

# Public Document Pack



Contact Officer:  
Maureen Potter 01352 702322  
maureen.potter@flintshire.gov.uk

To: Cllr Carol Ellis (Chair)

Councillors: Adele Davies-Cooke, Andy Dunbobbin, Veronica Gay, David Healey, Cindy Hinds, Hilary Isherwood, Brian Lloyd, Mike Lowe, Hilary McGuill, Dave Mackie, Mike Reece, Ian Smith, Carolyn Thomas and David Wisinger

26 February 2016

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee which will be held at 10.00 am on Thursday, 3rd March, 2016 in the Delyn Committee Room, County Hall, Mold CH7 6NA to consider the following items

## A G E N D A

### 1 APOLOGIES

**Purpose:** To receive any apologies.

### 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

**Purpose:** To receive any Declarations and advise Members accordingly.

### 3 MINUTES (Pages 3 - 18)

**Purpose:** To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meetings held on 11 December 2015 and 21 January 2016.

### 4 ROTA VISITS

**Purpose:** To receive a verbal report from Members of the Committee.

### 5 FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME (SOCIAL & HEALTH CARE) (Pages 19 - 26)

Report of Environment and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Facilitator -

**Purpose:** To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 - TO  
CONSIDER THE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The following item is considered to be exempt by virtue of Paragraph(s) 15 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

It is not good employment practice or in the public interest for matters the subject of consultation with employees effected and other unions to be discussed in public at this stage of the process.

**6 CSSIW INSPECTION OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES IN FLINTSHIRE  
PROGRESS UPDATE (Pages 27 - 44)**

Report of Chief Officer (Social Services) - Cabinet Member for Social Services

**Purpose:** To receive a progress report on the action plan implementation to:  
i) ensure the required outcomes are being achieved  
ii) and to consider progress in reducing and managing repeat referrals

Yours faithfully



Peter Evans  
Democracy & Governance Manager

# Agenda Item 3

## **SOCIAL & HEALTH CARE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** **11 DECEMBER 2015**

Minutes of the meeting of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held at County Hall, Mold on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2015

**PRESENT: Councillor Carol Ellis (Chair)**

Councillors: Andy Dunbobbin, Veronica Gay, David Healey, Cindy Hinds, Hilary Isherwood, David Mackie, Ian Smith and David Wisinger

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors: Adele Davies-Cooke, Brian Lloyd and Hilary McGuill

**SUBSTITUTIONS:** Councillors: Peter Curtis (for Mike Lowe), Ian Dunbar (for Mike Reece) and Paul Shotton (for Carolyn Thomas)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillors: Helen Brown, Kevin Jones, Richard Jones and Mike Peers

**CONTRIBUTORS:** Councillor Aaron Shotton, Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Councillor Christine Jones, Cabinet Member for Social Services, Chief Officer (Social Services), Senior Manager – Commissioning and Performance, Development Officer, Workforce Development Manager and Finance Officer (Social Services)

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Environment & Social Care Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator and Housing & Learning Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator

**43. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**44. COUNCIL FUND REVENUE BUDGET 2016/17**

The Chairman welcomed the contributors to the meeting.

The Cabinet Member for Social Service explained that the proposals contained within the report set out the main risk areas covered in the business plan for 2016/17. The wider position regarding the funding of social care remained uncertain with recent media reports outlining concerns from the independent sector organisation Care Forum that the funding of the care homes sector was at critically low ebb and specific funding was necessary from UK and Welsh Government.

The Cabinet Member continued to explain that within the budget plans, efficiencies needed to be made, and within the areas the Committee was asked to focus on were changes to improve and develop learning disability services, changes in children's services and voluntary sector services. Although the position did not assume savings for extra care within the 2016/17 financial year, the Committee would also be asked to consider this.

The Leader of the Council provided information on the draft Local Government settlement. He explained that there was a reduction of 1.5% in the Revenue Support Grant (RSG) which was slightly above the average reduction and an improved position against the forecast.

Under the Intermediate Care Funds (ICF), the amounts ringfenced for mental health and older people would require discussion in the New Year on how these could be accessed. There was some protection given for the Supporting People Grant, however the Families First grant had been reduced by at least 10%. The Council was currently working through the implications of these reductions.

