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To: Cllr David Healey (Chairman)

Councillors: Janet Axworthy, Sian Braun, Geoff Collett, Paul Cunningham, Andy Dunbobbin, Patrick Heesom, Dave Hughes, Kevin Hughes, Tudor Jones, Dave Mackie, Ian Smith, Martin White and David Williams

**Co-opted Member:**

Lynn Bartlett, David Hytch, Rebecca Stark and Bernard Stuart

12 January 2018

Dear Sir/Madam

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, 18th January, 2018 in the Council Chamber, County Hall, Mold CH7 6NA to consider the following items

**ALL MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL ARE INVITED TO THIS MEETING**  
**\* Please note the time and venue for the 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 23 November 2017.

4 **SCHOOL BALANCES** (Pages 11 - 28)

Report of Chief Officer (Education and Youth) - Cabinet Member for Education

**Purpose:** To provide the Committee with details of the closing balances held by Flintshire schools at the end of the financial year.

5 **2018/19 COUNCIL FUND BUDGET – STAGE TWO PROPOSALS FOR THE SCHOOL FUNDING FORMULA LEVEL** (Pages 29 - 48)

Report of Chief Officer (Education and Youth) - Cabinet Member for Education, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance

**Purpose:** To consider Stage Two Proposals for the School Funding Formula Level as part of the 2018/19 Council Fund Budget setting process

6 **WELSH GOVERNMENT'S (WG) 21ST CENTURY SCHOOLS PROGRAMME AND EDUCATION PROGRAMME BAND B AND MUTUAL INVESTMENT MODEL (MIM)** (Pages 49 - 58)

Report of Chief Officer (Education and Youth), Chief Officer (Organisational Change) - Cabinet Member for Education, Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

**Purpose:** The report outlines the projects contained within the Council's SOP submission to WG for the proposed Band B programme and provides further information on Mutual Investment Model

7 **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME** (Pages 59 - 66)

Report of Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator - Not Applicable

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

Yours faithfully



Robert Robins  
Democratic Services Manager

## **EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE** **23 NOVEMBER 2017**

Minutes of the meeting of the Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held in the Delyn Committee Room, County Hall, Mold, Flintshire on Thursday, 23 November 2017.

### **PRESENT: David Healey (Chairman)**

Councillors: Janet Axworthy, Sian Braun, Paul Cunningham, Patrick Heesom, Dave Hughes, Kevin Hughes, Tudor Jones, Dave Mackie, Ian Smith, Martin White and David Williams

**CO-OPTED MEMBERS:** Lynn Bartlett and Rebecca Stark

**SUBSTITUTION:** Councillor Gladys Healey (for Andy Dunbobbin)

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor Geoff Collett. Mr David Hytch and Mr Bernard Stuart. Interim Senior Manager School Improvement Systems

**CONTRIBUTORS:** Councillor Ian Roberts (Cabinet Member for Education), Interim Chief Officer (Education and Youth), Senior Manager School Planning and Provision, Early Years and Family Support Manager, and Learning Advisor – Health Wellbeing and Safeguarding

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator and Democratic Services Officer

## **24. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **25. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 5 October 2017 had been circulated to Members with the agenda.

### **Accuracy**

Councillor Paul Cunningham said he had submitted his apologies to the meeting but this had not been recorded.

Councillor Patrick Heesom expressed concerns that the comments he had made about the Rural Small Schools Grant had not been recorded in the minutes and said that in light of the advice now available about the criteria from Welsh Government on the Grant being provided to schools with pupil numbers higher than 90, the recommendation be reviewed. He also expressed concern that his comments on the Youth Service had not been recorded and asked that a report on the Youth Service be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

Councillor David Williams commented on the proposals for the new school in Penyffordd and the forthcoming meeting with teachers. The Senior Manager School Planning and Provision invited Councillor Williams to speak to him following the meeting but commented that the Council was seeking to put forward the best possible proposal for Penyffordd.

**RESOLVED:**

That subject to the above amendments the minutes be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

**26. FREE CHILDCARE OFFER**

The Interim Chief Officer (Education and Youth) introduced a report to provide an update on the developing Free Childcare Offer and seek agreement to extend the Offer to other areas of Flintshire. She invited the Early Years and Family Support Manager to present the report.

The Early Years and Family Support Manager provided background information and advised that the Offer was currently being piloted in specific areas within Flintshire and that the Authority was working with the Welsh Government to develop local models for the further full national roll out. She gave a presentation on the Funded Childcare Offer for 3 and 4 year olds which covered the following main points:

- the value of quality childcare
- what is the Childcare Offer
- what does it mean for a parent
- what is early education
- how will parents know if they are eligible
- aims of the pilot/early implementers
- can a parent choose any childcare provider
- will a parent have to pay for anything
- how do parents apply

The Chairman thanked the Early Years and Family Support Manager for her work and an informative presentation.

In response to a question from Councillor Kevin Hughes around the list of areas where people could apply for free childcare which had been circulated to Members, the Early Years and Family Support Manager agreed to check that the list was accurate and inform the Committee following the meeting. Councillor Hughes also asked when the scheme would be provided in rural areas. Officers advised that the WG was committed to a full national roll out of the funded childcare offer by the end of the current Welsh Assembly in 2021, however, appropriate resources would need to be provided. The Interim Chief Officer reported there had been positive feedback from the WG regarding the progress of the scheme in Flintshire.

Members spoke in support of the Childcare Offer and expressed their agreement to extend the offer to other areas of Flintshire. Mrs. Rebecca Stark asked that the Committee's thanks be forwarded to the Team for their hard work in implementing the Childcare offer. The Early Years and Family Support Manager agreed to pass on the favourable comments which had been expressed by the Committee to her team at the next meeting of the Task Group.

**RESOLVED:**

The Committee welcomed the progress made with implementation of the Childcare offer and look forward to the proposed extension of the pilot to all areas within Flintshire.

**27. CLASS SIZES**

The Interim Chief Officer (Education and Youth) introduced the report to inform of the Welsh Government's (WG) Reducing Infants Class Sizes and Raising Standards Grant. She advised that the Cabinet Secretary for Education had announced details of a new £36m fund to address infant class sizes and raise standards which was being made available nationally from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2021. The Interim Chief Officer reported on the main considerations, as detailed in the report, and drew attention to the criteria for the grant funding and the Council's submission to the WG which outlined how it proposed to use the revenue funding to raise standards in targeted schools.

Councillor Kevin Hughes referred to the two proposed projects identified in the report and asked what work had been undertaken around the suitability/circumstances issues. In response, the Senior Manager, School Planning and Provision outlined the objectives and criteria for identifying projects and explained that there were currently 78 schools across the County with class sizes larger than 29 pupils.

In response to a query from Mrs Rebecca Stark regarding how the proposal would impact on pupils in receipt of Free School Meals (FSM) the Interim Chief Officer advised that only one school had been identified as in an amber category for support.

Councillor Patrick Heesom asked that a further report on how the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Band B school programme aligned with the class sizes grant from Welsh Government be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee. Officers agreed to provide a report in the New Year.

**RESOLVED:**

That the Committee notes the contents of the report and expressed support for the business case presented to the Welsh Government.

## **28. COUNCIL PLAN 2017/18 – MID YEAR MONITORING**

The Interim Chief Officer introduced a report to review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risks, as identified in the Council Plan 2017/18. She advised that it was a positive report with 88% of activities being assessed as making good progress and 67% likely to achieve the desired outcome. In addition 65% of performance indicators met or exceeded target. Risks were also being successfully managed with the majority being assessed as moderate or minor. The Interim Chief Officer referred to the three major risks, as detailed in the report, and referring to the sustainability of funding streams she advised that the Council had recently received notice, without prior warning, that the WG had made an 11% cut to the Education Improvement Grant (EIG).

Councillor Ian Roberts explained that in addition to the cut in funding to the EIG the School Uniform Grant for year 7 pupils entitled to Free School Meals had also been withdrawn without prior notice.

During discussion Members expressed a number of concerns regarding the cuts in grant funding and the lack of notice to enable the Council and schools to plan for the impact. Councillor Ian Roberts commented on the implications of the teachers pay rise next year and commented that any increase above 1% in public sector pay would need to be funded centrally. Councillor Patrick Heesom proposed that a letter be sent on behalf of the Committee to outline the Committee's concerns and this was seconded by Councillor Ted Palmer. It was agreed that a letter be written to Mrs Kirsty Williams, Cabinet Secretary for Education, outlining the following issues:-

- The proposed 11% reduction to the Education Improvement Grant
- The removal of the Small and Rural School Grant
- The withdrawal of the School Uniform Grant for year 7 pupils entitled to Free School Meals

Councillor Dave Mackie expressed a number of concerns around the format of the performance monitoring report shown at Appendix 1. The Facilitator agreed to speak to the Performance Team to ensure that the formatting was improved for future reports. Councillor Mackie commented that there had been previous proposals to provide training for Members to enable them to better understand the performance information presented and asked if this was going to be progressed. The Facilitator agreed to raise this matter with the Democratic Services Manager as part of the Member Development Programme.

Councillor Mackie queried the figures shown on page 51 of the report concerning the 'percentage of young people aged 16 – 18 in the youth justice system offered education, training or employment'. It was agreed that the Facilitator would contact the Youth Justice Manager to seek clarification on the figures presented.

Mrs Rebecca Stark commented on the risk around leadership capacity as referred to in the progress report and asked if there was a risk that there could be insufficient qualified or suitable Headteachers in the future. The Interim Chief Officer commented that the situation was becoming more challenging, however, schools in Flintshire had not had a problem in appointing robust candidates. She explained that GwE had developed a strong professional development opportunities programme to support current postholders and ensure there were suitable candidates for the future.

Ms Rebecca Stark referred to the risk relating to the requirements placed on the Council and schools by the forthcoming Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Bill resulting in the need for additional resources in terms of specialist services and provision. The Interim Chief Officer explained that every school should have an early years Additional Learning Needs (ALN) Co-ordinator and that the Authority was working hard for a dedicated ALN co-ordinator to prepare for 2020 planning.

Councillor Patrick Heesom raised concerns that no progress was being made on the provision of a satisfactory Youth Service in Flintshire. In response Councillor Ian Roberts explained that work was progressing on the Youth Council and suggested that the item be included on the Forward Work Programme so that an update could be provided to a future meeting of the Committee.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the Committee notes the mid-year monitoring report;
- (b) That the Committee seek clarity in future presentation of performance monitoring reports; and
- (c) That a letter be written to Mrs Kirsty Williams, Cabinet Secretary for Education, outlining the concerns raised by the Committee on the following issues:-
  - The proposed 11% reduction to the Education Improvement Grant;
  - The removal of the Small and Rural School Grant;
  - The withdrawal of the School Uniform Grant for year 7 pupils entitled to Free School Meals

**29. SOCIAL MEDIA AND INTERNET SAFETY IN SCHOOLS**

The Interim Chief Officer (Education and Youth) introduced a report to provide details of social media and internet safety provided to schools. She introduced Claire Sinnott, Learning Advisor – Health Wellbeing and Safeguarding and invited her to present the report.

The Learning Advisor explained that the report had been produced in response to Members seeking reassurance that children and young people in

Flintshire schools were receiving appropriate support to develop their skills regarding the use of social media and internet safety. She provided background information and context and reported on the national, regional, and local developments, as detailed in the report.

Councillor Kevin Hughes spoke in support of the 360 Degree Safe Cymru e-safety self-review tool and said all schools in Wales should be encouraged to take up the tool. He congratulated Cornist Park Primary School on gaining the Online Safety Mark and emphasised the need for parental engagement and for peer to peer support to be encouraged in schools. During discussion it was agreed that Councillor Kevin Hughes would produce a statement for local newspapers on the support being provided by the Council to children, young people, and teachers on social media and internet safety and that this would be circulated to the Committee.

In response to the questions and comments from the Chairman and Councillor Dave Mackie around compiling all the information for teachers to access in a pack, the Learning Advisor agreed to provide an information pack and circulate to all Schools.

In response to a query from Councillor Tudor Jones about how the work to raise awareness amongst pupils was measured to ensure its effectiveness, the Learning Advisor explained that the Schools Health Research Network Services take part in secondary schools every two years and all schools were signed up. She agreed to share the findings on how effective the work to raise awareness had been measured.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the Committee notes the report on social media and internet safety and confirm that it has received an appropriate level of assurance about the support being provided to children, young people and teachers to keep themselves safe;
- (b) That the support for schools in the ongoing development of the Digital Competence Framework (DCF) and utilising the 360 Degree Safe Cymru tool be acknowledged; and
- (c) That the Committee receive regular update reports on social media and internet safety support being provided to children, young people and teachers.

**30. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME**

The Education & Youth Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator presented the current Forward Work Programme for consideration. She advised that it had been agreed that the next meeting of the Committee to be held on 21 December 2017 would be cancelled and the items to be considered at the meeting would be moved to the next meeting on 1 February 2018. She explained that it was proposed that the briefing session on Corporate



Safeguarding which was to be held prior to the start of the December meeting, be held prior to a meeting of the County Council.

During discussion the following amendments were proposed to the Forward Work Programme:

- that a report on the Youth Service be brought to a future meeting of the Committee;
- that social media and internet safety in schools be a regular item on the Committee's forward work programme
- that a report on how the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Band B school programme aligned with the class sizes grant from Welsh government be submitted to a future meeting of the Committee
- that an update report on the rollout of free childcare provision be submitted to a joint meeting of the Education & Youth and Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committees
- that an update report on the Early Entitlement Hub be submitted to a joint meeting of the Education & Youth and Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committees.

The Facilitator drew attention to paragraph 1.03 of the report and advised that at the meeting of the Constitution & Democratic Services Committee held on 25 October 2017, it was resolved that each Committee should be canvassed for views on its meeting preference as part of its forward work programme. She referred to the options as detailed in the report and asked the Committee to express a preference for its meeting pattern. The outcome would be reported back to the Constitution & Democratic Services Committee.

Councillor Patrick Heesom proposed that the Committee retained its current arrangement to meet on a Thursday afternoon at 2.00 p.m. This was seconded by Councillor Dave Mackie and when put to the vote was agreed.

