

# Public Document Pack



Contact Officer:  
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To:

Councillors: Paul Cunningham, Peter Curtis, Andy Dunbobbin, David Healey, Phil Lightfoot, Nancy Matthews, Vicky Perfect, Ian Roberts, Carolyn Thomas and David Williams

Plus the following vacancies:

2 x Conservative

1 x Independent

2 x Independent Alliance

### **Co-opted Members**

Janine Beggan, David Hytch, Rebecca Stark, Bernard Stuart and Rev. John Thelwell

3 June 2016

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee which will be held at 2.00 pm on Thursday, 9th June, 2016 in the Delyn Committee Room, County Hall, Mold CH7 6NA to consider the following items

## **A G E N D A**

### **1 APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

To confirm the appointment of Chair for the Committee.

### **2 APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR**

To appoint a Vice-Chair for the Committee.

### **3 APOLOGIES**

**Purpose:** To receive any apologies.

### **4 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)**

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

5 **MINUTES** (Pages 3 - 32)

**Purpose:** To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Joint meeting of Education & Youth and Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny held on 24<sup>th</sup> March 2016 and the meetings of Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee held on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2016 (Call-in 10am, Call-in 11.30am and Ordinary meeting at 2pm) (copies enclosed).

6 **LEARNER OUTCOMES** (Pages 33 - 58)

Report of Chief Officer (Education and Youth) enclosed. Portfolio of the Cabinet Member for Education.

**Purpose:** To provide Members with a summary of learner outcomes across primary and secondary schools

7 **SKILLS FOR LIFE AND PROGRESSION** (Pages 59 - 70)

Report of Chief Officer (Education and Youth) enclosed. Portfolio of the Cabinet Member for Education.

**Purpose:** To enable the Committee to review what measures schools have in place to reduce the skills shortage

8 **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 71 - 80)

Report of Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Facilitator enclosed.

**Purpose:** To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

Yours faithfully



Peter Evans  
Democracy & Governance Manager

**JOINT EDUCATION & YOUTH AND SOCIAL & HEALTH CARE  
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE  
24 MARCH 2016**

Minutes of the meeting of the Joint Education & Youth and Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held at County Hall, Mold on Thursday, 24 March 2016

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

Councillors: Marion Bateman, Paul Cunningham, Peter Curtis, Andy Dunbobbin, David Healey, Mike Lowe, Dave Mackie, Mike Reece, Ian Smith, Nigel Steele-Mortimer and David Wisinger

**CO-OPTED MEMBERS:** Janine Beggan, David Hytch, and Rebecca Stark

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors: Adele Davies-Cooke, Hilary Isherwood, Colin Legg, Phil Lightfoot, Nancy Matthews, Vicky Perfect, and Ian Roberts. Bernard Stuart and Rev. John Thelwell.

**SUBSTITUTIONS:** Councillor Sara Parker (for Hilary McGuill)

**CONTRIBUTORS:**

Cabinet Member for Education, Cabinet Member for Social Services, Chief Officer (Education and Youth), Chief Officer (Social Services), Senior Manager Children and Workforce, Senior Manager Inclusion and Progression, Senior Manager Safeguarding and Commissioning, Early Years and Family Support Manager, and Senior Learning Advisor

**ATTENDANCE:**

Environment and Social & Health Care Facilitator, Education & Youth and Community & Enterprise Facilitator and Committee Officer

**8. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR FOR THE MEETING**

The Environment and Social & Health Care Facilitator sought nominations for a Chair for the meeting.

**RESOLVED**

That Councillor Carol Ellis be appointed as Chair for the meeting.

**9. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Andy Dunbobbin declared a personal interest in the following items due to his capacity as a kinship carer.

Agenda Item 4 – Educational Attainment for Looked After Children in Flintshire

Agenda Item 5 – Safeguarding and Child Protection

Agenda Item 6 – Early Years and Family Support Service Annual Update

**10. EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN IN FLINTSHIRE**

The Senior Manager Inclusion and Progression introduced a report on the academic attainment of Looked After Children (LAC) in Flintshire for the year 2014-15. She provided background information and reported on learner outcomes for the Foundation Phase and Key Stages 2, 3 and 4, as detailed in the report. She advised that the education of LAC was a high priority in Flintshire and reported on some of the initiatives which had been implemented to support better outcomes for this vulnerable group of learners.

The Chairman thanked the Head of Inclusion Service for her detailed report and invited members to raise questions.

Councillor Dave Mackie suggested that information be included in future reports to demonstrate how educational attainment was improving for LAC. The Senior Manager Inclusion and Progression agreed to provide information on predicted outcomes and actual outcomes in future reports.

Councillor Ian Smith asked how the educational attainment for LAC compared to non-LAC. The Senior Manager Inclusion and Progression agreed to provide information on the educational attainment for Flintshire as a whole in future reports.

The Chair commented on the significant difficulties which LAC frequently had to overcome at an early age, and emphasised that this also needed to be taken into account when acknowledging their achievements.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That Members continue to act as 'Champions' for Looked After Children, promoting awareness and challenging provision within Flintshire educational settings;
- (b) That the Annual Looked After Children Education Outcomes report, in future, be moved to a cycle following the performance indicator submission at the end of April.

**11. SAFEGUARDING AND CHILD PROTECTION**

The Chief Officer (Social Services) introduced a report to provide information in relation to Safeguarding and Child Protection within the county boundaries. He gave background information and advised that the report contained key statistical and performance related information about children

for whom the Authority had significant safeguarding responsibilities for the period 1 April 2015 to 31 December 2015. The Chief Officer invited the Senior Manager Safeguarding and Commissioning to report on the key considerations as detailed in the report concerning the Child Protection Register, child protection conferences, child sexual exploitation, and the Safeguarding Unit.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Committee accept the report as information in relation to Safeguarding and Child Protection for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April, 2015 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2015.

**12. EARLY YEARS AND FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICE ANNUAL UPDATE**

The Chief Officer (Social Services) introduced a report to provide a summary of the work undertaken by the Early Years and Families Support service during 2015/16, funded through the Welsh Government (WG) anti-poverty programmes; Flying Start, Families First, and Communities First, and other WG funded projects and funding streams including European and Big Lottery. The Chief Officer drew attention to the Social Care Accolades Award, in the better outcomes through working together category, awarded to Flintshire Early Years and Family Support Service in April 2015, and the prestigious CANparent Quality Mark received by Flying Start in June 2015.

The Chief Officer introduced the Early Years and Family Support Manager and invited her to present the report.

Councillor David Healey congratulated the team on receiving the CANparent Quality Mark and Social Care Accolades Award and asked if this had been publicised in the local press. The Chief Officer agreed to follow this up and ensure that the awards were publicised in the local press on behalf of the Committee.

Councillor Dave Mackie commented on the issue of young children starting formal education in school who were not yet toilet trained and the additional pressure put on schools as a result. He asked if this matter could be raised and addressed through the Early Years and Family Support Service. Officers responded and explained that there were a range of projects available to support and enable families to build a connection and ongoing working relationship with schools.

**RESOLVED**

That the Committee endorse the work and service delivery of the Early Years and Family Support Service, and approve a continued focus on early intervention and prevention services in Flintshire leading to better outcomes for families in need.

**13. CORPORATE PARENTING**

The Senior Manager Children and Workforce introduced a report on the Council's effectiveness as a Corporate Parent. He provided background information and advised that the report provided a focus on the expectations of Corporate Parenting within the framework of the Social Services and Well-Being Act (the Act). The report identified the need to refresh the existing Corporate Parenting Strategy within the context of the Act and the Council's Improvement Plan priorities for 2016/17. The Senior Manager Children and Workforce presented the report and drew attention to the key considerations.

The Chair thanked the Senior Manager Children and Workforce for his report and invited the Committee to raise questions.

In response to a suggestion from Councillor Marion Bateman that a Looked After Child be invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee to meet Members, Councillor Christine Jones commented on the work of the Participation Group and the various other opportunities, citing the Pride of Flintshire Awards as an example, which provided an informal setting for LAC to meet with Members.

The Senior Manager Children and Workforce agreed that next year's report would include information on how well the Council had done on the future priorities, as set out in section 1.05.14 of the report.

Councillor Christine Jones suggested that the revised Corporate Parenting Strategy be presented to Scrutiny for consideration. The Chair agreed with this suggestion.

**RESOLVED:**

The Committee is content that Corporate Parenting is effective and endorse the development of a revised Corporate Parenting Strategy.

**14. ATTENDANCE BY MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

There were no members of the press or public in attendance

(The meeting started at 2.00pm and ended at 3.52pm)

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**Chairman**

**EDUCATION AND YOUTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**28 APRIL 2016**

Minutes of the Call-in meeting of the Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Flintshire County Council held at County Hall, Mold on Wednesday, 28 April 2016

**PRESENT: Councillor David Hytch (Vice-Chairman in the Chair)**

Councillors: Marion Bateman, Paul Cunningham, Peter Curtis, David Healey, Dave Mackie, Vicky Perfect and Nigel Steele-Mortimer

**SUBSTITUTIONS:**

Councillor: Ian Smith for Ian Roberts, Hilary Isherwood for Adele Davies-Cooke, Paul Shotton for Andy Dunbobbin and Gareth Roberts for Nancy Matthews

**CO-OPTED MEMBERS:**

Janine Beggan, and Rev. John Thelwell

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillors: Ray Hughes and Phil Lightfoot  
Rebecca Stark and Bernard Stuart

**CONTRIBUTORS:**

Councillor Aaron Shotton - Leader of the Council, Councillor Bernie Attridge - Deputy Leader, Councillor Chris Bithell - Cabinet Member for Education, Chief Officer (Education and Youth), Senior Manager – School Planning & Provision

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator and Committee Officer

**68. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Vice-Chairman invited Members of the Committee to make a declaration if they were school governors and all of the Committee Members present, except Mrs. Beggan and Rev. Thelwell so indicated.

Councillor Marion Bateman declared a personal interest as she was a school governor at Ysgol Owen Jones and Sychdyn school and she felt that those schools would benefit if Ysgol Maes Edwin closed.

Councillor Hilary Isherwood declared a personal interest as she was a school governor at Ysgol Llanfynydd.

**69. CONSIDERATION OF A MATTER REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO THE CALL IN ARRANGEMENTS**

The Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator explained the procedure for the Call-in of a Cabinet decision and detailed the four options available to the Committee.

**70. SCHOOL MODERNISATION – SCHOOL STANDARDS AND REORGANISATION ACT 2013 – YSGOL MAES EDWIN**

The Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator referred to the Call-in to the decision of the Cabinet from its meeting held on 19 April 2016 relating to School Modernisation – School Standards and Organisation Act 2013 – Ysgol Maes Edwin. The Call-in notice had been signed by five Members of the Council. To assist Members, the following documents had been circulated with the agenda:-

- (a) A copy of the procedure for dealing with a called-in item.
- (b) A copy of the report of the Chief Officer (Education and Youth) – School Modernisation – School Standards and Organisation Act 2013 – Ysgol Maes Edwin
- (c) A copy of the Record of Decision No. 3255
- (d) A copy of the Call-in notice signed by Councillors: Nigel Steele-Mortimer, Dave Mackie, Hilary Isherwood, Paul Cunningham and Vicky Perfect

The Vice-Chairman invited the Call-in signatories to address the Committee.

Councillor Nigel Steele-Mortimer expressed his disappointment at the decision to continue with the closure of Ysgol Maes Edwin. He explained that in 2008 when he had been Executive Member for Education there were 17 pupils at the school, which was extremely unsatisfactory. He had held meetings with the Head Teacher and School Governors and had advised them that if the figures did not improve, then the options for the Council would be limited. In June 2015 the numbers of pupils attending the school had increased to 73 which was slightly below the figure specified when considering the sustainability of a school; he felt that this showed the extent of the improvement in numbers. On the issue of local usage of the school, Councillor Steele-Mortimer said that since June 2015, a number of children had left the school due to the concern of the parents because of the threat of closure. He felt that whether a child attending the school lived locally or not was not important. In referring to a federation, he felt that this would save the school and expressed surprise and concern at the reaction of governors in neighbouring schools in not being more proactive and coming forward to help, which he would encourage if a school nearby to schools where he was governor required assistance. He commented on powers that the Council had



been able to use (which came into effect in 2014) where a federation could be forced and Councillor Steele-Mortimer felt that the Council could have taken a more proactive approach to this. He commented on the issue of finance for schools and said that education was a statutory duty and should therefore be funded before any non-statutory requirements. He suggested that there were a number of options that could be considered before it could be said that there was insufficient funding for education.

On the issue of finance, Councillor Paul Cunningham indicated that £93,000 had been spent on the school in the summer of 2015, which he felt had been unnecessary. He said that 30 pupils had left the school since June 2015 and 74% of those now travelled further to get to school than when they attended Ysgol Maes Edwin. He commented on future developments of 170 houses in Flint, 70 dwellings in Northop Hall and 115 properties in Northop and suggested that the numbers of pupils that would come from these developments would make the school sustainable. Councillor Cunningham commented on the children who attended the school and their achievements during the time at the school and suggested that they should be considered as children not just numbers. He concurred with the comments of Councillor Steele-Mortimer.

Councillor Dave Mackie spoke of the criteria from the Council's School Modernisation Strategy which was detailed in paragraph 1.02 and suggested that the issue of a federation should also be included in the criteria for future cases. He commented on examples of a child who lived in Cardiff who had to travel by car for 25 minutes to get to school because there were no local places available and of a child who lived in Flintshire five minutes away from a school but was unable to gain a place at that school. He had carried out analysis of admissions figures and had concluded that in Flint there were 1221 school places and in the four primary schools in Flint, there were 1120 pupils and therefore the vacancy rate was 8%. Councillor Mackie added that if Ysgol Maes Edwin was to close then the number of places would drop to 1146 and would have a vacancy rate of 2%; the Welsh Government website advised that there should be no more than 10%. He felt that this was an important issue to consider and that the school should not be closed if there was future need for the places.

Councillor Cunningham sought clarification on the pupil to teacher ratio if Ysgol Maes Edwin closed and the children had to attend other schools and queried whether extra teaching staff and extensions to buildings would be required. He also commented that the school was used in the evening for a variety of evening classes and other activities and events.

Councillor Peter Curtis asked if the Council had a 'Plan B' if the school did not close.

Councillor Aaron Shotton spoke of the process and said that many questions had been raised and answered and indicated that these had been included in the Objection report that had been submitted to Cabinet. He welcomed the opportunity to broaden the discussion because of the general

nature and non-specific reasons for the call-in. He referred to the comments of Councillor Steele-Mortimer that it had been recognised in 2008 that there were concerns about the low numbers of pupils attending the school and he added that since 2010 there had been numerous cuts to Local Authority funding which had resulted in Council's having to make difficult decisions on school and library closures. He said that if he was still Leader of the Council following the Annual Council meeting in May 2016, then he would continue to fight against the austerity cuts to public sector funding and a low Gross Domestic Product (GDP) spend.

