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To: Cllr Ian Roberts (Leader)

Councillors: Glyn Banks, Chris Bithell, Derek Butler, Dave Hughes, Christine Jones, Billy Mullin and Carolyn Thomas

9 December 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

NOTICE OF REMOTE MEETING
CABINET
TUESDAY, 15TH DECEMBER, 2020 at 10.00 AM

Yours faithfully

Robert Robins
Democratic Services Manager

Please note: Due to the current restrictions on travel and the requirement for physical distancing, this meeting will not be held at its usual location. This will be a remote meeting and 'attendance' will be restricted to Committee Members. The meeting will be recorded.

If you have any queries regarding this, please contact a member of the Democratic Services Team on 01352 702345.

A G E N D A

1 **APOLOGIES**

Purpose: To receive any apologies.

2 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Purpose: To receive any declarations and advise Members accordingly.

3 **MINUTES** (Pages 7 - 18)

Purpose: To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 17th November 2020.

4 **EMERGENCY SITUATION BRIEFING (VERBAL)**

Purpose: To update on the latest position and the risks and implications for Flintshire and service and business continuity.

TO CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING REPORTS

STRATEGIC REPORTS

5 **MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY AND ANNUAL BUDGET 2021/22** (Pages 19 - 32)

Report of Chief Executive, Corporate Finance Manager - Cabinet Member for Finance

Purpose: To provide an update on the latest position for the Council Fund Revenue Budget 2021/22 following the recent round of Overview and Scrutiny Committees.

6 **WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON COMBINED JOINT COMMITTEES (CJCS)** (Pages 33 - 50)

Report of Chief Executive, Chief Officer (Governance), Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy), Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) - Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets, Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside

Purpose: To invite a response on the Welsh Government consultation on the creation of Combined Joint Committees (CJCs).

OPERATIONAL REPORTS

7 REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2020/21 (MONTH 7) (Pages 51 - 74)

Report of Corporate Finance Manager - Cabinet Member for Finance

Purpose: This regular monthly report provides the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2020/21 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account. The position is based on actual income and expenditure as at Month 7, and projects forward to year-end.

8 TREASURY MANAGEMENT MID-YEAR REVIEW 2020/21 (Pages 75 - 96)

Report of Corporate Finance Manager - Cabinet Member for Finance

Purpose: To present the draft Treasury Management Mid-Year Review for 2020/21 for recommendation to Council.

9 FAMILIES FIRST - FUNDING ELEMENT (Pages 97 - 102)

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

Purpose: To highlight evidenced achievements and to seek support for continuation of provision as detailed in the report.

10 COMMISSIONING OF LEARNING DISABILITY (AUTISM) DAY SERVICE PROVISION (Pages 103 - 110)

Report of Chief Officer (Social Services) - Cabinet Member for Social Services

Purpose: To seek approval to re-commission Learning Disability Day Services from an existing provider.

11 JOINT CORPORATE PROCUREMENT UNIT ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20 (Pages 111 - 130)

Report of Chief Officer (Governance) - Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

Purpose: To receive a performance update report on the Joint Procurement Service with Denbighshire County Council.

12 **ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT** (Pages 131 - 140)

Report of Chief Officer (Governance) - Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

Purpose: To report on the annual review the Modern Slavery Statement and progress against its aims and actions.

13 **NORTH WALES REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20** (Pages 141 - 168)

Report of Chief Officer (Social Services) - Cabinet Member for Social Services

Purpose: To share the Annual Report, which provides information to partners with regard to the North Wales Regional Partnership Board and its activities during 2019/20.

14 **EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS** (Pages 169 - 170)

Purpose: To provide details of actions taken under delegated powers.

FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME - COUNTY COUNCIL, CABINET, AUDIT AND OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY - FOR INFORMATION

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 - TO CONSIDER THE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following item is considered to be exempt by virtue of Paragraph(s) 15 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

The public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosure until such time as those consultations/negotiations have been concluded.

15 **THEATR CLWYD ALTERNATIVE DELIVERY MODEL (ADM) FINAL TRANSFER DUE DILIGENCE REPORT** (Pages 203 - 222)

Report of Chief Executive - Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

Purpose: To receive a full and final report on due diligence once feedback from the Education, Youth and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee and a formal proposal from the Shadow Board have been received. To resolve any remaining service contract agreement issues and request delegated authority to finalise contractual process if required.

The following item is considered to be exempt by virtue of Paragraph(s) 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

The report contains details of proposed contracts and the public interest in revealing the information is outweighed by the public interest in withholding it until the contract has been awarded.

16 SALE OF MORRISTON FARM, SEALAND (Pages 223 - 228)

Report of Chief Officer (Housing and Assets) - Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

Purpose: To approve the sale of Morriston Farm.

The following item is considered to be exempt by virtue of Paragraph(s) 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

The report contains details of proposed contracts and the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosure until the contracts have been entered into.

17 APPROVAL OF COSTS FOR PURCHASE AND REFURBISHMENT OF PROPERTIES AT MEADOWBANK HOLYWELL (Pages 229 - 234)

Report of Chief Officer (Housing and Assets) - Cabinet Member for Housing

Purpose: To approve the purchase and refurbishment of four properties at Meadowbank, Holywell.

The following item is considered to be exempt by virtue of Paragraph(s) 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

The report contains details of proposed contracts and the public interest in withholding the information outweighs the public interest in disclosure until the contracts have been entered into.

18 FFORDD HIRAETHOG AND FFORDD PANDARUS, STRATEGIC HOUSING AND REGENERATION PROGRAMME (SHARP) SCHEMES COST PLAN (Pages 235 - 248)

Report of Chief Officer (Housing and Assets) - Cabinet Member for Housing

Purpose: To approve the development of 30 new Social Rent homes at Ffordd Hiraethog and Ffordd Pandarus, Maes Pennant, Mostyn.

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CABINET
17TH NOVEMBER 2020

Minutes of the meeting of the Cabinet of Flintshire County Council held virtually via Webex on Tuesday 17th November, 2020.

PRESENT: Councillor Ian Roberts (Chair)

Councillors: Glyn Banks, Chris Bithell, Derek Butler, Dave Hughes, Christine Jones, and Carolyn Thomas.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Chief Executive, Chief Officer (Governance), Corporate Finance Manager, Chief Officer (Housing and Assets), Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy), Chief Officer (Education and Youth), Chief Officer (Social Services), and Team Leader – Democratic Services.

APOLOGIES OF ABSENCE:

Councillor Billy Mullin.

OTHER MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Councillor: Patrick Heesom.

36. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

37. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th October were submitted and confirmed as a correct.

On minute number 30, Councillor Bithell asked if there was any update following the representation made on the Ornamental Gardens in Mold. Councillor Thomas said a review would be undertaken the following year.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting were approved as a correct record.

38. EMERGENCY SITUATION BRIEFING

Colin Everett provided an update on the current emergency situation. A briefing note had been sent to all Members earlier that morning.

Wales had been out of the Fire-Break for just over a week. The figures in North Wales were the most stable, however he had hoped that Flintshire's figures might have been lower at this point. He explained the importance of public conformity which was critical to help to reduce the number of positive cases and ongoing viral transmission.

There was an ongoing concern with the number of care homes that were classed as 'red'. He welcomed the opening of Ysbyty Enfys Glannau Dyfrdwy which would see a low number of admissions for patients recovering from Covid-19.

On Test, Trace and Protect, funding had been enhanced and capacity would be doubled with employees hopefully in post by mid-December.

Members thanks the Chief Executive for the update.

RESOLVED:

That the information be received.

39. PERFORMANCE MID-YEAR MONITORING REPORT

The Chief Executive introduced the report and explained that Flintshire County Council Reporting Measures 2020/21 were identified by portfolios and approved by Cabinet in September 2020. This report presented a summary of performance at the mid-year point.

The mid-year performance monitoring report for the 2020/21 Reporting Measures showed that 69% of the performance indicators had met or exceeded their targets. Where performance could be measured against last year there had been a 64% downturn in trend, with 31% of measures improving on last year's performance and 5% maintaining stable performance.

The report was an exception-based report and concentrated on under-performance against target.

The report was considered at Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee the previous week and no areas of concern were raised.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the overall performance of indicators against the agreed Reporting Measures at the mid-year point be noted and reviewed; and
- (b) That Cabinet be assured by explanations given for underperformance, which in the main are explained by the interruption of the pandemic.

40. NORTH WALES ECONOMIC AMBITION BOARD – FINAL GROWTH DEAL

Councillor Butler introduced the report and explained that the North Wales Growth Deal was a portfolio consisting of 5 programmes to be delivered over the next 15 years. It was to be delivered by the Portfolio Management Office on behalf of the North Wales Economic Ambition Board (NWEAB).

The Chief Executive explained that the Growth Deal was seeking to deliver a total investment of up to £1.1bn in the North Wales economy (£240M from the

Growth Deal), to create 3,400 – 4,200 net additional jobs and generate £2.0 - £2.4bn in net additional GVA.

The five programmes included 14 projects, which had been carefully designed and developed with stakeholders to address specific market failures and barriers to economic growth. Individual project business cases would be developed and would be presented to the NWEAB for approval from January 2021 onwards.

The report had been considered at Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee the previous week where they considered the economic impacts, and Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny Committee also the previous week had considered the aspects of governance and finance. Following Cabinet on the report would be considered by County Council that afternoon. Both Overview and Scrutiny Committees supported the report.

The Chief Officer (Governance) explained the areas which were functions of Cabinet and which needed approval by County Council.

In response to a question from Councillor Bithell, the Chief Executive explained that a proportion of NNDR could be retained of new developments of up to 50%.

Members welcomed and supported the report.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That Cabinet and Council approve the Overarching Business Plan as the document that sets out the arrangements to deliver the North Wales Growth Deal as the basis for entering into the Final Deal Agreement and acceptance of the Grant Funding Letter with the UK and Welsh Governments;
- (b) That Cabinet approves the provisions in Governance Agreement 2 relating to executive functions, and recommends that Council approves the provisions relating to non-executive functions, and that Cabinet specifically adopts the delegations and Terms of Reference in “Governance Agreement 2: Appendix 1” thereof as the basis for completing the Final Deal Agreement and acceptance of the Grant Funding Letter with the UK and Welsh Governments;
- (c) That Cabinet formally endorse and recommend that the Council authorise the accountable body, Gwynedd Council, to sign the Grant Funding Offer letter on behalf of the Partners;
- (d) That Cabinet formally endorses and recommends that Council approves the method used to calculate the cost of borrowing notionally required to facilitate the negative cash flow for the Growth Deal, and to include a provision within the Council’s budget to pay this contribution and the established core and supplementary contributions as set out in GA2 and paragraphs 2.5-2.7 of the report; and

- (e) That the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader, Monitoring Officer and Section 151 Officer be granted delegated authority to agree minor changes to the documents with the Partners as necessary to complete the agreement.

41. ESTABLISHMENT OF SPORT NORTH WALES PARTNERSHIP

Councillor Roberts introduced the report which sought approval for the Council to be a partner in the Sport North Wales (SNW) Partnership.

SNW was a national organisation responsible for increasing participation and improving performance in sport in Wales, and one which had historically provided annual funding to each local authority and other partners to undertake a number of sporting programmes and interventions across North Wales. They had included Active Young People and the Free Swimming Initiative.

The vision for SNW was to develop an Active Nation supported by the Sport Wales Strategy. In response to this Strategy a collaborative partnership was established in 2018 and was tasked with developing a shared vision and business case. That led to the formation of SNW with 13 regional partners.

It was proposed that there would be five regional organisations across Wales in the future, with SNW being the pilot region. The business case had been submitted to Sport Wales with a decision due by their Board later this month. All 13 partners were being invited to formally support the formation of SNW under a local authority 'hosted model'.

The Chief Executive explained that the governance agreement and business case were appended to the report. Aura was co-leading on the project with Conwy County Borough Council being the host authority. There would be two Governance Boards and there would be a requirement for Council representation.

Councillor Bithell welcomed the report and looked forward to its success.

RESOLVED:

That Cabinet support the establishment of Sport North Wales Partnership (SNW).

42. CAPITAL STRATEGY INCLUDING PRUDENTIAL INDICATORS 2021/22 – 2023/24

Councillor Banks introduced the report provided an update on the Council's Capital Strategy and sought Cabinet approval for recommendation to Council.

The Corporate Finance Manager explained the need for the Strategy, its key aims and the content of each of its sections.

The key aims of the Strategy were to explain the ways in which the capital programme was developed and funded, the potential impact it had on the Council's Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) and the way in which it related to the

Council's Treasury Management Strategy. The Strategy was split into a number of sections which were outlined in the report.

The tables detailed in the appendices were explained.

Corporate Resources Overview and Scrutiny had considered the report the previous week and no areas of concern were raised. The report would be submitted to County Council in December.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Capital Strategy be approved and recommended to County Council; and
- (b) That Cabinet approve and recommend the following to County Council:
 - The Prudential Indicators for 2021/22 – 2023/24 as detailed within Tables 1 and 4-7 inclusive of the Capital Strategy; and
 - Delegated authority for the Corporate Finance Manager to effect movements between the separately agreed limits within the authorised limit for external debt and the operational boundary for external debt (Table 6 of the Capital Strategy).

43. CAPITAL PROGRAMME 2021/22 – 2023/24

Councillor Banks introduced the report and explained that the Council's Capital Programme covered investment in assets for the long term to enable the delivery of high quality and value for money public services. Assets included buildings, infrastructure and assets not owned by the Council.

The Chief Officer (Housing and Assets) explained that the proposed capital investments outlined in the report were closely aligned to portfolio service business plans and the Council Plan. The information within the report referred to the Council Fund (CF) programme only, not the housing programme which was funded from the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).

The Council's Capital Strategy divided the Capital Programme into three parts:

1. Statutory / Regulatory section – to cover regulatory and statutory works. Examples included providing support to improve and adapt private sector homes (Disabled Facilities Grants), adaptations to schools for children with disabilities and any works required to keep buildings open by meeting Health and Safety requirements
2. Retained Assets section – to ensure service and business continuity. This included schemes that enhanced and improved retained assets and infrastructure to deliver services and met significant need identified by service plans or through condition surveys etc.
3. Investment section – to fund costs incurred when remodelling and investing in services. This included new schemes arising from Portfolio business plans, the Council Plan, other relevant and emerging plans, and other strategies or

emerging Council priorities approved through a selection process based on the provision of a business case.

Each of the tables in the report were explained, along with potential future schemes.

It was an ambitious programme with a lot of important projects. He gave examples of previously approved schemes such as Castell Alun High School - Hope, and Marleyfield Residential Home - Buckley, and examples of new schemes for approval such as Theatr Clwyd redevelopment and improvements to Standard Yard Waste Transfer Station.

Members welcomed the report which they felt was exciting and set a clear vision for the future.

Councillor Thomas said previously Welsh Government (WG) had provided a grant for a three-year period towards highway improvements. That grant was now coming to an end. She had been in contact with the Leader of the Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) on the need for continuing financial support from WG but no information on that was yet available. She asked if the amount of £0.600M allocation for the Highways Asset Management Plan could be increased by £0.400M so the total budget was £1M. The Chief Executive said possibilities could be looked at with flexibility and it could be reviewed in the New Year once the details of the Settlement were known.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the allocations and schemes in Table 3, be approved for the Statutory/Regulatory and Retained Assets sections of the Council Fund Capital Programme 2021/22 – 2023/24;
- (b) That the schemes included in Table 4, be approved for the Investment section of the Council Fund Capital Programme 2021/22 – 2023/24;
- (c) That the shortfall in funding of schemes in 2021/22 in Table 5, at this point in the approval process allows flexibility, be noted. Options including a combination of future capital receipts, alternative grants (if available), prudential borrowing or the re-phasing of schemes will be considered during 2021/22, and included in future Capital Programme reports; and
- (d) That the schemes included in Table 6 for the specifically funded section of the Council Fund Capital Programme which will be funded in part through borrowing be approved.

44. CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

Councillor Jones introduced the report and explained that safeguarding was a corporate priority and a discipline that all portfolios were expected to observe and support as good corporate practice.

The corporate safeguarding panel was established in December 2015. The report set out the robust corporate safeguarding arrangements that had been put in place, which included:

- Working with North Wales Police on Operation Encompass, an initiative to support children and young people who were subject to or witnessed police attended domestic abuse incidents;
- Theatr Clwyd delivered Justice in a Day workshops. This interactive performance involved a workshop with a team of professional actors and a participatory visit to Mold Magistrates' Court where an actual Magistrate took part; and
- Providing safeguarding training to over 400 taxi drivers to ensure they recognised the signs of potential abuse and knew how to make a report;

Flintshire was committed to its responsibilities and had taken positive steps to ensure that there were robust arrangements in place for protecting children, young people and adults.

The Chief Officer (Social Services) explained that The key actions to be completed during 2020/21 included participating in National Safeguarding Week 2020 to raise public awareness of safeguarding issues including modern slavery; encouraging employees to complete the Welsh Government's eLearning module "Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Against Women" to achieve 100% completion rate by March 2021; and raising awareness of the new Wales Safeguarding Procedures

He thanked all colleagues for their input into the report.

In response to a question from Councillor Bithell on Elective Home Education and safeguarding, the Chief Officer (Education and Youth) said it was challenging but Welsh Government (WG) were making progress on a nationally established register so that agencies knew where children were. If the child had been in school and then removed for Elective Home Education, the authority and agencies would be aware of them. However, if they had never attended school they would not be known, or where they were. She welcomed the introduction of a national register.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That Cabinet be assured that work is being undertaken to improve corporate arrangements for safeguarding children and adults; and
- (b) That the Corporate Safeguarding Annual Report 2019/20 be approved, prior to publication.

45. REVENUE BUDGET MONITORING 2020/21 (MONTH 6)

Councillor Banks introduced the report which provided details of the known risks and issues for 2020/21 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account.

The Corporate Finance Manager explained that the projected year end position, without new actions to reduce cost pressures and/or improve the financial return on efficiency planning and cost control was:

Council Fund

- An operating deficit of £0.569M (excluding the impact of the pay award which would be met by reserves), which was a favourable movement of £0.352M from the deficit figure reported at Month 5
- A projected contingency reserve balance as at 31st March 2021 of £1.415M

Housing Revenue Account

- Net in-year expenditure forecast to be £0.478M lower than budget
- A projected closing balance as at 31st March of £2.651M.

The report provided details on the projected position by portfolio, significant movements from Month 5, open risks, new emerging risks and reserves and balances.

Council Tax income was 1.4% below target which equated to £1.37M. Income was expected to continue to recover now that recovery processes had resumed in full and when agreed payment deferrals were settled. The Chief Executive added that the situation was being monitored by Welsh Government (WG).

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the overall report and the projected Council Fund contingency sum as at 31st March 2021 be noted; and
- (b) That the projected final level of balances on the Housing Revenue Account be noted.

46. CAPITAL PROGRAMME MONITORING 2020/21 (MONTH 6)

Councillor Banks introduced the report which summarised the changes made to the Capital Programme 2020/21 since it was set in January 2020 to the end of Month 6, along with expenditure to date and projected outturn.

The Corporate Finance Manager explained that the Capital Programme had seen a net decrease in budget of £3.419M during the period which comprised of:

- Net budget increase in the programme of £3.028M (Council Fund £3.028M, Housing Revenue Account £0.000)
- Carry Forward to 2021/22, approved at Month 4 of £6.420M
- Identified savings at Month 6 £0.027M

Details of the table contents were explained, noting that information relating to each programme area was contained in Appendix B to the report.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the overall report be approved; and
- (b) That the carry forward adjustments set out in the report be approved.

47. COUNCIL TAX BASE FOR 2021/22

The Chief Officer (Governance) introduced the report and explained that setting of the Council Tax Base was integral to the revenue budget and Council Tax setting process for 2021/22 and allowed the Council, Police & Crime Commissioners Office for North Wales and Town and Community Councils to calculate next year's Council Tax precept.

The Base had been calculated at 65,026 Band 'D' equivalent properties, after taking into account the total number of properties that would be subject to Council Tax, less those which were exempt from Council Tax or where statutory household discounts applied.

Setting in the Tax Base at 65,026 Band 'D' equivalents also represented significant growth in the Tax Base of 0.73% compared to the previous year, equivalent to an increase of 472 band D equivalent properties.

Councillor Bithell said the Council had tried to bring back empty properties into use without success, and asked if the 50% charge of a Council Tax Premium could be increased to encourage them to be brought back into use. The Chief Officer (Governance) said that could be considered during the course of the year but not for this financial year. Councillor Butler concurred with the views of Councillor Bithell, adding that empty properties was one of the wellbeing objectives in the draft Council Plan for next year onwards.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Tax Base of 65,026 band D equivalent properties for tax-setting purposes for the financial year 2021/22 be approved;
- (b) That a 'nil' discount continue to be set for properties falling within any of the Prescribed Classes (A, B or C) and for that to apply to the whole of the County area; and
- (c) That a 50% Premium continue to be set for long term empty property and second homes falling into the Council Tax Premium scheme.

48. YOUTH SERVICES

Councillor Roberts introduced the report and explained that Flintshire Integrated Youth Provision (FIYP) was innovating services for young people.

The innovation reflected the impacts of, and lessons from, the pandemic emergency response and changes to national and local context. It represented a next

step in the Council's corporate Recovery Strategy for the pandemic emergency response.

FIYP proposed a blended service offering that prioritised:

1. Digital and remote engagement with young people;
2. Targeted prevention work within communities and with partners to build resilience and well-being for more vulnerable children and young people;
3. Equity for Welsh medium provision across all FIYP services;
4. Partnership work with schools to support young people at risk of not engaging with education; and
5. Support for staff and quality practices.

The proposal delivered potential annual savings of £98.6K, representing a 49% saving on premises and 20% on staff.

The Chief Officer (Education and Youth) explained that the FIYP would consult young people, FIYP and Council staff and statutory and community partners about proposals in the period ending January 2021. That consultation would inform the development of a FIYP Plan 2021/2024, for launch in quarter 1 2021/2022.

The pandemic had changed the way in which services were delivered as youth clubs, outreach services, community-based activities and most school had closed. FIYP adapted quickly and introduced a number of things which were outlined in the report. FIYP service development would embed lessons from the pandemic response to realise the vision of the Youth Work Strategy for Wales 2019.

In response to a question from Councillor Thomas, the Chief Officer (Education and Youth) confirmed that Town and Community Councils would be included in the consultation.

The Chief Executive added the report had been considered at Education, Youth and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee where it was well received and the need for change was recognised.

RESOLVED:

That Flintshire Integrated Youth Provision consultation on developing the Flintshire Integrated Youth Provision Plan 2021/2024 be approved.

49. EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS

An information item on the actions taken under delegated powers was submitted. The actions were as set out below:-

Chief Executive's – Corporate Business and Communications

- **Amendment to Council Community Grant Schemes to Enable Response / Recovery Action**

The Council's Community Chest Grant provides grants of up to £1,000 for community organisations who meet the grant criteria. The contribution community organisations have made in keeping vulnerable people safe and meeting their needs during Covid-19 restrictions has been significant and invaluable. These organisations could be better supported during an emergency situation, such as Covid-19, if the grant criteria was more flexible and repurposed to enable timely and responsive actions to meet local needs.

Housing and Assets

- **Declaration of Public Footpath on Leadmills Site, Mold**

To dedicate land as a Public Footpath which is currently within the ownership of Flintshire County Council.

- **Disposal of Princess Avenue Garage Sites**

The disposal of the garage site at Princess Avenue to Clwyd Alyn Housing Association to facilitate the development of affordable housing.

50. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

There was one member of the press in attendance.

(The meeting commenced at 10.00 a.m. and ended at 11.55 a.m.)

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Chair

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CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 15 th December 2020
Report Subject	Medium Term Financial Strategy and Annual Budget 2021/22
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Finance
Report Author	Corporate Finance Manager Chief Executive
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report (1) updates the budget estimate for 2021/22 in advance of the formal budget-setting process (2) gives feedback from the Overview and Scrutiny Committees who were consulted on the budget estimate throughout November and (3) updates on the national budget position.

The report presents an updated budget estimate and re-sets the budget solutions strategy which is highly dependent on sufficient national funding for local government and is unchanged since last year.

All five Overview and Scrutiny Committees had been consulted on the budget estimate and strategy, and specifically on the cost pressures included in the estimate for their respective portfolios. The Committees, as one, did the following:-

- Supported the overall budget strategy;
- Noted and endorsed the individual portfolio cost pressures;
- Supported the expectations of Governments on national funding;
- Noted and accepted the combined efficiency target of £1m - £2m;
- Did not put forward any further efficiency options to explore; and
- Supported the Council's position on local taxation policy i.e. an upper limit of a 5% annual rise in Council Tax.

The Chancellor announced the outcome of the UK Spending Review on 25th November and the implications for Wales are summarised in the report.

The Provisional Local Government Settlement is due to be announced by Welsh Government on 22nd December. A budget timetable is included in the report.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To approve the updated budget estimate for 2021/22.
2	To receive the feedback from the five Overview and Scrutiny Committees.
3	To review and re-set the strategy to set a legal and balanced budget for 2021/22.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE MEDIUM-TERM FINANCIAL STRATEGY 2021/22 – 2023/24 AND THE BUDGET ESTIMATE 2021/22
1.01	The Council reviews the Medium-Term Financial Strategy (MTFS) on an annual basis in advance of setting each annual budget. This report updates both the MTFS and the budget estimate for 2021/22.
1.02	<p>The cost pressures included within the budget estimate have been categorised as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Prior Year Decisions/ Approvals- Loss of Income- Legislative/Unavoidable Indexation- Issues requiring national resolution- National Funding Requirements (Pay Awards)- Strategic Considerations <p>Appendix 1 sets out the revised MTFS and budget forecast. A range is shown for cost pressures from low to high.</p>
1.03	All five Overview and Scrutiny Committees have been consulted on the budget estimate and strategy, and specifically on the cost pressures included in the estimate for their respective portfolios.
1.04	<p>The Committees, as one, did the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Supported the overall budget strategy;• Noted and endorsed the individual portfolio cost pressures;• Supported the expectations of Governments on national funding;• Noted and accepted the combined efficiency target of £1m - £2m;• Did not put forward any further efficiency options to explore; and• Supported the Council's position on local taxation policy i.e. an upper limit of a 5% annual rise in Council Tax.
1.05	The Chancellor set out the outcomes of the Spending Review for the United Kingdom on 25 th November. For Wales the key implications are:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £1.3bn additional funding to the Welsh Government with (£770m for ongoing emergency funding and £560m for core public services funding) • Public sector pay rises to be suspended other than for designated NHS workgroups and for all those earning less than £24,000 per year • Minimum Wage to rise by 2.2% for those aged 23 and over
1.06	<p>The Draft Welsh Budget is due to be announced on 21st December followed by the Provisional Local Government Settlement on 22nd December.</p> <p>UK Government has chosen not to make financial provision for public sector pay awards beyond those referred to above. However, the UK Government does not have control over (1) local government UK national pay negotiations between the employers and the recognised trade unions or (2) teachers' pay awards in Wales which is now a devolved responsibility. Therefore, at this early stage and pending any new pay negotiations it cannot be assumed that there will not be new pay cost pressures for councils in Wales in 2021/22.</p>

2.00	THE REVISED BUDGET ESTIMATE AND FUNDING SOLUTIONS
2.01	<p><u>North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority (NWFRA)</u></p> <p>Confirmation has been received of the level of contribution required to fund the NWFRA for 2021/22. The level of contribution from Flintshire has increased by £0.314m. This is £0.154m higher than first expected.</p>
2.02	<p><u>North Wales Economic Ambition Board (NWEAB)</u></p> <p>As part of the partnership arrangement for the NWEAB all councils in the region have agreed to contribute to the costs of early capital borrowing. The contribution will be between £0.104m and £0.148m and has now been built into the forecast.</p>
2.03	<p><u>Parc Adfer – Contract Inflation</u></p> <p>The North Wales Regional Waste Partnership contract with Parc Adfer specifies the base gate fee price. The fee is indexed each year using the Retail Price Indexation (RPI). For 2021/22 there is an additional cost of £0.052m.</p>
2.04	<p><u>Additional Learning Needs – Schools/Registration Services Income</u></p> <p>The estimate has been updated for these services.</p>

2.05 **Table 1: Revised Budget Requirement Estimate 2021/22**

Summary of Pressures	2021 / 22		
	L	M	H
	£m	£m	£m
Prior Year Decisions/Approvals	1.257	1.257	1.257
Income Loss	0.714	0.945	1.261
Legislative/Unavoidable Indexation Pressures	0.783	0.783	0.783
National Resolution Pressures	3.652	4.359	7.079
National Funding Requirement (Pay)	5.787	6.949	8.073
Strategic Decisions	2.548	5.755	9.258
Total Pressures	14.740	20.047	27.710

L= low estimate M = medium estimate H = high estimate

The above estimates still make provision for national pay awards. The above estimates are under review and will be re-presented to Cabinet with and without pay provision included at a later date. Cabinet has directed that additional provision should be made within the budget estimate for (1) the secondary school funding formula and (2) Additional Learning Needs, if affordable. The budget estimate is re-revised at 2.10.

2.06 **Strategic Funding Solutions**

The solutions for balancing the budget are threefold:-

- Government Funding (Aggregate External Finance)
- Local Taxation and Income
- Service Transformation and Efficiencies

2.07 **Service Transformation and Efficiencies**

There are no efficiencies of scale remaining. The need for service resilience in each portfolio has been underlined by the challenges posed in the ongoing emergency situation. A minimum target of £1.0m was originally built into the budget estimate for newly identified service efficiencies. Following further work this has been reset at £1.75m.

2.08 The table below sets out scenarios to balance the budget for 2021/22 at the minimum budget requirement level set out in 2.05.

Table 2: Scenarios For Balancing the Budget

Budget Minimum Estimate £m	14.740	14.740	14.740	14.740	14.740	14.740
Percentage Increase	0%	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
RSG	0	1.994	3.988	5.982	7.975	9.969
Efficiencies	1.750	1.750	1.750	1.750	1.750	1.750
Council Tax (Note)	0.633	1.506	2.378	3.250	4.123	4.995
Total Potential Funding	2.383	5.250	8.116	10.982	13.848	16.714
Remaining Balance	12.357	9.490	6.624	3.758	0.892	(1.974)

Note: Council Tax estimates are gross. Any impact of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) will need to be built in as costs.

2.09 The funding strategy is highly dependent on sufficient national funding for local government. The Welsh Local Government Association (WLGA) has made the case for an additional £280m of RSG for local authorities for 2021/22 including Flintshire.

2.10 Table 3 sets out the revised budget estimate incorporating the pressures for Schools Funding, Additional Learning Needs and Reserves as directed by Cabinet, and illustrates the level of funding required from Welsh Government.