Whilst he said that the Council's strong representation to the Welsh Government (WG) on restricting cuts to the RSG had proved successful, more needed to be done on lobbying for a review of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme and greater flexibility on fees and charges. He thanked Members for their support in lobbying the WG.

The Chief Officer (Social Services) gave a detailed presentation which covered the following areas:-

- Purpose of today's meeting
- Corporate overview
- Service business plan proposals
- Local pressures and inflation – social services
- National timetable
- Local timetable

**The comments and questions which were raised by Members of the Committee on the presentation, together with the responses given, are detailed in Appendix 1 (attached).**

**RESOLVED:**

That the presentation be noted.

**45. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS IN ATTENDANCE**

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

(The meeting started at 10.00 am and ended at 11.45 am)

.....  
**Chairman**

**2016/17 Budget Consultation**

**Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee – 11<sup>th</sup> December, 2015**

Member Comment/Question	Response
<b><u>Social Services</u></b>	
<p>Has an alternative site for Glan Yr Afon Day Centre been identified? And has consideration be given to utilising the space available at Deeside Leisure Centre.</p> <p>Would like to see the Glan Yr Afon Day Centre moved to a different location in Queensferry.</p>	<p>A number of suggested sites are currently being considered and no final decision has been made yet. The future site and building needs to have an appropriate design, be fit for purpose and at a location accessible for all service users.</p>
<p>With regard to the proposal to develop a 'progression' model for supported living. During the recent Corporate Resources Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> December reference was made to a reduced income of £61,000 through Telecare. Could you provide further clarity on this proposal?</p>	<p>The reduction in income does not affect the proposal which is about maximising bespoke technology to be provided by one partner.</p>
<p>With regard to the proposal to consult on the potential to commission provision currently provided by In House Supported Living houses. Is this actively taking place and if so what model are you looking at.</p>	<p>Pro-actively talking to a number of families and this had been taking place for some time to appropriately assess their needs and allow time for them to appeal if necessary.</p>
<p>Recently visited a number of residential care homes across Flintshire where there is great concerns regarding the increase in the National Living Wage which will have a negative impact on their financial situation. There is a need to ensure that residential and nursing care homes are adequately funded as otherwise there is a danger that there could be bed blocking at hospitals and ambulance queues at A&amp;E.</p> <p>Although there is a 2.5% funding increase for residential care, domiciliary care and nursing care, there will still be a funding shortfall when the increase in National Living Wage is introduced.</p>	<p>The Council share these concerns which were highlighted at the public engagement events. The UK Government has introduced this without recognition of where the funding is going to come from. This is the thrust of the argument to ministers for additional funding as the pressure impacts the whole network of residential care.</p> <p>Officers have been working with providers to ask what support is needed and to show how the introduction of this wage will impact them financially.</p> <p>As an illustrative example, it may be beneficial for officers to provide information on what the total pressure would be if funding</p>

<p>Is there a concern that staff within residential care and nursing care could lose their jobs in Flintshire as a way of finding additional funding to pay for the increased living wage.</p> <p>Have you asked the health service for additional funding to meet the introduction of the National Living Wage as the impact of not providing this funding will have an impact on their budgets through bed blocking?</p> <p>The introduction of the National Living Wage is to be admired but additional funding to meet this pressure is required.</p>	<p>was provided to meet the introduction of this wage.</p> <p>This is a real significant concern and we are aware of examples where there are already issues in retaining staff within the domiciliary care service. We are meeting with providers to see what support the Council can give around recruitment, retention and training. We are meeting again early in the new year to assess what measures can be introduced to reduce this financial pressure.</p> <p>The Intermediate Care Fund (ICF) is used to provide support for step up and step down services but there is more work to be done jointly as this is a financial pressure which impacts the health service and local authority. The health service has funded 1 bed at each residential care home with an additional bed being provided for dementia cases. There is a small amount of funding to spot purchase beds if needed but demand continued to be high.</p> <p>Many of the Residential, Nursing and Domiciliary care homes are small family run businesses who want to support local people the same as the Council. The financial challenge is difficult for them to manage. We would like to see an element of the ICF permanently being provided to ease this pressure.</p>
<p>Concern that collaborative projects are not seeking to find reductions and efficiencies within their budgets.</p>	<p>Collaborative projects do play a role in finding efficiencies with significant efficiencies being found as part of the collaborative work around the Commissioning Hub and Duty Team.</p>
<p>How far is the service redesign in children's services going to go?</p>	<p>Following the inspection of children's services officers have been considering how to improve and strengthen the service with a clear aim to strengthen early intervention and reduce the different number of social workers one child has to enable greater outcomes. The redesign of the service will be based on feedback from inspectors, staff and children.</p>
<p>With regard to the proposal to manage the Childcare market, there is a need for greater</p>	<p>There is a need for greater co-ordination of 3<sup>rd</sup> sector providers. Officers are meeting</p>

