

Public Document Pack

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To: Cllr Teresa Carberry (Chair)

Councillors: Bill Crease, Paul Cunningham, Gladys Healey, Gina Maddison,
Dave Mackie, Ryan McKeown, Andrew Parkhurst, Carolyn Preece,
David Richardson, Jason Shallcross and Arnold Woolley

Co-opted Members:

Lynn Bartlett and Wendy White

27 January 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

NOTICE OF HYBRID MEETING
EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
THURSDAY, 2ND FEBRUARY, 2023 at 2.00 PM

Yours faithfully

Steven Goodrum
Democratic Services Manager

Please note: Attendance at this meeting is either in person in the Council Chamber, Flintshire County Council, County Hall, Mold, Flintshire or on a virtual basis.

The meeting will be live streamed onto the Council's website. The live streaming will stop when any confidential items are considered. A recording of the meeting will also be available, shortly after the meeting at <https://flintshire.public-i.tv/core/portal/home>

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 (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)**

Purpose: To receive any Declarations and advise Members accordingly.

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

Purpose: To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 1 December, 2022.

4 **FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKING** (Pages 11 - 22)

Report of Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator

Purpose: 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.

5 **MUSIC SERVICE THEATR CLWYD** (Pages 23 - 34)

Report of Chief Officer (Education and Youth) - Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure

Purpose: To provide the Committee with information on the Music Service, including numbers of learners.

6 **COUNCIL PLAN 2022-23 MID-YEAR PERFORMANCE REPORTING** (Pages 35 - 58)

Report of Chief Officer (Education and Youth) - Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure

Purpose: To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities and performance levels identified in the Council Plan.

Please note that there may be a 10 minute adjournment of this meeting if it lasts longer than two hours

EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE **1 DECEMBER 2022**

Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee of Flintshire County Council held on Thursday 1 December 2022.

PRESENT: Councillor Teresa Carberry (Chair)

Councillors: Bill Crease, Paul Cunningham, Gladys Healey, Gina Maddison, Dave Mackie, Andrew Parkhurst, Carolyn Preece, David Richardson, Jason Shallcross and Arnold Woolley.

CO-OPTEE: Mrs Lynne Bartlett

APOLOGY: Mrs Wendy White

SUBSTITUTIONS: Councillor: Linda Thomas (for Councillor Ryan McKeown)

CONTRIBUTORS:

Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure; Chief Executive; Chief Officer (Education & Youth); Corporate Finance Manager; Strategic Finance Manager (Capital Technical and Financial Systems); Strategic Finance Manager (Financial Strategy and Insurance); Senior Manager Inclusion & Progression; Senior Learning Advisor – Engagement and Operations Manager – Youth Justice Service

IN ATTENDANCE:

Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator, Democratic Services Manager and Democratic Services Officer

34. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (INCLUDING WHIPPING DECLARATIONS)

There were no declarations of interest.

35. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on the 10 October 2022 were approved as moved and seconded by Councillors Dave Mackie and Carolyn Preece.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 20 October 2022 were approved as moved and seconded by Councillors Bill Crease and Carolyn Preece.

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meetings held on 10th and 20th October be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

36. FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKING

The Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator presented the current Forward Work Programme which was attached at Appendix 1 of the report and confirmed that there were no proposed changes to the items listed. She confirmed that all actions from the last meeting had been completed. Information was provided on the Estyn workshop and School Performance Monitoring Group briefing session together with a reminder that the GwE workshop was taking place on Monday 5 December at 2.00 pm

The recommendations, as outlined within the report, were moved by Mrs Lynne Bartlett and seconded by Councillor Gladys Healey.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Forward Work Programme be noted;
- (b) That the Facilitator, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises; and
- (c) That the progress made in completing the outstanding actions be noted.

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

RESOLVED:

That the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item as this was considered to contain exempt information by virtue of paragraphs 15 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

37. MTFS AND BUDGET SETTING 2023/24

A joint presentation was provided by the Chief Officer (Education and Youth) and Strategic Finance Manager (Financial Strategy and Insurance) which covered the following areas:

- Purpose and Background
- Reminder of the Council's Budget position
- Education and Youth Cost Pressures
- Education and Youth Budget Reductions
- Schools Cost Pressures
- Schools Budget Reductions
- Schools Funding – 2022/23
- Out of County Cost Pressure
- Next steps for the Budget Setting Process 2023/24

Members thanked officers for the presentation and detail provided and the work undertaken in engaging with schools across Flintshire. Comments were made around the unprecedented situation but there were positive initiatives to note, notably the rollout of Free School Meals.

The Leader of the Council responded to the comments made by Members around the need for schools to receive clarity and certainty on their budgets as soon as possible and agreed with the comments. He hoped that the provisional settlement from Welsh Government to be received on 14 December would provide this.

The recommendation, as outlined within the report, was moved by Councillor Carolyn Preece and seconded by Councillor Ryan McKeown

RESOLVED:

That the comments made by the Committee be collated and shared with Cabinet ahead of its meeting on 20 December 2022.

38. ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION

The Senior Manager, Inclusion & Progression presented the report which contained information on the number of children who were being electively home schooled. The report provided information on the rate and numbers for Flintshire, which was below the Welsh average at present and an outline was provided of the percentage of pupils becoming Elective Home Educated (EHE) and when this happened with year 7 a pivotal year for this when children moved to secondary school.