Table 3 – Revised Budget Requirement Estimate 2021/22

Budget Minimum Estimate £m	16.750	16.750	16.750	16.750	16.750	16.750
Percentage Increase	4%	4.5%	5%	5.5%	6%	6.5%
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
RSG	7.975	8.972	9.969	10.966	11.963	12.960
Efficiencies	1.750	1.750	1.750	1.750	1.750	1.750
Council Tax (Note)	4.123	4.559	4.995	4.995	4.995	4.995
Total Potential Funding	13.848	15.281	16.714	17.711	18.708	19.705
Remaining Balance	12.357	1.469	0.036	(0.961)	(1.958)	(2.955)

	Note: Council Tax estimates are gross and included at an upper limit of 5%. Any impact of the Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS) will need to be built in as costs.																
2.11	<p>Table 4 – Budget Timeline</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Date</th> <th>Event</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>15 December 2020</td> <td>Cabinet – Budget Estimate and Strategy</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21 December 2020</td> <td>Welsh Government Draft Budget</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22 December 2020</td> <td>Provisional Local Government Settlement</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23 December 2020</td> <td>Special Cabinet and all Member Briefing</td> </tr> <tr> <td>19 January 2021</td> <td>Cabinet – Budget Review</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16 February 2021</td> <td>Cabinet and Council – Budget Setting</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2 March 2021</td> <td>Welsh Government Final Budget/Settlement</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Date	Event	15 December 2020	Cabinet – Budget Estimate and Strategy	21 December 2020	Welsh Government Draft Budget	22 December 2020	Provisional Local Government Settlement	23 December 2020	Special Cabinet and all Member Briefing	19 January 2021	Cabinet – Budget Review	16 February 2021	Cabinet and Council – Budget Setting	2 March 2021	Welsh Government Final Budget/Settlement
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3.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
3.01	<p>Revenue: the revenue implications for the 2021/22 budget are set out in the report.</p> <p>Capital: there are no new implications for the approved capital programme for either the current financial year or for future financial years – the capital programme will be subject to a separate report</p> <p>Human Resources: there are no implications for additional capacity or for any change to current workforce structures or roles at this stage.</p>

4.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT								
4.01	<p>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Long-term</td> <td>Negative – the absence of longer-term funding settlements from Welsh Government means that sustainable support for service delivery is challenging for the longer term. Sustainable funding from Welsh Government that provides additional funding for Indexation, Service demands and new legislation will provide a positive and sustainable position for the Council in the longer term.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prevention</td> <td>As above</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Integration</td> <td>Neutral Impact</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Collaboration</td> <td>Services continue to explore opportunities for collaboration with other services and external partners to support positive impacts.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Long-term	Negative – the absence of longer-term funding settlements from Welsh Government means that sustainable support for service delivery is challenging for the longer term. Sustainable funding from Welsh Government that provides additional funding for Indexation, Service demands and new legislation will provide a positive and sustainable position for the Council in the longer term.	Prevention	As above	Integration	Neutral Impact	Collaboration	Services continue to explore opportunities for collaboration with other services and external partners to support positive impacts.
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Prevention	As above								
Integration	Neutral Impact								
Collaboration	Services continue to explore opportunities for collaboration with other services and external partners to support positive impacts.								

	Involvement	Communication with Members, residents and other stakeholders throughout the budget process.
Well-Being Goals Impact		
	Prosperous Wales	Longer term funding settlements from Welsh Government that provide additional funding for indexation, service demands and new legislation will aid sustainability and support a strong economy that encourages business investment in the region. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.
	Resilient Wales	Continuation of services to support communities and social cohesion will have a positive impact. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.
	Healthier Wales	An appropriate level of funding will ensure that communities are supported and will have a positive impact. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.
	More equal Wales	A positive impact with greater parity of funding from Welsh Government for all Welsh Local Authorities. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.
	Cohesive Wales	Appropriate level of funding will support services working alongside partners. The opposite will be true if settlements are inadequate.
	Vibrant Wales	As Healthier and Cohesive Wales above
	Globally responsible Wales	Neutral impact.

5.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
5.01	Overview and Scrutiny Committees in November 2020.

6.00	APPENDICES
6.01	Appendix 1. MTFs Forecast 2021/22 – 2023/24.

7.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
7.01	None.

8.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
8.01	<p>Contact Officer: Gary Ferguson,, Corporate Finance Manager Telephone: 01352 702271 E-mail: gary.ferguson@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

9.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
9.01	<p>Medium Term Financial Strategy (MTFS): a written strategy which gives a forecast of the financial resources which will be available to a Council for a given period, and sets out plans for how best to deploy those resources to meet its priorities, duties and obligations.</p> <p>Revenue: a term used to describe the day to day costs of running Council services and income deriving from those services. It also includes charges for the repayment of debt, including interest, and may include direct financing of capital expenditure.</p> <p>Budget: a statement expressing the Council's policies and service levels in financial terms for a particular financial year. In its broadest sense it includes both the revenue budget and capital programme and any authorised amendments to them.</p> <p>Revenue Support Grant: the annual amount of money the Council receives from Welsh Government to fund what it does alongside the Council Tax and other income the Council raises locally. Councils can decide how to use this grant across services although their freedom to allocate according to local choice can be limited by guidelines set by Government.</p> <p>Specific Grants: An award of funding from a grant provider (e.g. Welsh Government) which must be used for a pre-defined purpose.</p> <p>Welsh Local Government Association: the representative body for unitary councils, fire and rescue authorities and national parks authorities in Wales.</p> <p>Financial Year: the period of 12 months commencing on 1 April.</p> <p>Local Government Funding Formula: The system through which the annual funding needs of each council is assessed at a national level and under which each council's Aggregate External Finance (AEF) is set. The revenue support grant is distributed according to that formula.</p> <p>Aggregate External Finance (AEF): The support for local revenue spending from the Welsh Government and is made up of formula grant</p>

including the revenue support grant and the distributable part of non-domestic rates.

Provisional Local Government Settlement: The Provisional Settlement is the draft budget for local government published by the Welsh Government for consultation. The Final Local Government Settlement is set following the consultation.

Funding Floor: a guaranteed level of funding for councils who come under the all-Wales average change in the annual Settlement. A floor has been a feature of the Settlement for many years.

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MTFS - SUMMARY OF PRESSURES	Revisions			Revisions			Revisions		
	2021/22			2022/23			2023/24		
	Bottom	Middle	Top	Bottom	Middle	Top	Bottom	Middle	Top
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Prior Year Decisions / Approvals									
One Off Efficiencies dropping out (20/21)	0.300	0.300	0.300						
One Off Pressures dropping out (19/20)	(0.056)	(0.056)	(0.056)						
Unrealised Efficiency - Legal Svcs/Ind Est Review	0.092	0.092	0.092						
Unrealised Efficiency - Postage - Council Tax	0.035	0.035	0.035						
Unrealised Efficiency - Postage - Benefits	0.041	0.041	0.041						
Unrealised Efficiency - Market Review	0.035	0.035	0.035						
Unrealised Efficiency - Salary Sacrifice - AVC's	0.070	0.070	0.070						
Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) - Existing	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300
Further borrowing costs for Capital Programme	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001	0.001
Marleyfield Revenue Costs	0.425	0.425	0.425						
Total - Prior Years Decisions / Approvals	1.257	1.257	1.257	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.301
Loss of Income									
Reduced Energy Sales - Reduction in gas generation	0.120	0.120	0.120						
Markets - Scale of markets reducing	0.074	0.086	0.114						
Pest Control - Reduction in customer led demand	0.040	0.046	0.052						
Sale of Newtech Square - Rent no longer collected	0.095	0.095	0.095						
Enterprise Centres - Reduction in occupancy levels	0.050	0.050	0.050						
Recyclate Markets - Volatility in price & volume	0.299	0.479	0.730						
Registration Service - Cancellation of events	0.036	0.069	0.100	(0.036)	(0.069)	(0.100)			
Total - Loss of Income	0.714	0.945	1.261	(0.036)	(0.069)	(0.100)			
CUMULATIVE TOTAL	1.971	2.202	2.518	0.265	0.232	0.201	0.301	0.301	0.301
Legislative / Unavoidable Indexation Pressures									
Sleep in Pay Ruling	0.125	0.125	0.125						
Private Water Supplies	0.104	0.104	0.104				(0.052)	(0.052)	(0.052)
SUDS	0.112	0.112	0.112						
Fee Increases - Coroners	0.025	0.025	0.025	0.027	0.027	0.027	0.029	0.029	0.029
Independent Review Panel for Wales (IRPW)	0.028	0.028	0.028	0.029	0.029	0.029	0.030	0.030	0.030
North Wales Fire and Rescue Authority	0.314	0.314	0.314	0.324	0.324	0.324	0.336	0.336	0.336
Adoption Service	0.022	0.022	0.022						
Liberty Protection Safeguards				0.150	0.275	0.400			
Parc Adfer Contract inflation	0.052	0.052	0.052	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045	0.045
Total - Legislative / Unavoid Index'n Pressures	0.783	0.783	0.783	0.574	0.699	0.824	0.388	0.388	0.388
CUMULATIVE TOTAL	2.754	2.984	3.301	0.839	0.931	1.025	0.689	0.689	0.689
Requiring National Resolution									
Benefits - CTRS	1.172	1.414	1.654	0.608	0.621	0.633	0.639	0.652	0.664
Council Tax Collection Levels	0.600	1.000	1.600						
Social Care Commissioning	1.880	1.945	3.825	2.037	2.037	2.037	2.116	2.116	2.116
Total - National Resolution Pressures	3.652	4.359	7.079	2.646	2.658	2.670	2.755	2.767	2.780
CUMULATIVE TOTAL	6.406	7.343	10.380	3.485	3.589	3.695	3.443	3.456	3.469
National Funding Requirement									
NJC Pay Award Estimate (Non Schools)	1.926	2.556	3.147	1.817	2.428	3.051	1.636	2.289	2.949
NJC Pay Award Estimate (Non Schools) - 20/21	0.612	0.612	0.612						
NJC Pay Award Estimate (Schools)	0.709	0.922	1.134	0.765	0.990	1.219	0.784	1.023	1.063
NJC Pay Award Estimate (Schools) - 20/21	0.206	0.206	0.206						
Teacher Pay Award Estimate - 21/22	0.901	0.901	0.901	1.564	2.131	2.703	1.609	2.209	2.822
Teacher Pay Award Estimate - 20/21 (7/12ths)	0.536	0.536	0.536						
Teacher Pay Award Estimate - 20/21 (5/12ths)	0.897	1.217	1.537						
Total - National Funding Requirement	5.787	6.949	8.073	4.145	5.549	6.973	4.029	5.521	6.834
CUMULATIVE TOTAL	12.192	14.292	18.452	7.630	9.139	10.668	7.472	8.977	10.302
Strategic Decisions									
School Transport - General	0.163	0.163	0.163						
School Transport - Closure of John Summers	0.050	0.050	0.050						
Post 16 Transport	0.047	0.047	0.047						

MTFS - SUMMARY OF PRESSURES	Revisions			Revisions			Revisions		
	2021/22			2022/23			2023/24		
	Bottom	Middle	Top	Bottom	Middle	Top	Bottom	Middle	Top
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Social Services Adults Transport	0.063	0.063	0.063						
Social Services Childrens Transport	0.044	0.044	0.044						
Carelink - Alarm Monitoring Contract	0.125	0.125	0.125						
Carelink - Budget Issue (HSG)	0.216	0.216	0.216	0.109	0.109	0.109			
Transition to Adulthood	0.495	0.656	1.100	1.176	1.176	1.176	0.656	0.656	0.656
Secondary School Funding Review		0.764	1.529						
Secondary School Deficits		1.474	2.948		1.914	0.440		0.180	0.180
ALN - Reforms	0.144	0.340	0.597	0.223	0.223	0.223	0.017	0.017	0.017
ALN - Schools		0.422	0.845						
PRU new Build (Increased capacity)		0.061	0.074		0.045	0.113			
New PRU Building - Revenue Costs	0.027	0.027	0.027	0.019	0.019	0.019			
Children's Registered Residential Care Home	0.138	0.138	0.138	0.413	0.413	0.413			
P2P Upgrade	0.024	0.024	0.024	(0.019)	(0.019)	(0.019)			
Addressing Poverty - FSM - Demand	0.253	0.253	0.253						
Addressing Poverty - FSM - Increase in Allowance		0.107	0.174						
Joint Archive Service - Borrowing Costs							0.142	0.142	0.142
Joint Archive Service - Revenue costs			0.039			0.004			0.004
Benefits - Additional Staffing	0.300	0.300	0.300						
Ash Dieback	0.060	0.060	0.060						
21C Schools - Band B Borrowing Costs	0.015	0.015	0.015	0.097	0.097	0.097	0.912	0.912	0.912
Business Manager - Streetscene	0.072	0.072	0.072						
Home Education	0.046	0.046	0.046						
Primary Learning Advisor	0.080	0.080	0.080						
Missing from Home Coordinator	0.034	0.034	0.034						
Feasibility Study Provision Top Up	0.050	0.050	0.050						
NWEAB Contribution	0.104	0.126	0.148						
Total - Strategic Decisions	2.548	5.755	9.258	2.017	3.977	2.575	1.727	1.907	1.911
CUMULATIVE TOTAL	14.740	20.047	27.710	9.648	13.115	13.243	9.199	10.884	12.213

Summary of Pressures 21/22 - 23/24

Summary of Pressures	21 / 22			22 / 23			23 / 24		
	L	M	T	L	M	T	L	M	T
	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m	£m
Prior Year Decisions/Approvals	1.257	1.257	1.257	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.301	0.301
Income Loss	0.714	0.945	1.261	(0.036)	(0.069)	(0.100)	0.000	0.000	0.000
Legislative/Unavoidable Indexation Press	0.783	0.783	0.783	0.574	0.699	0.824	0.388	0.388	0.388
National Resolution Pressures	3.652	4.359	7.079	2.646	2.658	2.670	2.755	2.767	2.780
National Funding Requirement (Pay)	5.787	6.949	8.073	4.145	5.549	6.973	4.029	5.521	6.834
Strategic Decisions	2.548	5.755	9.258	2.017	3.977	2.575	1.727	1.907	1.911
Total Pressures	14.740	20.047	27.710	9.648	13.115	13.243	9.199	10.884	12.213

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CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 15 th December 2020
Report Subject	Welsh Government Consultation on Combined Joint Committees (CJCs)
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Report Author	Chief Executive Chief Officer (Governance) Chief Officer (Planning, Environment and Economy) Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Welsh Government (WG) has issued a consultation paper on its proposals to create a new legal vehicle for regional working call Corporate Joint Committees (CJC's). The power to pass regulations creating CJCs was included in the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill that was recently passed in the Senedd. WG is consulting on the draft regulations for CJCs.

There will be four CJC's corresponding to the growth deal areas within Wales, with an initial membership of all the Leaders of Council within the area covered. They will exercise functions which WG believe are best exercised regionally. At present the proposal is for them to undertake economic development, transport and strategic planning. The CJCs will share a core of common rules but can be tailored to take account of existing regional arrangements and to suit the needs of each region.

North Wales as a whole, and the Council in particular, has a well-established and effective pattern of co-operation and regional working. The Council therefore can support the creation of CJCs as a means of furthering regional collaboration. As an alternative to the reorganisation of local government in Wales and the consequential cost and disruption, the proposals for CJCs are more acceptable.

The region has an established the North Wales Economic Ambition Board (NWEAB) and is currently part way through the process of approving the final

Growth Deal with the UK and Wales Government. It is essential therefore that the North Wales CJC should add value to the work of the NWEAB.

From the consultation document it appears that CJsCs will have powers that overlap with the functions of the principal councils in North Wales. Greater clarity is required on the precise scope of the functions will initially be assigned to CJsCs, any future plans to grant them further powers, and how they will be operated concurrently with the Councils in North Wales without coming into conflict with the constituent councils.

CJsCs will be able to appoint their own officers and will be required to appoint key statutory officers such as a Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and S.151 officer. They will be funded via contributions from local government. More detail is needed on how the new CJsCs would be funded in a way that is transparent and which does not increase bureaucracy or duplication.

The outline of a response is included within the report.

In addition WG has published a consultation proposing that the CJsCs will take on responsibility for preparing Strategic Development Plans, which also sets out the process to be followed. These regulations considered in detail by the Planning Strategy Group which has prepared a detailed response to the consultation questions.

Finally WG are also proposing that CJsCs take on the role of preparing the Regional Transport Plan and developing policies for transport in the region. The proposal are to be discussed at the Environment and Economy Overview Scrutiny Committee in December.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Cabinet approves the outline of a proposed response to the consultation on CJsCs and grants delegated authority to the Chief Executive to finalise a detailed response in consultation with the Leader and the respective Cabinet members.
2	That Cabinet endorses the response prepared by the Planning Strategy Group on the preparation of Strategic Development Plans
3	That Cabinet endorses the response to the proposals in respect of Transport as recommended by the Environment and Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE CONSULTATION PROPOSALS
	What is Proposed?
1.01	The Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill (“the Bill”), which was recently approved by the Senedd, includes a power for ministers to make regulations creating Corporate Joint Committees (“CJCs”). It is proposed that there will be 4 such regional bodies, corresponding to geographical areas covered by the 4 growth deals in Wales. A link to the consultation is here .
1.02	Although sharing some similarities to joint committees, CJCs will be separate legal entities capable of entering into contracts, owning land, employing staff etc. In the first instance they will consist of the Leaders of Council within the area covered plus a representative from any National Park.
1.03	CJCs will exercise functions which WG believe are best exercised regionally. At present the proposal is for them to undertake economic development, transport and strategic land use planning. The Bill permits CJCs to be granted other powers/functions (such as improving education) which can either be at the request of the constituent councils or determined by ministers.
1.04	WG envision CJCs bringing greater consistency openness and accountability to regional working arrangements. As such they will share a core of common rules such as initial membership, how they are funded and the existing provisions of governance legislation that will apply to them (for example specific powers/duties such as the power to consult the public and the duty to take into account the views of the public, or whole acts such as the Freedom of Information Act). However, WG is also keen for each CJC to take account of existing regional arrangements and to suit the needs of each region be bespoke to the region that it serves and so is allowing flexibility in the regulations. The North Wales CJC will therefore have its own set of regulations that could differ in key respects from those for the other regions.
1.05	CJCs will be funded via contributions from local government, and will need to notify the constituent councils of their funding requirements no later than 14 February, though in practice this will need to be much earlier in order to be built into budgets.
1.06	CJCs will be able to appoint their own officers and will be required to appoint key statutory officer such as a Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and S.151 officer. They will be able to rely on a host authority or authorities to provide these officers or could employ their own directly.
1.07	The bill is expected to receive Royal Assent in the early part of 2020 with the CJC regulations being laid before the Senedd from February to April. It

	is expected that they would be approved in the summer and the CJsCs would be required to meet before the end of September 2021.
	The Proposed Response
1.08	North Wales as a whole, and the Council in particular, has a well-established and effective pattern of co-operation and regional working. The Council therefore can support the creation of CJsCs as a means of furthering regional collaboration. Of particular note is the fact that the regulations will allow a CJC to co-opt non local government bodies as voting members, which was a request made by the North Wales Economic Ambition Board (“NWEAB”) to achieve equality of participation between key partners.
1.09	Moreover, CJsCs are an alternative to the reorganisation of local government in Wales which has been discussed over recent years. Such re-organisation would entail cost and disruption. Local authorities have also been involved to date in shaping ideas for CJsCs and have opportunity for further input into their formulation, and so the proposals are more acceptable.
1.10	In supporting the proposals it is nevertheless important to understand the full extent of what is proposed and how the new CJC will relate to existing regional structures. For example, the region has established the NWEAB which is working effectively, and the 6 councils are currently part way through the process of approving final Growth Deal with the UK and Wales Government. It is essential therefore that the North Wales CJC should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. complement those existing structures and be capable of being adopted without wholesale revision to governance arrangements; ii. add value to the work of the NWEAB; iii. be able to be serviced by the existing NWEAB Programme Office and Host Authority without the need for the creation of a new regional staffing resource which would be both a cost burden and create duplication; iv. lead to the conferment of new powers and resources to the region. <p>The above is the outline for our response.</p>
1.11	CJsCs will have powers that overlap with the functions of the principal councils in North Wales. Greater clarity is however required at this stage on the precise scope of the functions which will initially be assigned to CJsCs and any future plans to imbue them with further powers.
1.12	The transfer of existing local government powers to CJsCs could lead to diminishing local autonomy and thus accountability. It is proposed that CJsCs should decide for themselves how they will exercise such functions concurrently with the constituent councils without coming into conflict with them. WG will issue guidance to the CJsCs on how they are to undertake this task. Again it would be helpful to understand more about the nature of the guidance that will be issued to CJsCs on how to balance regional decision making against local accountability.
1.13	The initial membership of CJsCs will be the Leaders of the constituent councils. In order to avoid to an increase in cost and duplication of

	resource it also likely that they will be supported by existing employees within the constituent councils, especially for the statutory posts such as Head of Paid Service, Monitoring Officer and S.151 Officer. It is important therefore that CJs function in such a way as to avoid or limit the potential strain this could impose on both councillors and officers, and to ensure that the capacity of the CJC is not limited as a result.
	Consultation on Strategic Development Plans
1.14	WG has also launched a related consultation (link) that focusses on the Strategic Planning duty that CJs will have, which is to produce a Strategic Development Plan (“SDP”) for their area. The consultation again very specifically focusses on the subordinate legislation (the Regulations) required to define the procedure to be followed for preparing SDPs across Wales, by the CJs. The intention was (and still is) to create a hierarchy of Development Plans in Wales with the National Development Framework at the highest level, and with SDPs sitting between that and LDPs, and where all needed to be in general conformity with each other.
1.15	The requirement to prepare Strategic Development Plans is already contained in the Planning (Wales) Act 2015, allowing the option to produce SDPs either on a voluntary basis (by two or more Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) or by Ministerial Direction. Initially, SDPs were to be prepared by governance bodies called Strategic Planning Panels (SPPs), though none have yet been established in Wales.
1.16	With the advent of CJs, WG has signalled a clear intention to drive forward the need to plan for certain matters at a ‘greater than local’ scale and to establish the governance infrastructure to support this. The intention in respect of SDPs is to plan at a greater scale than any one LDP, and to address the need to plan for issues that are ‘cross boundary’, examples of which the consultation document provides that includes “housing numbers, strategic housing allocations, strategic employment sites, strategic green infrastructure routes, and supporting transport infrastructure”. Whilst an LDP will still need to be prepared this can only be done under an adopted SDP. In this context it is also proposed that an LDP will be “shorter and more focussed in nature and will be prepared and adopted in around two years” – an LDP ‘Lite’. Clearly to redefine how this could be achieved, a new set of LDP Regulations will also be required at some point in the future.
1.17	These new regulations will make SDPs the responsibility of the CJs, in place of SPPs. This consultation is very specifically concerned with the proposed approach for the drafting of SDP regulations. That process will mirror in most respects the present process used for preparing LDPs and WG considers that the “current statutory process works effectively and is generally well understood by all users of the system”. It also considers that “the key difference between an LDP and an SDP is one of scale and this principle will be reflected in the SDP Regulations”.
1.18	Planning Strategy Group considered the SDP regulations (report attached at Appendix 1) and produced a response to the consultation which is attached at Appendix 2.

	Considering the Implications for Transport
1.19	It would be difficult not to agree with a regional approach to strategic transport planning, particularly given the critical importance of good transport links in sustaining regional economic growth. The current Joint Local Transport Plan, which was produced in 2014 in partnership with all 6 North Wales Councils, is due to be renewed in 2021. WG is proposing that the plan is replaced by a Regional Transport Plan (RTP), which will be developed by the proposed CJC.
1.20	The revised RTP will reflect the overarching Welsh Government Transport Strategy which is also being reviewed and is currently at the consultation stage. Llwybr Newydd – the Wales Transport Strategy sets out the long term vision for transport in Wales and will shape both the RTP and our own integrated transport plans.
1.21	Flintshire has successfully developed its own Countywide Integrated Transport Plan over the past 5 years which has provided a sound base for the many successful funding bids into WG. It is essential therefore that local transport demands and knowledge drive strategic decisions on regional transport investment and the link from local Council officers to regional CJC transport teams will be key to the future development of the transport function in North Wales.
1.22	<p>The recent period of austerity has impacted on many Councils ability to deliver the transport planning function and there is a clear shortage of officers who are experienced in the transport planning function in North Wales. There is view in WG that officers from local authorities will transfer to the new CJC and that ‘economies of scale’ will then naturally reduce the numbers required and deliver savings in the longer term. This is not the case for two reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The low number of dedicated transport officers available in North Wales Councils. • Most of the transport roles undertaken in local authorities are now generic in nature, with officers undertaking a wider range of other non-transport related functions.
1.23	The role of Transport for Wales in the strategic transport planning function remains unclear however given the growing capacity of the organisation it is should be brought under the governance arrangement of the regional CJC.
1.24	Whilst there is an understandable move towards sustainable public transport within the new Welsh Transport Strategy, the role of the Trunk Road Network will always remain a critical element of the transport infrastructure in North Wales. It is important therefore that the management and development of this key element of transport is also delivered through the regional body.
1.25	A regional approach to the development and management of the Core Bus Network would also benefit from a regional approach. This would allow local authorities to concentrate on local transport services including

	community transport, school and social care transport which would then link into the Core Network.
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2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	As mentioned the proposed CJsCs will be composed of council leaders and may well be supported by existing council employees. This will impact upon those people. The NWEAB is already supported in this fashion by the constituent councils and so the extent to which the new CJC will create extra demands on time or add extra bureaucracy will be a key factor.
2.02	The timescale for preparing an SDP is challenging and will require resource to support the process. This will be an additional burden on the constituent council's.
2.03	See paragraph 1.22 for the resource implications arising from the proposals for regional transport planning.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT																		
3.01	<p>The primary risk is that the proposed CJC might prescribe structures or ways of working that undermine or hamper the established mechanisms and relationships already in place for effective regional working. There is also a risk that the de facto creation of an additional tier of local government, albeit one drawn from within the principal councils, will cause duplication and additional cost.</p> <p>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Long-term</td> <td>No impact</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prevention</td> <td>No impact</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Integration</td> <td>Regional strategic planning will have a positive effect on integration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Collaboration</td> <td>Greater regional working will have a positive effect on collaboration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Involvement</td> <td>Regional working could be more remote and thus have a negative effect on involvement</td> </tr> </table> <p>Well-being Goals Impact</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Prosperous Wales</td> <td>Regional strategic plans should positively benefit prosperity</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Resilient Wales</td> <td>Regional strategic plans should positively benefit resilience</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Healthier Wales</td> <td>No impact</td> </tr> <tr> <td>More equal Wales</td> <td>Improved regional transport should positively impact socio economic equality</td> </tr> </table>	Long-term	No impact	Prevention	No impact	Integration	Regional strategic planning will have a positive effect on integration	Collaboration	Greater regional working will have a positive effect on collaboration	Involvement	Regional working could be more remote and thus have a negative effect on involvement	Prosperous Wales	Regional strategic plans should positively benefit prosperity	Resilient Wales	Regional strategic plans should positively benefit resilience	Healthier Wales	No impact	More equal Wales	Improved regional transport should positively impact socio economic equality
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More equal Wales	Improved regional transport should positively impact socio economic equality																		

	Cohesive Wales	No impact
	Vibrant Wales	No impact
	Globally responsible Wales	No impact

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	WG has already consulted widely on the proposals and further engagement events are planned. WG officials have also worked closely with local government in the design of the new bodies.
4.02	As mentioned within the report the SDP proposals have been discussed by Planning Strategy Group
4.03	The regional transport plan proposals will be taken to Scrutiny in December

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Report to Planning Strategy Group Appendix 2 – Proposed response to SDP consultation by Planning Strategy

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Colin Everett, Chief Executive Gareth Owens, Chief Officer (Governance) Andrew Farrow, Chief Officer (Planning Environment and Economy) Stephen Jones, Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) Telephone: 01352 702344 E-mail: chief.executive@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	None.

FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

REPORT TO: **PLANNING STRATEGY GROUP**

DATE: **THURSDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2020**

REPORT BY: **ANDREW FARROW (CHIEF OFFICER PLANNING,
ENVIRONMENT, AND ECONOMY)**

SUBJECT: **WELSH GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON
CORPORATE JOINT COMMITTEES (CJCS) AND
SUPPLEMENTARY REGULATIONS RELATING TO
STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT PLANS**

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.01 To make Members aware of this important Welsh Government consultation and the main issues it raises, in advance of them considering a proposed response to feed into the Council response by the deadline of 4th January 2021.

2.00 BACKGROUND

2.01 The establishment of Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs) is an integral feature of the Local Government and Elections (Wales) Bill, currently going through the Senedd Committee process. There are proposed to be four regional CJCs across Wales with the six Local Authorities in North Wales plus the Snowdonia National Park Authority, geographically constituting one of these. The other CJCs cover Mid Wales, South East Wales, and South West Wales.

2.02 The four CJCs will be established to exercise three related functions that are:

- Strategic Development Planning;
- Regional Transport Planning;
- Promotion and improvement of Economic Development and Well Being.

2.03 Welsh Government consider that these are areas where there is consensus that working at this scale makes sense – aligning economic development, transport and land use planning approaches to develop successful regional economies and encourage local growth.

2.04 The consultation specifically seeks views on the content of the Regulations required to establish CJCs which set out their geographical areas; the core governance, constitution, finance and

funding arrangements; provisions for staffing and workforce; and the functions they will exercise. The consultation documents relating to CJs and the draft regulations can be accessed via this [link](#).

- 2.05 In parallel with the above consultation, Welsh Government have also launched a related consultation that focusses on the Strategic Planning duty that CJs will have, which is to produce a Strategic Development Plan for their area. The consultation again very specifically focusses on the subordinate legislation (the Regulations) required to define the procedure to be followed for preparing SDPs across Wales, by the CJs. The consultation document relating to SDPs can be accessed via this [link](#).
- 2.06 Whilst both consultations are clearly important and related, for the purposes of the remit of this Group, this report seeks to highlight the matters raised by the latter consultation on regulations to define how an SDP is to be prepared. A further report will be provided to a later meeting where a recommended response to the consultation questions is presented for Member's consideration.

3.00 CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.01 The requirement to prepare Strategic Development Plans in Wales is already embedded in existing legislation, as the Planning (Wales) Act 2015 introduced the option to produce SDPs either on a voluntary basis (by two or more Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) or by Ministerial Direction. Either way, SDPs were proposed to be prepared by governance bodies called Strategic Planning Panels (SPPs) although none have yet been established in Wales. The intention was (and still is) to create a hierarchy of Development Plans in Wales with the National Development Framework at the highest level, and with SDPs sitting between that and LDPs, and where all needed to be in general conformity with each other.
- 3.02 Clearly with the advent of CJs, Welsh Government have signalled a clear intention to drive forward the need to plan for certain matters at a 'greater than local' scale and to establish the governance infrastructure to support this, and to do this in relation to the three related functions set out in 2.02. The intention in respect of SDPs is to plan at a greater scale than any one LDP, and to address the need to plan for issues that are 'cross boundary', examples of which the consultation document provides that includes "housing numbers, strategic housing allocations, strategic employment sites, strategic green infrastructure routes, and supporting transport infrastructure".
- 3.03 These new regulations are required to amend present legislation to make SDPs the responsibility of the new CJs, in place of SPPs. They are the first step in introducing both CJs as well as the duty to prepare a SDP, and it is Welsh Government's intention to introduce CJs as soon as possible. This consultation is very

specifically concerned with the proposed approach for the drafting of SDP regulations and their policy intent, and the consultation document states that there will be further opportunities to comment on further guidance to be produced to assist with the preparation of an SDP.