<p>collaboration between 3<sup>rd</sup> sector providers to ensure greater coverage of services across the County.</p>	<p>with the Flintshire Local Voluntary Council (FLVC) to facilitate greater co-ordination and introduce different ways of working in order to share resources.</p>
<p>With regard to officer comments on the introduction of the Permanency Plan what savings can be made given the increase in demand and adoption figures increasing?</p>	<p>A great deal of detailed work is being undertaken following the introduction of the Social Services Wellbeing Act which states that foster carers cease to receive payment for foster children when they reach the age of 18. If the foster child wants to remain with the foster family they can continue to receive a smaller payment. Therefore any savings found will need to be used to pay for the new arrangements.</p>
<p>Concern that a consultant is being brought in to look at Adult Social Care Services when trying to save money. This should be re-considered as there should be the expertise within the Council's own workforce.</p> <p>Further explanation needed on the rationale to bring in a consultant. What is the cost of the consultant?</p> <p>The use of consultants needs to be cost neutral with the consultant needing to find the same level of efficiencies as the cost has been to the Council.</p> <p>The comments/concerns of the Committee need to be taken back by the Leader, Cabinet Member and Chief Officer with further information being provided to the Committee at a later date.</p>	<p>Cabinet have agreed the use of a consultant to carry out a crucial appraisal of Adult Social Care to ensure all efficiencies have been found.</p> <p>£50,000</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Further information on the use of a consultant will be brought back. Officers have undertaken a great deal of work and senior officers have been challenged to ensure that all efficiencies are being brought forward. The consultant from a specialist field will be tasked with identifying all efficiencies without having affecting the service in a negative manner.</p>
<p>Concerns over the proposal to bring in an umbrella organisation to manage all 3<sup>rd</sup> sector organisations. Each organisation is a specialist in their worn right and an umbrella organisation may not understand the complex needs of disabled people and recognise day to day problems.</p>	<p>Under the new Social Services and Wellbeing Act the Council will work with the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector to discuss what co-providing services in the future could look like. This will be managed by the FLVC and the organisation will be informing that debate and ensuring dialogue between the 3<sup>rd</sup> sector providers.</p>

<p>A rationale on how the figures for each of the proposals is arrived at is needed. Further detailed explanations needed for the proposals for service redesign in children's services and managing the childcare market.</p>	<p>A commitment has been given to provide further detailed explanations within the factsheets to be provided to Members during the January, 2016 Overview &amp; Scrutiny budget meetings.</p>
<p><b><u>General comments/questions</u></b></p>	
<p>Concern that the Council has received a better budget settlement as there is a Welsh Government election in May 2016. Could an assurance be given that the Council will continue to challenge the Welsh Government following the election to ensure sufficient funding is provided to Social Care Services in the future?</p>	<p>Discussions still need to be undertaken with member of the public, staff and service users to explain that the Council welcomes the additional protection but there is still a reduction in the funding provided to the Council. The case put forward to Welsh Government from the whole family of local government across Wales which includes additional funding for Social Care Services will continue to be made.</p>
<p>Recognise and welcome the slowdown in budget cuts thanks to the lobbying from the Council and the Welsh Local Government Association. And also support the additional funding given to the Health Service.</p>	<p>Noted.</p>
<p>Could you please explain that if a budget reduction of 3.5% had equated to a £6m reduction how is a budget reduction of 1.5% only a £3.3m reduction. Should this figure be higher given that the percentage is greater than half of what the Council expected?</p>	<p>There is an improved position of £3.3m. Further information on how these figures are calculated and the Aggregate External Finance (AEF) will be provided at the Corporate Resources Overview &amp; Scrutiny budget 'mop up' session.</p>
<p>How are the Councils four specific requests to Welsh Government being progressed?</p>	<p>The first of the four requests to limit the annual reduction in Revenue Support Grant (RSG) has clearly been met. Headway has been made in the second request, to invest 25% or more of the new NHS funding passported to Wales but further needs to be done and further clarity is needed on how the Council can utilise the ICF. The Council will continue to lobby with regard to the third and fourth requests, to remove charging caps and granting the Council the freedom to recover costs of some services and fully funding the Council Tax Reduction Scheme which are not expected to be met at this stage. Given the late announcement of the final budget</p>