Councillor A. Shotton spoke of the £52m cuts faced by the Authority in the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the increasing demand and pressure on Councils with reduced funding available and spoke of a 'tipping point' that was fast approaching. He commented on Alternative Delivery Models (ADMs) which for education was a federation but no such proposals had been submitted. If Ysgol Maes Edwin was kept open, this would have consequences for other schools and he explained that Buckley Mountain school received £1000 per pupil less than Ysgol Maes Edwin received per pupil which was not sustainable. The overall budget for education had been increased by £1.4m through a combination of Council funds and the additional pupil deprivation grant but demand and pressures outstripped this funding. Councillor A. Shotton expressed significant concern about some of the comments made by Councillor Steele-Mortimer. He spoke of the difficult decisions that needed to be made to protect the quality of education in the classroom and he felt that the issue of data had been addressed.

The Cabinet Member, Councillor Chris Bithell, felt that different reasons had been raised than had been given as the reason for the call-in. He had previously spoken of the difficult decisions that the Council was facing and the anxiety that it caused to all those concerned. The process had been followed because it was essential to do so and he indicated that Councillor Steele-Mortimer could have taken the decision to close schools when he was Executive Member for Education. Flintshire County Council had been under considerable pressure from Welsh Government (WG), Wales Audit Office (WAO) and Estyn to tackle the issues and there was an expectation that value for money would be achieved. The funding from national government to local government to local authorities had reduced significantly and Councillor Bithell explained that the money followed the pupils but added that funds could not be taken from other schools to protect some schools without impacting on teacher to pupil ratios and classroom sizes. He said that to some the status quo may be the best option but there was a need to consider the impact on all children, parents and teachers.

Councillor Bithell spoke of the comments made by governors and headteachers in the Schools Budget Forum querying why something was not being done about the inconsistent funding for some schools compared to others. On the issue of cutting funding from other services to protect schools which had been suggested by Councillor Steele-Mortimer, Councillor Bithell said that this was already being done and services such as libraries and community centres were being closed because of lack of funding and

alternative proposals of which services could be cut had not been provided. The issue of the impact on the local area had been raised but Councillor Bithell highlighted the issue of pupils who attended Ysgol Maes Edwin but came from areas other than Flint Mountain and raised concern about the impact of schools in their home area. The developments in Flint that had been referred to were not in the same ward as Ysgol Maes Edwin and there were nearer schools to those sites. He spoke of the difficult decisions made by parents who moved their child from schools under the threat of closure and the decision made by Cabinet to continue the process of closing the school.

The Chief Officer (Education and Youth) commented on the sensitive and challenging issue faced by the decision makers but spoke of the support available for all those affected by the decision. It was a statutory responsibility of the local authority to manage the supply of school places and WAO, WG and Estyn continued to monitor the progress made by the Local Authority and the Committee was aware that it was a priority in the Council's Improvement Plan. He also spoke of the self-evaluation and concurred with the comments made by Councillor Bithell of the requests by Headteachers on the Schools Budget Forum seeking action by the Local Authority to ensure teacher/pupil ratios and staffing levels were appropriate. Schools were having to manage significant grant reductions and some were in a situation where staffing costs outstripped the funding available to the schools and therefore reductions in staffing needed to be made. He spoke of the significant amount of time that had been spent on the issues raised in connection with Ysgol Maes Edwin and the responses that had been considered and he spoke of the meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> January 2016 where the issues raised by the school community had been considered along with the responses provided by the local authority.

A thorough discussion had taken place and the recommendation to Cabinet was that the process be suspended for 2 months for a federation to be reviewed. Cabinet made such a decision on 19<sup>th</sup> January 2016 following consideration of responses from statutory consultees and the comments of the Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny meeting had also carefully been considered. Cabinet then decided to proceed to a formal statutory consultation on the closure and issued a statutory notice but reflected on the Overview & Scrutiny discussion and confirmed that if a detailed business case for a federation proposal was put forward before the end of February 2016, then it would be considered. In the following period, no federation proposals were received and therefore Cabinet had to make a determination of statutory proposals in accordance with the statutory school organisation code. In doing so, Cabinet had to decide whether to approve or reject the statutory proposal and no modifications could be made at that point and legally Cabinet had to make a decision in 112 days or 16 weeks. Cabinet did not approach the decision with a closed mind and all arguments were considered but they focussed on the impact on the quality of the education of the pupils, the need for places and the resources of education and discussions on all areas were considered before determination was made. The Chief Officer (Education and Youth) said that he was respectful of the place of the call-in but recognised that at this stage, Cabinet could only make determination of whether to implement the proposals or not. He said that the concerns had been

recognised and addressed and he reminded the Committee that assurance had been provided that every step would be taken to ease the transition arrangements that would be put in place once the determination was made.

The Chief Officer said that another area of concern was that the decision to close Ysgol Maes Edwin was not in the best interests of the pupils but this issue had been raised in an earlier Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny meeting and had been reported to Cabinet so the concerns had therefore been addressed. On the issue of the diminishing resource criteria, he reminded Members that as of April 2016 84.2% of pupils attending Ysgol Maes Edwin were not attending their local school which would mean that the distance travelled to school would increase but it was well within the guidelines and could mean that the pupils were eligible for school transport. The third issue raised was the impact on the community. Members were advised to refer to the appraisal to Overview & Scrutiny and Cabinet which addressed the issue. A Community Impact Assessment had been undertaken which measured the impact and provided advice on how to minimise the impact and the Council would work with the school and the community to mitigate issues where possible. However, he added that there were many villages across the county that did not have a village school but still had a vibrant community. He also advised that there were many areas of the county where small schools needed to be maintained but said that Ysgol Maes Edwin did not fall into this category. On the issue of a federation, he spoke of the support that would be provided to a federation if a proposal had come forward, but no willing partner had been prepared to work with Ysgol Maes Edwin. There were sufficient school places in the area and a statutory determination would not have been issued if there was insufficient provision. If and when the determination was confirmed, work would be carried out with staff, pupils and the community to identify alternative school provision and a transition plan would be negotiated with each child and their family. He reminded the Committee that any transition would have to be handled sensitively. He concluded by saying that any decision to close a school became more difficult to put into practice the closer it got to the summer term in order to comply with the school organisation code.

Councillor Marion Bateman sought clarification on what the £93,000 spend had been on and why it had been spent at a time when closure was being considered. She also asked how much had been spent on Ysgol Owen Jones to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Maes Edwin. The Senior Manager – School Planning & Provision advised that £93,000 had been spent on a repair to the roof and to make adaptations to accommodate a child with particular needs. Nothing had been spent on Ysgol Owen Jones as a result of the proposal to close Ysgol Maes Edwin and the spend on Ysgol Maes Edwin was a requirement to comply with the Equalities Act and because of the urgent roof repairs required; both spending on Ysgol Owen Jones and not spending on Ysgol Maes Edwin would be seen as a predetermination of the decision to close Ysgol Maes Edwin. Councillor Bithell felt that this demonstrated that no decision had been made before hand and the needs of the school had been considered and dealt with appropriately. In response to a question from Councillor Bateman about whether it was felt that the spend

was a waste of money, Councillor Bithell confirmed that it was not and that the monies had been spent when necessary to repair the roof and adapt the school to meet particular needs of one child.

Councillor Paul Shotton said that this was an emotive issue but due to the severe austerity cuts, this was a different decision than was reached in 2008. He asked how many pupils at Ysgol Maes Edwin lived in Flint Mountain and whether there had been an increase or decrease, and sought clarification on where Ysgol Maes Edwin sat in the categorisation scale. In response, Councillor Bithell said that the number of pupils living in Flint Mountain was less than 10. As at July 2015, the school was in Welsh Government categorisation 4, on a scale of 1 to 4, with 4 being the lowest for educational standards and had remained in the same category when WG conducted their annual review in January 2016. He added that the number of pupils at the school had decreased as parents had moved their children to alternative schools because of the threat of closure. Councillor Paul Shotton also asked if standards at alternative schools would be maintained under these proposals. Councillor Bithell indicated that in Estyn's opinion, the proposal was likely to at least maintain the current standards of education in the area so the standards of other schools would be equivalent or higher than those currently in Ysgol Maes Edwin.

The Chief Officer (Education and Youth) commented on the School Organisation Code and of the need to provide clear information on the quality of education being provided; this data had been provided for Ysgol Maes Edwin and for other schools in the area. Estyn's report had been considered as they were statutory consultees in proposals for schools and he reiterated the earlier comments that the view of Estyn was that the proposal would at least maintain the standards of education in the area.

Councillor Gareth Roberts referred to the WG Categorisation 4 but said that it had recently been reported in the local press that the school was in categorisation 3/amber. He also spoke of proposed developments in Flint and of the Croes Atti development for near 700 houses and suggested that as 2/3 of the children at Ysgol Maes Edwin already came from Flint, Ysgol Maes Edwin could take pupils who would be unable to get into Flint schools. In response, the Chief Officer (Education and Youth) said that it was a matter of record that the publicly available description for categorisation for the number and colour were available and that amber reflected that a school required a significant amount of extra support to make progress. He spoke of schools that had been in red and amber categories that were involved in the school monitoring system and of work that was undertaken with the chair of governors to arrange a rapid improvement plan. On the issue of developments, he said that evidence had been shared with Cabinet that there were sufficient places for Ysgol Maes Edwin pupils and for pupils from known developments without keeping Ysgol Maes Edwin open. The Senior Manager, School Planning & Provision confirmed that this had been fully reported in the consultation document and provided a detailed explanation of how the figures had been calculated; this was detailed in paragraphs 1.15 to 1.17. He explained that this did not take account of parental choice or the

pace of housing but all evidence base had been debated and there was capacity to accommodate pupils from Ysgol Maes Edwin.

Councillor Cunningham accepted the authority had to spend money on the roof and to make adaptations for a disabled child but queried whether spend on an office move and a high tech entry system could be justified. On the issue of federation, he asked if any schools were persuaded against a federation. The Chief Officer (Education & Youth) confirmed that this was not the case and that it was an inappropriate suggestion. Councillor Bithell confirmed that it had been necessary to spend the monies on the school and that it was not the Council's policy to only spend on schools that were not under review. The Senior Manager, School Planning & Provision explained that there was no spare space to accommodate a new toilet for the disabled child so some rationalisation of space was needed which included having to move the office to accommodate the required adaptations. On the issue of federation, Councillor Bithell said that this would have been the best option instead of closure but no schools had come forward with an offer of a federation. He said that Councillor Steele-Mortimer had suggested that a federation could be forced, but it had not been that this was appropriate.

Councillor Bateman sought assurance that parents would be given preferential treatment in their choice of a new school as she had been told that some parents had contacted Ysgol Sychdyn and had not been given any help from the Council to move there. The Chief Officer (Education & Youth) said that as a decision to close the school had not yet been confirmed, the current allocations policy still applied and as Ysgol Sychdyn was not the local school then advice was being given in line with current policy. If a determination was made, then work would be carried out with individual families on options and to negotiate on securing a place for the children.

In summing up, Councillor Steel-Mortimer expressed concern about the political comments of Councillor Aaron Shotton and said that he had tried not to make it a political matter. He felt that it was important to keep the school open and said that if the threat of closure was lifted, it had been suggested that the number of pupils would increase to the rate in the school in June 2015. He said that it did not matter where the child lived and that Flintshire children needed educating even if this was not in their local school. On the issue of educational status, he said that a number of children went to this school as a result of bullying elsewhere and said that the school provided an improvement in the children. On the issue of finance, he said that it was WG's aim that schools should be delegated 85% of funding to each school but Flintshire was one of the Councils that did not do this. It was proposed that WG would increase this figure to 90% which was further out of reach of Flintshire County Council. He suggested that until the target was met, the decision was not making the correct use of funding recommendations. He proposed that the committee should consider option 4.

Councillor Aaron Shotton said that the decision to close the school had not been made lightly. He spoke of the ongoing work with headteachers to increase the delegation of funding to schools but added that this was not

always popular with schools. It had been suggested that the school should remain open but Councillor Aaron Shotton said that this would mean that funding would need to be shared unequally and that it would be seen as a dereliction of duty. He reminded the Committee of the increase in education funding by 1% that had been included in the Council's budget.

The Chief Officer (Education & Youth) reiterated earlier comments about discussions with Schools Budget Forum representatives about school budgets and added that progress had been made on the introduction of a funding model to ensure equality amongst Flintshire schools.

The Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator detailed the four options available. Councillor Steele-Mortimer proposed option 4 which was duly seconded by Councillor Hilary Isherwood. The Vice-Chairman and Facilitator advised that if the Committee voted in favour of option 4, then the Full Council meeting would make a recommendation to refer the decision back to Cabinet as the decision makers.

On being put to the vote, the proposal to refer the decision to Council was carried. Councillor Bateman indicated that she had abstained from voting as the schools that she was a governor at would benefit from the closure of Ysgol Maes Edwin. The Vice-chairman stated that he had also abstained from voting.

The Facilitator confirmed that the matter would now be referred to Full Council.

**RESOLVED:**

That having considered the decision, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee is still concerned about it and therefore refers the matter to Full Council.

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

There were 12 members of the public and 2 members of the press in attendance.

(The meeting started at 10.00am and ended at 11.37 am)

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**Chairman**

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## **EDUCATION AND YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**28 APRIL 2016**

Minutes of the meeting of the Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Mold at 11.40am on Thursday, 28 April 2016

**PRESENT: Councillor Ian Roberts (Chairman)**

Councillors: Paul Cunningham, Peter Curtis, David Healey, Dave Mackie, Vicky Perfect and Nigel Steele-Mortimer

**CO-OPTED MEMBER:** David Hÿtch

**SUBSTITUTES:** Councillors: Hilary Isherwood (for Adele Davies-Cooke), Gareth Roberts (for Nancy Matthews) and Paul Shotton (for Andy Dunbobbin)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors: Ray Hughes and Phil Lightfoot

Co-opted members: Janine Beggan, Rebecca Stark and Bernard Stuart

**CONTRIBUTORS:** Councillor Aaron Shotton, Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance; Councillor Bernie Attridge, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Environment; Councillor Chris Bithell, Cabinet Member for Education; Chief Officer, Education & Youth; and Senior Manager, School Planning & Provision

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator and Committee Officer

### **72. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)**

The following declared a personal interest on Agenda Item 4 'School Modernisation - School Standards and Reorganisation Act 2013 - Ysgol Llanfynydd' as they were governors of schools within the network:

The Chairman and Councillors Paul Cunningham, Peter Curtis, Hilary Isherwood, Dave Mackie, Vicky Perfect, Gareth Roberts, Paul Shotton and Nigel Steele-Mortimer. Mr. David Hÿtch also declared a personal interest.

### **73. CONSIDERATION OF A MATTER REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE PURSUANT TO THE CALL IN ARRANGEMENTS**

The Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator explained the procedure for the Call-in of a Cabinet decision.

