

Public Document Pack

Gareth Owens LL.B Barrister/Bargyfreithiwr
Chief Officer (Governance)
Prif Swyddog (Llywodraethu)



To:

Councillors: Marion Bateman, Paul Cunningham,
Peter Curtis, Adele Davies-Cooke,
Andy Dunbobbin, Healey, Ray Hughes,
Colin Legg, Phil Lightfoot, Dave Mackie,
Nancy Matthews, Vicky Perfect, Ian Roberts,
Nigel Steele-Mortimer and Carolyn Thomas,

CS/NG

9 June 2015

Tracy Waters 01352 702331
tracy.waters@flintshire.gov.uk

Janine Beggan, David Hytch, Rita Price,
Rebecca Stark and Reverend John Thelwell

Dear Sir / Madam

A meeting of the **EDUCATION AND YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** will be held in the **DELYN COMMITTEE ROOM, COUNTY HALL, MOLD CH7 6NA** on **MONDAY, 15TH JUNE, 2015** at **2.00 PM** to consider the following items.

Yours faithfully

Democracy & Governance Manager

AGENDA

- 1 **APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN**
To appoint a Chair for the Committee.
- 2 **APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR**
To appoint a Vice-Chair for the Committee.
- 3 **APOLOGIES**
- 4 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)**

- 5 **TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE** (Pages 3 - 12)
Report of Housing and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Facilitator enclosed.

- 6 **SCHOOL MODERNISATION REVIEWS** (Pages 13 - 28)
Report of Chief Officer (Education and Youth) enclosed.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **EDUCATION AND YOUTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

DATE: **MONDAY, 15 JUNE 2015**

REPORT BY: **HOUSING AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY FACILITATOR**

SUBJECT: **TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE COMMITTEE**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To advise the committee of its terms of reference

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 At the 2014 Annual Meeting, it was agreed that a review of the Overview & Scrutiny should be carried out. Following a series of meetings and the setting up of a working group, the Constitution Committee at its meeting on 15th April approved a new structure and terms of reference for the Overview & Scrutiny committees.

2.02 The recommendations following the Overview & Scrutiny structure review were submitted to Council at the Annual meeting on 12th May 2015.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The terms of reference are attached at Appendix 1.

3.02 There are two major differences between the new terms of reference and the old. The committee is now responsible solely for education and youth service issues. Issues such as Leisure Services and Libraries are now within the remit of the Organisational Change Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

3.03 Previously, there were issues where the five statutory co-optees could speak but not vote, as their co-option relates to education issues. They are now able to vote on all of the items which are within the remit of the committee.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That the committee receives the report.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 None

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 None

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 None

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 None

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 None

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 None

12.00 APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Terms of Reference of the Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

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

1. Report to the Constitution Committee – Scoping the Review of the Overview & Scrutiny Structure – 15th October 2014 and resultant minute.
2. Report to the Constitution Committee – Overview & Scrutiny Committee Structure – 28th January 2015 and resultant minute.
3. Report to the Constitution Committee – Overview & Scrutiny Committee Structure – 15th April 2015 and resultant minute.
4. Report to the Annual meeting of Council – 12th May 2015

Contact Officer: Ceri Shotton
Telephone: 01352 702305
Email: Ceri_Shotton@Flintshire.gov.uk

Article 6 – Overview & Scrutiny Committees

6.01 Terms of Reference

The Council will appoint the Overview & Scrutiny committees set out in the left hand column of the table below to discharge the functions conferred by section 21 of the Local Government Act 2000 in relation to the matters set out in the right hand column of the same table.

Overview & Scrutiny Committee	Scope
<p>Corporate Resources</p> <p>15 Elected Members</p> <p>(Statutory crime & disorder committee)</p>	<p>To fulfil all of the functions of an Overview & Scrutiny committee as they relate to the following:</p> <p>Corporate Management and Governance Council strategic and improvement planning Council performance and performance systems Customer Services Crime and Disorder Civil Contingencies and Emergency Planning Alternative delivery models (shared responsibility with Organisational Change)</p> <p>Finance Strategy Revenue and capital strategic planning Revenue and capital budget monitoring</p> <p>Clwyd Pension Fund</p> <p>ICT Strategy</p> <p>People Strategy People Strategy Organisational Design & Change Programme (shared responsibility with the Organisational Change O&SC)</p> <p>Corporate Services Corporate Communications Financial services ICT Services Information and Business Services Procurement HR Business Partnering Occupational Health and Wellbeing</p>

