

# Public Document Pack



Contact Officer:  
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To: Councillor Ray Hughes (Chairman)

Councillors: Haydn Bateman, Glenys Diskin, Chris Dolphin, Ian Dunbar, David Evans, Cindy Hinds, Brian Lloyd, Richard Lloyd, Nancy Matthews, Ann Minshull and Paul Shotton

plus the following vacancies:

1 x Conservative

2 x Independent Alliance

9 June 2016

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee which will be held at 10.00 am on Wednesday, 15th June, 2016 in the Clwyd Committee Room, County Hall, Mold CH7 6NA to consider the following items

**\* Please note the venue for this meeting.**

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

### **1 APOLOGIES**

**Purpose:** To receive any apologies.

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

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

### **3 MINUTES (Pages 3 - 10)**

**Purpose:** To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 11 May 2016.

4 **PROGRESS REPORT ON THE CLWYDIAN RANGE AND DEE VALLEY AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY** (Pages 11 - 22)

Report of Chief Officer (Planning and Environment) and AONB Officer enclosed. Portfolio of the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Environment.

**Purpose:** To receive a report on the recent work of the Clwydian AONB.

5 **12 MONTH REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S CAR PARKING STRATEGY** (Pages 23 - 36)

Report of Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) enclosed. Portfolio of the Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Environment.

**Purpose:** To review the car parking strategy agreed by Cabinet in April 2015

6 **UPDATE ON NORTH WALES WASTE PROJECT**

To receive a verbal update on the North Wales Waste Project.

7 **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 37 - 44)

Report of Environment and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Facilitator enclosed.

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

Yours faithfully



Peter Evans  
Democracy & Governance Manager

## **ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**11 MAY 2016**

Minutes of the meeting of the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held in the Delyn Committee Room, County Hall, Mold, Flintshire on Wednesday, 11 May 2016

**PRESENT: Councillor Ray Hughes (Chair)**

Councillors: Glenys Diskin, Ian Dunbar, David Evans, Veronica Gay, Cindy Hinds, and Richard Lloyd

**ALSO PRESENT:** Councillors: Haydn Bateman, George Hardcastle, Ron Hampson, and David Wisinger

**SUBSTITUTIONS:** Councillors Carol Ellis (for Haydn Bateman), Richard Jones (for Chris Dolphin), Sara Parker (for Nancy Matthews) Mike Peers (for Colin Legg), Ian Roberts (for Ann Minshull) and Arnold Woolley (for Brian Lloyd)

**CONTRIBUTORS:** Councillor Aaron Shotton, Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance, Councillor Bernie Attridge, Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Environment; Councillor Kevin Jones, Cabinet Member for Waste Strategy, Public Protection & Leisure; Chief Executive, Chief Officer (Planning & Environment); Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation); Planning Development Manager and Team Leader Enforcement

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Environment Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator and Committee Officer

**1. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

The Facilitator advised that Councillor Ray Hughes had been appointed to this role at the Council's Annual General Meeting on 10 May 2016 and therefore a vote on the nomination was not required.

**RESOLVED:**

That Councillor Ray Hughes be appointed Chair for the Committee.

**2. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIR**

The Chairman sought nominations for the appointment of Vice-Chair for the Committee. Councillor Ian Dunbar proposed Councillor David Evans and this was duly seconded. Councillor Mike Peers proposed Councillor Veronica Gay and this was seconded. No further nominations were received and on being put to the vote Councillor David Evans was appointed as Vice-Chair for the Committee for the municipal year.

**RESOLVED:**

That Councillor David Evans be appointed as Vice-Chair for the Committee for the municipal year.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**4. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 13 April 2016 were submitted.

**RESOLVED:**

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

**5. VARIATION IN ORDER OF BUSINESS**

Following a suggestion by the Chair, a change in the order of business was agreed and agenda items 9 and 8 were brought forward due to the availability of the officers concerned.

**6. REVIEW OF WASTE COLLECTION POLICY**

The Chair invited Councillor Aaron Shotton to speak on the item. Councillor Shotton read out a statement which had been provided to the press to advise of the position regarding the review of the HRC provision and bulky waste collection service. He referred to the outcome of the Welsh Government (WG) review of the Council's waste service which included a review of the Council's Household Recycling Centre (HRC) provision. He gave an assurance that there was currently no agreement on the findings of the WG report and that he did not want to see closure of sites.

Councillor Shotton commented on the recommendations in the WG report and advised that failure to meet the WG National Strategy landfill targets could result in infraction charges being levied against the Council totalling £200 for each tone of waste land filled above the defined allowance and a further £200 per tonne infraction charge could be levied if the Council failed to achieve the Statutory Waste Recycling target in a same period. He explained that unless the Authority improved the existing facilities on sites to ensure more recycling then it would be unlikely to achieve the targets set by the WG.

Councillor Shotton commented on the severe austerity measures imposed on the Authority and the pressure on public services. He referred to the significant financial cuts and efficiencies which had been achieved to date in all service areas and the need to set a local balanced budget. He emphasised that unless the WG proposals and guidance was followed on how the Authority should achieve its recycling targets in future years there would be

severe financial penalties incurred and possible risk to the viability of future capital revenue grants.

The Chief Executive referred to national policy and local choice and commented on the main considerations regarding national funding and performance of HRC sites. He explained that significant funding was available from WG to improve sites and if the current WG proposal was not acceptable then some negotiation might be had around the development of supersites. The Chief Executive advised that the Authority aimed to achieve a recycling target of 70% by having a viable network and if it did not hit that recycling target then it would be liable to fines.

The Chief Executive referred to the need for the Authority to find further savings of 30% to set a balanced budget and stated that efficiencies on such a scale could not be found from any other business plan within the Authority.

Councillor Kevin Jones emphasised that there were no further significant savings which could be achieved from within the Service without withdrawing collection services. The WG had made it known that it held the view that the Authority was oversubscribed for some sites and would impose penalties if it did not meet its targets. He commented that the WG priority was waste management and waste collection and this was the 'blueprint' the Authority was expected to work to. The capital support provided by the WG was expected to produce revenue savings.

The Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) advised that following a WG review of the Council's waste service, which included the Council's HRC provision, it was concluded that the Council's HRC provision (in terms of the number of sites) was greater than necessary and the facilities offered at each site did not match the minimum requirements of the high quality sites which regularly achieved high levels of recycling elsewhere in the country. It was recommended that a local authority of the size and with the demographic features of Flintshire, should offer just three HRC sites with each site offering good access and excellent recycling facilities to users. The WG review made recommendations on which of the current sites would provide the best configuration and coverage across the County. On this basis it was recommended that the Council operated sites at Greenfield, Sandycroft and Nercwys near Mold. Subject to Cabinet approval the closures of the remaining facilities would come into effect on 1 November 2016.

The Chief Officer reported on the proposed new arrangements for the kerbside collection of bulky waste. He referred to the introduction of a pilot scheme with a local Social Enterprise company to extend the existing arrangement for the collection of bulky waste electrical equipment to allow all requested bulky waste collections to take place. He explained that the material would be taken to an appropriate closed HRC site for assessment for reuse or broken down to recyclable components. It was also proposed to extend the service in the future to include the collection of furniture and beds.

The Chair thanked Officers for their input and invited Members to raise questions.

Councillor Ian Roberts commented on the Authority's current and previous high performance in achieving statutory targets for municipal waste recycling and said that this should be celebrated and used as an example for other authorities to follow. He referred to the current configuration for provision at the six sites in Flintshire which the WG review had stated was good, and challenged why there was a need to introduce change. He referred to a proposal which he had previously made that consideration be given to income generation and said he had suggested that a small charge be introduced for the use of recycling centres as a means of supporting sites. Councillor Roberts raised a number of specific concerns regarding provision at some of the Authority's recycling sites and management of kerbside collections.