	settlement, this gives the Council a window of opportunity to continue to lobby the Welsh Government.
Thank the Leader of the Council and Welsh Local Government Association for their hard work in lobbying for an improved budget reduction.	Noted.
Can thanks be passed to the Commissioners of Residential and Nursing Care who have excellent knowledge of the financial pressures going forward?	The comments will be passed to the Commissioners.
Thank the Leader, Chief Executive and Chief Officers for their attendance at the public engagement events.	Thanks for comments. During the public engagement events there were a number of concerns raised over future funding to support Social Care Services.

**This page is intentionally left blank**

**SOCIAL & HEALTH CARE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**21 JANUARY 2016**

Minutes of the meeting of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held in the Delyn Committee Room, County Hall, Mold on Thursday, 21 January 2016

**PRESENT: Councillor Carol Ellis (Chair)**

Councillors: Adele Davies-Cooke, David Healey, Cindy Hinds, Brian Lloyd, Mike Lowe, Hilary McGill, Dave Mackie, Mike Reece, Ian Smith and David Wisinger

**SUBSTITUTE:** Councillor Nancy Matthews for Veronica Gay

**APOLOGY:** Councillor Andy Dunbobbin

**CONTRIBUTORS:** Councillor Christine Jones, Cabinet Member for Social Services; Chief Officer (Social Services); Senior Manager, Children's and Workforce Services; Senior Manager, Integrated Services, Lead Adults; Senior Manager, Safeguarding and Commissioning; Safeguarding Unit Manager and Adult Safeguarding Manager

Mr. Rob Gifford of Care & Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) for minute number 55

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator and Committee Officer

**53. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Ian Smith declared a personal interest on Agenda Item 5 'Adult Safeguarding Report' as his stepson was living in an assisted living placement funded by the Council.

**54. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 17 December 2015 had been circulated with the agenda.

**RESOLVED:**

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

**55. CSSIW ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT 2014/15**

Mr. Rob Gifford presented the Care & Social Services Inspectorate Wales (CSSIW) annual report on the evaluation of performance of Flintshire Social Services for 2014/15. The report incorporated paragraph numbering as

a standard feature as requested previously by the Committee. The three key areas highlighted for review by CSSIW over the next year were:

1. Arrangements for Adult Safeguarding.
2. Community mental health service arrangements.
3. Access, assessment and care management arrangements in Children's Services.

On the latter, Mr. Gifford advised that he was meeting regularly with the Senior Manager for Children's and Workforce Services to discuss progress in implementing the Council's action plan in response to the CSSIW inspection in 2015. An update on this was scheduled for the next meeting of the Committee.

Mr. Gifford explained that whilst the three national reviews mentioned in the CSSIW report would not directly affect the Council, the recommendations made would need to be noted.

During an overview of adult services, Mr. Gifford described performance as very positive, particularly in relation to the Council's key priorities such as reablement services in responding to the significant increase in referrals. Good progress was also noted in the provision of homecare support and general support to enable better independence in communities. The effective transfer of care arrangements was highlighted as one of the best in Wales, however numbers were increasing due to the lack of nursing home care provision which was a growing problem across the country. Positive outcomes were recognised from the Council's range of preventative service initiatives such as the night-time response service, continued growth of extra care provision and improved responses to minor adaptations in communities. As an improvement from last year, the increased number of carers receiving an assessment of their needs was recognised as the highest in Wales.

