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Pennaeth Gwasanaethau Cyfreithiol a Democraataidd



To: Cllr Brian Dunn (Chairman)

CS/NG

Councillors: Ron Davies, Glenys Diskin,
Chris Dolphin, Ian Dunbar, Robin Guest,
Ron Hampson, Brian Lloyd, Dave Mackie,
Mike Reece, Tony Sharps, Paul Shotton,
Ian Smith, Nigel Steele-Mortimer and
David Williams

4 November 2013

Maureen Potter 01352 702322
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Dear Sir / Madam

A meeting of the **COMMUNITY PROFILE & PARTNERSHIPS OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** will be held in the **DELYN COMMITTEE ROOM, COUNTY HALL, MOLD CH7 6NA** on **THURSDAY, 7TH NOVEMBER, 2013** at **2.00 PM** to consider the following items.

Yours faithfully

Democracy & Governance Manager

A G E N D A

- 1 **APOLOGIES**
- 2 **DECLARATIONS ON INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)**
- 3 **MINUTES** (Pages 1 - 6)
To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting.

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

- 4 **IMPROVEMENT PLAN MONITORING REPORT** (Pages 7 - 20)
Report of Member Engagement Manager –
- 5 **STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS MID YEAR UPDATE** (Pages 21 - 52)
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- 6 **PRESENTATION BY NORTH WALES FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE** (Pages 53 - 78)
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- 7 **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 79 - 82)
Report of Member Engagement Manager
- 8 **COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE** (Pages 83 - 94)
Report of Chief Executive -

COMMUNITY PROFILE & PARTNERSHIPS OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE **3 OCTOBER 2013**

Minutes of the meeting of the Community Profile & Partnerships Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held at Delyn Committee Room, County Hall, Mold CH7 6NA on Thursday, 3 October 2013

PRESENT: **Councillor Brian Dunn (Chairman)**

Councillors: Ron Davies, Chris Dolphin, Ian Dunbar, Ron Hampson,
Dave Mackie, Paul Shotton, Ian Smith and Nigel Steele-Mortimer

SUBSTITUTE:

Councillor Ray Hughes for Brian Lloyd

APOLOGY:

Councillor David Williams

CONTRIBUTOR:

Mr. Richard Polden, Volunteer Press Officer for Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Member Engagement Manager and Committee Officer

14. DECLARATIONS ON INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

No declarations of interest were made.

15. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 25 July 2013 had been circulated to Members with the agenda.

RESOLVED:

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

16. PRESENTATION BY THE RNLI

The Chairman introduced Mr. Richard Polden who was the Volunteer Press Officer for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI).

Mr. Polden detailed the history of the RNLI and provided information on some of the incidents that the volunteers from Flint Lifeboat Station had been involved with. The RNLI was a registered charity and had 237 lifeboat stations in the United Kingdom with 32 lifeboat stations and 41 lifeboats in Wales. There were 4600 volunteer crew in the UK, both men and women, and the Flint lifeboat station that opened in 1966 currently had a crew of 10 men and two women and covered an area from Chester to Talacre including three major launch points. A total of 40 people were involved with the RNLI in Flint which included the crew and fundraisers. Mr. Polden explained that it cost £1300 per annum to train each volunteer crew member and the RNLI had a college in Poole, Dorset which

trained the lifeboat volunteers. The college also provided training to volunteers from abroad for a fee and this provided revenue for the RNLI. The number of people who drowned each year totalled 1.2 million worldwide with 150 drowning near the coast of the UK. The RNLI had an education programme which it was hoped would reduce the numbers of people who drowned. The causes of drowning included rip currents, cold water shock, trips & slips, alcohol and fatigue.

Mr. Polden detailed the incidents that the RNLI had responded to throughout the UK which totalled 9000 per year for lifeboats and 16000 for lifeguards. The work of the RNLI was not just about rescuing people and Mr. Polden spoke of the recent rescue of a dolphin in the River Dee. He also explained that there were inland lifeboat stations and hovercrafts and national and international flood rescue teams.

Councillor Ian Dunbar thanked Mr. Polden for the presentation and commented on the plaque which had been unveiled in Rhyl about the lifeboat men who had lost their lives in 1853. He queried whether it was expected that there would be an impact on the lifeboat station because of the proposed closures of the Coastguard stations. Mr. Polden said that it was difficult to answer but said that if Liverpool and Holyhead coastguard stations closed, it could have an impact on Flint and Rhyl lifeboat stations. He reminded Members of the importance of local knowledge and said that if this was lost it could cause a problem.

In response to a question from Councillor Ron Hampson about how much training the volunteer crew undertook, Mr. Polden said that Flint station carried out their training on a Sunday but there may also be times when they needed to attend the college at Poole for more detailed training. He explained that any funding collected in Flint would go towards the Flint lifeboat station but that any monies raised above what was required would be put in the central 'pot'.

Councillor Paul Shotton asked if there was an opportunity for youngsters not in education, employment or training (NEET) to take an interest in the charity. Mr. Polden explained that a significant recruitment campaign had been carried out in the area and had attracted a few volunteers. He added that the purpose of the college was primarily to train lifeboat volunteer crew but added that it was used for other types of nautical training too. Councillor Chris Dolphin praised the work of the RNLI and Mr. Polden who he said was one of Flintshire's champions. Mr. Polden spoke of the RNLI volunteers at Flint lifeboat station, who were all under 30, and also commented on other volunteer sectors. He added that from the time a call was received, the crew could be on the way to a rescue within two to three minutes. He suggested that the Committee could visit the lifeboat station if they required and following a discussion, Members agreed to take up the invitation.

The Chairman paid tribute to the Connah's Quay and Shotton branches of the lifeboat volunteers for their fundraising efforts. He also thanked Mr. Polden for his attendance at the meeting.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the presentation be received;
- (b) That a letter be sent to Mr. Richard Polden, thanking him for his contribution; and
- (c) That the Member Engagement Manager make arrangements for the Committee to visit Flint Lifeboat Station.

17. PERFORMANCE REPORTING

The Member Engagement Manager introduced a report to provide an update on the streamlined and corporate approach to performance reporting.

He explained that this Committee would receive performance reporting updates for Community Safety at future meetings.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the new approach to performance reporting be supported; and
- (b) That performance data for the Community Safety Partnership be considered by the Committee in due course.

18. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (WALES) MEASURE 2011 CONSULTATION DOCUMENT DESIGNATED PERSONS ORDER'

The Member Engagement Manager introduced the report to enable the Committee to consider the draft response to the Welsh Government Consultation Document number WG17306, Designated Persons Order (Number 1) which had been made to provide specific external scrutiny powers under Section 59 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011.

He explained that this Committee had been created to concentrate predominantly on external scrutiny and detailed the work which had already been undertaken by the Committee. However Members had often expressed frustration at the lack of progress with statutory guidance as to which public organisations would become 'designated persons' under section 59 of the Measure.

Paragraph 3.02 detailed the statutory basis for designated persons and the bodies being considered for the first designation phase were listed in paragraph 3.03. The Member Engagement Manager welcomed that Local Health Boards were included in the list but explained that higher and further education had not been included as they had not been listed in section 38 of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 for inclusion in the draft first designation order. The Chief Executive had suggested that all statutory bodies should be included in the first tranche regardless of whether they were devolved or not. The Member Engagement Manager said that for the future it could be reasonable to include public service broadcasters such as the BBC and S4C and transport providers who received public subsidies could also be considered.

The Member Engagement Manager explained that a draft response was attached to the report which advised that it was not considered necessary or appropriate to designate Town & Community Councils as there were already close working arrangements which included meetings to discuss matters of mutual interest. He advised that any comments from Members at this meeting would be reported to the Constitution Committee on 16 October 2013 for inclusion in the response to the consultation document.

Councillor David Mackie said that he had previously raised concern about the ability to scrutinise joint ventures with other local authorities. He thanked the Member Engagement Manager for the report and proposed that the Committee support the recommendation. Following a question from Councillor Nigel Steele-Mortimer, the Member Engagement Manager detailed which Overview & Scrutiny Committee the designated bodies would be scrutinised by. He also discussed with the Committee whether they supported the recommendation by the Chief Executive to include all of the statutory bodies; this was agreed by the Committee.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be received; and
- (b) That the recommendation to the Constitution Committee be that the draft response should be amended to include all statutory public bodies, whether they be devolved functions or not.

19. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

The Member Engagement Manager introduced the report to consider the Forward Work Programme of the Committee.

He explained that the next meeting had been rescheduled from 28 October to 7 November 2013. He detailed the items for consideration at the meeting and advised that a report on performance would also be considered.

The Member Engagement Manager asked Members to contact the Chairman or himself if they had any additional items for consideration at future meetings. A visit to the Lifeboat Station at Flint would be arranged following the invitation from Richard Polden earlier in the meeting.

Councillor Nigel Steele-Mortimer asked whether the Red Cross could be invited to attend a future meeting to provide a presentation. The Member Engagement Manager confirmed that this could be considered.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Forward Work Programme be noted;
- (b) That the change of the meeting from 28 October to 7 November 2013 be noted;
- (b) That a visit to the Lifeboat Station at Flint be arranged; and

- (c) That consideration be given to inviting the Red Cross to provide a presentation to the Committee.

20. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There was one member of the press and no members of the public in attendance.

(The meeting started at 10.00 am and ended at 10.57 am)

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Chairman

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: COMMUNITY PROFILE & PARTNERSHIPS
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

DATE: THURSDAY 7TH NOVEMBER 2013

REPORT BY: MEMBER ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

SUBJECT: IMPROVEMENT PLAN MONITORING REPORT

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To note and consider elements of the 2013/14 Mid Year Improvement Plan Monitoring Report relevant to the Community Profile & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The report covers the period April – September 2013.

1.02 To note the following:-

- The levels of progress and confidence in meeting the Council's Improvement Priorities and their impacts including the milestones achieved.
- The measures which evidence achievement and the baseline data, and targets.
- The baseline risk assessment for the strategic risks identified in the Improvement Plan and the arrangements to control them.

1.03 To enable Members to comment on the new approach to performance reporting.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The new style Improvement Plan adopted by Council in June 2013 which is aligned to the new three year Outcome Agreement, focuses on the priorities which are expected to have the most impact during 2013/14.

2.02 In addition to the Improvement Plan Monitoring Report, bi-annually performance highlight reports will be presented from the Heads of Service. These will be similar to those previously produced for quarterly reporting.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The Improvement Plan Monitoring Report gives an explanation of the progress being made towards delivery of the impacts set out in the Improvement Plan. The narrative is supported by measures and/or milestones which evidence achievement. In addition, there is an assessment of the strategic risks and the level to which they are being controlled.

3.02 For Community Profile & Partnerships Overview and Scrutiny Committee the following Improvement Plan sub-priority reports are attached at Appendix 1:-

- Community Safety

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That the Committee considers the 2013/14 Mid Year Improvement Plan Monitoring Report, highlight concerns and feedback details of any challenge to the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee which is responsible for the overview and monitoring of performance.

4.02 That the Committee comment on the newly introduced improvement plan performance monitoring approach.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 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.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 There are no specific anti poverty implications for this report, however poverty is a priority within the Improvement Plan 2013/14.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 There are no specific environmental implications for this report; however the environment is a priority within the Improvement Plan 2013/14.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 There are no equalities implications for this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 There are no personnel implications for this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Publication of this report constitutes consultation.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Corporate Management Team and the Performance Leads from across the Authority have contributed to help shape the new approach to reporting.

12.00 APPENDICES

- 12.01 Appendix 1 – Sections of the Improvement Plan Monitoring Report – September 2013 relevant to the Community Profile & Partnerships Committee.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985
BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None.

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Priority: Safe Communities
Sub-Priority: Community Safety
Impact: Keeping people and communities safe

What we said we would do in 2013/14: -

- 1. Make a difference through our Community Safety Plan by:**
- Working with young people to raise greater awareness of domestic abuse and sexual violence;
 - Improving the range of services available for people recovering from drug and alcohol misuse; and
 - Developing a partnership approach to deal with the harm caused by alcohol misuse.

Progress Status	Progress RAG	A	Outcome RAG	G
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Work on the North Wales Community Safety Plan has commenced and a project plan has been developed. A full draft of the Plan will be presented to the North Wales Safer Communities Board on 13 November 2013.

Working with young people to raise greater awareness of domestic abuse and sexual violence - All secondary schools to date have been receptive to the production of the Cats Paw Theatre Company. It is anticipated that all 12 secondary schools in the county will access the production during 2013/14. It is aimed at Year 9 students. Since 1st April 2013 five schools covered: Flint, Holywell, Elfed, John Summers, Argoed.

CAADA (Coordinated Action for Domestic Abuse) recommendation on national repeat victimisation rate should be between 28-40% Baseline of 28% should remain. (Effectively meaning that 72% of cases are not brought back to MARAC for discussion.) The figures tell us if our services are being effective in tackling repeat cases and early identification of problem areas.

Waiting Times and Treatment Complete figures are collated in accordance with Welsh Governments requirements and they act as an indicator to show progress being made in the provision of Substance Misuse treatment services in particular improving access into service and providing effective treatment and other interventions as details within Action Area 2 (Support for Substance Misusers to improve their Health and Maintain Recovery) of Welsh Governments 10 years Substance Misuse Strategy. The figures tell us if our current commissioned services are meeting local needs in terms of access to treatment and receiving an effective service. It also tells us where improvements need to be made.

Key Performance Indicator 2 (Achieve a waiting time of less than 20 days between referral and treatment) was introduced in July 2012. Data has been recorded for 2012/13 in accordance with Welsh Government guidance, and Flintshire Services achieved a rate of

71.25% (389) waiting less than 20 days.

The Key Performance Indicator which relates to 'Treatments Completed' (KPI 6) is currently considered a 'provisional outcome indicator' and is due to be reviewed in July 2013 as part of the wider review into the implementation of the suite of KPI's.