The Chief Officer responded to the comments and concerns raised by Councillor Roberts and explained that the key issue was not the quantity but the quality of the HRC sites which were available. The Chief Executive advised that the Authority was not high performing in terms of HRC recycling. In response to the suggestion to introduce a small fee for use of recycling sites the Chief Executive advised that such a measure would be subject to approval by the WG. Officers also explained that the introduction of charges could have implications on the goodwill of residents to participate in the recycling of waste and may act as a deterrent.

Councillor Hilary Isherwood raised concerns around individuals who were elderly, disabled, or unable to travel to a HRC site. She asked what provision was available to meet these circumstances and suggested there could be an opportunity for income to be generated by providing a service to meet this need. The Chief Officer explained that the concept for supersites was to make such facilities more accessible. He also referred to the bulky waste collection service and doorstep collections. The Chief Officer agreed to discuss the suggestion further with Social Enterprise.

Councillor Mike Peers raised a number of concerns around the management of the existing HRC sites. He also referred to the recent consultation process on the rationalisation of HRCs and said there had been no discussions with Scrutiny or Town or Community Councils to seek their views before the consultation questionnaire had been distributed. He stated that he could not support the findings of the WG review. The Chief Executive acknowledged the points raised by Councillor Peers concerning performance/management at some sites and accepted there was some room for improvement to optimise performance.

Councillor David Evans proposed that a supersite be established to serve the communities of Flint and Connah's Quay. He also referred to the current site at Buckley and suggested that this be used as a supersite to serve Buckley, Mold and Mynydd Isa areas.

Councillor Carol Ellis supported the proposal put forward by Councillor Evans. She spoke against the proposal to close the Buckley site citing the excellent facilities which were already available in and around Buckley, the possible reluctance for local residents to have to travel to another area, and the blighting of local beauty spots, to support her views against closure. She said there were a number of simple solutions around the Buckley site which could be considered to assist the Authority to meet its targets. Councillor Richard Jones also spoke in support of retaining and expanding the existing HRC site at Buckley.

The Chief Executive said there was need for urgent evidence based discussion with the WG to establish what capital funding was available to fund super-sites. Councillor Aaron Shotton explained that any alternative solution to the WG proposals would need to be put forward to a meeting of the Cabinet as soon as possible.

During discussion Members agreed that further consideration be given to alternative options for the future of HRC service provision in Flintshire, including an option for two additional super-sites located in the Flint/Connah's Quay area and the Buckley/Mold area (subject to the Council being able to identify suitable land and it becoming available), to supplement the existing sites in Sandycroft and Greenfield.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the Committee recommends to Cabinet for the proposed pilot scheme to engage a local Social Enterprise to provide the Bulky Waste collection service; and
- (b) That further consideration be given to alternative options for the future of HRC service provision in Flintshire, including an option for two additional super sites located in the Flint/Connah's Quay area and the Buckley/Mold area (subject to the Council being able to identify suitable land and it becoming available), to supplement the existing sites in Sandycroft and Greenfield.

**7. ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

The Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) introduced a report on environmental enforcement arrangements. He provided background information and referred to a zero tolerance enforcement approach to dog fouling and littering which was a major problem in the County's parks, open spaces and streets. He advised that to provide additional resources to deliver the zero tolerance approach to littering and dog fouling, it was proposed to enter into an agreement with a private partner with a proven track record in enforcement of environmental crime. The arrangement would be provided through a 12 month pilot scheme which would allow for full evaluation of the success of the arrangement to be undertaken before a long term contract and commitment was made.

The Chair asked how the problem of littering and failing to remove dog waste would be enforced during late evening/night hours. The Chief Officer gave an assurance that the Service Level Agreement with the partner would include clear service agreements which would specify the principles on which the contract would be managed and operated and would provide a minimum level of service for the enforcement of dog fouling. He also explained that the scheme would work with Members to seek intelligence on specific problems and target areas. Councillor Richard Lloyd requested that consultation took place with all Town and Community Councils to seek their input concerning problem areas.

In response to a question concerning costs, Councillor Bernie Attridge explained that the proposals would be at zero cost to the Council and would provide a return of 15% on all Fixed Penalty Notices (FPNs) served by the Company. The Company would also be responsible for back office administrative systems to deliver the service and preparation of prosecution packs for formal action in court in respect of people who refused to pay a FPN.

Councillor Ian Dunbar raised the issue of safety and asked how the enforcement officers would be protected against verbal or physical abuse. Councillor Bernie Attridge and the Chief Officer outlined the protection measures in place and referred to the use of CCTV body cameras which recorded and provided evidence of all public contact, and use of radio to summon Police support as necessary.

During discussion Officers responded to the further questions raised concerning raising public awareness and publicising the implementation of rigorous enforcement measures through FPNs or prosecution.

Councillor Veronica Gay welcomed the proposal and said it would complement the work of the dog DNA Task and Finish group.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee recommends to Cabinet the proposal to enter into a formal agreement with a private partner to undertake environmental enforcement duties in the County on a 12 month pilot trial basis.

**8. IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2016/17**

The Chief Officer (Planning and Environment) introduced a report to enable consideration of areas of the draft Improvement Plan 2016/17 relevant to the Committee. He provided background information and reported on the 'Safe Communities' and 'Environment' priorities which were appended to the report. He advised that the 'Safe Communities' priority for 2016/17 consisted of one sub-priority 'Community Safety'. The 'Environment' priority consisted of two sub-priorities which were 'Transport Infrastructure and Services' and 'Sustainable Development and Environmental Management'. Members were asked to comment on the content of the Improvement Plan and 'how we

measure achievement' document for the priorities 'Safer Communities' and 'Environment'.

Councillor Ian Roberts referred to appendix 1, page 23 and the bullet point concerning undertaking a heat mapping and master planning exercise in Flint to assess the potential opportunity for a biomass centre. Councillor Roberts queried why Flint had been chosen as a suitable area. The Chief Officer advised that Flint had been chosen because it was an area of industrial and residential amenity. Councillor Roberts expressed concerns that the Flintshire County Council Members for Flint had not been contacted about this matter given that it could result in a biomass centre opening in Flint. He requested further detail with regard to the work undertaken to support the identification of Flint as the selected site.

Following discussion Councillor Roberts proposed that the bullet point be removed from the Improvement Plan due to lack of consultation with local members. Councillor Veronica Gay seconded the proposal and when put to the vote this was carried.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the Improvement Plan and 'how we measure achievement' document for the priorities 'Safer Communities' and 'Environment' be noted; and
- (b) That the bullet point concerning undertaking a heat mapping and master planning exercise in Flint to assess the potential opportunity for a biomass centre be removed from the Improvement Plan.

**9. PLANNING ENFORCEMENT**

The Chief Officer (Planning and Environment) introduced a report to provide an update on Planning Enforcement. He provided background information and advised that it was proposed to adopt a less formal approach in revising the Planning Enforcement Policy and to review the priorities over the response to certain breaches to provide a more realistic view of what can be achieved with the resources available. He explained that the current Planning Enforcement Policy was appended to the report and also Brighton and Hove's enforcement policy as an example of this lighter approach. The Chief Officer referred to the proposed changes to the Planning Enforcement Policy as detailed in the report.

The Chairman invited Members to raise questions.