The report also identified some areas for improvement including some where work was already underway following the recent management restructure. Whilst the Council's focus on adult safeguarding arrangements was noted, further strengthening was required to speed up responses and ensure that the voice of the service user was heard. Delays in the completion of major adaptations for Disabled Facilities Grants (DFG) was also identified, in recognition of the impact on the small number of individuals involved. Other issues related to the implementation of Single Point of Access (SPoA) and the need for strategic planning with the Health Board to explore more sustainable opportunities and support locality working.

The Chair stated that many of the issues identified in the inspection of Children's Services had previously been raised by the Committee and were being monitored through regular updates.

The Chief Officer thanked Mr. Gifford for his report and in particular for endorsement of the Council's approach to homecare and reablement. He welcomed the recognition of sustained performance on the delayed transfer of care which was a priority for the Deputy Health Minister and said that work

would continue on direct payments and the progression model to support independence of people with learning disabilities. He spoke about the objective to continually seek improved performance and referred to a joint approach with partners to adopt a more consistent approach to thresholds for adult safeguarding. The Committee had made representations to reduce DFG delivery times and whilst the positive Occupational Therapy response rates were welcomed, other elements involved in the DFG process were noted. In seeking a reduction in delivery times for DFGs for children/young people, some example case studies had been shared with the Committee which highlighted the various complexities contributing to delays. Recognition of good performance on the assessment and support for carers was also welcomed and would continue by working with voluntary sector partners and carers' organisations. Focus on improvements for outcomes of looked after children had resulted in some progress, with further strengthening required, and had been also been highlighted by the Children's Services Forum. Attention was drawn to improved performance over the last quarter in relation to Personal Education Plans (PEPs) and an increase in health assessments for looked after children.

In relation to comments on changing leadership, the Chief Officer agreed to circulate the revised Social Services management structure to all Members, at the suggestion of the Chair.

Councillor David Healey thanked officers for the report and the progress made. He referred to the Council's tasks in seeking further improvements on the areas identified and also to focus on the three key areas to be reviewed by CSSIW, asking if there was an opportunity for more involvement by the Committee. As a new Member of the Committee, he asked if an item on mental health issues could be considered. The Chair acknowledged the request and said that local Health Board representatives, including the mental health services team, had attended meetings of the Committee. The Chief Officer agreed with the need for focus on this particular subject and spoke about the joint management arrangements between the Council and local Health Board. There was a good network of services in place to tackle Dementia issues and the Child & Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) team had attended Children's Services Forum.

Mr. Gifford highlighted the delivery of services for people with a learning disability as one of the national reviews to be undertaken across Wales.

Councillor Christine Jones reported that the Double-Click scheme, involving mental health service users, had recently become a social enterprise. She spoke highly about the service and urged other Members to visit.

Councillor Hilary McGuill acknowledged the areas of good performance but expressed concern about the delayed implementation of the SPoA initiative. She pointed out that delays in the delivery of DFGs for children/young people affected the individual and their carer, and had raised an issue with the Senior Manager: Children's and Workforce Services about the allocation of suitable accommodation for care leavers.

On the SPoA, the Senior Manager: Integrated Services, Lead Adults explained that Denbighshire Council had been a demonstrator site at the initial stage. In Flintshire, the service was currently operational in Social Services with additional staff expected from Housing colleagues. Negotiations with the Health sector had resulted in a commitment for additional resources to support full implementation by March 2016.

In response to comments on the disparity of costs paid by different Authorities for nursing home provision, the Chief Officer said that he would check but that the rates for Flintshire corresponded with those in Cheshire. He added that residential care fees was a topic of ongoing national debate and that charges to Councils were around 30% higher but expected to reduce over time. He went on to speak about his involvement with the Chief Executive on working jointly with the Health Board in recognition of the pressures faced by care homes on recruitment.

The Chair referred to her involvement with the Council's multi-discipline board to review residential care homes.

In acknowledging the areas of good performance highlighted in the report, Councillor Dave Mackie commented on the challenges which could affect some issues relating to looked after children. As requested, the Chief Officer provided information on the Regional Adult Safeguarding Board which had sub-regional input from Flintshire and Wrexham.