Achievement will be measured through:

- Finalising the North Wales Community Safety Plan
- Fewer high risk repeat victims of domestic abuse
- Delivery of training sessions to young people regarding domestic abuse and sexual violence
- 'Completed Treatments' and waiting times for substance misuse services

Achievement Milestones for strategy and action plans: (Lead Officer – Interim Head of Public Protection)

Finalising the North Wales Community Safety Plan – 31st March 2014

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Achievement Measures	Lead Officer	2012/13 Baseline Data	2013/14 Target	2016/17 Aspirational Target	Current Outturn	Performance RAG	Outcome Performance Predictive RAG
Fewer high risk repeat victims of domestic abuse	Interim Head of Public Protection	28%	28%	28%	28%	G	G
Delivery of Training Sessions to young people regarding domestic abuse and sexual violence. Progress milestones for the improvement :							
Numbers of schools accessing Cats Paw Theatre Productions	Interim Head of Public Protection	N/A	12 (100%)	12 (100%)	5 (41.7%)	G	G
Percentage of young people reporting increased awareness following Performances of Cats Paw Production	Interim Head of Public Protection	N/A	85%	90%	96%	G	G

Completed treatments and waiting times for substance misuse services. Progress milestones for the improvement:							
Achieve a waiting time of less than 20 days from referral to treatment (KPI 2)	Interim Head of Public Protection	74.75%	80.00%	80.00%	65.52%	R	G
Treatment Completes (KPI 6)	Interim Head of Public Protection	68.32%	80.00%	80.00%	71.58%	A	G

Risk to be managed – How we can improve the public’s perception of safety in the community

Page 13	Gross Score (as if there are no measures in place to control the risk)			Current Actions / Arrangements in place to control the risk	Net Score (as it is now)			Future Actions and / or Arrangement to control the risk	Manager Responsible	Risk Trend	Target Score (when all actions are completed / satisfactory arrangements in place)		
	Likelihood	Impact	Gross Score		Likelihood	Impact	Gross Score				Likelihood	Impact	Gross Score
	(L)	(I)	(LxI)		(L)	(I)	(LxI)				(L)	(I)	(LxI)
	H	H	R	Actively promote the services and initiatives that are undertaken in partnership that aim to make the county safer. Make best use of communication networks, such as OWL and service user groups, to gain an improved understanding of	M	M	A	Increase promotion of success stories of reduction in crime through publications such as Your Community Your Council Further engage with service user groups and develop questionnaire for OWL users.	Interim Head of Public Protection		L	M	G

			community safety issues and concerns.										
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Risk to be managed – Ensuring that new Community Safety Partnership arrangements work effectively

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Gross Score (as if there are no measures in place to control the risk)			Current Actions / Arrangements in place to control the risk	Net Score (as it is now)			Future Actions and / or Arrangement to control the risk	Manager Responsible	Risk Trend	Target Score (when all actions are completed / satisfactory arrangements in place)		
Likelihood	Impact	Gross Score		Likelihood	Impact	Gross Score				Likelihood	Impact	Gross Score
(L)	(I)	(LxI)		(L)	(I)	(LxI)			(L)	(I)	(LxI)	
H	H	R	Ensure the delivery structure of the Community Safety Partnership is working effectively, and their work is evidence led.	M	M	A	Adopt a responsive approach to addressing emerging issues and trends through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annually reviewing the effectiveness of the CSP groups. Provide regular updates of progress to the statutory Overview and Scrutiny Committee. Support the Local Service Board in understanding its new community safety duties. 	Interim Head of Public Protection		L	M	G

	<p>Work collaboratively with partners across North Wales to develop a consistent approach to address community safety issues that will realise improved sharing of expertise and resources.</p> <p>Make best use of the expertise of experienced specialist officers to drive forward the community safety agenda.</p>		<p>Support the work of the North Wales Safer Communities Board through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Work undertaken regionally in relation to the 10,000 Safer Lives Programme; ▪ Support the demands of the substance misuse Area Planning Board; ▪ Develop regional services to reduce youth crime through the Youth Crime Prevention Fund. <p>Ensure grant funding is maximised to ensure sustainability of service and retention of key personnel, and seek opportunities to secure funding for key posts beyond April 2014.</p>		
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2. Implement the anti-social behaviour strategy for Council tenants

Progress Status	Progress RAG	G	Outcome RAG	G
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The Council's Anti-Social Behaviour Policy has recently received Cabinet approval and is in the process of being implemented, along with a review of the service.

A team of three anti-social behaviour officers is currently being established, with recruitment currently taking place.
A new IT system for managing, monitoring and benchmarking has been purchased this year and is due to go live at the end of August

<p>2013.</p> <p>An Out of Hours Witness support service has been established to provide support, contact and reassurance for tenants when the Council is closed.</p> <p>In conjunction with the Community Safety Team, a risk assessment matrix is being adopted to identify victims and witnesses most at risk.</p> <p>Further work is taking place around reporting procedures for hate crime and incidents in Council housing in conjunction with Safer Wales and a training programme has been scheduled for late 2013.</p> <p>The Neighbourhood Housing Team is now updating it's suite of leaflets and documentation relating to antisocial behaviour and a range of resident involvement activities has taken place, including a presentation at the tenant's conference, some individual works with tenants and articles in the Housing News magazine.</p>
<p>Achievement will be measured through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An effective anti-social behaviour strategy for Council Tenants <p>Achievement Milestones for strategy and action plans: (Lead Officer – Interim Head of Public Protection / Head of Housing)</p> <p>Provision of Hate Crime Training and Review of Reporting arrangements in Housing – January 2014</p> <p>Establishment of reporting procedures for hate crime and incidents in Council housing in conjunction with Safer Wales – December 2013</p> <p>Establishment of a measure/set of measures in relation to antisocial behaviour of Council Tenants – December 2013</p>

3. An effective Workplace Domestic Abuse Policy				
Progress Status	Progress RAG	G	Outcome RAG	G
<p>By introducing an effective workplace domestic abuse policy and working to reduce the risks associated with domestic abuse, the Council will create a safer workplace and will also send out a clear message that domestic abuse is unacceptable.</p> <p>One key aim of the policy is to raise awareness of domestic abuse and to create an environment where employees are encouraged to seek support if they are victims of domestic abuse. The policy identifies the approach that should be taken when an employee makes a</p>				

disclosure of domestic abuse. A support structure has been developed so that upon disclosure, individuals are offered advice and guidance through their managers, Occupational Health, Trade Unions, HR or the Council Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator. The All Wales Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Helpline, together with local specialist providers will offer support to those individuals and assist with safety planning. All Managers will be offered appropriate training to ensure they are able to respond effectively upon disclosure and that the Council provides an appropriate quality of service to employees.

Welsh Government to issue detailed guidance later on in 2013 in terms of how the usage of the policy can be monitored.

Achievement will be measured through:

- Implementing an effective Workplace Domestic Abuse Policy

Achievement Milestones for strategy and action plans: (Lead Officer – Interim Head of Public Protection / Head of HR&OD)
Implementing an effective Workplace Domestic Abuse Policy. Progress milestones for the improvement: Development of a mechanism to collate and report the numbers of managers accessing training – March 2014

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4. Reduce the fear of crime by making best use of the latest technologies including closed circuit television

Progress Status	Progress RAG	A	Outcome RAG	A
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Following a decision by the Minister for Local Government and Communities, to withdraw support relating to a capital grant allocation of £2.4m from the regional collaboration fund, the North Wales Regional Leadership Board decided to bring the regional CCTV project to a close.

An internal officer working group has been established and the purpose of the group is to look at recommendations within the Cabinet report of the 23 April 2013 that:

- The Council considers its options for 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.

At an initial officer working group held on 15 May 2013, there was a general view that a joint work approach with North Wales Police (Eastern Division) and Wrexham County Borough Council was a model that was worthy of further exploration, together with a model that saw Flintshire continuing to deliver its own CCTV service independently.

A Project Board consisting of Senior Officers from Wrexham, Flintshire and North Wales Police has also been established.

Achievement will be measured through:

- Meeting the agreed timetable for implementing changes to CCTV provision

Achievement Milestones for strategy and action plans: (Lead Officer – Interim Head of Public Protection and Head of Development and Resources)

Review of current provision supported by statistical information on crime detection to enable a review of the scale and location of existing fixed camera network – September 2013

Page 18 Risk to be managed – How we can fund the provision of CCTV with local partners

Gross Score (as if there are no measures in place to control the risk)			Current Actions / Arrangements in place to control the risk	Net Score (as it is now)			Future Actions and / or Arrangement to control the risk	Manager Responsible	Risk Trend	Target Score (when all actions are completed / satisfactory arrangements in place)		
Likelihood	Impact	Gross Score		Likelihood	Impact	Gross Score				Likelihood	Impact	Gross Score
(L)	(I)	(LxI)		(L)	(I)	(LxI)			(L)	(I)	(LxI)	
H	H	R	Ensure the funding arrangements which are currently in place with T&CC's and North Wales Police are maintained.	M	M	A	Work collaboratively with partners from neighbouring Authorities and North Wales Police to develop an operating model for the provision of CCTV that will	Interim Head of Public Protection Head of Development		L	M	G

				<p>realise the sharing of resources and expertise.</p> <p>Further engage with service users and explore new income streams.</p> <p>Explore examples of best practice in collaborative working within the CCTV service provision.</p>	& Resources				
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5. Develop a better understanding of how the Council can prevent human trafficking and sexual exploitation as part of a Safeguarding Strategy

Progress Status	Progress RAG	A	Outcome RAG	G
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1) SERAF Review - SERAF is a Sexual Exploitation Risk Assessment framework which forms part of an information and intervention pathway for safeguarding children and young people. The risk assessment tool and information and intervention pathway were developed in response to issues raised by practitioners in relation to difficulties in identification and intervention with children and young people at risk of or abused through sexual exploitation. The resource pack is designed to support best practice in responding to child sexual exploitation so that local authorities, partner agencies and practitioners can:

- Identify children and young people at risk of or abused through sexual exploitation;
- Manage information about children and young people in a way that identifies risk; gathers intelligence and monitors the extent of the issue locally;
- Identify appropriate interventions and safeguarding actions for children and young people at risk of child sexual exploitation;
- Deliver evidence based practice in responding to the needs of children and young people at risk of abused through sexual exploitation.

Children’s Services in conjunction with the police are currently reviewing the operation of the Framework (SERAF) protocol.

2) Following the appointment of Missing Person's Coordinators in North Wales Police the North Wales Heads of Children's Services were asked to set up regional meetings to focus upon missing children and child sexual exploitation, with the aims of preventing child sexual exploitation and safeguarding children by reducing the number of missing episodes. This will be achieved by way of strategic interventions and identification of good working practices which can be shared across a multi-agency forum.

The first North East Wales meeting was held on 11/07/2013. These meetings will be held quarterly.

3) Training in the prevention of human trafficking and child exploitation –Children's Safeguarding Managers have attended training in the prevention of human trafficking and child exploitation. It is anticipated that this training will be rolled out further to other managers and staff working in services for children. Guidance resulting from the training will be disseminated to professionals via the annual Joint Flintshire Wrexham Local Safeguarding Children Board (FWLSCB) conference.

Achievement will be measured through:

- Agreeing an effective, extended Safeguarding Strategy

Achievement Milestones for strategy and action plans: (Lead Officer – Head of Children's Social Services)

Agreement of Terms of Reference for Missing Children & Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Task Group – March 2014

Establish a mechanism to record the number of missing episodes – March 2014

Roll out of Human Trafficking training via FWLSCB – March 2015

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **COMMUNITY PROFILE & PARTNERSHIPS OVERVIEW
& SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

DATE: **7th NOVEMBER 2013**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

SUBJECT: **STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP PERFORMANCE – MID
YEAR REVIEW**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.01 To receive a mid year overview of:
- the progress of the Strategic Partnerships and;
 - the priorities for each of the Strategic Partnerships and the key milestones for the year ahead.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The Flintshire Local Service Board (LSB) under its Terms of Reference has five principal roles:

1. Effective and trusting partnership relationships as a set of local leaders.
2. Discharging the responsibilities of an LSB - this includes producing a meaningful and fit for purpose Community Strategy.
3. Consistent and effective governance and performance of strategic partnerships.
4. Identifying common issues as public bodies/employers.
5. Promoting collaboration in the design and provision of local public services and to make best economic use of local partner's resources, such as people, money, assets and technology.

2.02 Working alongside the Flintshire LSB are eight key Strategic Partnerships:

- Children & Young People's Partnership and 'Making a Positive Difference' Plan (2011 to 2014)
- Flintshire Community Safety Partnership and Plan (2011 to 2014)
- Flintshire Housing Partnership
- Health, Social Care and Well-being Partnership and the Good Health, Good Care Strategy (2011 to 2014)
- Flintshire and Wrexham Local Safeguarding Children Board Strategic Plan (2011 to 2014)

- Regeneration Partnership
 - Voluntary Sector Compact
 - Youth Justice Plan and Board
- 2.03 Collectively, the LSB and these Strategic Partnerships are known as 'Flintshire in Partnership'. Flintshire's Strategic Partnerships are critically important in contributing towards the quality of life for the County of Flintshire. It is important that members are aware of each of the partnership priorities and work programmes.
- 2.04 The Strategic Partnerships are formed and work together for a number of reasons:
- Statutory provisions i.e. Children and Young People's Partnership; Community Safety Partnership; Health, Social Care and Well-being Partnership; Local Safeguarding Children Board, Youth Justice Service.
 - National agreement e.g. Voluntary Sector Compact.
 - Local agreement to ensure a more strategic and integrated approach, e.g. Regeneration Partnership, Housing Partnership
- 2.05 The last summary on strategic partnership performance was reported to Cabinet in March 2013.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 Children & Young People's Partnership (CYPP) and 'Making a Positive Difference' Plan (2011 to 2014)

Requirement for the Strategy

The Local Authority has a statutory duty to publish a plan setting out its strategy for discharging its functions for children and young people as required by Section 26 Children Act 2004.