Councillor Cindy Hinds expressed concerns around the time taken by enforcement officers to resolve issues of non-compliance concerning residential developments. The Chief Officer acknowledged the points made and agreed that feedback to the local Member could be improved to inform of progress with investigations. He commented that some cases were complex and it could take a long time for enforcement to reach a resolution. In response

to a question the Planning Development Manager asked Members to be aware of the priorities and of what could not be addressed through Planning Enforcement, so that the public's expectations in relation to particular cases were moderated accordingly

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the Authority's Planning Enforcement policy be reviewed and updated and a draft of the new policy be reported to the Committee for further endorsement to allow it to be taken forward for adoption; and
- (b) That the performance of the planning enforcement service against the published indicators for the year 2015/16 be noted.

**10. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The Facilitator presented the current Forward Work Programme for consideration. She advised that the following items were to be considered at the next meeting of the Committee to be held on 15 June 2016:

- Year End reporting and Chief Officer reports
- update on North Wales Waste Project
- Dog DNA Task & Finish Group feedback.
- Clwydian Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Forward Work Programme be noted.

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

There were no members of the press or public in attendance.

(The meeting started at 2pm and ended at 4.20pm)

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**Chair**



## ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Wednesday, 15 June 2016
<b>Report Subject</b>	Progress Report on the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Environment
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Planning & Environment) and AONB Officer
<b>Type of Report</b>	Strategic

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report is a Progress Briefing on the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) (Appendix 1 Map of AONB).

Part of Flintshire lies within the AONB and is managed in partnership with Denbighshire County Council, Flintshire County Council and Wrexham County Borough Council via a Joint Committee and an AONB Partnership. Work is carried out on behalf of the three authorities by the AONB Officer and the AONB Team.

This report details (at 1.01 onwards) the 2014-15 mechanism for governance of the AONB and the work carried out across the AONB, particularly in the Flintshire area.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To note the progress of and support for the work of the AONB.
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### REPORT DETAILS

<b>1.00</b>	<b>EXPLAINING THE AONB</b>
1.01	<b>Governance:</b> The governance of the AONB has been overhauled over the past three years. Leading the AONB is a Strategic AONB Joint Committee (JC). This Joint Committee has been delegated the responsibility for managing the AONB from the three authorities. The JC membership is made up from two cabinet members from each of the three authorities. Flintshire has appointed Councillors Derek Butler and Bernie Attridge to the

JC. This strategic committee has met three times per year and has its own budget. Natural Resources Wales also contribute to the budget in addition to the three authorities.

The JC has appointed an AONB Partnership to support the JC and its officers. This consists of nine County Councillors: three from each local authority and 16 other members. The three Flintshire Members are Councillors Paul Cunningham, Carolyn Thomas and Colin Legg. Councillor Cunningham is now Vice Chair of the Partnership.

The 16 members applied to join the Partnership to represent land management, rural interests, urban interests, landscape, natural, historical, built and access and recreation. In addition, we have three individual members. The Partnership has met twice formally plus four Working Group Meetings and four familiarisation days.

**Sites:** two sites are jointly owned by Flintshire and Denbighshire: Loggerheads and Moel Famau Country Park. Natural Resources Wales also own three Forestry Blocks in Flintshire that have a jointly funded Warden with the AONB.

**Sustainable Development Fund (SDF):** The Fund has been instrumental in supporting projects across the AONB (Appendix 2 gives a full list of specific projects funded in Flintshire).



**Friends of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley:** Friends of the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley launched on 15 July 2016 and since then has grown to exceed all expectations. A small group of enthusiastic trustees successfully registered the organisation with the Charity Commission.

The membership of the Friends now stands at 134, which is an amazing achievement in less than one year. The group has arranged a number of events and activities, some in partnership with others. Visits to increase awareness and understanding of the special features of the AONB have been arranged to Tomen yr Rhodwydd, Bryn Alyn, Chirk and the World Heritage Site, Moel Arthur and Penycloddiau, Golden Grove Historic House and Gardens. Talks have been given by the AONB Officer and the members have participated in activities such as litter picks. Over 200 people have attended these events. Over the next year, the Friends will continue to arrange events, but also hope to deliver projects within the Clwydian Range and Dee Valley. Some suggestions that are currently being investigated are mapping the viewpoints of the AONB and crash sites of World War Two aircraft. One member has already registered 33 sites on Moel Famau, seeking grant aid to help purchase a tramper for use at Loggerheads Country Park and Ty Mawr and more practical activities.



**Planning:** The majority of consultations (242, which is 73% of the total) were

for planning and related applications from the three local planning authorities, but the second largest type of consultation is now for informal pre and post application advice (64, which makes up 20% of total consultations). This is up from last year. The remaining consultations were policy type consultations (13, which includes various Welsh Government consultations, LDP and SPG consultations), planning appeals and Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (The North Wales Windfarms Connection Project).

Of the planning and related application consultations from the local planning authorities the majority, as expected, were from Denbighshire (172 which represents 72% of the total), followed by Flintshire (54, which is 22%) and Wrexham (16, which is 7%).

During the year, 12 potential cases of unauthorised development affecting the AONB were referred to the Planning Enforcement team in Denbighshire, including caravans, tipping, tree felling, and advertisement signs.

**Health Walks 2015-15:** Llanasa has a walk every month with on average 18 participants. Gwaenysgor has weekly walks with on average 12 participants. Trelawnyd has weekly walks with on average 19 participants and Loggerheads has a weekly Nordic walk with on average 25 participants.

Flintshire Individual Groups within Flintshire have benefited from the AOMNB and its staff: NEWCIS (Carers Association) have come to Moel Famau, Loggerheads and Prestatyn. Castle Heights (Sheltered housing in Flint) have done short walks around the grounds and come to Loggerheads. CAIS (Drugs and Alcohol) have attended walks at Loggerheads and Moel Famau, Greenbank Villas (Supporting People in Flint) attended events at Loggerheads including walks.

The Healthy Walking Officer has trained staff to become walk leaders at Greenbank Villas, whilst attending The Well-Being Event at Mold Law C and the Family Open Day at Airbus Broughton.

**Biodiversity:** Work to move the grasslands at Loggerheads towards favourable condition has continued this winter. As part of this, there has been a programme of non-native invasive species removal – in particular rose of Sharon and Cotoneaster from the cliff faces. Volunteers have assisted with bracken removal and scrub control on the grasslands. In addition six Hebridean sheep have been introduced as part of a programme of conservation grazing. The small population of adders is breeding for the first time since 2011.

The AONB is a partner in the Alyn and Chwiler Living Landscape (ACLL) Project which centres on the Alyn (up to Mold) and Wheeler River corridors both of which are predominantly within the AONB. This partnership approach is facilitating larger scale conservation work on the river valleys, contributing to the delivery of AONB management plan objectives, as well as other partners work programmes. It also means the partners work programmes are better coordinated and more effective on a landscape level. Partners include NWWT (North Wales Wildlife Trust) (lead), NRW, NEWW, FCC, DCC and BASC. Over £30,000 has been spent through the project within the AONB between April 2015 and April 2016.

Work done by AONB staff in partnership with the ACLL Project has included: Himalayan balsam removed from source of River Alyn to Trial Hill (approx. 19km). A new patch was discovered in the Cacwn brook area and removed. Over 100 volunteer hours spent removing Himalayan balsam from the River Alyn in the AONB.

The AONB supported Himalayan balsam removal on the Wheeler by assisting in the surveying and arranging volunteer removal days. SDF funded the interpretation and production of leaflet for the project and restoration of a river bank on the Alyn using natural materials instead of stone gabions.

