget by £148k pa.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

24 April 2013

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 23 APRIL 2013 AGENDA ITEM NO. 14

REPORT OF: Chief Executive

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF THE RESPONSE TO THE RECENT SEVERE WEATHER

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That the debrief be noted.

That elected Members and Town and Community Councils be sent a copy of a debrief report with the options for structured feedback to share experiences and possible future solutions to support the business continuity plans.

That the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader be given delegated authority to authorise additional expenditure, within overall available resources, for the emergency costs of the operational and recovery phases.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: None.

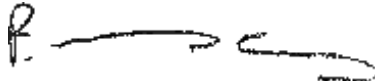
CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: There are considerable financial implications, which are still being costed, as set out in the report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 24 April 2013

SIGNED  (Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **23 APRIL 2013** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 15**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **SETTING PERFORMANCE TARGETS FOR 2013/14**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: To endorse the review of targets by:-

- Reclassifying targets to reset our Improvement Targets
- Endorsing the targets set for 2013/14
- Endorsing the aspirational targets

To incorporate the new set of Improvement Targets within service plans for 2013/14.

To note the changes to the national performance data sets.

To note that further in-year challenge will be undertaken as a result of:

- Proposed changes to specific target sets
- Particular stepped annual targets and aspirational targets
- Development of the Improvement Plan 2013/14 and on-going review and integration of business and performance systems.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Consultation within Directorates and internal and member review has been built into the process.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Directorates have had an input into the methodology and timing.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: None directly related to this report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 24 April 2013

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **23 APRIL 2013** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 17**

REPORT OF: **Head of Legal and Democratic Services**

SUBJECT: **COMMUNITY REVIEW**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: The Cabinet to agree

- a) That the community review be commenced
- b) That the guiding principles of the review be as in appendix 2 subject to any amendments Cabinet feels appropriate
- c) That the consultation on the first formal stage be as indicated in paragraphs 3.02 and 3.03

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: None in advance of this report.


CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: With Group Leaders, County Council and with Town and Community Councils.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Budget provision of £10k for the costs of publicity and consultation.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 24 April 2013

SIGNED  **(Proper Officer)**

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **23 APRIL 2013** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 18**

REPORT OF: **Director of Lifelong Learning**

SUBJECT: **SCHOOL MUSIC SERVICE REVIEW OF BUSINESS MODEL**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That the operating model for the Flintshire Music Service as set out be adopted subject to (1) effective implementation of the business model changes set out in 3.01 and (2) a matched commitment by the schools community.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: There will be ongoing consultation with headteachers, heads of music and music service staff as the revised model is implemented.

The service needs to build upon best practice elsewhere in improving consultation on service design and delivery with students and parents/carers.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Consultation has taken place with primary and secondary schools at the Headteachers' Federation meetings.

Heads of Music have been consulted at their music forum meetings which are held each term.

There has been ongoing consultation with Music Service staff throughout the process.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Historical Budget Analysis

	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Income	-68,990	-293,734	-319,420

Expenditure	539,056	592,554	589,706
Net Budget	470,066	298,820	270,286

Due to the cost pressures in the service the budget has been increased by a recurrent £100k as part of the 2013/14 budget. The proposed operating model aims to reduce peripatetic staff costs by £85k. Realising this efficiency will depend on the establishment of the new model and completion of the amended staffing structure. The remaining £25k will contribute to the appointment of a business manager to the service which will be a permanent post.

Delegation of Funding

The funding delegated to schools will be an estimated £233k which represents the net direct cost of running the Music Service ie. music tutors, travel, supply costs. The budget for overhead costs such as service management, music school transport will be retained by the Local Authority reducing the financial risk to the Authority should schools decide to withdraw from the service.

The delegation of Music Service funding to schools will be 'notional' until September 2015. From September 2015 schools can choose to buy in or opt out of the service. This approach will ensure that the full allocation of funding for Music remains within the Service until September 2015 giving the Music Service time to implement the new model and reducing the risk to the Authority.

Charging

The model developed aims to sustain the music service within the identified base budget and shares the financial risk between the Authority and schools.

Schools will be charged an estimated £27 per half hour for music tuition and if the

following assumptions are achieved schools will 'break even' on their delegated funding and the Authority will cover its costs:

- minimum average class size of 3;
- pupil tuition charge of £132 per academic year;
- delegated funding is fully utilised to purchase the maximum number of hours of tuition;
- additional hours purchased by the school equate to the number of hours purchased through delegated funding.