### **74. SCHOOL MODERNISATION - SCHOOL STANDARDS AND REORGANISATION ACT 2013 - YSGOL LLANFYNYDD**

The Call-in related to the decision of the Cabinet from its meeting held on 19 April 2016 relating to School Modernisation - School Standards and Reorganisation Act 2013 - Ysgol Llanfynydd. The Call-in notice had been signed by four Members of the Council. To assist Members, the following documents had been circulated with the agenda:-

- (a) A copy of the procedure for dealing with a called-in item.
- (b) A copy of the report considered by Cabinet on 19 April 2016.
- (c) A copy of the Cabinet Record of Decision No. 3254.
- (d) A copy of the Call-in notice signed by Councillors Hilary Isherwood, Dave Mackie, Nigel Steele-Mortimer and Alison Halford.

Whilst Councillor Chris Bithell understood the concerns of those affected by the proposal to close the school, he spoke about the difficulty in reaching decisions such as this, in light of the reduced funding from central Government.

The Chairman invited the Call-in signatories to address the Committee.

Councillor Hilary Isherwood read out the reasons for the Call-in as set out in the notice. She spoke about the consequences of school closure upon the community and pointed out that the range of adaptations to the school benefited children with special medical needs and were not available at other schools in the vicinity. She said that incorrect data had been used to report the capacity for the school, as identified in the Objection Report and did not reflect the reduction in capacity arising from changes to the school in 2011. She referred to page 21 of the School Organisation Statutory Code on determining the capacity of enlarged school premises, and questioned the reasons for the statutory proposals given the criteria set out. She went on to state that at 66, Ysgol Llanfynydd had the 7<sup>th</sup> highest capacity in Flintshire and should therefore not have been included in the first round of proposed closures, which would have allowed time to work on increasing school numbers. Other sections of the Code were also highlighted, including the duties on local authorities in determining proposals where objections had been made.

In respect of costs, Councillor Isherwood pointed out that the efficiency stated would be a one-off and she questioned the need for a roof replacement on the school building, adding that future maintenance costs had not been taken into consideration for other schools. In addition, she said that there had been no response to the issue on income generated from solar panels and that a viable business case for a reduced budget for the school had allegedly not been appropriately considered. In terms of process, she pointed out that the statutory notice should have been issued to the school's governing body despite regular contact by the Chair of Governors with the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools' team. She stated that the school had been given a Category 2 'yellow' rating by GwE with capacity for improvement and that the comments made by Estyn in the consultation report were out-of-date as the school had last been inspected in 2009. She also advised that options for a federation were still being pursued, particularly in view of the increase in local housing developments.

Councillor Dave Mackie referred to comments made at the Cabinet meeting and questioned whether there would be sufficient capacity at Ysgol Parc y Llan if Ysgol Llanfynydd was to close.

It was pointed out by Councillor Chris Bithell that statutory proposals for Ysgol Llanfynydd could have been made at an earlier stage under the School Modernisation Strategy, however this was now necessary due to the number of surplus places at the school which impacted on the school budget and in turn,

affected capacity to run the school effectively. He disagreed with the comments about the business case and gave assurance that that these views had not been shared by the School Budget Forum when discussing funding for smaller schools. He explained that subsidising the funding gap for the school to meet the requirements of delivering the national curriculum could not be sustained as this created pressures on other schools, and that Ysgol Llanfynydd was ranked the highest funded per pupil in Flintshire. He reminded the Committee that School Modernisation was a challenging issue across the whole of the UK, not just in Flintshire. On the concerns raised, he stated that the data on capacity had been carefully analysed, mostly based on school returns, and gave assurances that the process had been followed in accordance with the checklist using up-to-date information and no issues raised by Estyn. He felt that closure of the school would not greatly impact on the village as a large proportion of pupils were from adjoining villages and others from Wrexham, and that these were amongst a range of factors taken into consideration. He also reminded the Committee that there were communities in other areas of Flintshire which had either lost schools or had no provision at all.

The Chief Officer (Education & Youth) expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to share information in response to the contributions and strong views which had been put forward. He explained that if the statutory determination to close the school was confirmed, the Council would provide support for the pupils to transfer as a group, subject to parental preference, adding that unused building capacity at Ysgol Parc y Llan could be brought back into use to accommodate pupils. Whilst he respected the position of Councillor Isherwood as local Member, he stressed the importance of acknowledging that the requirements of the School Organisation Code and local policy were followed, together with recognising the impact of a prolonged process on all those affected. He said that the detailed debate by the Committee on the proposals in January 2016 had been reported to Cabinet to inform their consideration and that the decision-making timeline had allowed for consideration of any proposals for a federation. In the absence of a viable expression of interest for a federation, Cabinet had taken the decision to pursue statutory proposals with full and open-minded consideration of the views of stakeholders. In respect of the call-in of the Cabinet decision, the Chief Officer gave clear assurance that the statutory proposals had been served in accordance with the requirements of the School Organisation Statutory Code and that the consultation and objection reports had both exceeded the requirements of the Code. As part of the process, a Community Impact Assessment had been undertaken which identified alternative facilities in the community and there was potential to build on the links already established from the Acting Head Teacher sharing arrangement.

Responding to other comments raised, the Chief Officer provided explanation on the annual contributions generated by the school's solar panels. He stated that officers had not been inappropriate in responding to the school's suggestions for lower funding and that it was a collective view that education delivery could not be sustained with a lower level of funding than the formula offered. In relation to adaptations, he said that the school had no record of any pupils requiring specialist facilities, however neighbouring schools were able to accommodate pupils with a range of special medical needs. He went on to speak about the unprecedented pressures on school funding, despite the level of

protection given by the Council, and that prolonged uncertainty was difficult for all concerned and would reduce time needed to work through transition plans.

Councillor Aaron Shotton also understood the concerns of the local Member, but said there was a need to take a balanced view on the current period of austerity, the significant repairs and maintenance issues of the school network and the expectations from Welsh Government to address school surplus places. He explained that the school funding formula was an issue that the Council was seeking to tackle and referred to the level of differential on spend per pupil at Ysgol Llanfynydd which could not be sustained. The impact and sensitivity around school closure was recognised, along with the need to improve and protect the school network, however with no federation proposal, the Cabinet had no other reasonable option but to pursue the statutory proposals. Councillor Shotton also commented on the creation of new schools in Shotton, Connah's Quay and Holywell, and said that the Council was continually seeking to increase education budgets despite cuts elsewhere.

Councillor David Healey said that he had concerns about the closure of the school, particularly in recognition of the high standard of education. However, he felt there was a need to understand the context behind the decision including factors outside the control of the Council such as changes in demography and family sizes. Whilst it was unfortunate that the school was now in this position and noting the potential impact on the network of schools in the south of the county, he was reassured by the Chief Officer's comments about support for a collective move to Ysgol Parc y Llan. In response to earlier remarks, he sought clarity on whether the school capacity was 80 or 66 as this affected the percentage of surplus places.

The Chief Officer stated that the school capacity had been well documented in both the consultation and objection reports, however that alone did not determine the outcome of the review which was assessed on educational standards, accessibility and resources. The Senior Manager, School Planning & Provision stated his confidence that all the requirements of the Statutory Code had been met and confirmed that the school capacity was 80, as ratified by the Head Teacher.

Councillor Paul Shotton thanked officers for the comprehensive answers to the questions raised on this emotive subject. He spoke about the need to maintain standards and to make schools more resilient in the face of continued cuts to funding, as funding was linked to the number of pupils.

Councillor Gareth Roberts referred to the reasons given for the proposals which differed from that previously considered for Ysgol Maes Edwin. Whilst he did not wish for Ysgol Llanfynydd to close, he felt there was no other solution having heard the evidence.

The initiators of the Call-in were then given an opportunity to sum up.

Councillor Isherwood spoke about the quality of education and good attendance levels at the school. She referred to comments made as part of the consultation and felt that the Council should take steps to explore the option of a forced federation.

Councillor Nigel Steele-Mortimer praised the way in which Councillor Isherwood had represented the school and stated that his objection to the proposal was in relation to pupil numbers. He noted that the Council was not meeting the aim to delegate 85-90% of funding to schools and felt that this approach would ensure the continuation of this excellent school and increase pupil numbers.

In response to Councillor Isherwood's comment that there were other schools with more surplus places, Councillor Bithell said that this was correct but was not the sole factor as it was important to ensure there was alternative provision locally. He spoke about the process for federation based on identifying a willing partner school and made reference to the proposed closure of Ysgol Mornant which had been reversed following consideration of the outcome of the consultation, demonstrating that the matter had not been pre-determined. He went on to say that the decision of Ysgol Parc y Llan to decline the option for federation should be respected, and said that forced federations could present difficulties. He went on to refer to the process for evaluating maintenance costs involving tendering for the work, and to consider the ongoing costs of running the building. He said it was recognised that Ysgol Llanfynydd was not a failing school and that the criteria set out in the School Organisation Code had been followed.

The Chief Officer referred to detailed discussions and information previously shared with the Committee. He reiterated his assurance that if the decision remained to close the school, the Council was able to work directly on approaches to the transition plan to support pupils in their future education, and to secure the futures and transitions of members of staff in schools.

The Facilitator gave a reminder of the options available to the Committee. Councillor Isherwood proposed Option 4 which was seconded by Councillor Steele-Mortimer. On being put to the vote, this was lost.

Councillor Paul Shotton's proposal for Option 1 was duly seconded by Councillor Peter Curtis. On being put to the vote, this was carried. The decision could therefore be implemented.

**RESOLVED:**

That, having considered the decision, the Overview & Scrutiny Committee is satisfied with the explanation which it has received, and it is in order for the decision to be implemented.

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

There were three members of the press and four members of the public in attendance.

(The meeting started at 11.40am and ended at 1.05pm)

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**Chairman**

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**EDUCATION AND YOUTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**28 APRIL 2016**

Minutes of the meeting of the Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny Committee of the Flintshire County Council held at County Hall, Mold on Thursday, 28 April 2016

**PRESENT: Councillor Ian Roberts (Chairman)**

Councillors: Marion Bateman, Paul Cunningham, Andy Dunbobbin, David Healey, Colin Legg, Phil Lightfoot, Dave Mackie, Vicky Perfect and Nigel Steele-Mortimer

**SUBSTITUTIONS:**

Councillor: Clive Carver for Adele Davies-Cooke and Gareth Roberts for Nancy Matthews

**CO-OPTED MEMBERS:**

Janine Beggan, David Hytch, Bernard Stuart and Rev. John Thelwell

**APOLOGIES:**

Councillor Peter Curtis  
Rebecca Stark

**CONTRIBUTORS:**

Cabinet Member for Education – Councillor Chris Bithell and Chief Officer (Education and Youth)

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator and Committee Officer

**76. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**77. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 3 December 2015 and 15 March 2016 had been circulated to Members with the agenda.

**RESOLVED:**

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

**78. POST 16 EDUCATION CENTRE**

The Chairman introduced Mr. Alex Thomas (Headteacher of the Post 16 Education Centre) and Mr. Ian Dickson (Deputy Principal of Coleg Cambria) to the Committee.

Mr. Thomas provided a detailed presentation which covered the following areas:-

- Deeside Sixth Form Centre
- Development of Curriculum so far
- Development of staffing
- Developing partnerships with schools
- What could be developed
- Current applications

Mr. Thomas explained that the £15m centre would provide enhanced A level provision and was a joint development between Coleg Cambria, local partner schools and Flintshire County Council. The ultimate aim of the centre was to be the best A level provider in the United Kingdom. The process started some time ago to plan the best A level provision and meetings which included all partner schools helped to plan and develop the strategic route and to share good ideas and best practice. Mr. Thomas said that it was important that there was a smooth transition into the new centre from local schools and a commitment had been given that the students would have the same teacher in year 13 as they had in year 12. He circulated a guide about the Sixth Form centre and advised Members that 29 subjects were on offer to the students and spoke of the importance of including subjects that had run successfully in schools along with addressing the areas that employers were looking for. It was anticipated that the number of subjects would increase to approximately 40 as the centre grew. Mr. Thomas provided details about the staff appointed to work at the centre and commented on the open evenings and parents evenings that had taken place. He advised that nearly all 11-16 schools were actively engaged and it was hoped that opportunities to share information with all Flintshire High Schools could be developed. Mr. Thomas explained that 205 applications had been received for places at the centre from September 2016 with 171 being active applications and the remainder being for students who had decided to study elsewhere or did not meet the entry criteria.

In response to a query from Councillor David Healey about particular aspirations, Mr. Thomas spoke of the enrichment programme which would provide guidance and support to enhance the student's applications for universities. Councillor Nigel Steele-Mortimer asked about the maximum number of students that the centre could accommodate and the target for next year. In response, Mr. Thomas said that that maximum was 750 and it was anticipated that there would be approximately 250 pupils in the first year. Councillor Colin Legg expressed concern that French was the only language offered at the Centre and suggested that German, Chinese and Russian could be languages that could be offered. Mr. Thomas noted the comments and agreed with the idea to increase the number of languages offered but said that currently only Welsh and French were undertaken at A level in the consortium schools and of the 205 applications, two students had applied for French and one for Welsh. In response to a further comment from Councillor Legg about possible small class sizes, Mr. Thomas said that as the centre grew, additional courses would be offered. Councillor Paul Cunningham concurred



about the need to offer languages other than Welsh and French and referred in particular to the Northern Gateway project.

Mr. Dickson recognised the importance of building a strong curriculum and spoke of guidance provided by other sixth form providers on best practice and good ideas for curriculums, particularly in the first year. He added that it was vital not to overprovide and under deliver on subjects offered. He suggested that there needed to be clear dialogue between schools and full collaboration between all five schools in the consortium. He said that it was vital that this was a partnership project and curriculum and in referring to the Northern Gateway said that those involved with the Sixth form centre were aware of the language needs of employers and welcomed the opportunity to be able to consider expanding the number of languages offered as soon as possible.

Mr. David Hytch thanked Mr. Thomas for the presentation and welcomed the continuity of teaching from year 12 to year 13. He spoke of his previous involvement with the management of the consortium and the problems that had been identified which included financial parameters. He also suggested that Spanish should be included as an option and spoke of the importance of ensuring that provision and take up of languages did not decline.

The Chairman expressed concern that the document was written in the present tense and queried how the sixth form centre could be an active partner in the Seren Network when the centre was not yet open. Mr. Thomas took on board the comments about the document. He added that some students, who were already members of the Seren Network, were taking subjects within the consortium. The Chairman said that it had been suggested that the centre was a successor to the consortium arrangements currently in place and sought clarification on how scrutiny of the schools within the consortium could be compared with the results from the Deeside sixth form centre. In response, Mr. Thomas spoke of the ability to be able to compare and contrast in terms of attainments and the Chief Officer (Education and Youth) said that there was an open commitment to share data which could include information being provided to this Committee.

Mr. Dickson provided details of the governance arrangements at the new centre and of the advisory group which was chaired by Councillor Chris Bithell and included representatives from each of the partner schools, Coleg Cambria and Flintshire County Council.

The Chairman asked for information on the Seren Network and extra curricula activities that may be offered at the sixth form centre and whether they would include acting, football or athletics and queried whether the full range that were offered at the schools would be available. Mr. Thomas explained that the Seren Network supported high achievers to reach their academic potential. A wide range of extra curricula activities would be offered and Mr. Thomas spoke of the appointment of a dynamic drama teacher and the very successful football team at Coleg Cambria. Some activities would be

offered to the whole of Coleg Cambria and some would be specific to the sixth form centre and had been designed to enhance the skills of the students through a programme of super-curricular activities.