The AONB, through the NRW Partnership, has continued to develop approximately one acre of Upland acid hay meadow in the centre of Coed Nercwys. Volunteers and Young Rangers have helped with weed control. Seven hebridean sheep have been introduced as part of this management which aims to establish a flower rich meadow. Over the summer, a traditional skills workshops was held providing training in traditional scything.

Dry stone walling in Coed Nercwys - 24 volunteers helped over four days to restore approximately 20m of wall.

A hedge laying competition for volunteers was held at Llangwyfan in February. This was an opportunity for volunteers, who have over the years developed significant expertise in rural crafts, to demonstrate their skills. Over 30 volunteers took part and laid over 150m of hedge. At Loggerheads a coppice rotation was completed with volunteers to increase biodiversity within the woodland. Volunteer work has started on removing invasive trees from the SAC woodland, particularly sycamore and grand fir. Eight pied flycatcher nests were confirmed in the Park over summer.

Volunteer have spent five days thinning the woodland at Coed Alex near Llangwyfan. This is a young woodland, it was planted approximately 15 years ago, so this is the first thin.

**Outreach:** The AONB is working with Flintshire Local Voluntary Council and Flintshire Mind to support the 'Step Up, Step Out' Programme which provides opportunities for people who may have suffered mental health issues, to follow an eight-week programme of outdoor voluntary work in the countryside and gain the John Muir award. Over the last 12 months the groups have worked on a number of projects in the AONB including the development of the hay meadow at Nercwys, access work, clearing conifer at House for a Grouse on Moel Famau, birch management on Moel Findeg and litter picking, as well as guided walks.

The AONB provides three placements for students at St Christopher's Special School in Wrexham. The students spend four hours per week at Loggerheads and Mole Famau. The AONB has provided support for the Flintshare Community Growers – the volunteers have assisted the group to improve their access issues and have constructed a bridge onto the site. The AONB has assisted pupils at Ysgol Terrig to build a round house using materials from the quarry at Coed Nercwys.

The Brownies have been out at Moel Famau to help with conservation work and staff have supported the Brownies in Llangollen to build a bug hotel in their grounds. Moel Famau Family Fun Day took place again this year which provides an opportunity for the AONB and NRW to showcase their work. A range of children's activities and walks took place as well as demonstrations in arboriculture and conservation. At Loggerheads volunteers have completed the restoration of a set of original mine trucks which were part of the heritage interpretation for the park.

**Young Rangers:** The Young Rangers in the Clwydian Range continues to grow. A programme of activities has been published for the summer and winter months. Activities have included woodland skills, dormouse monitoring, and bird box construction. The successful Young Rangers model in the Clwydian Range has been replicated into the Dee Valley.

**Sustainable Tourism:** Support has been given to the Clwydian Range Food Trail Group to develop a "Clwydian Range Breakfast". A range of locally produced ingredients have been sourced and are being promoted to B&Bs, cafes and other hospitality businesses as a concept of a Clwydian Range Breakfast. A launch event was held at Loggerheads Country Park – with cooking demonstrations and meet the producers' session. Over 50 businesses attended.

**Archaeology:** Gop cairn (Scheduled Ancient Monument) is the second largest prehistoric earthwork in the UK, second only to Silbury Hill in southern England. There were some excavations at the site in the late Victorian period when it was thought that it may be a large burial cairn or chambered cairn dating to the Neolithic period. It is still thought to date to this period because although burials were not found in the mound, they were found in the cave below. In 2014 the site became a SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest). It had become very overgrown with scrub which is bad from both the archaeological and the natural environment perspective. With a 100% grant from Cadw extensive and sensitive clearance took place on the site, such that you can now see the profile of the site much more clearly. NRW have at the same time negotiated a management agreement with the owner of the site such that it will be strimmed in future so will remain and open grassland site.

The excavations continued for the 4<sup>th</sup> year at a site on the eastern ramparts of Penycloddiau hillfort. The excavation is directed by Dr Rachel Pope, a lecturer at Liverpool University, and is run as training excavations for students. The construction of the rampart was finally identified as a dry stone wall about four metres wide in its original format. Excavations are also taking place on the site of a platform which is possibly the site of an iron age house within the hillfort. The excavators are able to attract academics from a wide range of backgrounds to use new techniques on the site. In the summer of 2015, archaeologists from the Museum of London conducted a drone survey in order to produce 3D plans of the site. Denbighshire Countryside Services organised open day visits to the site for members of the public. Work will continue in the summer of 2016.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	Flintshire currently contribute £26,500 to the AONB.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	N/A

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	Flintshire County Council's contributions are key to the continuation of the AONB. The AONB contributes to the 'Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015'.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	<b>Appendix 1</b> AONB Map <b>Appendix 2</b> Sustainable Development Projects

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	<b>Contact Officer:</b> Howard Sutcliffe AONB Officer <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 810614 (Loggerheads Country Park) <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:howard.sutcliffe@denbighshire.gov.uk">howard.sutcliffe@denbighshire.gov.uk</a>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty ( <b>AONB</b> ) - The Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB was first designated in 1985 and extended to cover the Dee Valley in 2011. It is one of Wales's eight Protected Landscapes considered the finest in Wales. It is one of 5 AONBs and together with the three National Parks are a Nationally Protected Network.
7.02	AONBs are recognised by the International Union for Conservation and Nature as a Category 5 Landscape (this is recognised worldwide - two other Category 5 Landscapes are The Lake District National Park and Yosemite National Park).
7.03	Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) is given by Welsh Government to the five AONBs. Although it is a variable amount, it averages around £60,000 which normally levers in around two to three times that amount in match funding.



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**Sustainable Development Fund**

**2014-15**

**Clwydian Range and Dee Valley AONB**

**Highlight Projects in Flintshire**

**Pantymwyn Village Hall**

SDF supported recent renovations to make the building more energy efficient and user friendly. The building had gone out of regular community use, mainly due to poor facilities and heating. The loss of income also meant the hall was costing more to run than it received in revenue. The building has undergone improvements to the doors, windows, kitchen, roof, insulation, waterproofing, walls and heating systems and is consequently more regularly used.

The final phase of the improvements was to replace the flooring which currently contributes to poor acoustics, and add a safety floor to the kitchen. To prevent damage to the new floor old tables and chairs were replaced with new furniture.

**Gwernymynydd School Grounds Improvements**

SDF has assisted in the development of a learning areas within the grounds of Gwernymynydd School. The project has involved the whole school community in its design, implementation, management and use of the school grounds.

**Moel Arthur**

The Clwydian Range Archaeology Group undertook a geophysical survey of the plateau on the northern flank of Moel Arthur, the results of which identified a rectilinear anomaly with a possible circular anomaly within, which appeared to be archaeological in nature. In 2013 CRAG undertook an excavation at the site and discovered a burnt mound and charcoal deposits, these were carbon dated to 2617 – 2462 BC.

The key stage 2 pupils also a trip in the AONB to visit an Iron Age Hillfort and meet AONB officers, further developing their appreciation of the landscape and providing a direct link between the work being undertaken in the school grounds and the landscape.

## CRDV 06 – Alyn and Wheeler living landscapes interpretation

Applicant – North Wales Wildlife Trust  
 SDF – £1,500 (75% of total £2,008.50)  
 Match funding – WREN (in form of project officer time) 25%

The Alun and Chwiler living landscapes project is the result of a funding bid by a partnership of organisations including North Wales Wildlife Trust, the AONB, NRW, DCC, BASC and NEW Wildlife. It is a landscape scale project aiming to improve the wildlife habitat in the river corridors of the Alun and Chwiler by engaging with

landowners to introduce habitat improvements on their land, as well as locals to get involved in volunteering in the area.