	<p>Employment Services Legal Services Democratic Services Electoral registration and elections</p> <p>Strategic and Partnership Working Partnership and collaborative working frameworks Local Service Board Strategic need assessment and Community Strategy Community Safety Partnership Voluntary Sector Compact The CountyForum and the Joint Community Charter with Town and Community Councils</p> <p>Main External Partner Organisations Flintshire Local Voluntary Council North Wales Fire & Rescue Authority & Service North Wales Police & Crime Commissioner North Wales Police Service North Wales Probation Service Welsh Local Government Association</p>
<p>Education & Youth</p> <p>15 Elected Members</p> <p>5 Statutory co-opted members</p>	<p>To fulfil all of the functions of an Overview & Scrutiny committee as they relate to following:</p> <p>Schools School organisation and management School Improvement and modernisation School Access, planning and provision Primary and Early years Secondary and 14-19 education Schools Performance Monitoring</p> <p>Continuing Education Adult and community learning</p> <p>Special Education Inclusion service</p> <p>Support to Families and Young People</p> <p>Families First Youth Services Youth Justice Service</p>

	<p>Partnership Working & Strategies</p> <p>Children and Young People’s Partnership (shared responsibility with the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee)</p> <p>Performance, Improvement and Policy Development</p> <p>Performance and Improvement Plan monitoring Policy development.</p> <p>Main External Partner Organisations</p> <p>Coleg Cambria Glyndwr University GwE DCELLS Estyn</p>
<p>Social & Health Care</p> <p>15 Elected Members</p>	<p>To fulfil all of the functions of an Overview & Scrutiny committee as they relate to the following:</p> <p>Adult Services</p> <p>First contact and localities Adult safeguarding Adult Independence and support services</p> <p>Children’s Services</p> <p>Fieldwork Resources Safeguarding Early Years and Family support</p> <p>Disability, Progression and Recovery Services</p> <p>Partnership Working, Commissioning & Strategies Children and Young People’s Partnership (jointly with the Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee) Social & Health Care Strategy Development Health Social Care and Well-being partnership and the Good Health Good Care Strategy Dementia Commissioning Plan Mental Health Commissioning Plan Learning Disability Commissioning Plan</p> <p>Performance, Improvement and Policy Development</p> <p>Policy and Performance development Performance and Improvement Plan Monitoring</p>

	<p>Main External Partner Organisations BetsiCadwaladrUniversity Health Board (BCUHB) Ambulance Trust Community Health Council</p>
<p>Community & Enterprise</p> <p>15 Elected Members</p>	<p>To fulfil all of the functions of an Overview & Scrutiny committee as they relate to the following: (Note Customer Services is within the remit of the Corporate Resources O&SC)</p> <p>Community Community support services Welfare reform</p> <p>Public Housing Housing Strategy Neighbourhood Housing Housing Asset management</p> <p>Private Housing Housing renewal</p> <p>Revenues & Benefits</p> <p>Regeneration Communities First, Economic Development and Tourism Enterprise Regeneration Partnership</p> <p>Performance, Improvement and Policy Development Performance and Improvement Plan Monitoring Policy and Performance development</p> <p>Partnership Working and Strategies Housing Strategy Housing Asset Management Strategy Rural Development Plan Housing Revenue Account Business Plan</p> <p>Main External Partner Organisations NEW Homes Limited Registered Social Landlords Visit Wales</p>
<p>Environment</p>	<p>To fulfil all of the functions of an Overview & Scrutiny committee</p>

<p>15 Elected Members</p>	<p>as they relate to following:</p> <p>Planning planning and environmental strategy, development management and control, conservation, minerals and waste planning, countryside and the environment GreenfieldValleyHeritagePark Public rights of way Drainage advisory/Flood Water Management Act Energy Services</p> <p>Public Protection Community protection health protection environmental protection, bereavement services</p> <p>Streetscene Services, environmental and waste management, neighbourhood services, maintenance of the public realm Environmental enforcement Vehicle fleet</p> <p>Transportation Highway Strategy and Development Control Traffic Services Transport Services Road Safety Education, Training and Publicity</p> <p>Performance, Improvement and Policy Development Performance and Improvement Plan Monitoring and Policy and Performance development within Streetscene and Transportation and Planning and Environment</p> <p>Strategic and Partnership Working Local Development Plan Flood management Strategy North Wales Residual Waste Treatment Partnership</p> <p>Main External Partner Organisations Natural Resources Wales Planning Inspectorate Wales</p>
<p>Organisational Change</p>	<p>To fulfil all of the functions of an Overview & Scrutiny committee as they relate to the services within Organisational Change and,</p>