Councillor Clive Carver spoke of the importance of including German as a language that could be offered to students. He also referred to page 10 where it was reported that Deeside Sixth life was likely to be different to what students had been used to at school. Mr. Thomas said that the biggest difference between year 11 at school and year 12 at the hub was that students would be expected to carry out independent study, but he added that there would also be a number of similarities to school life too. He explained that if a student was at another sixth form and were undertaking three or four A levels, they would expect to study for 20 hours per week. At the hub, this amount would increase to 25 hours because it would include five hours independent study which the student could undertake on site. Councillor Carver also sought clarification about the number of labs at the centre and was advised by Mr. Thomas that there were four science labs with one being a super lab which had the feel of an industry style lab and the remaining three being for biology, chemistry and physics. He added that another difference at the centre would be that the students would be asked to call him Alex rather than Mr. Thomas.

Councillor Dave Mackie sought clarification on the entry criteria and in response, Mr. Thomas said that pupils who passed an exam would transfer through to the hub but those who failed would be provided with advice and guidance on their options. Councillor Mackie also asked about the figures provided as part of the presentation and raised concern that the hub had been built for 750 students but it was anticipated that there would only be 250 in the first year. He referred to meetings of the Committee held earlier in the day about the closure of two primary schools and sought clarification on the 500 vacant places expected at the hub. Mr. Dickson responded that in the past, there had been a temptation for sixth form centres to take as many students who had expressed an interest in studying an A level without much chance of achievement. However, it was felt that it was important that the proposed entry level criteria was applied consistently for the project to succeed. On the issue of figures, Mr. Dickson said that the data was taken from the Council's website for year 10 pupils in February 2015. He added that many discussions had taken place about the number of students that could be accommodated at the centre and, following consultation with other providers, it had been identified that students would travel for high quality provision and therefore it was hoped that the centre would attract students from far beyond Flintshire. On the entry criteria for the hub, Mr. Thomas explained that students needed six grade Cs at GCSE and added that this was based on the required criteria at other sixth form centres. However, he explained that there may be some issues that could be taken into account when considering whether a student could attend the hub or not.

Councillor Andy Dunbobbin welcomed the provision of the sixth form centre which was in his ward and spoke of his pride for the hub which he felt would be a great success. He asked if discussions had been held with David

Lock Associates on their 30 year vision of Deeside and whether the issue of the advanced manufacturing centre had been considered. Councillor Dunbobbin also asked for further information on the number of pupils that had submitted applications for the hub from Blacon school. Mr. Dickson said that he did not have the information with him about the figures but would provide details following the meeting. He welcomed the support during the project and spoke of his pride about the development of the centre. He spoke of the discussions particularly on the local economy and the Seren Network and work was ongoing with developers and key manufacturers who were interested in the hub to maximise the number of recruits to their apprenticeship programmes.

Councillor Healey spoke of his support for the development but suggested that it would be difficult to enforce a rule that students undertaking independent study would need to stay on site. He felt that the students would go off site and possibly bring the facility into disrepute if they did not act in accordance with the expectations of the hub. Mr. Thomas explained that the main ethos of the centre was education and said that he would be seen by the students at the start and end of the day so that they understood that they were at the centre to learn. Pupils would be encouraged to stay on site to study during independent study periods and he spoke of the facilities available and the staff that would be in place to provide advice and guidance if needed.

Some Members, including the Chairman and Councillors Dunbobbin and Marion Bateman, expressed a concern about the students being asked to refer to the Headteacher by his first name and suggested that it was more respectful to call him Mr. Thomas.

Mr. Bernard Stuart spoke of the structured way of life that post 16 learning offered and welcomed the comments that it was anticipated that pupils would travel from beyond Flintshire to attend the centre because of the numbers of sixth form places available in schools. Mr. Dickson said that it was never intended to reduce the number of students undertaking sixth form provision in schools by the opening of the hub and said that it was important that the pupils had a choice.

Councillor Chris Bithell, the Cabinet Member for Education, reiterated the comments to provide sixth form pupils with a choice of where to study. He commented on discussions that had taken place with schools on their concerns. On the issue of numbers attending the centre, it had been realised that the full cohort would not be attending in the first year but it was important to build on numbers in forthcoming years. Councillor Bithell advised that he was a Member on the Standing Advisory Council for Religious Education (SACRE) Committee which some Councillors on this Committee were also Members of, and he welcomed the inclusion of Religious Studies in the list of subjects available to study at A level at the hub. He suggested that a visit could be made to the centre by the Committee once it was open to allow Members to see what was on offer to the students.

The Chairman thanked Mr. Thomas and Mr. Dickson for their attendance and presentation.

**RESOLVED:**

That the presentation be received.

**79. THE IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2016/17**

The Chief Officer (Education and Youth) introduced a report to provide the Committee with relevant sections of the Improvement Plan for consultation and input, along with the proposed targets for the national performance indicators.

He highlighted page 21 on the sub priority of Apprenticeships and Training and said that this was a key indicator for young people in education and training. He also referred to the impact of improving learning provision and opportunities to achieve better learner outcomes under the sub priority Modernised and High Performing Education. The Chief Officer commented about working effectively with partners across the region to secure efficiency and improved outcomes from educational improvement programmes. He also spoke about the role of Councillors in making more efficient use of education resources through School Modernisation.

Councillor David Healey referred to the priority to reduce the impact of poverty and of the issue of the connection between free school meals and under performance and queried whether there were any schools in Flintshire that went against this trend. The Chief Officer suggested that this issue could be raised at the meeting in July when a report on GWE was to be considered. He added that a range of strategies had been put in place that had had an impact on individual learners but there were no schools where the gap had been completely eradicated; this still remained a priority.

Mr. David Hytch raised concern on apprenticeship schemes because of the impact of the significant budget cuts on the Further Education sector. He welcomed the reference about the impact of cohorts and queried how many other schools were to be reviewed as part of the school modernisation programme. In response, the Chief Officer said that there were two area reviews being considered under the School Organisation Code, one in Nercwys and one involving Brynford, Lixwm and Rhos Helyg.

**RESOLVED:**

That the update be received.

**80. QUARTER 3 IMPROVEMENT PLAN MONITORING REPORT**

The Chief Officer (Education and Youth) introduced a report to present the monitoring of progress for the third quarter of 2015/16 focusing on the areas of underperformance relevant to the Committee.

He commented on the high level (RED) risk area in relation to the limited funding available to address the backlog of known repair and maintenance works in Education and Youth assets. The risk was showing a continuing pattern of red and the Chief Officer advised that significant issues were being noted in school inspections, particularly in relation to toilet provision.

Mr. David Hytch indicated that he had regularly raised the issue during the budget consultation process. It was reported that School Modernisation remained a key tool in enabling the Authority to invest appropriately in its school portfolio, and this would involve a reduction in schools within the Council's portfolio and a reduction of unfilled places.

**RESOLVED:**

That the report be noted.

**81. RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE SCHOOL TRANSPORT TASK & FINISH GROUP**

The Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator introduced the report which set out the recommendations of the Group, for consideration by the Committee with a view to making recommendations to Cabinet.

The Facilitator explained that Cabinet had approved the engagement of JMP Consultants to assist with the assessment and delivery of the financial benefit that would be derived from the Integrated Transport Unit (ITU). The areas that had been identified as ones that could be considered for further policy development work were detailed in paragraph 1.05. The policy change options and any recommendations by the Committee would be presented to Cabinet following this meeting. The Task and Finish Group met on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016 and had considered the breakdown of information for each policy change option and following a detailed presentation, had made some suggestions for Cabinet to consider when reviewing any operation and policy changes.

Councillor Dave Mackie expressed his disappointment at the proposals in the report and suggested that the Committee had not been given enough information on the impact that the proposals would have if they were implemented. Mrs. Janine Beggan concurred and, in referring to the earlier presentation about the sixth form hub, spoke of the possible impact on other sixth forms. The Chairman sought clarification on the current policy and suggested that if a child who was not a catholic wanted to attend St. Richard Gwyn High School they would need to pay for their transport but those attending the sixth form hub would not. The Chief Officer (Education and Youth) suggested that Members appeared to be confusing the denominational transport policy for 11 to 16 year olds and the post 16 transport policy. He added that the post 16 policy referred to the nearest suitable provider of the curriculum options.

The Chief Officer (Education and Youth) said that the report accurately reflected the outcome of the Task and Finish Group. He added that the Group had considered a large amount of information and had declined to take a position on issues other than those identified in paragraph 1.08.

Mr. Bernard Stuart asked if the notes from the Task and Finish Group could be submitted to Cabinet as part of their consideration. He raised concern at the comment on denominational school transport referred to in paragraph 1.05 and said that following a ruling in May 2015 in relation to Welsh Medium Schools, denominational school transport could not be considered in isolation. The Chief Officer (Education and Youth) welcomed the suggestion to submit the notes to Cabinet and added that any proposals that Cabinet sought to take forward would need to take account of the judgements Mr. Stuart had referred to.

Following the discussions, the Chairman suggested that two additional resolutions be included as follows:-

‘That the Committee request that Cabinet consider the impact of any change to the existing school network; and

‘That the Committee request that if Cabinet agree to take forward any of the proposed policy changes, that the Committee be consulted on the changes with all necessary information’.

Councillor Nigel Steele-Mortimer suggested that JMP be invited to attend a future meeting of the Committee to explain their proposals. The Facilitator explained that as it was not known what the decision of Cabinet would be, the suggested additional resolutions would allow further information to be sought by the Committee if needed, which could include inviting JMP to attend.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the recommendations of the Task & Finish Group be endorsed and submitted to Cabinet for its consideration;
- (b) That the Committee request that Cabinet consider the impact of any change to the existing school network; and
- (c) That the Committee request that if Cabinet agree to take forward any of the proposed policy changes, that the Committee be consulted on the changes with all necessary information.

**82. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator introduced the report to consider the Forward Work Programme for the Committee.

Following a request from the Chairman to hold a future meeting of the Committee in the new school in Holywell, the Facilitator confirmed that she would pursue this, along with the earlier invitation from Mr. Alex Thomas to visit the new Post 16 Education Centre.

The Facilitator detailed the items for consideration on the 9<sup>th</sup> June and 7<sup>th</sup> July 2016 meetings and added that Councillor David Healey had earlier requested the inclusion of an item on the connection between free school meals and underperformance. Councillor Marion Bateman also asked if a report on the issue of federations could also be considered at a future meeting. Mr. David Hytch sought clarification on when a report was to be received on incidents of arson, vandalism and burglaries in Flintshire schools. The Facilitator confirmed that she would discuss this with the officers concerned and send the report out to the Committee for information when it was available.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the Forward Work Programme, as amended at the meeting, be approved; and
- (b) That the Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny 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.

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

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

(The meeting started at 2.00 pm and ended at 3.48 pm)

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**Chairman**

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## EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2016
<b>Report Subject</b>	Learner Outcomes
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Education & Youth
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is to provide members with a summary of pupil attainment in statutory assessments across primary and secondary school phases for the school year 2014-15. It also provides a summary of data in relation to attendance and exclusions.

The report is part of an annual performance reporting cycle which includes the self-evaluation on service performance and the improvement plan.

The Welsh Government produces its annual set of results by Local Authority area, reporting pupil attainment at the end of each key stage within schools.

The pupil attainment information is derived from statutory assessments administered by schools and from public examinations during the school year 2014-15.

The Local Authority, in partnership with the Regional School Improvement and Effectiveness Service (GwE), endeavours to secure high quality outcomes for its learners.

Schools which are identified in the national model of categorisation as 'Amber' or 'Red' receive bespoke packages of support to enable them to secure improvements in learner outcomes.

The Standards Monitoring Group of Senior Officers and Members hold regular meetings to challenge schools where there is concern about pupil outcomes and monitors the impact of agreed action plans in securing improvements for learners. This includes schools categorised as 'Red' or 'Amber'.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That members receive the report and note the attainment of Flintshire children and young people for the year 2014-15.
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## REPORT DETAILS

<b>1.00</b>	<b>EXPLAINING THE LEARNER OUTCOMES REPORT</b>
1.01	The booklet 'Statutory Assessment and Reporting Arrangements' for the school year 2014-15 published by Welsh Government contains all the information required by schools and Local Authorities (LAs) about statutory teacher assessment at Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3.
1.02	Assessments at KS4 are carried out through examination, usually by General Certificates of Secondary Education (GCSE) in individual curriculum subjects. There is also a range of specialist and vocational qualifications available for pupils at the end of compulsory education.
1.03	Pupils are assessed at the end of each key stage at the following ages: Foundation Phase - 7 year olds (National Curriculum Year 2) Key Stage 2 – 11 year olds (National Curriculum Year 6) Key Stage 3 – 14 year olds (National Curriculum Year 9) Key Stage 4 – 16 year olds (National Curriculum Year 11)
1.04	Attached to this report are individual annexes which provide the detailed analysis of the performance of each key stage for 2015 including comparisons to the previous year and to the current Welsh averages.
1.05	An additional appendix is attached which outlines attendance and exclusion data for Flintshire primary and secondary schools for 2015.
1.06	Across Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 there is a steady trend of improved performance at both the expected and higher than expected level.
1.07	At KS4's main indicator, Level 2+ (5A*-C GCSEs including English/Welsh & Maths), Flintshire's performance unexpectedly dipped in 2015 to 60.6% (2014 - 61.2%) resulting in a drop in the LA ranked position from 3 <sup>rd</sup> in 2014 to 8 <sup>th</sup> and a worrying downward trend over the last two years.
1.08	There has been a very focused response from GwE across the region during this academic year to ensure that secondary schools are accurately tracking pupil progress towards published targets, It is anticipated that this will close the gap between predictors and actual final performance to ensure better outcomes in this key indicator in 2016.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	There are no financial implications as a consequence of this report.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	Learner outcome data is a core element of the annual self-evaluation procedures undertaken by the Education & Youth Portfolio and this is consulted upon with all key education stakeholders.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	Anti-poverty Impact – The Local Authority seeks to mitigate the impact of poverty through its partnership work programme and through the careful monitoring of how schools use their Pupil Deprivation Grant (PDG) to support those pupils at risk of potential underachievement.
4.02	Equalities Impact – The 2011 LAESCYP inspection undertaken by Estyn recognised good practice in provision for pupils’ wellbeing and additional learning needs. This continues to be reflected in Flintshire’s values, strategy, provision and outcomes.
4.03	Environmental Impact – None.
4.04	Schools do not make best of use of the support from the Regional Improvement Service (GwE) or the Council to ensure the best outcomes for their learners.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	<b>Annex 1</b> Appendix 1a - Foundation Phase Outcomes Appendix 1b - Key Stage 2 Outcomes Appendix 1c - Key Stage 3 Outcomes Appendix 1d - Key Stage 4 Outcomes Appendix 1e - Key Stage 5 Outcomes Appendix 1f - Attendance & Exclusion Outcomes

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	GwE Analysis & Action Plan on Key Stage 4 Outcomes GwE Tracking reports on Key Stage 4 Outcomes  <b>Contact Officer: Claire Homard (Senior Manager- School Improvement)</b> <b>Telephone: 01352 704019</b> <b>E-mail: <a href="mailto:claire.homard@flintshire.gov.uk">claire.homard@flintshire.gov.uk</a></b>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	LAESCYP – Local Authority Education Services for Children and Young People.  Estyn – Her Majesty’s Inspectorate of Education and Training in Wales.