How and When the Strategy will be Reviewed

The needs assessment has been updated to support the new 2011 to 2014 Plan and it informed the priority work areas. A Community Needs Assessment for the Families First Plan was developed in October 2011 and will be repeated for the 2014-2017 planning cycle.

The 2011 to 2014 CYPP Plan was approved by the CYPP Board, the Executive and BCUHB in May/June 2011. 'Making a Positive Difference' has now been adopted and was officially launched on the 19th June 2011 and runs to 31st March 2014 to be replaced by the Single Integrated Plan for Flintshire.

The Plan is operational until 31st March 2014. Action areas within the plan will be measured to inform a review of progress on outcomes. The CYPP Board will collate the closing results of the current plan in December 2013.

The Families First commissioning has now been completed and all of the new strategic projects are in delivery mode with effect from 1st October 2012. A second phase will be commissioned for October 2013 as additional money to enhance current delivery. This process engages Procurement and the Families First Board.

The focus of collaborative delivery is already delivering outcomes for our children, young people and families. This has been a significant change and a shift in thinking to deliver for a whole family approach.

The Families First and Flying Start Plans have been submitted to Welsh Government (WG) and are being monitored by WG Account Managers.

The Youth Service Strategy is being considered and amended and plans for an integrated youth services delivery are being explored.

Current Key Priorities

- Children and Young People are cared for.
- Children and Young People are ready, able and encouraged to learn.
- Children and Young People have a healthy lifestyle.
- Children and Young People have time and space to play, and to participate in activities.
- Children and Young People are respected in all areas of their lives.
- Children and Young People are safe.
- Children, Young People and Families have the resources they need to maximise their opportunities.

National Families First outcomes are:-

- Working age people in low income families gain and progress within employment.
- Children, young people and families, in or at risk of poverty, achieve their potential.
- Children and young people and families are healthy, safe and enjoy well-being
- Families are confident, nurturing and resilient

Some of the above are recognised as joint priorities with other key strategies for Flintshire, e.g. joint priorities are shared with the Health, Social Care and Well-Being Partnership ('Good Health, Good Care' Strategy). The Families First Plan and the Flying Start plan have work elements which significantly contribute to the above priority aims. The National Aims within the Families First programme have been fully considered within all the recent commissioning for Families First.

Progress Made in the Last 6 Months (Locally & Regionally)

- a. The Families First funding transition commissioning has been completed with effect from 1st October 2012, and all of the projects are fully functioning. We are engaging in two regional commissioning areas, i.e. Advocacy and Young Carers and are being explored on a regional level. We have also commissioned research work to inform the advocacy regional work which was well received by the CYPP Board in July 2013.
- b. The Team Around the Family (TAF) team continues to grow and referrals have increased beyond capacity. There is a full training to referral to services programme in place. The TAF Team utilise a Joint Assessment Framework as a distance travelled tool and assessment process. Recruitment, training, development and family support are ongoing and a TAF impact report evidences outcomes.
- c. The Parenting Strategy Group has continued to build on the excellent provision by developing a collaborative offer under the Families First commissioning programme. This pro active work has been recognised by Welsh Government as good practise. The Families First programme has commissioned a strategic project which is a collaborative project of several agencies working together to deliver the outcomes agreed for parenting support. This related back to the CYPP action plan areas.
- d. Vulnerable families mapping work undertaken in 2011 is being utilised fully within our planning and we are in negotiation to repeat this for 2014 – 2017 to demonstrate real outcomes for our most vulnerable families supported by Flying Start and Families First. The follow on work to map families with a disabled child has now been published and is being fully utilised to help to commission new services under the Families First provision banner.
- e. The Child Care Sufficiency Audit has been completed and refreshed and will inform decision making.
- f. The Play Sufficiency Audit has been completed.
- g. The Inclusion Service is leading on a further collaborative programme with a focus on disengaged young people.
- h. The whole Families First approach encouraged the development of collaborative working. We have several complicated high level projects which have collaboration running through delivery. The Families First Leads hold regular whole programme events to engage the whole programme.

- i. Sure Start (Family Support) Provision, Parenting Provision and the Time for Change project are now being delivered with a fully collaborative approach and are demonstrating positive outcomes for families.
- j. The Family Information Service has continued to expand its service and the welfare rights element of Families First is providing financial literacy support.
- k. The Child-Care Action Plan is being developed to build on existing notable practice and to utilise existing data e.g. child care sufficiency report and play sufficiency report.
- l. Engaging with the 'Creating an Active Flintshire' (CAF) Board. The CYPP team work with CAF Board to share good practice around engagement and participation methods.
- m. Regional developments of systems with Betsi Cadwalader University Health Board (BCUHB) are ongoing e.g. input to the locality working links.
- n. Assessing the CYPP's equality commitments and application of this to the emerging CYPP action areas for the Delivery plans for the Families First, Flying Start and future Youth offer is ongoing.
- o. Further development of the 3rd sector Welsh language/bilingual youth support provision via Fflic/Menter Iaith and Urdd in Flintshire. This project is delivering excellent outcomes and has recently engaged more fully with leisure / play services / active 8-16. Flintshire CYPP supports the work of the Welsh in Education (WES) Strategic Working Group. All Families First provision and all workforce development planning consider the Welsh Language and culture fully. Plans for the 2016 URDD Eisteddfod are being proactively supported by the CYPP.
- p. The broader participation work to feed in to the Single Integrated Plan in line with the amended guidance 2013.
- q. The Respecting Other Steering Group are currently updating the materials they have produced for Schools and intend to re launch them in Anti-Bullying Week in November 2013. All current materials are available on the Young Flintshire website. Alongside this, Respectfest 2013 has taken place and a number of Respecting Others sessions are being delivered in Schools.
- r. Flintshire's first Virtual Youth Conference took place in 2012 through the Young Flintshire website. A full report is available from the CYPP Team.

- s. The CYPP have supported a number of consultations, notably the 21st Century school area review in which a process was developed for pupils to meaningfully contribute to the process. A number of sessions have taken place across Flintshire to raise awareness of children and young people's rights under the UNCRC.
- t. The CYPP have been working closely with the Flintshire and Wrexham LSCB. Work includes the development and distribution of an online survey focused on e-safety, young people's involvement in the LSCB conferences and the development of a Junior LSCB.
- u. Members of the CYPP have been trained as CEOP Ambassadors to support their work with young Flintshire and the LSCB. Training has been delivered to a number of groups of young people. Activity to share good practice e.g. Cyber bullying is ongoing.

Key Milestones for the Year Ahead

- a. Continue to develop and manage the Team Around the Family (TAF) programme development and creation of bespoke posts to deliver the programme in line with Families First guidance.
- b. Continue to develop the Families First Programme and develop robust monitoring and evaluation systems to demonstrate whole programme outcomes in line with Families First guidance.
- c. Take forward the advocacy model and young carer model for Flintshire in line with regional plans and national commissioning aims.
- d. Obesity in children and young people – Public Health Wales (PHW) lead – Continue to work to develop action plans and engage all families first projects within the overall aims to add value.
- e. Support Respect Fest 2013 and address all participation work for the CYP Plan which will include a review of approaches.
- f. To support the Single Integrated Plan and bespoke requests e.g. the 21st Century Schools Agenda.
- g. Develop robust systems to engage with BCUHB and engage in locality work and regional plans. CYPP Coordinator now attends Locality groups.
- h. Workforce development – Agree a workforce development plan in line with other strategies and partners' needs and

considerations for the Families First Programme. Utilise evidence from play sufficiency and childcare sufficiency audits.

- i. Further development of the Child-Care Action Plan to build on existing notable practice.
- j. Continue further delivery and development of the Parenting Strategy via the new Families First collaborative programme.
- k. Continue to attend and lead on learning sets for Families First on a regional level and a sub regional level.
- l. Develop and sustain strong effective links with Youth Service to support the review of Youth Service in Flintshire and re-model the participation delivery. CYPP is currently evaluating the existing strategy and aligning this with the overall CYPP Plan and Families First Plan.
- m. Assess the CYP's equality commitments together with the Council's Strategic Equality Plan and Welsh Language Scheme. A refresh audit of partnership governance is also being undertaken which has included a self assessment audit.
- n. Continue to develop an outcomes focussed plan and performance management system for our Families First, Flying Start and full CYPP Plan. Develop the new structure of Families First Board to feed in to the CYPP Board and stakeholders to inform the evaluation of the CYPP plan delivery.
- o. Coordinators have engaged with the Welsh in Education Strategy to engage Welsh Medium providers differently e.g. offer of developing a bilingual DVD. CYPP Coordinators are able to work bilingually with all Welsh medium organisations and offer Welsh medium facilitated groups.
- p. Offer proactive support for the Eisteddfod 2016 planning for Flint area.

3.02 Community Safety Partnership and Strategic Plan (2011 to 2014) Requirement for the Strategy

The Crime and Disorder Act 1988, and the subsequent amendments by the Police Reform Act 2002 and Police and Justice Act 2006, place a statutory duty on the local authority, police service, primary health service, probation and fire service to work together to address the community safety agenda.

Collectively, these bodies make up the Community Safety Partnership

(CSP), and each year they are required to produce a Strategic Assessment, and a Strategic Plan which is formulated every three years.

How and When the Strategy will be Reviewed

The Community Safety Partnership's Strategic Plan spans a three year period, and is reviewed on an annual basis. The current plan runs between April 2011 and March 2014. This is the first joint Community Safety Plan with Wrexham, and builds upon the joint Flintshire and Wrexham Strategic Assessment.

From 1st April 2014 a regional Strategic Community Safety Plan will be produced, which will compliment a regional Strategic Assessment. The Community Safety Partnerships of North Wales are the first of the strategic partnerships to adopt this way of working. Local and sub-regional differences, and needs, will be reflected in the Strategic Plan, and it is anticipated that local delivery plans will underpin how services and initiatives are delivered in local communities. The Plan will span a three year period, with performance and priorities reviewed on an annual basis.

Current Priorities

The priorities of the current Community Safety Plan are jointly shared by the Flintshire and Wrexham CSP's:

- Reduce the levels of violent crime including domestic and sexual violence.
- Tackle anti-social behaviour.
- Reduce the levels of acquisitive crime.
- Reduce re-offending by supporting the agencies which actively manage offenders.
- Reduce the harm that substance misuse causes to communities, families and individuals.
- Tackle hate related crime and disorder and encourage reporting.
- Engage with the community to provide assurance and increase public confidence.

Progress Made in the Last 12 Months (Locally; Sub-Regionally & Regionally)

Regional:

Since the last progress report was written, the newly established North Wales Safer Communities Board has met on three occasions (3rd July 2012, 1st November 2012 and 4th February 2013). Some of the key developments and decisions taken during the first three meetings have been:

- a. Approval of a North Wales Crime and Disorder Strategic Assessment for 2012.

- a. Agreement and approval to produce a regional Community Safety Strategic Plan.
- b. Strategic oversight of the Substance Misuse Area Planning Board.
- c. Co-ordinated a response to the Welsh Government's 10,000 Safer Lives Initiative.
- d. Consistency of approach to regionally commissioned grants, namely the Youth Crime Prevention Fund and Substance Misuse Action Plan Fund.
- e. Membership and participation of the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).
- f. Recommendation of a Commissioning Framework for the PCC.
- g. Establishment of a regional task and finish group on Human Trafficking.
- h. Recruitment of the North Wales Human Trafficking Co-ordinator.

Local:

On a local level some of the key milestones have been as follows:

- a. Cabinet approval of Domestic Abuse workplace policy for Flintshire County Council.
- b. Flintshire County Council is leading the coordination of the Safer Communities Board on behalf of regional partners.
- c. Leading the development of a regional Community Safety Plan.
- d. Co-ordinating the regional response to the 10,000 Safer Lives initiative.
- e. Obtaining formal approval of funding for the following grants: Community Safety Fund, Substance Misuse Action Plan Fund, Domestic Abuse Services Grant and the Safer Communities Fund funding for 2013/4.
- f. Re-establishment of the Joint Action Group, to replace the function of the Priority Crime Group. This group will focus on the victims, offenders and locations.
- g. On-going support of Operation Housewatch. This initiative will safeguard vacant and empty residential properties through the installation of low-level security equipment. The scheme will be supported by the Neighbourhood Wardens.

- h. Further delivery of training to multi agency groups around the use of the CAADA (national accreditation) 'Domestic Abuse Stalking and Harassment Risk Assessment' tool for Domestic Abuse.
- i. Commissioning a number of service user recovery programmes following a successful pilot run in Conwy, Denbighshire and Wrexham. This will improve longer term and sustainable recovery from substance misuse.
- j. Leading on the 'People are Safe' priority for the Local Service Board (LSB).
- k. Awareness campaign to target older people misusing alcohol.
- l. Highly commended quality assurance from accredited body regarding the Flintshire Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference.
- m. Successful White Ribbon campaign targeting young people.
- n. Develop regional expenditure plan for the Youth Crime Prevention Fund.
- o. On-going support of Doorstep crime initiatives.
- p. Establishment of task and finish Anti Social Behaviour groups in Holywell, Flint and Buckley.

Key Milestones for the Year Ahead

- a. Continued support and co-ordination of the North Wales Safer Communities Board.
- b. Produce draft North Wales Community Safety Plan.
- c. Launch of the domestic abuse workplace policy for Flintshire County Council employees, and provide training to managers.
- d. Scoping the work streams emanating from "Effective Services for Vulnerable Groups" – particularly relating to domestic violence.
- e. Implementing the regional work programme for the 10,000 Safer Lives Initiatives.
- f. Flintshire SMAT to consider the implications of the Area Planning Board assuming greater commissioning powers.
- g. Regional commissioning of substance misuse awareness training for practitioners.