15 Elected
Members

in particular, but not limited to:

Strategic

Alternative delivery models (shared responsibility with Corporate Resources O&SC)

Overview of the Organisational Design & Change programme (shared responsibility with Corporate Resources O&SC)

Community Asset Transfer Programme

Service Delivery

Engineering Services

Property and Design Consultancy

Valuation and Estates

Facilities Services

Community Assets

Clwyd Theatr Cymru

Libraries, Culture and Heritage including archives and museums

Leisure Services, including leisure and sports centres, swimming pools and recreational facilities/activities

Performance, Improvement and Policy Development

Performance and Improvement Plan Monitoring and Policy and Performance development within Organisational Change

Main External Partner Organisations

Arts Council for Wales

In addition to the above Overview & Scrutiny committees, the following terms of reference relating to Overview & Scrutiny have been given by the Council to the Constitution Committee.

<p>Constitution (as it relates to Overview & Scrutiny)</p> <p>21 Elected Members</p>	<p>Allocating, co-ordinating and prioritising the work of the Overview & Scrutiny committees where necessary. Dealing with matters of common interest to Overview & Scrutiny. Identification/allocation of appropriate scrutiny chair for consent/consultation purposes. The examination and development of good scrutiny practice. The promotion, effective development and maintenance of a high profile Overview & Scrutiny function to ensure maximum opportunity for non-Cabinet member engagement. Liaison with and responding to the Welsh Government on emerging legislation relevant to Overview & Scrutiny.</p>
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6.02 General role

Within their terms of reference, Overview and Scrutiny Committees have the power to:

- i) Review and/or scrutinise decisions made or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Council's or Cabinet's functions;
- ii) Make reports and/or recommendations to the full Council and/or the Cabinet; and/or any joint Committee.
- iii) Consider any matter affecting the Council area or its inhabitants; and
- iv) Exercise the right to call-in, for reconsideration, decisions made but not yet implemented by the Cabinet.
- v) Promote high performance, efficiency and organisational change.

6.03 Specific functions

- (a) **Policy development and review.** Overview and Scrutiny Committees may:
 - i) support and assist the Council and the Cabinet in the development of its budget and policy framework by in-depth analysis of policy issues;
 - ii) conduct research, community and other consultation in the analysis of policy issues and possible options;
 - iii) consider and implement mechanisms to encourage and enhance community participation in the development of policy options;
 - iv) question members of the Cabinet and/or Committees and Chief Officers about their views on issues and proposals affecting the area; and
 - v) liaise with other external organisations operating in the area, whether

national, regional or local, to ensure that the interests of local people are enhanced by collaborative working.

- (b) **Scrutiny.** Overview and Scrutiny Committees may:
- i) review and scrutinise the decisions made by and performance of the Cabinet and/or Committees and Council officers both in relation to individual decisions and over time;
 - ii) review and scrutinise the performance of the Council in relation to its policy objectives, performance targets and/or particular service areas;
 - iii) question members of the Cabinet and/or Committees and chief officers about their decisions and performance, whether generally in comparison with service plans and targets over a period of time, or in relation to particular decisions, initiatives or projects;
 - iv) make recommendations to the Cabinet and/or appropriate Committee and/or Council arising from the outcome of the Scrutiny process;
 - v) review and scrutinise the performance of other public bodies in the area and invite reports from them by requesting them to address the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and local people about their activities and performance; and
 - vi) question and gather evidence from any person (with their consent).
- (c) **Finance.** Overview and Scrutiny Committees may exercise overall responsibility for the finances made available to them.
- (d) **Annual report.** Overview and Scrutiny Committees must report annually to full Council through the Constitution Committee on their workings and make recommendations for future work programmes and amended working methods if appropriate.
- (e) **Officers.** Overview and Scrutiny Committees may exercise overall responsibility for the work programme of the officers employed to support their work.