The Sustainable Development Fund has enabled the project to create interpretive materials including leaflets and pop-up banners. The aim of the interpretation was to help project partners promote the project and gain interest from landowners and potential volunteers, as well as inform locals and visitors about what is happening in the area. The project has not only improved habitats but also benefited local communities through better connection with their local environment.

**Tirwedd Byw  
 Alun & Chwiler  
 Living Landscape**

**YMDIRIEDOLAETH  
 natur  
 WILDLIFE TRUST  
 GOGLEDD CYMRU  
 NORTH WALES**

Rydyn ni'n elusen annibynnol, leol sy'n dibynnu ar gefnogaeth ein haelodau a rhoddion eraill. **Piis helpwch ni os yw hynny'n bosib.**

- **Dod yn aelod** am ddim ond ychydig bunnoedd bob mis
- **Gwirfoddoli** yn un o'n 30+ o warchodfeydd natur
- **Ystyried gadael Rhodd Fyw** - byddai rhodd yn eich Ewyllys, boed fach neu fawr, yn gadael ôl eich troed ar ein tirwedd am byth

We are an independent, local charity, reliant on the support of our members and other donations. **Please help us if you can.**

- **Become a member** for just a few pounds per month
- **Volunteer** at one of our 30+ nature reserves
- **Consider a Living Legacy** — a gift in your will, whether small or large, would leave your footprint in our landscape forever.

**Ymddiriedolaeth Natur Gogledd Cymru  
 North Wales Wildlife Trust**  
 378 Stryd Fawr / High Street,  
 Bangor, Gwynedd, LL57 1YE  
 01248 351541  
[nwwt@wildlifetrustswales.org](mailto:nwwt@wildlifetrustswales.org)  
[www.northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk](http://www.northwaleswildlifetrust.org.uk)

Rhif elusen / Charity number: 236772  
 Rhif cwmni / Company number: 773985

*Ni fyddai'r prosiect hwn yn bosib heb ei sefydliadau partner, perchnogion tir a gwirfoddolwyr. Os hoffech gymryd rhan gyda'r prosiect hwn, cysylltwch â swyddog y prosiect yn uniongyrchol: [amygreen@wildlifetrustswales.org](mailto:amygreen@wildlifetrustswales.org)*

*This project could not happen without its partner organisations, landowners and volunteers. If you would like to get involved with this project, please contact the project officer directly: [amygreen@wildlifetrustswales.org](mailto:amygreen@wildlifetrustswales.org)*

**Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru**  
 Natural Resources Wales

**BASC**  
 Brecon Area of Natural Beauty

**sir ddinbych denbighshire**

**Sir y Fflint Flintshire**

**Dŵr Cymru Welsh Water**

**WREN**  
 WILDLIFE RESERVES  
 YOUR SERVICES

**Byrniau Ceredigion  
 Brynau Dyffordd  
 Clwydd Fawr a'r Dyffordd  
 and Dee Valley**

Gwarchod Natur ar gyfer y Dyfodol  
 Protecting Wildlife for the Future

Outputs	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5000 leaflets for distribution in visitor centres, libraries, shops, attractions and also at shows and events,</li> <li>• Production of 4 pop-up banners.</li> </ul>	<p>A greater understanding of the importance of the river valleys of the AONB.</p> <p>A greater level of engagement in the delivery of the project</p>

### **CRDV 12 – Cilcain WI – A Century of Memories**

Applicant – Cilcain Women’s Institute

SDF –£1,500 (6% of total £23,350)

Match funding – Private funds £542- Volunteer in-kind (£14,750), Heritage Lottery Fund – secured (£7,100)

The WI celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> birthday in 2015, and the Cilcain WI its 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. This project was developed to mark these anniversaries.

This project has created a digital archive of the village, locating family attic-archived material and individual and family stories, and recording and storing them to reflect change and development in village life. Themes underlying stories include changes in local industry and farming, changes effecting everyday life such as transport, shopping and entertainment, and changes affecting church, chapel and the village school.

Materials and stories were collected digitally by interviewing villagers and scanning attic-archived material. SDF enabled the group to purchase equipment including a computer, software and recording equipment to undertake the project.

A core group of people have been trained in the use of equipment and Liverpool Apple Store have committed to running 48 hours of training for 8 adults.



<b>Outputs</b>	<b>Outcomes</b>
48 hours of training delivered 8 people received training Digital Archive established	Raised awareness of heritage of the Cilcain across the community

### **CRDV 21 – Climate Change Teacher Training**

Applicant – Plas Derw Trust

SDF – £1,400 (31% of total £4,500)

Match funding – Private funds £3,100

The Plas Derw Trust a ‘not for profit’ local outdoor education provider wanted to pilot a project to develop the best way to train teachers to deliver Climate Change in a local and national context to Key Stage 2 students. The project aim was to enable teachers to feel comfortable and confident in talking to children about climate change and global warming as well as enabling them to relate it to the landscape of the AONB. The project utilised the Resources developed by the AONB in 2014.

The project delivered 11 individual sessions (of varying sizes up to assembly level) and trained 54 teaching staff. A target of 50 was set at the beginning of the project. In turn this training now has the potential to benefit 754 children.

The subject is controversial and the messages out there are mixed and sometimes confusing. It is really important to provide a coherent, and consistent message, especially in a local context.

Areas/schools in Flintshire which were part of the scheme include;

- Northop
- Cornist
- Sychdyn
- Lixwm
- Ewloe Green
- Caerwys
- Trelogan

Outputs	Outcomes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 11 sessions delivered</li><li>• 54 teaching staff trained</li><li>• 754 children participated</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Increased awareness of issues around climate change and its impacts on society and the environment.</li></ul>



## ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Wednesday 15 June 2016
<b>Report Subject</b>	12 month review of the Councils Car Parking Strategy
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for the Environment
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Streetscene & Transportation)
<b>Type of Report</b>	Strategic & Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In April 2015 Cabinet approved the County wide car parking strategy which introduced parking charges in all car parks within the County which were designated as being within the scope of the policy.

Cabinet requested that a review of the car parking strategy should be undertaken, 12 months after its introduction.

The review has now been completed and the outcome and recommended changes to the policy resulting from the review are detailed in this report.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To seek a recommendation to Cabinet from the Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee to approve the outcome of the 12 month review of the Council's car parking strategy and the proposed changes to the strategy resulting from the review.
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### REPORT DETAILS

<b>1.00</b>	<b>BACKGROUND TO REVIEW OF THE CAR PARKING STRATEGY</b>
1.01	<p>Following approval of the Council's car parking strategy in April 2015, car parking charges were introduced at the following locations within the County:</p> <p>Mold – Revised charging tariffs introduced in August 2015            Buckley – Introduced charging arrangements in August 2015</p>