- 3.04 In terms of the relationship going forward between the SDP and LDPs, whilst it is the Welsh Government’s view that an LDP will still need to be prepared this can only be done under and adopted SDP. In this context it is also proposed that an LDP will be “shorter and more focussed in nature and will be prepared and adopted in around two years” – an LDP ‘Lite’. Clearly to redefine how this could be achieved, a new set of LDP Regulations will also be required at some point in the future.
- 3.05 A central premise behind the Welsh Government’s approach to defining how an SDP should be prepared is to mirror in most respects the present process used for preparing LDPs and the Welsh Government consider that “current statutory process works effectively and is generally well understood by all users of the system”. Clearly this might be the case for areas that have completed at least one LDP preparation cycle, but is not necessarily the case for all areas including Flintshire or Wrexham. Welsh Government also consider that “the key difference between an LDP and an SDP is one of scale and this principle will be reflected in the SDP Regulations”.
- 3.06 The consultation document then sets out the proposed key stages and plan preparation requirements for the SDP and asks a series of relevant questions. The responses to these questions will be the subject of a further report, but the following table seeks to present Members with an overview of the proposed key stages for preparing an SDP along with some of the key requirements within each stage.

Table 1. Proposed SDP preparation key stages

Stage 1: The Community Involvement Scheme (CIS)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Principle of early, effective and meaningful community involvement applies equally to SDPs and LDPs • Key role for a CJC to engage its communities on a CIS and a Delivery Agreement (DA) • The DA also sets the SDP timetable and must be agreed by the Welsh Ministers • An SDP should be capable of being prepared and adopted within 4 years, similar to current LDPs. The only difference is one of scale • The preparation of an SDP is driven by the central need to incorporate a Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal (SEA/SA)
Stage 2: Pre-Deposit Engagement
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early discussion on the evidence base, strategic options, strategy and related proposals including strategic sites and locations is key for consensus building

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A call for strategic locations and sites will form the initial building blocks of the SDP • All strategic sites and locations will be published as a Candidate Sites Register alongside the Preferred Strategy, enabling people to comment • The CJC will carry out engagement (including with specific and general consultation bodies) on a range of strategies and options prior to developing a Preferred Strategy
<p>Stage 3: Preferred Strategy Public Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Preferred Strategy is the first statutory consultation stage – minimum 6 weeks • It must contain a preferred spatial strategy • The CJC must consider any representations made to the Preferred Strategy before determining the content of the Deposit SDP
<p>Stage 4: The Deposit Plan Public Consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Deposit Plan is the plan the CJC considers 'sound' and intends to submit for examination following consultation and is able to be adopted • Minimum 6 week public consultation • All representations must be considered and responded to prior to submission of the plan for Examination
<p>Stage 5: Submission for EiP and Adoption</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CJC must not submit the plan to the Welsh Ministers until all Deposit representations have been considered • The EiP will mirror the format for LDPs • The appointed Inspector must consider all duly made representations and determine if the SDP is 'sound'. • The purpose of the examination is to assess whether the preparation requirements have been followed and whether the submitted SDP meets the tests of soundness • The Inspector's report will be binding and the CJC may adopt the plan within 8 weeks of receipt of the Inspector's report.
<p>Stage 6: Monitoring, Review and Revision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring is a continuous process and the CJC must submit Annual Monitoring Reports to the Welsh Ministers by 31st October following adoption

3.07 Clearly from the above the process does appear almost identical to that for LDPs at present but to say that the main difference between LDPs and an SDP is just one of scale perhaps underplays the logistical, governance, and engagement challenges that face a CJC in following this process to deliver an adopted SDP in just 4 years.

3.08 Whilst a more considered response will be prepared for Members at the next meeting of this group, the following lists some of the initial 'pros and cons' that are prompted by the proposed SDP process and consultation document.

Table 2. Pros and Cons of proposed SDP Process

Pros
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provides an agreed regional baseline for housing provision and apportionment to inform LDP 'Lites'• Agreement of a set of regional strategic planning policies to save repetition in LDPs• Scope to define and prioritise regionally the main issues that an SDP strategy should lead or focus on• Consideration of strategic locations and sites for growth and their prioritisation across North Wales• Facilitate the delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal priorities where there is a land use implication• Opportunity to consider infrastructure requirements at a regional scale to support growth and their integration at the SDP strategy stage e.g. integrated planning and transport strategy for North Wales.• Creation of a regional dedicated SDP Planning Team to lead on production of the SDP and co-ordinate with individual LDP production• Speeds up the future provision of an up to date LDP in each LPA area.
Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Is 4 years to produce and adopt an SDP realistic given the range of community and political considerations to take into account across all the North Wales authorities?• Who would be the lead authority to host the SDP 'team', reporting then to the CJC?• What size of team would be required to produce the SDP?• Would each LPA contribute to resource this team?• How much would it cost to produce an SDP?• What would be the scope of topics covered by the SDP as to support LDP 'Lites' then the SDP should cover the full range of policy issues covered currently in LDPs?• How would the CJC ensure effective and co-ordinated community engagement across North Wales• How would current LDP timetables in each LPA be aligned to the production of an SDP?• Does an SDP carry any weight before it is examined and adopted?• How does the requirement to prepare an SDP affect LPAs currently reviewing their LDPs?

3.09 These are just some initial thoughts to prompt Members own consideration of the consultation documents, in preparation for a further report to the December meeting of this group where responses to the questions contained in the consultation document will be presented for discussion.

4.00 RECOMMENDATIONS

4.01 That Members note the consultations underway and the summary provided in this report, in advance of considering a recommended response at the next meeting of this Group in December.

5.00 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.01 Potential need to contribute to the resourcing of an SDP 'team'.

6.00 ANTI POVERTY IMPACT

6.01 None

7.00 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

7.01 SDPs would be subject to a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

8.00 EQUALITIES IMPACT

8.01 SDPs would be subject to an Equalities and Welsh Language Impact Assessment

9.00 PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.01 Unclear if staff would need to be transferred or seconded to the SDP team.

10.00 CONSULTATION REQUIRED

10.01 None at this time.

11.00 CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.01 Present consultation

12.00 APPENDICES

12.01 Links to the consultation documents are provided within the body of the report in paragraphs 2.04 and 2.05

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

Contact Officer: Andy Roberts
Telephone: 01352 703211
Email: andy.roberts@flintshire.gov.uk

Q1 Do you agree the SDP Regulations should broadly mirror the key stages and plan preparation requirements set out in the LDP Regulations, subject to the exceptions referred to? If not, please explain why

Council's Response: Whilst it is logical to follow a process now established for the production of a full LDP, the Council would question a number of assumptions made about the efficiency of operation and implementation of the present LDP regulations which will be similarly applicable for the proposed SDPs. In the main this relates to the assumption that four years is sufficient time to prepare an SDP in line with all of the proposed key stages in the process, including evidence gathering, community and stakeholder engagement, formal public consultations, and examination. This is particularly in the context that the wider public engagement across North Wales will need to understand what an SDP is, how it relates to them and their local communities, and the relationship between SDPs and LDPs.

Q2 Do you agree with the proposed approach to the Community Involvement Scheme (CIS) and Delivery Agreement (DA)? If not, please explain why

Council's Response: The assumption that the ability to engage adequately on an SDP in the same way as an LDP is simply one of a difference of scale, seriously underplays the nature of the task, the resources required to do this and the logistical, governance and engagement challenges. The difference in scale is significant and is therefore key to delivering a successful SDP and should not be underestimated not least, for example, in securing public and political commitment from the seven Local Planning Authorities.

Q3 Do you agree with the list of general and specific consultation bodies listed in Annex 1? If not, who else do you think should be considered for inclusion and why?

Council's Response: This is a short, generic list when compared to that contained in most LDP Delivery Agreements. Omissions include:

- PINs
- Cross border i.e. English authorities
- Town Councils (reference is made to Community Councils only)
- Telecommunications Infrastructure Providers
- Emergency Services
- Those with licenses granted under the Gas Act 1986
- Business Interests Groups/Chamber of Commerce
- Access Fora
- Transport Operators (other than just trains)

- Local/regional Environmental Groups
- MPs/AMs/County Councillors
- Professional Bodies
- Higher Education / Further Education

Q4 Do you agree with the two stage preparation and consultation approach proposed at Preferred Strategy and Deposit? If not, please explain why and what alternative approach you would suggest?

Council's Response: The Council does not disagree with this as it has followed this process for its LDP. That said, and to avoid the possibility of the strategy being found 'not sound' at the examination stage and therefore the whole plan, has any thought been given to examining the Preferred Strategy for soundness, before a plan is allowed to progress to deposit? An early test of the soundness of the Plan's strategy could be beneficial as a matter, such as regional housing apportionment, will be a major aspect of the SDP. An early examination before the plan progresses too far, assuming that its content at deposit is as broad as the scope of LDPs presently could be productive and save time later in the SDP process.

Q5 Do you agree with the particular elements of the procedures and requirements proposed for SDP preparation including proposals from pre-deposit to Deposit stage? If not, please explain why

Council's Response: The stages mirror the current LDP process but the concerns raised earlier relating to the significance of the difference in scale are relevant, particularly the ability of a CJC to ensure "effective public involvement" across such a geographically extensive North Wales sub region, as well as then accounting for the economic, social and environmental diversity within the sub region.

Equally, the call for strategic locations and sites will be difficult to manage as well as the subsequent level of assessment including background studies and evidence gathering, required to demonstrate the viability and deliverability of such strategic sites, sufficient for the SDP to be found sound.

There may well also be the sense that decisions about growth taken at the CJC strategic level will be imposed on individual LPAs rather than agreed, despite the intended remit and governance arrangements for CJsCs.

In terms of the relationship between an emerging SDP and the position that LPAs have reached with LDPs or reviews, the assumption that has to be made by LPAs is that they will have to await the preparation and adoption of an SDP to set the context for the preparation of LDPs or 'lites', particularly as an SDP will carry no weight until examined

and adopted. This could lead to local 'policy gaps' and lead to pressure for speculative un-planned development. Further guidance will be needed on this relationship.

It is also not clear how the other functions of the CJC – Transport and Economy – will relate to the preparation of an SDP in terms of, for example, aligning the preparation of a Regional Transport Infrastructure Plan to identify the infrastructure needed to support the strategic growth being proposed in the SDP.

Q6 Do you agree with the proposed approach for submission, examination and adoption of an SDP? If not, please explain why

Council's Response: These again mirror the present LDP process and again the main concern is with the assumption that these stages and processes will operate as for an individual LDP now, with the only difference being one of scale. This could be a significant difference. Also, given that the SDP will focus of establishing growth levels and its distribution across a sub-region, the point made earlier about examining the Preferred Strategy in its own right should be given consideration.

Q7 Do you agree with the proposed approach to monitoring, review and revision of an SDP? If not, please explain why

Council's Response: Whilst the process mirrors present practice and would be acceptable in principle, there are a number of increased uncertainties, even if an SDP is examined and found sound, to do with the implementation and deliverability of strategy development and sites, not least their lead-in times. This will depend on the location, the particular LPA the sites are in, and the policy context below SDPs.

Q8 Do you agree with the proposed approach for SDP withdrawal? If not, please explain why

Council's Response: The main concern relates to the uncertainty of the relationship between an emerging SDP and the position with emerging LDPs or 'lites' within the CJC and the consequences for those plans if an emerging SDP were withdrawn prior to submission? Much clearer guidance is needed on this and the relationship of SDPs to LDPs.

Q9 We have asked a number of specific questions. If you have any related issues which we have not specifically addressed, please report them

Council's Response: Clearly it is acknowledged that it takes time to set in place the necessary regulations to govern the production of an SDP and the relationship of this

responsibility to the proposed CJsCs. Notwithstanding the fact that the Council is supportive of the principle of establishing SDPs in Wales, the regulations alone generate many unanswered questions at this stage, some of which the Council has tried to reflect above from its perspective. The following table also reflects some of the 'pros and cons' that occur to the Council prompted by this consultation and highlight the need for greater supporting guidance and explanation to assist in better understanding SDPs, and their relationship to LDPs going forward.

Pros and Cons of proposed SDP Process

Pros

- Provides an agreed regional baseline for housing provision and apportionment to inform LDP 'Lites';
- Agreement of a set of regional strategic planning policies to save repetition in LDPs
- Scope to define and prioritise regionally the main issues that an SDP strategy should lead or focus on;
- Consideration of strategic locations and sites for growth and their prioritisation across North Wales;
- Facilitate the delivery of the North Wales Growth Deal priorities where there is a land use implication;
- Opportunity to consider infrastructure requirements at a regional scale to support growth and their integration at the SDP strategy stage e.g. integrated planning and transport strategy for North Wales;
- Creation of a regional dedicated SDP Planning Team to lead on production of the SDP and co-ordinate with individual LDP production;
- Speeds up the future provision of an up to date LDP in each LPA area.

Cons

- Is 4 years to produce and adopt an SDP realistic given the range of community and political considerations to take into account across all the North Wales authorities?
- Who would be the lead authority to host the SDP 'team', reporting then to the CJC?
- What size of team would be required to produce the SDP?
- Would each LPA contribute to resource this team?
- How much would it cost to produce an SDP?
- What would be the scope of topics covered by the SDP as to support LDP 'Lites' then the SDP should cover the full range of policy issues covered currently in LDPs?
- How would the CJC ensure effective and co-ordinated community engagement across North Wales?
- How would current LDP timetables in each LPA be aligned to the production of an SDP?
- Does an SDP carry any weight before it is examined and adopted?
- How does the requirement to prepare an SDP affect LPAs currently reviewing their LDPs?



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 15th December 2020
Report Subject	Revenue Budget Monitoring Report 2020/21 (Month 7)
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Finance
Report Author	Corporate Finance Manager
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This monthly report provides the latest detailed revenue budget monitoring position 2020/21 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account for the financial year and presents the position, based on actual income and expenditure, as at Month 7. This report projects how the budget would stand at the close of the financial year if all things remain unchanged; it also takes into account the latest position on Welsh Government Emergency Grant Funding announcements.

The projected year end position, without new actions to reduce cost pressures and/or improve the financial return on efficiency planning and cost control is:

Council Fund

- An operating deficit of £0.196m (excluding the impact of the pay award which will be met by reserves), which is a favourable movement of £0.373m from the deficit figure reported at Month 6.
- A projected contingency reserve balance as at 31st March, 2021 of £1.415m

Housing Revenue Account

- Net in-year revenue expenditure forecast to be £0.460m lower than budget
- A projected closing balance as at 31st March, 2021 of £2.633m

As reported in previous reports and to assist with mitigating the overall projected overspend the following measures were introduced from Month 5:-

- 1) All non-essential spend be reviewed and challenged with a view to ceasing/delaying where able and
- 2) Further Portfolio Management Team challenge of recruitment to vacancies i.e. ceasing/delaying.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	To note the overall report and the projected Council Fund contingency sum as at 31 st March 2021.
2	To note the projected final level of balances on the Housing Revenue Account (HRA).

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE MONTH 7 POSITION
1.01	<p>Council Fund Projected Position</p> <p>The projected year end position, without mitigation to reduce cost pressures and improve the yield on efficiency planning, is as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• An operating deficit of £0.196m (excluding the impact of the pay award which will be met by reserves)• A projected contingency reserve available balance as at 31 March 2021 of £1.415m. <p>To assist with mitigating the overall projected overspend the following measures have been introduced:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) All non-essential spend is being reviewed and challenged with a view to ceasing/delaying where able and2) Introduction of a vacancy management process to consider new recruitment requests <p>The outcome of this work is shown within the report and will continue as part of the robust challenge of the future monthly monitoring position.</p>

1.02	<p>Table 1. Projected Position by Portfolio</p> <p>The table below shows the projected position by portfolio:</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="320 255 1388 1205"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="320 255 786 450">Portfolio/ Service Area</th> <th data-bbox="786 255 975 450">Approved Budget £m</th> <th data-bbox="975 255 1182 450">Projected Outturn £m</th> <th data-bbox="1182 255 1388 450">In-Year Over / (Under) spend £m</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Social Services</td> <td>68.458</td> <td>68.584</td> <td>0.126</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Out of County Placements</td> <td>11.940</td> <td>12.424</td> <td>0.484</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Education & Youth</td> <td>8.776</td> <td>8.247</td> <td>(0.529)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Schools</td> <td>98.722</td> <td>98.722</td> <td>0.000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Streetscene & Transportation</td> <td>30.650</td> <td>31.748</td> <td>1.098</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Planning & Environment</td> <td>5.762</td> <td>6.161</td> <td>0.399</td> </tr> <tr> <td>People & Resources</td> <td>4.491</td> <td>4.464</td> <td>(0.027)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Governance</td> <td>9.193</td> <td>9.334</td> <td>0.141</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Strategic Programmes</td> <td>4.943</td> <td>4.636</td> <td>(0.307)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Housing & Assets</td> <td>16.115</td> <td>15.620</td> <td>(0.495)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chief Executive</td> <td>2.789</td> <td>2.497</td> <td>(0.292)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Central & Corporate Finance</td> <td>24.147</td> <td>23.745</td> <td>(0.402)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Total</td> <td>285.986</td> <td>286.182</td> <td>0.196</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Portfolio/ Service Area	Approved Budget £m	Projected Outturn £m	In-Year Over / (Under) spend £m	Social Services	68.458	68.584	0.126	Out of County Placements	11.940	12.424	0.484	Education & Youth	8.776	8.247	(0.529)	Schools	98.722	98.722	0.000	Streetscene & Transportation	30.650	31.748	1.098	Planning & Environment	5.762	6.161	0.399	People & Resources	4.491	4.464	(0.027)	Governance	9.193	9.334	0.141	Strategic Programmes	4.943	4.636	(0.307)	Housing & Assets	16.115	15.620	(0.495)	Chief Executive	2.789	2.497	(0.292)	Central & Corporate Finance	24.147	23.745	(0.402)	Total	285.986	286.182	0.196
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1.03	<p>The reasons for the favourable net movement of £0.373m from the previous month are shown in Appendix 1. The reasons for the overall projected variances are summarised within Appendix 2 showing the detail of all variances over £0.050m and a summary of minor variances for each portfolio.</p> <p>Within the projected overspend position of £0.196m, there are COVID-19 related cost pressures and income shortfalls totalling £1.526m which are shown in a separate column in Appendix 2 (net costs pressures of £0.102m and income shortfalls of £1.424m). We will continue to look at legitimate funding opportunities from the Welsh Government Hardship Fund which if confirmed will have a positive impact on the overall deficit position.</p>																																																								
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1.04	<p>Social Services (£0.040m)</p> <p>The favourable movement follows the rescheduled opening of Plas yr Ywen Extra Care facility in Holywell, reducing the overall projected spend. Within Disability Services, a contribution from Welsh Government towards some education placements has been agreed at a higher rate than originally forecast.</p>																																																								

	<p>Out of County Placements £0.345m</p> <p>The net impact of new placements and changes of placements forecast to the end of the financial year with some mitigation of costs being approved from the Integrated Care Fund Grant.</p> <p>Streetscene & Transportation (£0.148m)</p> <p>An improved position for the Portfolio as a result of a number of factors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a refresh of the service demand plan and the use of agency to fill vacant posts at a reduced rate • Revised projection on the pressure relating to fuel costs following market update and revision of actual usage • Increased Post 16 income contribution projections, partially offset by an increase in the re-procurement of bus routes. • Adjustment to the level of income recoverable on car parking income losses from the WG Hardship Fund <p>Planning Environment & Economy (£0.055m)</p> <p>Receipt of the Lockdown Business Grant 2% Admin Fee in association with Revenues improved the Portfolio position by £0.033m with the remainder due to minor variances across the portfolio.</p> <p>Governance (£0.270m)</p> <p>The Council received an award of funding in relation to Lockdown Business Grant in October, 2020. With this award, Welsh Government introduced a 2% admin fee £0.163m, shared 80/20 between the Revenues and Regeneration services in order to ensure disbursement of the grant conditions in a timely manner.</p> <p>All debt recovery activities, with the exception of enforcement/bailiff duties re-commenced during August. The levels of fee income remain a risk, but the first court hearing has taken place in October and with further hearings scheduled on a monthly basis from November to March, income from fees is projected to increase over the next 5 months, projected income therefore improved by £0.100m.</p> <p>Housing & Assets (£0.107m)</p> <p>Positive movement on Electricity projections following detailed analysis of usage comparisons from the previous year, together with a confirmed reduction in tariff prices from October, 2020.</p> <p>Chief Executives (£0.035m)</p> <p>An agreed salary recharge for Chief Officer time due to an agreed temporary arrangement with Wrexham County Borough Council.</p>
1.05	<p>Key Financial Risks – Council Tax Income and Council Tax Reduction Scheme</p> <p>There have been significant impacts on Council Tax income and the Council Tax Reduction Scheme.</p>

	<p>The potential financial impact of these two areas is being reported separately due to 1) the difficulties in predicting the impacts of these risks and 2) the potential for these areas to be further supported by additional Welsh Government funding.</p> <p>However, if these cost pressures are not met by additional funding they will add to the projected overspend of £0.196m. An update on the latest position on each area is detailed below.</p>
1.06	<p>Council Tax Income</p> <p>As with all Councils the pandemic has significantly impacted on council tax collection. At this stage council tax income is 1.4% below target which equates to £1.37m. Income is expected to continue to recover now that recovery processes have resumed in full and when agreed payment deferrals are settled. Welsh Government are monitoring the situation, but taking a longer term view as to any potential support when the recovery impacts are more certain.</p>
1.07	<p>Council Tax Reduction Scheme (CTRS)</p> <p>During the pandemic there has been a significant increase in demand with additional costs of £0.294m identified as at the second quarter. Welsh Government have confirmed funding for the first two quarters estimated at £0.147m. However, the risk remains for the remaining two quarters of the year for existing clients together with the costs of any further increases in demand which is likely in the current economic climate.</p>
1.08	<p>OPEN RISKS</p> <p>Members were made aware when setting the budget that there were a number of open risks that would need to be kept under close review. An update on these is provided below.</p>
1.09	<p>Pay Award</p> <p>The Teachers Pay Award which is effective from September 2020 has now been set at 3.1% and the financial impact of this for 2020/21 is estimated to be £0.535m. Welsh Government recently announced grant funding of £0.200m to part fund this increase. The remainder will need to be met from Schools delegated budgets.</p>
1.10	<p>Charging for Post 16 Transport</p> <p>The budget for 2020/21 provides for expected additional income of £0.449m based on the assumption that charging would be introduced from September 2020. This policy decision was reversed by Cabinet in May.</p> <p>The developing financial solution through effective partnership working with Coleg Cambria will assist with mitigating the financial risk for 2020/21 and the outcome will be included in future reports. An agreement has been</p>

	<p>reached with the college that a level of the anticipated value of the journeys would be reimbursed to the Portfolio. However, the level of this reimbursement is currently £0.047m less than that included in the budget. Therefore this remains a risk to the containment of any costs associated with the journey provision.</p>
1.11	<p>Out of County Placements</p> <p>Additional funding of £2.7m was included in the budget for 2020/21 to address the historic significant increase in demand. At this stage, based on current activity there is an overall net projected overspend of £0.484m (underspend of £0.153m within Education together with an overspend of £0.637m within Children's Services).</p>
1.12	<p>NEW EMERGING RISKS</p> <p>Free School Meals</p> <p>Schools have a delegated budget for free school meals (FSM) which is based on the number of pupils eligible for FSM. The budget for 2020/21 is £1.256m. Following the closure of schools in March, the Council made direct payments to families and there was a marked increase in the number of claims. Based on current free school meal claims and making projections for a range of take-up percentages in the remainder of the year, it is estimated that the budget could overspend by between £0.222m and £0.344m.</p>
1.13	<p>Transportation</p> <p>Under School Transport, there has been a significant financial increase in private hire coach, minibus and taxi quotations, which is due to the operators including the cost of the cleaning of vehicles, driver PPE and the fact the school contract is the only business they are receiving at the moment, i.e. no private hire for weekends, during the day such as swimming lessons, school trips or private tour excursions. There has also been additional financial pressure in relation to the re-procurement of a subsidised local bus contract in which we have seen a significant cost increase due to the operator now building the loss of fare revenue (reduced patronage) into their quotations.</p> <p>The Transport team have been assessing the overall financial impact of this and some of these costs are included in the Month 7 monitoring report.</p>
1.14	<p>Emergency Funding</p> <p>In addition to the Hardship Fund, Welsh Government has previously confirmed further funding of £264 million across Wales to continue to support local government for additional costs and income losses. Eligibility criteria for this funding has now been confirmed and income loss claims will continue to be made on a quarterly basis for the remainder of the financial year.</p>

	<p>Welsh Government have previously confirmed that additional costs for Social Care and Schools will continue to be a priority when considering the use of this funding which is encouraging to ensure that the Council can continue to meet the impact of these additional costs.</p> <p>The announcements on funding for the first two quarters of increased demand for the Council Tax Reduction Scheme is also a positive outcome and is currently under consideration for the remainder of the financial year as well as any further increases in demand.</p>
1.15	<p>Achievement of Planned In-Year Efficiencies</p> <p>The 2020/21 budget contains £5.206m of specific efficiencies which are being tracked and monitored. The Council aims to achieve a 95% rate in 2020/21 as reflected in the MTFS KPI's.</p> <p>The current assessment of the efficiencies to be achieved in 2020/21 shows that £4.982m or 96% of the efficiencies will be achieved.</p> <p>Further details on the current status on efficiencies can be seen in Appendix 2 with the overall impact in relation to any impact for 2021/22 being reviewed as part of the ongoing work on the MTFS.</p>
1.16	<p>Reserves and Balances</p> <p>Un-earmarked Reserves</p> <p>The level of Council Fund Contingency Reserve brought forward into 2020/21 was £2.370m as detailed in the 2019/20 outturn report. This is the amount available for general purposes following the set-aside of £3.0m for Emergency Funding.</p>
1.17	<p>Taking into account the above and, the current projected overspend at this stage, and previously agreed allocations, the balance on the Contingency Reserve at 31 March 2021 is projected to be £1.415m as detailed in Appendix 3.</p> <p>This assumes that the projected overspend of £0.196m is met from the £3m emergency ring-fenced fund which would leave an amount of £2.446m remaining after allowing for other known ineligible items.</p>
1.18	<p>A review of the Earmarked Balances and Reserves is on-going, balances challenged and identified as no longer required are to be returned to the Contingency Reserve.</p>
1.19	<p>Housing Revenue Account</p> <p>The 2019/20 Outturn Report to Cabinet on 16 June 2020 showed an un-earmarked closing balance at the end of 2019/20 of £2.009m and a closing balance of earmarked reserves of £0.437m.</p>

1.20	The 2020/21 budget for the HRA is £36.672m which includes a movement of £0.164m to reserves.
1.21	The monitoring for the HRA is projecting in year expenditure to be £0.460m lower than budget and a closing un-earmarked balance as at 31 March 2021 of £2.469m, which at 6.86% of total expenditure satisfies the prudent approach of ensuring a minimum level of 3%. Appendix 5 attached refers.
1.22	The budget contribution towards capital expenditure (CERA) is £12.928m.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	As set out within the report.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	The financial impacts of the emergency as set out in the report are a combination of actual costs and losses to date and estimates of costs and losses for the future. There is the possibility that the estimates will change over time. The budget will be monitored closely and mitigation actions taken wherever possible.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	None specific.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1: Council Fund – Movement in Variances from Month 6 Appendix 2: Council Fund – Budget Variances Appendix 3: Council Fund – Programme of Efficiencies Appendix 4: Council Fund – Movement on Un-earmarked Reserves Appendix 5: Housing Revenue Account Variances

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Various budget records.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officer: Dave Ledsham Strategic Finance Manager</p> <p>Telephone: 01352 704503</p> <p>E-mail: dave.ledsham@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p>Budget: a statement expressing the Council’s policies and service levels in financial terms for a particular financial year. In its broadest sense it includes both the revenue budget and capital programme and any authorised amendments to them.</p> <p>Council Fund: the fund to which all the Council’s revenue expenditure is charged.</p> <p>Financial Year: the period of twelve months commencing on 1 April.</p> <p>Housing Revenue Account: the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) is a local authority account showing current income and expenditure on housing services related to its own housing stock. The account is separate from the Council Fund and trading accounts and is funded primarily from rents and government subsidy.</p> <p>Intermediate Care Fund: Funding provided by Welsh Government to encourage integrated working between local authorities, health and housing.</p> <p>Projected Outturn: projection of the expenditure to the end of the financial year, made on the basis of actual expenditure incurred to date.</p> <p>Reserves: these are balances in hand that have accumulated over previous years and are held for defined (earmarked reserves) and general (general reserves) purposes. Councils are required to regularly review the level and purpose of their reserves and to take account of the advice of the Chief Finance Officer.</p> <p>Revenue: a term used to describe the day-to-day costs of running Council services and income deriving from those services. It also includes charges for the repayment of debt, including interest, and may include direct financing of capital expenditure.</p> <p>Variance: difference between latest budget and actual income or expenditure. Can be to date if reflecting the current or most up to date position or projected, for example projected to the end of the month or financial year.</p> <p>Virement: the transfer of budget provision from one budget head to another. Virement decisions apply to both revenue and capital expenditure</p>

	heads, and between expenditure and income, and may include transfers from contingency provisions. Virements may not however be approved between capital and revenue budget heads.
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Streetscene & Transportation		
Service Delivery	-0.143	Movement due to recognition of vacancies filled by agency staff at lesser cost and refresh of service demand plan.
Highways Network	-0.068	Reduction in fuel costs following advice from market advisors and actual usage to date.
Transportation	-0.107	Recognition of full value of Post 16 income from Coleg Cambria of £0.200m, partially offset by increase in reprocurement of bus routes.
Regulatory Services	0.171	Materialisation of partial Income loss for Quarter 2 and 3 following amendment to WG grant funding criteria for Car Park income losses.
Other Minor Variances	-0.000	
Total Streetscene & Transportation	-0.148	

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**Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances**

MONTH 7 - SUMMARY

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
Social Services							
Older People							
Localities	19.218	18.624	-0.595	-0.058	-0.639	The net cost of residential care is £0.483m underspent. This includes the cost of residential care placements net of the income received for this service, such as property charges and contributions from health. There is a decline in the demand for residential care placements due to COVID-19. Day Care is £0.058m under budget, this service is currently closed and will reopen only when it is considered safe to do so. Domiciliary and Direct Payments are reporting a combined overspend of £0.142m and are projected based on recent levels of care provision. The Localities Teams staff budget is underspending by £0.130m due to a number of staff not yet on top of scale, some temporary reduced hours and in-year savings on travel costs. The minor adaptations budget is £0.058m underspent based on expected activity and there is a small underspend on service level agreements paid to the third sector of £0,008m.	
Resources & Regulated Services	8.027	7.782	-0.245		-0.169	The Councils in-house care provision is reporting an underspend of £0.245m. Day care is reporting an overspend of £0.012m, day centres are currently closed and assumed to be so until it is safe to reopen. The day centre staff are deployed to residential care to assist in delivering care, however the staff costs are still recorded against the day care budget. Homecare is overspent by £0.004m. Staff costs are incurred as a result of the amount of homecare delivered, and projected forward based on estimated activity. Residential care is overspent by £0.019m due to a number of small variances. Extra care is underspending by £0.279m. Plas yr Ywen in Holywell has not yet opened and a full complement of staff is not yet recruited. Care staff already recruited are currently redeployed to alternate in-house care services and this has meant significant costs due to COVID-19 have been avoided. It is anticipated Plas yr Ywen will open in January 2021.	
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	-0.000		
Minor Variances	1.228	1.203	-0.026		-0.028		
Adults of Working Age							
Administrative Support	0.328	0.241	-0.087		-0.088	Not all staff are currently paid at top of grade and there are also some staff seconded from this service. There have also been in-year savings on staff travel costs.	
Residential Placements	1.297	2.022	0.725		0.688	This outturn is the cost of social care for people within the Mental Health service. These costs include nursing and residential care, domiciliary care and Direct Payments. Care needs for individuals within this service vary over time, sometimes suddenly, and costs are subject to these same changes.	
Minor Variances	29.581	29.345	-0.236		-0.220		
Children's Services							

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 7 - SUMMARY

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Family Placement	2.621	2.792	0.171		0.169	The overspend is due to current demands on the service from the number of fostering placements, which in some instances avoid making an Out of County placement which would be more expensive. The main pressure areas are payments for foster carers, foster agencies and special guardianship payments.	
Legal & Third Party	0.225	0.547	0.322		0.332	Legal costs are overspent due to the number of cases going through the courts and the use of external legal professionals. Direct Payments have also increased in demand.	
Professional Support	5.293	5.659	0.366		0.396	To support adequate levels of child protection, the established staffing structure needs to be at a sufficient level to meet mandatory safeguarding standards. Vacancies are therefore minimised and additional temporary posts are sometimes required.	
Minor Variances	1.475	1.479	0.004		-0.004		
Safeguarding & Commissioning							
Charging Policy income	-3.060	-3.138	-0.078		-0.078	Charging Policy income is expected to exceed the budget and is based on the weekly charge cap and the number of service users who financially contribute to their care.	
Business Support Service	1.224	1.164	-0.059		-0.060	This variance is on salaries and due to some staff not yet paid top of scale and some staff opting out from the pension scheme.	
Management & Support	-2.057	-2.185	-0.129		-0.125	The underspend is due to not having to contribute to the Regional Collaboration unit in 2020/21.	
Minor Variances	3.058	3.048	-0.009		-0.006		
Total Social Services (excl Out of County)	68.458	68.584	0.126		-0.058	0.166	
Out of County							
Children's Services	7.437	8.074	0.637		0.337	The pressure reflects the current cohort of placements with significant numbers of new placements in recent months together with a number of placement changes at higher cost due to breakdowns of placements	Continue to robustly challenge placement proposals presented to the Out of County panel and explore opportunities for cost reductions across the whole of the current cohort.
Education & Youth	4.504	4.351	-0.153		-0.199	The projected underspend reflects the current cohort of Education placements with demand for new placements still being maintained	Continue to robustly challenge placement proposals presented to the Out of County panel and explore opportunities for cost reductions across the whole of the current cohort.
Total Out of County	11.940	12.424	0.484	0.000	0.138		
Education & Youth							
Integrated Youth Provision	1.351	1.110	-0.242	-0.148	-0.235	Includes a projected underspend of -£0.139m on Youth Centres due to closures arising from COVID-19 safety measures producing savings on building cleaning and some relief staffing costs. Also includes a total saving of -£0.103m on the Youth Justice Service mainly due to a delay in recruitment to a new post and savings on equipment purchase and training.	
School Improvement Systems	1.709	1.530	-0.179	-0.149	-0.183	Savings arising from the challenge of non-essential spend. Early Entitlement savings due to demography and reduced number of settings requiring funding.	