6.04 **Proceedings of Overview and Scrutiny Committees**

Overview and Scrutiny Committees will conduct their proceedings in accordance with the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules set out in Part 4 of this Constitution.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **EDUCATION AND YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

DATE: **MONDAY, 15TH JUNE 2015**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF OFFICER (EDUCATION AND YOUTH)**

SUBJECT: **SCHOOL MODERNISATION REVIEWS**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To update members on the progress made with School Modernisation.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 This is a follow on report to the report on School Modernisation progress presented to Lifelong Learning Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 25th September 2014.

2.02 The School Modernisation Programme is required because we need to:

- Ensure education provision is both high quality and sustainable
- Improve the quality of school buildings and facilities
- Provide the right number of school places, of the right type, in the right locations
- Address unsustainable school buildings and supporting infrastructure
- Recognise that doing nothing means higher pupil teacher ratios as funding reduces
- Ensure that we can maximise external funding through the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools Programme

2.03 The key 'drivers' or criteria for modernisation which underpin the above are:

- Educational improvement
- Resilient school leadership
- Suitable buildings
- Unfilled places
- Diminishing resources

2.04 Welsh Government funding criteria for 21st Century schools programme will only fund major modernisation projects. Minor refurbishment or maintenance projects are not eligible for grant under this programme.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

3.01 The primary school portfolio has 2182 unfilled places (Source: ADEW national benchmarking data – January 2014).

3.02 As considered in building the Council's budget strategy taking action may impact positively on pupil teacher ratios across the school network or mitigate against some of the impacts of falling grant funding and increasing operating costs. Doing nothing in relation to school organisational change means that pupil teacher ratios will increase in future years. Current infrastructure is not sustainable in response to austerity. However, each individual and area school review needs to be considered on its individual merits.

3.03 The programme for the reviews is set out in the Cabinet report at Appendix 1.

3.04 Reports at each stage of the review process will be open to scrutiny as well as consultation and decision making processes set out in the Statutory Code.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That Members note the information outlined in the report.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 The 21st Century Schools programme current tranche is funded via the Welsh government and Flintshire Local Authority funding package of £64.2m.

5.02 2019-2021 – Anticipated Band B Programme (circa £500m available nationally). The matched funding rate for this has yet to be confirmed by the Welsh Government.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 School Modernisation is a key strategy in addressing the gap in achievement in some school communities due to poverty. Options will need to be informed by provision for and outcomes in overcoming the impact of poverty.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 The environmental impact of educational provision is consistently improved through school modernisation projects. Environmental impacts are analysed, reported and considered as part of school organisational decisions

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 There are no equalities implications from this report. Equalities Impact Assessments will be conducted as part of a school or area school review/s.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

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

9.02 Reorganisations of schools will impact in various ways on the personnel employed. Whenever there is an impact on the workforce of school modernisation proposals, the Flintshire County Council policies related to personnel matters together with the National Teachers Pay and Conditions documents and adhered to in order to minimise any negative effect.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Consultation would be required in accordance with the Statutory Code on school organisation. This would be commissioned through a Cabinet decision on 16th June 2015.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 No consultations are required for this report.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Cabinet report 16th June 2015

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT) 1985 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

School Modernisation Strategy – Cabinet 20th January 2015

Contact Officer: Damian Hughes
Telephone: 01352 704135
Email: Damian.hughes@flintsire.gov.uk

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **CABINET**

DATE: **TUESDAY, 16 JUNE 2015**

REPORT BY: **CHIEF OFFICER (EDUCATION AND YOUTH)**

SUBJECT: **SCHOOL MODERNISATION**

1.00 PURPOSE

1.01 To update on progress of the School Modernisation Programme to date and to propose the next phase of review and consultation for June 2015 to June 2016.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 Cabinet approved the revised School Modernisation Strategy in January 2015.

2.02 The School Modernisation Programme is required because we need to:

- Ensure education provision is both high quality and sustainable
- Improve the quality of school buildings and facilities
- Provide the right number of school places, of the right type, in the right locations
- Address unsustainable school buildings and supporting infrastructure
- Recognise that doing nothing means higher pupil teacher ratios as funding reduces
- Ensure that we can maximise external funding through the Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools Programme

2.03 The key 'drivers' or criteria for modernisation which underpin the above are:

- Educational improvement
- Resilient school leadership
- Suitable buildings
- Unfilled places
- Diminishing resources

2.04 The primary school portfolio has 2182 unfilled places and the secondary school portfolio has 2113 unfilled places (source ADEW national benchmarking data 2014). There are 17% surplus places

(January 2015) in primary schools, whilst the national and local target is to reduce this level to under 10%.