The Chair remarked on the areas for improvement in section 1.18 of the report and asked when the new framework would be introduced to Members. The Senior Manager: Children's and Workforce Services explained that the new national outcomes framework was to be introduced from 1 April. This would be achieved by evaluating the experiences of individuals and collating information to share with Members. It was intended to bring a report to the Committee before piloting this approach.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the CSSIW's evaluation of performance for 2014/15 and areas for improvement be noted;
- (b) That the Authority's response to areas that have been identified for improvement be noted; and
- (c) That mental health services be included as part of the Forward Work Programme.

**56. ANNUAL SAFEGUARDING REPORT**

The Adult Safeguarding Manager presented the annual adult safeguarding report for April 2014 to March 2015 in compliance with the Welsh Government statutory document 'In Safe Hands'. He spoke about the

continued increases in adult safeguarding referrals on which all agencies worked together 'on the 'identification, investigation, treatment and prevention of abuse of vulnerable adults'. Information was shared on the process of evaluating referrals and work with Wrexham County Borough Council on local implementation of thresholds. More work would need to be carried out on the definition of who should be protected under the adult safeguarding procedures to be clarified under guidance for the new legislation.

Of the 416 referrals received during the period, 173 had met the threshold for progression, 199 failed to meet the threshold and 44 had not been considered appropriate. The figures within the report indicated a breakdown of all the referral sources along with the status of those which had met the threshold. As a change from the usual trend, more referrals had related to women under the age of 65 than over. It was noted that different types of abuse could be related and that each situation was significant to that person and their families.

An update was also provided on the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) introduced to give legal protection for vulnerable individuals in care homes who lacked the mental capacity to make their own decisions. The scope of DoLS had broadened following a court ruling in 2014, and this was reflected in the significant increase in referrals for assessment.

Councillor Hilary McGuill asked whether this increase included residents in sheltered accommodation and sought details of the process for dealing with referrals not meeting the threshold. The Adult Safeguarding Manager advised that the DoLS covered individuals in care homes and hospitals only and that those authorities were responsible for identifying individuals in need of assessment. He explained that when referrals were not taken forward, the team worked with social workers, police, etc to ensure the safety of the situation and to ease the concerns of the individual. The individual was advised of the status of their case by telephone and a record of the discussion kept electronically.

When asked by Councillor McGuill for clarity on the definition of a vulnerable adult, she was advised of the definition in Wales of a person over 18 in community care services who was unable to protect themselves from abuse or harm. The proposed widening of the term 'vulnerable adult' to 'adult at risk' had an extended remit and could include other groups in need of care and support such as young people or individuals who were homeless.

The Chair drew attention to the financial pressures on the Council arising from DoLS referrals, and asked whether additional funding would be forthcoming or shared from the health sector to support the process. The Chief Officer stated that most of the financial burden was on councils with no additional funding identified from any source. The additional funding allocated to DoLS had been found within the Council's budget and would present more challenging pressures as demands on the service grew.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the contents of the report be noted;
- (b) That the increase in applications under the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards be particularly noted; and
- (c) That the concerns of the Committee on the financial impact of future services be noted.

**57. EXTRA CARE HOUSING**

The Senior Manager: Integrated Services, Lead Adults presented an update on the development of two new Extra Care facilities in Flint and Holywell following the successful delivery of schemes in Shotton and Mold. She welcomed recognition by the Care & Social Services Inspectorate Wales of the model used by the Council and said that the new developments would help to meet anticipated demand, as set out in the Council's Improvement Plan and Housing Strategy.

An update was given on the design of the project at Flint which would also incorporate ground floor accommodation for people with Dementia. Work was due to start on site in February 2016 and the scheme was expected to be opened in Autumn 2017. With regard to the scheme in Holywell, the refusal of planning consent for the original site meant that other available sites were being explored in the locality, prior to seeking planning approval and consultation with Holywell Town Council. Further updates would be shared with the Committee when available.

Councillor Mike Reece asked about the potential for a scheme in other areas, and was advised that Wales & West were exploring opportunities in the Holywell locality.

Councillor David Healey welcomed the new developments to increase housing options for the ageing population. In response to a query, the Senior Manager explained that the developments would be wholly owned by the registered social landlords unless sold to individuals.