- h. Strengthening links with Licensing, SMAT and North Wales Police to ensure appropriate test purchasing operations within on-licence premises.
- i. Continued collaborative work regionally and sub regionally.
- j. Enhancement of existing services to young people based on the recommendations of the Hidden Harm Inquiry and a local service mapping exercise.
- k. Continue to work with Housing to look at the forthcoming requirement to implement the Wales Management Standard for Anti Social Behaviour.
- l. Leading the 'People are Safe' priority area for the Local Service Board.
- m. Delivery of programme to raise awareness of steroid abuse in educational settings.
- n. Provision of training for professional in relation to volatile substance misuse.
- o. Participating in the Integrated Offender Management Strategy Group for North Wales.

3.03 Flintshire Housing Partnership

Requirement for the Strategy

The Flintshire Housing Partnership (FHP) was established to provide a consultative forum for strategic housing matters and provide direction to the Flintshire Local Housing Strategy. The partnership provides opportunities for member organisations to work collectively on housing and related projects and to influence the Flintshire Local Housing Strategy accordingly.

How and When the Strategy will be Reviewed

The FHP and its sub-groups meet to review progress on key priority projects and further develop its work programme. Sub-groups are established to consider specific topic areas and where operational and strategic issues coincide.

Current Key Priorities & Progress Made in the Last 6 Months

- a. Developing a coordinated response to Welfare Reforms continues to be a key focus of Partnership members. Work is progressing on ensuring a common approach to reducing under-occupation, management of arrears and debt management strategies. The partnership seeks to ensure that its members work together on helping each other to manage and mitigate the

impacts of the Welfare Reforms. Updates on mitigation activities are provided at each partnership meeting by all FHP members.

- b. As reported previously the Flintshire Local Housing Strategy “A Quality Home for Everyone” received Council approval on 29th January 2013. The implementation of this Strategy contributes to the FHP work programme.
- c. Social Housing Grants (SHG) Programme: The Programme Delivery Plan (PDP) is being maintained and Welsh Government is being provided with quarterly updates. Additional funding is being sought under the Welsh Government’s SHG programme focused on the provision of smaller homes. This initiative intends to provide additional smaller homes targeted at meeting the needs of households affected by Housing Benefit changes driven by Welfare Reform.
- d. The common housing register (Single Access Routes to Housing (SARTH Project) is underway and is being project managed by a shared post hosted by Wales & West Housing Association. Consultation on the allocation policy and the single register was received very favourably.

Key Milestones for the Year Ahead

- a. Contribute towards the Flintshire Welfare Reform Strategy.
- b. Private Rented Sector Event, incorporating consultation on the Flintshire Private Rented Sector Improvement Plan– Autumn 2013 .
- c. Ongoing implementation and monitoring of the Flintshire Local Housing Strategy.

3.04 Health, Social Care and Well-being Partnership and the Good Health, Good Care Strategy (2011 to 2014)

Requirement for the Strategy

The Health, Social Care and Well-Being (HSCWB) Strategy is a statutory requirement in accordance with the ‘Health, Social Care & Well-being Strategies (Wales) (Amendment) Regulations 2007’ and associated guidance from the Welsh Government (WG).

The guidance states that there is a statutory requirement for a partnership between the Local Authority and the Local Health Board to formulate a local Health, Social Care and Well-Being Strategy for their area. This includes collectively developing strategic approaches to improve the health, social care and well being of the local population in partnership with other organisations in the voluntary, private and public sector.

How and When the Strategy will be Reviewed

The current strategy is effective until 31st March 2014.

Current Key Priorities

The Strategy has 9 outcomes for the population of Flintshire:

- People do not smoke.
- People drink alcohol within recommended guidelines.
- People are a healthy weight for their height.
- Older people do not fall.
- People do not deliberately harm or injure themselves and that people do not die by suicide.
- Older frail people receiving health and social services are supported to remain at home and have options and influence over their lives.
- People with specific long term or chronic conditions receiving health and social services have options and influence over their lives and are supported to remain at home.
- Young disabled people receiving health and social care, going through transition into adulthood have choice/control and are supported to remain within their community where this is their choice.
- Informal carers have options and influence over their lives.

Progress Made in the Last 6 Months and Key Milestones for the Year Ahead

- a. Flintshire County Council have piloted smoking cessation classes during the working day to support staff who smoke and wish to do so to quit. It has recently been agreed that this pilot will be extended
- b. Brief Interventions Training has been offered to staff working with children and families to give staff the knowledge, confidence and skills to instigate a conversation regarding tobacco use and provide brief, evidence based advice.
- c. An agreement has been reached for the Postural Stability Programme (Falls) to be delivered from September 2013 as part of the National Exercise Referral Scheme to be delivered in North West Flintshire.
- d. Signage has been placed on 2 key river crossings in the county providing contact details for Samaritans.
- e. Enhanced Care at Home began at the end of August 2013 within North West Flintshire, with the aim of either preventing the need for admission into hospital or promoting an early discharge.

- f. A monitoring report on the 12 commissioned services for Carers and young carers in 2012/13 has evidenced a range of services that have given opportunities for carers to have greater knowledge and skills, giving them choices and the ability to influence change in their lives. Examples include:
 - o 88% of young carers receiving support from one organisation feeling more able to cope, with 65% of them learning new skills.
 - o 6 carers gaining employment in the year through help of one specific project (with 40 gaining employment through a 3 year period).

Priorities for the next 12 months

- a. To ensure that supporting actions within locality action plans are implemented.
- b. To ensure that the revised arrangements for partnership working beyond March 2014 in order to implement the commitments within the Single Plan are robust and effective.

3.05 Flintshire and Wrexham Local Safeguarding Children Board (FWLSCB) Strategic Plan (2011 to 2014)

Requirement for the Strategy

The Children Act 2004 Section 31 requires every local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) to coordinate and ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each member agency for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The objectives and functions of LSCB's are described in 'Safeguarding Children: Working Together' under the Children Act 2004 including that the LSCB should develop its own business plan to guide its work programme.

The Flintshire and Wrexham LSCB Strategic Plan 2011 to 2014 and Business Plan 2011 to 2012 are the first planning documents for the newly formed (April 2011) joint LSCB.

How and When the Strategy will be Reviewed

The strategy for the FWLSCB covers a period of three years and will be reviewed annually in line with the review of the annual business plan.

Progress made on the actions within the business plan are reported to the FWLSCB Development Group on a quarterly basis using the 'Headline' document which employs 'red, amber, green' ratings to reflect performance.

This performance reporting document is also shared with the FWLSCB Executive Board. Performance measures in the business plan will be reported at the end of the calendar year and be included in the

FWLSCB Annual Report. The FWLSCB will also consider all performance information available to them as part of the annual self assessment which will inform the review of the strategy and development of the business plan for the year ahead.

The draft annual report was discussed at the October 2012 Board and the final version has been agreed.

Current Key Priorities & Progress Made in the Last 6 Months

Many of these are continuing during 2013 and were reported at the Mid Year Review. Updates are as follows:

- a. FW LSCB Business Plan 2013-14 is in place and has been updated to reflect decisions made at the last LSCB Executive on the 16th July 2013.
- b. The Training Plan for 2013-14 is in place and is being delivered.
- c. FW LSCB has found it difficult to recruit a permanent Business Manager and Admin support given the obvious and understandable need to plan for business support structures within a new regional and sub regional context.
- d. Currently business support for FW LSCB is provided by an Independent Consultant under contract as Interim Business Manager working two days a week. Current administrative support is provided for two days each week – but will cease shortly. Clearly there will be a need to secure ongoing administrative support until the regional/sub regional business structure is in place.
- e. The Flintshire and Wrexham LSCB Child Practice Review Group will cease once outstanding actions from existing Cases of Special Interest and SCR have been concluded and signed off.
- f. The Board have been in collaboration with the University of East Anglia following their research into children in the child protection register. A training event to disseminate the research in North Wales using some of the UEA tools is planned.
- g. The creation of the new North Wales SCB in January 2013 is welcomed as a means of providing enhanced integration and collaboration across North Wales to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
- h. Flintshire and Wrexham LSCB Policies and Procedures Sub Group, Training Sub Group and Participation and Raising Awareness Sub Groups will cease to exist in their current format – Subject to ‘legacy statements’ being prepared clarifying what is transferred in terms of actions within our updated Business

Plan 2013-14 to the regional groups and what actions require completion locally/sub regionally.

- i. This year's annual conference was held on Thursday 28th February 2013. The topic for this year was "The Effects of Parental Mental Health on Children and Young People". Much interest was shown and the success of last year's conference was replicated. Young Carers participated in the conference.
- j. The Junior LSCB met for their inaugural meeting on 4th February 2013. Further meetings have also taken place.
- k. An information sharing tool has been developed to enable the joint work on collaborative audits to take place. This was circulated at the Board for commentary.
- l. Whilst a great deal of very real progress has been made by NWSCB over the past 6 months fundamental decisions related to the financial and business structure of new regional arrangements have yet to be made, agreed and implemented.

Key Milestones for the Year Ahead

The Key Milestones for the year ahead were reported previously and are still relevant pending the move to the Regional Board:

- a. In light of a developing regional structure and to avoid duplication and replication FW LSCB has agreed to amend its 'local' structure which is largely congruent with the other two LSCB areas.
- b. Fundamental decisions related to the financial and business structure of new regional arrangements have yet to be made, agreed and implemented. Additionally, of course, the law has not changed and there is no formal 'delegation of authority' agreement yet in place between the three LSCBs and the NWSCB and this will need to be progressed.
- c. Current headline priorities for FW LSCB include tackling Child Sexual Exploitation, Children Missing from Home or Care and education and awareness raising - Parental Mental Health, Children Educated at Home and Private Fostering.
- d. FW LSCB seek to move from an over-reliance on PI's to evaluate impact/performance to quality audits of multi agency practice and would welcome discussions as to how such a development can be supported on a regional basis.
- e. Coordination of local safeguarding activity will be focussed within a sub regional Practice/Operational Development Group. Clearly links between the Practice/Operational Development

Group will need to be very closely aligned with regional developments and groups.

- f. Performance and Quality Assurance activity will continue as currently arranged as a Task Group of the Practice/Operational Development Group.
- g. Development of the Junior LSCB will also continue as a Task Group of the Practice/Operational Development Group.
- h. Progress the implementation of the LSCB Business Plan.
- i. Continue to build and strengthen relationships with other Partnerships with regards to safeguarding activity.
- j. Continue to promote and raise awareness of safeguarding with professionals, parents/carers and children and young people the need to safeguarding.
- k. Continue to strengthen the Boards monitoring role in relation to safeguarding matters.
- l. Continue to provide a range of training on child protection and safeguarding that meets local needs and is continually reviewed to ensure it is effective.
- m. Continue to ensure that children, young people, parents and Carers are consulted with, listened to and involved in the development and review of the work of the LSCB

Regional or Sub-regional Developments

Following the proposals to reduce the number of LSCB's in Wales, as set out within the draft Social Services Bill (Wales) consultation, the Chairs, Vice Chairs and business managers of the three LSCB's in North Wales have met and wider meetings have been arranged to decide upon the future model.

The inaugural meeting of the new Shadow Board was held in January 2013 with further meetings taking place thereafter. Jenny Williams, Director in Conwy is to chair for 12 months. The plan is for three joint LSCB's to operate in parallel for a period. Four sub groups are to meet on a regional basis:

- Training
- Child Practice Reviews
- Communication & Awareness Raising
- Policy & Procedures

Individuals have been nominated to lead on arranging the first meeting of the four sub groups in order to agree chairmanship, membership, terms of reference, frequency of meetings, work programmes etc. The

sub groups have been meeting since April 2013. The local sub groups attached to the current three boards disbanded at this stage, except for the current Serious Case Review subgroups.

Alongside these original arrangements there will need to be localised sub groups to replicate the current boards and discuss local issues.

3.06 Regeneration Partnership

Requirement for the Strategy

The Flintshire Regeneration Partnership was established in September 2005 to bring together the wide range of organisations and initiatives involved in regeneration in Flintshire, to ensure a more strategic and integrated approach. The preparation of a holistic approach to tackling the county's needs and for this to be set out in an agreed long-term strategy, were early recommendations of the Partnership.

The Flintshire Regeneration Strategy was produced in 2008/09 and subsequently approved by the Executive in October 2009; it is of particular importance at a time of economic uncertainty. It sets out those actions that will be taken to facilitate recovery, to ensure that Flintshire is prepared for the challenges to be faced as the economy emerges from recession and to ensure that a focused and coordinated approach brings together the actions and resources of all relevant partners for maximum local benefit.

How and When the Strategy will be Reviewed

The Strategy will be refreshed during 2013. The third annual Regeneration Conference took place on the 7th March 2013 and provided stakeholders with the opportunity to review the progress of the Strategy and identify future priorities for action.

Current Key Priorities

The Regeneration Partnership is using the theme "Flintshire: Open for Business" to encompass its work and has created themes for regeneration in Flintshire – Business, Places and People.

The key priorities are:

- Improve rate of youth employment.
- Increase level of inward investment.
- Supporting small business growth and entrepreneurship.
- Strengthen competitive position for manufacturing, especially advanced manufacturing.
- Improve availability of skilled workforce for large companies.
- Reduce vacancy rates and improved foot fall on High Streets.
- Rural regeneration.

Progress Made in the Last 6 Months

Business:

- a. Welsh Government announced the new Deeside Enterprise Zone (DEZ) as a key strategic location for Wales Advanced Manufacturing sector. DEZ will be a catalyst for the Northern Gateway development attracting new investment opportunities, creating an estimated 7,000 new jobs and deliver sustainable regeneration helping to transform communities both in Deeside and across North Wales. During this quarter 309 new enquiries have been handled, 6 of these have specifically related to investment in Deeside Enterprise Zone. This has led to 341 new jobs in total of which 25 are within the Enterprise Zone.

- b. Phase 1 of the North Wales Advanced Manufacturing Skills and Technology Centre (NWAMSTC) feasibility study has been completed to develop a focus for the advanced manufacturing sector, in partnership with Welsh Government, HE, FE and private industry. Phase 2 NWAMSTC feasibility study to be completed. This is dependent on the release of funds from Welsh Government.