**Annex 1a**  
**Flintshire County Council**  
**Foundation Phase Teacher Assessment in Wales: 2015**  
**Background Summary**

All pupils in their final year of Foundation Phase in the school year 2014-2015 were assessed through teacher assessment in the core Foundation Phase Areas of Learning. These are Language, Literacy & Communication in English or Welsh (first language); Mathematical Development; and Personal and Social Development, Well-Being and Cultural Diversity. Most of the pupils will have been seven years of age and in Year 2.

The general expectation is that the majority of pupils at age seven (end of Foundation Phase) will attain at least Outcome 5 in the three core assessed areas.

The teacher assessments for Foundation Phase were finalised before the end of the Summer Term 2015. In deciding on a pupil's level of attainment at the end of the key stage, teachers judge which description 'best fits' the pupil's performance and draw upon evidence from practical and oral work, written work and any school-based assessments.

Schools are required to ensure that teacher assessment is based securely on a collective understanding of the standards set out in the outcome descriptions and this shared understanding should be achieved through internal standardisation and moderation.

The 2015 national (All Wales) and LA results are available on [www.wales.gov.uk/statistics](http://www.wales.gov.uk/statistics) the Welsh Government's website.

The aggregate data comprises the available results in the Foundation Phase Areas of Learning of Language, Literacy & Communication in English or Welsh (first language), Mathematical Development and Personal and Social Development, Well-Being and Cultural Diversity. Achieving at least Outcome 5 in each of these three areas is referred to as the Foundation Phase Indicator (FPI).

**Flintshire LA Summary Results by FP Area of Learning Language, Literacy & Communication (English)**

- 89% of pupils attained Outcome 5 or above in teacher assessment, an improvement of +1.6% on 2014.
- 89% is above the 2014 national average of 88% for Wales – a positive difference of 1%.
- Flintshire's LA ranked position in 2015 remains at 9th out of 22 LA's in Wales. This compares equally to performance in 2014.
- 36.5% of pupils achieved the higher Outcome 6, an improvement on 2014 of 1.4%.
- At 36.5% Flintshire's performance is higher than the Wales average of 34.2% for Outcome 6 – a difference of +2.3%.

## Language, Literacy & Communication (Welsh First Language)

- 91.2% of pupils attained Outcome 5 or above in teacher assessment, an improvement of 3.9% on the 2014 outcomes of 87.3%.
- 91.2% remains just below the 2014 national average for Wales of 91.3% - a difference of 0.1%, however Flintshire's LA ranked position in 2015 has moved up to 15<sup>th</sup>, an increase of 4 places compared to 2014.
- 39.2% of pupils achieved the higher Outcome 6, an improvement of 16.7% from 2014.
- At 39.2% Flintshire's performance is higher than the national average of 36.9% for Outcome 6 – a difference of +2.3%.

## Mathematical Development

- 90.2% of pupils attained Outcome 5 or above in teacher assessment. This is 1.9% higher than in 2014.
- At 90.2% the Flintshire outcome is 0.5% above the national average for Wales of 89.7%.
- Flintshire's LA ranked position in 2014 is 10<sup>th</sup> in Wales. In 2015 Flintshire's ranked position was 12<sup>th</sup>.
- 34.2% of pupils achieved the higher Outcome 6, an increase of 3.1% compared to 2014.
- At 34.2% Flintshire's performance at Outcome 6 is slightly lower than the Wales average of 34.3% - a difference of -0.1%.

## Personal & Social Development, Well-Being & Cultural Diversity

- 95.6% of pupils attained Outcome 5 or above in teacher assessment, an improvement of +0.1% on 2014.
- 95.6 % is higher than the national average for Wales of 94.8% - a difference of +0.8%.
- Flintshire's LA ranked position is 9<sup>th</sup> out of 22 LAs in Wales, a decrease on the 2014 ranked position of 7<sup>th</sup>.
- 60.8% pupils achieved the higher Outcome 6, an improvement on 2014 of 3.6%.
- At 60.8% Flintshire's performance at Outcome 6 is higher than the Wales average of 56.0% - a difference of +4.8%.

## Analysis of Results for Boys and Girls

The following table reflects the percentage of boys and girls attaining Outcome 5 or above in the Foundation Phase Areas of Learning assessed for 2014 and 2015 in Flintshire and Wales.

### Foundation Phase – Gender Comparison 2014/2015

		2014			2015		
		Girls	Boys	Diff	Girls	Boys	Diff
<b>LCE</b>	<b>LA</b>	91.9	83.1	<b>8.8%</b>	93.0%	85.4%	<b>7.6%</b>
	<b>Wales</b>	90.9	82.6	<b>8.3%</b>	91.9%	84.3%	<b>7.6%</b>
<b>LCW</b>	<b>LA</b>	92.2	82.4	<b>9.8%</b>	91.8%	90.2%	<b>1.6%</b>
	<b>Wales</b>	93.8	85.9	<b>7.9%</b>	94.6%	87.9%	<b>6.7%</b>
<b>MDEV</b>	<b>LA</b>	90.9	85.8	<b>5.1%</b>	92.8%	87.7%	<b>5.1%</b>

	<b>Wales</b>	91.2	86.3	<b>4.9%</b>	92.1%	87.5%	<b>4.6%</b>
<b>PSD</b>	<b>LA</b>	97.8	93.2	<b>5.3%</b>	98.2%	93.3%	<b>4.9%</b>
	<b>Wales</b>	96.9	91.6	<b>5.3%</b>	97.3%	92.5%	<b>4.8%</b>
<b>FPI</b>	<b>LA</b>	88.8	80.3	<b>8.5%</b>	90.9%	83.4%	<b>7.5%</b>
	<b>Wales</b>	89.5	81.0	<b>8.5%</b>	90.8%	83.0%	<b>7.8%</b>

- Nationally in 2015 girls outperformed boys in all areas of learning in the Foundation Phase.
- The differential in FPI for girls and boys in Flintshire is 7.5%. This is slightly lower than the differential across Wales.
- Analysis of the Flintshire results supports the national trend that girls continue to out-perform boys in the core assessed Foundation Phase areas. The smallest differential between girls and boys in Flintshire is in Welsh first language. The largest difference in 2015 between girls and boys was in Language, Literacy & Communication in English; this difference was the same as the Wales differential and 1.2% less than 2014.

### **Foundation Phase Indicator Results (FPI)**

To achieve the Foundation Phase Indicator a pupil has to achieve at least Outcome 5 in the three core assessed areas of Language, Literacy & Communication (English or Welsh first language), Mathematical Development and Personal & Social Development, Well-being & Cultural Diversity in combination.

- 87%% of pupils in Flintshire in 2015 achieved the Foundation Phase Indicator.
- The performance of Flintshire schools is 0.2% above the 2015 national average for Wales of 86.8%. Flintshire's position is now 9<sup>th</sup> out of the 22 LAs, an increase of 5 ranked places from 2014.

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## **ANNEX 1b**

### **Flintshire County Council**

### **Key Stage 2 National Curriculum Teacher Assessment in Wales: 2015**

#### **Background Summary**

All pupils in their final year of Key Stage 2 in the school year 2014/15 were assessed through teacher assessment in the core subjects of English and Welsh, Mathematics and Science. Most of the pupils will have been eleven years of age and in Year 6.

In deciding on a pupil's level of attainment at the end of the key stage, teachers judge which description 'best fits' the pupil's performance and draw upon evidence from practical and oral work, written work and any school-based assessments.

Schools are required to ensure that teacher assessment is based securely on a collective understanding of the standards set out in the level descriptions and this shared understanding should be achieved through internal standardisation and moderation.

From 2008/2009 primary and secondary schools have also been required to have in place effective arrangements for consortium group moderation of samples of learners' work in order to strengthen teacher assessment.

The teacher assessments for Key Stage 2 were finalised by the end of the Summer Term 2015.

The general expectation is that the majority of pupils at age eleven (end of Key Stage 2) will attain at least level 4 in each subject.

The 2015 national (All-Wales) and LA results are available on [www.wales.gov.uk/statistics](http://www.wales.gov.uk/statistics), the Welsh Government's website.

The aggregate data comprises the available results in the National Curriculum Subjects of English, Welsh (first language), Mathematics and Science.

The 87.9% of pupils achieving at least the expected level in all subjects to gain the Core Subject Indicator is 1.8% higher in 2015 than in 2014 in Flintshire schools.

#### **Flintshire LA Summary Results by Subject 2015**

Analysis of the results illustrates the following indicators in terms of the percentage of pupils achieving level 4 or above:

##### **English**

- 90.1% of pupils attained level 4 or above in teacher assessment which was an improvement on the 2014 performance of +0.2%.
- Outcomes in English exceeded the LA target of 90.0%.
- Flintshire's performance in 2015 is 0.5% above the Welsh national average of 89.6%.
- Flintshire's LA ranked position in 2015 is 9<sup>th</sup> in Wales compared to 12<sup>th</sup> in 2014.

- Level 5 performance has risen again with 41.2% achieving level 5 in 2015, an improvement of 2.3% from 2014, and is 0.4% above the 2015 Wales average of 40.8%.

### Welsh (First Language)

- These results are for the five Welsh Medium Schools in Flintshire; two of the five are small schools and one has a specialist Resource for pupils with additional learning needs.
- 86.4% of pupils attained level 4 or above in teacher assessment, which was down 3.6% on the performance in 2014.
- Outcomes in Welsh First Language were 1.4% above the LA Target of 85.0%.
- Flintshire's performance in 2015 is 4.1% below the national average of 90.5% for Wales.
- Flintshire LA ranked position in 2014 is 19<sup>th</sup> compared to 9<sup>th</sup> in 2014.
- Performance at Level 5 has improved in 2015 to 38.6%, an improvement of 0.8% from 2014 and is 0.6% above the 2014 Welsh average of 38.0%.

### Mathematics

- 90.9% of pupils attained level 4 or above in teacher assessment, an improvement of 2.5% on the performance in 2014.
- Outcomes in Maths were 1.1% below the LA Target of 92.0%.
- Flintshire's performance is 0.7% above the national average of 90.2% for Wales.
- Flintshire's ranked position in 2015 is 9<sup>th</sup> out of 22 LAs in Wales compared to 15<sup>th</sup> in 2014.
- Performance at level 5 has increased in 2015 with 41.7% achieving level 5, an improvement of 2.3% from 2014. This is 0.5% above the 2015 Wales average of 41.2%.

### Science

- 92.1% of pupils attained level 4 or above in teacher assessment which was an increase of 2.7% on the 2014 performance.
- Outcomes in Science were 1.9% below the LA target of 94.0%.
- Flintshire's performance is 0.7% above the national average of 91.4%.
- Flintshire's LA ranked position is 10<sup>th</sup> out of the 22 LAs, an improvement of 6 places on 2014.
- Level 5 performance at 40.2% has improved by 0.7% in 2015 compared to 39.5% in 2014. It is 0.9% below the 2015 Wales average of 41.1%; the Wales average had improved by 2.7% on the previous year.

### Analysis of Results for Boys and Girls

The following table reflects the percentage of boys and girls in Flintshire and Wales attaining level 4 or above in the core subjects assessed for 2015 and 2014.

#### Key Stage 2 Gender Comparisons 2014/2015

		2014			2015		
		Girls	Boys	Diff	Girls	Boys	Diff
<b>ENGLISH</b>	<b>LA</b>	93.0	85.2	<b>10.8%</b>	92.7%	87.6%	<b>5.1%</b>
	<b>Wales</b>	92.0	85.0	<b>7.0%</b>	92.8%	86.6%	<b>6.2%</b>

<b>WELSH</b>	<b>LA</b>	91.7	88.1	<b>3.6%</b>	90.9%	81.8%	<b>9.1%</b>
	<b>Wales</b>	92.3	83.8	<b>8.5%</b>	93.5%	87.5%	<b>6.0%</b>
<b>MATHS</b>	<b>LA</b>	89.8	87.0	<b>2.8%</b>	92.7%	89.2%	<b>3.5%</b>
	<b>Wales</b>	90.0	87.1	<b>3.8%</b>	92.1%	88.4%	<b>3.7%</b>
<b>SCIENCE</b>	<b>LA</b>	92.2	86.8	<b>5.4%</b>	93.8%	90.4%	<b>3.4%</b>
	<b>Wales</b>	92.5	88.3	<b>4.2%</b>	93.3%	89.6%	<b>3.7%</b>
<b>CSI</b>	<b>LA</b>	88.9	83.4	<b>4.5%</b>	90.9%	85.0%	<b>5.9%</b>
	<b>Wales</b>	89.4	83.1	<b>6.3%</b>	90.7%	84.9%	<b>5.8%</b>

- Nationally girls continue to outperform boys in all subjects.
- Analysis of the Flintshire results supports the national trend that girls continue to outperform boys in all subjects.
- The gap between boys and girls performance in Flintshire has reduced for English and Science but has increased for Welsh First Language and Maths between 2014 and 2015.
- The gender gap in Flintshire is wider than that of Wales for Welsh First Language but narrower for English, Maths and Science. Flintshire's gender gap for Core Subject Indicator is just 0.1% wider.

### **Core Subject Indicator Results**

To achieve the Core Subject Indicator a pupil has to achieve at least Level 4 in the core subjects of English or Welsh (first language), Mathematics and Science in combination.

- 87.9% of pupils in Flintshire in 2015 achieved the Core Subject Indicator in teacher assessment compared to 86.1% in 2014, an improvement of +1.8%.
- The performance of Flintshire schools at 87.9 % is above the 2015 national average of 87.7%.
- Flintshire's position in 2014 is 11<sup>th</sup> out of 22 LAs in Wales compared to 13<sup>th</sup> in 2014.
- The CSI of 87.9% was 0.9% above the LA target of 87.0% for 2015.

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## **ANNEX 1c**

### **Flintshire County Council**

### **Key Stage 3 National Curriculum Assessment Results in Wales: 2015**

#### **Background Summary**

The information provided relates to assessments of pupils in their final year of Key Stage 3 (Year 9) during 2013-14. Results for individual students are aggregated in the Statistical Releases by Local Authority areas and Wales. Individual schools receive analysis of their aggregated outcomes set in context of schools in similar statistical circumstances to themselves in their "Core Data Pack".

Key Stage 3 tests are no longer available to schools. Comparative data now only includes that resulting from teacher assessment. For 14 year olds (Key Stage 3) the general expectation is the majority of pupils will attain at least level 5 in each subject.

The aggregate data were derived from the results of teacher assessment administered by schools and submitted during the Summer Term 2015. The core National Curriculum subjects are English, Welsh (first language), Mathematics and Science. To achieve the Core Subject Indicator (CSI) a pupil must have an assessment that they are working at or above Level 5 in each of the core areas, Mathematics, English or Welsh first language, and Science.