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 7 - SUMMARY

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School Planning & Provision	0.676	0.611	-0.065		-0.056	Mainly a saving against the provision for third party/public liability insurance claims	
Minor Variances	5.040	4.997	-0.043		-0.037		
Total Education & Youth	8.776	8.247	-0.529		-0.510		
Schools	98.722	98.722	0.000		-0.000		
Streetscene & Transportation							
Service Delivery	8.911	9.046	0.136		0.279	The service has incurred additional revenue pressures from responding to and resolving previously reported security measures and remedial actions following vandalism at the Household Recycling Centres. This matter was widely reported during 2019-20 and has not abated. The monthly costs are now running at over £0.006m per month, mainly due to the introduction of a night time presence on the sites. This has resulted in a forecast pressure in the sum of £0.072m for the year. The forecast pressure has reduced by £0.143m since that reported at month 6 due to a refresh of the workforce demand plan.	
Highways Network	7.764	7.862	0.098		0.167	Following a stringent review of fuel costs and advice from market advisors, the Fuel cost forecast for this area has been reduced accordingly. However, as a result of increased usage of private contractors across the Street Lighting network, additional costs are now anticipated.	
Transportation	9.366	9.072	-0.294		-0.187	Operators have been supported during school closures by receiving 75% of their contracted values, in addition a number of routes have been re-procured to reflect current arrangements for operation in the new school year. The forecast position for this service has now been clarified and accommodates both matters. It should be noted however that this improvement will only impact during 2020-21 and the underlying impact of the current circumstances. There are also risks around this position in that the updated forecast is based on the assumption that Colleges will honour their agreement to support Post 16 transport in the sum of £0.600m. However, if this income is not realised in full, the position will be impacted accordingly.	
Regulatory Services	4.609	4.780	0.170		-0.001	This service has experienced a downturn in the levels of income generated by sales of Electricity and this is currently anticipated to reach a level of some £0.120m during the year. There has also been a downturn in the rebate for co-mingled waste due to a considerable drop in the value of approximately £70-£80 per ton. The variance also now reflects the projected loss of car park income in Quarter 2 and 3 following amendments to WG Income Loss Funding eligibility criteria.	

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 7 - SUMMARY

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.987	0.987	0.987	0.987	Following a full reconciliation and review of Streetscene expenditure and income loss relating to the Coronavirus Pandemic, all relevant details have now been consolidated to one code. This has been done in order to facilitate enhanced reporting and monitoring of the impact. All risks identified are now recorded in this forecast and at month 7 they include; £0.050m Agency and overtime, £0.550m car parking income loss, £0.099m in relation to potential PCN and FPN revenues, £0.080m in relation to additional vehicles and fuel and £0.075m in relation to additional private contractors and plant hire. In addition, there is also a risk around free school meal transport provided and submitted as part of the COVID-19 Hardship claim; this has been challenged by Welsh Government and discussions are ongoing around the potential outcome.	Following the disallowing of expenditure from claims to Welsh Government of the Grass Cutting contract, let due to all operatives being diverted to waste routes, an application has been made for the release of part of the £3m COVID-19 Contingency Reserve allocation. In addition, a level of additional disposal expenditure as a result of increased kerbside waste collections due to people working and remaining at or close to home has now been quantified; this is in the sum of £0.133m which was included in the September claim, if this is not successful an application will be made for a further release of the Contingency. If successful, this will result in an improved position for the Portfolio and the Council.
Other Minor Variances	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000		
Total Streetscene & Transportation	30.650	31.748	1.098	0.987	1.246		
Planning, Environment & Economy							
Business	1.692	1.755	0.062		0.057	Historic income target £0.025m remains unrealised, minor variances across the service	
Development	0.023	0.236	0.214	0.295	0.198	Pressure within the Building Control service is due in the main, to delays sourcing core materials meaning that the construction industry is operating at a low level of capacity. This results in a projected reduced Building Control fee income. A lull in the property market is affecting a reduced need for Land Charge Searches adding to the overspend. The current economic conditions are having an adverse affect the Planning Applications, the projection is dependant on the number and value of applications received, resulting in a changeable outturn to ensure an accurate reflection. The overall variance is mitigated by the Fee Increase for planning and related applications of approx 20% that came into effect August, 2020	
Regeneration	0.511	0.584	0.073	0.110	0.135	There has been a significant impact on income levels following the closure of the markets in the first quarter of the financial year. Admin Fee receivable for Lockdown Business Fund Grant reflected at Month 7.	
Minor Variances	3.536	3.586	0.050	0.050	0.064		
Total Planning & Environment	5.762	6.161	0.399	0.455	0.454		
People & Resources							
HR & OD	2.398	2.377	-0.021		0.003		
Corporate Finance	2.094	2.087	-0.006		-0.019		
Impact of Covid-19	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000		
Holding Accounts	0.000	0.000	0.000		0.000		
Total People & Resources	4.491	4.464	-0.027	0.000	-0.016		
Governance							

**Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances**

MONTH 7 - SUMMARY

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
Legal Services	0.736	0.900	0.164		0.164	Overspend as a result of employing locums covering absence to ensure continuing client service delivery in the area of child protection £0.171m. Historical efficiency target that was dependant on demand reduction in another service that has not occurred, thereby preventing the consequent achievement of the efficiency £0.091m. Total overspend is mitigated by vacant posts, expected fee income and commitment challenge across the service.	
Democratic Services	2.098	2.038	-0.059	0.071	-0.058	Favourable variance following reduced take up of Members Allowances £0.024m. Minor variances across the service.	
Revenues	0.037	0.113	0.076	0.249	0.322	The national lockdown restrictions have resulted in the cessation of all recovery activities, especially enforcement/bailiff duties during the first 5 months of the year (and during the recent firebreak). All debt recovery activities, with the exception of enforcement/bailiff duties re-commenced during August. The level of financial risk from fee income remains a risk but with the first court hearing took place in October and with further hearings scheduled on a monthly basis from November to March income from fees is projected to increase over the next 5 months. Admin Fee receivable of £0.130m for Lockdown Business Fund Grant reflected at Month 7.	
Minor Variances	6.323	6.282	-0.040		-0.017		
Total Governance	9.193	9.334	0.141	0.320	0.411		
Strategic Programmes							
Strategic Programmes	4.943	4.636	-0.307		-0.287	Variance due to reduced utility costs.	
Total Strategic Programmes	4.943	4.636	-0.307	0.000	-0.287		
Housing & Assets							
Enterprise Centres	-0.217	-0.104	0.112		0.112	Pressure due to loss of income in respect of void units	
Property Asset And Development	0.444	0.367	-0.077		-0.077	Mainly staffing cost savings pending completion of restructure	
Caretaking & Security	0.262	0.201	-0.062		-0.062	Mainly staffing cost savings due to vacancies	
Centralised Costs	3.353	2.492	-0.860		-0.769	Underspend on NDR totalling £0.509m, predominantly due to the demolition of Phase 3&4 County Hall. -£0.073m underspend on Gas due to lower usage. -£0.100m underspend on Electricity reflected at Month 7 due to lower usage and reduced rates and -£0.059m underspend on Water.	
Benefits	11.665	11.876	0.211	0.119	0.222	Potential net pressure of up to £0.750m on the Council Tax reduction scheme due to additional take up arising from the COVID-19 pandemic impact on employment. This figure takes account of £0.147m of WG emergency funding support in respect of the April to September element of the overall pressure but the £0.750m is not included in the variance figures. Variance includes pressure of £0.119m on staffing costs due the additional demand caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and overpayments.	

Budget Monitoring Report
Council Fund Variances

MONTH 7 - SUMMARY

Service	Approved Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Annual Variance (£m)	Impact of Covid-19 (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variances greater than £0.050m	Action Required
Council Fund Housing	-0.324	-0.208	0.117		0.125	Reduction of internal Housing Support grant allocation due to eligibility issues and pressure arising from new service contract for Carelink	
Minor Variances	0.932	0.996	0.064		0.061		
Total Housing & Assets	16.115	15.620	-0.495	0.119	-0.387		
Chief Executive's	2.789	2.497	-0.292		-0.257	Vacant Posts across the Service	
Central & Corporate Finance	24.147	23.745	-0.402		-0.388	Over recovery of planned pension contributions recoupment against actuarial projections based on the level of contributions received to date and forecast to the end of the financial year.	
Grand Total	285.986	286.182	0.196	1.526	0.569		

2020/21 Efficiencies Outturn Tracker - M7

Efficiency Description	Accountable Officer	Efficiency Target	Projected Efficiency	(Under)/Over Achievement	Efficiency Open/Closed (O/C)	Confidence in Achievement of Efficiency - Based on (see below) R = High Assumption A = Medium Assumption G = Figures Confirmed	
							2020/21 £m
Portfolio							
Corporate							
Employer Pension Contributions	Reduced requirement due to recovery	Rachel Parry Jones	0.800	0.800	0.000	C	G
Actuarial Review	Reduced contribution rate	All	2.646	2.646	0.000	C	G
Single Person Discount Review	One Off Efficiency	David Barnes	0.300	0.300	0.000	O	G
Total Corporate Services			3.746	3.746	0.000		
Social Services							
Reviewing Function	Reduction of Post	Neil Ayling	0.025	0.264	0.239	O	G
Supported Living	Reduction of Voids	Neil Ayling	0.025	0.005	(0.020)	O	G
Communications	Reduction in Mobile Hardware	Neil Ayling	0.030	0.020	(0.010)	O	G
Vacancy Management Saving	Appropriate Vacancy Management	Neil Ayling	0.030	0.025	(0.005)	O	G
Strategic Use of Grant Funding	Core Funding Replacement Solution	Neil Ayling	0.100	0.170	0.070	O	G
Regional Collaboration Wrexham CBC	Reduction in Posts	Neil Ayling	0.030	0.010	(0.020)	O	G
Additional Social Services Grant	Social Services Grant	Neil Ayling	0.426	0.000	(0.426)	O	G
Total Social Services			0.666	0.494	(0.172)		
Education & Youth							
Integrated Youth Provision	Youth Centres - Premises	Claire Homard	0.014	0.014	0.000	O	G
Total Education & Youth			0.014	0.014	0.000		
Streetscene & Transportation							
Discretionary Transport Review - Post 16 Transport	Joint with Education	Steve O Jones	0.449	0.402	(0.047)	O	R
Income from External Works		Steve O Jones	0.010	0.010	0.000	O	G
Garden Waste Charges	Additional take up of service	Steve O Jones	0.030	0.030	0.000	O	G
NWRP Gate Fee Benefit	Utilisation of WG Grant funding	Steve O Jones	0.200	0.200	0.000	O	A
Total Streetscene & Transportation			0.689	0.642	(0.047)		
Planning, Environment & Economy							
Countryside	Additional Tree Income	Tom Woodall	0.010	0.010	0.000	O	G
Countryside	Review of Spending	Tom Woodall	0.017	0.017	0.000	O	G
Review of Pest Control	Trading Standards Investigations and Community Safety	Sian Jones	0.035	0.035	0.000	O	G
Development Management	Increased Planning Fee Income	Mandy Lewis	0.015	0.015	0.000	O	G
Minerals & Waste	Adoption of new SLA with Partners	Gary Nancarrow	0.005	0.000	(0.005)	O	G
Portfolio Admin	Supplies and Services Review	Lynne Fensome	0.005	0.005	0.000	O	G
Regeneration	Bus Dev, Housing and Markets	Niall Waller	0.004	0.004	0.000	O	G
Total Planning, Environment & Economy			0.091	0.086	(0.005)		
Total 2020/21 Budget Efficiencies			5.206	4.982	(0.224)		

	%	£
Total 2020/21 Budget Efficiencies	100	5.206
Total Projected 2020/21 Budget Efficiencies Underachieved	-4	(0.224)
Total Projected 2020/21 Budget Efficiencies Achieved	96	4.982
Total 2020/21 Budget Efficiencies (Less Previously agreed Decisions)	100	0.000
Total Projected 2020/21 Budget Efficiencies Underachieved	0	0.000
Total Projected 2020/21 Budget Efficiencies Achieved	0	0.000

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Movements on Council Fund Unearmarked Reserves

	£m	£m
Total Reserves as at 1 April 2020	11.025	
Less - Base Level	(5.769)	
Total Reserves above base level available for delegation to Cabinet		5.256
Less - amount approved for Childrens Services ' Front Door Pressures'		(0.134)
Less - COVID-19 Emergency Funding Allocation*		(2.886)
*Month 7 projected outturn of £0.196m will be funded from this		
Less - projected national pay award increase		0.821
Total Contingency Reserve available for use		1.415

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MONTH 7 - SUMMARY

Service	Revised Budget (£m)	Projected Outturn (£m)	Variance (£m)	Last Month Variance (£m)	Cause of Major Variance	Action Required
Housing Revenue Account						
Income	(36.676)	(36.471)	0.206	0.206	There is a pressure forecast of £0.206m. Of this £0.115m relates to loss of income voids which are currently running at 2.01% void rate compared to 1.75% in the Business Plan. £0.068m relates to garages, £0.066m relates to void water charges. Additional new build rental income projected at £0.061m. The remaining £0.018m is attributed to Minor Variances	
Capital Financing - Loan Charges	9.027	9.027				
Estate Management	1.846	1.680	(0.166)	(0.158)	Additional expenditure of £0.058m is anticipated during the year in respect of the purchase of software. This is offset by salary efficiencies arising from vacancy savings and the pay award of £0.195m. The remaining £0.029 is minor variances is minor variances	
Landlord Service Costs	1.434	1.423	(0.011)	(0.000)	There is a saving of £0.049k which relates to servicing costs which are lower due to some Covid restrictions, these offset minor variances of £0.039k	
Repairs & Maintenance	8.907	8.420	(0.487)	(0.481)	Reduction in Materials for Responsive and Voids expenditure due to Covid restrictions (£0.221m). Reduced projection of Responsive sub contractor spend on basis of Covid restrictions (£0.138m). Staffing Vacancy savings (£0.109m). Overall NI staffing saving (£0.089m). Increased Fleet projection based on Q1 charges £0.050m. Minor variances £0.020m.	
Management & Support Services	2.523	2.519	(0.004)	(0.044)	Efficiency projected of £0.004m of this £0.020m relates to salary savings. £0.021m relates to underspend on training due to Covid restrictions. There has been a increase in insurance costs of £0.045k.	
Capital Expenditure From Revenue (CERA)	12.928	12.928	0.000			
HRA Projects	(0.153)	(0.151)	0.002	0.000		
Contribution To / (From) Reserves	0.164	0.164	0.000			
Total Housing Revenue Account	0.000	(0.460)	(0.460)	(0.478)		

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CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 15 th December 2020
Report Subject	Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2020/21
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Finance
Report Author	Corporate Finance Manager
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report presents the draft Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2020/21 for approval and recommendation to Council.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	Cabinet approves and recommends to Council the Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2020/21.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE MID YEAR REPORT
1.01	The Council has nominated Audit Committee to be responsible for ensuring effective scrutiny of Treasury Management Strategy and Policies. The Audit Committee has previously agreed to include Treasury Management as a standing item on each quarterly agenda to receive an update.
1.02	On 18 th February 2020, the Council approved the Treasury Management Strategy 2020/21, following the recommendation of the Cabinet and consideration by the Audit Committee.

	<u>Treasury Management Mid-Year Review 2020/21</u>
1.03	The Treasury Management Mid-Year Report for 2020/21 is attached as Appendix 1 for review. As required by the Council's Financial Procedure Rules, this review has been reported to Audit Committee and will be reported to Council.
1.04	<p><u>Summary of Key Points</u></p> <p>The spread of the COVID-19 pandemic has been the major influence on both the national and global economy over the period.</p> <p>The Bank of England have maintained the base rate at 0.1% since March this year, and the potential use of negative interest has not been ruled out.</p> <p>The Council's treasury advisor Arlingclose expects the Bank Rate to remain at 0.1% for the foreseeable future, and at low levels for a very long time with a distinct possibility of being cut to zero.</p>
1.05	No new long-term borrowing has been undertaken during the period. The Council continues to regularly review the position on its long-term borrowing requirement in conjunction with Arlingclose. Short term borrowing was undertaken as necessary in accordance with the 2020/21 borrowing strategy. The total short term borrowing as at 30 th September 2020 was £30m with an average interest rate of 0.47%. Section 4 provides more information on borrowing and debt management during the period.
1.06	Interest rates on investments have been very low throughout the period. On 25 th September the overnight, 1- and 2-week interest rates on Debt Management Account Deposit Facility deposits dropped below zero percent to -0.03%. Section 5 of the report provides more information on how the Council is managing its investments to avoid negative interest rates.
1.07	The treasury function has operated fully within the limits detailed in the Treasury Management Strategy 2020/21.
1.08	Section 6 of the Mid-Year Report provides information on regulatory changes coming into force in the near future.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	Financial implications are addressed in the report; no other resource implications directly as a result of this report.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	Arlingclose Ltd, being the Council's treasury management advisors.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	Risk Management directly addressed within the report and appendices including identification of risks and measures to mitigate likelihood and impact of risks identified.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	1.Draft Treasury Management Mid-Year Report 2020/21

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Paul Vaughan – Interim Technical Finance Manager Telephone: 01352 702291 E-mail: paul.vaughan@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p>Authorised Limit: A statutory limit that sets the maximum level of external debt for the Council.</p> <p>Balances and Reserves: Accumulated sums that are held, either for specific future costs or commitments (known as earmarked) or generally held to meet unforeseen or emergency expenditure.</p> <p>Bank Rate: The official interest rate set by the Bank of England’s Monetary Policy Committee and what is generally termed at the “base rate”.</p> <p>Basis Point: A unit of measure used in finance to describe the percentage change in the value or rate of a financial instrument. One basis point is equivalent to 0.01% (1/100th of a percent). In most cases, it refers to changes in interest rates and bond yields. For example, if interest rates rise by 25 basis points, it means that rates have risen by 0.25% percentage points.</p> <p>Bond: A certificate of debt issued by a company, government, or other institution. The bond holder receives interest at a rate stated at the time of issue of the bond. The price of a bond may vary during its life.</p> <p>Capital Expenditure: Expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of capital assets.</p>

Capital Financing Requirement (CFR): The Council's underlying need to borrow for capital purposes representing the cumulative capital expenditure of the local authority that has not been financed.

Certificates of Deposits (CD's): A savings certificate entitling the bearer to receive interest. A CD bears a maturity date, a specified fixed interest rate and can be issued in any denomination. CDs are generally issued by commercial banks. The term of a CD generally ranges from one month to five years.

Cost of Carry: The "cost of carry" is the difference between what is paid to borrow compared to the interest which could be earned. For example, if one takes out borrowing at 5% and invests the money at 1.5%, there is a cost of carry of 3.5%.

Consumer Price Index (CPI): The UK's main measure of inflation (along with Retail Price Index or 'RPI') The Monetary Policy Committee of the Bank of England set the Bank Rate in order to try and keep CPI at or close to the target set by the Government. The calculation of CPI includes many items of normal household expenditure but excludes some items such as mortgage interest payments and Council Tax.

Corporate Bonds: Corporate bonds are bonds issued by companies. The term is often used to cover all bonds other than those issued by governments in their own currencies and includes issues by companies, supranational organisations and government agencies.

Counterparty List: List of approved financial institutions with which the Council can place investments.

Credit Rating: Formal opinion by a registered rating agency of a counterparty's future ability to meet its financial liabilities; these are opinions only and not guarantees.

Debt Management Office (DMO): The DMO is an Executive Agency of Her Majesty's Treasury and provides direct access for local authorities into a government deposit facility known as the Debt Management Account Deposit Facility (DMADF). All deposits are guaranteed by HM Government and therefore have the equivalent of a sovereign credit rating.

Federal Reserve: The US central bank, the equivalent of the Bank of England. (Often referred to as "the Fed").

Financial Instruments: Financial instruments are tradable assets of any kind. They can be cash, evidence of an ownership interest in an entity, or a contractual right to receive or deliver cash or another financial instrument

Gilts: Gilts are bonds issued by the UK Government. They take their name from 'gilt-edged'. They are deemed to be very secure as the investor expects to receive the full face value of the bond to be repaid on maturity.

LIBID: The London Interbank Bid Rate (LIBID) is the rate bid by banks on Eurocurrency deposits (i.e. the rate at which a bank is willing to borrow from other banks).

LIBOR: The London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR) is the rate of interest that banks charge to lend money to each other. The British Bankers' Association (BBA) work with a small group of large banks to set the LIBOR rate each day. The wholesale markets allow banks who need money to borrow from those with surplus amounts. The banks with surplus amounts of money are keen to lend so that they can generate interest which it would not otherwise receive.

Low Volatility Net Asset Value Money Market Funds (LVNAV MMFs): refers to highly liquid money market funds which aim to maintain the level of their worth by investing in very secure instruments.

LOBO: Stands for Lender Option Borrower Option. The underlying loan facility is typically very long-term - for example 40 to 60 years - and the interest rate is fixed. However, in the LOBO facility the lender has the option to call on the facilities at pre-determined future dates. On these call dates, the lender can propose or impose a new fixed rate for the remaining term of the facility and the borrower has the 'option' to either accept the new imposed fixed rate or repay the loan facility.

IFRS: International Financial Reporting Standards.

Maturity: The date when an investment or borrowing is repaid.

Maturity Structure / Profile: A table or graph showing the amount (or percentage) of debt or investments maturing over a time period.

Monetary Policy Committee (MPC): Government Body that sets the Bank Rate. Its primary target is to keep inflation within 1% of a central target of 2%. Its secondary target is to support the Government in maintaining high and stable levels of growth and employment.

Money Market Funds (MMF): Pooled funds which invest in a range of short term assets providing high credit quality and high liquidity.

Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP): An annual provision that the Council is statutorily required to set aside and charge to the Revenue Account for the repayment of debt associated with expenditure incurred on capital assets.

Non Specified Investment: Investments which fall outside the WG Guidance for Specified investments (below).

Operational Boundary: This linked directly to the Council's estimates of the CFR and estimates of other day to day cash flow requirements. This indicator is based on the same estimates as the Authorised Limit reflecting the most likely prudent but not worst case scenario but without the additional headroom included within the Authorised Limit.

Premiums and Discounts: In the context of local authority borrowing,

- (a) the premium is the penalty arising when a loan is redeemed prior to its maturity date and
- (b) the discount is the gain arising when a loan is redeemed prior to its maturity date.

Prudential Code: Developed by CIPFA and introduced in April 2004 as a professional code of practice to support local authority capital investment planning within a clear, affordable, prudent and sustainable framework and in accordance with good professional practice.

Prudential Indicators: Indicators determined by the local authority to define its capital expenditure and asset management framework. They are designed to support and record local decision making in a manner that is publicly accountable; they are not intended to be comparative performance indicators

Public Works Loans Board (PWLB): The PWLB is a statutory body operating within the United Kingdom Debt Management Office, an Executive Agency of HM Treasury. The PWLB's function is to lend money from the National Loans Fund to local authorities and other prescribed bodies, and to collect the repayments.

Quantitative Easing (QE): In relation to the UK, it is the process used by the Bank of England to directly increase the quantity of money in the economy. It does not involve printing more banknotes. Instead, the Bank buys assets from private sector institutions – that could be insurance companies, pension funds, banks or non-financial firms – and credits the seller's bank account. So the seller has more money in their bank account, while their bank holds a corresponding claim against the Bank of England (known as reserves). The end result is more money out in the wider economy.

Revenue Expenditure: Expenditure to meet the continuing cost of delivery of services including salaries and wages, the purchase of materials and capital financing charges.

Retail Price Index (RPI): A monthly index demonstrating the movement in the cost of living as it tracks the prices of goods and services including mortgage interest and rent.

Term Deposits: Deposits of cash with terms attached relating to maturity and rate of return (Interest).

Specified Investments: Term used in the Welsh Assembly Guidance for Local Authority Investments. Investments that offer high security and high liquidity, in sterling and for no more than one year. UK government, local authorities and bodies that have a high credit rating.

Supported Borrowing: Borrowing for which the costs are supported by the government or third party.

Supranational Bonds: Instruments issued by supranational organisations created by governments through international treaties (often called multilateral development banks). The bonds carry an AAA rating in

their own right. Examples of supranational organisations are the European Investment Bank, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Treasury Bills (T-Bills): Treasury Bills are short term Government debt instruments and, just like temporary loans used by local authorities, are a means to manage cash flow. They are issued by the Debt Management Office and are an eligible sovereign instrument, meaning that they have an AAA-rating.

Treasury Management Code: CIPFA's Code of Practice for Treasury Management in the Public Services, initially brought in 2003, subsequently updated in 2009 and 2011.

Treasury Management Practices (TMP): Treasury Management Practices set out the manner in which the Council will seek to achieve its policies and objectives and prescribe how it will manage and control these activities.

Temporary Borrowing: Borrowing to cover peaks and troughs of cash flow, not to fund capital spending.

Unsupported Borrowing: Borrowing which is self-financed by the local authority. This is also sometimes referred to as Prudential Borrowing.

Yield: The measure of the return on an investment instrument.

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FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

DRAFT TREASURY MANAGEMENT

MID YEAR REPORT 2020/21

1.00 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.01 To provide members with a mid-year update on matters relating to the Council's Treasury Management function.

2.00 BACKGROUND

- 2.01 Treasury management comprises the management of the Council's cash flows, its banking, money market and capital market transactions; the effective control of the risks associated with those activities; and the pursuit of optimum performance consistent with those risks.
- 2.02 The Council's primary objectives for the investment of its surplus funds are to protect the principal sums invested from loss, and to ensure adequate liquidity so that funds are available for expenditure when needed. The generation of investment income to support the provision of local authority services is an important, but secondary, objective.
- 2.03 The Council's policy is to appoint external consultants to provide advice on its treasury management function. In September 2016 Arlingclose Ltd were reappointed as the Council's advisors for a period of 3 years, following a competitive tendering exercise. This period has been extended a further 2 years as per the contract terms to September 2021.
- 2.04 The Council has adopted the 2017 edition of the CIPFA Treasury Management in the Public Services: Code of Practice, which requires the Council to approve a treasury management strategy before the start of each financial year, a mid-year report, and an annual report after the end of each financial year.
- 2.05 In addition, the Welsh Government (WG) issues guidance on local authority investments that requires the Council to approve an investment strategy before the start of each financial year. Welsh Government updated this guidance in November 2019 and it came into force on 1st April 2020.
- 2.06 This report fulfils the Council's legal obligation under the Local Government Act 2003 to have regard to both the CIPFA Code and the WG Guidance.
- 2.07 The Council approved the 2020/21 Treasury Management Strategy at its meeting on 18th February 2020.

3.00 ECONOMIC & INTEREST RATE REVIEW APRIL – OCTOBER 2020.

Provided by Arlingclose Ltd, the Council's treasury management advisors.

Economic background: The spread of the coronavirus pandemic dominated during the period as countries around the world tried to manage the delicate balancing act of containing transmission of the virus while easing lockdown measures and getting their populations and economies working again. After a relatively quiet few months of Brexit news it was back in the headlines towards the end of the period as agreement between the UK and EU on a trade deal was looking difficult and the government came under fire, both at home and abroad, as it tried to pass the Internal Market Bill which could override the agreed Brexit deal, potentially breaking international law.

The Bank of England (BoE) maintained Bank Rate at 0.1% and its Quantitative Easing programme at £745 billion. The potential use of negative interest rates was not ruled in or out by BoE policymakers, but then a comment in the September Monetary Policy Committee meeting minutes that the central bank was having a harder look at its potential impact than was previously suggested took financial markets by surprise.

Government initiatives continued to support the economy, with the furlough (Coronavirus Job Retention) scheme keeping almost 10 million workers in jobs, grants and loans to businesses and 100 million discounted meals being claimed during the 'Eat Out to Help Out' (EOHO) offer.

GDP growth contracted by a massive 19.8% (revised from first estimate -20.4%) in Q2 2020 (Apr-Jun) according to the Office for National Statistics, pushing the annual growth rate down to -21.5% (first estimate -21.7%). Construction output fell by 35% over the quarter, services output by almost 20% and production by 16%. Recent monthly estimates of GDP have shown growth recovering, with the latest rise of almost 7% in July, but even with the two previous monthly gains this still only makes up half of the lost output.