Places:

- a. The Masterplan for Flint is now complete. Phased demolition of the maisonettes in the town centre has commenced.

- b. A Destination Management Partnership has been formed to lead the approach to the visitor economy in Flintshire. This approach is complementary to wider town centre management, rural development and business development activity, as well as to key service improvements such as the review of Streetscene services. The Partnership has approved an action plan and is currently developing projects. Key priorities for action this year include:
 - promoting Flintshire's walking offer.
 - collaborating with partners to make leaflet distribution more efficient and reach a wider audience.
 - supporting the development of a Roman-themed attraction near Caergwrle.
 - increasing the visibility and availability of local food.

- c. Welsh Government have given approval to the North East Wales Town Centre Regeneration project, lead by Flintshire County Council, and covering Flintshire and Wrexham. The Building Enhancement Scheme offers grants to bring High Street properties back into active employment use. So far 3 full applications have been approved and a further 5 schemes are in development.

People:

- a. The Regeneration Partnership has been working closely with Communities First and the Local Service Board on the Employment, Education and Training (EET) agenda. Significant progress has been made linking with Flintshire's public, private and third sectors to establish new good practice aimed at reducing the numbers of young people not in Employment Education or Training NEET and improving opportunities for Flintshire's most disadvantaged communities.
- b. Communities First have been working closely with the Apprenticeship, Entrepreneurship and Work Experience (AEWE) Project Board for the Local Service Board where partners are developing initiatives aimed primarily at young people under 25, which have been informing and influencing the LSB Priority 1 agenda, to "Lead by Example as Employers and Community Leaders", and since agreed. The AEWE is also supporting a renewed emphasis on Young Entrepreneurship, as part of the all Wales Youth Entrepreneurship Strategy (YES).
- c. The Young Entrepreneurship model is helping young people start or grow a business through Flintshire's first Enterprise Club, as part of a local Young Entrepreneurship model. The Flintshire Business Entrepreneurship Network (BEN) is being supported by Communities First to drive forward the agenda for 16 – 24 year olds aspiring to be successful entrepreneurs. The use of Deeside Leisure Centre to host and help promote BEN initiatives such as Dragons' Den style activities, is important because of its location to all that Deeside Enterprise Zone has to offer, and being a place where young people socialise in significant numbers.

Key milestones for the year ahead**General:**

- a. Review and refresh the Regeneration Strategy and develop a monitoring framework for progress towards key outcomes.

Business:

- a. Develop the Deeside Enterprise Zone further and attract and support inward investors.
- b. Develop the North Wales Advanced Manufacturing Skills and Technology Centre project further.

Places:

- a. Continue to develop the Deeside Regeneration Area for Deeside to bring about a large comprehensive renewal area in the county – Jobs / housing improvement / town centre renewal / environmental upgrade (ongoing).

- b. Implement the long term plans for the eight main towns in Flintshire (ongoing).
- c. Implement the Destination Management Plan for Flintshire.

People:

- a. To implement the revised structures and priorities for the Communities First programme, embedding needs and shared priorities in corporate and partnership strategic agendas, in particular, the development of work experience/apprenticeship academies as models of good practice supported by the public, private and voluntary sectors.
- b. To further develop local labour market approaches to maximise the opportunities for interrelated community based activities around employment, skills and learning. In Communities First areas these will include community based work clubs, jobs and careers fairs, informal and formal and accredited community based learning provision, pro-active support for employer recruitment activities, not least in relation to DEZ opportunities, and responding to job losses or closures by supporting REACT activities.
- c. To expand good practice in relation to the Flintshire Business Entrepreneurship Network and the Enterprise Clubs, securing WG and partners' support for a developing and sustainable Entrepreneurship programme for Flintshire.
- d. To continue to address the Child Poverty agenda by improving residents' financial literacy, and improving access to Credit Unions through additional community based collection points.

Regional or Sub-regional Developments

Sub-regional collaboration is underway on affecting inward investment.

3.07 Voluntary Sector Compact

The Compact is a way to supporting collaboration between statutory bodies and the voluntary (or third) sector. It was originally established as a national agreement between central government and the voluntary and community sector in 1998.

Current Key Priorities

- a. Continue to support the development of a strategic approach to 1) advice provision in Flintshire, 2) maximising external funding opportunities, and 3) efficiency programme.
- b. Transport and Access to Health Services – focus on regional & sub regional partnerships.

- c. Maximising external funding opportunities.

Key Milestones for the Year Ahead

- a. Transport and Access to Health - Community transport and the planning of health services within Localities.
- b. Advice Management and the implications of welfare reform.
- c. Revised Scrutiny arrangements.

3.08 Youth Justice Plan and Board

Requirement for the Strategy

The Youth Justice Plan is written annually to meet legislative, grant making and business planning requirements. It has to meet the requirements of:

- The Youth Justice Board (YJB) – as a legislative requirement (Crime and Disorder Act 1988) and condition of grant.
- The Youth Justice service (YJS) Executive Management Board.
- The County Council.
- YJS staff at an operational level.
- Partner agencies.

How and When the Strategy will be Reviewed

The current 2 year strategy is operational until 2014 and is currently under review. The plan was developed using an outcome focused approach.

The 2012 plan was circulated to partner agencies for consultation and has been approved by the County Council's scrutiny process.

Current Key Priorities

Priorities for 2013 are:

- Reduce the number of young people entering the criminal justice system by monitoring first time entrants.
- Reduce the number of young people entering the secure estate.
- Reduce the reoffending rate of 10 to 17 year olds.
- Increase victim and public confidence.

Progress Made in the Last 12 Months

- a. A reduction of First Time Entrants (FTE) has continued to be achieved by the YJS. Preventing offending is the principal aim of the youth justice system and Flintshire YJS has continued to develop prevention services which have an impact on the reduction of the number of FTE into the youth justice system.
- b. The numbers of young people entering the secure estate are minimal and the introduction of the Youth Rehabilitation Order

the previous year enabled the partnership between the YJS and the Courts to be reviewed and strengthened. The numbers of young people attending court has seen a significant decrease and this can be attributed to more robust policing methods looking at alternatives to arrest, the restorative justice agenda linked to prevention work carried out by the Youth Justice Service.

- c. Reoffending rates are determined by monitoring cohorts of young people and the YJS has implemented systems linked to the Careworks system to track these. The highest rates of re-offending are demonstrated by those young people subject to periods in custody. It should be noted that this population in Flintshire is often confined to three or four individuals so any offence committed by this group impacts significantly on re-offending rates demonstrated by the whole group.
- d. The YJS contact all identified victims and has a dedicated Victim Liaison Officer. The Victim Strategy is currently being reviewed and amended.

Key Milestones for the Year Ahead

There are significant policy changes ahead being implemented by Central Government which will impact upon services provided for the Young people of Flintshire. The Green Paper Youth Justice Bill (Wales) which would be welcomed to build upon the work undertaken by the All Wales Youth Offending Strategy has been through the consultation stage and we now await to see the findings.

The finance of the YJS continues to be made up of a combination of funding streams with the Welsh Government Grants being in a transitional year whilst regional frameworks are established. In addition the Police and Crime Commissioner for North Wales is now in post and discussions are ongoing with the Youth Justice Services across North Wales.

The introduction of the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 has had an impact upon 2 areas of our business. At the high risk end, Local Authorities are now responsible for funding placements for young people remanded into custody. On the other end of the spectrum, Out of Court Disposals see the end of Reprimands and Final Warnings and the introduction of Cautions and Conditional Cautions.

Regional or Sub-regional Developments

- a. Regionally, the North Wales Safer Communities Board commenced from June 2012. This Board is looking at all criminal justice agencies and will provide strategic guidance

- b. The Safer Communities Fund has been realigned by Welsh Government into the Youth Crime Prevention Fund and all YOTs and Community Safety Partnerships are collaborating to provide a business case for regional, sub regional and local delivery of services.
- c. The Young Peoples Drug and Alcohol Team has renamed itself as Flintshire 'Sorted'. This name was devised by the young people accessing the service. A Service review is to be carried out during 2013 to bring all staff employed into line with job descriptions as the service has evolved over the past 6 years of operation.
- d. The Flintshire/Wrexham LSCB has now been in operation for over 12 months and the YJS has developed protocols around Serious Incidents with the Board and the Youth Justice Service continues to be actively in all areas of this Board and is represented on all groups from the Executive to support groups.
- e. Work is currently under way to formulate a SERAF agreement and process which is to prevent the sexual exploitation of young people.
- f. In unison with this, work is also being looked at to develop a regional approach to young people who display sexually harmful behaviour.
- g. Flintshire YJS continues to engage with Flintshire Inclusion service and has seen a rise in the time young people are spending in Education, Training and Employment and the Pupil Referral Unit that is a joint venture with the Inclusion Service has recently expanded its brief to work with 16 plus years to enable them to gain college placements.
- h. A significant development is through Creating Active Wales/Sports Wales which the YJS are hopeful to utilise funding to engage young people in further constructive use of leisure time to divert them away from criminal or anti social activities.

3.09 Transition to a Single Integrated Plan for Flintshire

Guidance published by Welsh Government in June 2012 described the approach to replace the four existing statutory plans with a Single Integrated Plan (SIP) driven by the Local Service Board. The guidance is described in Appendix 1.

This would incorporate the following existing Flintshire Plans:

- Flintshire County Vision - 2009 to 2019.
- Making a Positive Difference Plan - 2011 to 2014 (Children & Young People's Partnership).

- Community Safety Strategic Plan - 2011 to 2014.
- Good Health, Good Care Strategy - 2011 to 2014 (Health, Social Care and Well-being Partnership).

Of these four statutory plans and partnerships only one, the Community Safety Partnership is identified as a 'strategy group' in regulations made under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 which allows for members of the LSB to fulfil the role of the strategy group and discharge its duties. The LSB has recently agreed to fulfil this role and has undertaken a governance assessment to ensure that it has the appropriate structure and arrangements in place.

Welsh Government state that the SIP should include:

- a. Vision – for the long term.
- b. Analysis – to include key issues, trends, needs, etc.
- c. Action Plan – highlighting priority outcomes for a 3 to 5 period and an action plan for driving improvement including partners' contributions and accountability. The highest priorities should form the LSB's core agenda for improvement
- d. Enabling Strategies – including an Information Strategy and Engagement Strategy.
- e. Assurance – arrangements for LSB governance, performance management and scrutiny. The Local Government (Wales) Measure 2011 places a new requirement on local authority scrutiny committees to scrutinise designated public service providers in their area.

The SIP should be based on comprehensive needs assessments taking the needs of the whole population in the local area into account but with a specific focus on groups who are disadvantaged, vulnerable or at risk of becoming vulnerable.

In developing the SIP, work has been undertaken in the following areas:

- Reviewing the Flintshire County Vision and developing Local Service Board priorities
- Reviewing our performance in the 4 areas of work that form the national Effective Service for Vulnerable People (ESVP) Programme
- Developing the role of the Local Service Board
- Ensuring effective strategic partnership governance
- Partnership and plan rationalisation

In reviewing the County Vision the LSB has identified a number of priorities in which there is a shared interest and where a high level partnership such as the LSB is needed to lead and influence change. These priorities have been broken down into 'primary' and 'secondary' priorities.

The four primary priorities are:

- Lead by example as employers and Community Leaders
- People are safe
- Vulnerable people have their support needs met and their wellbeing is promoted and enhanced
- Organisational environmental practices

Appendix B provides the full list of primary and secondary priorities. These were agreed in July 2012 by the LSB and Statements of Ambition have been developed to provide an outline of what we want to achieve or change and why.

In addition to these LSB Priorities, there are a number of Strategic Partnership Plans that exist that were implemented in 2011. As these were 1) based on sound evidence from partnership needs assessments and professional expertise, 2) been considered as part of the development of the LSB Priorities, and 3) implemented the Strategic Partnership Governance Framework, it was agreed that these plans would run their course to 31st March 2014. Thus the transition to a Single Integrated Plan (SIP) for Flintshire will be complete by the 1st April 2014.

The Plan will bring together the following strategic partnerships' plans:

- Children & Young People's Partnership
- Community Safety Partnership
- Flintshire and Wrexham Local Safeguarding Children Board
- Flintshire Housing Partnership
- Health, Social Care and Well-being Partnership
- Regeneration Partnership
- Voluntary Sector Compact
- Youth Justice Board

The first complete draft of the SIP is to be presented to the LSB at its next meeting in October; it will then be presented to the Cabinet prior to final publication in the new year.

Once the SIP has been agreed, the commitments of individual service providers should be included within their own corporate plans for the following key partner organisations:

- Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
- Coleg Cambria
- Flintshire County Council
- Flintshire Local Voluntary Council
- Glyndwr University
- Natural Resources Wales
- North Wales Fire and Rescue service
- North Wales Police
- North Wales Probation
- Public Health Wales

The Council has already identified and made these commitments within its Improvement Plan 2013-14, for example within the Skills and Learning and Environment priorities for Apprenticeships and Carbon reduction respectively.

3.10 Rationalisation

We have also been a key player in a regional review to rationalise partnerships and were a key player in the North Wales Partnership Review (as previously reported to Cabinet). In addition, sub-regional arrangements have been developed for the Youth Justice Executive Management Board and Local Safeguarding Children Board.

The implementation of the Strategic Partnership Governance Framework saw the number of partnerships in operation in Flintshire reduce. Further opportunities exist to reduce partnerships in the future in line with development of the governance arrangements to support the Single Integrated Plan.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That Scrutiny note and endorse the performance of the Strategic Partnerships and support the key priorities and their work programmes.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 There are no financial implications directly associated with this report.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 The needs assessments that underpin the Strategic Plans include a consideration of poverty and deprivation and its impact on the population.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 There are no environmental impacts directly associated with this report.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 There are no equalities impacts directly associated with this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 The on-going coordination and implementation of the Strategic Plans and Partnership Work Programmes will be taken forward by designated officers within the relevant Partnership teams.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None required.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None required.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix A – Shared Purpose - Shared Delivery, Welsh Government Guidance, June 2012

12.02 Appendix B - LSB Priorities

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

None.