Councillor Hilary McGuill referred to her list of suggested requirements for extra care provision previously shared with officers and asked whether this had been taken into consideration for the two new developments. The Senior Manager said that some of the issues raised had been taken forward as part of these developments, along with some of the lessons learned from the first two extra care schemes.

Councillor Dave Mackie passed on the positive comments from two service users who had been very supportive of the schemes.



In response to a question from Councillor Ian Smith on the Flint scheme, it was stated that parking provision had been carefully considered and had been considered sufficient by the Planning Committee.

It was pointed out by the Chair that the Flint scheme was near to a large retail park with generous parking provision and that most residents of extra care schemes did not drive, all of which had been taken into consideration as part of the planning process.

Councillor Nancy Matthews reminded Members of insufficient parking provision for sheltered accommodation. The Senior Manager said that the average age of extra care residents and learning from other extra care schemes had helped to inform plans for the design of the new schemes with parking provision incorporating a buggy store.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the Committee welcome further developments on extra care facilities in Flintshire; and
- (b) That an update on further progress be shared with the Committee.

**58. ROTA VISITS**

No rota visits had been undertaken since last reported.

**RESOLVED:**

That the information be noted.

**59. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The Facilitator introduced a report to enable the Committee to consider the Forward Work Programme. The following was noted and agreed:

- A reminder of the cancellation of the budget meeting of the Committee scheduled for 25 January 2016.
- The two Children's Services items scheduled for the next meeting on 3 March 2016 to be considered as a joint report.
- A joint meeting with the Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee on 24 March 2016 to consider items on corporate parenting and the education of looked after children.
- The Annual Council Reporting Framework item scheduled for 14 April 2016 to be deferred to a later date.
- The items on outcomes of the residential care review and mental health issues to be included on the Forward Work Programme. Councillor Jones suggested that the latter item include a presentation by Double Click.

It was also noted that representatives of Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (BCUHB) had been invited to attend a special meeting of the Committee on 9 June 2016.

Councillor Cindy Hinds highlighted the need to address the ongoing problem of bed-blocking in hospitals with BCUHB and also with the Wales Ambulance Trust. The Chair said that this linked with capacity issues identified as part of the review of residential care homes. She went on to refer to a change in criteria for emergency service calls and the lack of consultants in hospital Accident & Emergency departments which had been recognised as a widespread problem. Councillor Mike Reece raised a further health issue on the challenges experienced by pensioners in seeking appointments for ear syringing.

The Committee supported the suggestion made by the Facilitator that the Wales Ambulance Trust be invited to the meeting, along with BCUHB, to respond to these concerns.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Forward Work Programme be updated accordingly.

**60. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS IN ATTENDANCE**

There was one member of the press in attendance.

(The meeting started at 2.00pm and ended at 3.45pm)

.....  
**Chair**



## SOCIAL & HEALTH CARE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday 3 March, 2016
<b>Report Subject</b>	Forward Work Programme
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	N / A
<b>Report Author</b>	Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview & Scrutiny presents a unique opportunity for Members to determine the Forward Work programme of the Committee 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.

The Committee is asked to consider, and amend where necessary, the Forward Work Programme for the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

### RECOMMENDATION

1	That the Committee considers the draft Forward Work Programme and approve/amend as necessary.
2	That the Facilitator, in consultation with the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises.

## REPORT DETAILS

<b>1.00</b>	<b>EXPLAINING THE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME</b>
1.01	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 Chief Officers. Other possible items are identified from the Cabinet Work Programme and the Improvement Plan.
1.02	<p>In identifying topics for future consideration, it is useful for a 'test of significance' to be applied. This can be achieved by asking a range of questions as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Will the review contribute to the Council's priorities and/or objectives?</li><li>2. Is it an area of major change or risk?</li><li>3. Are there issues of concern in performance?</li><li>4. Is there new Government guidance of legislation?</li><li>5. Is it prompted by the work carried out by Regulators/Internal Audit?</li></ol>
<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	None as a result of this report.
<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	Publication of this report constitutes consultation.
<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	None as a result of this report.
<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1 – Draft Forward Work Programme
<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	<p>None.</p> <p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Margaret Parry-Jones Overview &amp; Scrutiny Facilitator</p> <p><b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702427</p> <p><b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:margaret.parry-jones@flintshire.gov.uk">margaret.parry-jones@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>

7.00	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	<b>Improvement Plan:</b> the document which sets out the annual priorities of the Council. It is a requirement of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to set Improvement Objectives and publish an Improvement Plan.