- 2.05 Flintshire has benefited from external capital funding in pre-21st Century school tranche funding over recent years. This has delivered improved opportunities and outcomes for learners. Examples include:
- all-through primary provision across Flintshire (including nursery class provision)
 - new primary schools in Connah's Quay and Shotton
 - new primary and secondary specialist schools in Flint
- 2.06 The 21st Century Schools programme Band A has an approved funding envelope of £64,200,000 between 2013-2017/18. Currently two projects within this programme are underway: the Holywell Learning Campus and the post 16 Hub at Connah's Quay. Both obtained Welsh Government Full Business Case approval in January 2015. Construction projects started on site in January and March 2015 respectively. Both projects are due to be complete by September 2016.
- 2.07 In February 2015, Cabinet resolved to discontinue the Queensferry Campus project as the "pause and review" analysis did not support the continuation through to a Full Business Case to Welsh Government for capital funding.
- 2.08 The Council is still able to work with the original Band A funding allocation. Welsh Government have confirmed that they will work with the Authority in respect of the balance of £18,564,000. However, this will require submission of a revised Strategic Outline Programme to the Welsh Government. Thereafter the projects would be required to follow the appropriate cost dependant business case approval processes.
- 2.09 Flintshire has one other school capital project approved utilising its own capital resources. The Hawarden Village school project which links two school buildings is due to commence on site shortly before the forthcoming summer holiday recess.
- 2.10 The statutory process for amalgamation has been undertaken at all infants and junior schools within Flintshire. New primary schools bring the advantages of fewer transitions for children and families. However, physical amalgamation of separate buildings still requires capital investment. Consideration could be given to these projects in Band B (2019-2021) of the 21st Century school funding programme, subject to other council priorities.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.01 Welsh Government funding criteria for 21st Century schools programme will only fund modernisation projects. Refurbishment or maintenance projects are not eligible for grant under this programme.

- 3.02 It is important to note that new schools will not be possible in all areas. For those areas which are not included in the 21st Century Schools Programme a pragmatic and more creative approach needs to be taken to address uneconomic use of school accommodation. This can be achieved in a number of ways including:
- at minimal cost i.e. Closing a school or schools in surrounding area combined with moving pupils to a school (*which is fit for purpose and has unfilled places*)
 - being 100% self-financed by the Local Authority
 - obtaining 21st Century Schools Programme capital funding and providing the (currently) 50% match funding
- 3.03 The federation of schools can now be considered by a Local Authority under the Federation of Maintained Schools (Wales) Regulations 2014. School governors already have powers to federate under provisions introduced in 2010 subsequently consolidated into the 2014 Act. The Council believes that Federation, whilst providing some leadership and operational opportunities, does little to address the national and local issues around unsuitable buildings, unfilled places and diminishing resources. However, federal arrangements may be proposed in certain circumstances such as where a school is left with no permanent headteacher and it would not be possible to implement school organisation proposals within an acceptable timescale.
- 3.04 Timelines for reorganisation are sequential and typically are as follows:
- Area review – (up to) 6 months (Impact Assessment work)
 - Cabinet approvals
 - Statutory proposals - 9-12 months (if considered by the Council's Cabinet)
 - Cabinet approvals
 - Construction Procurement/Construction Work (where applicable)
- 3.05 The Council's programme will be designed to link and to complement the 21st Century funding programme streams and bands, in order to maximise investment potential.
- 3.06 Given the above process, this will inevitably lead to the Council consulting in areas before it is able to secure funding via the Welsh Government through its programme. Funding is only fully secured at Full Business case (FBC) stage.
- 3.07 Schools that do not require organisational change and which are not eligible for external funding via Welsh Government's 21st Century Schools programme, and which require capital investment, will need to be prioritised through the Council's capital planning process.