The headline rate of UK Consumer Price Inflation (CPI) fell to 0.2% year/year in August, further below the Bank of England's 2% target, with the largest downward contribution coming from restaurants and hotels influenced by the EOHO scheme. The Office for National Statistics' preferred measure of CPIH which includes owner-occupied housing was 0.5% y/y.

In the three months to July, labour market data showed the unemployment rate increased from 3.9% to 4.1% while wages fell 1% for total pay in nominal terms (0.2% regular pay) and was down 1.8% in real terms (-0.7% regular pay). Despite

only a modest rise in unemployment over the period, the rate is expected to pick up sharply in the coming months as the furlough scheme ends in October. On the back of this, the BoE has forecast unemployment could hit a peak of between 8% and 9%.

The US economy contracted at an annualised rate of 31.7% in Q2 2020 (Apr-Jun). The Federal Reserve maintained the Fed Funds rate at between 0% and 0.25% but announced a change to its inflation targeting regime. The move is to a more flexible form of average targeting which will allow the central bank to maintain interest rates at low levels for an extended period to support the economy even when inflation is 'moderately' above the 2% average target, particularly given it has been below target for most of the last decade.

The European Central Bank maintained its base rate at 0% and deposit rate at -0.5%.

Financial markets: Equity markets continued their recovery, with the Dow Jones climbing to not far off its pre-crisis peak, albeit that performance being driven by a handful of technology stocks including Apple and Microsoft, with the former up 75% in 2020. The FTSE 100 and 250 have made up around half of their losses at the height of the pandemic in March. Central bank and government stimulus packages continue to support asset prices, but volatility remains.

Ultra-low interest rates and the flight to quality continued, keeping gilts yields low but volatile over the period with the yield on some short-dated UK government bonds remaining negative. The 5-year UK benchmark gilt yield started and ended the June–September period at -0.06% (with much volatility in between). The 10-year gilt yield also bounced around, starting at 0.21% and ending at 0.23% over the same period, while the 20-year rose from 0.56% to 0.74%. 1-month, 3-month and 12-month bid rates averaged 0.02%, 0.06% and 0.23% respectively over the period.

At the end of September, the yield on 2-year US treasuries was around 0.13% while that on 10-year treasuries was 0.69%. German bund yields remain negative across most maturities.

Credit review: Credit default swap spreads eased over most of the period but then started to tick up again through September. In the UK, the spreads between ringfenced and non-ringfenced entities remains, except for retail bank Santander

UK whose CDS spread remained elevated and the highest of those we monitor at 85bps, while Standard Chartered was the lowest at 41bps. The ring-fenced banks are currently trading between 45 and 50bps.

After a busy second quarter of the calendar year, the subsequent period has been relatively quiet for credit changes for the names on our counterparty list. Fitch assigned a AA- deposit rating to Netherlands lender Rabobank with a negative outlook and prior to that, while not related to our counterparty list but quite significant, revised the outlook on the US economy to Negative from Stable while also affirming its AAA rating.

There continues to remain much uncertainty around the extent of the losses banks and building societies will suffer due to the impact from the coronavirus pandemic and for the UK institutions on our list there is the added complication of the end of the Brexit transition period on 31st December and what a trade deal may or may not look like. The institutions on Arlingclose's counterparty list and recommended duration remain under constant review, but at the end of the period no changes had been made to the names on the list or the recommended maximum duration of 35 days.

Outlook for the remainder of 2020/21

The medium-term global economic outlook is weak. While the strict initial lockdown restrictions have eased, coronavirus has not been suppressed and second waves have prompted more restrictive measures on a regional and national basis. This ebb and flow of restrictions on normal activity will continue for the foreseeable future, at least until an effective vaccine is produced and importantly, distributed.

The global central bank and government responses have been significant and are in many cases on-going, maintaining more stable financial, economic and social conditions than otherwise. This has supported a sizeable economic recovery in Q3.

However, the scale of the economic shock to demand, on-going social distancing measures, regional lock downs and reduced fiscal support will mean that the subsequent pace of recovery is limited. Early signs of this are already evident in UK monthly GDP and PMI data, even before the latest restrictions.

This situation will result in central banks maintaining low interest rates for the medium term. In the UK, Brexit is a further complication. Bank Rate is therefore likely to remain at low levels for a very long time, with a distinct possibility of being cut to zero. Money markets have priced in a chance of negative Bank Rate.

Longer-term yields will also remain depressed, anchored by low central bank policy rates, expectations for potentially even lower rates and insipid inflation expectations. There is a chance yields may follow a slightly different path in the medium term, depending on investor perceptions of growth and inflation, or if the UK leaves the EU without a deal.

Arlingclose expects Bank Rate to remain at the current 0.10% level and additional monetary loosening in the future most likely through further financial asset purchases (QE). While Arlingclose's central case for Bank Rate is no change from the current level of 0.1%, further cuts to Bank Rate to zero or even into negative territory cannot be completely ruled out.

Gilt yields are expected to remain very low in the medium term. Shorter-term gilt yields are currently negative and will remain around zero or below until either the Bank of England expressly rules out negative Bank Rate or growth/inflation prospects improve.

Downside risks remain in the near term, as the government dials down its fiscal support measures, reacts to the risk of a further escalation in infection rates and the Brexit transition period comes to an end.

	Dec 20	Mar 21	Jun 21	Sept 21	Dec 21	Mar 22	Jun 22	Sept 22	Dec 22	Mar 23	Jun 23	Sept 23	Dec 23
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Upside Risk (%)	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.15	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30	0.30
Interest Rate (%)	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
Downside Risk (%)	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50	0.50

4.00 BORROWING REQUIREMENTS AND DEBT MANAGEMENT

4.01 PWLB (Public Works Loans Board) Certainty Rate Update.

The Authority submitted its application to WG along with the 2020-21 Capital Estimates Return to access this reduced rate for a further 12 months from 1st November 2020.

4.02 The total long term borrowing outstanding totals £280.9 million.

4.03 Loans with the Public Works Loans Board are in the form of fixed rate (£256.57m). £18.95m is variable in the form of Lobo's (Lender's Option, Borrower's Option) and £5.38m are interest free loans from government. The Council's average long term borrowing rate is currently 4.70%.

	Balance 01/04/2020 £m	Debt Maturing £m	New Debt £m	Balance 30/09/2020 £m
Long Term Borrowing	286.11	(10.59)	0.00	275.52
Government Loans	5.17	(0.25)	0.46	5.38
TOTAL BORROWING	291.28	(10.84)	0.46	280.9
Other Long Term Liabilities *	4.48	0.00	0.00	4.48
TOTAL EXTERNAL DEBT	295.76	(10.84)	0.46	285.38
Increase/ (Decrease) in Borrowing £m				(10.38)

* relates to finance leases in respect of Deeside Leisure Centre and Jade Jones Pavilion

4.04 No new long term borrowing has been undertaken so far during 2020/21.

Affordability (interest costs charged on new loans) and the "cost of carry" (costs associated with new long term loans) remain important influences on the Council's

borrowing strategy alongside the consideration that, for any borrowing undertaken ahead of need, the proceeds would have to be invested in the money markets at rates of interest significantly lower than the cost of long term borrowing.

4.05 Internal Borrowing and Short Term Borrowing

Given the significant cuts to local government funding putting pressure on Council finances, the borrowing strategy is to minimise debt interest payments without compromising the longer-term stability of the portfolio. With short-term interest rates currently lower than long-term rates, it has been more cost effective in the short-term to use internal resources, and to borrow short-term instead.

The differential between the cost of new longer-term debt and the return generated on the Council's temporary investment returns was significant at around 1.35%.

The use of internal resources in lieu of borrowing has therefore continued to be used over the period as the most cost effective means of funding capital expenditure. This has lowered overall treasury risk by reducing both external debt and temporary investments.

Short term borrowing was undertaken as necessary. The total short term borrowing as at 30th September 2020 was £30m with an average rate of 0.47%.

The Council's capital expenditure plans will continue to be monitored throughout 2020/21 to inform and assess the Council's long term borrowing need. This is to ensure that the Council does not commit to long term borrowing too early and refinance unnecessarily which will be costly and have significant revenue implications. The continued use of short-term borrowing will assist with such. This will be balanced against securing low long term interest rates currently being forecast and assessing the affordability of long-term borrowing in the short term against the savings made over the life of the loan.

4.06 Lender's Option Borrower's Option Loans (LOBOs)

The Authority holds £18.95m of LOBO (Lender's Option Borrower's Option) loans where the lender has the option to propose an increase in the interest rate at set dates, following which the Authority has the option to either accept the new rate or to repay the loan at no additional cost. The option to change the terms on £18.95m of the Council's LOBOs was not exercised by the lender. The Authority acknowledges there is an element of refinancing risk even though in the current interest rate environment lenders are unlikely to exercise their options.

4.07 Debt Rescheduling

The premium charge for early repayment of PWLB debt remained relatively expensive for the loans in the Authority's portfolio and therefore unattractive for debt rescheduling activity. No rescheduling activity was undertaken as a consequence.

The Corporate Finance Manager, in conjunction with the Council's treasury advisors will continue to review any potential opportunities for restructuring the Council's debt in order to take advantage of potential savings as interest rates change and to enhance the balance of the long term portfolio (amend the maturity profile and/or the balance of volatility).

4.08 Borrowing Update

On 9th October 2019 the PWLB raised the cost of certainty rate borrowing to 1.8% above UK gilt yields making it relatively expensive. Market alternatives are available, however the financial strength of individual authorities will be scrutinised by investors and commercial lenders.

The Chancellor's March 2020 Budget statement included significant changes to Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) policy and launched a wide-ranging consultation on the PWLB's future direction. Announcements included a reduction in the margin on new Housing Revenue Account (HRA) loans to 0.80% above equivalent gilt yields – the value of this discount is 1% below the rate at which the authority usually borrows from the PWLB). £1.15bn of additional "infrastructure rate" funding at gilt yields plus 0.60% has been made available to support specific local authority infrastructure projects for England, Scotland and Wales for which there is a bidding process.

The consultation titled "Future Lending Terms" allows stakeholders to contribute to developing a system whereby PWLB loans can be made available at improved margins to support qualifying projects. It contains proposals to allow authorities that are not involved in "debt for yield" activity to borrow at lower rates as well as stopping local authorities using PWLB loans to buy commercial assets primarily for yield. The consultation also broaches the possibility of slowing, or stopping, individual authorities from borrowing large sums in specific circumstances.

The Council responded to the consultation which closed on 31st July 2020. The announcement and implementation of the revised lending terms is expected in the latter part of this calendar year or early next year.

5.0 INTERIM INVESTMENT AND PERFORMANCE REPORT

- 5.01 The Welsh Government's Investment Guidance gives priority to security and liquidity and the Authority's aim is to achieve a yield commensurate with these principles.

On 25th September the overnight, 1- and 2-week deposit rates on Debt Management Account Deposit Facility (DMADF) deposits dropped below zero percent to -0.03%, the rate was 0% for 3-week deposits and 0.01% for longer maturities.

In order to avoid the cost of negative interest rates the Council withdrew £10m from Money Market Funds (MMFs) to invest with the DMADF for 1 month. Shorter-term investments can now be made in MMFs where they still attract positive rates of interest.

The return on MMFs net of fees also fell over the six months and for many funds net returns range between 0% and 0.1%. In many instances, the fund management companies have temporarily lowered or waived fees to maintain a positive net return.

- 5.02 The maximum investments the Authority had on deposit at any one time totalled £80.5m. The average investment balance for the period was £43.5m and the average rate of return was 0.05%, generating investment income of £11k.
- 5.03 Up to 30th September, investments were made in the Debt Management Office Deposit Account and Money Market Funds
- 5.04 The average of long and short-term borrowing was £319.7m generating interest payable of £6.786m, in line with budget forecasts to date.

	Investments		Borrowing	
	Interest received £'000	Interest rate %	Interest paid £'000	Interest rate %
2020/21 Apr-Sept	10.9	0.05	6,786	4.29
2019/20 Apr-Sept	88.9	0.67	6,496	4.34
Difference	(78.0)		290	

Year-end projections are as follows:

	Investments		Borrowing	
	Interest received £'000	Interest rate %	Interest paid £'000	Interest rate %
2020/21 estimate	19.9	0.05	13,559	4.17
2019/20 actual	159.2	0.63	13,387	4.03
Difference	(139.3)		171	

5.05 Credit Risk (security)

Counterparty credit quality was assessed and monitored with reference to credit ratings (the Authority's minimum long-term counterparty rating for institutions defined as having "high credit quality" is A- across rating agencies Fitch, S&P and Moody's); credit default swap prices, financial statements, information on potential government support and reports in the quality financial press.

5.06 Liquidity

In keeping with the WG's Guidance on Investments, the Council maintained a sufficient level of liquidity through the use of Money Market Funds.

5.07 Yield

The Council sought to optimise returns commensurate with its objectives of security and liquidity. The Council's investment yield is outlined in 5.02.

6.00 REGULATORY UPDATES

6.01 **IFRS 16:** The implementation of the new IFRS 16 Leases accounting standard has been delayed until 2021/22.

7.00 COMPLIANCE

7.01 The Council can confirm that it has complied with its Prudential Indicators for the period April to September 2020. These were approved on 18th February 2020 as part of the Council's 2020/21 Treasury Management Strategy.

7.02 In compliance with the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice this report provides members with a summary report of the treasury management activity during the period April – September 2020. None of the Prudential Indicators have been breached and a prudent approach has been taken in relation to investment activity with priority being given to security and liquidity over yield.

8.00 OTHER ITEMS

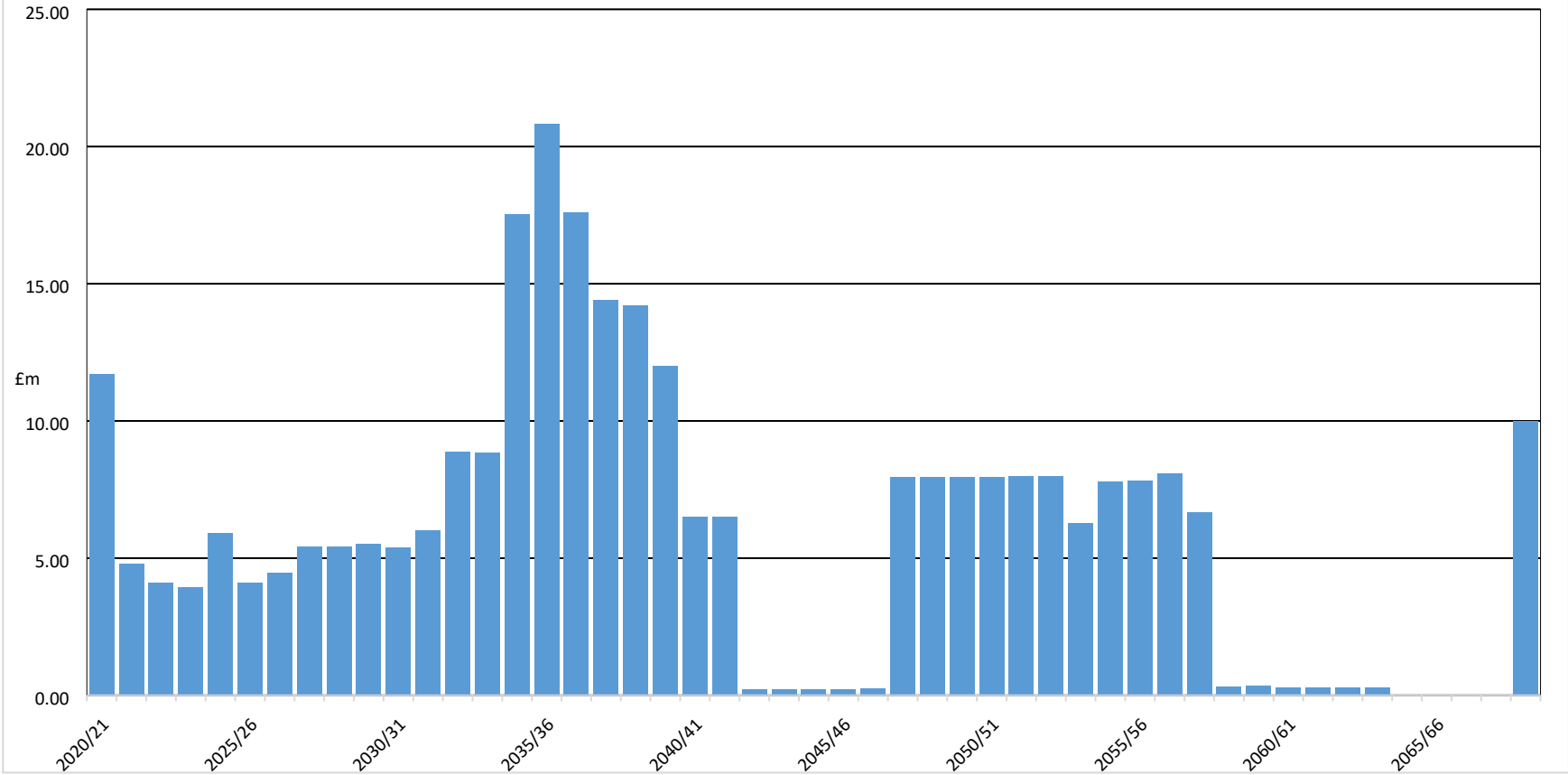
8.01 Other treasury management related activity that took place during April – September 2020 includes:

- The Treasury Management Annual Report 2019/20 was reported to Audit Committee on 23rd July 2020, Cabinet on 8^h September 2020 and to Council on 20th October 2020.
- The Quarter 1 Treasury Management update was reported to the Audit Committee.

9.00 CONCLUSION

- 9.01 In compliance with the requirements of the CIPFA Code of Practice this report provides members with a summary report of the treasury management activity during the first half of 2020/21.
- 9.02 As indicated in this report none of the Prudential Indicators have been breached and a prudent approach has been taken in relation to investment activity with priority being given to security and liquidity over yield.

Debt Maturity Profile - October 2020



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CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 15 th December 2020
Report Subject	Families First – Funding Element
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Report Author	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Flintshire Integrated Youth Provision (FIYP) seeks approval to extend existing Families First funded prevention and support services for up to 12 months, subject to the Welsh Government approving further funding. This will enable:

1. Ongoing provision of key services for Flintshire parents, young people and families with disabled children that benefit most from early support to build resilience and well-being;
2. Effective operation of the Early Help Hub (EHH); and
3. Work with partners to evaluate, develop and commission prevention and support services for Flintshire children, young people and families.

Since 2011, the Welsh Government flagship programme for building resilience and well-being amongst young people and families that benefit most from early support is Families First. The Families First Management Board commissioned three consortia to provide services from 2018/19. This included embedding the consortia within the Early Help Hub to support delivery of Council statutory duties.

Since 2019/20, Families First is funded through the Children and Communities Grant (CCG). The CCG brings together seven early and targeted support programmes. Council aims were to evaluate, develop and commission more integrated and streamlined prevention and support services involving all these programmes for 2021/22. The pandemic response has delayed this.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	For Cabinet Members to approve an extension subject to the Welsh Government approving further funding for a period of 6 months, with the option of a further 6 months if required.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	DEVELOPMENT OF FAMILIES FIRST
1.01	Families First, launched in July 2011, was a flagship programme for implementing the Welsh Government's Child Poverty Strategy for Wales (2011). Flintshire County Council, along with Wrexham and Denbighshire, were pioneer local authorities for the new programme.
1.02	<p>Unlike other local authorities in North Wales, the lead officer established a multiagency Families First Management Board (FFMB) to oversee local delivery, with representatives from varied statutory and voluntary sector partners. The FFMB agreed a Families First Action Plan 2012/13 - 2016/17, which the Welsh Government approved. Key areas of focus were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Early identification and engagement of families at more risk of escalating problems; 2. More 'whole-family' approaches to work with young people and families with multiple needs; and 3. Embedding inclusive practices across early support and prevention services for families with children with disabilities and for families preferring support in the Welsh language or language of choice. <p>In implementing the Action Plan, a Team Around the Family service was established and managed by the lead officer for Families First. In all 11 projects were developed and procured.</p>
1.03	<p>The strategic context for prevention and early support for young people and families in Wales has radically changed since 2011. For example:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Legislative reforms such as the Well-being of Future Generations Act 2016 and Social Services and Well-being Act 2014; and 2. Policy changes such as the introduction of the Healthy Child programme and the 30-hour free early years entitlement for working parents of children aged 3 and 4 years. <p>As a result, from 2017/18 the Welsh Government repositioned Families First to focus more explicitly on targeting prevention and early support to parents, young people and families with disabled children at more risk of entrenched disadvantage. For example, those affected by adverse childhood experiences (ACEs).</p>
1.04	The FFMB commissioned three consortia to provide a diverse suite of early support and targeted services from 2018/19 (see 5.01). Each

	<p>consortia comprises 5-8 statutory and voluntary sector partners as part of an integrated and holistic approach to building resilience and well-being for young people and families that benefit most from early support:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parenting consortia led by Y Teulu Cyfan 2. Young People's consortia led by Action for Children 3. Disability consortia led by Action for Children <p>The FFMB also embedded the consortia within the EHH to support Council delivery of statutory duties to provide information, advice and assistance for families requiring support to avoid problem escalation (see 5.01, 6.01).</p>
1.05	<p>Throughout the pandemic, the consortia have directly supported 200 young people, 368 parents and 501 families with children with disabilities (Q1-2, 2020/21). Key outcomes include:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. 95% of individuals report improved family relationships (282 of 296) 2. 92% of participants report improved emotional/mental well-being (204 of 222) 3. 89% of families report improved family resilience (250 of 282).
1.06	<p>Since 2019/20, the Welsh Government has funded Families First through the CCG. The CCG brings together seven early and targeted support programmes/funds (see 6.02). The Council established single, integrated governance arrangements to oversee these programmes/funds and other related programmes.</p> <p>The Council aims were to evaluate, develop and commission more integrated and streamlined prevention and support services from April 2021. For example, bringing together elements from multiple programmes into a single service specification. Work had started on this. However, the focus on responding to the pandemic has delayed its conclusion.</p> <p>Without this new specification and an associated procurement process, the contracts for the three consortia would end on 31 March 2021.</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	<p>The Council has specified in all contracts for services and roles funded through the Families First programme that any continuation depends wholly on Welsh Government funding and good performance. In this way, the Council is indemnified from any changes the Welsh Government may make.</p> <p>Welsh Government CCG funding of £1,181,000 funds the three consortia in 2020/21. The current contracts conclude on 31/3/21, after 3 years. This request is for an extension, subject to further funding being approved, for a period of up to 12 months (i.e. 6 months with an option of a further 6 months should this be required).</p> <p>There are no capital / technology/ asset implications.</p>

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	<p>Key risks relate to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Section 17 of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 places a duty on local authorities to secure the provision of an information, advice and assistance service. The FFMB redeveloped Families First funded provision to enable the Council to meet this duty. This includes the co-location of Families First consortia within the Early Help Hub (see 6.01). 2. Loss of expertise in support for young people and families at risk of problem escalation, at the same time as growing risks of problem escalation arising from the pandemic and wider economic and financial uncertainties (see 6.04). 3. The Education and Youth (EY) Portfolio Risk Register 2020/21 records the following risk: EY05: Insufficient financial resources to support children and young people's emotional health.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	The Flintshire Prevention and Support Leadership Operational Group which oversees the CCG and related prevention and support programmes supports the extension of the existing contracts for Families First consortia.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	https://committeemeetings.flintshire.gov.uk/documents/s500001169/Appendix%201%20-%20The%20story%20of%20the%20Early%20Help%20Hub%20so%20far.pdf?LLL=0 (Cabinet Committee appendix report explaining context for, and development of the EHH including co-location of Families First services. See pages 15-17 for details of Families First services within each consortia)
5.02	https://www.dailypost.co.uk/news/local-news/flintshire-named-families-first-pioneer-2751941 (media article about Flintshire selection as a Families First pioneer in Wales)
5.03	https://www.leaderlive.co.uk/news/16286764.flintshire-ground-breaking-new-early-help-hub-support-families/ (media article about establishment of EHH)

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	https://law.gov.wales/publicservices/social-care/Local-authority-responsibilities/general-and-strategic-duties/information-advice-and-assistance/?tab=overview&lang=en#/publicservices/social-care/Local-authority-responsibilities/general-and-strategic-duties/information-advice-and-assistance/?tab=overview&lang=en (details about the Social Services and Well-being Act 2014 related to section 17).
6.02	https://gov.wales/sites/default/files/statistics-and-research/2019-02/revenue-account-budget-2019-20-grants-notes.pdf (details of CCG)
6.03	https://phw.nhs.wales/services-and-teams/policy-and-international-health-who-collaborating-centre-on-investment-for-health-well-being/publications-and-resources-bucket/adverse-childhood-experiences-and-their-association-with-chronic-disease-1/ (ACEs study, Public Health Wales 2016)
6.04	https://phw.nhs.wales/topics/latest-information-on-novel-coronavirus-covid-19/traumatic-stress/ (growing mental health needs associated with COVID-19) and https://www.pwc.co.uk/premium/covid-19/uk-economic-update-covid-19.pdf (increasing economic uncertainty in UK).

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Ann Roberts, Senior Manager, Integrated Youth Provision Telephone: 077 9889 3509 E-mail: ann.roberts@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p>30-hour free early years entitlement: Introduced from September 2017, the entitlement provides 30-hours free childcare per week for working parents with children aged three and four years for 48 weeks of the year. The entitlement is set out in Taking Wales Forward 2016- 2021.</p> <p>Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs): Public Health Wales published a large-scale research study about the extent to which, and the long-term effects on, Welsh adults who were exposed to adverse experiences in childhood. See 6.03.</p> <p>Children and Communities Grant: Welsh Government grant to address the support needs of the most vulnerable children and adults in communities through a range of early intervention, prevention and support mechanisms. The CCG seeks to mitigate or remove disadvantage to vulnerable people to enable them to have the same life chances as others, and therefore contribute to a more equal Wales. The CCG comprises the following grants: Flying Start, Families First, Legacy Fund, Promoting Positive Engagement for Young People, St David's Day Fund, Communities for Work Plus, Childcare and Play.</p>

Families First Action Plan: sets out key objectives with plans for local services and service transformation aligned with Families First priorities. In the first instance, the multiagency boards that have provided oversight of the local Families First programme agree these plans. The Council then agrees the plans with the Welsh Government.

Flintshire Families First Management Board: a multiagency, multidisciplinary board that oversaw local implementation of the Families First programme from 2012/13 to 2018/19. The board included representatives from the Council, Flintshire Local Voluntary Council, Public Health Wales and BCUHB. The board's work is integrated into the work of the Flintshire Prevention and Support Leadership Operational Group.

Flintshire Prevention and Support Leadership Operational Group (LOG): a multiagency, multidisciplinary board that oversees local implementation of the CCG and other prevention and support programmes/funds. This includes the Housing Support Grant and the Youth Support Grant. The LOG reports to a Prevention and Support Chief Officer's Group.

Healthy Child Programme: delivered by health visitors for the early life stages, all families have a programme of screening, immunisation, health and development reviews, supplemented by advice around health, well-being and parenting. The programme includes universal home visiting and support for families that starts in the ante-natal period.

Social Services and Wellbeing Act (2014) that took effect from April 2016 creates a new legal system for social services in Wales. The Act aims to shift the balance away from long term care and support, wherever possible, to families and local communities. It demands a change in culture when working with the individual to help them achieve their well-being outcomes. Firstly, by asking "what matters to you?" and secondly by maximising their own support networks and accessing community and voluntary resources.

Team Around the Family: a team that works alongside families with multiple needs to assess their needs, determine what matters to families and develop and agree a plan to address those needs and build resilience and well-being.

Targeted provision: provision for specific cohorts of young people and parents (such as young people with disabilities) and/or more vulnerable young people and families.

Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 aims to improve the social, economic, environmental and cultural well-being of Wales, whilst ensuring the health and well-being of future generations is secured, and does so through Public Services Boards. The Act establishes seven well-being goals and aspires for a society where every child grows up free from ACEs and where policy makers understand that ACEs do not arise in isolation but are associated with environments that tolerate inequalities.



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 15 th December 2020
Report Subject	Commissioning of Learning Disability (Autism) Day Service Provision
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Report Author	Chief Officer (Social Services)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Flintshire County Council currently purchase bespoke autism specific Learning Disability day services for thirteen individuals on a 'spot' purchase basis. Presently, there is no relevant framework agreement in place that covers the commissioning of equivalent services and no contractual agreement reflecting the services currently purchased.

The current service provider has indicated that the present 'spot' purchasing arrangement requires replacing with a more formal contractual agreement to enable future service continuity.

An Exceptions Report seeking a direct award for the services currently purchased was submitted in September 2020. The rationale was based primarily on the need to ensure continued service continuity for the individuals who currently attend the day services.

Advice received from the Procurement Team indicated that there were grounds within the Public Contract Regulations 2015 for a short-term direct award not for a long-term direct award. Due to the estimated annual cost of services, sanction of any longer-term direct award requires a Cabinet decision.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	This report seeks approval for the direct award of a contract to the present service provider for the Community and Voluntary Services (CVS) as detailed and referred to in this report.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE COMMISSIONING OF LEARNING DISABILITY (AUTISM) DAY SERVICE PROVISION
1.01	The local authority presently purchases some of its day service support within Learning Disabilities on a 'spot purchase' basis. There are regional agreements in place for the procurement of domiciliary support (North Wales Domiciliary Care (Framework) Agreement) and Supported Living provision (North Wales Supported Living Framework) within Learning Disabilities. However, no equivalent agreement exists for the purchase of Learning Disability day service provision.
1.02	Although a significant proportion of Learning Disability day service provision is accessed within the local authority area, some degree of bespoke, specialist autism day service provision is accessed via a provider based outside of the local authority catchment area.
1.03	As of March 2020, there were 14 individuals accessing an autism specific day service provider offering Community and Voluntary Services (CVS). 13 of these support packages were purchased on a 'spot' basis and one was purchased as a Direct Payment.
1.04	During the period in which the CVS services were closed due to the national lockdown, the service provider approached the local authority with a request for an uplift in fees for the provision purchased. Subsequent dialogue with the service provider has also indicated that to ensure continued service sustainability in the future, the 'spot purchasing' arrangement would need to be replaced with a formal contractual agreement.
1.05	As restrictions were subsequently eased following the initial lockdown in March 2020, some of the individuals who attended the services prior to lockdown have since started to re-attend. This is subject to continuing and fluctuating rules according to both regional and national lockdown regulations.
1.06	An Exceptions Report was submitted to the Procurement department on 22/09/2020. This sought an exception from the requirement to tender and proposed a Direct Award to the service provider for the services currently 'spot' purchased and the implementation of a formal contractual agreement to reflect the services purchased.