**This page is intentionally left blank**

**CURRENT FWP**

Date of meeting	Subject	Purpose of Report	Scrutiny Focus	Responsible / Contact Officer	Submission Deadline
<p>Thursday 24 March 2016 2.00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Joint Meeting of Social &amp; Health and Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Committees</b></p>	<p>To consider the following Reports:-</p> <p><b>Corporate Parenting</b> - To advise and report on the progress of corporate parenting within the Local Authority</p> <p><b>Educational Attainment of Looked After Children</b> - To update Members on the attainment of Looked after Children in Flintshire in the 2014-15 academic year</p> <p><b>Safeguarding and Child Protection Report</b> - To provide Members with statistical information in relation to Child Protection and Safeguarding</p>		<p>Chief Officer Social Services</p> <p>Chief Officer Education and Youth</p>	
<p>Thursday 14 April 2016 2.00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Consultation on the Improvement Plan 2016-17</b></p> <p><b>Q3 Improvement Plan Monitoring Update</b></p> <p><b>Residential Care Review</b></p>	<p>To enable members to comment on the proposals within the draft plan.</p> <p>To enable Members to fulfil their scrutiny role in relation to performance monitoring.</p> <p>To receive a report on the outcome of the Residential Care Review</p>	<p>Options consultation</p> <p>Assurance</p> <p>Options consultation</p>	<p>Performance Team Leader</p> <p>Facilitator</p> <p>Chief Officer Social Services</p>	

<b>Mid-April</b>	Special Social and Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee meeting to consider the issue facing the Council about residential care, specialist nursing and domiciliary care – as agreed at County Council on 16 February 2016.				
<b>Thursday 19 May 2016 2.00 p.m.</b>	<b>Comments, Compliments and Complaints</b>	To receive a report on the compliments, representations and complaints received by Social Services for the year April 2015 – March	Assurance	Chief Officer Social Services	
	<b>Annual Council Reporting Framework</b>	To consider the draft report	Assurance	Chief Officer Social Services	
<b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016 10.00 am</b>	<b>Meeting with Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board (confirmed) and Welsh Ambulance Service (invited).</b>				
<b>Thursday 23 June 2016 10.00 a.m. (to be re-arranged due to EU Referendum)</b>	<b>Year End &amp; Q 4 performance reporting</b>	To enable members to fulfil their scrutiny role in relation to performance monitoring	Assurance	Facilitator	
<b>Thursday 21 July 2016 2.00 p.m.</b>					



**Regular Item**

Month	Item	Purpose of Report	Responsible / Contact Officer
January	<b>Safeguarding &amp; Child Protection</b>	To provide Members with statistical information in relation to Child Protection and Safeguarding	Chief Officer Social Services
March	<b>Educational Attainment of Looked After Children</b>	Education officers offered to share the annual educational attainment report which goes to Education and Youth OSC with this Committee	Chief officer Education
March	<b>Corporate Parenting</b>	Report to Social & Health and Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny	Chief Officer Social Services
Half-yearly	<b>Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board Update</b>	To maintain 6 monthly meetings – partnership working	Facilitator
May	<b>Comments, Compliments and Complaints</b>	To consider the Annual Report.	Chief Officer Social Services
	<b>Adult Safeguarding</b>	To consider the annual statistical information	Chief Officer Social Services
Every 6 months	<b>Repeat Referrals in Children's Services</b>	To monitor progress	Chief Officer Social Services

**Items to be scheduled**

- Mental Health Services

**This page is intentionally left blank**

# Agenda Item 6

By virtue of paragraph(s) 15 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted - Not for Publication

**This page is intentionally left blank**

By virtue of paragraph(s) 15 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted - Not for Publication

**This page is intentionally left blank**

By virtue of paragraph(s) 15 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A  
of the Local Government Act 1972.

Document is Restricted - Not for Publication

**This page is intentionally left blank**