**RESOLVED:**

- (a) That the Forward Work Programme be amended;
- (b) That the Facilitator, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises; and
- (c) That the Committee's preference to meet at 2pm on Thursdays be reported back to the Constitution & Democratic Services Committee.

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

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

(The meeting started at 2.00 pm and ended at 4.33 pm)

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**Chairman**



## EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday, 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
<b>Report Subject</b>	School Balances
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Education
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
<b>Type of Report</b>	Operational

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The table below shows the overall reserve balances held by schools by school sector at the end of the 2016/17 financial year compared with the previous year.

School Sector	2016-17 Schools Delegated Budget	March 2017 Balance surplus/ (deficit)	March 2016 Balance surplus/ (deficit)	Change Between Years
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>Primary Totals</b>	<b>45,488</b>	<b>2,179</b>	<b>2,682</b>	<b>(503)</b>
<b>Secondary Totals</b>	<b>40,596</b>	<b>(876)</b>	<b>(455)</b>	<b>(421)</b>
<b>Specialist Totals</b>	<b>3,549</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Overall School Balances</b>	<b>89,633</b>	<b>1,533</b>	<b>2,424</b>	<b>(890)</b>

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Members are requested to note the school balances as at the 31 March 2017.
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## REPORT DETAILS

<b>1.00</b>	<b>EXPLAINING SCHOOL BALANCES</b>																				
1.01	The analysis of reserve balances for each school in Flintshire as at the end of March 2017 is shown at appendix 1.																				
1.02	<p><b>The National Picture</b></p> <p>The National Statistical bulletin on school reserves is attached at appendix 2. A summary of the position in relationship to Flintshire is shown below.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="5">Average Reserves Per Pupil £</th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th>2017</th> <th>2016</th> <th>Change</th> <th>%</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Flintshire</td> <td>69</td> <td>100</td> <td>-33</td> <td>-31%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wales</td> <td>102</td> <td>141</td> <td>-39</td> <td>-28%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Average Reserves Per Pupil £						2017	2016	Change	%	Flintshire	69	100	-33	-31%	Wales	102	141	-39	-28%
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1.03	In Flintshire secondary school budgets continue to be under pressure. At the end of the financial year there were 7 secondary schools with deficits. Forecasts for the current financial year show that the situation will worsen with potentially more schools slipping into deficit and the overall level of secondary school deficits increasing.																				
1.04	Whilst primary balances in Flintshire have generally held up well there was a 19% fall in primary balances by March 2017 compared to the previous year. Primary forecasts suggest that there will be a significant fall in balances by the end of the current financial year.																				
1.05	<p>Primary school reserves ranged from a surplus of £143k (Maes Y Felin) to a deficit of £22k (St Winifred's).</p> <p>There were 4 primary schools with deficit balances totalling £51k compared with 7 primary schools and deficits of £90k in the previous year.</p> <p>There were 14 primary schools with balances greater than £50k compared with 20 schools in the previous year.</p>																				
	<p><b>Surplus Balances</b></p> <p>In accordance with the Authority's policy, schools must provide a statement on how they intend to use any surplus over the £50k for primary schools and over £100k for secondary schools and specialist schools. The Authority also requires a statement from schools as to the use that the governing body proposes to make of a school balance which exceeds 5% of the school budget share or £10,000, whichever is the greater.</p> <p>The Schools Accounting Team request and scrutinise this information</p>																				

	paying particular attention to those schools with balances over £50k/£100k.
1.06	<p><b>Deficit Balances</b></p> <p>Governors have no legal right to set a deficit budget without the consent of the Authority and should not presume that such consent will be granted. However, the Authority will consider approving a licensed deficit to a school where it agrees that there are circumstances in which it would be unreasonable for that school to balance its budget in the current financial year.</p> <p>Outside this provision, schools should ensure that total planned expenditure for the financial year should not exceed the budget share, adjusted by amounts carried forward from the previous financial year. The Authority has no power to write off the deficit balance of any school.</p> <p>Deficit balances are carried forward every year by the deduction of the relevant amounts from the following year's budget share. The Authority has a licensed deficit guidance and procedure which schools must adhere to.</p>

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	The impact of continuing austerity measures on the financial resilience of schools is an area of concern.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	A report on school balances as at the end of March 2017 was taken to the September meeting of the Schools Budget Forum.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	As funding levels to schools decrease as a consequence of the austerity measures facing local government, there is a risk that more schools will slip into a deficit position. The Schools Accounting Team have developed a risk rating process to identify schools where the financial position is a cause for concern so that they can target their support.
4.02	To balance budgets schools may need to review their staffing structures which may result in redundancies.
4.03	Continued pressure on school finances may result in increased class sizes, a reduced curriculum and falling standards.
4.04	Schools forecasting a significant deficit position will be required to apply for a licensed deficit. The application will be reviewed by the Finance Manager and approval granted by the Chief Officer.
4.05	Schools deficits are funded by the overall collective balances of schools,

	however there is a risk that the level of deficits will exceed the positive balances. This means that the Authority will have to consider how net deficit school budgets are funded.
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<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1 – Final School Balances 2016-17 Appendix 2 – School Reserves 2017 National Report

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	None.  <b>Contact Officer:</b> Lucy Morris, Education & Youth Finance Manager <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 704016 <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:Lucy.morris@flintshire.gov.uk">Lucy.morris@flintshire.gov.uk</a>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	<b>School Reserves</b> Reserves are sums of money that schools carry forward from one year to the next. They arise from underspends and overspends against school allocations over time. Schools are responsible for managing their own finances. The level of reserves held by an individual school will depend on a number of factors. These will include the timing of receipt of income and of payments, and the level of contingency fund the school governing body considers appropriate and the particular plans each school has for expenditure.

## Flintshire Schools final balances As At March 2017

School	2016-17 School Delegated Formula Budget £	March 2017 Balance surplus/(deficit) £	% of Budget £
<b>Primary</b>			
Brynford CP	327,223	25,883	7.9%
Buckley Westwood CP	802,366	6,298	0.8%
Buckley Southdown	1,188,577	62,005	5.2%
Buckley Mountain Lane	1,321,577	43,271	3.3%
Caerwys VP	266,366	16,598	6.2%
Carmel CP	622,453	26,242	4.2%
Ysgol Y Foel	288,199	4,052	1.4%
Ysgol Parc Y Llan	368,607	35,663	9.7%
Bryn Deva	870,851	34,044	3.9%
Golftyn CP	1,279,829	56,685	4.4%
Wepre CP	1,021,790	57,060	5.6%
Cae'R Nant	1,146,882	41,776	3.6%
Drury CP	506,218	2,880	0.6%
Ewloe Green	1,169,877	38,786	3.3%
Bryn Garth CP	392,163	29,336	7.5%
Flint Cornist Drive	990,440	58,319	5.9%
Ysgol Croes Atti	700,059	1,024	0.1%
Flint Gwynedd JR	1,473,841	47,919	3.3%
Flint St Marys Rc	953,501	72,435	7.6%
Maes Edwin*(Closed August 2016)	271,808	55,786	20.5%
Greenfield CP	867,491	25,371	2.9%
Gronant CP	294,589	16,609	5.6%
Gwernaffield CP	367,567	77,303	21.0%
Gwernymynydd CP	236,656	18,146	7.7%
Gwespyr Picton	246,291	16,133	6.6%
Hawarden Primary	1,251,322	10,492	0.8%
Hawarden Penarlag	675,260	14,030	2.1%
Hr Kinnerton Derwen	623,771	27,418	4.4%
St Winefrides RC	572,473	(25,621)	-4.5%
Ysgol Gwenffrwd	684,251	66,181	9.7%
Ysgol Estyn Hope	725,622	16,038	2.2%
Leeswood CP	489,590	18,749	3.8%
Lixwm CP	289,187	37,578	13.0%
Llanfynydd* (Closed August 2016)	211,568	38,250	18.1%
Mold Ysg Glanrafon	1,067,970	25,015	2.3%
Mold Bryn Coch	2,059,316	50,489	2.5%
Mold Ysg Bryn Gwali	692,204	86,021	12.4%
Mold St Davids RC	345,784	27,519	8.0%
Mostyn Bryn Pennant	481,113	49,149	10.2%
Nannerch VP	260,716	742	0.3%
Nercwys VP	233,759	25,854	11.1%
Northop Owen Jones	418,369	1,462	0.3%
Northop Hall CP	568,570	30,639	5.4%
Penyffordd Primary	847,773	43,129	5.1%
Pentrobin VP	383,684	(249)	-0.1%
Queensferry CP	665,207	76,141	11.4%
Rhos Helyg CP	503,667	31,255	6.2%
Saltney St Anthony's	520,159	45,854	8.8%
Saltney Ferry CP	461,508	1,586	0.3%
Saltney Wood Memorial	639,593	(3,600)	-0.6%
Sandycroft CP	1,078,066	40,786	3.8%
Sealand CP	689,881	2,782	0.4%

School	2016-17 School Delegated Formula Budget £	March 2017 Balance surplus/(deficit) £	% of Budget £
St Ethelwolds VP	391,448	13,988	3.6%
Ven Edward Morgan	904,189	72,548	8.0%
Ty Fynnon	986,080	36,108	3.7%
Sychdyn CP	522,423	32,201	6.2%
Trelawnyd VP	321,533	21,587	6.7%
Trelogan CP	281,135	5,628	2.0%
Ysgol Terrig Treuddyn	241,634	16,677	6.9%
Whitford VP	428,419	20,879	4.9%
Abermorddu	650,829	62,608	9.6%
Bagillt Glan Aber	456,532	83,299	18.2%
Bagillt Merllyn	602,334	(21,566)	-3.6%
Broughton CP	1,456,324	38,096	2.6%
Ysgol Mynydd Isa	1,813,586	47,334	2.6%
Ysgol Maes Y Felin	1,015,860	142,768	14.1%
<b>Primary Totals</b>	<b>45,487,930</b>	<b>2,179,465</b>	<b>5.7%</b>
<b>Secondary Schools</b>			
Buckley Elfed High	2,513,016	(139,804)	-5.6%
Connahs Quay High	3,747,225	(106,958)	-2.9%
John Summers High	1,731,099	(4,926)	-0.3%
Flint High	3,190,802	50,854	1.6%
St Richard Gwyn High	3,402,625	(426,957)	-12.5%
Hawarden High	4,716,897	65,125	1.4%
Holywell High	2,006,582	(270,244)	-13.5%
Castell Alun High	5,392,155	101,494	1.9%
Mold Alun High	6,695,373	36,926	0.6%
Ysgol Maes Garmon	2,441,460	(249,557)	-10.2%
Argoed High	2,683,904	83,545	3.1%
St Davids High	2,075,014	(15,575)	-0.8%
<b>Secondary Totals</b>	<b>40,596,151</b>	<b>(876,076)</b>	<b>-3.1%</b>
<b>Specialist Schools</b>			
Ysgol Pen Coch	1,648,534	57,886	3.5%
Ysgol Maes Hyfryd	1,900,313	172,108	9.1%
<b>Specialist Totals</b>	<b>3,548,846</b>	<b>229,994</b>	<b>6.3%</b>

Overall School Balances

<b>89,632,927</b>	<b>1,533,383</b>	<b>1.7%</b>
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## Reserves held by schools in Wales at 31 March 2017

19 October 2017  
SFR 157/2017

### Key points

- The overall level of reserves held by schools in Wales was £46 million at 31 March 2017, the equivalent of £102 per pupil (table 1). This is a decrease of 28% compared with the previous year (table 2). Reserves in primary schools accounted for £40 million or 88% of the total (table 4).
- Compared to the previous year, the overall level of positive reserves decreased by £12 million and the level of negative reserves decreased by £6.2 million. These figures combine to show a decrease of £18.1 million in total reserves (table 2).
- Isle of Anglesey had the highest level of reserves per pupil at £223 while Denbighshire had the lowest with a deficit of £70 per pupil (table 1).
- The level of reserves as a percentage of delegated schools expenditure was 2.1%, a decrease of 0.9 of a percentage point compared to the previous year (table 2).
- 195 primary, 73 secondary, 11 special, 1 nursery and 4 middle schools in Wales had negative reserves totalling £21 million. The remaining 1,304 schools had positive reserves, 152 of which had reserves in excess of 10% of their total delegated expenditure (tables 3 and 4).

### About this release

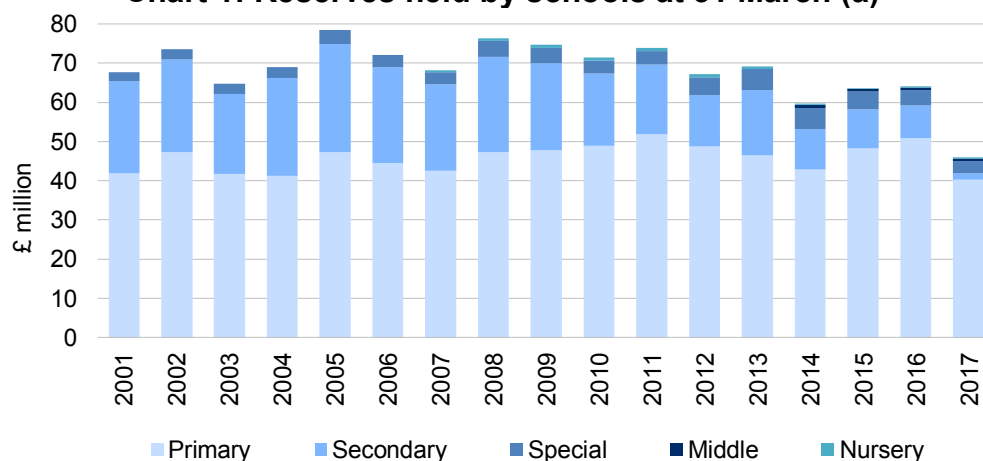
This statistical release provides an analysis of financial reserves held by schools in Wales for the financial years 2015-16 and 2016-17. Reserves are sums of money that schools carry forward from one year to the next. They arise from underspends and overspends against school allocations over time.

Additional information showing levels of school reserves by individual school is available on [StatsWales](http://StatsWales).

### In this release

<a href="#">Levels and per pupil</a>	2
<a href="#">Year on year change</a>	3
<a href="#">By sector</a>	7
<a href="#">Glossary</a>	8

**Chart 1: Reserves held by schools at 31 March (a)**



(a) Nursery schools are shown from 2007 and middle schools from 2014 onwards.