	<p>Talacre – Introduced charging arrangements (partial) in July 2015</p> <p>Holywell – Introduced charging arrangements in September 2015</p> <p>Connah’s Quay – Introduced charging arrangements in November 2015</p> <p>Shotton – Introduced charging arrangements in November 2015</p> <p>Queensferry – Introduced charging arrangements in November 2015</p> <p>Flint – Delayed due to town centre development work</p> <p>Mold, County Hall – Due to be implemented Summer 2016</p>
1.02	<p>Prior to the implementation of the charges, projected income levels were assessed, based on the car park utilisation levels before the charges were introduced. The actual income levels at each of the car parks can be now compared against these projections and a summary of income levels against projections for each town are shown in <b>Appendix 1</b>.</p>
1.03	<p>The outcomes can be summarised as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Greater than expected monthly income levels in Buckley and Holywell (i.e. higher utilisation levels than expected).</li> <li>2. Marginal variances from expected monthly income levels in Mold, Talacre, Shotton, and Queensferry.</li> <li>3. Significantly lower than expected income levels in Connah’s Quay. (i.e. lower utilisation levels than expected).</li> </ol> <p>The significantly lower income levels in Connah’s Quay can partly be attributed to the high availability of off street parking in the immediate locality of the car parks within the town.</p>
1.04	<p>The introduction of car parking charges in Flint has been delayed due to the general unavailability of car parking spaces, resulting from the various town centre regeneration schemes which are in various stages of completion within the town centre. A decision on an implementation date for the charges has still to be made.</p>
1.05	<p>Since the introduction of the scheme a number of suggested amendments to the parking strategy have been received from various individuals, companies and public bodies. All of these suggestions have been assessed and considered and a number of changes to the car parking strategy are now proposed as a result of this review. The full list of suggested changes are detailed on <b>Appendix 2</b>, together with an assessment of their impact on the original proposals and therefore acceptability.</p>
1.06	<p>The changes that can be accommodated within the revised car parking strategy are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Issue of parking permits in short stay car parks. This confirms the formal adoption of the pilot scheme which has operated in the Holywell area since September 2015 and allows those businesses and residents closest to a short stay car park to purchase annual permits in these car parks at the same rate as permits for the long stay facilities in the town. The maximum number of permits issued for any short stay car park will be restricted to 20% of the available spaces, which is the same level as long stay car parks and this will ensure the majority of spaces remain available for shoppers and general visitors.</li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Issue of 'double tickets' through the parking ticket machines. This will be introduced at the individual request of the Town Council or Town Trade forum and will allow the businesses in the town to offer a refund to their customers on receipt of one of the tickets. A sign could be placed in the car park, advertising which companies offer the refund within the town.</li> <li>3. The rear of the tickets can be offered for advertising local business</li> <li>4. A review of the status of each car park (i.e. long stay or short stay) will be undertaken. This will be based on validated usage levels and comments received during the period since charges were introduced.</li> <li>5. A review of the number of disabled spaces available in each car park will be undertaken to ensure the provision is appropriate and sufficient. Similarly a review of motorcycle space provision will also be carried out.</li> <li>6. A review of the signage at each site will be considered to ensure the signage is sufficient to ensure users are aware of the need to pay and that sufficient ticket machines are also available at each location.</li> <li>7. A review of the availability of short stay on street parking in the areas surrounding each town will be undertaken in order to provide some free short stay parking for quick visits to the town centres, if possible</li> <li>8. The possibility of allowing the disabled spaces to become dual use, allowing drivers with young children to park in the spaces in some car parks, will also be considered</li> </ol>
1.07	<p>The following suggestions which were been put forward cannot be accommodated within the revised car parking strategy :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove car parking charges completely – not possible due to the impact on car parking availability in the town centres and the impact on income levels to the Authority - which are used to partially offset car park maintenance costs.</li> <li>2. Review the scope of car parking charging arrangements. Charging in some towns and not others would create inconsistencies and unfair advantages in those towns without charges. Extending the strategy to other villages and rural areas was also not considered appropriate at this time.</li> <li>3. Reduced hours of application. This option cannot be considered, due to the unknown impact on car park usage within the remaining period of the day. For example, the provision of free parking after 3pm across all car parks would reduce income levels by a minimum of 13% or approximately £80k per annum – And this figure does not take into account the cost of users moving from a currently charged periods in the day to a 'free parking' period.</li> <li>4. Provision of a free parking period throughout the day e.g. 'first hour free'. This would have a detrimental effect on income levels and encourage visitors to restrict their stay to one hour.</li> <li>5. Review the percentage of income above the 'core charging level' paid to Town Councils. The existing level (10%) provides the T&amp;CC with a sustainable income which can be invested in local related projects and it is considered to be at an appropriate level and should therefore remain constant.</li> <li>6. A request for Town Councils to receive a percentage of the income above the predicted level cannot be taken forward as the initial projections did not take into account other considerations such as the availability of on-street parking alternatives and the arrangement</li> </ol>

	<p>would therefore be inequitable across all areas. If Town Councils accepted charges above the core level then they would receive a financial contribution based on the increased income - in accordance with the existing strategy.</p> <p>7. A suggestion that disabled users should pay for their parking has been considered and discounted. Consequently disabled parking will remain free of charge - in disabled spaces in all Council car parks</p>
1.08	<p>The level of parking charges were also considered, along with the suggestion that 3 hrs should be the minimum stay level at short stay car parks - for a charge of 50p. The conclusion that the charge of 20p for 2 hours (as core level) should continue to be applied, was made for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The charge is set at a minimal level, which achieves the desired effect of ensuring users do not abuse the facility by parking all day in the facility - with the spaces then being lost for shoppers and visitors.</li> </ol> <p>and</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. It provides a level of income for the Council to contribute to the overall maintenance costs of operating the car parks.</li> </ol> <p>The review concluded that the current overall charging levels and charging periods should be monitored and reviewed annually and that any change to the charges should be reported to Cabinet through the portfolios annual review of charges.</p>

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	<p>Total full year budgeted income from car parking charges (2016 - 17) is £716,000 - (£616,000+£100,000 County Hall)</p> <p>Projected income based on current utilisation levels projected to full year is £451,673*</p> <p>Projected income from County Hall (September 2016 to March 2017) is £48,609.</p> <p>Total Projected Income from all car parks - £500,282</p> <p>Total in year (2016 – 17) projected shortfall - £215,718</p> <p>*Figures include approx. £100k loss of income from the delayed introduction in Flint</p>

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	<p>Suggested changes have been received during staff visits to Town Council meetings and from various correspondences received during the period since implementation of parking charges.</p>

3.02	Consultation took place with the Cabinet Member on all of the amendments contained within the report.
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<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
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4.01	Loss of car parking income will result in financial pressures within the service. Utilisation levels and income levels are monitored as part of the regular budget monitoring process
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4.02	The introduction of car parking charges was intended to ensure the availability of parking within the town centre whilst providing a contribution to the overall cost of maintaining the facilities.
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<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
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5.01	Appendix 1 – Projected Utilisation levels in each town Appendix 2 – Summary of proposed amendments to the parking strategy and considerations
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<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
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6.01	-  <b>Contact Officer:</b> Stephen O Jones <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 704700 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk">stephen.o.jones@flintshire.gov.uk</a>
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<b>7.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
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7.01	None
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**CAR PARKING INCOME ACTUAL 2015/16**

