

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 JULY 2019** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 5**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **COUNCIL PLAN 2019/20 - PART 2**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: To approve Part 2 of the Council Plan 2019/20 to support monitoring and assessment of the progress against the Council Plan Part 1 priorities.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation, and including the amendments suggested at Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** All Members have had the opportunity to consider and review the content of the draft Plan themes and priorities through the two workshops and a survey.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: The Council Plan ambitions are reflected in the Medium Term Financial Strategy and the annual budget setting process.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17th July 2019

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 16 JULY 2019 AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

REPORT OF: Chief Executive

SUBJECT: ANNUAL IMPROVEMENT REPORT 2018/19 OF THE
AUDITOR GENERAL FOR WALES

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: To be assured by the Auditor General for Wales' Annual Improvement Plan for 2018/19.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: Cabinet will be receiving future reports relating to external regulatory work as part of their Forward Work Programme.

Audit Committee will receive this report as part of their assurance work in September.

Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee will receive this report as part of their scrutiny role in September.

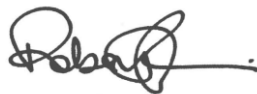
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: There are no specific resource implications.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17th July 2019

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

SIGNED

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Robert", with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 JULY 2019** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 8**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive, Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)**

SUBJECT: **ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY MODELS PHASE 2**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: (1) That Cabinet approves the second phase of the Alternative Delivery Model programme and refer this report to the Organisational Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee in September for review and comment; and

(2) That Cabinet requests further reports, evaluating each of the proposed service models for more detailed consideration prior to any formal decision on their future, noting that several of the models are well advanced and that one (the CCTV Monitoring Service) has been given a separate and prior approval.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** Individual and specific consultation processes will apply to each project. This will include Cabinet Member and the respective Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

Progress of the overall ADM programme will be reviewed by the Organisational Change Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The developing proposals and final agreements will be subjected to workforce and Trade Unions consultation.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The concept and initial scoping work for the individual projects has been undertaken to date by colleagues within the individual portfolios. Specific project development capacity will be provided through invest to save and national funding sources as required.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.


DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th July 2019

SIGNED

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Robert', with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 JULY 2019** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 10**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Housing and Assets)**

SUBJECT: **WELFARE REFORM UPDATE**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: Cabinet to support the report and the ongoing work to manage the impacts that Welfare Reforms has and will continue to have upon Flintshire's most vulnerable households.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation, plus an additional recommendation of:

- (2) That the Council write to the Minister highlighting the learning, and problems, experienced as a pilot location for Universal Credit.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** Not applicable.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: Reduction in the Discretionary Housing Payments Fund provided by DWP of £38,851 for 2019-20 means there is less DWP funding for residents in need of assistance (for HB and UC). This will be monitored in year to highlight any potential pressures which will need to be reported through budget monitoring processes.

Delivery of Personal Budgeting Support is no longer funded by DWP. However, Welfare and budgeting support will continue to be provided by the Welfare Reform Response Team due to the extra resources that have been secured for the next two years and a further financial pressure has been highlighted for year three.

The latest welfare reforms will impact on new Flintshire households, for example, working households, who may also seek advice and support on how to manage their loss of income.

To manage the increased demand from Flintshire households experiencing social welfare problems, the Council has supported the development of the Flintshire Local Advice and Housing Support Gateways.

Both Gateways aim to reduce pressures on internal and external providers by effectively triaging referrals to ensure a person is referred to the most appropriate service provider.

The team will, with the additional resources, be able to identify, plan support and undertake pro-active activities to assist residents in order to mitigate welfare reforms in 2019/20.

There are clear risks to the Council around increasing rent and Council Tax arrears.

From April 2019, the DWP will no longer fund the Council to provide Universal Credit customers with Personal Budgeting Support and Assisted Digital Support.

Demand for budgeting support continues to increase and will continue to be provided by the Welfare Reform Response Team to all residents who are affected by Welfare Reform not just those receiving Universal Credit.

Flintshire Connects will continue to respond to ongoing demand for digital support for Universal Credit customers.

There are concerns with the Help to Claim model surrounding the date of contact versus date of claim. As previously the date the customer made contact with the

Local Authority could be taken as the start date for Universal Credit entitlement However, under the revised model this provision does not exist. The implication here could be an increase in rent arrears, access to food banks, pay day lenders etc.

We will be monitoring the impacts of this model and will share our findings with both DWP and Welsh Government.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.


DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th July 2019

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 JULY 2019** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 11**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Governance)**

SUBJECT: **JOINT PROCUREMENT SERVICE ANNUAL REPORT**
2018/19

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Cabinet note the annual performance report and endorses the proposed actions to improve performance, where required.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: The report has been considered by the Procurement Joint Management Board.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: The SLA states that the Council will split the costs based on their share of the combined overall spend of both Councils. That spend will vary from year to year depending on capital projects but Flintshire broadly spends 55% and so its share of the running costs is 55%.