1.07	The criteria as relevant to the local authority Contract Procedure Rules for seeking exception from a tender process were twofold. Firstly, urgency brought about by events unforeseeable by the local authority (the Covid-19 pandemic) and in accordance with the conditions stated in the Public Contract Regulations (2015).
1.08	Secondly, that a tender process could result in detriment to the welfare and undermine the attainment of successful outcomes for the individuals that access the day services. Dialogue with involved professionals has indicated that the services accessed are successful in achieving identified outcomes for the individuals who attend and that there is a notable lack of accessible, equivalent bespoke provision.
1.09	The procurement recommendation was that Regulation 32 of the Public Contract Regulations (2015) could be utilised for a short-term direct award but would not be applicable for a longer term open ended arrangement. The response also stated that due to the potential estimated annual value (£458,120), if a longer-term direct award was to be approved, that this would require either a delegated or Cabinet decision.
1.10	The structure of the proposed contractual arrangement with the service provider will enable individuals who attend to be subject to terms and conditions of Individual Placement Agreements (IPA). This will allow for some degree of flexibility of service delivery levels purchased by the local authority and does not commit to the block purchase of a pre-set volume of service delivery for the duration of the contract.
1.11	Several of the individuals who currently access the services live with family members. Whilst the costs of the services accessed are significant, it is likely that if lack of access to the services necessitated breakdown of their living arrangements, then the costs of sourcing autism specific Supported Living or residential provision could significantly outweigh the spend on the day services currently accessed.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The funding for the services currently purchased is met via the Social Services budget with a 50% contribution from the Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board for one of the support packages.
2.02	The weekly costs for the thirteen 'spot' purchased support packages purchased at rates paid when the day services were originally closed due to the lockdown related to the Covid-19 pandemic were £7,614.97. This equated to an approximate annual cost of £395,978.44.
2.03	The provider indicated that they required a significant inflationary uplift for the support packages currently purchased by the local authority. This equated to an uplift of 15.69% and weekly and annual costs of £8,810 and £458,120 respectively. This represents an annual increase in cost of £62,141.56.

2.04	The potential increase in cost stated is predicated on no change to the service levels for the individuals that access the day services according to the service levels indicated as of March 2020.
2.05	Another placing local authority has undertaken an open book accounting exercise with the service provider to ascertain and agree sustainable and competitive costs for the service provision. These costs are the rates requested by the service provider and have been agreed to be adopted by Flintshire County Council.
2.06	The proposed contract structure for the day service provision moving forward will not guarantee any minimum level of service provision for the duration of the contract. It is anticipated that service delivery will be reflective of service levels according to an Individual Placement Agreement which will be subject to the terms and conditions of any overarching contract.
2.07	There are no significant staffing resources for the potential change from spot-purchasing services to the implementation of a contractual agreement. The provider possesses pre-existing resources to enable the support subject to potential contract to be delivered successfully and to continue to achieve desired outcomes for individuals attending the day services.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	There are three principal risks relating to the commissioning of the bespoke autism services. These relate to the complex support needs of the individuals who access the service and also financial and reputational factors associated with commissioning the services.
3.02	The current service provider has indicated that service continuity is at risk without the implementation of a contractual agreement. There is a lack of local equivalent bespoke provision. Potentially the cohort of individuals who currently access the service could be left without access to the specialist services that enhance their wellbeing and enable achievement of outcomes.
3.03	The lack of a contractual agreement could result in reputational damage to the local authority if this was to result in the cessation of service provision for the cohort of individuals who presently access the services.
3.04	Loss of access to the services would place significant additional pressure on the individuals' other support networks (family and Supported Living settings) compounding pre-existing Covid-19 related stressors.
3.05	There is a financial risk associated with the potential breakdown of individuals' pre-existing support networks. It is likely that prospective alternative support arrangements such as bespoke residential placements may cost considerably in excess of the pre-existing day support arrangements.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	There has been dialogue between managers within the Social Services commissioning function and the current service provider to ensure sustainability of service delivery (where feasible according to local and national Covid-19 related restrictions) since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic.
4.02	A collaborative approach has been undertaken with the host local authority to ensure that any rates agreed subject to any future contract are fair, competitive and represent value for money.
4.03	Engagement was sought via other stakeholders (associated Social Services professionals) to ascertain the suitability of the current support arrangements.
4.04	Elements considered related to the extent to which access to the current services promoted achievement of outcomes and wellbeing, availability or lack of equivalent bespoke provision and the sustainability of individuals' other support networks.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Dawn Holt, Commissioning Manager Telephone: 01352 702128 E-mail: dawn.holt@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
	<p>Autism: Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) usually referred to as autism, a lifelong developmental disability affecting how individuals communicate and interact. Autistic individuals may experience difficulties in social communication.</p> <p>Commissioning of services: The development of service provision that includes the specifying of requirements and procurement of organisations other than the Council to deliver services.</p>

Contract Procedure Rules: Rules and procedures that ensure that contracts are awarded based on open and transparent competition.

Community and Vocational Services: Day service provision that offers people with autism meaningful, realistic and achievable training, work experience and valuable life skills.

Direct Award: Occurs when a contract is awarded to a contractor without a competitive tender process.

Direct Payment: Payments made by a local authority social services department to an individual who has been assessed as having care and support needs who wish to arrange their own care and support services

Exceptions Report: Report to be completed by relevant commissioning service or department seeking an exception from the requirement to tender.

Framework Agreement: An agreement between one or more contracting authorities and one or more economic operators, the purpose of which is to establish the terms governing contracts to be awarded during a given period, in particular with regard to price and, where appropriate, the quantity envisaged.

Individual Placement Agreement: An agreement whereby the local authority agrees to purchase and the service provider agrees to provide specified services in the document to a named individual.

North Wales Domiciliary Care (Framework) Agreement: Denbighshire County Council has led on a procurement exercise (tender) to establish a North Wales Domiciliary Care Framework Agreement for adult services on behalf of the six local authority partners and BCUHB. The Agreement replaced the existing regional contractual agreements, which did not meet the requirements of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the Regulation of Inspection for Social Care Act 2016. This Agreement was approved by all partners (27.02.2018) and came into effect on the 1st April 2018.

North Wales Supported Living Framework: Denbighshire County Council has led on a procurement exercise (tender) to establish a North Wales Supported Living Framework on behalf of the six local authority partners and BCUHB. The Framework builds on from the North Wales Domiciliary Care Framework Agreement. This Agreement was approved by Denbighshire County Council Cabinet on the 18.02.2020 on behalf of all partners and came into effect on the 1st April 2018.

Public Contracts Regulations 2015: Regulations relating to the procurement of supplies, services and works for the public sector.

Public Contracts Regulations 2015 - Regulation 32: Details the specific cases and circumstances contracting authorities may award public contracts by a negotiated procedure without prior publication.

Residential Care: Care and support provided to adults or children who stay in a residential setting rather than in their own home or family home.

Supported Living: Housing and support that is built around a person, allowing them to choose where they live, with whom and how they are supported.

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CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 15 th December 2020
Report Subject	Joint Corporate Procurement Unit Annual Report 2019/20 Annual Report 2019/20
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Report Author	Chief Officer (Governance)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council has a joint procurement service with Denbighshire County Council, which acts as the host authority. The joint service has been in place since 2014 and Cabinet agreed to renew the Service Level Agreement (SLA) for that service with Denbighshire in 2018.

The service produces an annual report on activity and performance against targets which are derived from the Procurement Strategy. The second annual report is attached. In summary, it shows a small improvement against most key performance indicators, a positive trend which can be amplified and accelerated.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Cabinet notes the annual performance report, and endorses the proposed actions to improve performance (where required).
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE JOINT CORPORATE PROCUREMENT UNIT ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20
1.01	The Council entered into a shared service arrangement in 2014 with Denbighshire County Council (“DCC”) for the delivery of procurement advice. DCC is the host body and employs the team who deliver the service. The arrangement lasts until 2021.
1.02	There is a Service Level Agreement (“SLA”) governing how the service is delivered. That SLA established a Procurement Joint Management Board (“PJMB”) consisting of senior officers and the Cabinet Member from each Council. The PJMB holds the service to account, monitors performance and resolves issues relating to the delivery of the service.
1.03	The SLA also requires the service to report annually on its performance and the Councils’ achievement of their aims in the Procurement Strategy. The report for 2019/2020 is attached.
1.04	The report covers all aspects of the service such as budget and structure, as well as performance against its Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). The service is operating within budget.
1.05	The full performance tables are at Appendix 3 of the Annual Report, with the main indicators below compared to last year’s performance.

Outcome 1 - The Council achieves value for money from the goods, works and services it procures

	PI No	DESCRIPTION	18-19	19-20
	CPS2	Number of Procurement Challenges	0%	0%
	CPS3	% of contracts delivering anticipated savings	17/38 44.71%	20/44 45.45%
	CPS 4	% of Procurements AWARDED collaboratively	6/38 15.79%	3/44 6.82%

Outcome 2 - The Council improves the contribution its procurement activity has on the local economy

	PI No	DESCRIPTION	18-19	19-20
	CPS5	% of spend with suppliers based within Mersey Dee Alliance	33.75%	33.25%
	CPS6	% of spend with suppliers based within Wales	49.25%	51%

	CPS9	% of spend with suppliers based within Flintshire	25.75%	25.5%
	CPS7b	% of Flintshire contracts between £25,000 and £1,000,000 containing Community Benefits	17/36 47.22%	20/34 58.82%
1.06	The use of framework contracts, which can be a quick and cost effective procurement solution, means that a fresh procurement exercise does not need to be undertaken. This therefore impacts on the number of collaborative procurement exercises though other causes include differing contract specifications and divergent timelines.			
1.07	The proportion of contracts above £25,000 (but less than £1m) in value containing community benefit clauses dropped towards the end of 18/19. As predicted following the approval of the social value strategy by Cabinet in March last year, that proportion has seen a small increase as understanding of how to apply the new policy increases. Initial teething problems in how to implement social value assessment on the Proactis procurement software were encountered. These were not resolved until after the period of this report so it is hoped that the proportion of contract including social value will grow more quickly.			

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The SLA states that the Council's 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%.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	The PJMB meets quarterly to monitor performance of the joint service. Corrective actions are reported back to and agreed at the respective management teams by officers.

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

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Procurement Service Annual Report 2019/20.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Gareth Owens, Chief Officer Governance Telephone: 01352 702344 E-mail: Gareth.legal@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	Key Performance Indicator - a type of performance measurement used to evaluate the success of an organisation or of a particular activity in which it engages.

Annual Review Collaborative Procurement Unit 2019-20

BACKGROUND

- 1 The Collaborative Procurement Unit (the “CPU”) was established on 1 July 2014. It is a collaboration between Denbighshire County Council (“DCC”) and Flintshire County Council (“FCC”). The Service Agreement for CPU between DCC and FCC ends 3 July 2021.
- 2 The structure of the CPU is set out in Appendix 1. Services provided by the CPU are set out in Appendix 2.
- 3 The CPU is part of the Legal, HR and Democratic Service at DCC, which is the host authority.
- 4 The Legal and Procurement Operations Manager manages a team of Procurement Business Partners and Procurement/Legal Support Officers whose duties are to ensure that all third party spend is commissioned and procured in accordance with each Council’s Procurement Strategy (the “Strategy”). Each Council has its own Strategy.
- 5 The annual spend data for DCC is set out below:
 - Total spend for goods services and works - £131,861,104
 - Amount of spend for Denbighshire businesses within the total spend for DCC - £43,126,045 (33%)
 - Amount of spend for third sector within the total spend for DCC - £9,168,522 (7%)
 - Amount of spend for third sector in Denbighshire within the total spend for DCC - £2,606,022 (6%)
6. The annual spend data for FCC is set out below
 - Total spend for goods services and works – £197,714,082
 - Amount of spend for Flintshire businesses within the total spend for FCC - £51,090,377 (26%)
 - Amount of spend for third sector within the total spend for FCC - £12,536,784 (6%)
 - Amount of spend for third sector in Flintshire within the total spend for FCC - £2,677,401 (5%).

PROCUREMENT STRATEGY

- 7 The Strategy was approved by each Council in 2016 to:
- a) Have a clear approach as to how each Council undertakes its procurement activities and
 - b) Adopt the principles of the Welsh Procurement Policy Statement and obligations placed upon it by the Future Generations Act, the Social Services and Well Being Act and Procurement Legislation.
- 8 The general principles contained within the Strategy are:
- a) An integrated procurement strategy setting out the vision and objectives in relation to all third party delivered goods, services and works.
 - b) A 'one-council' approach recognising the importance of the CPU working in partnership with Services throughout the Council.
 - c) ensuring due compliance and consideration of the Public Contracts Regulations, Welsh Government Procurement Policy, the Council's Contract Procedure Rules, and other associated legislative requirements.
 - d) Considers how the Council can actively improve the economic, social, environmental and cultural wellbeing of the local area in accordance with the sustainable development principles
- 9 FCC updated its Procurement Strategy in October 2019 to reflect changes arising from the adoption of the Ethical Code of Employment, the UK leaving the EU and the Carbon Neutral agenda. KPIs were also updated to reflect the changes which had been agreed in 2018 by the Joint Procurement Board.
10. DCC did not update its Strategy at the same time, and the version from 2016 is still in force.
11. The Strategies are due for review in 2021.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

12. Appendix 3 contains the yearly figures for the KPIs. The summary is as follows:

KPI	Trend compared with 2018-2019
Number of procurement challenges	Stable -none
% of contracts delivering savings	Increase
% of contracts awarded collaboratively	Stable
Number of potential collaborative procurements	Decrease
% of spend with suppliers based within Mersey Dee Alliance	Stable

% of spend with suppliers based within Wales	Stable
% of spend with suppliers based within Denbighshire	Stable
% of spend with suppliers based within Flintshire	Stable
% of Flintshire contracts between £25,000 and £1,000,000 containing Community Benefits	Slight increase
% of Denbighshire contracts between £25,000 and £1,000,000 containing Community Benefits	Decrease except for quarter 4
% value of Denbighshire Contracts awarded collaboratively	Decrease
% value of Flintshire Contracts awarded collaboratively	Decrease

13. FCC approved its Social Value Strategy and related policy in April 2019. FCC appointed a Social Value Development Officer in summer 2019 and who has started to work with Services to include social value in relevant procurements.
14. DCC has now set up a Community Benefits Hub and 2 members of staff are in post, having started in March 2020. A draft policy has been produced but not yet adopted by DCC.
15. Performance in obtaining community benefits and social value is therefore expected to improve during 20/21.
16. The number of collaborative procurements is still low. It is difficult to get Services to accept the concept of collaboration and there will always be contracts that are not suitable for collaboration, such as construction contracts. Please see Appendix 4 and the following paragraph for further narrative.

PROCUREMENT ACTIVITY FOR CONTRACTS VALUED OVER £25,000 AND COLLABORATIVE PROCUREMENTS

17. Appendix 4 contains details of the collaborative procurements completed, in progress and those being discussed. It does not contain specific details about contracts awarded under the transport DPS for DCC and FCC nor call-off contracts under frameworks set up by either Council nor contracts awarded after an exception report.
15. Whilst the two Councils have agreed a collaborative approach to procurement, in practice, this has been difficult to achieve. The reason for not pursuing a collaborative procurement usually relate to different timings, different requirements or differing approaches to the procurement process. Reasons are stated in Appendix 4.

SAVINGS

16. A spreadsheet is kept recording anticipated savings expected at contract award. It also identifies projects where a tender cost exceeds the estimated budget. The top 7 of savings are set out below:

Contract Description	Estimated (Budgeted) Value	Award Value	Saving Comment	Savings Total
Provision of Assisted Garden Maintenance Service (FCC)	1,500,000	315,173	Savings listed as successful bid came in significantly under allocated budget of £1.5m. Supplier attended an interview to prove sustainability of quoted cost.	1,184,827
The Replacement of an Existing Road Culvert at Glascoed Road, St Asaph (DCC)	500,000	97,707	WG Grant 85% and DCC Capital 15%. Potential Savings as award value came in under allocated budget.	402,293
Grass Cutting Works on the Principal and Non-Principal Road Network Throughout DCC (DCC)	158,969	67,035	Overall cost of successful bid is less than the previous contract.	91,934
Fire Safety Improvement Works at Three Sites (DCC)	225,000	155,109	Savings of £69,891 listed, but in reality a reduced scheme was tendered to make sure all the works could be completed over the summer break.	69,891
Roof Refurbishment at Prestatyn High School (DCC)	230,000	181,677	Savings listed as project came in under allocated budget of £230k.	48,323
Fire Risk Improvements - Ysgol Y Faenol & Ysgol Bodfari (DCC)	155,000	111,185	Savings of £43,815 listed, but Ysgol Penmorfa was removed from this cluster and will be done on a separate project.	43,815
Pont Rhyd Y Saint Deck Replacement (DCC)	150,000	107,166	Savings listed as project came in under allocated budget of £150k.	42,834

SPEND ANALYSIS

- 17 The annual spend across Services for each Council is attached in Appendix 5.
18. There are sums which have not been allocated across Services. This is because entries have either not been coded on P2P or are coded incorrectly and cannot be assigned to a Service. These non-allocated sums are a substantial proportion of the total spend for each Council.
19. Data is processed via Atamis spend analytics software made available and fully funded by Welsh Government.

CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

20. Both Councils undertook a contract management audit in 2019 and recommendations were made to improve and increase the contract management process. Lack of contract management processes means that some procurement planning is done late requiring a rushed procurement, or some

contracts miss an expiry date and require an exception or variation form to ensure service continuity.

21. It continues to be the case that contract management is a Service responsibility, and the outcome of the audit did not change this.
22. At FCC, contract management training was undertaken by Legal Services to relevant officers. A report to the Chief Officer Team made it clear that contract management is Service responsibility and the management action plan produced to address the risks identified in the audit was considered.
23. At DCC, the outcomes of the contract management audit were to be picked up by the Corporate Support Service Review (“CSSR”). However, CSSR was put on hold during the pandemic in the current financial year, and has not yet started again. Therefore, a revised management plan is being produced for submission to the Senior Leadership Team to address the issues raised in the audit report. This will include contract management guidance for contract officers and a contract classification document linked to a risk assessment tool which will identify appropriate contract management steps to be undertaken by contract managers.
24. Procurement Business Partners were attending relevant Departmental Leadership Teams quarterly to report on contract management compliances and issues, but this has stopped whilst both Councils have officers working from home. This will start again once business as usual commences.

REGIONAL PROJECTS

27. There are some regional projects on-going mainly relating to social care and housing support projects.
28. A supported living lot has been set up under the regional domiciliary care framework and there have been a number of procurements under this lot, on a council by council basis. In addition, new suppliers have been added to the domiciliary care framework.

NATIONAL PROCUREMENT SERVICE

29. The Councils continue to consider the National Procurement Service Frameworks (£2,765,398 for FCC and £2,154,505 for DCC spend directed via NPS Frameworks in 2018/19) and will continue to procure from them where sourcing strategies evidence provision of value for money requirements against the Council’s needs. The breakdown of spend against Service area is contained in Appendix 6.
30. The NPS is continuing with a small number of frameworks but is reducing the number that it maintains. Instead, the WLGA has produced a plan for regional procurement activity, where individual councils undertake the setting up of a particular framework for use either by councils in the region or by councils

across Wales, funded by a supplier levy. Neither DCC nor FCC is undertaking any regional procurement to set up a framework for regional or national use (other than for social care). This is because of:

- a) lack of resource in the CPU and in Services for drafting the documentation and carrying out evaluation;
- b) lack of resource in the CPU and Services to monitor frameworks, the amount of spend or deal with framework administration;
- c) a preference for using local suppliers where possible under different arrangements;
- d) no desire to require local suppliers to pay a levy for being appointed to the framework;
- e) transport costs for some goods increasing considerably if local suppliers are not used.

BUDGET

31. Details of the budget for CPU are set out in Appendix 7.

Appendix 1 Structure of CPU



procurement
structure job only.docx

Appendix 2

Services offered by CPU

CPU provides the following services to DCC and FCC:

Policy

- Provide advice on legislation and regulatory framework policies, that impact on procurement e.g. Contract Procedure Rules and European Procurement Directives.
- Develop, maintain and implement the Council's respective Corporate Procurement Strategies.
- Implement the Wales Procurement Policy Statement objectives as developed by Welsh Government.
- Develop and promote guidance reflecting procurement best practice.

Day-to-day Management of Procurement Matters

- Champion procurement in the Councils.
- Provide the strategic lead covering all procurement activities.
- Work with service areas to identify opportunities for co-ordination and co-operation.
- Co-ordinate initiatives aimed at improving purchasing power and lowering prices.
- Lead on corporate procurement initiatives and projects (e.g. e-procurement and joint procurement initiatives with other organisations).
- Undertake performance measurement, monitoring and comparison of the procurement function as well as suppliers or contractors.
- Carry out procurement research and Intelligence (including market intelligence).
- Report on spend across Services.
- Report on savings achieved through the procurement process.

Advice

- Advise and support service areas on the preparation of tender and pre-qualification documents including drafting specifications and terms and conditions.
- Develop and deliver a corporate procurement training programme for each Partner.
- Develop and produce clear, user-friendly guidance and information on procurement rules and best practice.

- Develop, maintain and disseminate through regular communication procurement best practice.

Appendix 3

KPIs



DCC&FCC KPI Data
Q1.Q2.Q3.Q4 19.20.x

Schedule 4 Collaborative procurements Details



Collaborative
Procurements Recor

Appendix 5

Spend Analysis

FCC Spend by Service 2019 - 2020	Total
Social Services	55,941,059
Capital	55,835,095
Streetscene	23,343,301
Schools	15,785,072
Housing & Assets	8,796,873
Education & Youth	8,031,703
Streetscene - Bus Service Support	5,611,490
Governance	5,048,247
Clwyd Theatr Cymru	3,055,415
Aura	2,008,053
Planning, Environment & Economy	1,979,805
Central & Corporate Finance	1,131,779
Newces	1,082,983
Strategic Programmes	883,974
Chief Executive's	688,361
Waste Procurement Project	332,034
People & Resources	312,929
Balance Sheet	115,244
Chief Exec- Emergency Planning	41,822
Agency Capital - Community Services	25,000
Finance	14,606
Grand Total	190,064,845

DCC Spend by Service 2019 - 2020	Sum of Invoice Line Value
Community Support Services	36,664,078
HIGENV - Environmental Services	24,156,680
Education & Childrens Services Schools	17,674,769

FAH - Facilities Assets & Housing	13,292,767
PPP - Planning and Public Protection	11,201,624
CCM - Customers Communication & Marketing	7,956,117
Business Improvement and Modernisation	3,132,131
Leisure	3,107,296
Finance	2,894,917
ADM-CML-Leisure & Youth Services	1,818,362
LHRD - Legal & Democratic Services	1,012,186
CEXEC - Chief Executive	524,428
Other	310,445
	123,745,799

Appendix 6

NPS Spend

FCC: information provided by NPS

Category	Contract/Framework	Spend
Construction FM & Utilities	Furniture	£2,825
	NPS General Building Materials	£1,016,893
	Cleaning and Janitorial Materials	£28,396
Construction FM & Utilities Total		£1,048,113
Corporate & Business Support Services	NPS Printing Services	£18,608
Corporate & Business Support Services Total		£18,608
Fleet & Transport	Supply of Liquid Fuels	£311,253
	Vehicle Hire II	£60
Fleet & Transport Total		£311,313
ICT	IT Products and Services	£405,453
	Structured Cabling Services	£48,722
	Multi Functional Devices	£11,313
ICT Total		£465,488
People Services	NPS Managed Service For Agency Workers	£173,074
	Waste Disposal Bags	£4,243
	Provision of Employee Benefit Schemes	£248,960
	Occupational Health Associated Services	£10,152
	Temporary Workers & Supply Teachers	£374,550
People Services Total		£810,979
Professional Services	Legal Services By Solicitors	£110,898
Professional Services Total		£110,898
Grand Total		£2,765,398

DCC: information provided by NPS

Category	Contract/Framework	Spend
Construction FM & Utilities	Furniture	£450
	NPS Electrical Heating Plumbing and Associated Materials	£1,342
	Cleaning and Janitorial Materials	£14,079
	Highway Lighting Materials	£190,089
Construction FM & Utilities Total		£214,960
Corporate & Business Support Services	NPS Printing Services	£25,733
	The Supply of PPE and Other Workwear	£23,792
Corporate & Business Support Services Total		£49,525
Fleet & Transport	Supply of Liquid Fuels	£150,807
	Vehicle Spares	£139,959
	Vehicle Hire II	£59,223
Fleet & Transport Total		£349,989
ICT	IT Products and Services	£824,908
	Structured Cabling Services	£15,278
	Library Management Systems	£9,641
	Multi Functional Devices	£8,433
ICT Total		£858,260
People Services	NPS Managed Service For Agency Workers	£225,965
	Assistive Technologies	£40,830
	Waste Disposal Bags	£39,914
	Provision of Employee Benefit Schemes	£181,801
	Occupational Health Associated Services	£8,882
Temporary Workers & Supply Teachers	£353,267	
People Services Total		£834,759
Professional Services	Construction Consultancy	£1,815
	Legal Services By Solicitors	£18,873
	Construction Consultancy Phase 2	£22,870
	Barristers and Solicitors Advocates	£7,850
Professional Services Total		£40,008
Grand Total		£2,154,505

Appendix 7
Budget for 2019-2020

OTHER TRAVEL COSTS	£56
FURNITURE - PURCHASE	£250
GEN. EQUIP. - PURCHASE	£0
GEN. EQUIP. - SERVICE AGREE'TS	£85
MFD COSTS - FIXED	£225
MFD COSTS - VARIABLE	£100
COMPUTER - PURCHASE OF HARDWARE	£185
COM CHARGES	£50
MOBILES	£800
PUBLIC LIABILITY INS RECHARGE	£1,808
PROFESSIONAL FEES - GENERAL	£350
SHREDDING	£55
TOTAL	£429,837

Flintshire Contribution 55%	£236,410
Denbighshire Contribution - 45%	£193,427

Matrix recharge FCC	£16,400
	£252,810



CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 15 th December 2020
Report Subject	Annual Review of the Modern Slavery Statement
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Report Author	Chief Officer (Governance)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council spends approximately £197m each year purchasing good, services and works. The Council also seeks to ensure that it's spend is with organisations that share similar ethical values and, in particular, with organisations that do not seek to exploit or impose unfair conditions on their workers. The Council's commitment and activity to that end are set out in its Modern Slavery Statement.

The Council has made some progress in implementing the actions promised in last year's statement and has now established the key processes such contractual and procurement clauses prohibiting unethical employment practices within the supply chain. Inevitably due to demands on officer time it has not been possible to carry out all the training and awareness raising that was anticipated and this will therefore form the focus for activity over the coming 12 months.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That the Modern Slavery Statement is approved and published.
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REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE MODERN SLAVERY STATEMENT
1.01	Every organisation with an annual turnover of over £36m must publish an annual statement on how it will seek to tackle modern slavery. Having established ethical working practices within its own structures, the focus for the Council is on eradicating modern slavery within its supply chain and this coincides with its commitments under Welsh Government's Code of Ethical Employment.
1.02	The Council reviewed its Modern Slavery Statement in December 2019 and since then has concluded the actions on creating systems to prevent modern slavery in the supply chain e.g. allowing tenders to be rejected where they offer an abnormally low price that could be achieved through unethical working practices. It has also trained its procurement officers on tackling modern slavery through the supply chain.
1.03	As with other organisations the Council has found it difficult to establish a cost effective and reliable method for assessing the risk posed by potential contractors though good practice is now emerging. Also it has struggled due to time pressure on employees to deliver the desired level of training and awareness raising. These actions therefore form the focus for activity in the coming 12 months.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	It is anticipated that the commitments within the Modern Slavery Statement can be achieved within current resource levels.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
3.01	Although the risks of modern slavery within the supply chain are deemed to be low, the promised actions in the statement serve to reinforce our values and raise awareness of an important issue. They also contribute to the broader aims of removing inequality.

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	Human Resources and the Joint Corporate Procurement Unit have contributed to the preparation of the action plan.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Modern Slavery Statement 2020 – 2021.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	<p>Contact Officer: Gareth Owens, Chief Officer Governance Telephone: 01352 702344 E-mail: gareth.legal@flintshire.gov.uk</p>

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
	<p>Modern Slavery - is defined within the Modern Slavery Act 2015. The Act categorises offences of Slavery, Servitude and Forced or Compulsory Labour and Human Trafficking.</p>

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Modern Slavery Statement

Financial Year: 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021

Overview

Flintshire County Council delivers a wide range of statutory and discretionary public services, provided directly through its own workforce, and through over 4,500 private and third sector organisations.

In June 2018, the Council signed up to the Welsh Government's Code of Practice: Ethical Employment in Supply Chains. The Code's 12 commitments include tackling Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking. This Statement sets out the action that the Council has taken, and will take, to ensure that there is no Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking in its own business or supply chains.

The Council is fully committed to providing visibility to its Modern Slavery Statement and ensuring 'Transparency in Supply Chains'. To this end the Council is working in partnership with Welsh Government, the wider public sector, suppliers, service providers and other to address Modern Slavery challenges and drive collaborative action with a view to reducing risks and incidence of Modern Slavery.

What is Modern Slavery?

In the UK, the Modern Slavery Act 2015 defines criminal offences of slavery, servitude and forced or compulsory labour and of human trafficking, and includes measures for the protection of potential victims.

Slavery is any system in which principles of property law are applied to people, allowing individuals to own, buy and sell other individuals.

Victims are trafficked all over the world for little or no money – including to and within the UK. They can be forced to work in the sex trade, domestic servitude, and forced labour, criminal activity or has their organs removed to be sold. In 2017 National Crime Agency recorded 193 reported Modern Slavery cases, an increase on 57% on 2016.

There is no typical victim and some victims do not understand they have been exploited and that they are entitled to help and support. Victims are often trafficked to a foreign country where they are unable to speak the language, have their travel and identity documents removed and are told that if they try to escape, they or their families will be harmed.

The Council's Policies

Flintshire County Council's Corporate plan puts tackling poverty and inequality at the heart of the Administration's priorities. The other key strategies and policies include:

- The **Council's Corporate Procurement Strategy** sets a clear vision and the key organisational outcomes that implementation of the Strategy is looking to deliver.

This includes delivery of the Code of Practice and the elimination of Modern Slavery, so that Flintshire Council plays a leading role in making Wales hostile to Modern Slavery.

The Council's other key Policies in this area include:

- The Council's **Social Value Policy** which sets out the Council's commitment to Ethical Employment and the delivery of Community Benefits. The Council wants to work with organisations that share its values;
- The **Whistleblowing Policy** enables Council staff and employees of the Council's contractors / suppliers to report unethical employment practices to the Council;
- **The Officer's Code of Conduct** makes it clear to employees in scope of the actions and behaviour expected of them when representing the Council. In performing their duties, they must act with integrity, honesty, impartiality and objectivity. The organisation strives to maintain the highest standards of employee conduct and ethical behaviour in all its operations and when managing its supply chain;
- **Recruitment and Selection policy** - the Council aims at all times to recruit the person who is most suited to the particular job. The Council has robust recruitment processes, which includes right to work checks compliant with Home Office guidance to ensure that preferred candidates have the right to work in the UK;
- **Agency workers** – the Council contracts with a managed service provider, Matrix SCM to source agency workers and temporary staff. Matrix SCM have their own Modern Slavery Statement which sets out their zero tolerance approach to Modern Slavery;
- The trafficking of children is a crime and is child abuse. The Council works closely with partners to ensure that any suspected case of this form of abuse is dealt with in line with the **All Wales Child Protection Procedures**.