Non-core subjects include Art, Technology, Geography, History, ICT, Modern Foreign Language, Music, Physical Education and Welsh Second Language.

The data makes it possible to identify how Flintshire outcomes compare to those of other Authorities in Wales. Based on Free School Meals data, Flintshire would be expected to be in sixth position in the ranking of performance.

#### **LA SUMMARY RESULTS – CORE SUBJECTS**

Analysis of the results illustrates the following indicators in terms of the percentage of pupils achieving level 5 or above in the core subjects:

##### **English**

- 91.4% of pupils attained level 5 or above in teacher assessment in 2015. This is 3.5% above the all Wales level of 87.9%. In 2014 the Flintshire figure was 89.4% compared to 85.9% of pupils across Wales. Flintshire ranked 5<sup>th</sup> of 22 LAs in this subject in 2015, a drop of 1 place from 2014.

##### **Welsh (First Language)**

- The All Wales results were 90.9% at Level 5 or above for Teacher Assessment in 2015. The Flintshire figure increased significantly from 56.0% in 2014 to 80% in 2015. Flintshire remained 18<sup>th</sup> out of 18 authorities who submitted data.

##### **Mathematics**

- 92.0% of pupils attained level 5 or above in teacher assessment in 2015. This is 2.3% above All Wales level of 88.7%. In 2014 the Flintshire figure was 88.7% compared to 86.5% of pupils across Wales. Flintshire ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> of 22 LAs in this subject in 2015, an improvement of 4 places on 2014.

## Science

- 94.3% of pupils attained level 5 or above in teacher assessment in 2015, which is 2.5% above the All Wales level of 91.8%. In 2014 the Flintshire figure was 91.3% compared to 90.4% of pupils across Wales. Flintshire ranked 6<sup>th</sup> of 22 LAs in this subject in 2015, an improvement of 3 places on 2014.

## Core Subject Indicator (CSI) Results

- To achieve the Core Subject Indicator (CSI) a pupil has to achieve at least a Level 5 in each of the core subjects.
- 87.1% of Flintshire pupils achieved the Core Subject Indicator in 2015.
- This is 3.2% above the average of 83.0% for Wales. In 2014 the Flintshire figure was 84.3% with Wales at 81.0%. Flintshire ranked 7<sup>th</sup> of the 22 LAs in this indicator in 2015, a drop of 2 places on 2014.

## Analysis of Results for Girls and Boys

- In English, where the gender gap is usually the greatest, girls continue to perform significantly better than the boys. In Flintshire, where the boys again showed improved performance, the gap favoured the girls by 8.2% in 2015, less than the 10.7% gap in 2014. This matches the gender gap in performance of 8.2% across Wales.
- In Mathematics, the gap in performance is much less marked generally and girls scored better than boys by just 3.8% in Flintshire, whereas in Wales as a whole, girls scored better than boys by 3.4%. In 2014 girls performance was 3.9% higher than the boys in Flintshire.
- In Science, girls out performed boys by 4.4% in Flintshire, whereas in Wales as a whole girls scored better than boys by 4.5%. In 2014 girls performance was 5.5% higher than the boys in Flintshire.
- With the Core Subject Indicator, girls out performed boys by 7.7% in Flintshire, whereas in Wales as a whole girls scored better than boys by 7.4%. In 2014 girls performance was 7.9% higher than the boys in Flintshire.
- The following table reflects the percentage of boys and girls attaining level 5 or above in 2014 and 2015.

	2014			2015		
	Girls	Boys	Diff	Girls	Boys	Diff
<b>ENGLISH Teacher Assessment</b>	94.8	84.1	10.7%	95.5	87.3	8.2%
<b>MATHEMATICS Teacher Assessment</b>	90.7	86.8	3.9%	93.9	90.1	3.8%
<b>SCIENCE Teacher Assessment</b>	94.1	88.6	5.5%	96.5	92.1	4.4%
<b>CSI</b>	88.3	80.4	7.9%	91.0	83.3	7.7%

## Value Added

Welsh Government now provides a KS3 Value Added Summary for Key Stage 3 Teacher Assessments matched to prior attainment at Key Stage 2.

Model 1 is measured only against each pupil's prior attainment. Model 2 also includes a range of pupil and school context indicators. Value added is shown as a percentage and measured in quartiles, with quartile 1 indicating the best performance. An S next to the indicator denotes a "significant" value.

Outcomes	Value Added Model 1 (2014)	Value Added Model 1 (2015)	Value Added Model 2 (2014)	Value Added Model 2 (2015)
Core Subject Indicator	2.5% (1) S	3.0% (1) S	1.4% (2) S	1.3% (2) S
English (Level 5 or above)	2.8% (1) S	3.3% (1) S	1.8% (1) S	2.0% (1) S
Welsh First Language (Level 5 or above)	-25.2 (4) S	-9.7% (4) S	-23.2% (4) S	-10.0% (4) S
Mathematics (Level 5 or above)	1.7 % (2) S	3.0% (1) S	1.5% (1) S	2.0% (1) S
Science (Level 5 or above)	0.2% (2)	1.7% (1) S	0.1% (3)	1.1% (1) S

## Non-core Teacher Assessment results for all pupils, 2015

The following table indicates the percentage of pupils achieving level 5 or above in teacher assessment of non-core subjects in 2014 and 2015. Additionally, the position Flintshire ranks in relation to the twenty two authority areas in Wales in 2015 is shown. Based on Free School Meals indicators Flintshire would be expected to rank sixth.

Subject	Flintshire 2014 %	Wales 2014 %	Ranking 2014	Flintshire 2015 %	Wales 2015 %	Ranking 2015
Art	94.3	91.0	3	96.0	92.0	3
Design Technology	94.1	90.8	3	95.8	92.1	3
Geography	91.7	87.7	4	93.8	89.9	5
History	89.6	87.5	9	94.0	89.6	5
Information Technology	93.6	91.2	7	95.4	92.7	6
Modern Foreign Language	87.3	82.2	3	88.6	84.1	6

<b>Music</b>	91.8	90.4	10	94.9	91.6	7
<b>Physical Education</b>	90.5	89.4	11	93.8	91.4	8
<b>Welsh 2<sup>nd</sup> Language</b>	80.4	77.8	7	85.7	81.2	6



## **ANNEX 1d**

### **Flintshire County Council**

### **Key Stage 4 National Curriculum Assessment Results in Wales: 2015**

#### **Background Summary**

The National Assembly for Wales issue comparative data for Key Stage 4 much later than for the earlier Key Stages. The report “Examination Results in Wales 2014/15” was issued in December 2015.

Statistics include results of external examinations taken by pupils in their final year of compulsory education. These are the group of pupils aged 15 at the beginning of the academic year, in schools in Wales. The report allows for a ranking of outcomes by Local Authority area. Based on Free School Meals analysis, Flintshire should rank sixth in this list.

Schools receive individual analysis of the results of their pupils in their “SSSP” form. The SSSP reports on performance including the Level 1 and Level 2 Thresholds, achieved by learners who get 5A\*-G grades and 5A\*-C grades or the vocational course equivalent, but including a wider range of alternative qualifications than were counted in the past. This form also provides information on the performance of pupils in the Local Authority area and across Wales. In December schools received a “Core Data Pack” which helps analyse performance set against schools in similar circumstances.

#### **LA SUMMARY RESULTS GCSE/GNVQ**

Key Indicators of performance at GCSE and equivalent qualifications show the following outcomes:

<b>Flintshire KS4 Outcomes</b>						
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Flintshire 2014 %</b>	<b>Wales 2014 %</b>	<b>Ranking 2014</b>	<b>Flintshire 2015 %</b>	<b>Wales 2015 %</b>	<b>Ranking 2015</b>
<b>Core Subject Indicator</b>	58.3	52.6	5	58.7	54.8	9
<b>Level 2+ Indicator</b>	61.9	55.4	3	60.6	58.0	8
<b>Level 2 Threshold</b>	82.7	82.2	15	93.2	84.1	15
<b>Level 1 Threshold</b>	94.1	94.0	14	94.5	94.4	18
<b>Average Wider Points Score</b>	547	524	8	541.9	530.7	11
<b>Capped Wider Points Score</b>	341	340.8	13	342.1	343.5	18

Whilst actual outcomes improved slightly in 2015 across four of the six indicators, Flintshire's ranking in 4 of the indicators, including the key measure of L2+ (5A\*-C GCSEs including English/Welsh and Mathematics) unfortunately dropped.

The curriculum offered to learners effects outcomes in the indicators for Level 1 & 2 Thresholds and points scores more significantly than in the Core Subject Indicator or the Level 2 Threshold including Mathematics and English or Welsh First Language where the quality of outcomes achieved in core subjects is more important. Future Welsh Government indicators will limit the effect multiple awards for vocational courses has on these indicators.

### Value Added

Welsh Government now provides a KS4 Value Added Summary for Key Stage 4 outcomes matched to prior attainment at Key Stage 2.

Model 1 is measured only against each pupil's prior attainment. Model 2 also includes a range of pupil and school context indicators. Value added is shown as a percentage and measured in quartiles, with quartile 1 indicating the best performance. An S next to the indicator denotes a "significant" value.

<b>Outcomes</b>	<b>Value Added Model 1 (2014)</b>	<b>Value Added Model 1 (2015)</b>	<b>Value Added Model 2 (2014)</b>	<b>Value Added Model 2 (2015)</b>
<b>Level 2 Threshold incl. English/Welsh &amp; Maths</b>	6.2% (1) S	2.8% (1) S	3.3% (1) S	-1.9% (3) S
<b>Core Subject Indicator</b>	5.0% (1) S	3.7% (2) S	1.9% (2) S	-1.2% (3)
<b>Level 2 Threshold</b>	-0.6% (3)	-1.3% (3)	-0.4% (3)	-1.9% (3) S
<b>Level 1 Threshold</b>	-1.0% (3) S	-0.7% (3)	1.1% (1) S	0.5% (2)
<b>Wider Points Score</b>	12.4 (2) S	2.0 (2)	10.5 (2) S	-1.1 (2)
<b>Capped Points Score</b>	-4.1 (3) S	-4.8 (3) S	-0.4 (3)	-2.9 (3) S

### Analysis of Results for Girls and Boys

The following table reflects the percentage of Flintshire boys and girls achieving the key indicators in 2014 and 2015.

Indicator	2014			2015		
	Girls	Boys	Diff	Girls	Boys	Diff
<b>Level 2 Threshold incl. English/Welsh &amp; Maths</b>	65.1%	58.8%	<b>6.3%</b>	65.2%	56.5%	<b>8.7%</b>
<b>Core Subject Indicator</b>	61.2%	55.5%	<b>5.7%</b>	62.3%	55.5%	<b>6.8%</b>
<b>Level 2 Threshold</b>	84.7%	80.7%	<b>4.0%</b>	86.0%	80.6%	<b>5.4%</b>
<b>Level 1 Threshold</b>	95.1%	93.2%	<b>1.9%</b>	95.1%	93.9%	<b>1.2%</b>
<b>Capped Points Score</b>	351.4	331.8	<b>19.6</b>	351.3	333.8	<b>17.5</b>

Although girls do better, performance of boys in Flintshire still compares well to Wales in 2015, with 56.5% of Flintshire boys achieving the Level 2 Inclusive Threshold compared to 54.3% of boys across Wales. Flintshire boys therefore performed 2.2% better than Wales on this indicator. Flintshire girls, with 65.2% were 3.4% above Wales girls average of 61.8%.

## Results in Core Subjects

### English/Welsh First Language

73% of pupils in Flintshire achieved an A\* to C grade in English/Welsh in 2014. This compared to 67% for Wales as a whole. In 2013 the Flintshire figure was 73% and Wales 64%. The average points per pupil score in English/Welsh in Flintshire was 40 in 2014, compared to 39 across Wales. In 2013 the Flintshire figure was 40 and Wales was 38.

### Mathematics

68% of pupils in Flintshire achieved an A\* to C grade in Mathematics in 2014. This compared to 62% for Wales as a whole. In 2013 the Flintshire figure was 68% and Wales 60%. The average points per pupil score in Mathematics in Flintshire was 38 in 2014, compared to 36 across Wales. In 2013 the Flintshire figure was 38 and Wales was 36.

### Science

84% of pupils in Flintshire achieved an A\* to C grade in Science in 2014. This compared to 82% for Wales as a whole. In 2013 the Flintshire figure was 76% and Wales 72%. The average points per pupil score in English/Welsh in Flintshire was 52 in 2014, compared to 47 across Wales. In 2013 the Flintshire figure was 40 and Wales was 38.

## Welsh Government Data Categories

Welsh government Data Categorisation combines the Level 2 Threshold including English/Welsh First Language and Mathematics, Capped Point Score including English/Welsh First Language and Mathematics, 5A\*-A Grades at GCSE or equivalent and Attendance, with a set of analysis based on overall performance during the last

three years, performance of learners entitled to Free School Meals (eFSM) during the last three years, relative progress based on overall performance and performance set against the Free School Meal level of the school. The best performing schools score 1 on each indicator with the lowest performing given a score of 4 and a series of weightings and sums gives each school and overall weighted score. The weighted scores are then used to place schools into one of four categories, with Category 1 being the best performing schools.

The Flintshire profile for 2015 is:

Category 1 – two schools

Category 2 – four schools

Category 3 – four schools

Category 4 – two schools

## **ANNEX 1e**

### **Flintshire County Council**

### **Key Stage 5 National Curriculum Assessment Results in Wales: 2015**

#### **Background Summary**

The National Assembly for Wales issued GCE A level and equivalent achievements information for Wales, 2014/5 in their First Release “Examination Results in Wales, 2014/5”, in December 2016.

These statistics include results of external examinations taken by pupils aged 17 at the beginning of the academic year, in schools in Wales.

Schools also receive individual analysis of the results of their pupils in their “SSSP” form. This process changed from the “RE2” form that used to be received with the indicators of performance now taking account of vocational and other courses, which had not previously been included. The SSSP form reports on performance at the Level 3 Threshold, achieved by learners who get two A-E grades at A Level or equivalent in a vocational course. This form also provides information on the performance of pupils in the Local Authority (LA) area and across Wales and it is the source of the figures given below.

Comparisons of performance are much more difficult to make in post 16 education. As the figures are for schools, the number of students represented in the figures is only a proportion of those in 16-19 education and the proportion of those pupils being educated in schools in each authority area will vary, as may the proportion of students who completed the courses they started. Figures are based only on those students who did complete courses.

#### **LA SUMMARY RESULTS GCSE A LEVEL EXAMINATIONS AND EQUIVALENT (LEVEL 3)**

Key Indicators of performance show:

<b>Flintshire KS5 Outcomes</b>						
<b>Indicator</b>	<b>Flintshire 2014 %</b>	<b>Wales 2014 %</b>	<b>Ranking 2014</b>	<b>Flintshire 2015 %</b>	<b>Wales 2015 %</b>	<b>Ranking 2015</b>
<b>Level 3 Threshold</b>	97	97	11	97.1	97.0	9
<b>Wider Point Score</b>	750	804	16	755.4	799.7	14

#### **Analysis of Results for Girls and Boys**

The following table reflects the results of boys and girls in Flintshire in 2014 and 2015. Threshold figures are for pupils who have entered 2 or more A Level subjects or equivalent.