<b>TOWN</b>	<b>BUDGET TARGET 15/16</b>		<b>APRIL</b>	<b>MAY</b>	<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>MARCH</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
FLINT		RTC BUSINESS MODEL	-8,333.00	-8,333.00	-8,333.00	-8,333.00	-8,333.00	-8,333.00	-8,333.00	-8,333.00	-8,333.00	-8,333.00	-8,333.00	-8,333.00	-99,996.00
	-62,500	2015-16 ACTUAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
HOLYWELL		RTC BUSINESS MODEL	-3,625.00	-3,625.00	-3,625.00	-3,625.00	-3,625.00	-3,625.00	-3,625.00	-3,625.00	-3,625.00	-3,625.00	-3,625.00	-3,625.00	-43,500.00
	-27,500	2015-16 ACTUAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-369.04	-5,032.88	-4,400.13	-3,748.80	-3,989.63	-4,254.88	-3,838.08	-25,633.44
MOLD		RTC BUSINESS MODEL	-25,000.00	-25,000.00	-25,000.00	-25,000.00	-25,000.00	-25,000.00	-25,000.00	-25,000.00	-25,000.00	-25,000.00	-25,000.00	-25,000.00	-300,000.00
	-289,037	2015-16 ACTUAL	-18,817.29	-20,290.96	-19,903.13	-20,196.17	-22,855.72	-22,736.54	-25,023.25	-25,394.25	-24,410.38	-17,592.04	-24,670.58	-22,259.75	-264,150.06
TALACRE		RTC BUSINESS MODEL	-1,250.00	-1,250.00	-1,250.00	-1,250.00	-1,250.00	-1,250.00		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-7,500.00
	-9,500	2015-16 ACTUAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	-60.58	-1,095.58	-193.66	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-1,349.82
BUCKLEY		RTC BUSINESS MODEL	-3,878.00	-3,878.00	-3,878.00	-3,878.00	-3,878.00	-3,878.00	-3,878.00	-3,878.00	-3,878.00	-3,878.00	-3,878.00	-3,878.00	-46,536.00
	-30,000	2015-16 ACTUAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-2,177.80	-4,461.92	-4,934.83	-5,628.50	-4,624.29	-4,346.78	-4,851.25	-4,230.96	-35,256.33
QUEENSFERRY		RTC BUSINESS MODEL	-1,381.83	-1,381.83	-1,381.83	-1,381.83	-1,381.83	-1,381.83	-1,381.83	-1,381.83	-1,381.83	-1,381.83	-1,381.83	-1,381.83	-16,582.00
	-10,500	2015-16 ACTUAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-909.92	-801.58	-1,190.54	-882.08	-3,784.12
CONNAHS QUAY		RTC BUSINESS MODEL	-4,415.50	-4,415.50	-4,415.50	-4,415.50	-4,415.50	-4,415.50	-4,415.50	-4,415.50	-4,415.50	-4,415.50	-4,415.50	-4,415.50	-52,986.00
	-34,000	2015-16 ACTUAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-946.70	-875.94	-1,092.20	-1,034.75	-3,949.59
SHOTTON		RTC BUSINESS MODEL	-3,408.42	-3,408.42	-3,408.42	-3,408.42	-3,408.42	-3,408.42	-3,408.42	-3,408.42	-3,408.42	-3,408.42	-3,408.42	-3,408.42	-40,900.99
	-26,000	2015-16 ACTUAL	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	-2,953.17	-2,731.58	-2,942.08	-3,056.42	-11,683.25

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## Streetscene and Transportation Portfolio

### 12 Month Review of Parking Charges Strategy

Possible changes or alternative options for consideration	Advantages	Disadvantages	Financial Impact	Outcome of considerations
<b>Complete removal of charges – County wide</b>	<p>Reduce financial impact on car park users.</p> <p>Decrease parking displacement from car parks to on street areas.</p>	<p>Provide free of charge parking for commuters and shop workers to utilise town centre parking places reducing available spaces for visitors, decreasing vibrancy/vitality</p>	<p>Significant impact on budget requirement to cover management/maintenance/enforcement costs.</p>	<p>Charges will not be removed from county car parks</p>
<b>Removal of car parking charges from some towns</b>	<p>Support those town centres that are seeing a significant impact of decrease in footfall.</p> <p>Decrease parking displacement from car parks to on street areas.</p>	<p>Provide an inconsistent approach to car parking provision across the County</p> <p>Provides free of charge parking for commuters and shop workers to utilise town centre parking places reducing available spaces for visitors, decreasing vibrancy/vitality</p>	<p>Significant impact on budget requirement to cover management/maintenance/enforcement costs.</p>	<p>Charges to remain in all towns to which the policy applies.</p>
<b>Review of status of individual car parks i.e. From short stay to long stay</b>	<p>Better utilise car parking spaces to suit the need of the user in relation to the individual town centre.</p> <p>Ensure underutilised car parks are being used to their maximum potential.</p>	<p>Reducing the amount of short stay parking can encourage commuters or town centre staff to use long stay parking reducing the availability of proximity spaces for town centre visitors/shoppers</p>	<p>Potential decrease in predicted revenue as short stay increases turnover.</p> <p>Cost to reconfigure machine software.</p>	<p>All car parks will be reviewed for utilisation levels to ensure that they are being used to their maximum potential.</p>
<b>Review permit scheme – is there a need for a short stay permit?</b>	<p>Reduce the inconvenience to users having to ensure they have correct change and the time taken to use the machine</p>	<p>The permit would be difficult to enforce as there would be no way of the CEO knowing how long the vehicle had been in situ.</p> <p>Open to abuse form users using permit numerous times a day.</p>	<p>Reduce income from permit abuse</p>	<p>Short stay car park permits will only be available to businesses and residents in immediate proximity to the short stay car park. (see next item – Pilot area etc).</p>

<p><b>Confirm ongoing pilot and offer long term parking permits in short stay car parks</b></p>	<p>Residents and shop owners require parking in short stay car parks to park close to their home/business when they have no off street parking provision.</p>	<p>Short stay spaces will be utilised for all day parking reducing available proximity spaces for shoppers/visitors to the town centre</p>	<p>No significant impact.</p>	<p>The pilot to continue provided that detailed reasoning is given and an assessment carried out of the need for the permit</p>
<p><b>Offer 'free period' i.e. 'One hour free'</b></p>	<p>Shoppers/visitors can park for free reducing the inconvenience of purchasing a ticket.</p> <p>Encourage short stay shoppers to use a town centre for short trips</p>	<p>That people will require longer than 1 hour to park to undertake the purpose of their visit not returning within the allocated timeframe and be issued with a PCN.</p> <p>Visitors will restrict their activities within the town to 1 hour, reducing income levels and reducing visitor activities</p>	<p>Decrease in predicted revenue.</p> <p>Cost to re-programme machines</p>	<p>Not to offer a free period of parking</p>
<p><b>Reduce hours of charging e.g. 8am – 3pm or 10am – 5pm</b></p>	<p>Allow parents to drop off/collect children from school ensuring they do not park on the highway</p> <p>Allow shoppers/visitors to park without having to pay.</p> <p>Allow shoppers to park without the inconvenience of purchasing a ticket during the specified hours</p>	<p>Decrease in the level of income required to ensure full management and enforcement of the service.</p> <p>e.g. Introducing 'free after 3pm' will reduce income levels by 13% or £80k over all car parks in the County</p>	<p>Significant - Decrease in predicted revenue</p>	<p>Not to reduce the hours of charging</p>
<p><b>Free parking periods e.g. One day per week or Saturdays before Christmas etc.</b></p>	<p>Encourage shoppers / visitors to the town centre reducing financial impact.</p>	<p>Commuters and shop workers will utilise the car park on the free days reducing available spaces for visitors/shoppers.</p> <p>These periods normally coincide with the busiest periods of the year for traders and non-availability of parking at these times will detrimental to the town centres</p>	<p>Decrease in predicted revenue</p>	<p>No free periods to be offered</p>