Table 1 provides an analysis of the reserves position at 31 March 2017 and the delegated schools expenditure during the 2016-17 financial year. Isle of Anglesey recorded the highest level of overall reserves per pupil (£223) while Denbighshire recorded the lowest level (-£70). Schools within each local authority can have positive or negative reserves and this is shown in more detail in tables 6 and 7.

**Table 1 - Delegated schools expenditure, level of school reserves and reserves per pupil**

Authority	2016-17		Level of school reserves at 31 March 2017					
	Delegated school expenditure (£ million)	Delegated school expenditure per pupil (£) (a)	Positive reserves (£ million)	Negative reserves (£ million)	Total reserves (£ million)	Positive reserves per pupil (£) (a)	Negative reserves per pupil (£) (a)	Total reserves per pupil (£) (a)
Isle of Anglesey	47.5	5,077	2.4	-0.3	2.1	251	-28	223
Gwynedd	86.3	5,237	3.3	-0.4	2.9	200	-26	175
Conwy	82.6	5,390	3.3	-0.0	3.2	213	-1	212
Denbighshire	76.6	5,073	1.5	-2.5	-1.1	98	-168	-70
Flintshire	111.8	4,922	2.8	-1.3	1.6	125	-56	69
Wrexham	91.3	4,847	2.2	-0.6	1.6	116	-29	87
Powys	87.6	4,954	2.9	-2.9	0.0	166	-164	2
Ceredigion	48.2	5,166	2.3	-0.6	1.7	247	-62	185
Pembrokeshire	87.0	5,124	1.9	-0.7	1.2	114	-43	71
Carmarthenshire	131.4	4,884	3.3	-1.6	1.7	123	-59	64
Swansea	161.0	4,711	8.0	-0.5	7.6	235	-14	222
Neath Port Talbot	86.7	4,374	3.1	-0.4	2.8	158	-19	139
Bridgend	109.3	4,794	2.1	-1.2	0.9	92	-54	38
Vale of Glamorgan	100.7	4,694	2.5	-0.2	2.3	119	-11	108
Cardiff	264.5	5,099	7.0	-2.7	4.2	135	-53	82
Rhondda Cynon Taf	181.2	4,759	4.9	-2.7	2.2	128	-71	56
Merthyr Tydfil	45.4	5,235	1.0	-0.1	1.0	121	-10	110
Caerphilly	128.0	4,691	3.5	-1.1	2.3	127	-41	85
Blaenau Gwent	49.5	5,650	1.3	-0.7	0.6	146	-80	66
Torfaen	69.5	4,796	2.2	-0.1	2.1	154	-6	148
Monmouthshire	52.5	4,617	1.0	-0.8	0.2	87	-69	18
Newport	111.6	4,587	4.9	-0.0	4.8	200	-2	199
Wales	2,210.3	4,892	67.5	-21.5	46.0	149	-48	102
Lowest		4,374	1.0	-2.9	-1.1	87	-168	-70
Highest		5,650	8.0	-0.0	7.6	251	-1	223

Source: Section 52 Outturn forms

(a) Calculated using provisional data. Full-time equivalent pupil numbers are calculated from the Pupil Level Annual School Census 2017. They are based on numbers at January 2017 so will not reflect changes throughout the year.

**Chart 2: Level of reserves per pupil at 31 March 2017**

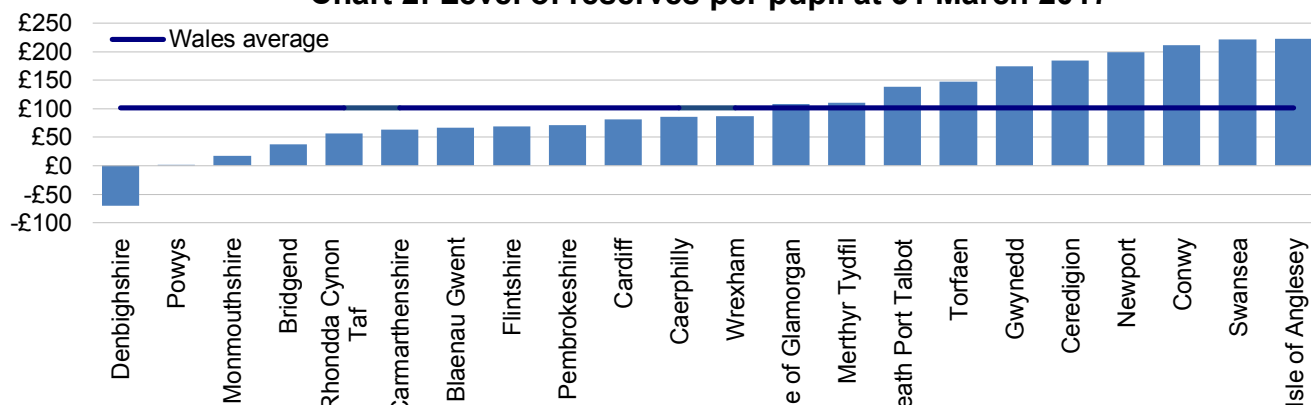


Table 2 shows the annual changes in school reserves. Compared to the previous year, the overall level of positive reserves decreased by £12 million and the level of negative reserves decreased by £6.2 million. These figures combine to show a decrease of £18.1 million in total reserves.

**Table 2 - Year on year changes in school reserves**

£ million

Per cent

Authority	Level of school reserves at 31 March									School reserves as a percentage of delegated school expenditure at 31 March		
	Positive			Negative			Total			Total		Percentage point change
	2016	2017	Change	2016	2017	Change	2016	2017	Change	2016	2017	
Isle of Anglesey	2.6	2.4	-0.3	-0.2	-0.3	-0.1	2.5	2.1	-0.4	5.2	4.4	-0.8
Gwynedd	3.8	3.3	-0.5	-0.4	-0.4	0.0	3.3	2.9	-0.5	3.9	3.3	-0.6
Conwy	4.0	3.3	-0.7	-0.0	-0.0	-0.0	4.0	3.2	-0.8	4.9	3.9	-1.0
Denbighshire	2.7	1.5	-1.2	-1.1	-2.5	-1.5	1.6	-1.1	-2.6	2.1	-1.4	-3.5
Flintshire	3.4	2.8	-0.6	-1.0	-1.3	-0.2	2.3	1.6	-0.8	2.1	1.4	-0.7
Wrexham	2.7	2.2	-0.5	-0.1	-0.6	-0.5	2.6	1.6	-0.9	2.9	1.8	-1.1
Powys	3.7	2.9	-0.7	-1.2	-2.9	-1.7	2.4	0.0	-2.4	2.7	0.0	-2.7
Ceredigion	2.4	2.3	-0.1	-0.5	-0.6	-0.1	1.9	1.7	-0.2	4.0	3.6	-0.4
Pembrokeshire	2.4	1.9	-0.4	-0.2	-0.7	-0.5	2.2	1.2	-0.9	2.5	1.4	-1.1
Carmarthenshire	4.5	3.3	-1.2	-0.9	-1.6	-0.7	3.7	1.7	-2.0	2.8	1.3	-1.5
Swansea	9.6	8.0	-1.6	-0.1	-0.5	-0.4	9.5	7.6	-2.0	6.3	4.7	-1.6
Neath Port Talbot	3.8	3.1	-0.7	-0.6	-0.4	0.2	3.2	2.8	-0.5	3.9	3.2	-0.7
Bridgend	2.8	2.1	-0.7	-0.6	-1.2	-0.6	2.2	0.9	-1.3	2.0	0.8	-1.2
Vale of Glamorgan	3.2	2.5	-0.6	-0.2	-0.2	-0.0	2.9	2.3	-0.6	3.0	2.3	-0.7
Cardiff	6.0	7.0	0.9	-3.5	-2.7	0.8	2.5	4.2	1.7	1.0	1.6	0.6
Rhondda Cynon Taf	6.0	4.9	-1.1	-2.4	-2.7	-0.3	3.6	2.2	-1.5	2.0	1.2	-0.8
Merthyr Tydfil	1.0	1.0	0.0	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.8	1.0	0.2	1.8	2.1	0.4
Caerphilly	3.8	3.5	-0.3	-0.9	-1.1	-0.2	2.9	2.3	-0.6	2.3	1.8	-0.5
Blaenau Gwent	1.5	1.3	-0.2	-0.3	-0.7	-0.4	1.2	0.6	-0.6	2.4	1.2	-1.2
Torfaen	2.4	2.2	-0.2	-0.2	-0.1	0.1	2.2	2.1	-0.1	3.2	3.1	-0.1
Monmouthshire	1.8	1.0	-0.8	-0.6	-0.8	-0.1	1.1	0.2	-0.9	2.1	0.4	-1.7
Newport	5.5	4.9	-0.6	0.0	-0.0	-0.0	5.5	4.8	-0.7	5.1	4.3	-0.8
Wales	79.5	67.5	-12.0	-15.3	-21.5	-6.2	64.1	46.0	-18.1	3.0	2.1	-0.9
Lowest										1.0	-1.4	
Highest										6.3	4.7	

Source: Section 52 Outturn forms

Table 3 shows the number of schools in Wales with reserves as a percentage of delegated schools expenditure at the end of 2016-17 broken down by school sector. The table groups schools according to whether the level of reserves is negative (i.e. a deficit), under 5%, between 5% and 10%, or over 10% of their delegated school expenditure. 195 primary and 73 secondary schools had negative reserves at 31 March 2017. 139 primary and 4 secondary schools had reserves of over 10% of their expenditure.

**Table 3 - Number of schools with reserves as a percentage of delegated schools expenditure**

Sector	<i>number</i>				All schools
	Negative	Less than 5%	Between 5% and 10%	Over 10%	
Nursery	1	5	5	2	13
Primary	195	669	316	139	1,319
Middle	4	3	2	1	10
Secondary	73	114	16	4	207
Special	11	14	8	6	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>805</b>	<b>347</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>1,588</b>

Source: Section 52 Outturn forms

Table 4 shows the total value of reserves as a percentage of delegated schools expenditure. The total deficit for primary schools with negative reserves was £5 million and £15 million for secondary schools. Reserves in schools with over 10% of their delegated expenditure amounted to £10 million for primary and £1 million for secondary schools.

**Table 4 - Level of school reserves as a percentage of delegated schools expenditure**

Sector	<i>£ million</i>				All schools
	Negative	Less than 5%	Between 5% and 10%	Over 10%	
Nursery	0.0	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.4
Primary	-4.9	17.3	17.7	10.2	40.3
Middle	-0.6	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6
Secondary	-14.8	10.4	4.6	1.4	1.6
Special	-1.1	0.8	1.7	1.6	3.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>-21.5</b>	<b>28.9</b>	<b>24.6</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>46.0</b>

Source: Section 52 Outturn forms

Table 5 shows the proportion of schools with reserves as a percentage of delegated schools expenditure. 15% of primary schools and 35% of secondary schools had negative reserves. 11% of primary schools and 2% of secondary schools had reserves greater than 10% of their delegated schools expenditure.

**Table 5 - Proportion of schools across each sector with reserves as a percentage of delegated schools expenditure**

Sector	<i>per cent</i>			
	Negative	Less than 5%	Between 5% and 10%	Over 10%
Nursery	8	38	38	15
Primary	15	51	24	11
Middle	40	30	20	10
Secondary	35	55	8	2
Special	28	36	21	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>10</b>

Source: Section 52 Outturn forms

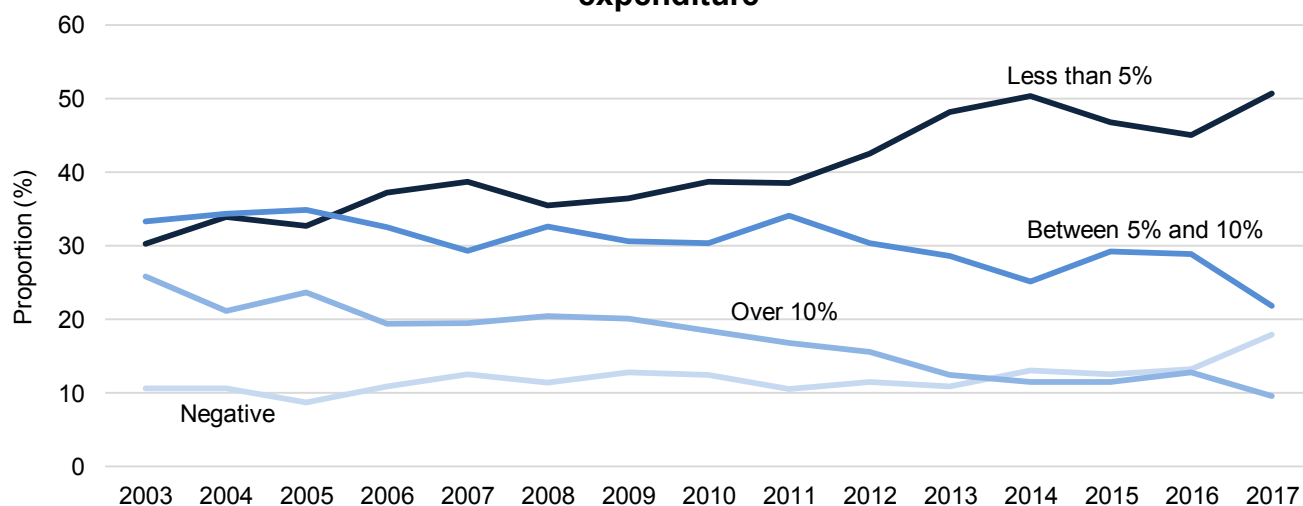
Table 6 shows the proportion of schools whose level of reserves is negative (i.e. a deficit), under 5%, between 5% and 10%, or greater than 10% of their delegated schools expenditure. Denbighshire had the highest proportion of schools with negative reserves (46%), whilst Swansea had the lowest proportion of schools with negative reserves (3%). Ceredigion had the highest proportion of schools (29%) with reserves of over 10%.