The Council's Supply Chains

The Council spends over £197 million annually with over 4,500 suppliers who provide a broad range of goods and services. Over 99% of the Council's spend is with UK based companies. However, the Council recognises that its supply chains spread across the world, and that parts of the supply chain could be engaged in Modern Slavery. The Council has limited resources to monitor and manage its supply chains and so will focus on its direct suppliers and will require its suppliers to ensure that their supply chain is free from Modern Slavery.

The high-risk sectors for Modern Slavery include agriculture, leisure, hospitality, catering, cleaning, clothing, construction and manufacturing. A review of Council spend has shown that for the majority of the high-risk areas the Council provides the service in-house, utilises national frameworks and/or local suppliers. The risk of Modern Slavery and human trafficking by its direct suppliers is considered low.

The Council will ensure that its direct suppliers are aware of its commitment to tackle Modern Slavery and human trafficking and that they also understand their obligations as a supplier or contractor of the Council.

The Council undertakes due diligence when considering taking on new suppliers and regularly reviews its existing suppliers through its contract management arrangements. The due diligence and reviews include:

- Mapping the supply chain in high risk areas to assess risks (geographical and product) of Modern Slavery and human trafficking;
- Evaluating the Modern Slavery and human trafficking risks of each new supplier;
- Taking steps to improve sub-standard supplier practices, including the provision of advice to suppliers and requiring them to implement Action Plans; for example to demonstrate compliance with safer recruitment guidelines;
- Participating in collaborative initiatives focused on human rights and socially responsible procurement policies in general and Modern Slavery and human trafficking in particular;
- Invoking sanctions in respect of suppliers who fail to meet its expectations or to improve their performance in line with an Action Plan, which includes a provision to terminate the business relationship;
- All invitations to tender for business with Flintshire County Council over £1 million there will be an expectation for the supplier to be signed up to the Welsh Government's Code of Practice: Ethical Employment in Supply Chains. This will also be encouraged on all other tenders.

Employee Training

The Council is committed to developing and delivering tailored training to its employees, including the Commissioning and Procurement Team, in order to raise awareness of Modern Slavery, human rights abuses and blacklisting. Corporate training will be included as part of the rolling programme of training on the Contract Procedure Rules and general Procurement Rules.

The Council will publicise what the Council is doing to tackle Modern Slavery to all staff and highlight the <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/modern-slavery> site to all its employees.

The Modern Slavery Training addresses:

- The Council's purchasing practices, which influence supply chain conditions and which should therefore be designed to prevent purchases at unrealistically low prices, the use of labour engaged on unrealistically low wages or wages below a country's national minimum wage or the provision of products by an unrealistic deadline;
- How to assess the risk of slavery and human trafficking in relation to various other aspects of the business, including resources and available support;
- How to identify the signs of slavery and human trafficking;
- The initial steps to be taken if slavery or human trafficking is suspected;
- How to escalate potential slavery or human trafficking issues to relevant parties within the Council (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub);

- The external help that is available, including the Modern Slavery Helpline, Gang masters and Labour Abuse Authority (GLAA) and the Labour Market Enforcement Unit;
- The messages, business incentives or guidance that can be provided to suppliers and other business partners and contractors to implement anti-slavery policies;
- The steps the Council should take if suppliers or contractors do not implement anti-slavery policies in high-risk scenarios or to implement changes in business practices arising from an Action Plan, including the termination of the business relationship.

What The Council has done

Over the first 6 months of this year progress has inevitably been affected by the response to the coronavirus epidemic. Although this has slowed the pace of activity, progress has still be made and the Council has:

- Started the process of reviewing its supply chains to identify high risk areas;
- Reviewed contract and tender clauses to prohibit unethical employment practices, ensure employment practices are considered as part of the procurement process, prevent undue time and cost pressures which could result in unethical treatment of staff and embed a zero-tolerance approach to Modern Slavery
- Implemented it Social Value Policy;
- Updated its Whistleblowing Policy to make it clearer that anyone can whistle blow to the Council and to make it easier for this to happen;
- All Category Management Teams have undertaken Welsh Government’s Code Of Practice: Ethical Employment Training Established a Corporate Safeguarding Panel; Modern Slavery is a standing agenda item;
- Rolled out an app to all Council mobile phones, tablets and ipads to enable safeguarding issues, which can include modern slavery and trafficking, to be easily reported

What The Council will do

Having established the key systems to prevent modern slavery within our supply chains, the focus needs to be on embedding those practices and raising awareness/understanding of how they operate.

Ref	Action	Lead
Commissioning and Procurement		
1.	In line with clause 7 of the Code of Practice ensure that the Council carries out a regular review of expenditure and undertakes a risk assessment. The Council will: Identify any high risk suppliers and monitor for human rights abuses and unethical employment practices which will	Joint Procurement Service

	<p>become a standard agenda item in contract meetings and reviews;</p> <p>Investigate any supplier identified as high-risk through direct engagement with staff;</p> <p>Work with its Tier 1 suppliers to raise awareness of Modern Slavery to prevent it from occurring.</p>	
2.	<p>Training</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modern Slavery overview to be provided in through e-learning; • Keep records of who has undertaken training; • The Council shall continue to identify staff requiring training in ethical employment practices – and seek to build capacity - including those in Human Resources and front-facing members of staff working in the Community. 	<p>Joint Procurement Service and Human Resources</p>
3.	<p>Update the Modern Slavery Statement annually and report progress on this Action Plan.</p>	<p>Chief Officer Governance</p>
4.	<p>Publish its Modern Slavery statement annually on its website and on TISC.</p>	<p>Chief Officer Governance</p>
5.	<p>Develop measures to identify Key Performance Indicators which will include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The number of staff trained; • A review of the system for supply chain verification; • Development of the process for the evaluation of existing suppliers. 	<p>Chief Officer Governance</p>

This Statement has been approved by Flintshire County Council's Cabinet and will be reviewed and updated annually.

Signed by :

Name :

Position within Organisation : Cabinet Member for Corporate Management & Assets

Date signed off :

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CABINET

Date of Meeting	Tuesday, 15 th December 2020
Report Subject	North Wales Regional Partnership Board Annual Report 2019/20
Cabinet Member	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Report Author	Chief Officer (Social Services)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is the Annual Report of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board for 2019-20 (Appendix 1). There is a requirement within Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 that each Regional Partnership Board prepares, publishes and submits its annual report to Welsh Government. Due to the emergency situation, the submission date of the Annual Report is end October 2020.

This report is to provide information to partners with regard to the North Wales Regional Partnership Board and its activities during 2019-20. The report shows the progress made on the work streams of the Board during the year.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That Cabinet confirms that it has read, understood and taken into account the work that is required to be undertaken by the Regional Partnership Board.
2	That Cabinet notes the work and progress in 2019-20 on the work areas that are being taken forward regionally through the North Wales Regional Partnership Board.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE NORTH WALES REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2019-20
1.01	The Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 requires that each Regional Partnership Board produces and publishes an annual report on its work and submits this to Welsh Government.
1.02	Welsh Government issues guidance on the completion of the Annual report on an annual basis. The Regional Partnership Board Annual report therefore addresses the information required by the Welsh Government. Additional information on the work of the Board is available at www.northwalescollaborative.wales . The North Wales Regional Partnership Board report is written in a format that captures all information required. The report also includes information from case studies collected funding awarded to the Board during 2019-20.
1.03	The Regional Partnership Board is the Board which has been set up to meet the requirements of Part 9 of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014. The Act requires that local authorities make arrangements to promote co-operation with their relevant partners and others, in relation to adults with needs for care and support, carers and children. It places a duty on relevant partners to co-operate with, and provide information to, the local authorities for the purposes of their social services functions.
1.04	Part 9 of the Act also provides for partnership arrangements between local authorities and Local Health Boards for the discharge of their functions. The Act also provides Welsh Government Ministers with regulation making powers in relation to formal partnership arrangements, resources for partnership arrangements (including pooled funds) and partnership boards.
1.05	The purpose of Part 9 of the Act is to improve outcomes and well-being of people, as well as improving the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery. The key aims of co-operation, partnership and integration can therefore be described as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve care and support, ensuring people have more say and control • To improve outcomes and health and wellbeing • Provide co-ordinated, person centred care and support • Make more effective use of resources, skills and expertise.
1.06	The purpose of the Annual report is to set out the progress that Regional Partnership Boards have made and reflects on how board are achieving the principles of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014.
1.07	Welsh Government has issued updated Part 9 Statutory Guidance in January 2020 and the North Wales Regional Partnership Board is working in line with this Guidance. The main changes relate to additional

	membership, additional focus on outcomes for children and young people and further focus on integration of services.
1.08	Working in partnership across health and social care services will help support resilient communities and also ensure a seamless service for individuals that require care and support.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	The 6 Local Authorities in North Wales pool funding to support regional working across North Wales, this is used to pay for staff to deliver on its work and also to fund the meetings. In 2019-20, through the award of partnership funds and grants to the Board, it has been possible to fund some activities of the Board and additional members of staff to manage the work streams of the Board utilising this funding.
2.02	Welsh Government is awarding regional grant funding streams via the Regional Partnership Boards e.g. the Integrated Care Fund, Delivering Transformation grants. Partners agree the use of the grants and agree jointly on regional people capacity required to deliver its programmes.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT	
3.01	There is a risk in ensuring compliance with the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 and with the Guidance for regional partnership boards. Boards have no dedicated funding streams and its activity currently funded from a mix of Local authority pooling of funding and top slicing grant funding from Welsh Government.	
3.02	Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principle Impact	
	Long-term	The RPB has finalised its priorities and focus document for the short term and longer term. This links to its Area Plan and the current priorities for the RPB.
	Prevention	No change
	Integration	The Children’s Commissioner for Wales attended to discuss the work of the RPB in delivering the priority to establish integrated services for ‘children with complex needs due to disability or illness and for children and young people with mental health problems’. There is a sub-group of the RPB already established which currently over- sees the delivery of partnership Children and Young People Transformation programme.
	Collaboration	The RPB continues to work with the Public Service Board to provide a coherent local and regional response to the wellbeing needs of individuals.

	Involvement	Unfortunately, carer engagement events planned for the end of 2019/20 were cancelled due to the current pandemic but engagement with carers via the carer representatives on the board have continued during the year.								
3.03	<p>Well-being Goals Impact</p> <p>The work which has been undertaken has enabled partners to understand each other's priorities more fully, both in respect of specialised and universal services.</p> <p>However, each partner will have a view on their own immediate pressures and while there will need to be recognition of this, we need to keep a clear focus on not only the here and now, but importantly the health and well-being of our future generations. During the latter part of 2018 the NWRPB entered into a new stage of development in line with A Healthier Wales, the Transformation Fund and this has led to an ambitious programme of transformation to commence.</p> <p>As a region we have linked into the national work around children with complex needs led by the National Commissioning Board and local officers have and continued to be active members on the Ministerial Advisory Group.</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Prosperous Wales</td> <td rowspan="7">The work of the Board focuses on the health and well-being of our current and future generations. During the latter part of 2018, the RPB entered into a new stage of development in line with A Healthier Wales. The Transformation Fund has led to the ambitious programme of transformation which looks to meet the needs of the people of Wales and transform services.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Resilient Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Healthier Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>More Equal Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cohesive Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vibrant Wales</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Global Responsible Wales</td> </tr> </table>		Prosperous Wales	The work of the Board focuses on the health and well-being of our current and future generations. During the latter part of 2018, the RPB entered into a new stage of development in line with A Healthier Wales. The Transformation Fund has led to the ambitious programme of transformation which looks to meet the needs of the people of Wales and transform services.	Resilient Wales	Healthier Wales	More Equal Wales	Cohesive Wales	Vibrant Wales	Global Responsible Wales
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Resilient Wales										
Healthier Wales										
More Equal Wales										
Cohesive Wales										
Vibrant Wales										
Global Responsible Wales										

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
4.01	When the Board develops regional reports, strategies or documents, officers and Elected members who sit on the Board bring these to relevant meetings within their own organisations to be formally agreed. Regional Partnership Boards do not have arrangements for regional scrutiny, this is undertaken at a local basis.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	North Wales Regional Partnership Board Report 2019/20.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	None.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officers: Jane Davies Telephone: 01352 702503 E-mail: jane.m.davies@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	Social Services and (Well-being) Wales Act 2014: The Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act came into force on 6 April 2016. The Act provides the legal framework for improving the well-being of people who need care and support, and carers who need support, and for transforming social services in Wales.

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NORTH WALES SOCIAL CARE AND WELL-BEING
SERVICES IMPROVEMENT COLLABORATIVE

North Wales

Regional

Partnership Board

Annual Report

2019/20



This report has been produced to meet the requirements set out by the Welsh Government in the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014

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(Photo taken April 2019)

Foreword by the Chair of North Wales Regional Partnership Board (NWRPB)

Teresa Owen, Executive Director Public Health, Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board



As the Chair of the North Wales Regional Partnership Board, I am pleased to introduce our 2019/20 annual report.

2019-20 was another busy year for the partnership. Our focus at the start of the 19/20 year was delivery of our transformation programmes and of course ‘A Healthier Wales’ approach underpinned all our thinking. Updates on the progress of these programmes are included in this report, and I look forward to sharing further information in

the coming months on the difference the programmes are making to the people of North Wales.

Just before Christmas 2019, we worked with Welsh Government to hold three large events with 'A Healthier Wales' focus across the region. Turnout was excellent, and clearly lots of interest amongst our stakeholders and we received rich feedback at the events. Chairing those events has highlighted to me the need for us - as a North Wales RPB, to communicate better with stakeholders and individuals about the new ways of working and the differences being made to people's lives in North Wales— for the better.

Of course, towards the end of the financial year, Covid19 emerged. It's certainly been a challenging time for all of us, and especially the most vulnerable in our society. Our teams have worked diligently throughout the period to serve our residents during this time. My thanks to everyone for their care and compassion during this time. Covid19 has also forced us as RPB members to work differently, and to utilise technology to optimise strategic discussions and support operational activity. Most importantly, the value of partnership working, has once again been highlighted to us all. I personally reflect that the constructive, and at times challenging, discussions we've had at the RPB over the last few years, have helped us as partners to work together better during this significant pandemic. More of Covid19 in the 2020/21 report I expect.

I'd like to say thank you to all the Board members for their ongoing commitment and support to the RPB agenda. The work of the transformation programmes is making a difference on the ground, and needs to mature further. Scale and pace are now the key challenges in our new world with Covid19. And whilst we focus on Covid 19, we must be relentless in our delivery on the 'A Healthier Wales' approach

Best wishes - Teresa Owen

1. Partnerships Governance and Development Review

This section of the Annual Report sets out the purpose, role, membership, operating structure and key priorities of the Regional Partnership Board. It outlines the key partnership development over the last year and progress on implementing changes in the revised Part 9 Guidance

1.1 Purpose, Role, Membership, Operating Structure and Key Priorities

The NWRPB meets on a bi monthly basis and is now holding a mix of business meetings along with development sessions. During 2019 the Board reviewed and updated its vision statement

Vision statement

Working together to improve the wellbeing of people and communities

Guiding principles

The NWRPB agreed its guiding principles in November 2016 and these remain fit for purpose:

- Whole system change and reinvestment of resources to a preventative model that promotes good health and well-being and draws effectively on evidence of what works best
- Care is delivered in joined up ways centred around the needs, preferences and social assets of people (service users, carers and communities)
- People are enabled to use their confidence and skills to live independently, supported by a range of high quality community based options
- Embedded co-production in decision making so that citizens and their communities shape services
- We recognise the broad range of factors that influence health and well-being and the importance of the links to these areas (including education, housing, welfare, reduced homelessness, economic growth, regeneration, leisure and the environment).

Tom was invited to join the weekly social group run by the Dementia Support Worker where many of the activities Tom enjoyed took place. Transport to and from the group was arranged. Tom attended the group and whilst clearly nervous on arrival he quickly got involved in a game of dominoes and went on to lead in the reminiscence quiz. Tom now attends every week.

“It’s like having the old Tom back. He’s so much happier now. I thought it was a sign that his dementia had got worse but I can’t believe the change now”.

ICF Funded Dementia Support Worker

1.2 Role of the NWRPB

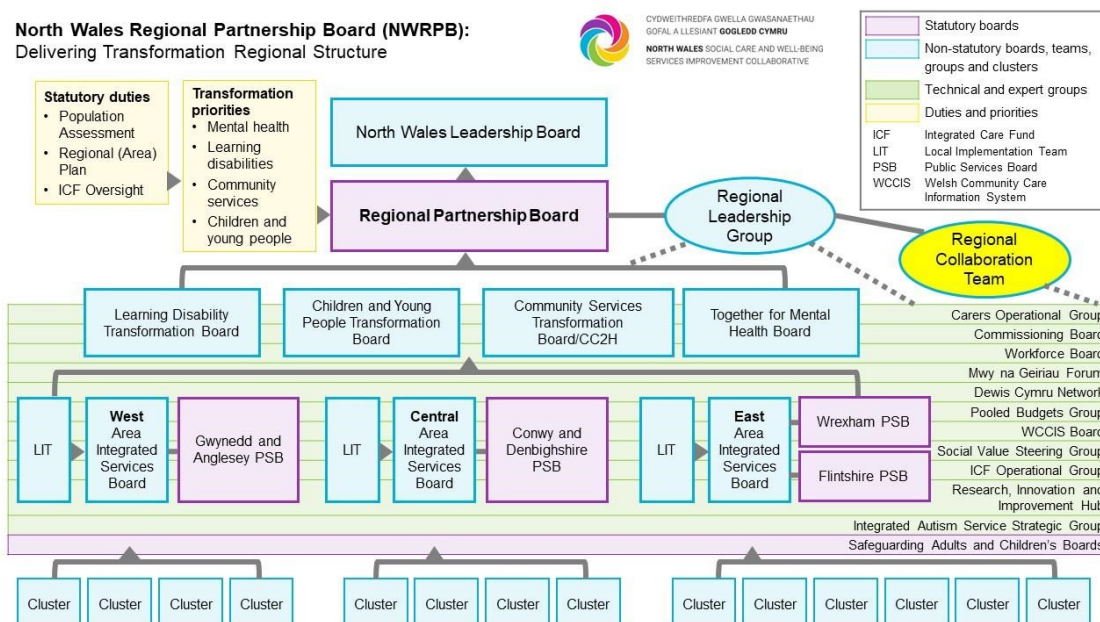
The NWRPB’s Terms of Reference is reviewed annually however, the role of the Board remains the same and is to:

- Ensure that there is an agreed shared vision and a clear direction of travel for service development and integration of health, care and well-being
- Ensure that there are shared plans and strategies in place (supported by appropriate business cases) for delivering on the vision
- Ensure that the strategic plans are evaluated and reviewed against agreed and understood outcomes and performance indicators
- Lead a strategic approach to communicating and publicising the direction of travel and the progress made
- Ensure that the principles of the Board are upheld
- Maintain an effective overview of the resources allocated

- Report to the Regional Leadership Board on progress, key issues and exceptions, escalating any barriers to progress within the NWRPB for resolution
- Ensure that an annual report on progress is prepared and delivered as required by the Welsh Government.

The NWRPB formally reports to the North Wales Leadership Board. The NWRPB’s business and the business of the regional sub-groups is managed by the Head of Regional Collaboration and members of the Regional Collaboration Team.

The governance structure of the NWRPB was formalised in 2019 and the structure is shown below. Our Terms of Reference were reviewed in June 2019. The membership of the NWRPB (as at end of March 2020) is attached in Appendix 1.



1.3 Key Partnership Development

We have engaged with and participated in all the Welsh Government learning events and meetings with the Minister during 2019 as part of our partnership development.

In April 2019 RPB members attended a ‘What Matters’ workshop facilitated by Welsh NHS Confederation to review the NWRPB vision and priorities.

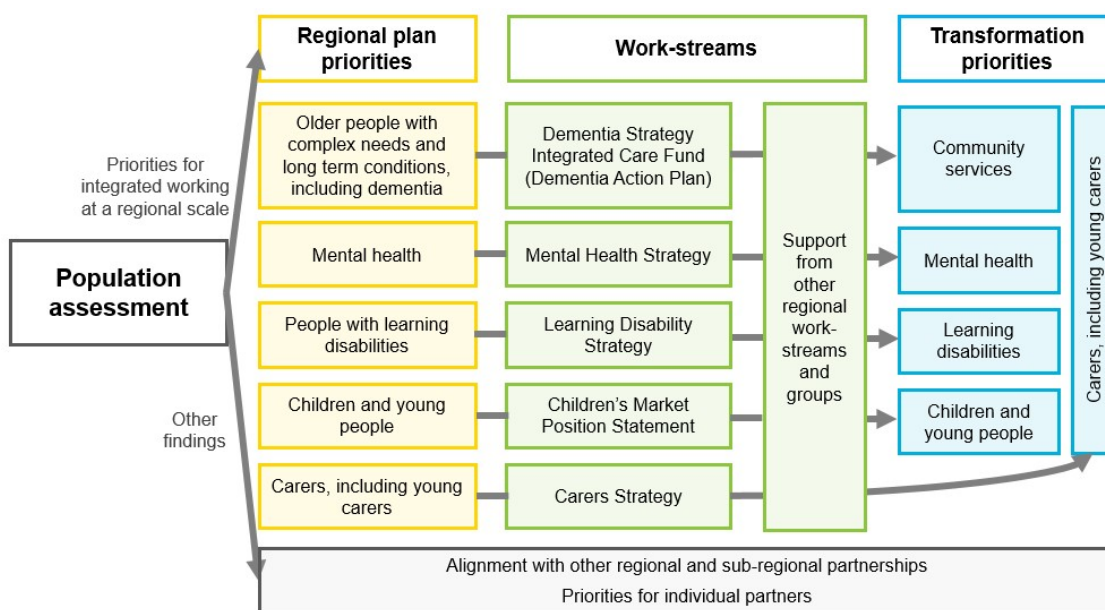
Following a workshop held in September 2019, the RPB medium/long term strategy was finalised which provides focus and priority.

In February 2020 a learning event considered RPB challenges and opportunities and focused on ‘to what degree is RPB seen as a real driver and change’. The event also highlighted the different stages of maturity for each RPB, and how the present work expected from the RPBs has changed considerably from the original purpose.

The RPB continues to work with the Public Services Board to provide a coherent local and regional response to the wellbeing needs of individuals.

We attend conferences and seminars to showcase the work of the RPB at a local, regional and national level e.g. the National Social Care Annual conference.

We have finalised our priorities and focus document for the short term and longer term. This links to our Area Plan and the current priorities for the RPB.



1.4 More Than Just Words Forum

The membership of the More Than Just Words (MTJW) Forum includes Local Authorities, the Health Board, Social Care Wales, Wales Ambulance Service NHS Trust, HEIW and Bangor University School of Healthcare Science. The forum met quarterly to facilitate the MTJW agenda, sharing information and examples of good practice. Attendance at the forum has been excellent with all partners actively supporting this important agenda. One of the recommendations from the Forum was for partner organisations to make a commitment to ensure that all leaders attained level one in Welsh. Because of this, the NWRPB gave a commitment that non-Welsh speaking members would undertake the 10-hour Welsh on-line learning to attain level one training.

Members of the forum have been working together on the recommendations/actions required within the More Than Just Words framework. Although challenges remain,

the forum have noted that progress is being made on several fronts. Given the advancements in digital technology, the forum is keen to give its attention to how it can both support and influence how technological / digital changes take note of Welsh Language requirements at the design phase. The Executive Director of the Health Board attended the forum in February to discuss the issue and agreed to link with the MTJW Forum as part of the Digitally Enabled Clinical Strategy of the Health Board. The Forum has also advised other committees and working groups of our commitment to support developments from the outset.

1.5 Progress on implementing changes in revised Part 9 guidance

Following receipt of the updated Part 9 Codes and Guidance in January 2020, the NWRPB was due to discuss the required changes at its meeting in March, but due to COVID-19, this had to be deferred. Registered Social Landlord representatives joined the RPB in December 2018 and February 2019 respectively; the Chair of the RPB will seek nominations for the Education and Local Authority Housing representatives via the regional Chief Executives Forum.

The Children’s Commissioner for Wales attended to discuss the work of the RPB in delivering the priority to establish integrated services for ‘children with complex needs due to disability or illness and for children and young people with mental health problems’. There is a sub-group of the RPB already established which currently over-sees the delivery of our partnership Children and Young People Transformation programme.

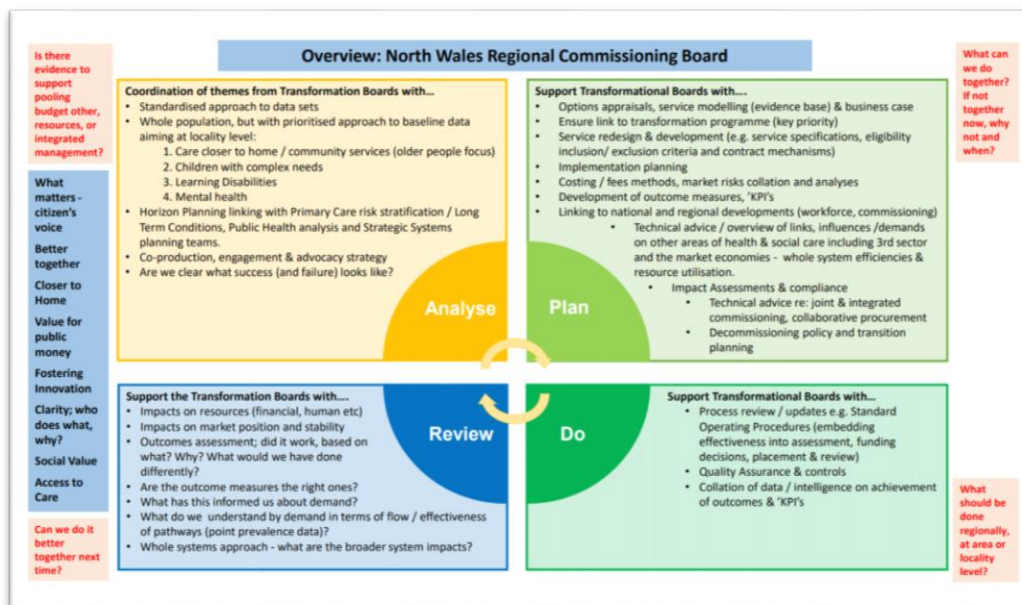
We have a long standing Strategic Commissioning Hub within the region which is underpinned by a partnership agreement and funded by partners. The work programme is aligned to the work of the Transformation Boards, identifying where it could add value / support the transformation agenda:

“The family therapist was pivotal to ensuring that our boy would manage the transition to Wales. She was a breath of fresh air and developed such a strong rapport with us and our boy.

She brought great insight into his needs at a time when we needed the affirmation and support.

We wanted to take this opportunity to let you know that your amazing support will be remembered forever.”

ICF Funded Repatriation and Prevention Service, Flintshire



North Wales Local Authorities became full signatories of the Children's Commissioning Consortium Cymru ("the 4 C's") in 2019/20. The 4Cs leads on the establishment and monitoring of procurement frameworks for residential care and independent fostering services for children and young people in Wales.

The hub has maintained an oversight of market risks, particularly in relation to domiciliary care and adult care homes and initial work commenced in preparation for a requirement to establish market stability reporting at local and regional levels.

The North Wales Quality Services (Delivering What Matters) procedures have been reviewed and published.

The region has set up a pooled budget for Care Home provision across the region. KMPG evaluated our arrangements considering the maturity level of 6 aspects:

- Purpose & scope of pooled funds
- Fund governance arrangements
- How decisions are made around the fund's use
- How the pooled fund's risk is shared
- Initial outcomes of pooled funds
- Future Development
- Collaboration

The KMPG report concluded that

'North Wales RPB could articulate more clearly their tangible goals and plans for the regional pooled budget for care homes for older people, particularly in relation to their wider transformation agenda. In addition, the RPB could consider physically pooling

their funds to maximise benefits of a unified budget and risk sharing to deliver a seamless service.'

Our Regional Workforce Board continues to support the delivery of the North Wales Community Health and Social Care Workforce Strategy through the continuous improvement and development of a work programme that remains flexible but focussed, to ensure that all national strategies and priorities are fully integrated into the delivery programme.

Strategic priorities for the Regional Workforce Board continue to be:

- Workforce sustainability
- Learning and development
- Workforce intelligence

The Board continues to support existing national strategies and priorities which include the national WeCare campaign for attraction, recruitment and retention of care workers. To complement this, research is being carried out in order to develop a business case to identify alternative models for the provision of staff. This research project will be completed by end of March 2021.

A workforce development programme that provides training to support the need to meet regulatory requirements for qualifications and/or registration of care workers with Social Care Wales also continues.

We take up every opportunity to promote and share the work of our RPB we have a range of materials and documents that we share publicly. The work of the RPB and its work streams is available at www.northwalescollaborative.wales.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank the RPB for the iPad we have received in our care home. We have set it up and have made it available to all our residents. It has proved to be a fantastic opportunity for them to be able to stay in contact with their relatives. One of our residents hasn't seen his brother who lives in Canada for almost 18 years. It was a wonderful experience for them to see each other through video messaging on the iPad, and indeed for all of our residents to have the opportunity to see their loved ones regularly, and to be able to reassure them that they are safe and well."

365 iPads funded from ICF Capital, Community Transformation Funding and Macmillan Cancer Care

2. General Progress Update on Delivery of Area Plan

This section of the Annual Report sets out progress against key objectives from the area plan and priority areas for integration under Part 9 guidance including outcomes

achieved for service users and carers. It considers specifically the priority groups set out in the Population Needs Assessment.

In line with the requirements of the Social Services and Well-Being (Wales) Act 2014 during 2019-20 the NWRPB continued to develop its approaches to integrated services for its priority areas.

2.1 North Wales Area Plan

The Area Plan sets out the priority areas for integration of services between health and social care and this sets out the direction of travel for the Board. The Area Plan sets out how the region will address the priority areas identified in the Population Needs Assessment, this remains the golden thread to specific areas of work within the region.

2.2 A Healthier Wales

The NWRPB priority for 2019/20 was the delivery of its 4 transformation programmes for 'A Healthier Wales' which was designed to see the rapid development of integrated community based services across the region, building on and rolling out what has been found to be successful in bringing positive outcomes to citizens.

2.2.1 Community Services Transformation Programme



Community Services Transformation is an ambitious programme of work that aims to better integrate health and social care services at a locality level for older people including those living with dementia, people with physical disabilities and unpaid carers.

At the heart of this place-based model is a determination to deliver enhanced integrated governance arrangements as well as develop operational delivery structures that ensure a seamless and co-ordinated approach to the delivery of health and social care.