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Shared Purpose – Shared Delivery Welsh Government Guidance, June 2012

This approach would be used to meet statutory responsibilities in relation to the development of plans and strategies under the following legislation:

- Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 (Part 2: Ss 37-46) -
- Community Strategies;
- Children Act 2004 (Part 3: S26) – Children and Young People’s Plan (which includes plans required in accordance with section 2 of the Children and Families (Wales) Measure 2010 (S2) and the Mental Health (Wales) Measure 2010);
- National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006 (Part 3: S40) – Health, Social Care and Well-being Strategies;
- Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (Part 1: S6) – Strategies for the reduction of crime and disorder, strategies for combating the misuse of drugs, alcohol and other substances, and strategies for the reduction of reoffending.

The guidance supersedes previously published guidance as follows:

- Community Strategies and Planning – Collaborative Community Planning.
- Stronger Partnership for better outcomes - Guidance on local cooperation under the Children Act 2004 – issued August 2006 and subsequent guidance on the Children and Young People’s Plan.
- Health Social Care and Well-being Strategy Guidance 2011/12 to 2012/13.

It provides a framework for local authorities and other planning bodies to meet their statutory planning responsibilities and align with Welsh Government priorities, while allowing for a greater degree of local determination in other respects.

The legislation governing the formulation and implementation of community strategies, Children and Young Persons Plans and Health and Well-being Strategies sets out named partners who must be engaged during the planning process and identifies who must agree the final plans. To meet the statutory requirements of the plans referred to within this guidance, statutory engagement and consultation must continue if a single integrated plan is to be produced, and single integrated plans must be agreed in accordance with the legislative requirements. The need to comply with these statutory requirements however, does not and should not prevent LSB's from reviewing and streamlining partnership structures to make them fit for purpose.

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PRIMARY PRIORITIES

PRIORITY 1:
Lead by example as employers and
Community Leaders

PRIORITY 2:
People are safe

PRIORITY 3:
Vulnerable people have their support needs
met, and their wellbeing is promoted and
enhanced

PRIORITY 4:
Organisational environmental practices

SECONDARY PRIORITIES

LINKS
TO OTHER
PRIORITIES

A: Protect and promote the well-being of our employees, volunteers & the community.	Orange
B: Support lifelong learning & employability of our employees & volunteers.	White
C: Improve the education, training & employment prospects for young people up to 25 years of age (ESVP).	Yellow

A: Address the inappropriate availability & misuse of alcohol in our communities.	Yellow
B: Reduce alcohol related harm including injuries.	Yellow
C: Prevent & manage alcohol related anti-social behaviour & address environmental crime.	White
D: Improving Services for vulnerable people with a focus on those suffering domestic abuse, missing people and restorative approaches (ESVP).	Yellow

A: Respond to welfare reform & manage its impacts.	Pink
B: Ensure co-ordinated and integrated approaches to the planning, commissioning and delivery of services	Orange
C: Promote independent living & well-being (ESVP).	Yellow
	Cyan

A: Ensure that we reduce our carbon footprint.	Pink
B: Future proof our business plans to respond to climate change.	Pink

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **COMMUNITY PROFILE & PARTNERSHIPS
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

DATE: **THURSDAY, 7 NOVEMBER 2013**

REPORT BY: **MEMBER ENGAGEMENT MANAGER**

SUBJECT: **PRESENTATION BY NORTH WALES FIRE &
RESCUE SERVICE**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

To enable the committee to consider the North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority and Service consultation document on proposed improvement objectives for 2014-15 and beyond.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 Representatives of the North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority and the Fire & Rescue Service have attended previous meetings to give presentations on their work.

2.02 On this occasion, the Chief Fire Officer, Mr Simon Smith will be attending to present on the attached document *Our plans for fire and rescue services in North Wales – Information and public consultation on proposed improvement objectives for 201-15 and beyond*.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The consultation document is attached as appendix 1.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That the committee considers the consultation document and makes a response thereto.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 Not applicable.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 Not applicable.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 Not applicable.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 Not applicable.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 Not applicable.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Not applicable.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Not applicable.

12.00 APPENDICES

Appendix 1 North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority and Service consultation document on proposed improvement objectives for 2014-15 and beyond

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

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Our plans for fire and rescue services in North Wales

Information and public consultation on proposed
improvement objectives for 2014-15 and beyond

Public Consultation
16th September 2013 to 9th December 2013

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North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority
Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters
Ffordd Salesbury
St Asaph Business Park
St Asaph
Denbighshire, LL17 0JJ

Website www.nwales-fireservice.org.uk

INTRODUCTION

The risks that face North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority are changing. Like many other public sector organisations the Authority faces the prospect of meeting a potential increase in demand, but with less money.

In much the same way as individuals look to re-evaluate the way they live and to revise their plans for the future, so the Authority too is having to reconsider how it provides and delivers its services so as to put it in the best possible position to deliver high quality and effective services in North Wales over the next 20 or 30 years.

The Authority's aim is to provide continuously improving services in the most effective and efficient way it can with the money it has available. This usually involves introducing new and innovative ways of doing things.

One important aspect of that continuous improvement is the emphasis the Authority places on close collaboration with other public sector organisations. In this way, the Authority is able to bring about numerous genuinely effective improvements in outcomes (e.g. by working with a range of other North Wales organisations to identify and support vulnerable people) and in efficiency (e.g. by working with North Wales Police in the Joint Communications Centre, in managing our buildings and premises, and in tackling the problem of arson and deliberate fire setting).

The Authority is fully committed to increasing collaboration wherever it can. It is actively engaged in the work of the Local Service Boards in North Wales, and works very closely with the other two Welsh Fire and Rescue Authorities. The National Issues Committee is an excellent recent example of the three Welsh Fire and Rescue Authorities coming together to drive forward the collaborative agenda across Wales.

Since the Authority's inception in 1996 it has built up a good understanding of the risk profile and business needs in the area it covers. During that time it has overseen a welcome reduction in the number of fires in the area and a steady decline in the number of people being injured by fire.

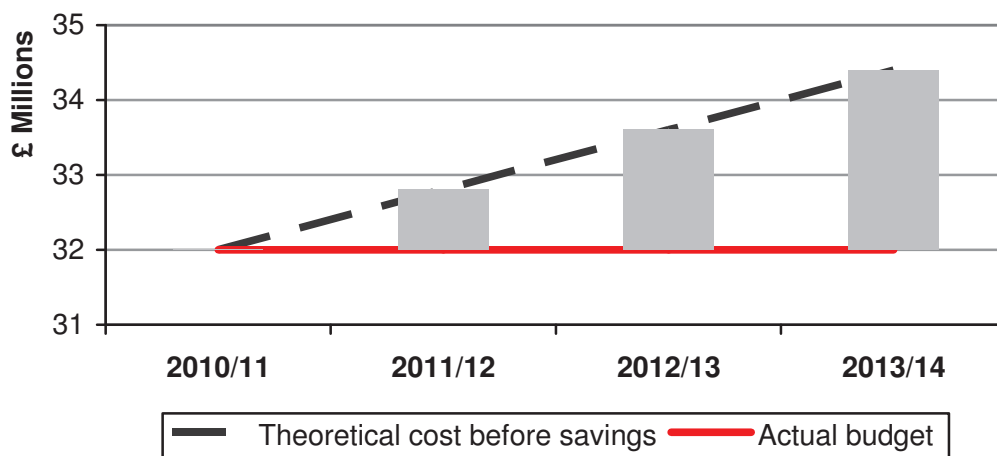
The challenge now is to maintain that record of success at a time of unprecedented challenges and potential demands on services. It is difficult to predict with absolute certainty the changes that will take place over the next decade, but it is possible to make a reasonable assessment of the likely pressures and move to alleviate those before they become too difficult to overcome.

We are committed to making North Wales a safer place to live, work and visit. We hope you will consider our proposals and let us know your views – whether you agree with them, or whether you can offer up better alternatives.

RECENT BACKGROUND

Savings made by the Authority

The national economic downturn and the outcomes of the Comprehensive Spending Review in November 2010 gave an indication of the level of cuts to public services that could be expected. Consequently, in December 2010, the Authority took the decision to freeze the annual budget available for running the Service at £32million for the next three years.



What this meant in real terms was that any cost increases that happened during those years (e.g. due to inflation or rises in fuel costs) would have to be paid for from within the existing budget: so every year around £800,000 would need to be taken away from some parts of the Service in order to pay for unavoidable cost increases. In total, by the end of the third year (2013/14), annual savings of £2.45million had to be achieved.

RECENT BACKGROUND

How were the savings achieved?

In 2011/12

- £200,000 released by taking a very detailed look at specific budget lines and agreeing that what had originally been planned should either be stopped altogether or scaled down.
- £50,000 cut from the Community Fire Safety budget.
- £90,000 cut from the Support Staff budget.
- £460,000 cut from the operational management budget by restructuring the Officer Cover arrangements.
- £30,000 cut from the Control budget by restructuring its staffing arrangements.

In 2012/13

- Individual budget lines were again cut or scaled down, releasing a further £150,000.
- Another £50,000 cut from the Community Fire Safety budget.
- Another £90,000 cut from the Support Staff budget.
- £500,000 released from the operational firefighters' pay budget by changing the way their shifts were rostered but without reducing the number of firefighters forming an emergency crew.

In 2013/14

- Individual budget lines were cut or scaled down for a third time, releasing a further £70,000.
- Another £50,000 cut from the Community Fire Safety budget.
- Another £180,000 cut from the Support Staff budget.
- A further £500,000 released from the operational firefighters' pay budget, by changing the way their shifts were rostered (as above).

THE AUTHORITY'S 2012 CONSULTATION

2013-14 Draft Proposals for Consultation

Last Autumn (2012) the Authority ran a public consultation on its draft Improvement Objectives for 2013-14.

What the Authority proposed for 2013-14 was:

A. to continue to pursue its two Improvement Objectives of:

1. preventing accidental dwelling fire deaths and injuries
2. reducing the Service's running costs

and in addition:

B. to undertake two new projects that would feed in to Authority's Improvement Objectives for 2014-15 by:

1. devising a 3-year financial plan for 2014/15 onwards
2. exploring alternative ways of providing fire and rescue services in North Wales.

The two new projects came about because the Authority's detailed assessment of the risks facing its future operations had indicated that it would need to prepare itself for threats in three areas:

- a rising demand for services;
- an increasingly unpredictable workload; and
- the effects of financially challenging times.

THE AUTHORITY'S 2012 CONSULTATION

2012 Consultation Response

The Authority received around 170 different comments, views and questions from the public consultation. The response was predominantly supportive of what it was proposing, with 74% of responses agreeing with its choice of priorities for 2013-14.

In the 2012 consultation, the Authority had outlined some of the difficulties it faced in maintaining fire cover in predominantly rural areas. In order to inform its future strategy, one question had asked the public to think about how they might react if they were forced to make a difficult choice between:

- a) keeping a fire station open because it was near to their home, but accepting that despite best efforts it was not going to be available for several hours a week, or
- b) having a fire station that was always ready to respond, but accepting that it was several miles further away from their home.

A clear majority (around two-thirds of the responses), said that if forced to choose they would prefer option b), but several were reluctant to accept that this sort of choice should have to be made.

A number of responses acknowledged the need to reduce costs, increase efficiency and reduce inefficiency, but not at the expense of 'front line services' which they felt should be protected above all else. Interestingly, the majority of the efficiency and cost-savings suggestions being put forward were things that the Authority had already tackled, such as reducing management and support costs (see page 7).

ACTIONS DURING 2013-14

2013-14 Planned Actions

Having considered the consultation responses, the Authority put its plans into action for achieving its Improvement Objectives during this current financial year.

In addition to reducing the budget by a further £800,000 (see previous section), the Authority has plans in place for this year to:

- deliver a Community Safety/Risk Reduction Strategy
- continuously monitor the incidence and causes of dwelling fires
- involve partner organisations in learning lessons from dwelling fires to reduce the likelihood of recurrence
- examine the factors that may contribute to making some people more vulnerable to fires than others, cross-referenced where appropriate to the protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010
- review the Service's current arrangements with partner organisations for the delivery of home fire safety checks and referrals of particularly vulnerable people.
- monitor the Service's adherence to the commitments made through the new Dwelling Fires Response Charter.

More details about these actions and what measurable outputs and outcomes can be expected are contained in the Authority's Combined Improvement and Risk Reduction Plan 2013-14 that was published in March 2013.

THE AUTHORITY'S 2013 CONSULTATION

The Authority is now entering the next phase of its planning. The risks facing the Authority remain, and there are still some long-term challenges to address.

The Authority is proposing three Improvement Objectives for adoption in 2014-15.

The first Improvement Objective is carried over from previous years, reflecting the Authority's continuing commitment to the prevention of fire deaths and injuries.

The second Improvement Objective reflects a different approach to financing the Service as it comes to the end of a three-year budget freeze.

The third Improvement Objective reflects the Authority's recognition of the need to provide sustainable and affordable fire and rescue services in North Wales in the longer term.