**Table 6 - Proportion of all schools across each local authority with reserves as a percentage of delegated schools expenditure**

	<i>per cent</i>			
	Negative	Less than 5%	Between 5% and 10%	Over 10%
Isle of Anglesey	9	38	30	23
Gwynedd	16	48	23	14
Conwy	6	55	31	8
Denbighshire	46	34	13	7
Flintshire	13	59	21	7
Wrexham	10	80	10	0
Powys	36	28	20	16
Ceredigion	7	27	36	29
Pembrokeshire	15	54	18	13
Carmarthenshire	32	44	13	10
Swansea	3	42	37	18
Neath Port Talbot	19	46	19	15
Bridgend	29	64	7	0
Vale of Glamorgan	7	67	18	9
Cardiff	10	65	20	4
Rhondda Cynon Taf	18	54	22	6
Merthyr Tydfil	4	79	14	4
Caerphilly	25	47	26	1
Blaenau Gwent	34	41	21	3
Torfaen	9	68	21	3
Monmouthshire	33	36	25	6
Newport	5	50	36	9
Wales	18	51	22	10
Lowest	3	27	7	0
Highest	46	80	37	29

Source: Section 52 Outturn forms

**Chart 3: Proportion of schools with reserves as a percentage of delegated schools expenditure**



**Chart 4: School reserves as a percentage of delegated schools expenditure**

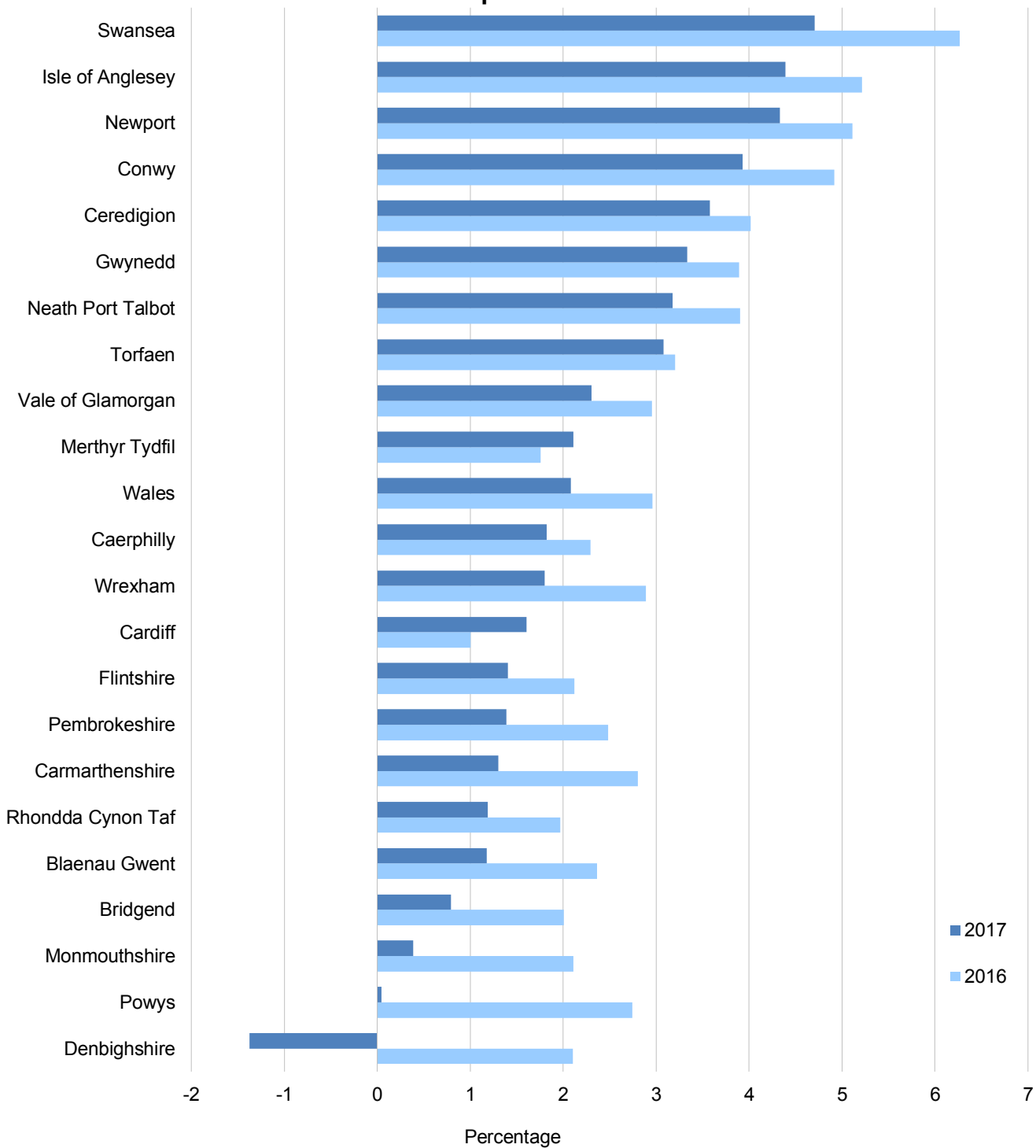


Table 7 shows the level of school reserves by local authority and school sector. The overall level of reserves were £40 million in primary schools and £2 million in secondary schools.

**Table 7 - Level of school reserves at 31 March 2017, by school sector**

Authority	<i>£ million</i>															
	Nursery			Primary			Middle			Secondary			Special			Overall
	Positive	Negative	Total	Positive	Negative	Total	Positive	Negative	Total	Positive	Negative	Total	Positive	Negative	Total	Total
Isle of Anglesey	.	.	.	1.8	-0.1	1.7	.	.	.	0.4	-0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.2	2.1
Gwynedd	.	.	.	2.1	-0.0	2.0	.	.	.	1.1	-0.3	0.8	0.1	-0.1	0.0	2.9
Conwy	.	.	.	2.1	-0.0	2.0	.	.	.	1.1	0.0	1.1	0.1	0.0	0.1	3.2
Denbighshire	.	.	.	0.7	-0.8	-0.1	.	-0.2	-0.2	0.2	-1.5	-1.3	0.6	-0.1	0.5	-1.1
Flintshire	.	.	.	2.3	-0.1	2.2	.	.	.	0.3	-1.2	-0.9	0.2	0.0	0.2	1.6
Wrexham	0.0	.	0.0	1.6	-0.0	1.5	.	.	.	0.6	-0.5	0.1	0.0	-0.0	-0.0	1.6
Powys	.	.	.	2.0	-0.4	1.5	.	-0.1	-0.1	0.7	-1.9	-1.1	0.2	-0.5	-0.3	0.0
Ceredigion	.	.	.	1.5	-0.0	1.5	0.4	-0.3	0.2	0.4	-0.3	0.1	.	.	.	1.7
Pembrokeshire	.	.	.	1.5	-0.2	1.3	.	.	.	0.4	-0.5	-0.2	0.1	0.0	0.1	1.2
Carmarthenshire	0.0	.	0.0	1.9	-1.0	0.8	.	.	.	1.3	-0.5	0.9	0.1	-0.1	-0.0	1.7
Swansea	.	.	.	5.5	-0.0	5.4	.	.	.	2.1	-0.4	1.7	0.5	0.0	0.5	7.6
Neath Port Talbot	.	.	.	2.3	-0.3	2.0	0.1	.	0.1	0.6	-0.1	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.1	2.8
Bridgend	.	.	.	1.0	-0.6	0.5	.	.	.	0.5	-0.6	-0.2	0.6	-0.0	0.6	0.9
Vale of Glamorgan	0.0	.	0.0	1.7	-0.1	1.6	0.1	.	0.1	0.7	-0.1	0.5	0.1	0.0	0.1	2.3
Cardiff	0.3	.	0.3	5.2	-0.2	5.0	.	.	.	1.0	-2.6	-1.6	0.6	0.0	0.6	4.2
Rhondda Cynon Taf	0.0	.	0.0	3.0	-0.1	2.8	0.5	.	0.5	1.1	-2.5	-1.3	0.3	-0.1	0.1	2.2
Merthyr Tydfil	0.0	.	0.0	0.9	0.0	0.9	.	.	.	0.2	-0.1	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.0
Caerphilly	.	.	.	2.3	-0.4	1.9	.	.	.	0.8	-0.8	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.4	2.3
Blaenau Gwent	.	.	.	0.8	-0.3	0.5	0.1	-0.0	0.1	0.3	-0.4	-0.0	0.0	-0.0	-0.0	0.6
Torfaen	0.0	.	0.0	1.3	-0.0	1.3	.	.	.	0.8	-0.1	0.7	0.1	0.0	0.1	2.1
Monmouthshire	.	.	.	1.0	-0.3	0.6	.	.	.	0.0	-0.3	-0.3	0.0	-0.1	-0.1	0.2
Newport	0.0	-0.0	0.0	3.2	-0.0	3.2	.	.	.	1.7	0.0	1.7	0.0	-0.0	-0.0	4.8
Wales	0.4	-0.0	0.4	45.2	-4.9	40.3	1.3	-0.6	0.6	16.4	-14.8	1.6	4.2	-1.1	3.1	46.0

Source: Section 52 Outturn forms

. not applicable

## **Glossary**

### **Definitions**

Reserves are sums of money that schools carry forward from one year to the next. They arise from underspends and overspends against school allocations over time.

Delegated school expenditure is actual education spending that is purely delegated or devolved by local authorities to schools and does not include any money held centrally by the local authority and spent on behalf of schools.

### **Background**

Schools are responsible for managing their own finances. The level of reserves held by an individual school at any point in time will depend on a number of factors. These will include the timing of receipt of income and of payments, the level of contingency fund the school governing body considers appropriate and the particular plans each school has for expenditure.

### **Key quality information**

Official Statistics are produced to high professional standards set out in the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They undergo regular quality assurance reviews to ensure that they meet customer needs. They are produced free from any political reference.

This section provides a summary of information on this output against six dimensions of quality: Relevance, Accuracy, Timeliness and Punctuality, Accessibility and Clarity, Coherence, and Comparability.

#### **Relevance**

The statistics are important and have a number of uses, for example: advice to Ministers; local government finance revenue settlement calculations; unitary authority comparisons and benchmarking; expenditure in Wales compared to other countries; informing the debate in the National Assembly for Wales and beyond; assisting in research in public expenditure issues; economic analysis.

#### **Accuracy**

The main source of information about local education authority expenditure is the Section 52 outturn (S52) return required under Section 52 of the [Schools Standards and Framework Act 1998](#), provided by local authorities. Data has been collated in this way from 2001. Prior to this, the data was not aggregated centrally to provide a Wales position. The latest returns relate to the final accounts for the 2016-17 financial year.

We collect 100% of returns from all twenty-two county councils. The collection is a 100% survey and as such no estimation of the figures is calculated, and hence there is no sampling error.

In tables where figures have been rounded to the nearest final digit there may be an apparent discrepancy between the sum of the constituent items and the total as shown.



Once we receive the data, it goes through further validation and verification checks, for example:

- spend per head by local authority;
- arithmetic consistency checks;
- cross checks with other relevant data collections;
- thorough tolerance checks;
- outturn comparison with budgets;
- cross checks with data from other government departments;
- verification that data outside of tolerances are correct.

The data that is collected adhere to recognised professional standards. Specifically, the finance data is required under legislation and also must adhere to CIPFA accounting procedures. However, further guidelines are also available on the interpretation of these standards to ensure consistency.

### **Timeliness and punctuality**

The data collection is carried out over the summer. The data is published in October, this allows time to collect, collate and validate the data.

All outputs adhere to the Code of Practice by pre-announcing the date of publication through the [upcoming calendar](#) web pages.

### **Accessibility and clarity**

Welsh local government finance statistics are published in an accessible, orderly, pre-announced manner on the Welsh Government website at 9:30am on the day of publication. Simultaneously the releases are also published on the National Statistics Publication Hub. All releases are available to download for free.

More detailed data are also available at the same time on the StatsWales website and this can be manipulated online or downloaded into spreadsheets for use offline.

We aim to use Plain English in our outputs and all outputs adhere to the Welsh Government accessibility policy. Furthermore, all our headlines are published in Welsh and English.

We regularly peer review our outputs.

### **Comparability and coherence**

Adhering to the professional code (CIPFA's SeRCOP) has meant that changes over time have been minimal. Where there have been time series which are not comparable from the start of the time series to the end this will be shown clearly in the outputs. Where advance warning is known of future changes these will be pre-announced in accordance with Welsh Government arrangements.

The existence of a professional code and our adherence to it provides assurance that the data are consistent across domains, such as local authorities.

Statistics on education expenditure are also published in both [England](#) and [Scotland](#).

## **National Statistics status**

The [United Kingdom Statistics Authority](#) has designated these statistics as National Statistics, in accordance with the Statistics and Registration Service Act 2007 and signifying compliance with the [Code of Practice for Official Statistics](#).

National Statistics status means that official statistics meet the highest standards of trustworthiness, quality and public value.

All official statistics should comply with all aspects of the Code of Practice for Official Statistics. They are awarded National Statistics status following an assessment by the UK Statistics Authority's regulatory arm. The Authority considers whether the statistics meet the highest standards of Code compliance, including the value they add to public decisions and debate.

It is the Welsh Government's responsibility to maintain compliance with the standards expected of National Statistics. If we become concerned about whether these statistics are still meeting the appropriate standards, we will discuss any concerns with the Authority promptly. National Statistics status can be removed at any point when the highest standards are not maintained, and reinstated when standards are restored.

## **Well-being of Future Generations Act (WFG)**

The Well-being of Future Generations Act 2015 is about improving the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales. The Act puts in place seven well-being goals for Wales. These are for a more equal, prosperous, resilient, healthier and globally responsible Wales, with cohesive communities and a vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language. Under section (10)(1) of the Act, the Welsh Ministers must (a) publish indicators ("national indicators") that must be applied for the purpose of measuring progress towards the achievement of the Well-being goals, and (b) lay a copy of the national indicators before the National Assembly. The 46 national indicators were laid in March 2016.

Information on indicators and associated technical information - [How do you measure a nation's progress? - National Indicators](#)

Further information on the [Well-being of Future Generations \(Wales\) Act 2015](#).

The statistics included in this release could also provide supporting narrative to the national indicators and be used by public services boards in relation to their local well-being assessments and local well-being plans.