Considerable work has been undertaken in order to build a robust programme for change. The agreed outcomes for this work are to:

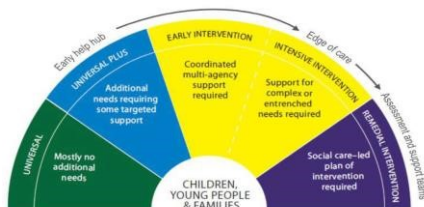
- Improve the citizen's experience of health and social care services by ensuring seamless provision with robust communication
- Improve outcomes for citizens by delivering care and support, based on what matters to individuals
- Release the capacity and capability of community health and social care services to respond to people's needs, delivering care closer to home

- Manage demand for statutory services by refocusing attention on improving selfcare, early intervention and prevention, including anticipatory care planning
- Shift focus and resources away from the acute and into the community

Transforming the way in which community health and social care services work together is a long-term piece of work. Progress has been made to place partners in a strong position to deliver real change. Throughout this year we have:

- Developed robust Area-level project plans that respond to the local context and need in order to further develop and enhance integrated working, building on what works well as well as testing new ways of working
- Built strong project teams to define and deliver transformation within the Areas, and to work within operational teams to help change culture
- Worked with the NHS Delivery Unit to begin the process of mapping the capacity of our community services both now and in the future
- Agreed five Pacesetter projects, to focus on some of the key learning for integration – governance and leadership, commissioning, workforce, IT and infrastructure
- Provided 365 iPads to care homes, hospices, hospitals, supported living accommodation as well as people living in their own homes in the community, in order to support virtual visiting and on-line consultations
- Commissioned a scheduling system which is being piloted in a number of CRTs
- Recruited a facilitator to unpick enshrined hospital discharge process
- Worked with Public Health to develop a consistent and robust locality needs assessment template
- Commissioned a legal expert to scope models of integration to support partners navigate moving forward within the context of existing statutory frameworks

2.2.2 Children and Young People Transformation Programme



Children and Young People Transformation embraces an overall objective to achieve better outcomes for children and young people through the implementation of service models that will enable access to support that builds emotional resilience in children, young people and their parents/carers and

addresses the root causes known to contribute to emotional distress and risk of family/placement breakdown. The Programme is supporting cultural and workforce change to deliver this in a sustainable way and has been designed to work with children, young people and families as a whole system approach.

There are three strands to the programme:

- A multi-agency drive to improve the emotional health, wellbeing and resilience of children and young people through integrated early intervention and prevention including the development / further refinement of locality early help hubs
- To research and develop evidence-based 'rapid response' (crisis outreach) interventions for children and families on the edge of care
- To develop short term residential services

A number of early milestones and achievements indicate a fresh injection of thinking and appetite for change at pace:

- There is a dedicated Programme Management Team in place
- Three multi-agency sub regional teams have been established and are meeting regularly to lead implementation of sub-regional projects
- A Theory of Change has been co-produced with the support of each of the subregional teams/emotional health, wellbeing and resilience steering group
- Baseline data of relevance to the project have been collected and analysed
- Baseline interviews have been undertaken with professional stakeholders to establish their perceptions of current arrangements (before the programme is implemented) and to take their advice about implementation

2.2.3 Learning Disability Transformation Programme



The foundation of the *North Wales Together* programme is the North Wales Learning Disability Strategy which was written and approved in 2018-19.

The Programme was formally launched at Venue Cymru in June 2019 and brought

together people with learning disabilities, parents, carers, professionals and government officials, to plan how we will make a real difference in our region.

The programme has a 3 phased approach to 5 work streams to enable the team to coproduce with partners' priority areas based on the strategy. The work streams are:

- integrated structures
- workforce development
- commissioning and procurement
- community and culture change
- assistive technology

During June to September 2019 a mapping exercise identified existing good practice, opportunities for replicating and scaling up and also gaps. The co-production and consensus of priorities areas and models to be implemented was then completed by

December 2019. The implementation of the priority areas and models commenced in January 2020. The following were also achieved during the year:

- Co-production of a North Wales Values and Behaviours Framework for staff supporting individuals with a learning disability.
- Launch of the Active Support Community of Practice attended by 55 participants.
- Publication of the first interim evaluation report for the programme
- Successful co-commissioning of 52 pilot projects to support the programme



2.2.4 Together for Mental Health Transformation Programme



The objective of this programme is to drive the changes required to ensure a 'whole system' approach but so far has focused on transforming the community and primary care elements in order to stem the flow into specialist

services in the system. The focus has been to develop a regional model for early intervention and crisis prevention, which is known as the ICAN Integrated Pathway, which includes provision to develop:

- ICAN Community Hub
- ICAN Primary Care
- ICAN Unscheduled Care
- ICAN+ Step Up/Step Down

Significant progress had been achieved against key programme milestones and in particular in the establishment of ICAN Community Hubs (x8) and Primary Care partnerships across the region. Several launch events at Community Hubs were undertaken during February 2020 that demonstrated a true partnership approach and asset based approach to service development.

2.2.5 Research, Innovation and Improvement Coordination Hub

We successfully bid for funding to set up a Research, Innovation and Improvement Coordination Hub for North Wales. The aim of the hub is to coordinate research, innovation and improvement activity in North Wales to understand how health and social care services can work together better. It is part of the Welsh Government

commitment in A Healthier Wales to establish a nationally coordinated network of hubs to inform new integrated models of health and social care.

Projects completed during 2019-20 to support the work of the hub included digital horizon scanning; project visits to look at the Multi Systemic Therapy: Family Integrated Transitions (MST-FIT) models; and research into innovative and alternative approaches to addressing staffing problems in health and social care.

2.3 North Wales Dementia Strategy



During 2019-20 the Regional Partnership Board developed an integrated Dementia Strategy for North Wales. The strategy was developed with people affected by dementia and with a wide range of partner organisations. Around 250 people took part in the initial consultation and a further consultation event was held in November 2019 attended by 150 people.

The strategy is based around the themes of the Welsh Government Dementia Action Plan with the addition of a specific priority for carers. These themes were supported by the consultation findings:

- Risk reduction and delaying onset
- Raising awareness and understanding
- Recognition and identification
- Assessment and diagnosis
- Living as well as possible for as long as possible with dementia
- The need for increased support
- Supporting carers

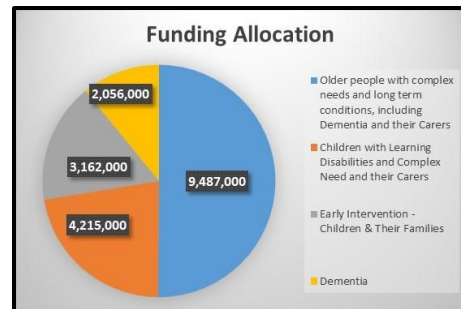
The strategy sets out actions under each of the themes to improve and support the integration of services. It recommends that the North Wales Dementia Strategy Steering Group oversees the implementation of the strategy, which is linked to the production of the Dementia Action Plan report required by Welsh Government.

2.4 Integrated Care Funding

During 2019-20 a total of £18.92m Integrated Care Fund (ICF) revenue funding was invested in 124 projects across our region. Almost £5.7m was spent on projects that directly supported carers and £2.4m investment went to support projects run by third sector organisations.

The following groups are priority areas of integration and all regional ICF programmes must address them in line with their regional population assessments and area plans:

- Older people with complex needs and long term conditions, including dementia;
- People with learning disabilities;
- Children with complex needs; and
- Carers, including young carers



The development of projects to support older people with complex needs and long term conditions has continued. These include Community Resource Teams; falls prevention programmes; step up and step down facilities to prevent hospital admissions and facilitate earlier discharges. These include over 30 projects to support people with dementia and their families such as developing dementia support teams to provide flexible outreach support. Specifically, we are supporting a range of initiatives to support the implementation of the National Dementia Action Plan.

The 35 projects to support people with learning disabilities include Independent Living Training, Community Navigators and Planning for the future.

There are 22 projects that provide early intervention to young people and their families which include Repatriation and Prevention services, Domestic Abuse Intensive Intervention Worker and Resilient Families service.

"Thank you for all your support and encouragement...we've learnt so many new skills, tough but equally rewarding.

Thank you for making a difference in our lives"

(Feedback from parent whose child remains in her care)

ICF Funded Resilient Families Project, Ynys Môn



There are 39 projects which directly support carers in our region

- 1,151 children received an Early Intervention service funded by ICF
- 671 families worked with an Early Intervention service funded by ICF
- 2,718 people were supported by LD Services funded by ICF
- 12,102 people were supported by Older People's Services funded by ICF

- 574 staff in Older People's Services were trained in falls prevention

2.5 Winter Funding

Welsh Government initially allocated £5.7m funding to NWRPB to support the delivery of the Winter Plan. This came in 2 separate allocations (NWRPB £3.6m and BCUHB £2.1m) with a request for the submission of one Winter Plan across the region. Subsequently a further £2.1m was allocated in January 2020.

There were 7 themes underpinning the winter plan:

- Optimising cross organisational and sector working
- Urgent primary care/out of hours' resilience
- Preventing unnecessary conveyance and admission to hospital
- Discharge to assess/recover □
 Community step down capacity
- An enhanced focus on the respiratory pathway
- An enhanced focus on the frailty pathway

There was a rigorous review of delivery against the plan and we were required to report monthly on:

- Reporting arrangements
- Successes / Benefits realised
- Barriers
- Lessons Learned
- Partners Involved in delivery

Tuag Adref / Homeward Bound

The Tuag Adref / Homeward Bound project in the West area aligned pathways and enabled hospital discharge staff to access Community Resource Teams and Support Workers to support rapid discharge. This scheme was operational at Ysbyty Penrhos Stanley, Ysbyty Bryn Beryl, Ysbyty Alltwen, Ysbyty Eryri, Ysbyty Dolgellau and Ysbyty Gwynedd. During December – February 1244 bed days were saved and 152 admissions avoided

3. Communication, Engagement & Social Value

This section of the Annual Report sets out how the Board engaged directly with service users or citizen panels and promoted co-operation and participation with relevant partners and others. It outlines how the Board has engaged with stakeholders from the third and independent sectors and has progress to establish social value forums to promote social value and share good practice

3.1 North Wales Engagement

A review of engagement activity in North Wales was undertaken as a requirement by Social Care Wales' Regional Facilitation Grant. A range of ways that individuals and carers can have their say about care and support services in North Wales were identified at both regional and local levels. The report was well received, by Social Care Wales and is published on the NWRPB website. The NWRPB continue to engage with citizens through the North Wales Citizen Panel.



Pictured are young people from the Denbighshire and Conwy Child and Adolescent LD Service who volunteered at the Children's LD event

3.2 North Wales Citizen Panel

The North Wales Citizen's Panel gives people a chance to have their say on health and social care services. It is a virtual panel and people can take part in many different ways (based on their preference) including phone call or face-to-face interviews, social media, online chat, online or paper surveys.

The aim of the panel is to gather opinions from communities about the needs of individuals to feed into the developments across the region.

The Panel continues to be managed by Community and Voluntary Support Conwy (CVSC) and funded by the 6 Local Authorities. The Regional Collaboration team manage the contract with the CVSC on behalf of the partners.

The panel includes 254 citizens including young people from the age of 16, adults and Carers (www.llaisyogledd.wales)

3.3 North Wales Social Value Steering Group

The NWRPB, supported by the Social Value Forum Steering Group continues to support local authorities and partners through:

- Working with the North Wales Social Value Network to promote the development of not for private profit organisations (including social enterprises, co-operative organisations, co-operative arrangements, user led service and the third sector) to provide care and support and support for carers, and preventative services.

Pictured are some of the attendees at the Dementia Strategy event in November 2019

- Promoting collaboration to maximise social value and co-production across all providers delivering health, social care and/or well-being services in North Wales.
- Promoting partnership and networking opportunities across sectors
- Identifying, sharing and learning from good practice
- Challenging roles embedded in the organisation and influencing practice development and innovative approaches with commissioners and procurement departments to commission and procure services which deliver social value.

3.4 North Wales Carers Groups

The North Wales Carers Operational Group (NWCOG) and North Wales Young Carers Operational Group (NWYCOG) continue to support the NWRPB to deliver on the carer's strategy.

Action plans have been developed and are reviewed regularly for both NWCOG and NWYCOG to monitor the progress of individual partners within the operational groups to measure themselves against the strategy's core standards.

Unfortunately, carer engagement events planned for the end of 2019/20 were cancelled due to the current pandemic but engagement with carers via the carer representatives on the board has continued during the year.

Work is underway to develop an Investors in Carers Scheme across North Wales that will be linked to the strategy's standards and aspirations.

4. Forward Look

This section of the Annual Report outlines the identified priorities the RPB will focus on in 2020-21 and beyond, referencing where Covid-19 has impacted and prompted a change in direction or priority.

4.1 Covid Impact

During mid-March 2020, COVID-19 arrived The March 2020 RPB meeting could not proceed as originally planned and the RPB wasn't then re-convened until 18th May 2020. Arrangements were put in place for RPB meetings to take place virtually.

To ensure that RPB members remained informed, a newsletter was produced in April and circulated to members of the NWRPB to highlight the immediate effects of COVID on its programmes and the grant funding streams. A temporary governance arrangement was put in place, which RPB members endorsed. Prior to being able to re-convene virtual RPB meetings, and when urgent agreements were required, the temporary governance arrangements enabled RPB business to continue virtually by email.

4.2 Priorities for 2020-21 and beyond

We have finalised our priorities and focus document for the short and longer term. This links to our Area Plan and the current priorities for the RPB. This is shown in section 1.3



The NWRPB stand at the 2019 Social Care Conference



Denbighshire Dementia Aware stand at the Dementia Strategy event



Appendix 1 – Membership of the NWRPB

As at end of March 2020

Name	Title
Bethan Jones Edwards	Head of Regional Collaboration
Bethan E Jones	Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
Fon Roberts	Isle of Anglesey County Council
Alwyn Jones	Wrexham County Borough Council
Dr Chris Stockport	Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board

Clare Budden	Housing Representative
Cllr Bobby Feeley	Denbighshire County Council
Cllr Christine Jones	Flintshire County Council
Cllr Joan Lowe	Wrexham County Borough Council
Cllr Louise Emery	Conwy County Borough Council
Cllr Llinos Medi Huws	Isle of Anglesey County Council
Cllr Dafydd Meurig	Gwynedd Council
David Worrall (to end of December 2019) Roma Hooper (Action for Children from 1.1.20)	Third Sector Representative
Estelle Hitchon	WAST (Co-opted)
Ffion Johnstone	Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
Jennie Lewis	Carer Rep
Jenny Williams	Conwy County Borough Council
Judith Greenhalgh	NWRLB/CEO Representative
Kevin Roberts	North Wales Fire and Rescue Service (Co-opted)
Lynda Colwell	Third Sector Representative
Marian Wyn Jones (up to end of December 2019)	Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
Lucy Reid (from 1.1.20)	
Mark Wilkinson	Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
Mary Wimbury	Provider Representative
Morwena Edwards	Gwynedd Council
Helen Corcoran (from Nov 2019)	North Wales Police (Co-opted)
Neil Ayling	Flintshire County Council
Nicola Stubbins	Denbighshire County Council

Peter Williams	Carer Rep
Rob Smith	Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
Richard Weigh (up to end of June 2019) Steve Gadd (from Sept 2019)	Chief Finance Officer (Section 151) (Coopted)
Shan Lloyd Williams	Housing Representative
Teresa Owen	Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board
Wendy Jones	North Wales VSC's (Co-opted)
Ruth Whittingham	Regional Collaboration

Appendix 2 Statutory provisions

The partners of the NWRPB have entered into an 'Integration Agreement which is a legal agreement which enshrines their commitment to working together on key identified projects that lend themselves to integrated services and pooled budget arrangements.

The following statutory provisions are permitted to be used to underpin the NWRPB's work:

- Part 9 of the Social Services & Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 – in particular sections 166 and 167 and associated regulations (the Partnership Arrangements (Wales) Regulations 2015).

Other legal powers relied upon in support of regional partnerships entered into include:

- The National Health Service (Wales) Act 2006 – in particular sections 1, 2, 10, 33 and 38, 82.
- S9 Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 powers in respect of collaboration with other local authorities.
- Local Government Act 1972 - in particular s2 which gives local authorities powers to do anything which it considers is likely to achieve any one or more of the following benefits: the promotion or improvement of the economic, social or environmental well-being of the area and section 113 which enables one local authority to place its staff at the disposal of another or health authority or Health Board.
- S111 Local Government Act 1982 provides for a local authority to have the power to do anything which is calculated to facilitate, or is conducive or incidental to, the discharge of their functions.

EXERCISE OF DELEGATED POWERS - DECISIONS TAKEN **REPORTED TO CABINET – 15.12.20**

Housing and Assets

- **To declare the garaging site at Princess Avenue, Buckley, surplus to requirements**

To declare the garaging site at Princess Avenue, Buckley, surplus to requirements in order to allow the disposal of the asset to Clwyd Alyn Housing Association (CAHA) to facilitate the development of affordable housing.

- **Community Asset Transfer, New Brighton Community Centre, Moel Fammau Road, New Brighton**

The transfer of the New Brighton Community Centre as shown on the map.

Education and Youth

- **Ysgol Penyffordd – Junior Site**

To request that the Ysgol Penyffordd junior site be declared surplus to the requirements of Education and Youth Services.

Copies of the Delegated Powers reports are retained by the Team Leader – Committee Services.

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**FLINTSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME ITEMS
COUNCIL, CABINET, AUDIT AND GOVERNANCE & SCRUTINY
1 December 2020 TO 31 May 2021**

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
December					
Cabinet	3/12/20	Streetscene and Transportation	NEWydd Modernisation Programme To seek Cabinet approval for the proposed phased implementation of NEWydd's Modernisation Programme	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	3/12/20	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	

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COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	3/12/20	Social Services	Community Transformation Project Update To report progress and future delivery plans, for a Project to secure transformational change across health and social care.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	3/12/20	Overview and Scrutiny	Mid-year Performance Indicators for Recovery, Portfolio and Public Accountability Measures To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	3/12/20	Social Services	Annual report on the Social Services Complaints and Compliments Procedure 2019-20 To report to members the number of complaints received by Social Services during the period 2019/20 including their broad themes and outcomes and any lessons learned.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	3/12/20	Social Services	<p>Safeguarding Adults and Children’s Annual Report to include the “New Safeguarding Procedures” To provide Members with statistical information in relation to Safeguarding - Adults and Children. To provide an overview of the new Safeguarding Procedures and information on the launch and use of the new procedures within the Council.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	3/12/20	Social Services	<p>Supporting the Social Work Workforce To provide an overview of the work being undertaken to support newly qualified social workers who’s programme of study was disrupted by COVID-19 and to provide detail of the programme of learning and development created to support social workers from their first year in practice through to experienced practitioner.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	3/12/20	Social Services	Recovery Strategy Update To provide oversight on the recovery planning for the Committee's respective portfolio(s).	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	8/12/20	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (Env) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	8/12/20	Planning, Environment and Economy	Recovery Strategy (Planning, Environment & Economy Portfolio) To provide oversight on the recovery planning for the Committee's respective portfolio(s)	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	8/12/20	Planning, Environment and Economy	<p>Welsh Government Consultation on Corporate Joint Committees (CJCs) Welsh Government has secured powers for the creation of CJCs on a regional basis originally to cover economic development, strategic planning, transport and school improvement, though the latter area has been removed from the current proposals. Welsh Government have now launched a consultation to seek views on the details of these proposals.</p>	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	8/12/20	Streetscene and Transportation	<p>Update on Alltami Depot Stores To give assurance that new working arrangements and processes are effective</p>	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	8/12/20	Streetscene and Transportation	Recovery Strategy Update (Streetscene and Transportation Portfolio) To provide oversight on the recovery planning for the Committee's respective portfolio(s)	Strategic	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee Page 176	8/12/20	Streetscene and Transportation	Update on the Mold to Broughton Cycle Scheme and the Development of the County's Core Cycle Network Update on the Mold to Broughton Cycle Scheme and the Development of the County's Core Cycle Network	Strategic	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Flintshire County Council	8/12/20	Governance	Review of Political Balance To review the Council's political balance calculations following Members joining the Independent Alliance Group from the Flintshire Independent Group		

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Flintshire County Council	8/12/20	Overview and Scrutiny	Overview & Scrutiny Annual report 2019/20 To consider and approve the Overview and Scrutiny Annual Report 2019/20.		
Flintshire County Council	8/12/20	Chief Executive's	Capital Strategy 2021/22 – 2023/24 To present the Capital Strategy 2021/22 – 2023/24 for approval		
Flintshire County Council	8/12/20	Governance	Audit Committee Annual Report To approve the Audit Committee Annual Report 2019/20.		
Flintshire County Council	8/12/20	Chief Executive's	Capital Programme 2021/22 – 2023/24 To present the Capital Programme 2021/22 – 2023/24 for approval		
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/12/20	Overview and Scrutiny	Action Tracking To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/12/20	Chief Executive's	Recovery Strategy Update To provide oversight on the recovery planning for the Committee's respective portfolio(s).	Strategic	
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/12/20	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee.	Operational	
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/12/20	Chief Executive's	Revenue Budget Monitoring 2020/21 (Month 7) This regular monthly report provides the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2020/21 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account. The position is based on actual income and expenditure as at Month 7, and projects forward to year-end.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/12/20	Chief Executive's	<p>Council Plan 2020/21 development process To consider development of the proposed Council Plan for 2020/21 with focus on the Committee's respective portfolios.</p>	Strategic	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/12/20	Chief Executive's	<p>Clwyd Pension Fund Update To receive an update on the Clwyd Pension Fund including the Annual Report.</p>	Operational	
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/12/20	Governance	<p>Public Services Ombudsman for Wales Annual Letter 2019-20 and Complaints against Flintshire County Council 2020-21 To share the Ombudsman's Annual Letter 2019-20 and provide an overview of complaints against Council services in the first half of 2020-21.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	15/12/20	Governance	Joint Procurement Service Annual Report 2019/20 To receive a performance update report on the Joint Procurement Service with Denbighshire County Council.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Cabinet	15/12/20	Chief Executive's	Revenue Budget Monitoring 2020/21 (Month 7) This regular monthly report provides the latest revenue budget monitoring position for 2020/21 for the Council Fund and Housing Revenue Account. The position is based on actual income and expenditure as at Month 7, and projects forward to year-end.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance
Cabinet	15/12/20	Education and Youth	Families First - Funding Element To highlight evidenced achievements and to seek support for continuation of provision as detailed in the report.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	15/12/20	Housing and Assets	Ffordd Hiraethog and Ffordd Pandarus, SHARP schemes cost plan To approve the development of 30 new Social Rent homes at Ffordd Hiraethog and Ffordd Pandarus, Maes Pennant, Mostyn.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Housing
Cabinet	15/12/20	Social Services	Commissioning of Learning Disability Day Services To seek approval to re-commission Learning Disability Day Services from an existing provider.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Cabinet	15/12/20	Governance	Annual Review of the Modern Slavery Statement To report on the annual review the Modern Slavery Statement and progress against its aims and actions.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Cabinet	15/12/20	Chief Executive's	Council Fund Revenue Budget 2021/22 To provide an update on the latest position for the Council Fund Revenue Budget 2021/22 following the recent round of Overview and Scrutiny Committees.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	15/12/20	Chief Executive's	<p>Theatr Clwyd ADM Final Transfer Due Diligence Report</p> <p>To receive a full and final report on due diligence once feedback from the Education, Youth and Culture Overview and Scrutiny Committee and a formal proposal from the Shadow Board have been received. To resolve any remaining service contract agreement issues and request delegated authority to finalise contractual process if required.</p>	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Economic Development, Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Cabinet	15/12/20	Housing and Assets	<p>Approval of costs for purchase and refurbishment of properties at Meadowbank Holywell</p> <p>To approve the purchase and refurbishment of four properties at Meadowbank, Holywell for £225,000.</p>	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Housing
Cabinet	15/12/20	Housing and Assets	<p>Sale of Morryston Farm</p> <p>To approve the sale of Morryston Farm.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	15/12/20	Chief Executive's	<p>North Wales Regional Partnership Board Annual Report 2019/20 To share the Annual Report, which provides information to partners with regard to the North Wales Regional Partnership Board and its activities during 2019-20.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Cabinet	15/12/20	Chief Executive's	<p>Welsh Government Consultation on Combined Joint Committees (CJCs) To invite a response on the Welsh Government consultation on the creation of Combined Joint Committees (CJCs).</p>	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets, Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Cabinet	15/12/20	Chief Executive's	<p>Treasury Management Mid-Year Review 2020/21 To present the draft Treasury Management Mid-Year Review for 2020/21 for recommendation to Council.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	16/12/20	Overview and Scrutiny	<p>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Community Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.</p>	Operational	
Page 184 Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	16/12/20	Overview and Scrutiny	<p>Mid-year Performance Indicators for Recovery, Portfolio and Public Accountability Measures To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing, Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	16/12/20	Housing and Assets	<p>Anti-Social Behaviour Policy To consider the Anti-Social Behaviour Policy and provide observations and comments for further consideration.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	16/12/20	Housing and Assets	Recovery Strategy Update To provide oversight on the recovery planning for the Committee's respective portfolio(s).	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Housing
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	16/12/20	Housing and Assets	Welfare Reform Update To provide an update on the impact of Welfare Reform on Flintshire residents.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	16/12/20	Housing and Assets	Housing Rent Income To provide an operational update on rent collection and current arrear levels.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	16/12/20	Housing and Assets	Community Benefit - WATES To provide information on the Community Benefit being delivered through the SHARP Programme.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	17/12/20	Overview and Scrutiny	Mid-year Performance Indicators for Recovery, Portfolio and Public Accountability Measures To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities, performance levels and current risk levels as identified in the Council Plan.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	17/12/20	Chief Executive's	Aura: Business Recovery Plan To report on the Business Recovery Plan for Aura	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	17/12/20	Education and Youth	Blended Learning To provide oversight of the work of schools, GwE and the Portfolio to maintain quality educational provision during the pandemic	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	17/12/20	Education and Youth	Adult Community Learning To consider the new approach to delivery of our statutory responsibilities for Adult Community Learning	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	17/12/20	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (EY& C) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Education Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	17/12/20	Education and Youth	Recovery Strategy Update To provide oversight on the recovery planning for the Committee's respective portfolio(s)	Strategic	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
January					
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12/01/21	Chief Executive's	Council Plan 2020/21(E&E) To consider the proposed Council Plan for 2020/21 with specific focus on the Committee's respective portfolio(s).	Strategic	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12/01/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<p>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (Env & E) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.</p>	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	14/01/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<p>Action Tracking (CROSC) To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	14/01/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<p>Forward Work Programme (CROSC) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Corporate Resources O & S Committee</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	14/01/21	Finance	<p>Revenue budget monitoring 2020/21 (month 8) To provide members with the latest budget monitoring position for 2020/21 on the Revenue Budget as at Month 8</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	14/01/21	Chief Executive's	Member Communication and Case Management Support update To provide an update on Member Communication and Case Management Support.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	14/01/21	People and Resources	Employment & Workforce update to include Absence trends and analysis for Quarters 1 & 2 This report covers strategic updates in addition to the quarterly workforce statistics and their analysis.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	14/01/21	Planning, Environment and Economy	Community Safety Partnership Annual Report To receive the Community Safety Partnership Annual Report.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Planning and Public Protection
Cabinet	19/01/21	Social Services	Holywell Extra care Scheme – Plas y Wren To provide cabinet with an update on the opening of Flintshire 4th Extra care scheme.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Cabinet	19/01/21	Social Services	<p>Holway and Flint Town Centre Community Resilience Project To provide Cabinet with assurance and update on the project being undertaken to support the Flintshire communities who are part of the Community Resilience Project.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	20/01/21	Chief Executive's	<p>Council Plan 2020/21(CH&A) To consider the proposed Council Plan for 2020/21 with specific focus on the Committee's respective portfolio(s).</p>	Strategic	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	20/01/21	Housing and Assets	<p>Flintshire Food Enterprise and the Food Poverty Response To outline the work of the Flintshire Food Enterprise and its response to Food Poverty.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	20/01/21	Housing and Assets	<p>NEW Homes Business Plan To consider the NEW Homes Business Plan</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	20/01/21	Housing and Assets	Housing Strategy Update To provide an update on the Housing Strategy	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	20/01/21	Housing and Assets	Housing Revenue Account (HRA) To consider the proposed Housing Revenue Account (HRA) Budget for 2020/21 and the HRA Business Plan.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Housing
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	20/01/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (CH & E) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Community Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	21/01/21	Chief Executive's	Council Plan 2020/21 (S&H) To consider the proposed Council Plan for 2020/21 with specific focus on the Committee's respective portfolio(s).	Strategic	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	21/01/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (S & H) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	21/01/21	Social Services	Arosfa update To receive a progress report.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	21/01/21	Social Services	Part 9 Regional Partnership Board Annual Report: 2019/2020 To receive the Annual Report	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	21/01/21	Social Services	Marleyfield House update To receive a progress report	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	21/01/21	Social Services	Plas yr Ywen (Holywell Extra Care) To receive a progress report	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	21/01/21	Social Services	Young Carers – NEWCIS Contract To scrutinise performance and outcomes being delivered for Young Carers through a new contract and service model with NEWCIS.	Operational	
Audit Committee	27/01/21	Chief Executive's	Annual Improvement Report 2019/20 of the Auditor General for Wales To receive the Annual Improvement Report from the Auditor General for Wales and note the Council's response.	Strategic	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	28/01/21	Chief Executive's	Council Plan 2020/21 (EY & C) To consider the proposed Council Plan for 2020/21 with specific focus on the Committee's respective portfolio(s).	Strategic	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	28/01/21	Education and Youth	Learner Outcome Assessment Processes for 2021 To provide Members with an overview of the examination and assessment arrangements for Summer 2021.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	28/01/21	Education and Youth	Learner Outcomes 2020 To provide Members with a summary of learner outcomes across primary and secondary schools for 2020	Operational	
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	28/01/21	Education and Youth	School Modernisation Update To provide Members with an update on the School Modernisation Programme	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	28/01/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (EY& C) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Education Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
February					
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/02/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (Env & E) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/02/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme (CROSC) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Corporate Resources O & S Committee	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/02/21	Finance	Revenue budget monitoring 2020/21 (month 9) To provide members with the latest budget monitoring position for 2020/21 on the Revenue Budget as at Month 9.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/02/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Action Tracking (CROSC) To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
March					
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	4/03/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (S & H) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	9/03/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (Env & E) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	10/03/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<p>Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (CH & E) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Community Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/03/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<p>Forward Work Programme (CROSC) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Corporate Resources O & S Committee</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/03/21	Finance	<p>Revenue budget monitoring 2020/21 (month 10) To provide members with the latest budget monitoring position for 2020/21 on the Revenue Budget as at Month 10.</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Finance
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	11/03/21	Overview and Scrutiny	<p>Action Tracking (CROSC) To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings</p>	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

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COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	18/03/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (EY&C) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Education Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
April					
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	13/04/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (Env & E) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	15/04/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Action Tracking (CROSC) To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	15/04/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme (CROSC) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Corporate Resources O & S Committee	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	15/04/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (S & H) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services
Community, Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee	28/04/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (CH & E) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Community Housing & Assets Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Housing

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee	29/04/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (EY&C) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Education Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education
May					
Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee	12/05/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (Env & E) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Environment & Economy Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Streetscene and Countryside
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	13/05/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Action Tracking (CROSC) To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets

COMMITTEE	MEETING DATE	CHIEF OFFICER PORTFOLIO	AGENDA ITEM & PURPOSE OF REPORT	REPORT TYPE (Strategic or Operational) (Cabinet only)	PORTFOLIO (Cabinet only)
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	13/05/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme (CROSC) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Corporate Resources O & S Committee	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee	13/05/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Action Tracking (CROSC) To inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings	Operational	Cabinet Member for Corporate Management and Assets
Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee	27/05/21	Overview and Scrutiny	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking (S & H) To consider the Forward Work Programme of the Social & Health Care Overview & Scrutiny Committee and to inform the Committee of progress against actions from previous meetings.	Operational	Cabinet Member for Social Services

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