THE AUTHORITY'S 2013 CONSULTATION

Proposed Improvement Objective 1

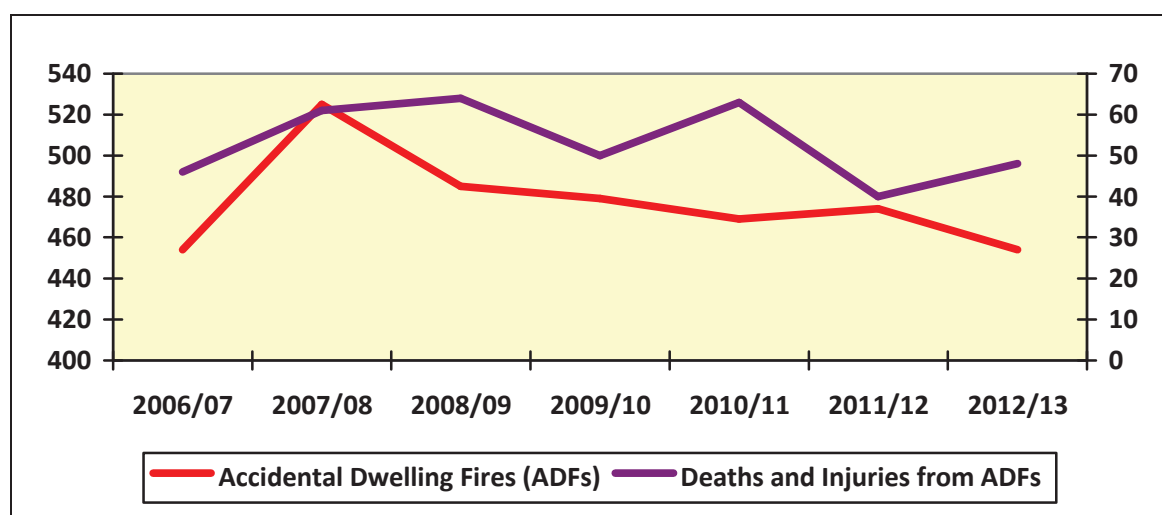
To help to keep people and communities safe by preventing deaths and injuries from accidental fires in living accommodation.

Why is this being proposed?

Because keeping people safe is the Authority's primary concern, but also it makes better sense to prevent incidents from happening than to simply react every time they do.

Apart from the positive human impact of safer communities, they cost less too, because for every fire injury prevented there will be an associated cost saving in other areas of public service.

But despite some remarkable successes in reducing the overall incidence of fires in recent years, deaths and injuries in dwelling fires in North Wales remain a concern for the Authority.



For many years the Authority has been reminding people that prevention is better than cure, and it still believes that. The Authority is committed to keeping its annual target of delivering 30,000 Home Fire Safety Checks to householders in North Wales, but the demographics of North Wales and the identified behaviours mean that prevention activity may need to increase in order to keep pace.

THE AUTHORITY'S 2013 CONSULTATION

Proposed Improvement Objective 2

To implement a 3-year financial plan for 2014/15 to 2016/17 that funds the current level of service, but that aims to limit the cost of doing so to the equivalent of an extra £1 per year per head of population.

Why is this being proposed?

Since 2010/11, the budget has remained the same, and the Service running costs have fallen. This has been achieved through what can be termed 'internal' cutbacks, with very few noticeable changes on the outside. For the majority of service users, they will probably not have noticed much difference.

However, the point has now been reached where continuing to freeze the budget would have a very noticeable impact on the fire and rescue services provided in North Wales, which the Authority is not minded to pursue. This is why the Authority is proposing to change its approach for the period of its next 3-year budget plan.

The Authority is proposing to increase the annual budget by just enough to maintain the current level of service, with a safeguard that the level of annual increase should equate to no more than an additional £1 per year per head of population in North Wales.

THE AUTHORITY'S 2013 CONSULTATION

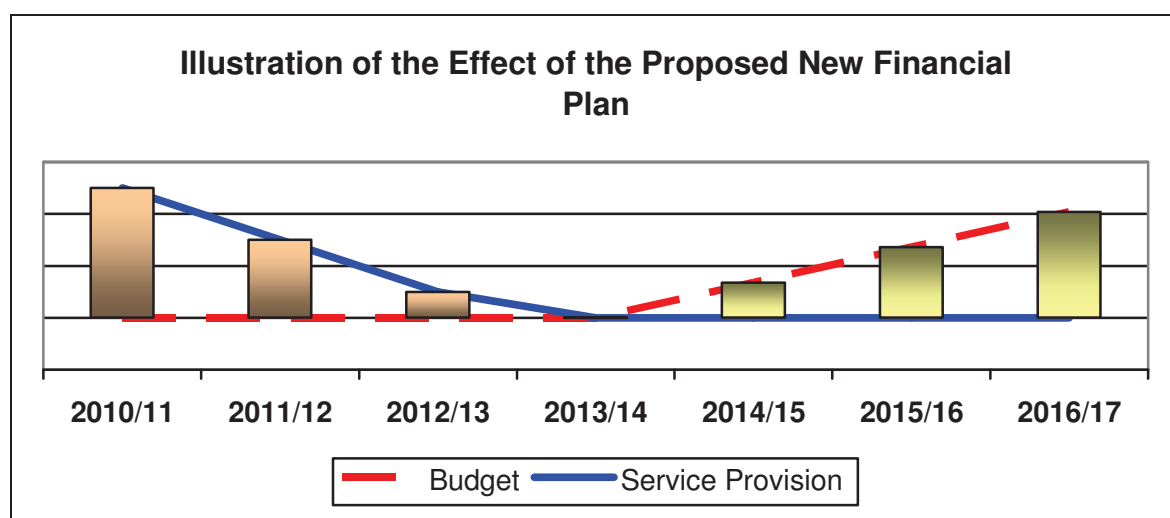
Theoretically, what would further cuts mean?

If the Authority did not make this increase, and decided instead to freeze the budget for another 3 years, this would mean reducing the Service's running costs by another £3.3million on top of the £2.45million already taken out over the period of the last 3-year financial plan.

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To achieve £3.3million of savings would mean having to: |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • close 7 retained fire stations, and therefore permanently shed 100 firefighter posts AND |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • remove one wholetime fire engine from service in Wrexham (the only fire station in North Wales that has two), and therefore permanently shed 28 firefighter posts AND |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • remove the retained fire appliances and therefore permanently shed 100 firefighter posts from the wholetime fire stations in Holyhead, Caernarfon, Bangor, Llandudno, Colwyn Bay, Rhyl, Queensferry and Wrexham, leaving just one fire engine on each station. |

Having kept the budget at the same level since 2010/11, the Service delivery costs have been reduced by £2.45million.

Going forward, the proposal is that the level of service should remain the same, even if it means increasing the budget slightly to fund that.



THE AUTHORITY'S 2013 CONSULTATION

How much would that add to the cost?

The Authority knows well that all public services are having to limit their spending, and that the fire and rescue service is not immune to the effects of such a harsh financial climate.

The additional budget for the Fire and Rescue Authority would come from the six county councils in North Wales. To this end, it is making an undertaking to aim to limit the extent of the budgetary impact on constituent authorities to a maximum equivalent of an additional £1 per year per head of population.

For information, according to figures published by the Welsh Government:

The budgeted revenue expenditure for North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority for 2013/14 equated to **£46 per head** of population¹.

The mid-year population estimate for North Wales in 2012/13 totalled 688,417 rising to a projected 698,664 by 2016/17².

¹ SDR 97/2013 Local Authority Budgeted Revenue Expenditure 2013-14, Table 2.
<http://wales.gov.uk/docs/statistics/2013/130618-local-authority-budgeted-revenue-expenditure-2013-14-en.pdf>

² www.StatsWales.Wales.gov.uk Population projections by local authority and year.

THE AUTHORITY'S 2013 CONSULTATION

Proposed Improvement Objective 3

To ensure that North Wales gets the best possible level of service within financial constraints, use a variety of management solutions to optimise fire and rescue cover in the area.

Why is this being proposed?

In its public consultation last year, the Authority explained some of the difficulties of providing fire and rescue services in predominantly rural areas. In North Wales, the majority of fire stations are crewed exclusively by firefighters working the Retained Duty System (RDS), where crew members are paid an annual retainer and fees for attending incidents.

The vast majority of RDS staff are genuinely committed to the work, but it is becoming increasingly difficult to attract and retain staff who are able to both provide fire cover and hold down a full time job with their primary employer. This duty system suited previous generations very well as people generally stayed within their communities without travelling far for either work or leisure, and companies could afford to employ large numbers of staff. Now, however, primary employers are under pressure to operate with as few employees as possible, making it less likely that they can afford to allow their staff to leave their place of work to attend an emergency incident for the Fire and Rescue Service.

Members of the Service have been looking at different ways of providing fire and rescue services, and have visited a number of Fire and Rescue Services in other parts of the UK to see what alternatives are in operation elsewhere. The reports coming back have been mixed, with several new alternatives being simply too new to gauge the full implications of adopting them.

Taking long term sustainability and affordability of services as guiding principles, the Authority is proposing that this work of finding suitable alternative options for providing fire and rescue services in North Wales should continue to develop.

PLEASE TELL US WHAT YOU THINK

We would like to encourage anyone with an interest in North Wales Fire and Rescue to tell us what they think about our proposed Improvement Objectives for 2014-15.

Please send your comments:

By Post to:

North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority
Fire and Rescue Service Headquarters
Ffordd Salesbury
St Asaph Business Park
St Asaph
Denbighshire, LL17 0JJ

By e-mail to:

futurefire@nwales-fireservice.org.uk

You can also visit

www.nwales-fireservice.org.uk

[@northwalesfire](https://twitter.com/northwalesfire) on Twitter

www.facebook.com/northwalesfireservice

APPENDICES

KEY INFORMATION ABOUT NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE

GWASANAETH TÂN AC ACHUB GOGLEDD CYMRU NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE Lleoliad y Gorsafod / Station Locations



KEY INFORMATION ABOUT NORTH WALES FIRE AND RESCUE

	2011-12	2012-13
Revenue budget	£31.933 million	£31.772 million
Grants received	£2.692 million	£2.299 million
Capital expenditure	£4.491 million	£2.865 million
Fire stations	44	44
Fire engines	54	54
People employed as at 31 March	983	900
Fires attended	3,165	2,349
Non-fire emergency incidents attended	990	1,204
False alarms attended	3,566	3,249
Home Fire Safety Checks delivered	28,472	22,201

More information is provided on our website, or alternatively you can contact us at the address given on the contents page.

REFERENCE

Useful external sources of information:

www.statswales.wales.gov.uk

<http://www.infobasecymru.net/IAS/>

Duties and Key Legislation

Fire and Rescue Authorities operate within a complex legislative and regulatory framework that includes:

- The Fire and Rescue Services Act 2004
- The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005
- The Civil Contingencies Act 2004
- The Local Government Measure 2009
- The Welsh Fire and Rescue National Framework 2012 Onwards

Financial contributions

Revenue spending is financed by contributions from the six constituent local authorities in proportion to their population. For 2012-13 and 2013-14 the proportions were:

Authority	Contribution 2012/13 £	Population Estimates 2013	2013/14 Contribution £	% Change
Conwy County Borough Council	5,206,959	112,988	5,198,570	-0.16%
Anglesey County Council	3,219,270	69,903	3,216,231	-0.09%
Gwynedd Council	5,525,827	119,713	5,507,985	-0.32%
Denbighshire County Council	4,569,316	99,840	4,593,630	+0.53%
Flintshire County Council	6,981,590	151,165	6,955,089	-0.38%
Wrexham County Borough Council	6,269,049	136,938	6,300,506	+0.50%
Total	31,772,011	690,547	31,772,011	

(Changes per unitary authority reflect changes in the population.)

REFERENCE

Spending plans for 2013-14:

	Budget 2012/13 £	Budget 2013/14 £
Employees	23,048,716	22,945,848
Premises	1,279,800	1,310,347
Transport	1,148,051	1,178,052
Supplies	3,009,194	2,979,346
Agency	319,000	322,000
Support Services	323,700	377,960
Capital Financing	2,923,050	2,946,623
Total	32,051,511	32,060,176
Income	-279,500	-288,185
Net expenditure	31,772,011	31,772,011

REFERENCE

Staffing

As at 31/03/2013	Posts	FTE	HC
Wholetime operational staff <i>74% of these posts are based on fire stations. The remainder are senior management posts and specialist posts including training and prevention work.</i>	242	254	254
Retained operational staff <i>All these posts are based on fire stations.</i>	557	406.5	467
Control staff <i>86% of these posts are entirely based in the control room. The remainder are middle and senior management posts including Control training and business continuity management.</i>	28	28.75	32
Non-operational staff <i>These posts cover a range of functions including fleet management, buildings maintenance, ICT, finance and payroll, training, human resources, corporate communications and administration. 31% are in fire safety and community fire safety.</i>	145.57	137.42	147
Totals	972.57	826.67	900

FTE = Full Time Equivalent HC = Headcount of employees

Staff sickness and injuries

In 2012/13:

- A total of 1,267 days or shifts were lost due to short term sickness absence, and 3,263 days or shifts were lost due to long term sickness absence. This equates to 10.5 days or shifts per person (excluding Retained Duty System staff.)
- There were 7 ill-health retirements during the year.
- 29 firefighters were injured at operational incidents. None received fatal injuries or major injuries reportable under RIDDOR. These 29 (total) injuries accounted for a total of 559 normal duty days being lost to sickness absence.

REFERENCE

Fire Stations

There are 44 fire stations in North Wales.

- 3 wholetime shift stations
- 5 day crewed stations
- 36 retained stations

Fire appliances

There is one retained fire appliance and crew at every fire station except Pwllheli where there are two (45).

There is also one wholetime fire appliance in each wholetime shift and day crewed station, except Wrexham where there are two (9).

Activity levels

In 2012/13 the service:

- Handled 15,740 calls for assistance of which 6,802 required an attendance.
- Attended 2,349 fires, 1,204 non-fire emergencies and 3,249 false alarms.
- Delivered 22,201 Home Fire Safety Checks, gave 525 safety talks in schools and 8 elsewhere, and attended 17 publicity events.
- Conducted 867 fire safety audits of premises.
- Extricated people from vehicles at 74 incidents.