## Further details

The document is available at: [gov.wales/statistics-and-research/reserves-held-schools](https://gov.wales/statistics-and-research/reserves-held-schools)

Further data is available on our StatsWales website:

[StatsWales: Delegated School Outturn](#)

## We want your feedback

We welcome any feedback on any aspect of these statistics which can be provided by email to [stats.finance@gov.wales](mailto:stats.finance@gov.wales)

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## EDUCATION AND YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday, 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
<b>Report Subject</b>	2018/19 Council Fund Budget – Stage Two Proposals for the School Funding Formula Level
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Education and Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Finance
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
<b>Type of Report</b>	Strategic

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council at its December meeting approved the Stage 2 budget for the Council Fund Budget 2018/19 subject to several specific proposals being referred to Overview and Scrutiny for detailed scrutiny prior to further consideration by Cabinet and ultimately Council. One of the specific budget proposals is that schools will only receive a 'cash flat' settlement for 2018-19 creating an efficiency of £1.143m, and that adjustments to school budgets are made based on pupil demography saving a further £0.288m.

The report outlines the potential risks and mitigations of such proposals on the delivery of quality educational services in Flintshire. The report also provides contextual information on the current level of school balances, reductions in grant funding from Welsh Government (WG), and an overview of the inflationary cost pressures facing schools.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the Committee considers the feasibility of a 'cash flat' settlement to schools and how the risks of such a proposal can be mitigated.
2	That the Committee reviews and comments on the current level of schools balances.

## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	<b>EXPLAINING THE STAGE 2 FORMULA FUNDING LEVELS AND RANGE OF PRESSURES FACING SCHOOLS FOR 2018/19</b>										
1.01	<p>Flintshire County Council has a strong track record in trying to protect front line education services and whilst the central educational budget has been reduced by 30% over the last three years, delegated budgets to schools have not been subject to the same efficiency measures.</p> <p>Despite the challenges of austerity over a prolonged period, the Council has managed to provide a small degree of financial protection to schools' delegated funding and has previously met the Welsh Government's Ministerial protection percentage uplifts for schools. Whilst this was welcomed by schools it was widely acknowledged that this uplift did not cover the full cost pressures schools have experienced in recent times and this is outlined in further detail below as important contextual information.</p> <p>With the Council now faced with a cut of 0.2% to its Revenue Support Grant for 2018/19 in its final settlement and the ongoing pressures identified in the Medium Term Financial Strategy, elected members are having to consider all remaining options to try and meet the legal requirement to set a balanced budget. This includes reviewing the current schools funding to offer only a 'cash flat' settlement for schools in 2018/19 and also apply a reduction to the quantum invested in the schools formula based on school population to reflect demographic changes.</p>										
1.02	<p>The original financial forecast of £11.7m reported in July 2017 included an estimate of schools inflationary cost pressures of £1.143m.</p> <p>The cost pressure was made up of:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="528 1285 1080 1547"> <thead> <tr> <th>Pressure</th> <th>18/19 (£m)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pay Inflation</td> <td>0.847</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Energy Inflation</td> <td>0.265</td> </tr> <tr> <td>NDR</td> <td>0.031</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>Total</b></td> <td><b>1.143</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Pressure	18/19 (£m)	Pay Inflation	0.847	Energy Inflation	0.265	NDR	0.031	<b>Total</b>	<b>1.143</b>
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1.03	<p>The table below sets out the funding levels for schools and the cost pressures they have had to absorb in recent years. There have been significant workforce pressures around National Insurance and teachers' pension costs which have impacted on schools.</p> <p>In addition to this there have been a number of things that have been implemented as part of the efficiency process which have directly affected schools. Remission funding was withdrawn and schools now have to fund this themselves, although this can be offset for pupils eligible for the Pupil Development Grant (PDG). The reduction in ALN services centrally has had a direct impact on schools and it is very evident when discussing concerns with schools that they are struggling to meet the increasing demands of ALN pupils from a cost perspective. This pressure is likely to increase when the new ALN reforms are implemented in the near future.</p>										

	<table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="4" style="text-align: left;"><b>Schools Pressures and Funding</b></th> </tr> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>15/16</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>16/17</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>17/18</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Pressures</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.647</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.490</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.601</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Funding</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0.520</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0.869</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.201</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unmet Pressure</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.127</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2.621</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0.400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Uplift % of formula delegated budget</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0.65%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.02%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.40%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Unmet pressure %</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1.4%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">3.1%</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0.5%</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<b>Schools Pressures and Funding</b>					<u>15/16</u>	<u>16/17</u>	<u>17/18</u>	Pressures	1.647	3.490	1.601	Funding	0.520	0.869	1.201	Unmet Pressure	1.127	2.621	0.400	Uplift % of formula delegated budget	0.65%	1.02%	1.40%	Unmet pressure %	1.4%	3.1%	0.5%
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1.04	<p>Schools have been proactive in adjusting to reducing funding levels and have critically reviewed their budgets to absorb pressures whilst focusing on maintaining the delivery of a quality curriculum and improving learner outcomes. Performance at Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 is currently at or better than expected levels. However, performance on key national indicators at Key Stage 4, though slightly improved in 2017, is still below expected levels and continues to require further intervention.</p> <p>With the vast majority of any school budget dedicated to staffing costs it is not surprising, therefore, that there has been a significant increase in redundancies within schools in recent years as schools have made reduction in both teaching and support staff. Many secondary schools have also reduced their senior leadership teams. The table below shows the cost of school redundancies to the Authority as these are funded centrally.</p> <table border="1" style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <thead> <tr> <th>2014</th> <th>2015</th> <th>2016</th> <th>2017*</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">259,194</td> <td style="text-align: center;">842,660</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1,075,425</td> <td style="text-align: center;">493,363</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p style="text-align: center;">*Costs to date</p>	2014	2015	2016	2017*	259,194	842,660	1,075,425	493,363																				
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259,194	842,660	1,075,425	493,363																										
1.05	<p>Whilst reducing staffing saves money, a reduction in the school workforce undoubtedly creates risks. This can manifest itself in many ways e.g. a reduction in the range, quality and breadth of the curriculum on offer, a reduction in the levels of academic support and pastoral intervention for vulnerable pupils, the inability to purchase new/replace teaching and learning resources and potentially an increase in class sizes.</p> <p>Poorer pastoral care and the ability to offer alternative curriculum models can potentially increase issues related to pupils' emotional health and well-being which can impact on attendance and rates of exclusion. There is also the potential issue of increasing sickness absence due to work related stress and greater challenges in recruitment and retention of staff at all levels, including most critically, school leadership posts.</p> <p>Reduction in schools funding will also make it more difficult for schools to maintain the upkeep of aspects of their building for which they are responsible.</p>																												
1.06	<p>Schools have been reliant on their budget balances to maintain financial stability during this extended period of austerity. Whilst primary and special school balances have held up relatively well in recent times, the position in secondary schools is not at all positive with a significant number now in a deficit position.</p>																												

The table below summarises the year end position of school balances at March 2017.

<b>Flintshire School Balances Analysis</b>								
	<b>13/14</b>		<b>14/15</b>		<b>15/16</b>		<b>16/17</b>	
	<b>£'000</b>	<b>No of Deficits</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>No of Deficits</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>No of Deficits</b>	<b>£'000</b>	<b>No of Deficits</b>
Primary	1,751	10	2,215	7	2,682	7	2,179	4
Secondary	115	3	-115	4	-455	5	-877	7
Specialist	305	0	259	0	197	0	230	0
<b>Total Balances</b>	<b>2,172</b>		<b>2,358</b>		<b>2,424</b>		<b>1,532</b>	

Latest predictions for 2017/18 provided by the Schools Accounting Team forecast that net school balances will fall further from the March 2017 level of £1.5m to just £6k, reflecting the challenging financial position schools are facing. This is a significant risk to the Council as the buoyant primary school balances which have traditionally offset the secondary schools deficits are now nearly depleted.

As can be seen from the table, 7 of the 12 secondary schools in Flintshire were in a deficit budget situation at the end of March 2017. This number is expected to increase. Schools in this position have to seek a formal licensed deficit agreement with the Council in which a recovery plan to bring the budget into a position of credit is approved and regularly monitored by senior officers in conjunction with the Head Teacher and Chair of Governors. This is increasing financial risk to the Council as well as creating an increased workload for finance officers and senior managers.

1.07

This challenging financial situation, which is requiring the Council to consider setting only a 'cash flat' budget for schools has been created by nationally set policies which are unfunded e.g. pay awards for teachers and support staff and an increase in employers' National Insurance contributions. Whilst we are not commenting here on the efficacy of such policies, the risks that they pose to both the Council and schools to balance their respective budgets and maintain quality educational provision cannot be understated. The details related to these pay awards are outlined below:

#### **Teachers Pay Award 2017/18**

The School Teachers' Review Body (STRB) received its remit from the Secretary of State for Education at the beginning of December seeking recommendations on the 2018 pay award for teachers. The government has asked the STRB to consider how the pay award could utilise a "more flexible" approach to public sector pay restraint to address areas of skill shortage and support productivity, whilst remaining "within the bounds of affordability". The STRB has been asked to report back by early May 2018.

Below is some modelling of the impact of varying levels of school teachers pay awards for the:

Teachers (From Sept 18)	£903k	(2.5%)
	£542k	(1.5%)
	£361k	(1.0%)



These costs relate to 7 months only (September 2018 to March 2019) as pay awards are put into effect from the start of an academic year, not financial year, and so the full year impact for 2019-20 will be higher.

### **NJC Pay Award 2017/18**

The National Employers body for local government issued their NJC pay award recommendations for 2018/19 to Chief Executives on the 5<sup>th</sup> December. This recommended a 2% award to staff at scale point 20 and above with differential increases for scale points below this ranging from 9.15% to 3.7%.

An analysis of the impact of the pay award across Flintshire schools based on the staff in post as at December has been undertaken. The estimated total increase in cost would be £1.349m on a pay bill of £24m which represents a 5.6% increase. This reflects the differential percentages on scale points 19 and below – most support staff in schools will fall into this category which will particularly impact special schools.

The NJC pay award alone represents 1.6% cost pressure on total delegated budgets.

A ‘cash flat’ settlement to schools will not provide any additional funding for schools to meet these increasing staffing costs and they will have to be met within existing school resources. It is impossible to provide a detailed statement on the potential impact of these changes for every individual school as each school budget is different, with a greater or lesser degree of financial stability. However, it is fair to say that having to absorb the costs of these nationally agreed pay awards without additional funding from central government will have a negative impact on Flintshire schools as money is diverted from other areas to cover these increased staffing costs. For some schools meeting this budget requirement will be highly challenging.

1.08

A further risk to school budgets is the reduction of specific grants in the Education and Youth Portfolio which schools rely on to deliver services themselves or from which they receive support services directly from the Council.

### **Education Improvement Grant (EIG)**

This was created two years ago and is an amalgamation of 11 previous grants. It funds Foundation Phase and a range of other schools services. Flintshire current receives £6.47m.

Welsh Government announced national grant allocations on 24 October and this identified that EIG had been reduced by 11.36%. For Flintshire this means a potential reduction in funding of £735k. As of yet there has been no guidance issued from WG as to how the grant terms will be changed to reflect this reduced funding.

Much of the funding allocated to schools through EIG is used for funding staff, particularly in the Foundation Phase in primary schools to meet the WG recommended adult pupil ratios. WG recommends a ratio of 1:8 for 3-5 yr olds and 1:15 for 5-7 year olds in order to appropriately deliver the

Foundation Phase curriculum. In consultation with head teachers a number of years ago, Flintshire reduced the funding for 3-5yr olds to create a ratio of 1:10 in response to previous funding pressures. £4.254m of EIG is currently allocated to Foundation Phase. Based on the NJC pay offer, most Foundation Phase support staff would receive a 7.592% pay award and the impact of this together with the reduction in funding would create a cost pressures of around 19% on the grant funding for Foundation Phase staff.

### **Pupil Development Grant (PDG)**

This is the funding received by schools from WG to support pupils entitled to Free School Meals to help them achieve their academic potential as research shows that children from more economically disadvantaged families are more at risk of educational underachievement.

Whilst the level of PDG funding has been unchanged nationally and Flintshire received £1.2m in 2017/18, the impact of pay awards will be a significant risk as schools use this funding for a range of initiatives which involve the employment of staff – teaching and non-teaching – to provide intervention programmes for this identified group of vulnerable learners.

### **Post 16 Funding**

Welsh Government fund Post 16 education through a grant directly to the Local Authority. Flintshire sixth form education was allocated £4.756m in 2017/18.

At the time of writing this report no information has been received about funding levels of post 16 but in the context of cuts to other grants, a reduction in funding levels is likely, further adding pressure to schools delivering post 16 education.

### **Minority Ethnic and Language Achievement Grant (MEAG)**

Welsh Government, through the Education Improvement Grant, have provided Local Authorities with a funding stream to deliver support services for pupils from Gypsy/Traveller communities and for those whom English is an Additional Language. The value of this grant to Flintshire is currently £174,000 and funds the LA support teams who work with pupils directly in schools. At the current time there is a lack of clarity about whether this funding has been put into the Revenue Support Grant settlement and no longer remains an additional grant. If it has been placed into the RSG then this creates another significant cost pressure for the Council and will have a direct impact on its ability to provide this much needed support to schools.

### **School Uniform Grant**

Another grant that has previously been made available as separate funding to Councils which no longer appears on the grant list is the School Uniform Grant. This was to support the costs of purchasing new school uniforms for Year 7 pupils starting secondary schools who are entitled to Free School Meals. The value of this grant last year was £26,000. The Council will have to make a decision whether to find the money to replace this grant or pass the cost pressures onto secondary schools. Schools, however, do receive additional funding for pupils entitled to Free School Meals through the Pupil Development Grant which could be used to offset this pressure.

1.09

In order to understand the potential impact of the inflationary pressures on

schools, the analysis below shows the impact on three different sized primary schools and a medium sized secondary school.

	Pupil Numbers	Total Funding	Inflationary Pressures + Grant Reduction	% Cost Pressure
Small Primary	61	303,121	10,802	3.6%
Medium Primary	177	674,661	28,540	4.2%
Large Primary	428	1,457,206	40,949	2.8%
Medium Secondary	975	5,675,782	169,510	3.0%

A 'cash flat' settlement means that schools will receive the same level of funding as they did last year with no uplift to help contribute to the funding of these cost pressures.