Indicator	2014			2015		
	Girls	Boys	Diff	Girls	Boys	Diff
<b>Achieving the Level 3 Threshold</b>	97.3%	96.8%	<b>0.5%</b>	97.2%	97.0%	<b>0.2%</b>
<b>Average Wider Point Score</b>	802.5	685.0	<b>117.5</b>	784.6	719.4	<b>65.2</b>

## Annex 1f

### Flintshire County Council

### Attendance and Exclusions in Flintshire Primary & Secondary Schools:2015

#### Background Summary

1.1 School attendance is a high priority both for the Welsh Government and local authorities in their aim to improve standards. Flintshire schools have, in the main, demonstrated a trend of improvement with figures for the secondary sector being consistently above the national average for Wales. Unauthorised absence in primary and secondary schools stands at 0.3% in both sectors and is the lowest value in Wales.

#### 1.2 Table 1: Flintshire Schools in comparison with Welsh Averages

	Attendance			Unauthorised absence		
	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Flintshire Primary Schools</b>	<b>94.1</b>	<b>94.8</b>	<b>94.7</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<b>Wales Average</b>	93.7	94.8	94.9	0.9	1.0	1.0
<b>Best in Wales</b>	94.4	95.8	95.8	0.2	0.3	0.3
<b>Flintshire Secondary Schools</b>	<b>93.3</b>	<b>93.8</b>	<b>94.2</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.3</b>
<b>Wales Average</b>	92.6	93.6	93.8	1.3	1.3	1.3
<b>Best in Wales</b>	93.6	94.5	94.7	0.4	0.5	0.3

Table 1 demonstrates the continuous trend of improvement in our secondary schools. In the primary sector, a significant improvement occurred in 2014, however a reduction of 0.1% occurred in 2015.

#### 1.3 Range of Attendance across Schools

Table 2 below shows the spread of attendance figures across the primary and secondary sectors. This demonstrates that the greater majority of our schools have attendance figures around or in excess of the Welsh average. Those schools demonstrating lower percentages reflect the areas with a more transient population. The LA recognises the difficulties experienced by particular schools and additional resources have been allocated in some situations to help support improvement.

**Table 2 – Range of Attendance Figures**

Attendance 2014/15 %	<90	90.0-90.9	91.0-91.9	92.0-92.9	93.0-93.9	94.0-94.9	95.0-95.9	96.0-96.9	97.0-97.9	98.0-98.9	99.0-100
Primary schools	1	0	2	3	10	18	20	12	1	0	0
Secondary Schools	0	0	0	3	1	7	1	0	0	0	0

#### 1.4 Target Setting

A collective target for attendance was set at 94.9% for primary schools and 94.3% for secondary school for 2014-15. Target setting for attendance has become an integral part of the GwE Challenge Adviser visits to schools and forms part of the challenge to headteachers and governing bodies. Table 3 indicates the level to which targets set were achieved. The data provided in Table 4 highlights the degree to which the school's target was missed or exceeded. It can be seen that the majority of schools were within 1% of achieving their target where this had not been met. Targets are set 18 months in advance and are intended to be aspirational to continue the trend of improvement.

**Table 3 – Number of Schools Achieving Attendance Targets**

	Target not met	Target Met or Exceeded
Primary Schools	36	31
Secondary Schools	6	6

**Table 4 - % Variation from Attendance Target**

% Variation	-7.0 to -4.1	-4.0 to -3.1	-3.0 to -2.1	-2.0 to -1.1	-1.0 to 0.1	+0.0 to +1	+1.1 to +2	+2.1 to +3	+3.1 to +5
Primary	2	1	2	9	23	22	5	3	1
Secondary	0	0	0	1	5	6	0	0	0

#### 1.5 Permanent Exclusions from School

The number of permanent exclusions from Flintshire schools remains very low in both the primary and secondary sector. The Managed Moves Protocol is now used across all sectors and has helped to support this reduction.

**Table 5 - Number of Permanent Exclusions from Flintshire Schools**

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Primary	0	0	0	1
Secondary	4	1	0	3



## 1.6 Fixed Term Exclusions from School

LA officers continue to work alongside schools to reduce the number of days lost through exclusions. Training has been provided for schools to support the development of appropriate engagement strategies and many schools have developed 'Nurture Groups' in response the needs of their pupils.

*Table 6: Fixed-Term Exclusions*

Year	Exclusion Type	Number of Exclusions		Rate of Exclusion*	Average days lost
		Primary	Secondary		
<b>2013 - 2014</b>	<b>5 Days or Less</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>29.7</b>	<b>2.1</b>
	Wales	1992	9789	26.7	N/A
<b>2012 - 2013</b>	<b>Over 5 days</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>9.2</b>
	Wales	129	579	1.6	N/A
<b>2012 - 2013</b>	<b>5 Days or Less</b>	<b>157</b>	<b>532</b>	<b>29.4</b>	<b>2.1</b>
	Wales	1593	10824	27.9	2.0
	<b>Over 5 days</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>2.9</b>	<b>10.7</b>
	Wales	139	782	2.1	9.7

\*Rate per 1000 pupils

In line with the Estyn recommendations, the rate and average days lost due to exclusions of over 5 days shows a reduction trend however, the rate of exclusions of 5 days or fewer shows an increase of 0.3 % (Welsh Government statistical releases no longer provide the Welsh comparator for number of days lost). Verified data for 2014-15 is released by Welsh Government in September 2016.

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## EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> June 2016
<b>Report Subject</b>	Skills for Life and Progression
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Education & Youth
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report provides an overview for Members regarding the provision available through Flintshire schools, to support learners with the required skills to move on successfully from compulsory education.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Members recognise the breadth of activity undertaken within schools to support learners to engage effectively in a suitable outcome, including employment, post 16.
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## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE LEARNER OPPORTUNITIES
1.01	Schools play an important role in preparing children to become independent citizens equipped to deal with adulthood. Academic qualifications are an important part of this however, schools are also required to support the development of employability skills.
1.02	The introduction of the Learning and Skills Measure (2009) enabled learners to follow a more individualised curriculum at Key Stage 4, suited to their particular areas of interest. Many learners complete vocational qualifications at school which enable them to develop appropriate work-related skills.
1.03	The range of vocational options on offer has been supplemented through the use of additional funding from the Flintshire 14-19 allocation of the Education Improvement Grant (EIG). This enables groups of learners from all Flintshire secondary schools to access vocational courses through a range of external providers e.g. Coleg Cambria, North Wales Training and Motivational Preparation College for Training (Military Preparation).
1.04	<p>Careers and the World of Work (CWW) is also an integral part of the Key Stage 4 curriculum. This focuses on the relationships between young people, their learning and the world of work and helps learners to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• explore the attitudes and values required for employability and lifelong learning;</li> <li>• plan and manage their pathway through the range of opportunities in learning and work;</li> <li>• make effective career choices;</li> <li>• become entrepreneurial;</li> <li>• flourish in a variety of work settings;</li> <li>• become motivated, set long term goals and overcome barriers;</li> <li>• see the relevance of their studies to their life and work;</li> <li>• develop Key Skills and other skills required by employers;</li> <li>• prepare for the challenges, choices and responsibilities of work and adult life.</li> </ul> <p>Access to this curriculum ensure that all learners are informed regarding the requirements of employers and have the opportunity to develop important employability skills.</p>
1.05	The Welsh Baccalaureate Qualification (WBQ) provides further opportunities for learners to develop their work-related skills. The qualification combines personal development with academic and/or vocational qualifications to make one wider award that develops work-based competencies and inspires confidence. The Welsh Baccalaureate (WB) qualification provides further opportunities to develop applied skills and gives learners valuable experience in business and industry situations. The focus of the WB is to provide experience of the real world and through the qualification learners get involved in teamwork, go on placements and have to use their own initiative.

1.06	The revised WBQ (from Sept 2015) has the primary aim of enabling learners to develop and demonstrate a greater understanding of, and proficiency in essential and employability skills, namely Communication, Numeracy, Digital Literacy, Planning and Organisation, Creativity and Innovation, Critical Thinking and Problem Solving, and Personal Effectiveness. The emphasis is on applied and purposeful learning and to provide opportunities for assessment in a range of real life context through three Challenge Briefs and an Individual Project.
1.07	A number of Flintshire schools are working in partnership to deliver the WBQ. Many engage with staff at the Business School at Glyndwr University who work with learners to develop confidence, presentation skills, business planning skills, marketing and promotional skills etc. These are often combined and integrated into 'real life' projects, where learners have to use their skills to create a business and raise funds for a local charity.
1.08	Further support is available for learners who may need additional input to maintain their engagement in their education and to develop self-confidence, self-esteem and employability skills through the TRAC programme. This is a regional project funded through the European Social Fund and provides a range of bespoke provision and support for 11-19 year olds in school or further education settings.
1.09	Flintshire has a well-established 14-19 Network which oversees and drives the strategic direction of provision for learners across Flintshire. The Network has a diverse membership including a range of education providers, employers and the third sector and provides the opportunity for all parties to raise issues and discuss solutions and opportunities. More recently an Education, Employment and Training Strategic Group has been established to pull together wider representation to coordinate and drive the local provision for children and adults.
1.10	Flintshire County Council has developed an Apprenticeship Academy to maximise the creation of skilled local jobs, arising out of the major housing construction and refurbishment programmes over the next five years. An Apprentice Fayre was held in March to raise learner awareness of the positive opportunities offered through apprenticeships. The possibility of developing a 'skills village' to offer work experience and training opportunities on site is being explored through the work of the Academy.
1.11	The success of Flintshire's schools in preparing young people to move on effectively from compulsory education can be seen through the low NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) figures. Flintshire has maintained the lowest national rate of Year 11 NEET learners in Wales, i.e. 1.3%, for two consecutive years indicating that learners are well prepared and able to transition effectively into Post 16 education, training or employment. NEET figures are measured in the November following the completion of Year 11. Similar measurements are taken for Year 12 and Year 13 learners and Flintshire figures are also very low for both of these categories, i.e 0.9% for Year 12 (3 <sup>rd</sup> lowest in Wales) and 2.6% for Year 13 (2 <sup>nd</sup> lowest in Wales).

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	Schools are under pressure to offer a broad and balanced curriculum which ensures learners are literate and numerate, have access to a broad and balanced curriculum and leave education with the required employability skills. These requirements place a resource pressure on the available curriculum time to deliver these requirements. The breadth of curriculum also places a resource pressure on schools in terms of appropriately trained and skilled staff who are able to deliver the curriculum.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	None undertaken as a result of this report.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	Ongoing financial pressures on secondary schools created by the increase in personnel related costs place a risk on the ability of all establishments to continue to offer and deliver the work-related/employability skills aspect of the curriculum in a meaningful and realistic manner. Schools are maximising the opportunities offered through external funding, as outlined above, to offset the impact of these financial pressures.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1 – Year 11 Destination Data 2015
5.02	Appendix 2 – Year 12 Destination Data 2015
5.03	Appendix 3 – Year 13 Destination Data 2015

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
	<p>None.</p> <p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Jeanette Rock Senior Manager – Inclusion &amp; Progression  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 704017  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:jeanette.rock@flintshire.gov.uk">jeanette.rock@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	<b>Learning and Skills Measure (2009)</b> - The Measure is a means of driving the implementation of 14-19 Learning Pathways. It has ensured that all learners key stage 4 in Wales are able to choose from a minimum of 25 courses of which three must be vocational and that 30 choices are available to 16-18 year old learners, of which 5 must be vocational.

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# Destinations of School Leavers by LEA

2015

Year 11

LEA CODE	LEA	Continuing in Full Time Education		Continuing in Part time Education (less than 16 hours a week)	Work Based Training - Non Employed Status	Work Based Training - Employment Status	Employed - Other	Known not be in Education, Training or Employment	No response to survey	Left the area	Total number in cohort
		Continuing in Full Time Education (in school)	Continuing in Full Time Education (in College)								
660	Isle of Anglesey County Council	336	266	1	35	6	11	15	1	4	675
%		49.8	39.4	0.1	5.2	0.9	1.6	2.2	0.1	0.6	100
661	Gwynedd Council	470	688	7	41	27	37	24	4	12	1310
%		35.9	52.5	0.5	3.1	2.1	2.8	1.8	0.3	0.9	100
662	Conwy County Borough Council	663	357	3	24	10	11	26	4	8	1106
%		59.9	32.3	0.3	2.2	0.9	1.0	2.4	0.4	0.7	100
663	Denbighshire County Council	572	530	3	28	16	28	38	3	14	1232
%		46.4	43.0	0.2	2.3	1.3	2.3	3.1	0.2	1.1	100
664	Flintshire County Council	768	662	23	63	49	21	21	2	9	1618
%		47.5	40.9	1.4	3.9	3.0	1.3	1.3	0.1	0.6	100
665	Wrexham County Borough Council	307	802	1	83	29	28	22	12	8	1292
%		23.8	62.1	0.1	6.4	2.2	2.2	1.7	0.9	0.6	100
666	Powys County Council	665	615	17	28	32	32	29	2	18	1438
%		46.2	42.8	1.2	1.9	2.2	2.2	2.0	0.1	1.3	100
667	Ceredigion County Council	462	177	2	30	19	18	10	2	9	729
%		63.4	24.3	0.3	4.1	2.6	2.5	1.4	0.3	1.2	100.0
668	Pembrokeshire County Council	526	499	1	119	22	38	49	10	24	1288
%		40.8	38.7	0.1	9.2	1.7	3.0	3.8	0.8	1.9	100
669	Carmarthenshire County Council	794	913	34	77	20	38	69	1	16	1962
%		40.5	46.5	1.7	3.9	1.0	1.9	3.5	0.1	0.8	100
670	The City and County of Swansea	864	1258	3	62	50	50	64	0	24	2375
%		36.4	53.0	0.1	2.6	2.1	2.1	2.7	0.0	1.0	100