- 3.08 Schools/Areas which are in receipt of S.106 contributions as a result of development work in the area, will be monitored by officers. Investment will be made at an appropriate time and in line with criteria associated with the contribution.
- 3.09 Where schools are placed in serious categories of concern by Estyn, Flintshire has a policy of providing targeted support to enable removal within 18 months. Currently only one school in Flintshire is placed in a category of serious concern and it is responding very well to support and is on track to be removed from the category within the accepted timeframe.
- 3.10 Schools currently in statutory consultation are:
- John Summers High School – Change of age range from 11-18 to 11-16 by September 2016 and closure of 11-16 School by September 2017.
 - St David's, Saltney - Change of age range from 11-18 to 11-16 by September 2016.

The recommendation to Cabinet is that we enter formal consultation on closure and other school organisation options for the following schools by September 2016:

- Ysgol Maes Edwin
- Ysgol Llanfynydd
- Ysgol Mornant, Gwespyr Picton

- 3.11 Schools are reviewed against the extent of provision in the area. The Council has a responsibility to ensure that there are sufficient school places for local learners. The three schools meet the following criteria for review:

Small School Criteria for Review

School	NOR (Full time) January 2015
Ysgol Llanfynydd	42
Ysgol Gwespyr Picton	48
Ysgol Maes Edwin	66

- Diminishing Resource Criteria (schools supported by pupils not from their local community and/or small numbers within the community raise concern regarding sustainability within the schools portfolio, higher costs per pupil, unnecessary building and administration costs.

School	% of pupils not attending their nearest school	Cost per pupil (£) (Section 52 2014)	Unfilled Places (%) January 2015
Ysgol Maes Edwin	83%	£3,690	13%
Llanfynydd	47%	£5,111	48%
Gwespyr Picton	6%	£4,209	57%

- School Standards Criteria (scale 1 to 4 with 1 being highest)

School	School Standards Categorisation
Ysgol Maes Edwin	4
Llanfynydd	2
Gwespyr Picton	4

- Suitability & Condition Criteria (scale A to D with A best)

School	Suitability Scores	Condition
Ysgol Maes Edwin	B	B
Llanfynydd	C	B
Gwespyr Picton	C	B

(See Appendix A – proposed timetable for consultation)

3.12 Additionally, the proposal also seeks Cabinet approval to complete an area review of the following schools and would follow the process outlined in 3.04:

- Area 1 - Brynford CP School, Lixwm CP School and Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor
- Area 2 –Nercwys VA School (in relation to faith and community school capacity).

Small School Criteria

School	NOR (Full time) January 2015
Area 1 -Brynford CP School	63
Area 1 - Lixwm CP School	54
Area 1- Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor	140*
Area 2 – Nercwys VA school	49

*Whilst above the small school trigger, it makes sense to consider Ysgol Rhos Helyg as part of an area review and potential solutions to the management of school places.

- Diminishing Resource Criteria

School	% of pupils not attending their nearest school	Cost per pupil (£) (Section 52 2014)	Unfilled Places (%) January 2015
Area 1 - Brynford CP School*	55%	£3,846	-9%
Area 1 - Lixwm CP School	66%	£4,272	24%
Area 1 - Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor	23%	£3,177	17%
Area 2 – Nercwys VA School	10%	£4,278	-17%

* Additionally, Brynford CP School will be without a permanent Headteacher from September 2016 following appointment of the current one to the headship of Ysgol Ty Fynnon in Shotton.

- School StandardsCriteria (scale 1 to 4, with 1 highest)

School	School Standards Categorisation
Area 1 - Brynford CP School	3
Area 1 - Lixwm CP School	3
Area 1 -Ysgol Rhos Helyg,	3

Rhosesmor	
Area 2 – Nercwys VA school	1

- Suitability & Conditions Issues (A to D, with A best)

School	Suitability Scores	Condition
Area 1 -Brynford CP School	C	B
Area 1 -Lixwm CP School	C	B
Area 1 - Ysgol Rhos Helyg, Rhosesmor	B	B
Area 2 – Nercwys VA school	D	B

In areas 1 and 2 it is proposed to start “soft” consultation following the Cabinet decision, forming more formal area review paperwork by December 2015 which will be shared with the communities asking for their views. Thereafter both sets of information with recommendations will be presented to Cabinet in January 2016.