Head Teachers are already reporting high levels of stress through their local Head Teacher Federations and Professional Associations as the impact of funding reductions takes its toll.

1.10

There are few mitigations that can protect schools from the impact of a 'cash flat' settlement following on from a number of lean years in educational funding where budgets have reduced in real terms. There either has to be a reversal of the national policy on austerity or schools will need to go even further in making local efficiencies.

Neither is there any scope for the Education and Youth Portfolio to reduce its central costs to free up additional funding for schools. The Council already delegates funding to school at 89%, the sixth best delegation rate in Wales, retaining only 11% for core education services. Over the last three years the Portfolio has exceeded the Council target of finding efficiencies of 30% across its central services and has no further capacity for reductions without compromising delivery on its mandatory functions.

Schools have tried to find ways to effectively manage their shrinking financial resources. Head Teachers and Governing Bodies have actively reviewed their staffing and spending profiles in recent years and have removed unnecessary surplus wherever possible. It has encouraged them to ensure their procurement procedures are as efficient as possible to get the best value and this will continue. Head Teachers and Governors are always willing to accept advice and engage in training to further improve their skills in this area of financial and human resource management and this will continue to be provided by the Local Authority.

Some smaller schools are beginning to see the value of federation to ensure sustainability and have actively developed this new model of delivery where opportunities have presented themselves. This will provide some efficiency in relation to staffing costs where leadership arrangements are shared but not achieve a major saving as it does not result in a reduction in the number of school buildings. The ongoing reorganisation of the school estate across the Authority will continue to provide opportunities for financial efficiency and greater long term sustainability of school provision but it is a process that is work intensive, often controversial and takes a considerable amount of time

before change is affected and efficiencies realised.

Developing technologies provide access to online resources that can effectively and efficiently support teaching and learning as well as school management but does require initial cost investment and ongoing maintenance.

Schools already have a range of strategies for covering teacher absence either for illness or planned professional development opportunities in a cost effective manner. These will include the use of non-qualified teachers eg learning assistants or cover supervisors. However, the Head Teacher will always be mindful of the balance between specialist and non-specialist staff and there will be times when only a qualified teacher can be deployed to ensure the ongoing quality of teaching and learning, particularly in examination classes.

Schools may have to consider reducing the number of subject options at secondary school if the number of pupils wanting to undertake these courses or develop partnership arrangements with other schools to offer a broad curriculum offer between them.

The Council has worked hard at a Wales and UK level to outline the impact of ongoing austerity on public services, including education, to try and secure a better funding deal. This has included direct communication with Ministers to demonstrate the Council is already very lean in its operating model and to outline the challenges council services will be faced with unless funding levels improve. This included a direct appeal to the Cabinet Secretary for Education, which is included as an appendix to this report. (Appendix 1)

1.11 There is a growing body of evidence that Flintshire is a low funded Council per capita in the way funding is allocated through the Standard Spending Assessment (SSA) from Welsh Government. This has an impact on the amount of money available for front-line services.

As the tables below demonstrates, schools in Flintshire are funded at lower levels compared to many other Welsh authorities and the 'per pupil' funding is below the Welsh average. However, with performance at Foundation Phase, Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 matching or exceeding expected levels, it could be argued that education services in Flintshire represent very good value for money.

**Table 1 – Comparison to similar sized authorities by population size**

County	Per Pupil Funding £		
	Primary	Secondary	Specialist
Flintshire	4,194	4,866	16,947
Neath Port Talbot	4,190	4,680	19,480
Bridgend	3,860	4,759	23,357
Newport	3,950	4,717	23,136
Wales Average	4,233	5,025	20,806

**Table 2 – Comparison to North Wales authorities**

	Per Pupil Funding £			
	County	Primary	Secondary	Specialist
	Flintshire	4,194	4,866	16,947
	Isle of Anglesey	4,560	5,160	16,822
	Gwynedd	4,512	5,288	17,572
	Conwy	4,421	5,253	19,388
	Denbighshire	4,330	5,400	20,968
	Wrexham	4,215	5,235	14,387
	Wales Average	4,233	5,025	20,806
1.12	There has been regular communication with Head Teachers about the challenges facing the Council in setting a balanced budget and they have indicated their willingness to work proactively through their professional associations and to appeal to the Education Minister directly to demonstrate the real challenges that they are facing in maintaining quality educational provision with reducing budgets.			
1.13	<p><b>Conclusion</b></p> <p>The Council is faced with the major challenges of making some very difficult choices about how to allocate its limited funding and how to find further efficiencies in order to achieve a legally balanced budget.</p> <p>Setting a 'cash flat' budget for schools makes a significant contribution to closing the budget gap but is not without major risks to the sustainability of quality education services in Flintshire. Such a decision will impact all schools but will be particularly challenging to those whose current budgetary situation is less resilient than others.</p> <p>Mitigations are limited and rely on the provision of additional money from either the Welsh or UK government to address major costs which are currently unfunded such as pay awards, and the skill and resilience of school leaders to manage their budgets as effectively and efficiently as they can at a local level whilst maintaining a focus on providing quality learning experiences for their pupils.</p>			

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	The Council has traditionally protected delegated schools budgets from the efficiency savings required of all other service areas and met recommended Ministerial protections, but is now faced with the unprecedented situation where a 'cash flat' settlement to schools is one of the only ways in which is can close the budget gap forecast for 2018-19. The potential resource implications for schools of such a decision is clearly articulated in this report.
2.02	As schools continue to restructure their workforce as funding becomes more restrained and further redundancies are made, the Council will need to continue to fund these exit costs.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	Whilst there has not yet been formal consultation with all Head Teachers, a key strategy in supporting school leaders in these difficult times has been to try and keep them well informed about the financial situation as it develops in a variety of ways.
3.02	The School Budget Forum, a statutory body on which there is Head Teacher representation, meets on a termly basis and the potential for a 'cash flat' settlement was raised at the first meeting of the academic year on 29 <sup>th</sup> October 2017.
3.03	The Chief Executive, Chief Officer for Education & Youth and Cabinet Member for Education have attending meetings of the Primary and Secondary Head Teacher Federations during the autumn term to discuss the budgetary situation in person and the efforts being made at a national level to secure a better funding deal for Flintshire.
3.04	As the Primary Head Teacher Federation is a representative group and does not include all Heads, as the Secondary Federation does, the Chief Officer for Education & Youth and Finance Manager have sent update letters and emails to schools to ensure all Head Teachers are directly informed. (Appendix 2).
3.05	There is also a plan to hold a full consultation meeting with all Head Teachers and Chair of Governors in the Spring Term once the financial situation is clearer.
3.06	The response from Head Teachers to date has been extremely professional and whilst they are expressing grave concern about the impact of a 'cash flat' settlement and other grant reductions on their ability to maintain high quality provision for their pupils, as well as clearly articulating the negative impact the situation is having on them personally as school leaders, they have acknowledged that the Council is in an invidious position and facing extremely challenging times.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	The risks of a 'cash flat' settlement to schools and any potential mitigations are clearly articulated in the body of the report.
4.02	Head Teachers and their Governing Bodies will be responsible for managing the risks at a local school level as a result of any decision made to offer a 'cash flat' settlement. They will be supported by Council officers where specific expertise is required e.g. in financial and human resource management. All schools have an Equality Policy within which they work to mitigate the risks to those with protected characteristics.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
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5.01	Appendix 1 – Letter to Cabinet Secretary for Education WG Appendix 2 – Example of letter to Head Teachers
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<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	None.  <b>Contact Officer:</b> Claire Homard, Interim Chief Officer Education & Youth <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 704190 <b>E-mail:</b> claire.homard@flintshire.gov.uk

<b>7.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	<p><b>Ministerial Protection</b> – recommendations from the Cabinet Secretary for Education in Welsh Government to the level of uplift to school budgets to cover inflationary pressures created by nationally agreed pay awards</p> <p><b>Revenue Support Grant</b> – the main source of funding to councils from Welsh Government for the delivery of local services</p> <p><b>School Demography</b> – changes to pupil numbers in schools and how this is reflected in school budgets</p> <p><b>Foundation Phase</b> – Educational phase for pupils aged 3-7  <b>Key Stage 2</b> – Educational phase for pupils aged 7-11  <b>Key Stage 3</b> – Educational phase for pupils aged 11-14  <b>Key Stage 4</b> – Educational phase for pupils aged 14-16</p> <p><b>Expected Performance Levels</b> – the position Flintshire is expected to be in terms of educational performance at the end of each key stage, based on its percentage of pupils entitled to Free School Meals, benchmarked across all 22 Welsh Local Authorities. Flintshire is expected to perform 6<sup>th</sup> or better overall.</p>

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Kirsty Williams AM  
Cabinet Secretary for Education  
Welsh Government  
Ty Hywel  
Cardiff Bay  
Cardiff  
CF99 1NA

Your Ref/Eich Cyf

Our Ref/Ein Cyf

Date/Dyddiad

22<sup>nd</sup> August, 2017

Ask for/Gofynnwr am

Claire Homard

Direct Dial/Rhif Union

01352 704601

Fax/Ffacs

Dear Cabinet Secretary,

### **National Funding Position and the Sustainability of Education Services**

Thank you for your continued advocacy for the funding needs of education in the lead up to decision-making on the Welsh Government Budget by the Cabinet. Your personal understanding and support for education is valued and appreciated.

Local authorities in Wales and the Welsh Government are together making the case to the UK Government that the long-standing policy of financial restraint and austerity has to be reversed with this next national budget. The impacts of the compounded annual reductions in public spending are self-evident with the education now beginning to show signs of stress.

In Flintshire the stresses are particularly evident in our Secondary School sector where, despite making operating cost economies including redundancies, schools are struggling to manage their budgets. It is concerning is that our larger schools with buoyant pupil numbers, although well managed, are also showing signs of financial unsustainability. At the end of March, seven of our twelve secondary schools had deficits amounting in total to £1m. This is rapidly deteriorating position.

Flintshire has worked to protect school budgets by meeting or exceeding the Ministerial protection recommendations in recent years. To try to soften the impacts of inflation at the school level we applied a 1.34% uplift to school budgets in 2017/18. However, in real terms the funding per pupil has not kept pace with the impacts of workforce cost increases coming principally from pay increases and National Insurance and pension reforms. In the previous two years alone our schools have had to absorb over £3.7m in unmet cost pressures. They have responded to this by reducing spending on management costs, teacher recruitment, pastoral services and on maintenance and resources. For many schools the only options that remain are to reduce the breadth of the curriculum, increase class sizes, or increase the level of teaching and learning delivered by unqualified staff. Actions such as these will undermine the quality of education received by learners and impact negatively on the outcomes pupils may achieve. This will not be acceptable to the Council or to Welsh Government. The stark reality is that schools will not be sustainable without additional support and investment.

Cont.....

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

We have been vocal in making the case that Flintshire as a low funded council per capita is more exposed to the consequences of public funding austerity; our low funding base has a direct impact on the availability of funding for education locally. As a consequence, Flintshire is now at a level of high risk of financial unsustainability. An improved financial settlement for local government as a whole will provide some financial relief to meet the local costs pressures within the sector.

Flintshire has made revenue budget reductions of £79M over the past decade against an annual net revenue operating budget of around £250M. All services other than social services and schools have had to reduce their budgets by a minimum of 30%. This clearly illustrates the work that we have done to be both innovative and efficient. This cannot continue.

Central education budgets have not been immune from the 30% efficiencies targets. This has resulted in a reduction in management costs, which in turn has reduced the level of challenge and support we are able to provide to schools. Our Inclusion Services have also had to achieve a 30% reduction and this comes at a time when the level of additional learning needs is increasing with schools reporting considerable demand pressures.

We face a further annual funding gap of over £11.7M in 2018/19 with education workforce pressures accounting for £1.14M of this figure. However, this is a gap that we cannot bridge. Local funding solutions identified so far total approximately £5-6M at best but will impact significantly on service delivery. These efficiencies make up the last round of options as all other options to close the funding gap have been exhausted. Flintshire has a long and proud track record of a commitment to quality and innovation in education. However, our resilience statements now show that key services in education are risk rated as 'amber' status with some now on the verge of turning 'red'.

Continued austerity threatens to impact on the quality of education offered to our young people in Wales and we ask that you urge Welsh Government to consider the following for Flintshire:-

- a guaranteed minimum of a 'cash flat' settlement for 2018/19;
- having pay awards pressures in education funded in full over and above a 'cash flat' settlement;
- consideration of additional funding in recognition of significant workforce costs which were over and above past Ministerial protection recommendations; and
- being given an assurance that new legislation and policy commitments originated by Welsh Government or Central Government will be funded in full.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



**Councillor Aaron Shotton**  
**Leader of the Council**



**Colin Everett**  
**Chief Executive**



**Councillor Ian Robert**  
**Cabinet Member for Education**



**Claire Homard**  
**Chief Officer for Education**

Letter from Claire Homard and Lucy Morris

Dear Headteacher

### **School Budget Forum Decisions**

In order to ensure that all Headteachers are appropriately sighted on the current financial situation, we are writing to confirm the key discussion points and recommendations from the Schools Budget Forum which was held on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October. We have attached the Terms of Reference of the Forum to remind colleagues of the purpose and role of the Forum.

### **Finance Update**

The financial situation for Local Government continues to be very challenging. The provisional settlement figure for 2018/19 from the Welsh Government is a reduction in cash funding of 0.9% for Flintshire which is higher than the average reduction across Wales of 0.5%. This takes Flintshire's projected funding gap for 2018/19 to a minimum of £13.6m. The gap includes £1.14m identified as schools related cost pressure for pay and non-pay inflation such as increasing energy costs.

In addition, the Council is currently projecting an overspend in year of £1.1m which will impact further on the forecast gap for 2018/19. This is set against a backdrop of many years of austerity which has seen the Council already achieve £79m in efficiencies over the last ten years.

A further reduction of 1.5% across Wales is indicated for 2019/20.

The Council has until March to set a legal balanced budget. To date savings of £3.1m have been identified by service portfolios as part of Stage One of the budget process. Stage 2 budget options are under development for consideration in Nov/Dec and Stage 3 – the closing stage being finalised in Jan / Feb.

In the light of the current financial position, the Authority is having to consider a cash flat settlement to schools which would mean that schools will have to absorb inflationary costs such as pay awards.