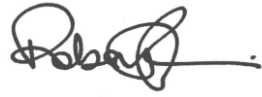
As mentioned in the report the service is within budget (after adjustments). DCC has recently changed the establishment for the structure which will reduce the cost of the service overall and so will further reduce Flintshire's contribution under the SLA.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17th July 2019

SIGNED

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Robert", with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 JULY 2019** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 12**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)**

SUBJECT: **FEES AND CHARGES**

- RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**
- (1) That Cabinet approves the fees and charges documented in Appendix A to the report;
 - (2) That Cabinet approves the Consumer Price Index, including owner occupiers' housing costs (CPIH), as the annual inflation index to be used for uplifting fees and charges where it is appropriate to do so (or market rate comparable/choice where applicable) along with the proposed inflationary implementation period documented in Appendix A;
 - (3) That Cabinet support further work to establish whether full cost recovery (direct and indirect cost recovery) is being achieved for all services, where it is permissible for them to do so and/or comparable market rates are applies;
 - (4) That Cabinet approve a three year staged approach to achieving full cost recovery (or market price comparison) for all services where it is permissible for them to do so;
 - (5) That Cabinet approve a further review of the current Income Generation Policy, with a view to developing a policy framework for income generation to include a consistent charging and cost recovery structure;

- (6) That Cabinet approve the annual review of fees and charges format and request an annual report in July of each year, setting out the proposed fees and charges for all services, which will be introduced from 1st October of the same year; and
- (7) That Cabinet notes the additional income projects identified in Appendix B to the report and approves the project commencement dates for each.

DECISION:

As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION:

As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:**

The Income Generation Policy was previously endorsed in October 2017.

It is proposed that the annual review of fees and charges is reported to Cabinet in July each year to ensure appropriate accountability.

For the purposes of transparency, a detailed list of all the fees and charges applied by the Council will, going forward, be published.

The schedule of fees and charges (Appendix A) has been considered by the Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 11th July 2019, with feedback to be provided to Cabinet.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

Additional income generated through fees and charges, and the income projects, will be tracked and monitored against the income target for 2019/20. Failure to achieve the income target will lead to a budget shortfall, which may lead to funding from alternative sources being required.

Whilst further work is required to calculate

income projections for all the proposed fee/charge increases from 1st October 2019, some indicative figures have been calculated for reference.

It is proposed to raise the charge for the garden waste collection service by between £2 and £5 per season, depending on the chosen payment method and the date of payment is received by the Council. This reflects the rising cost of delivering the service and will increase the projected income levels by between £70,000 and £130,000 per year.

The proposed charge for the new Food/Drink Ceremony Packages under Registration Services has been projected to generate additional income in the region of £580 in 2019/20 and £850 in 2020/21.

The new charge for the transfer of grave ownership administration is yet to be confirmed. However, comparable charges in other Councils varies from £30 to £55 for this service. Based on current service demand, implementing a £30 charge for this service would generate in the region of £15,600 per annum and a £55 charge £28,600 per annum.

Further work is required to verify that the services identified as operating at cost recovery in Appendix A (those highlighted as amber) are recovering the full costs of service delivery, where it is permissible for them to do so. That is both the direct and indirect costs associated with service delivery. This work will ensure due diligence and will be undertaken by Finance Managers and the Income Generation and Marketing Manager.

Discretionary services, where the Council has a power but not a duty to provide the service, are most at risks. Achieving cost recovery wherever possible for these services is therefore a necessity for

service sustainability. Where the charge applied for these services does not cover the cost of service delivery, or it is not permitted to, this raises strategic questions for the Council to consider. For example, should these services continue to be provided? If so how will they be funded? If they are to be subsidised where will the funding come from?

As outlined in the Income Generation Policy, it is proposed that the annual review of fees and charges is overseen by Programme Boards, with any changes implemented from 1st October each year following reports to Cabinet in July.