The next stage of school modernisation implementation will be presented to Cabinet at a date to be set.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.01 That Cabinet note the progress for Band A of the 21st Century schools programme
- 4.02 That Cabinet approve the implementation of reviews from June 2015 to June 2016.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 External funding - Capital

- 2013-2017/18 BandA - 21st Century Schools Programme - 50% intervention rate of £64.2m programme.
- 2018-2019 - External Funding Gap 2018-2019.

- 2019-2021 – Anticipated Band B Programme (circa £500m available nationally) Intervention rate TBC by Welsh Government.

5.02 Methods of funding the Authority’s Capital allocation

(Subject to appropriate approvals)

- Enhanced capital allocations
- Generation of capital receipts (asset disposal)
- Development of self-funding or part funding opportunities (through prudential borrowing).

5.03 There is no expectation that any significant additional funding source will be available to the Authority given the financial situation, however opportunities to identify and secure such funding will be actively sought in line with asset management and rationalisation strategies.

5.04 Revenue consequences of the proposed changes are currently being fully assessed. However, this exercise is a key element of the process around re-organisation.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 School Modernisation is a key strategy in addressing the gap in achievement in some school communities due to poverty. Options will need to be informed by provision for and outcomes in overcoming the impact of poverty.

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 The environmental impact of educational provision is consistently improved through school modernisation projects. Environmental impacts are analysed, reported and considered as part of school organisational decisions.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 There are no equalities implications arising directly from this report. Equalities Impact Assessments will be conducted as part of a school or area school review/s.

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

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

9.02 In terms of any proposed future options for education provision in the area, personnel implications would be considered as part of the review work. Reorganisation of schools impacts in various ways on the personnel employed. Whenever there is an impact on the workforce of

school modernisation proposals, Flintshire County Council policies related to personnel matters together with the National Teachers Pay and Conditions documents will be adhered to in order to minimise any negative effect. No change takes place without workforce consultation and engagement.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 Formal Consultation will be required with key stakeholders, including dedicated approaches with children and young people, employees, governors and parents/carers, in accordance with the School Standards and Organisation Act 2013. This will involve key stakeholders. Progress and authorisation to proceed will be sought from the County Council's Cabinet at key stages in the process.

10.02 Area reviews will be conducted in line with Welsh Government and Welsh Local Government Association guidance.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 This paper commissions consultation in identified school communities.

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Appendix A – statutory proposal timeline

BACKGROUND PAPERS	LOCATION	WEBSITE INFO.
School Organisation Code	WG website	http://wales.gov.uk/docs/dcells/publications/130719-school-organisation-codes-en.pdf

Contact Officer: Damian Hughes
Telephone: 01352 704135
E-mail: damian.hughes@flintshire.gov.uk

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Anticipated Timetable Statutory Proposals		
DATES	School Terms	KEY MILESTONES
13/5/2015	Spring 2015	Project Board approve shortlisted Primary Schools
16/6/2015	Summer 2015	Cabinet approval obtained to commence consultation
Start 14/5/2015 finish 6/9/2015	Spring/Summer Term 2015	Preparation of Impact Assessments: Transport, Equality, Welsh Language, Buildings fit for purpose, Community
Start 14/5/2015 finish 6/9/2015	Spring/Summer Term 2015	Preparation of Consultation document (including young person's version)
Start (latest) 7/9/2015 Finish 19/10/2015	Autumn Term 2015	Consultation document published Must be published on a school day (42 days with 20 school days)
Between 7/9/2015 Finish 19/10/2015	Autumn Term 2015	Public Meeting with Stakeholders
Deadline 19/10/2015	Autumn Term 2015	Consultation Ends
November 2015 Cabinet	Autumn Term 2015	Cabinet – Seeking Approval to go to next phase (Statutory Proposals)
Deadline by 8/12/2015	Winter Term 2015	Consultation Report published with 3 months
Start 9/11/2015 Finish 7/12/2015	Winter Term 2015	Statutory Notice (28 days, with 15 school days) Must be issued on a school day
Deadline 7/12/2015	Winter Term 2015	End of Objection Period
Deadline 7/12/2015 – 10/12/2015	Winter Term 2015	Objection Report published within 28 days and with Cabinet with 35 days
Jan/Feb 2016	Spring Term 2016	Cabinet Decision
March –Mid May 2016 (latest)	2016 Spring Term	Workforce Notice
31/08/2016	Autumn 2016	Implementation of School Closure

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