This difficult financial position has been further exacerbated by the surprise reduction in the Education Improvement Grant of 11.36% across Wales which was issued by Welsh Government on 24<sup>th</sup> October. Flintshire's share of this cut could potentially be £725k in 2018/19. Of particular concern to secondary schools will be the decision by the Welsh Government to completely withdraw the School Uniform Grant for Yr 7 pupils eligible for Free School Meals. The Council will now have to consider whether this is withdrawn completely as it cannot cover the cost centrally or to pass this onto schools to cover via their Pupil Development Grant, which is focused on the needs of pupils entitled to FSM. An extract from the Welsh Government grants table is shown at Appendix 1.

The Chief Executive and Political leadership of the council are proactively lobbying the Welsh Government to highlight that cuts of the magnitude identified will seriously impact on service delivery across all council sectors.

## Schools Funding Formula

We reported back to the Forum on the work of the Primary Schools Funding Formula group. A number of proposals were made regarding amendments to the formula and the future focus for the group. These were accepted by the Forum and the key recommendation was the approval by the Forum to consult with schools on the proposed changes to the funding formula for 2018/19.

The consultation will be issued to Primary Schools on 27th November and responses should be returned by 15<sup>th</sup> December.

The outcome of the consultation will be reported back to the Forum on 11 January 2018.

## Sickness & Maternity Scheme Updates

These schemes are run by the Authority on behalf of schools. Any under or overspend rests with schools. The sickness scheme is an annual scheme and the maternity scheme is a three year scheme. This is the final year of the maternity scheme and schools will be consulted as to whether they wish the scheme to continue for a further three years.

The performance of the sickness and maternity schemes as at the end of March 2017 is shown in the table below.

<b>MATERNITY</b>	<b>£</b>
CONTRIBUTIONS	477,057
CLAIMS	571,817
Balance brought forward to 16/17	40,641
Deficit on scheme carried forward	-54,119
<b>SICKNESS</b>	<b>£</b>
CONTRIBUTIONS	555,483
CLAIMS	555,483
BALANCE 16/17	0

Representations had been received to amend both schemes and these were put forward as recommendations to the Forum. The recommendations are shown in the box below.

### **Recommendations**

Maternity Scheme amended to include ALN 1:1 support.

Sickness Scheme amended to include 1<sup>st</sup> day cover for ALN 1:1

The recommendations were discussed at length by the Forum. However, it was considered that given the performance of the maternity scheme and the sickness schemes it would not be appropriate to extend the scheme in this current financial year and the recommendations were **not** accepted.

### **Scheme for Financing Schools and Prudential Borrowing**

The Scheme for Financing Schools sets out the financial relationship between the Authority and schools. Any changes to the Scheme must be approved by the Schools Budget Forum.

There were two amendments put forward to the Forum.

The first related to prudential borrowing. The Authority intends to formalise the use of prudential borrowing for the acquisition of equipment and vehicles to ensure transparency and to enable financial planning. Schools have used this method of funding relatively small scale purchases of equipment/vehicles for a number of years now. In future any use of prudential borrowing must be approved by the Asset Programme Board prior to committing expenditure otherwise the expenditure incurred will be charged in full to the school budget.

The Forum approved the change to the Scheme to incorporate Prudential borrowing. A draft Scheme for Funding Schools which incorporates the changes in section 8.5. is attached. Any comments/observations on this change should be submitted to [lucy.morris@flintshire.gov.uk](mailto:lucy.morris@flintshire.gov.uk) by 15 December.

A further recommendation was made to reintroduce a loan scheme funded by the collective balances held by schools which could be utilised to fund premises projects. However, the Forum noted that as latest forecasts on school balances showed a negative position it was felt that there needed to be further analysis and review before a decision could be made.

We hope that you have found this update useful to clarify the current position and confirm the position taken by the School Budget Forum. You are at liberty to share this information with staff and governors so that there is wider understanding of the challenges facing schools and the Council overall.

Yours sincerely

Claire Homard  
Interim Chief Officer, Education & Youth

Lucy Morris  
Finance Manager



## Appendix 1

### Extract from Welsh Government Grants Table for 2018/19

	2017/18	2018/19	Increase/(Decrease)
<b>Lifelong Learning and Welsh Language</b>			
Post-16 Provision in Schools	98.587	NA	No Info Available
Adult Community Learning	4.307	NA	No Info Available
Additional Learning Needs Innovation Fund	1.320	0.000	(100.00%)
Learning in Digital Wales (Phase 2)	0.500	0.450	(10.00%)
Promote and Facilitate the use of the Welsh language	0.314	0.314	0.15%
Development of the Seren Network	0.120	0.250	108.33%
<b>Education</b>			
Education Improvement Grant	133.282	118.137	(11.36%)
Pupil Development Grant	91.333	91.333	0.00%
Pioneer Schools	7.895	0.000	(100.00%)
Youth Support Grant	3.856	3.470	(10.01%)
Reducing infant class sizes grant	2.000	3.000	50.00%
School Uniform Grant	0.700	0.000	(100.00%)
Modern Foreign Languages	0.480	0.432	(10.00%)
Senior Business Managers	0.200	0.200	0.00%
Mentoring and Networking Support for Headteachers	0.150	0.000	(100.00%)
National Numeracy Tests - Supported Marking Grant to Consortia	0.020	0.020	0.00%

*Issued by Welsh Government as part of provisional settlement 24<sup>th</sup> October 2017*

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## EDUCATION AND YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY MEETING

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January 2018
<b>Report Subject</b>	Welsh Government's (WG) 21st Century Schools Programme and Education Programme Band B and Mutual Investment Model (MIM)
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Cabinet Member for Education Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
<b>Report Author</b>	Chief Officer (Education and Youth) Chief Officer (Organisational Change)
<b>Type of Report</b>	Strategic

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Welsh Government's (WG) 21<sup>st</sup> Century Programme Band A is due to complete at the end of March 2019. Planning for the next band of the WG programme investment programme has already started in earnest.

Welsh Ministers had previously confirmed that the Band B 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools and Education Programme would be funded by both capital and revenue budgets.

£500 million of capital funding is available to 22 Local Authorities (LA's) and 14 Further Education (FE) Institutes for the 21st Century Schools and Education programme from 2019 to 2024.

In addition to the capital funding, there will also be a revenue budget funding model that will enable an additional investment with a maximum capital value of £500 million. This is called the Mutual Investment Model (MIM).

The Council's Strategic Outline Programme (SOP) was submitted to WG at the end of July 2017 in accordance with their timetable. This is essentially the Council's 'statement of intent' for the Band B investment programme. Welsh Ministers have recently announced the programme nationally and WG have written to confirm approval in principle of the Council's SOP and funding envelope for the programme subject to the onward business case submission.

In the Council's SOP, an interest was expressed in using MIM to help support an ambitious Band B programme by maximising all sources of external funding.

The report outlines the projects contained within the Council's SOP submission to WG. It explains the principles used and assumptions made to deliver a programme with as minimal an impact on future revenue budgets. Additionally the report provides further detail on MIM.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Education and Youth Overview & Scrutiny Committee note the contents of the report and provides Cabinet with any observations.
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## REPORT DETAILS

1.00	BACKGROUND AND CONSIDERATIONS
1.01	<p>The intervention rates for the programme are confirmed by WG as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capital – 50% WG / 50% LA</li> <li>• MIM – 75% WG / 25% LA (through revenue budgets of both organisations).</li> </ul>
1.02	<p>The total Band B funding envelope request by the Council as outlined in the SOP submission to WG was £85,420,000.00, including an expression of interest that one project could be suitable for MIM. Attached at Appendix 1 is the SOP which includes a summary of the projects contained within the proposed programme. Cost estimates are not included for individual projects at this stage as they are based on high level assumptions and will be refined as the programme progresses through the WG business case model.</p>
1.03	<p>The SOP was submitted to capture a share of the resource made available through this national investment programme. WG approval in principle of the Council's SOP does not underpin formal commitment at this stage.</p>
1.04	<p>The proposed programme and its priorities have been robustly challenged at Education and Youth Programme Board, Capital Asset Programme Board and by the Chief Officer Team.</p>
1.05	<p>The affordability of the proposed Band B programme is based on the same intervention rates being available for Band B as Band A, (i.e. 50/50) and has been modelled at a high level based on the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The ability to strategically invest capital receipts to reduce the level of Prudential Borrowing required.</li> <li>• The transfer of potential revenue savings to fund the revenue costs associated with Prudential Borrowing.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assumptions will also be made on potential uplift of National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR) based on previous intelligence of NNDR on Band A projects.</li> </ul>
1.06	The programme in its current form will inevitably evolve and will possibly require change as the programme and processes are carefully worked through. Additionally the programme makes assumptions on school organisation change and the potential for capital receipt generation but these may change dependant on Cabinet decisions locally. There are also a number of potential projects contained with the programme as there was limited funding headroom available through the Council's own capital programme.
1.07	Affordability of the proposed programme will be reviewed by a corporate team at key project and programme timelines or when circumstances influence potential changes. Operationally, the implementation of the programme will be overseen by the Education & Youth and Capital Asset Programme Boards.
1.08	WG requested that Band B programmes are prioritised and the priority order is shown in the summary contained in Appendix 1. However, a complex programme over a 5/6 year period does require a degree of flexibility and will need to be continually reviewed. The Council can request amendment to the SOP via WG if Cabinet determines there is a need to make changes to reflect local need/circumstances.
1.09	As set out in the Council's constitution, officers would require a mandate from Cabinet to proceed with area reviews and/or individual projects contained within the programme. These will be directed by the programme boards (referenced in para 1.07).
1.10	<p>Should area and/or school consultation be required then in it will be completed in accordance with the School Organisation Code's legal framework.</p> <p>The responses from each formal consultation process will be presented to the County Council's Cabinet, along with the impact assessment, options appraisal and officer recommendations. Cabinet will then decide on how to progress and implement for an area/individual school.</p>
1.11	In terms of MIM, whilst there is not a de Minimis figure for this model, advice from WG officials indicated that high value new builds would be the most appropriate to put forward for MIM funding. Although refurbishment and modernisation projects are also possible, they would be more complex contractually. This model is not considered suitable for projects with a series of complex issues.
1.12	A combined programme containing both MIM and capital projects supports a larger value programme based on access to more funding. However, revenue implications have to be balanced by affordability and other competing demands across the Council.

1.13	The proposed projects identified in the Councils SOP are included in Appendix 1. At strategic outline stage, the current project estimates are a mix of technical feasibility studies, cost per metre square estimates and other analysis based on costs of previous projects. Subject to appropriate approvals schemes need to be worked up in detail (detailed feasibility work and cost certainty) as the Council moves through the business case process, design development and the overall programme.
1.14	The traditional capital projects will be procured via the North Wales Construction Framework as with the Council's Band A programme. The MIM projects will be procured by WG in regional batches via a new procurement route.
1.15	Nationally, eleven Local Authorities and FE institutes have expressed an interest in MIM. Regionally, Flintshire, Conwy and Wrexham have expressed an interest and this region would form a "procurement batch."
1.16	Authorities not interested in pursuing schemes through MIM still have the option of traditional capital funding through the programme.
1.17	<p><b><u>The Mutual Investment Model</u></b></p> <p>The Mutual Investment Model is Welsh Government's new form of Public Private Partnership or Private Finance Initiative (PFI).</p> <p>A private sector contractor is appointed via a new WG framework and the contractor finances, constructs and provides a 25 year life cycled building product.</p> <p>Responsibility for funding, constructing the building, and then repairing and maintaining the building for 25 years (once built) remains with the contractor, resulting in buildings funded by MIM being maintained at a consistently high level for 25 years. Currently, the Council do not have any life cycled buildings (with the exception of HRA properties). Buildings that are newly built have to be repaired and maintained within existing budgets and are prioritised on need across the whole school portfolio. A MIM project will result in a two tier education estate in terms of quality and intensity of the maintenance regime deployed.</p>
1.18	On MIM projects the contractor will be required to provide community benefits as part of their bid proposals. There will be "core" benefits specified in the contract. These will be for the duration of the contract rather than the duration of the construction period which is usual in traditional capital projects.
1.19	For its part the LA pays an annual charge which is funded from revenue similar to a rental payment called the 'service payment'. Through this programme LA's will receive an intervention rate of 75% funding from WG with 25% funded by the LA for a period of 25 years, thereafter the building is handed over to the LA. The funding from WG will be received in the form of a specific grant.

