

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JUNE 2014** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 5**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **WAO REGULATORY PROGRAMME 2014-15**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: To accept the proposed Regulatory Programme for Performance Audit for the Wales Audit Office (WAO) for the period 2014-15.

To note the reduction in fees for the performance and financial audit work programme.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: This report will be considered by the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee and Audit Committee.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: The Auditor General consulted local authorities on the programme of proposed Local Government Studies.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: This report details the regulatory fee allocation for 2014-15 for both the performance and financial audit and assessment work.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 18 June 2014

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JUNE 2014** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 6**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **2013/14 YEAR END IMPROVEMENT PLAN**
MONITORING

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Cabinet Members are invited to consider the sufficiency of actions taken to manage delivery of the Improvement Priority impacts.

To note the following:

- The levels of progress and confidence in the achievement of key activities which seek to deliver the impacts of the Improvement Plan;
- The levels of performance against improvement plan measures and the predicted level of performance for year end; and
- The current (net) risk levels and targeted risk levels for the risks identified in the Improvement Plan and the arrangements to control them

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: The Improvement Priorities are monitored by the appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees according to the priority area of interest.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: All directorates have been consulted with regarding the reporting of relevant information.


FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: There are no specific financial implications for this report. However the

Council's Medium Term Financial Plan is aligned to resource the priorities of the Improvement Plan and the monitoring will help to inform future iterations.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 18 June 2014

SIGNED  **(Proper Officer)**

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JUNE 2014** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 7**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2014/15**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Members to agree the Improvement Plan 2014/15 prior to adoption by Council and final publication in June.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Overview and Scrutiny Committees have reviewed the priorities, including the “How we measure our achievements” document.

Feedback on the Improvement Plan is invited to assist with both contributing on our priorities and further improvement in presentation and format. This feedback is encouraged from the public, workforce, our key partners and businesses.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Corporate Management Team and senior officers have contributed and helped shape the Improvement Plan 2014/15. In addition the Wales Audit Office has been informally consulted.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The Council’s Medium Term Financial Plan is aligned to resource these priorities.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 18 June 2014

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JUNE 2014** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 9**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer, Social Services**

SUBJECT: **SOCIAL SERVICES AND WELLBEING BILL**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: It is recommended that the legislative changes and obligations associated with the Act are directed and overseen through the established Modernising Social Services Board.

There will need to be a sustained focus on how services are commissioned, provided and where appropriate integrated. The Council's response will also need to be informed as we receive through proposed regulations and guidance from Welsh Government.

It is recommended that we conduct a self-assessment against the new guidance/regulations when they are published. As there is no timescale for publication it is suggested that self-assessment is undertaken within 3 months of publication.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Consultation has been undertaken by Welsh Government.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Welsh Government Consultation Undertaken 2013.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The Act does not provide the details of how additional legal requirements, underpinned by regulations and guidance, can be funded and clarity has been called for nationally. Welsh Government

Minister Gwenda Thomas has provided further detail about financial provision (see appendix 2 of the report).

Funding for workforce training and implementation costs has been identified in the Act. The Welsh Government plan to fund these costs via current funding streams, for example, the workforce grant is already being focussed to support the training and implementation.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 18 June 2014

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JUNE 2014** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 10**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer, Social Services**

SUBJECT: **CSSIW NATIONAL REVIEW OF COMMISSIONING
FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE IN WALES 2013 – 14**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Cabinet are asked to consider the findings arising from the CSSIW report and support the development of an action plan detailing our response to the recommendations.

A strong, reciprocal, partnership approach between BCUHB and the local authority will be integral to developing the action plan and ensuring that good quality support and care is available to people with dementia and their carers. It is recommended that a progress report, and the final draft of the action plan, is brought to Scrutiny and Cabinet in July for review and consideration.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: None.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Actions to take forward the recommendations arising from the report will need to be costed and developed within available resources.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 18 June 2014

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JUNE 2014** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 11**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer, Community and Enterprise**

SUBJECT: **SUPPORTING PEOPLE COMMISSIONING PLAN**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Cabinet notes the reductions to the Supporting People Grant and approves the proposed approach to managing reductions.

Cabinet approves the Flintshire Local Commissioning Plan 2014/15.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: A joint Supporting People and Homeless Forum which includes a range of stakeholders was held in September 2013 to consult on the Flintshire 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. A further Supporting People and Homeless Forum will be held in June 2014.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Flintshire Supporting People have had a three year commissioning strategy up to 2013 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 and this transitional plan.

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 meetings and formal reviews.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The Supporting People Grant is a specific grant for funding housing related support services. For 2014-15 Flintshire County Council have been informed of a reduction to the grant of 5% 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 to manage this reduction.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

18 June 2014

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JUNE 2014** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 12**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer, Education and Youth**

SUBJECT: **QUEENSFERRY PRIMARY SCHOOL - CHANGE IN AGE-RANGE FROM SEPTEMBER 2014. RESPONSES TO THE STATUTORY NOTICE**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Cabinet approve the proposal to change the age-range of Queensferry County Primary School, Queensferry Campus, Chester Road West from 4-11 to 3-11 years from September 2014.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: No further consultation required.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: With the relevant schools, statutory consultees, in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Code 2013.


FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Provision has been made from the directorate budget for the Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) adaptations to St. Ethelwold's for £160k and £100k for DDA adaptations to Queensferry Primary School.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 18 June 2014

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JUNE 2014** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 13**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **2013/14 YEAR END HEAD OF SERVICE
PERFORMANCE REPORTS**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Cabinet consider the Year End Head of Service performance reports and recommend any specific issues which may require management action and / or referral to the appropriate Overview and Scrutiny Committees for consideration.