Quality of service

In 2012/13 the service:

- Attended 15% of all primary fires in less than 5 minutes, 51% between 5 and 10 minutes, 23% between 10 and 15 minutes and 11% in over 15 minutes.
- Attended 19% of all dwelling fires in less than 5 minutes, 50% between 5 and 10 minutes, 21% between 10 and 15 minutes and 10% in over 15 minutes.
- Delivered 7,742 home fire safety checks to particularly vulnerable people, these having been specifically arranged following a referral from one of our partner organisations.
- Recorded that 91% of accidental dwelling fires were confined to the room where the fire started.

REFERENCE

Outcomes

	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13
Fires	3,289	3,156	2,349
Primary fires	1,346	1,296	1,143
Dwelling fires	535	530	493
Non-domestic fires	229	215	147
Secondary fires	1,623	1,609	887
Fire deaths	10	8	8
Fire injuries	97	64	60

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **COMMUNITY PROFILE & PARTNERSHIPS OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

DATE: **7TH NOVEMBER 2013**

REPORT BY: **MEMBER ENGAGEMENT MANAGER**

SUBJECT: **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Community Profile & Partnerships Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 Items feed into a Committee's Forward Work Programme from a number of sources. Members can suggest topics for review by Overview & Scrutiny Committees, members of the public can suggest topics, items can be referred by the Cabinet for consultation purposes, or by County Council, or Directors. Other possible items are identified from the Cabinet Work Programme and the Strategic Assessment of Risks & Challenges.

2.02 In identifying topics for future consideration, it is useful or a 'test of significance' to be applied. This can be achieved by asking a range of questions as follows:

1. Will the review contribute to the Council's priorities and/or objectives?
2. Are there issues of weak or poor performance?
3. How, where and why were the issues identified?
4. Do local communities think the issues are important and is there any evidence of this? Is there evidence of public dissatisfaction?
5. Is there new Government guidance or legislation?
6. Have inspections been carried out?
7. Is this area already the subject of an ongoing review?

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 Overview & Scrutiny presents a unique opportunity for Members to determine the Forward Work Programme of the Committees of which they are members. By reviewing and prioritising the forward work programme Members are able to ensure it is member-led and includes the right issues. A copy of the Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1 for Members' consideration which has been updated following the last meeting.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That the Committee considers the draft Forward Work Programme attached as Appendix 1 and approve/amend as necessary.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None as a result of this report.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

None as a result of this report.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

None as a result of this report.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

None as a result of this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

None as a result of this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

N/A

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

Publication of this report constitutes consultation.

12.00 APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Forward Work Programme

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

None.

Contact Officer: Robert Robins
Telephone: 01352 702320
Email: Robert.robins@Flintshire.gov.uk

Community Profile & Partnerships Overview & Scrutiny Committee
FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2013/14

Appendix 1

DATE	TOPIC	PURPOSE	RESPONSIBLE / CONTACT OFFICER
Thursday 28 th November 10.00	Site Visit to Royal National Lifeboat Institution Flint Station	Information following on from the October meeting	Jan Kelly (01352 702301 janet.kelly@flintshire.gov.uk)
Monday 2nd December 2013 10.00 a.m.	Meeting cancelled due to Site visit on 28 th November		
Monday 20th January 2014 10.00 a.m.	Red Cross Forward Work Programme	Presentation to be arranged following on the suggestion at the October meeting	
Monday 17th February 2014 10.00 a.m.	Forward Work Programme		
Monday 24th March 2014 10.00 a.m.	Forward Work Programme		

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Community Profile & Partnerships Overview & Scrutiny Committee
FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME 2013/14

<p>Monday 28th April 2014 10.00 a.m.</p>			
<p>Monday 9th June 2014 10.00 a.m.</p>			
<p>Monday 7th July 2014 10.00 a.m.</p>			
	<p>Items to be scheduled Deeside College/Coleg Cambria WLGA national overview LSB Outcome Agreement Local Partnership governance arrangements County Forum and the Charter</p>		

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **COMMUNITY PROFILE & PARTNERSHIPS
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

DATE: **7TH NOVEMBER 2013**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

SUBJECT: **COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP UPDATE**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.01 To provide an outline of the service provided by the Flintshire Neighbourhood Wardens, as requested by Members.
- 1.02 To provide Members with additional information in respect of crime and disorder figures for Flintshire.

2.00 BACKGROUND

- 2.01 The focus of this report will be on one of the areas Members specifically requested further information following the July meeting, namely the work undertaken by the Neighbourhood Wardens.
- 2.02 The information relating to crime and disorder figures for Flintshire is provided in Appendix 1 and will also be discussed in the presentation.
- 2.03 The other information that was requested should already have been shared with Members.

3.00 FLINTSHIRE NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS SERVICE

- 3.01 The Neighbourhood Warden Service was established with the primary purpose of promoting community safety and achieving wider engagement between the Council, its partners and local communities. The service's three main stated objectives (as outlined to Flintshire County Council's Executive Group in May 2004) are to:

- Reduce the incidence of anti-social behaviour and crime and disorder
- Promote community safety and reduce fear of crime
- Strengthen communications between residents and local service providers

To meet these objectives the Wardens seek to provide a highly visible, accessible, uniformed presence across the county.

- 3.02 In 2010 the service transferred from the Directorate of Community Services to the Environment Directorate, and now sits within Public Protection, and is part of the Community Safety Team. Upon transfer to Public Protection the service was reviewed, and efficiencies of around £80k were realised.
- 3.03 At present there are four full-time Neighbourhood Warden posts, and one full-time Administrator. At the time of review it was identified that the service could not operate effectively without this level of staffing.
- 3.04 The Wardens are based in a small building on the Greenfield Industrial Estate; however (aside from the Administrator) they are only office based for no more than 10 per cent of their working day. The service will be moving to the County Hall campus within the next 12 months.
- 3.05 Below is an outline of their main functions:
- Undertake foot and vehicle patrols to provide reassurance and visibility.
 - Attend residential and business premises to investigate allegations of anti social behaviour, and take appropriate action.
 - Attend residential premises to give advice, assistance and reassurance to the occupier.
 - Provide specialist advice and installation of low level security measures that can be fitted within the home to improve security.
 - Support the delivery of the specialist 'Home Safe' scheme for victims of domestic violence who wish to remain in their own properties. This may include the installation of low level and/or specialist security measures where appropriate, and the provision of security advice.
 - Attend and participate in public meetings, events, etc, as directed.
 - Acting as professional witnesses in a court of law when required.
 - Facilitating inter agency working through sharing information at multi agency operational meetings, or on a one to one basis, as and when required.
 - Undertake general clerical duties such as note taking and inputting into the data bases.
 - Report intelligence gained from patrols within the community to relevant departments / partners (licensing, trading standards, North Wales Police)
 - Liaise with the relevant departments to report problems such as defective street lighting / signs, identified during the course of daily duties.
 - Support partner agencies when Environmental Visual Audits are undertaken
 - Attend established groups to provide information, guidance, education and advice on personal and home safety.

4.00 CONSIDERATIONS

4.01 The Neighbourhood Wardens' activities are recorded on a central database. On average around 90 'target hardening'¹ referrals, and a further 20 'Homesafe', are undertaken per month. Referrals are also received for additional patrols in problematic or vulnerable areas. The majority of referrals are received from Flintshire County Council departments and North Wales Police.

4.02 Financial information

(i) The annual budget for the Neighbourhood Wardens service for 2012/3 was £163,216. This includes a modest provision for 'target hardening' equipment of around £16,000.

(ii) Although difficult to quantify, through providing low level security measures (usually costing no more than £15 per household), and undertaking reassurance visits and patrols, the service helps to prevent crime and also reduces the fear of crime.

(iii) The savings realised through the 'Homesafe' aspect of the service can be quantified using information provided by Flintshire County Council.

For example, the cost to Flintshire County Council of providing temporary accommodation for a family with 2 children for a maximum of 6 weeks whilst the authority investigate their claim for re-location is £3,318. Even allowing for the cost of the Warden installing and supplying the equipment (around £30 per household of equipment) it represents a significant saving for the Council and also its partners. The benefit to the victim is that they can remain in their home with the re-assurance and confidence that the premises are secured adequately.

It is important that families affected by domestic violence are able to remain in familiar surroundings which to many may have been their family home for some time. The children can remain in their existing school rather than having to move to another school which can cause disruption to their education and distress to the child.

4.03 Enforcement activities

In light of Public Protection's service review, it is still the intention that the Neighbourhood Wardens will be conferred with powers to issue fixed penalty notice tickets for littering and dog fouling.

¹ Installation of low level security measures

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 To note the contents of the report.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 None as a result of this report.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 None as a result of this report.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None as a result of this report.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 None as a result of this report.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None as a result of this report.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None as a result of this report.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None as a result of this report.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01

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

**Contact Officer: Sian Jones
Telephone: 01352 702132
Email: sian-jones@flintshire.gov.uk**

APPENDIX 1 – Crime and Disorder Figures for Flintshire: 2013/4 compared with 2012/3

All Crime (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 47.726) YTD Change = -49 offences (-1.3%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
1814	12.117	1909	12.751	1720	11.489	1751	11.696	7194	48.053	1810	12.090	1864	12.451						

Violence with injury (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 5.484) YTD change = +27 offences (+6.6%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
213	1.423	197	1.316	192	1.282	192	1.282	792	5.304	224	1.496	213	1.423						

Violence without injury (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 4.789) YTD change = +34 offences (+11.2%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
161	1.075	143	0.955	191	1.276	188	1.256	683	4.562	179	1.196	159	1.062						

Criminal Damage (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 9.017) YTD change = -13 offences (-1.8%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
339	2.264	375	2.505	322	2.151	327	2.184	1363	9.104	331	2.211	370	2.471						

Domestic Burglaries (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 2.198) YTD change = +30 offences (+20.4%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
88	0.521	69	0.461	68	0.454	84	0.561	299	1.997	101	0.675	76	0.508						

Burglary other than dwelling (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 4.789) YTD change = +4 offences (+1.1%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
152	1.015	217	1.449	173	1.156	171	1.142	713	4.763	168	1.122	205	1.369						

Theft of Vehicle (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 0.888) YTD change = -48 offences (-48.5%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
50	0.334	49	0.327	50	0.335	32	0.214	181	1.209	30	0.200	21	0.140						

Theft from Vehicle (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 2.645) YTD change = -2 offences (-1.1%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
96	0.568	96	0.641	106	0.708	111	0.741	398	2.658	71	0.474	108	0.721						

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Robbery (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 0.114) YTD change = -16 Offences (-72.7%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
12	0.080	10	0.067	10	0.067	1	0.007	33	0.220	5	0.033	1	0.007						

Serious Acquisitive (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 5.845) YTD change = -36 offences (-8.0%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
225	1.503	224	1.496	234	1.563	228	1.523	911	6.085	207	1.383	206	1.376						

Sexual Offences (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 0.995) YTD change = +4 offences (+5.3%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
0.234		41	0.274	29	0.194	40	0.267	145	0.969	31	0.207	49	0.327						

Drugs Offences (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 1.783) YTD change = +10 offences (+8.9%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
63	0.421	49	0.327	78	0.521	67	0.448	257	1.717	66	0.441	56	0.374						

Anti-Social Behaviour (rolling 12 months/1000 residents = 35.235) YTD change = -36 incidents (-1.2%)

2012/13										2013/14									
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2012/13		Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4		2013/14	
Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents	Total	/1000 residents
1361	9.091	1573	10.507	1254	8.376	1123	7.501	5311	35.475	1337	8.931	1561	10.427						

IQuanta Data

The crime figures represent the number of offences per 1000 residents, apart from Domestic Burglaries which is per 1000 households.

Crime Type	Flintshire Q2	Q2 MSG Average	Q2 MSG Position	Flintshire Rolling 12 months	12 month MSG Average	12 month MSG Position
All Crime	12.216	13.272	7 th /15	46.258	50.279	7 th /15
Violence with injury	1.402	1.375	9 th /15	5.279	4.982	9 th /15
Violence without injury	1.055	1.214	7 th /15	4.480	4.277	10 th /15
Criminal Damage	2.391	2.176	10 th /15	8.686	8.717	8 th /15
Domestic Burglary	1.239	1.783	3 rd /15	5.017	7.332	4 th /15
BOTD	1.343	1.153	10 th /15	4.755	4.508	9 th /15
Theft of Vehicle	0.144	0.256	2 nd /15	0.884	0.958	10 th /15
Theft from Vehicle	0.707	0.814	6 th /15	2.587	3.231	4 th /15
Robbery	0.013	0.102	2 nd /15	0.111	0.354	2 nd /15
Serious Acquisitive	0.707	0.814	6 th /15	2.587	3.231	4 th /15
Sexual Offences	0.341	0.286	11 th /15	0.937	0.986	7 th /15
Drugs Offences	0.386	0.567	4 rd /15	1.755	2.407	4 th /15

Flintshire Most Similar Group (MSG) comparison

Crime Type	Flintshire Q2	Q2 N Wales Average	Q2 N Wales Position	Flintshire Rolling 12 months	12 month N Wales Average	12 month N Wales Position
All Crime	12.216	14.127	2 nd /6	46.258	52.933	2 nd /6
Violence with injury	1.402	1.550	3 rd /6	5.279	5.789	3 rd /6
Violence without injury	1.055	1.604	1 st /6	4.480	5.835	1 st /6
Criminal Damage	2.391	2.813	3 rd /6	8.686	9.799	2 nd /6
Domestic Burglary	1.239	1.431	4 th /6	5.017	5.633	3 rd /6
BOTD	1.343	1.105	5 th /6	4.755	4.390	5 th /6
Theft of Vehicle	0.144	0.164	2 nd /6	0.884	0.719	5 th /6
Theft from Vehicle	0.707	0.722	4 th /6	2.587	2.587	5 th /6
Robbery	0.013	0.033	2 nd /6	0.111	0.170	2 nd /6
Serious Acquisitive	0.707	0.722	4 th /6	2.587	2.567	5 th /6
Sexual Offences	0.341	0.312	5 th /6	0.937	1.275	2 nd /6
Drugs Offences	0.386	0.710	1 st /6	1.755	2.626	1 st /6

North Wales CSP comparison

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