# Destinations of School Leavers by LEA

2015

Year 11

671	Neath Port Talbot County Council	209	1119	1	88	28	33	56	3	8	1545
%		13.5	72.4	0.1	5.7	1.8	2.1	3.6	0.2	0.5	100
672	Bridgend County Borough Council	1000	417	4	67	29	29	52	6	9	1613
%		62.0	25.9	0.2	4.2	1.8	1.8	3.2	0.4	0.6	100
673	The Vale of Glamorgan County Council	955	456	2	52	9	24	26	6	13	1543
%		61.9	29.6	0.1	3.4	0.6	1.6	1.7	0.4	0.8	100
674	Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council	1572	886	2	96	20	31	102	21	1	2731
%		57.6	32.4	0.1	3.5	0.7	1.1	3.7	0.8	0.0	100
675	Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council	81	444	0	63	4	17	10	0	4	623
%		13.0	71.3	0.0	10.1	0.6	2.7	1.6	0.0	0.6	100
676	Caerphilly County Borough Council	621	1149	10	92	19	27	41	14	4	1977
%		31.4	58.1	0.5	4.7	1.0	1.4	2.1	0.7	0.2	100
677	Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council	22	576	2	34	1	18	16	1	0	670
%		3.3	86.0	0.3	5.1	0.1	2.7	2.4	0.1	0.0	100
678	Torfaen County Borough Council	545	484	12	92	31	26	23	0	5	1218
%		44.7	39.7	1.0	7.6	2.5	2.1	1.9	0.0	0.4	100
679	Monmouthshire County Council	465	243	2	18	24	31	15	0	10	808
%		57.5	30.1	0.2	2.2	3.0	3.8	1.9	0.0	1.2	100
680	Newport City Council	1034	408	4	88	9	32	51	7	13	1646
%		62.8	24.8	0.2	5.3	0.5	1.9	3.1	0.4	0.8	100
681	Cardiff County Council	1709	1187	1	132	34	44	152	56	28	3343
%		51.1	35.5	0.0	3.9	1.0	1.3	4.5	1.7	0.8	100
	<b>Sub Total</b>	14640	14136								28776
%											
	<b>All Wales Total</b>	28776		135	1412	488	624	911	155	241	32742
%		87.9		0.4	4.3	1.5	1.9	2.8	0.5	0.7	100

09/09/2015

# Destinations of School Leavers by LEA

2015

Year 12

LEA CODE	LEA	Continuing in Full Time Education		Continuing in Part time Education (less than 16 hours a week)	Work Based Training - Non Employed Status	Work Based Training - Employment Status	Employed - Other	Known not be in Education, Training or Employment	No response to survey	Left the area	Total number in cohort
		Continuing in Full Time Education (in school)	Continuing in Full Time Education (in College)								
660	Isle of Anglesey County Council	298	43	0	5	1	9	6	1	0	363
%		82.1	11.8	0.0	1.4	0.3	2.5	1.7	0.3	0.0	100
661	Gwynedd Council	377	43	0	0	0	3	1	2	0	426
%		88.5	10.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.7	0.2	0.5	0.0	100
662	Conwy County Borough Council	599	99	2	7	5	30	12	1	8	763
%		78.5	13.0	0.3	0.9	0.7	3.9	1.6	0.1	1.0	100
663	Denbighshire County Council	515	72	1	1	4	13	2	2	3	613
%		84.0	11.7	0.2	0.2	0.7	2.1	0.3	0.3	0.5	100
664	Flintshire County Council	668	140	3	6	25	20	8	8	7	885
%		75.5	15.8	0.3	0.7	2.8	2.3	0.9	0.9	0.8	100
665	Wrexham County Borough Council	178	26	0	2	2	4	4	1	0	217
%		82.0	12.0	0.0	0.9	0.9	1.8	1.8	0.5	0.0	100
666	Powys County Council	571	79	0	2	6	17	9	0	2	686
%		83.2	11.5	0.0	0.3	0.9	2.5	1.3	0.0	0.3	100
667	Ceredigion County Council	447	48	0	4	7	18	7	1	3	535
%		83.6	9.0	0.0	0.7	1.3	3.4	1.3	0.2	0.6	100.0
668	Pembrokeshire County Council	545	104	0	7	7	18	9	2	1	693
%		78.6	15.0	0.0	1.0	1.0	2.6	1.3	0.3	0.1	100
669	Carmarthenshire County Council	689	97	2	16	7	18	9	1	1	840
%		82.0	11.5	0.2	1.9	0.8	2.1	1.1	0.1	0.1	100
670	The City and County of Swansea	699	128	3	5	8	22	13	0	3	881
%		79.3	14.5	0.3	0.6	0.9	2.5	1.5	0.0	0.3	100

# Destinations of School Leavers by LEA

2015

Year 12

671	Neath Port Talbot County Council	183	16	0	3	4	5	3	1	1	216
%		84.7	7.4	0.0	1.4	1.9	2.3	1.4	0.5	0.5	100
672	Bridgend County Borough Council	878	118	2	16	6	36	17	6	8	1087
%		80.8	10.9	0.2	1.5	0.6	3.3	1.6	0.6	0.7	100
673	The Vale of Glamorgan County Council	829	127	1	21	11	22	16	9	19	1055
%		78.6	12.0	0.1	2.0	1.0	2.1	1.5	0.9	1.8	100
674	Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council	1382	204	0	31	17	33	42	9	1	1719
%		80.4	11.9	0.0	1.8	1.0	1.9	2.4	0.5	0.1	100
675	Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council	8	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	9
%		88.9	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	11.1	0.0	0.0	100
676	Caerphilly County Borough Council	623	114	1	5	8	16	9	8	1	785
%		79.4	14.5	0.1	0.6	1.0	2.0	1.1	1.0	0.1	100
677	Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council	9	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	11
%		81.8	0.0	0.0	9.1	0.0	0.0	9.1	0.0	0.0	100
678	Torfaen County Borough Council	453	57	1	20	8	27	12	2	1	581
%		78.0	9.8	0.2	3.4	1.4	4.6	2.1	0.3	0.2	100
679	Monmouthshire County Council	410	57	0	3	3	20	7	2	2	504
%		81.3	11.3	0.0	0.6	0.6	4.0	1.4	0.4	0.4	100
680	Newport City Council	940	219	3	28	16	71	16	9	8	1310
%		71.8	16.7	0.2	2.1	1.2	5.4	1.2	0.7	0.6	100
681	Cardiff County Council	1477	227	0	16	8	34	51	44	14	1871
%		78.9	12.1	0.0	0.9	0.4	1.8	2.7	2.4	0.7	100
	<b>Sub Total</b>	12778	2018								14796
%											
	<b>All Wales Total</b>	14796		19	199	153	436	255	109	83	16050
%		92.2		0.1	1.2	1.0	2.7	1.6	0.7	0.5	100

## Destinations of School Leavers by LEA

Year: 2015

Year 13

LEA CODE	LEA	Continuing in Full Time Education				Continuing in Part Time Education (Less than 16 hours a week)	Work Based Training - non employed status	Work Based Training - Employment status	Employed - Other	Known not be in Education, Training or Employment	No response to survey	Left the area	Total number in cohort
		Continuing in Full Time Education (in school)	Continuing in Full Time Education (in College)	Continuing in full time education (in Higher Education)	Taking a Gap year (intending to go to HE following year)								
660	Isle of Anglesey County Council	24	31	198	0	1	0	2	41	11	2	2	312
%		7.69	9.94	63.46	0.00	0.32	0.00	0.64	13.14	3.53	0.64	0.64	100
661	Gwynedd Council	11	41	274	1	0	2	4	38	12	1	2	386
%		2.85	10.62	70.98	0.26	0.00	0.52	1.04	9.84	3.11	0.26	0.52	100
662	Conwy County Borough Council	46	46	403	0	1	2	5	78	18	4	9	612
%		7.52	7.52	65.85	0.00	0.16	0.33	0.82	12.75	2.94	0.65	1.47	100
663	Denbighshire County Council	64	50	283	1	1	5	14	67	14	4	2	505
%		12.67	9.90	56.04	0.20	0.20	0.99	2.77	13.27	2.77	0.79	0.40	100
664	Flintshire County Council	90	66	452	19	2	4	29	76	20	6	5	769
%		11.70	8.58	58.78	2.47	0.26	0.52	3.77	9.88	2.60	0.78	0.65	100
665	Wrexham County Borough Council	45	34	82	0	0	1	1	21	13	0	1	198
%		22.73	17.17	41.41	0.00	0.00	0.51	0.51	10.61	6.57	0.00	0.51	100
666	Powys County Council	24	50	434	15	3	1	15	62	24	0	12	640
%		3.75	7.81	67.81	2.34	0.47	0.16	2.34	9.69	3.75	0.00	1.88	100
667	Ceredigion County Council	39	38	265	13	1	1	6	73	15	6	3	460
%		8.48	8.26	57.61	2.83	0.22	0.22	1.30	15.87	3.26	1.30	0.65	100
668	Pembrokeshire County Council	64	55	358	13	2	4	8	82	25	7	3	621
%		10.31	8.86	57.65	2.09	0.32	0.64	1.29	13.20	4.03	1.13	0.48	100
669	Carmarthenshire County Council	40	67	529	2	2	1	9	88	20	0	2	760
%		5.26	8.82	69.61	0.26	0.26	0.13	1.18	11.58	2.63	0.00	0.26	100
670	The City and County of Swansea	86	66	439	7	3	1	8	76	25	16	4	731
%		11.76	9.03	60.05	0.96	0.41	0.14	1.09	10.40	3.42	2.19	0.55	100
671	Neath Port Talbot County Council	43	10	96	0	1	0	7	34	11	2	0	204
%		21.08	4.90	47.06	0.00	0.49	0.00	3.43	16.67	5.39	0.98	0.00	100
672	Bridgend County Borough Council	48	66	546	1	0	5	19	113	36	15	8	857
%		5.60	7.70	63.71	0.12	0.00	0.58	2.22	13.19	4.20	1.75	0.93	100

673	The Vale of Glamorgan County Council	50	76	513	31	4	3	11	81	24	21	7	821
%		6.09	9.26	62.48	3.78	0.49	0.37	1.34	9.87	2.92	2.56	0.85	100
674	Rhondda Cynon Taff County Borough Council	158	186	726	3	1	13	48	152	91	46	1	1425
%		11.09	13.05	50.95	0.21	0.07	0.91	3.37	10.67	6.39	3.23	0.07	100.0
675	Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council	10	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	18
%		55.56	38.89	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5.56	0.00	0.00	100.0
676	Caerphilly County Borough Council	28	59	391	2	1	3	9	85	29	12	1	620
%		4.52	9.52	63.06	0.32	0.16	0.48	1.45	13.71	4.68	1.94	0.16	100.0
677	Blaenau Gwent County Borough Council	10	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	24
%		41.67	41.67	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.67	0.00	0.00	100
678	Torfaen County Borough Council	41	56	267	0	1	11	15	93	24	2	3	513
%		7.99	10.92	52.05	0.00	0.19	2.14	2.92	18.13	4.68	0.39	0.58	100
679	Monmouthshire County Council	32	27	255	1	0	1	9	69	14	0	10	418
%		7.66	6.46	61.00	0.24	0.00	0.24	2.15	16.51	3.35	0.00	2.39	100
680	Newport City Council	46	69	490	6	5	6	18	133	19	4	5	801
%		5.74	8.61	61.17	0.75	0.62	0.75	2.25	16.60	2.37	0.50	0.62	100
681	Cardiff County Council	133	101	917	14	1	5	8	116	40	11	7	1353
%		9.83	7.46	67.78	1.03	0.07	0.37	0.59	8.57	2.96	0.81	0.52	100
	<b>Sub Total</b>	1132	1211	7918	129								
%													
	<b>All Wales Total</b>				10390	30	69	245	1578	490	159	87	13048
%					79.63	0.23	0.53	1.88	12.09	3.76	1.22	0.67	100



## EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup> June, 2016
<b>Report Subject</b>	Forward Work Programme
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	N / A
<b>Report Author</b>	Education and Youth 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 Education & Youth 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 – Current Forward Work Programme
<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	<p>None.</p> <p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Ceri Shotton Overview &amp; Scrutiny Facilitator</p> <p><b>Telephone:</b> 01352 702305</p> <p><b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:ceri.shotton@flintshire.gov.uk">ceri.shotton@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.

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**CURRENT FWP**

Date of meeting	Subject	Purpose of Report	Scrutiny Focus	Responsible / Contact Officer	Submission Deadline
7 July 2016	<p><b>Regional School Effectiveness and Improvement Service (GwE)</b></p> <p><b>Quarter 4/Year End Improvement Plan Monitoring Report</b></p>	<p>To receive an update on progress with the development of the regional school effectiveness and improvement service, to include a presentation from the Chief Officer of GwE.</p> <p>To enable Members to fulfil their scrutiny role in relation to performance monitoring</p>	<p>Assurance/Monitoring</p> <p>Assurance/Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officer Education &amp; Youth</p> <p>Education &amp; Youth Overview &amp; Scrutiny Facilitator</p>	30 June 2016
8 September 2016					1 September 2016
13 October 2016					6 October 2016

<p><b>17 November 2016</b></p>	<p><b>School Balances</b></p>	<p>To provide the Committee with details of the closing balances held by Flintshire schools at the end of the financial year.</p>	<p>Assurance/Monitoring</p>	<p>Finance Manager</p>	<p><b>10 November 2016</b></p>
<p><b>15 December 2016 Budget meeting</b></p>					<p><b>8 December 2016</b></p>
<p><b>22 December 2016</b></p>					<p><b>15 December 2016</b></p>
<p><b>19 January 2017 Budget meeting</b></p>					<p><b>12 January 2017</b></p>

<p><b>2 February 2017</b></p>	<p><b>Learner Outcomes – include attendance and exclusions in annual learner outcomes report</b></p>	<p>To provide Members with a summary of learner outcomes across primary and secondary school</p>	<p>Assurance/Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Education &amp; Youth)</p>	<p><b>26 January 2017</b></p>
<p><b>16 March 2017</b></p>					<p><b>9 March 2017</b></p>
<p><b>8 June 2017</b></p>					<p><b>1 June 2017</b></p>
<p><b>13 July 2017</b></p>					<p><b>6 July 2017</b></p>

**Items to be scheduled**

- School Governors – following the outcome of the national governance review
- Review/monitoring report following school re-organisation – September 2017
- Skilled Education Workforce Shortage – Suggested by Cllr Mackie on 15 March, 2016

**INFORMATION REPORTS TO BE CIRCULATED TO THE COMMITTEE**

Item	Purpose of information report	Month
Incidents of arson, vandalism and burglaries in Flintshire schools	Information reports on incidents of arson, vandalism and burglaries in Flintshire schools	March
Health & Safety in Schools	Information report on accidents during the academic year and the actions taken to support schools in achieving healthy and safe environment	December

**Suggested Venues for future meetings**

- Hawarden High School
- Sychdyn Primary School
- Southdown Primary School
- Ysgol Y Felin, Holywell

**REGULAR ITEMS**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Purpose of Report</b>	<b>Responsible / Contact Officer</b>
	<b>School Modernisation</b>	To update Members on the progress made with School Modernisation	Chief Officer Education and Youth
<b>January</b>	<b>Self-evaluation on education services</b>	To update Members on overall service performance	Senior Manager – Inclusion & Progression
<b>February</b>	<b>Learner Outcomes – include attendance and exclusions in annual learner outcomes report</b>	To provide Members with a summary of learner outcomes across primary and secondary school	Chief Officer Education and Youth
<b>April</b>	<b>Regional School Effectiveness and Improvement Service (GwE)</b>	To receive an update on progress with the development of the regional school effectiveness and improvement service, to include a presentation from the Chief Officer of GwE.	Chief Officer Education and Youth
<b>November</b>	<b>School Balances</b>	To provide the Committee with details of the closing balances held by Flintshire schools at the end of the financial year	Finance Manager
<b>Annually</b>	<b>Learning from the School Performance Monitoring Group (SPMG)</b>	To receive the annual report on progress and learning from the SPMG	Senior Manager – School Improvement

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