To note the following:-

- The progress updates for the Council Improvement Priorities that are not set as an in-year priority
- Service Plan progress
- Progress/performance against Corporate measures e.g. absence management
- The assessment of any regulatory reports and
- Performance against Improvement Targets, NSIs and PAMs

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Overview and Scrutiny Committees will receive the Reports relevant to their areas of work as part of their forward work programme alongside the appropriate Improvement Plan monitoring reports.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: Cabinet Members have been fully consulted in the risk assessment and management of risks and priorities. Corporate Management Team, Heads of Service and Performance Leads have been directly involved in the development

of these Reports.

The Reports are being shared with Portfolio holders prior to being presented to Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

There are no specific financial implications within this report.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

18 June 2014

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JUNE 2014** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 15**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer, Community and Enterprise**

SUBJECT: **PENSIONER DISCOUNT SCHEME**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Cabinet note the revised funding availability for a Pensioner Grant Scheme and agree a scheme for Flintshire for 2014-15.

That Cabinet approves the following scheme as prepared by Revenues and Benefits Senior Officers

Pensioner Grant Scheme

That the grant is only payable to pensioners who fulfil the criteria at the qualifying date of 30 June.

A maximum award of £95. The qualifying criteria is:

- Either the claimant or the partner to the claimant has reached the age of 60 and is liable for Council Tax at a property which is deemed to be a 'sole and main' residence, and
- The claimant qualifies for partial Council Tax Support, but not the maximum level of support on the qualifying date and there is a net liability to Council Tax (after any other discounts or reductions, for example single person discount or disabled banding relief)
- Should the net liability be below the £95 maximum level of award then the credit to the Council Tax account will only be up to the net liability
- The minimum award will be £10

- Grant awards will be automatically credited to the Council Tax accounts of qualifying households during July 2014

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: None.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: None.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: The Council will receive funding of £201,700 in order to make the awards.

The overall grant awards will be cost neutral to match the level of funding.

In previous years the Welsh Government have identified £5,000 within the grant to administer the scheme (staff time, revised Council Tax bills, printing and postage costs), this grant has not been identified separately within the 2014/15 settlement but a similar allowance will be used to administer the scheme during 2014-15.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 18 June 2014

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JUNE 2014** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 17**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer, Community and Enterprise**

SUBJECT: **PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING RENEWAL**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Cabinet approves the introduction of a new Energy Efficiency loan product, to help deliver gas infill in communities across Flintshire, as outlined within the report and delegate authority to operate the scheme to the Chief Officer, Community and Enterprise.

That Cabinet approves the introduction of the WG Property Improvement Loan initiative and allow for the approval of the final terms and conditions of the scheme to be delegated to the Chief Officer, Community and Enterprise and the Chief Officer, People and Resources.

That Cabinet approves the additional classes to be added to the Empty Homes assistance, relating to the minimum period of rental, being 2 years for a loan and 5 years for a grant and that the owner must consent to the property being managed by the Councils chosen social lettings policy.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Public consultations of Policy changes are required.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: The proposed revisions to the Policy were presented at Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee and were supported.

Limited consultation has taken place with

those likely to receive the energy efficiency loan. A wider consultation will take place when time permits and any further changes proposed as a consequence of this consultation will be incorporated when the Policy is next reviewed.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The cost of administering the nominal interest loan and payable to ROBCF will be £0.018m and this will be provided through the ECO Arbed energy grant.

The anticipated recycled funds from repayments is £0.200m per year and this will allow for further energy efficiency loans to be provided.

As discussed within the body of the report, the WG Property Improvement Loan Scheme will have financial implications for Flintshire. Consultation will be extended to encompass finance colleagues in all councils at a dissemination event on 20 June 2014 to consider the wider implications prior to any implementation.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Councillor Helen Brown.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

18 June 2014

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JUNE 2014** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 18**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer, Community and Enterprise**

SUBJECT: **TACKLING PRIVATE LONG TERM VACANT HOMES**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Cabinet approve the proposed enforced sales policy and its use.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Scrutiny Members indicated that they would value a workshop to understand the full range of powers available to return long term vacant homes back into use.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: The proposed enforced sales policy was presented at Housing Overview and Scrutiny Committee and was supported.

A workshop to ensure that Members are aware of the full range of powers available to return long term vacant homes back into use took place on 2 June 2014.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: A successful enforced sale will allow the Council to recover an debts owed which would include a charge for pursuing the action. However, adequate financial provision will need to be made through the Councils capital programme to enable works in default of a Notice when required.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 18 June 2014

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(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **17 JUNE 2014** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 19**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer, Community and Enterprise**

SUBJECT: **RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP POLICY**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Cabinet are asked to consider the content of the report and approve the proposed policy.

Cabinet are asked to approve the recommendation that this policy only be applied going forward, and not retrospectively.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATION REQUIRED: Issues being consulted currently with the Federation of Tenants and Residents.

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN: A Member workshop has been held in April 2014 and one to one interviews have taken place with a sample of customers who have previously reported issues relating to pet ownership. Neighbourhood Housing Officers have also been consulted.

A report was taken to Housing Scrutiny on 21 May 2014 where the Responsible Pet Ownership Policy was supported and proposed that it be applied going forward and not retrospectively.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: Printing costs for leaflets and application forms.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

18 June 2014

SIGNED

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(Proper Officer)