<p><b>Free parking on Town /Community Council Event days.</b></p>	<p>Short Stay car parks can be utilised for additional all day parking.</p> <p>Discourage visitors parking on street causing congestion to highway network.</p> <p>Reduce risk of visitors receiving PCNs due to not buying P&amp;D ticket</p>	<p>Commuters and shop workers will utilise the car park on the free days reducing available spaces for visitors/shoppers.</p> <p>These periods normally coincide with the busiest periods of the year for traders and non-availability of parking at these times will detrimental to the town centres</p>	<p>Reduce projected revenue</p>	<p>No free periods to be offered</p>
<p><b>Introduce ‘Double ticketing’ allowing businesses to reimburse costs to customers on receipt of second copy.</b></p>	<p>The refund process can be advertised in car park and in wider promotional literature produced by the business.</p> <p>Businesses can offer a refund on receipt of the second ticket</p> <p>No impact on income levels to the Council</p>	<p>Residents will discard their ticket before redeeming in a business.</p> <p>Small additional cost because double the amount of tickets need to be purchased.</p> <p>P&amp;D machines have to be reprogrammed.</p>	<p>Small cost to change the P&amp;D machine software.</p> <p>Purchase double the amount of tickets</p>	<p>Support the practice of double ticketing on receipt of an expression of interest from Town Council or Trade organisation.</p>
<p><b>Allow advertising on the reverse of the P&amp;D ticket</b></p>	<p>Businesses can advertise their products or services offered, increasing the footfall to their premises or use of their service.</p>	<p>Businesses reluctance to pay for advertising</p>	<p>Income stream will potentially reduce the cost of P&amp;D tickets to FCC.</p>	<p>Advertising on the reverse of a P&amp;D ticket will be permitted for interested partner</p>
<p><b>Pay back a percentage of income above target level to T&amp;CC.</b></p>	<p>T&amp;CC can invest revenue into the town centre to improve vibrancy and vitality</p>	<p>Only some T&amp;CC see benefit as charging is not above base level in majority of town centres.</p> <p>The arrangement will result in an unfair system across the County</p> <p>The projections were subject to a number of variables which are out of the control of the Town Councils.</p>	<p>Not significant</p>	<p>Not considered fair or viable and cannot be progressed.</p>
<p><b>Review percentage of income above base level currently paid to Town Councils (currently 10%)</b></p>	<p>Increased income for T&amp;CC to invest in town centre</p>	<p>Reduced revenue for management and enforcement of the service impacting on budget</p>	<p>Significant – reduce projected revenue</p>	<p>Maintain 10% level</p>

<b>Review short stay on Street parking arrangements (up to 30 minutes) and consider the option to reverse the pedestrian only areas in Buckley and Holywell</b>	<p>Visitors/shoppers allowed 30 minutes free parking in proximity to shops. Free, convenient parking for those wanting to spend a short period of time in the town centre.</p> <p>Removing pedestrian zone could encourage shoppers to town centre</p>	<p>Impact on the high street health and safety.</p> <p>In adequate available space on street to support limited waiting parking.</p>	<p>Minimal financial impact regarding parking revenue.</p> <p>Cost to changing TRO / implementation</p>	<p>Consider areas for additional limited waiting on street and review the pedestrian zones in each town</p>
<b>Review Charging levels County wide</b>	<p>Increase revenue to support additional management and enforcement.</p>	<p>Impact on on-street parking while drivers avoid increased charges</p>	<p>Significant – increase/decrease revenue impacting on budget</p>	<p>Retain current charging levels for all town centres</p>
<b>Review coverage definition currently "All Towns in the County with more than 50 available spaces"</b>	<p>Provide a consistent approach to car parking charges reducing criticism from members of the public.</p> <p>Income to support the management and enforcement of service.</p> <p>Uniform approach to car parking provision, ensuring that effective charging best utilises parking places</p>	<p>Smaller car parks may become underutilised.</p> <p>Increase on street parking while avoiding charges</p>	<p>Provide minimal income to support the management of the service</p>	<p>Retain existing coverage</p>
<b>Review the number of disabled parking spaces provided.</b>	<p>Blue badge holders have adequate space to alight their vehicles.</p>	<p>Reduce the number of non-disabled spaces in car park.</p>	<p>Not significant - Reduce income as non disabled spaces being not chargeable</p>	<p>Review to ensure disabled spaces are provided in all car parks to standard number required</p>
<b>Review the need for Motor cycle spaces</b>	<p>Allow motorcycles an area to park without taking a whole parking place increasing the number of spaces available</p>	<p>Ensuring that the motor cycles have paid the valid tariff</p>	<p>Not significant – Additional income due to increased spaces</p>	<p>Review Motorcycle spaces in larger car parks</p>
<b>Should the disabled spaces continue to be FOC</b>	<p>All users of the car park are subject to charges reducing criticism for inequality</p>	<p>Location and accessibility of the P&amp;D machines may be an issue for users</p>	<p>Increase revenue for improved management/enforcement.</p>	<p>Existing arrangements to remain</p>
<b>Review the adequacy of Car Park Signage</b>	<p>Ensure that car users are fully aware of the rules and contravention of using the car park.</p> <p>Reduce the number of PCNs issued by</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Cost of providing additional signs.</p>	<p>A full review of car parking signs to be undertaken</p>

	increased awareness of P&D			
<b>Review location / number of machines in car park</b>	Ensure that machines are in correct location and accessible for users and that there are sufficient machines in each car park/per space available. Additional machines can be utilised to ensure a means to pay at all times	N/A	Cost to relocating machine.  Cost to adding additional machine	Review suitability of machine number/location.

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## ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Wednesday 15 June, 2016
<b>Report Subject</b>	Forward Work Programme
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	N / A
<b>Report Author</b>	Environment 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 Environment Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

### RECOMMENDATION

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

## REPORT DETAILS

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

<b>7.00</b>	<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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ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME

**Draft Forward Work Programme**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Presentation</b>	<b>Scrutiny Focus</b>	<b>Responsible/Contact Officer</b>	<b>Submission Deadline</b>
<b>19 July 2016 2.00 p.m.</b>	Rights of Way Service Review (Part 2)	To consider the review	Consultation	Chief Officer Planning & Environment	
	Annual Performance Report (Planning)	To receive the Annual Performance Report (Planning) for Flintshire County Council.	Assurance	Chief Officer Planning and Environment	
	Rogue Traders App	To inform members of the rogue traders app available to members of the public in Flintshire	Information	Chief Officer Planning & Environment	
	DOG DNA Task and Finish Group feedback	To receive an update report from the Task & Finish group	Options Consultation	Facilitator	
	Review of Highway Inspection Policy and Highway Structures Inspection Policy	To review the Council's policy on highway safety inspections, intervention criteria and response times.	Assurance	Chief Officer Streetscene and Transportation	
<b>14 Sept 2016 2pm</b>					
<b>2 November 2016 10.00 am</b>	Renewable energy	To receive an update report on progress to date		Energy Manager	

**ENVIRONMENT OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Purpose of Report/Presentation</b>	<b>Scrutiny Focus</b>	<b>Responsible/Contact Officer</b>	<b>Submission Deadline</b>
<b>7 December 2016 10.00 am</b>					
<b>9 December 2016 10.00 am (Budget meeting)</b>					
<b>11 January 2017 10.00 am</b>					
<b>13 January 2017 10.00 am (Budget meeting)</b>					
<b>8 February 2017 10.00 am</b>					
<b>8 March 2017 2pm</b>					
<b>13 June 2017 10.00 am</b>					
<b>11 July 2017 10.00 am</b>					

**ITEMS TO BE SCHEDULED as agreed by Committee**

Item	Purpose of Report/Session	Responsible / Contact Officer
Collaborative Projects update (To receive an update on collaborative projects regionally and sub-regionally)		To be confirmed

**REGULAR ITEMS**

Month	Item	Purpose of Report	Responsible / Contact Officer
Quarterly/ Half-Yearly	<b>Improvement Plan Monitoring and Performance Reports</b>	To enable Members to fulfil their scrutiny role in relation to performance monitoring.	Chief Officers
Half-Yearly	<b>North Wales Residual Waste Treatment Project</b>	To receive and consider further details on the progress of the project.	To be confirmed

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