The level of charge to the pupil will be at the schools discretion and will depend on whether other sources of funding are deployed by the school and the class sizes above being achieved. Schools will be responsible for raising invoices for music tuition.

The key risk to the Authority is that schools buy less hours over time and income will not cover costs. Music tutors are currently employed on Teachers terms and conditions so the service cannot respond quickly to changes in staffing requirements. The risk of this is mitigated through introduction of the service planning cycle at 3.01 and 3.05 above.

Remissions for learners taking lessons from Flintshire Music School will continue to be funded by the Authority based on the eligibility criteria for Free School Meals. Schools will be responsible for making claims on either a termly or annual basis. Schools can claim the average charge they make to parents up to a maximum of £132 per annum.

Musicians will continue to be charged a £25 annual maintenance fee for their instrument. The invoice for this charge will be raised by the music service.

Musicians who do not take lessons from the Music Service but wish to take part in the Flintshire Music School, will continue to contribute £60 per annum. The Music Service will continue to raise these invoices.

Staffing

To build capacity into the service a part time Business Manager post will be established to ensure the effective running of the service. It is anticipated that this will be funded from the existing budget but is subject to further review on the overall management of the service.

Summary

We are planning that the service and staffing changes (including provision of business support capacity) can be accommodated within the 2013-14 budget allocation for the service.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

24 April 2013

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **23 APRIL 2013** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 19**

REPORT OF: **Director of Lifelong Learning**

SUBJECT: **FLINTSHIRE PLAY SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT
AND ACTION PLAN**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: It is recommended that Members approve the Play Sufficiency Assessment and accompanying Action Plan. Following approval, reports will be submitted to Welsh Government as being formally approved and Appendices 1 and 2 will be made available on the Flintshire County Council Website in accordance with WG requirements.

It is recommended that the Council continues to work with the WG to identify strategies for them to fund expectation under the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan from 2014 onwards.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Following the final approval of the Play Sufficiency Assessment there is a duty for the Council to ensure that key documents are shared with the public via the FCC website. The Council will need to continue to engage with parents, carers and children and young people in the implementation of the Action Plan.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: The Play Sufficiency Assessment process has been promoted within Flintshire via public consultation and engagement with a number of existing forums and networks:

- Flintshire County Council website

- and intranet
- CYPP Website and Weekly Circulars
 - Health Social Care and Wellbeing Circulars
 - Flintshire Local Voluntary Council Circulars
 - Local Media
 - Questionnaires for adults and children via the FCC website
 - Targeting of specific communities of need e.g. Children with disabilities and their families, Polish speaking children and families and Barnardos Young Carers
 - Family Information Services Website
 - Flintshire County Council Forum (Town and Community Councils)

In addition on the 31 January 2013, Flintshire County Council hosted a multi-agency, stakeholder workshop, as part of the consultation and engagement, in undertaking the Play Sufficiency Assessment for the County. The event was attended by representatives from a number of organisations and community groups, including: Barnardo's Cymru, Children and Young People's Partnerships, Clybiau Plant Cymru Kids Clubs, Flintshire County Council – elected Members, Flintshire County Council – officers representing services, Forest Schools – Plas Drew Trust, Menter Iaithm, North East Wales Community Play Project, Play Wales, Saltney Ferry Tenants and Residents Association, Flintshire Town and Community Councils.

The Play Sufficiency Assessment was considered by Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 14 March 2013.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

Welsh Government (WG) is providing £22,700 to fund the production of the Play Sufficiency Assessment and Action Plan.

The cumulative resource implications of the actions within Scheduled 2 & 3 would require the provision of dedicated officer time to initiate and co-ordinate actions. As a result there are actions if WG confirm regulations for 2014 onwards, within Schedules 2 & 3, which would require a bid for WG funding.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

24 April 2013

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **23 APRIL 2013** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 20**

REPORT OF: **Director of Lifelong Learning**

SUBJECT: **HAWARDEN INFANT AND JUNIOR**
AMALGAMATION

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Members approve the proposal to effect the amalgamation of the existing infant and junior schools to form a new through Church in Wales Voluntary Aided Primary school on the existing site and utilising the existing buildings from 1 September 2013.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: No further requirement for further consultation.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Full consultation meetings with the relevant groups.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: As a result of the amalgamation into a single school, linking works between the two adjacent schools will need to be carried out, together with work to meet the Disability Discrimination Act requirements. Work is ongoing to establish the build costs to link the two schools and when this is complete a report will be submitted to the Corporate Asset Management Group to consider the funding for the project.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 24 April 2013

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(Proper Officer)