Where in-year charges are required to fees and charges, i.e. statutory fee changes or other extenuating circumstances, these should be made in line with the delegated authority process (respective Chief Officer and Cabinet Member).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th July 2019

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 16 JULY 2019 AGENDA ITEM NO. 13

REPORT OF: Corporate Finance Manager

SUBJECT: REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2018/19
(OUTTURN)

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

- (1) Note the overall report and the Council Fund contingency sum as at 31st March 2019;
- (2) Note the final level of balances on the Housing Revenue Account as at 31st March; and
- (3) Approve the carry forwards requested.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: None required.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: The Revenue Budget Monitoring Report reflects the planned use of the financial resources of the Council for the current financial year and details the variations in the first four months and the risks as known.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17th July 2019

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 16 JULY 2019 AGENDA ITEM NO. 15

REPORT OF: Corporate Finance Manager

SUBJECT: PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS - ACTUALS 2018/19

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Members note and approve the report.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: No consultation is required.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: There are no resource implications.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17th July 2019

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 JULY 2019** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 17**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Governance), Chief Officer (Social Services)**

SUBJECT: **COUNCIL TAX DISCOUNT SCHEME FOR FLINTSHIRE FOSTER CARERS**

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:

- (1) Approve the introduction, in principle, of a Council Tax Discretionary Discount Scheme for Foster Carers, to take effect from April 2020; and
- (2) Consider three options on the level of discount that would be affordable to the Council, being a 25%, 50% or 75% discount, noting that a 50% discount would be the preferable option to align to the Council Tax discount schemes for Foster Carers that are in operation in other local authorities in the region.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: The referral of this potential Council Tax discount scheme to COT forms part of the initial consultation process around the introduction of a scheme to support Foster Carers.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: We forecast that around 122 may qualify. Of these, 89 may qualify for a direct Council Tax discount as they reside in the County. 33 reside outside of the County boundary and to ensure a consistency of approach for those foster carers who are employed by the Council but who reside outside of the County boundary, the

scheme would include provision to make an in-direct financial award in the form of a financial assistance scheme in lieu of a Council Tax discount.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.


DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th July 2019

SIGNED

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Robert', written over a horizontal line.

(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 JULY 2019** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 18**

REPORT OF: **Chief Executive**

SUBJECT: **WELSH LANGUAGE ANNUAL MONITORING
REPORT 2018/19**

- RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**
- (1) Assurance that progress has been made during the year to meet our statutory duties;
 - (2) The areas for improvement are noted and a mid-year report on progress is to be built into the Forward Work Programme;
 - (3) Approval of the publication of the report on the Council's website; and
 - (4) The Welsh Language Annual Report is included on the forward work programme of Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** Officers were consulted to provide information for the annual monitoring report and consideration was given by Chief Officers.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: A training programme is required to ensure employees have the skills and knowledge to meet these statutory duties. A budget for Welsh language training is held by the Learning and Development Team.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

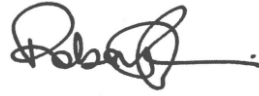
DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th July 2019

SIGNED

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Robert', written over a horizontal line.

(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: **16 JULY 2019** **AGENDA ITEM NO. 20**

REPORT OF: **Chief Officer (Social Services)**

SUBJECT: **POOLED BUDGET AGREEMENT FOR CARE HOME
ACCOMMODATION FOR OLDER PEOPLE 2019-
2020**

- RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT:**
- (1) That Cabinet approves the establishment of a single, non-risk sharing regional pooled fund for care home accommodation functions for older people to be hosted by Denbighshire County Council for three years; and
 - (2) That Cabinet delegates authority to the Chief Officer (Social Services), in conjunction with the Corporate Finance Manager, to sign a 3 year agreement with Denbighshire County Council as outlined in the report.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendations.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

**CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT:** None.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: Resource to support this programme of work has been provided in the main by Denbighshire County Council as the host agency.

As laid out in the report, under the current 'non-risk sharing pool' there are no specific risk implications as the pooling of funds is a virtual transaction for all partner agencies.

A Formal Section 33 Agreement would require the pooling of the Flintshire Care

Home Accommodation Function budget.

The establishment of a formal Section 33 agreement would have significant resource implications for the host agency.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

None.

DISPENSATIONS

None.

DATE PUBLISHED:

17th July 2019

SIGNED

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert", with a horizontal line extending to the right from the end of the signature.

(Proper Officer)

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

CABINET RECORD OF DECISION

DATE OF MEETING: 16 JULY 2019 AGENDA ITEM NO. 23

REPORT OF: Chief Officer (Housing and Assets)

SUBJECT: FLINTSHIRE FOOD ENTERPRISE AND THE FOOD
POVERTY RESPONSE

RECOMMENDATIONS OF REPORT: That Cabinet agrees in principle to proceed with the proposed new Social Enterprise model which will make a significant contribution to reducing food poverty in the County.

DECISION: As detailed in the recommendation.

REASON FOR DECISION: As in the report.

CONSULTATIONS
REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT: Discussion with prospective partners is ongoing at the moment.

RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS: The proposals will create employment opportunities within Flintshire.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None.

DISPENSATIONS None.

DATE PUBLISHED: 17th July 2019

SIGNED



(Proper Officer)