1.20	<p>Revenue payments will not start until the facilities have been built and available for use. The majority of the service payment will be fixed for the 25 years, with a small proportion being uplifted in line with Retail Price Index (RPI) to reflect the increased costs of the lifecycle and maintenance costs of the building over that period. WG are working on the assumption of 75% of the charge being fixed, though this will be confirmed during contract negotiation.</p>
1.21	<p>For accounting purposes the asset remains on the LA balance sheet matched with the total liability to pay the unitary charge over 25 years. Capital construction costs will therefore require accounting for within the capital programme funded by debt and will have impacts on future technical financial reports such as limits on debt set (MRP) etc.</p> <p>It is important to note that the cash payment of construction costs will not be incurred upfront by the LA, it will be the contractor that funds the capital build and carries the associated construction risk.</p> <p>The capital costs that the LAs will incur are the pre contract costs including; detailed design development, surveys, procurement costs etc. WG have also not included ICT and fixed furniture and equipment in the contract and therefore LAs will incur these capital costs. WG have indicated that the intervention rate for these capital costs will be 50% funded by WG / 50% funded by LAs. Design development costs for MIM will be similar to a traditional capital projects. However these costs come earlier in the process due to the way MIM is procured. It is anticipated that there will be some increased costs for MIM around legal/contract documentation, this is reflected by WG setting an intervention rate of 75%.</p>
1.22	<p>The annual revenue service charge is accounted for in its component parts which includes; repayment of debt (an annual charge for the capital construction costs incurred by the contractor), interest on debt, and a charge for the services (maintenance and lifecycle costs).</p> <p>In 2016/17 the Council changed its policy on accounting for Minimum Revenue Provision (a statutory charge to the revenue account for debt funded capital expenditure). The policy is to account for the capital expenditure over the life of the asset. It is considered appropriate to assign a useful life of 50 years for an asset such as a newly built school which will be fully maintained and life cycled over the first 25 years of its life. Therefore although the cash payment of the service charge will be made over 25 years, the debt repayment element to the revenue account will be accounted for over 50 years.</p> <p>Appendix 3 of this report attempts to compare the capital and revenue costs of a traditionally funded capital scheme with MIM.</p>
1.23	<p>Authorities with PFI arrangements have encountered problems in the following areas; refurbishment projects and contract details surrounding this, facilitates management and exorbitant cost when making changes to the building. WG have considered these issues and have sought to mitigate them in the MIM model by adopting the following principals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stripping out items from the contract such as internal decoration,</li> </ul>

	<p>carpets and loose furniture and equipment, moving to a model which focuses on infrastructure life cycling, the notion being that this would reduce the annual Service Payment to the LA/WG.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The MIM contract will map out when products which form the building will be replaced (life-cycled)</li> <li>• Schools will remain responsible for their other non-educational services e.g. cleaning; catering; grounds maintenance; updating and maintaining their furniture, fittings and equipment, decoration, carpets etc.</li> <li>• The school caretaker or building manager will remain an employee of the school as they are currently.</li> <li>• There will be a number of lots contained within the MIM contract designed to cap what a contractor could charge, when the Council wishes to make changes to the building.</li> <li>• Schools will be able to instigate non infrastructure improvements under £10k locally.</li> </ul> <p>A MIM school, like traditional capital builds would have to meet WG criteria namely, BREEAM Excellent, EPC A, and BIM Level 2.</p>
1.24	<p>The following are key strategic considerations when considering MIM:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Affordability</b> – Of programme, to maximise opportunities all funding models should be used, the intervention rate of 75% for MIM has been modelled to make it attractive to Authorities.</li> <li>• <b>Sustainability</b> - Projects where we are sure that there will be sustained demand for places. Detailed work in this area is currently being worked through and will be presented at a later date.</li> <li>• <b>Acceptance of a different model</b> – That projects funded through this model are fully life cycled, this will be the only example of this type of model in the County. I.e. resulting in one area school will be fully life cycled (infrastructure for a period of 25yr, whereas the rest often school estimate would be prioritised for Repair and Maintenance based on agreed capital programme.)</li> <li>• <b>Procurement</b> – A different procurement model with an upfront financial risk when compared to the current process of Design &amp; Build as employed by the Council in its current programme. WG have stated that Councils will not be worse off. Currently, design cost risk for capital is shared between WG and LA's so there is no change to this principal. The WG capital panel are currently considering four options for this, ranging from 50% to 100% intervention.</li> <li>• <b>Statutory Proposals</b> – These would need to be conducted earlier in the process to fit into the procurement method leading to a longer lead in from Cabinet through to statutory consultation, commissioning of contractor to design and construction.</li> <li>• <b>Resources and Skills</b> – As an untested new model, there may be potential issues in terms of how the Council could ensure that it can support a MIM process, this would involve contract monitoring over the term of the contract (25yrs). However, WG are mitigating these issues by appointing a multi discipline team to support Council's through the MIM process. Additionally, there is WG are considering whether national monitoring can be</li> </ul>

	achieved alternatively there is potential scope to share services regionally to support this model namely Programme Manager and onward contract monitoring functions.
1.25	WG are appointing a specialist multi-disciplined team with experience of Public Private Partnership procurements to assist Councils. They hope that this will be commissioned by early 2018.
1.26	The multi-disciplined team would work with LA teams regionally to develop contracts, look at standardised building models, design development and outline planning bringing LA's into a position to contract. This process is likely to take 2 years with the earliest possible site start for a MIM funded model would be circa July 2020.
1.27	WG announced the future programme in a press release Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> November 2017, link below:  <a href="http://gov.wales/newsroom/educationandskills/2017/bumper-2-3bn-building-fund-for-schools-and-colleges/?lang=en">http://gov.wales/newsroom/educationandskills/2017/bumper-2-3bn-building-fund-for-schools-and-colleges/?lang=en</a>
1.28	Councils were also required to cross reference in their SOP submission with the WG Reducing Infants Class Sizes and Raising Standards Grant. This was reported to Education and Youth Overview and Scrutiny in December 2017 and included two proposed projects at Ysgol Glan Aber, Bagillt and Westwood CP, Buckley. At the time of writing The Council are still awaiting confirmation of business case approval.

<b>2.00</b>	<b>RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS</b>
2.01	Capital and revenue implications will need regular review at key stages within the programme.

<b>3.00</b>	<b>CONSULTATION REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT</b>
3.01	The Programme reports to two operational boards, the Education and Youth Programme Board and Capital Asset Programme Board.
3.02	Some projects within the programme will require statutory proposals. These will be carried out subject to Cabinet mandate and based on WG's School Organisation Code Legal Framework. Determination on Statutory proposals are the responsibility of Cabinet.

<b>4.00</b>	<b>RISK MANAGEMENT</b>
4.01	Programme Boards are set up to oversee the implementation business plans and manage risks in close detail. High level risks will be reported to Programme Board, operational risks will be managed by the project team in accordance with agreed tolerances.

<b>5.00</b>	<b>APPENDICES</b>
5.01	Appendix 1 - List of school/areas contained within the proposed programme.

<b>6.00</b>	<b>LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS</b>
6.01	<p>None.</p> <p><b>Contact Officer:</b> Damian Hughes, Senior Manager, School Planning and Provision  <b>Telephone:</b> 01352 704135  <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:Damian.hughes@flintshire.gov.uk">Damian.hughes@flintshire.gov.uk</a></p>

<b>7.00</b>	<b>GLOSSARY OF TERMS</b>
7.01	<p><b>MIM</b> - The Mutual Investment Model is the Welsh Government's new form of Public Private Partnership or Private Finance Initiative (PFI).</p> <p><b>NNDR</b> – National Non-Domestic Rates - a tax on the occupation of non-domestic property.</p> <p><b>Capital funding</b> - Capital funding is usually linked to acquiring or improving a long-term asset such as equipment or buildings.</p> <p><b>Revenue funding</b> - Is linked to items that will be used within a year. Examples include salaries, heating, lighting, services and small items of equipment. Routine repairs are revenue expenditures and can include significant repairs that do not extend the life of the asset or do not improve the asset (the repairs merely return the asset to its previous condition).</p>



New Project Details										Schools associated with the scheme				
New School Name	Project Description	School Number (if known)	Proposed Capacity	Education Level	Welsh Medium Type - see notes	PRU - No. of places	SEN - No. of places	Project Type	Assumed Local Authority Funding %	No.	School Name	Current Capacity	Current Pupils on Roll *	
EXAMPLE SCHOOL	Enter brief description of what the project is delivering.	6722103	545	Secondary	English with significant Welsh	25	15	New Build - Whole School	50%	1	Barry John High	120	145	
										2	Gareth Edwards Primary	80	145	
										3	John Lewis Primary	50	145	
										4	Cardiff Arms Park Nursery	45	145	
										5	Roath Park Primary	90	145	
1	Connah's Quay High School (Phase 3)	Phase 3 (Final Phase) extension, remodel and refurbishment	4022	1200	Secondary	English medium	0	0	Extension / Refurbishment	50%	1	Connah's Quay High School	1200	961
											2			
											3			
											4			
											5			
2	Queensferry Campus Project	Remodel and refurbishment of existing primary school and relocate three strands of the Pupil Referral Unit (PRU) on to site	2061 1102	180	Primary	English medium	0	0	Extension / Refurb	50%	1	Queensferry Community Primary School	180	155
											2	Troi Rownd (Primary PRU)	N/A	12
											3	Bryn Tirion (Secondary PRU)	N/A	20
											4	The Learning Centre (Well-being PRU)	N/A	30
											5			
3	Brynford and Lixwm Area School Review	Amalgamation of two primary schools on to one site - Extension/Refurbishment for selected site to accommodate learners	New number required	150	Primary	English medium	0	0	Extension / Refurb	50%	1	Brynford Community Primary School	58	68
											2	Lixwm Community Primary School	71	50
											3			
											4			
											5			
4	Saltney Area School Review	New build secondary school on land opposite school existing secondary campus to replace secondary and amalgamate two primary schools	New number required	600 315	3 to 16	English medium	0	0	New Build - Whole School	25%	1	St David's High School	725	406
											2	Saltney Ferry Community Primary School	236	94
											3	Saltney Wood Memorial Community Primary	216	151
											4			
											5			
5a	Buckley and Mynydd Isa Area School Review	OPTION A Proposed amalgamation of one secondary school (Argoed) and one primary school to create a 3-16 school on the current secondary site. (1200) Remodelling of one secondary school (Elfed) 1000 place	New number required + 4011	1200 1000	Primary & Secondary	English medium	0	0	New Build - Whole School	50%	1	Argoed High School	580	557
											2	Elfed High School	1037	669
											3	Mynydd Isa Primary School (Infants Site)	513	504
											4	Mynydd Isa Primary School (Junior Site)		
											5			
5b	Buckley and Mynydd Isa Area School Review	OPTION B Proposed amalgamation of two secondary schools to create one secondary school on one of the current sites (Elfed) and new primary school to replace current split site arrangement to be situated on the other secondary site (Argoed)	New numbers required	1400 600	Primary + Secondary	English medium	0	0	Refurb	50%	1	Argoed High School	580	557
											2	Elfed High School	1037	669
											3	Mynydd Isa Primary School (Infants Site)	513	504
											4	Mynydd Isa Primary School (Junior Site)		
											5			
5c	Buckley and Mynydd Isa Area School Review	OPTION C Refurbishment of existing buildings at two secondary schools and invest in Primary provision ( split sites)	4011 4042 2267	1000 600 600	Primary + Secondary	English medium	0	0	Refurb	50%	1	Argoed High School	580	557
											2	Elfed High School	1037	669
											3	Mynydd Isa Primary School (Infants Site)	513	504
											4	Mynydd Isa Primary School (Junior Site)		
											5			
6	Mold Welsh Medium Area Review	Amalgamation of two Welsh Medium primary schoolson to one site - Extension/Refurbishment for selected site to accommodate learners	New number required	360	Primary	Welsh medium	0	0	Extension / Refurbishment	50%	1	Ysgol Terrig, Treuddyn	93	47
											2	Ysgol Glanrafon, Mold	287	298
											3			
											4			
											5			
7	Flint Welsh Medium Review	New build Welsh Medium primary school	New number required	300	Primary	Welsh medium	0	0	New Build - Whole School	50%	1	Ysgol Croes Atti, Flint & Shotton	207	190
											2			
											3			
											4			
											5			
8	Drury Community Primary School	Remodel/refurbishment of existing buildings	2089	Unknown pending feasibility	Primary	English medium	0	0	Refurb	50%	1	Drury Community Primary School	124	139
											2			
											3			
											4			
											5			
9	Hawarden High School	Refurbishment of existing buildings	4000	Unknown pending feasibility	Secondary	English medium	0	0	Refurb	50%	1	Hawarden High School	1145	1172
											2			
											3			
											4			
											5			
10	Mold Alun High School	Refurbishment of existing buildings	4006	Unknown pending feasibility	Secondary	English medium	0	0	Refurb	50%	1	Mold Alun High School	1768	1630
											2			
											3			
											4			
											5			
11	Flint High School	Refurbishment of existing buildings	4021	Unknown pending feasibility	Secondary	English medium	0	0	Refurb	50%	1	Flint High School	797	755
											2			
											3			
											4			
											5			

\* Current Number

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## EDUCATION & YOUTH OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

<b>Date of Meeting</b>	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> January, 2018
<b>Report Subject</b>	Forward Work Programme
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Not applicable
<b>Report Author</b>	Education & 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 – 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> 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>

<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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<p><b>Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018 2.00 pm</b></p> <p><b>Joint meeting with Social &amp; Health Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee</b></p>	<p><b>Education Attainment of Looked After Children</b></p>	<p>To receive the Annual Education Attainment Report of Looked After Children</p>	<p>Progress Monitoring</p>	<p>Senior Manager Inclusion Services</p>	<p><b>17<sup>th</sup> May, 2018</b></p>
	<p><b>Corporate Parenting</b></p>	<p>To advise and report on the progress of corporate parenting within the Local Authority</p>	<p>Progress Monitoring</p>	<p>Senior Manager – Children and Workforce</p>	
	<p><b>Safeguarding and Child Protection</b></p>	<p>To receive statistical information in relation to Safeguarding for Adults and Children</p>	<p>Progress Monitoring</p>	<p>Senior Manager – Safeguarding and Commissioning</p>	
	<p><b>Early Entitlement Hub</b></p>	<p>To provide an update on the Early Entitlement Hub</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Early Years and Family Support Manager</p>	
	<p><b>Free Childcare Offer</b></p>	<p>To provide an update on the rollout of free childcare provision</p>	<p>Information Sharing</p>	<p>Early Years and Family Support Manager</p>	
	<p><b>Additional Learning Needs Bill Legislation</b></p>	<p>To provide an update on implementation plans arising from the Additional Learning Needs Bill Legislation</p>	<p>Information Sharing</p>	<p>Senior Manager Inclusion Services</p>	



<b>Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> June 2018 2.00 pm</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, and update on how the new model is being received and embedded.	Assurance/Monitoring	Interim Chief Officer (Education & Youth)	<b>21<sup>st</sup> June, 2018</b>
	<b>School Modernisation</b>	To update Members on the progress made with School Modernisation	Assurance/monitoring	Senior Manager School Planning & Provision	

**Items to be scheduled to a date**

- School Governors – following the outcome of the national governance review
- School Improvement – consultation – to start consultation process in development of the updated Self-Evaluation report
- The work of the Youth Service
- How the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Band B school programme aligned with the class sizes grant from the Welsh Government

**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

**REGULAR ITEMS**

Month	Item	Purpose of Report	Responsible / Contact Officer
	<b>School Modernisation</b>	To update Members on the progress made with School Modernisation	Senior Manager School Planning & Provision
<b>February</b>	<b>Self-evaluation on education services</b>	To update Members on overall service performance	Interim Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
<b>April</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	Interim Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
<b>June</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.	Interim Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
<b>December</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;
<b>Annually</b>	<b>Social Media &amp; Internet Safety</b>	To receive an annual report assurance/monitoring	Healthy Schools Practitioner