The Senior Manager reported that parents were not required to seek approval or notify the Authority that they were electively home educating their child. There were processes to enable questions to be asked of parents and provide advice and support to them and she outlined some of the reasons given by parents. The Authority was not required to provide financial support to parents but grant funding had been made available to support this and work was ongoing with families to determine how best to use that resource. The Authority had a duty to monitor the families, and if concerns were raised it could issue a School Attendance Order and nominate a school which the child must attend. No Orders had been issued during the last year. Information was provided on the monitoring role of the service and appointment of the Education Support Officer who was supported by the Education Welfare Service when raising concerns. The Education Support Officer had received positive responses to meetings, and she highlighted some of the issues raised by parents and resolutions made. The Authority was part of the regional and national forums and reassurance had been provided that revised guidance would be provided next year. A mandatory database of all pupils who were EHE had been proposed by Welsh Government (WG) but this was being resisted by the EHE community so guidance on this was being awaited.

In response to questions from Councillor Dave Mackie, the Senior Manager thanked him for his positive comments which she would feed back to the team. With regards to groups or similarities she said that this varied with some still experiencing high levels of anxiety and these children were able to access their education outside of school. She explained some parents chose to do this because of pressure being

put on them because of school attendance. This was where the Education Welfare Service challenged parents to find out if this was right for the young person and the young person's comments and involvement were part of this process. She then highlighted the number of pupils who had returned to school following the proactive work undertaken by schools and the team.

In response to a question from Councillor Andrew Parkhurst on the monitoring of children who were not in education, the Senior Manager reported that previously colleagues in health notified the Authority for children in nursery and reception years. This enabled contact with those parents when the children did not enrol in a school, but the Authority was challenged on this and told it was not entitled to this information. There was no requirement for a parent to register with the Authority if they had not been in school. WG hoped to remedy this through the national database but there was a strong lobby from the EHE community against this.

In response to a question from Councillor Parkhurst on joint working, the Senior Manager confirmed there were very strong relationships across Council services with an Education Welfare Officer part of the Early Help Hub. Contact would be made with the parents to discuss the education that was being provided but had no right to enter a property. Any concerns would be raised with colleagues in Social Services for them to visit

The Senior Learning Adviser – Engagement confirmed that there were several partner agencies and other Local Authorities across Wales involved ensuring anyone who moved into the area could be identified. There was also a substantive, coordinated partnership with the Community Team, Youth Service and Progression Team who were constantly out in the community talking to young people and it was sometimes the children who were not in school who were identified which enabled steps to be taken to make the safeguarding enquires.

In response to concerns raised by Councillor Bill Crease on children falling through the process when moving from one Authority area to another, the Chief Officer (Education & Youth) said the portfolio shared these concerns. She reported that the previous Committee had written to WG specifically asking the question around their intention to create a national database. Many parents made this choice and were protective of their right to make that choice which had to be respected. The Authority also had significant responsibilities around the safeguarding of children and young people and felt the systems were as robust as possible within the absence of that database.

In response to questions from Councillor Gladys Healey around safeguarding and the level of education provided, the Chief Officer said the portfolio also shared these concerns, but that Members had been provided with that re-assurance from the report by the Senior Manager and the Senior Learning Advisor. She said that within the remit and powers available the Authority was endeavouring to work constructively with families who had made those choices and were undertaking that monitoring role and any safeguarding concerns were raised with the Children's Services team. The Authority was continuing to press WG for that national database and agreed with Councillor Healey's comments that every child developed the skills and knowledge to achieve their potential later in life with core skills vital for that.

The Chair thanked the Senior Manager and her team and commented that she was not surprised by the increase in numbers in secondary schools with pupils transitioning from primary. She reported on her visits to primary schools to visit pupils who were moving up and felt that it was often the parents who were very concerned. It was understandable that the past two years had heightened those concerns and the impacts had been felt with the children spending less time with their peers. The work the team carried out was extremely important.

The Chair suggested that the Committee write to the WG to outline their concerns around the need for a national database. This suggestion was supported by Members of the Committee.

The recommendation, as outlined within the report, together with an additional recommendation that a letter be written to the WG to encourage the creation of a national register database for children who were home educated, was moved by Councillor Bill Crease and seconded by Councillor Gladys Healey.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee recognise the importance of ongoing dedicated officer time to support and monitor provision for this particular cohort of children; and
- (b) That a letter be written to the WG to encourage the creation of a national register database for children who were home educated.

39. INTEGRATED YOUTH PROVISION – DELIVERY PLAN UPDATE

The Chief Officer (Education & Youth) reported that the Senior Manager, Integrated Youth Provision had not been able to attend the meeting, but he had prepared the report and she agreed to provide feedback and questions from Members to him following the meeting.

The Chief Officer outlined the partnership working to support young people as detailed in the report. She provided information on the support, development and training being provided to those partners to enable effective service delivery. She explained that there were significant recruitment challenges for this service which had impacted on the service which could be delivered but explained that youth work was very rewarding and had to incorporate progression pathways for young people who use the service to consider developing a career in that service. She referenced the Apprenticeship Framework partnership working with Adult Learning Wales and Glyndwr University to ensure there were qualifications available for those young people to undertake locally.

The Chief Officer reported that the Senior Manager, Integrated Youth Provision was looking at how he could quantify, set targets, and monitor outputs for the service and the impacts on young people. The changes he was proposing included changing the supplier for the electronic monitoring system to a more effective model and information on this was provided within the report. The Senior

Manager, Integrated Youth Provision also wanted to use all the information contained in the report and appendices to shape the services moving forward to support young people. The Chief Officer said that by supporting young people's emotional well being helped them engage more at school and had a positive impact on their lives.

In response to the question of clarity at point 1.03 of the report from Councillor Dave Macie, the Chief Officer explained that it referred to the Duke of Edinburgh Award which a significant number of schools had signed up to and which was very beneficial for young people. The retiring Senior Youth Worker was also the Duke of Edinburgh lead and provided support to schools to run their own programmes and meet the accreditation processes. She provided information on the open access centre in Mold and steps being undertaken to enable this to continue.

Councillor Dave Mackie suggested that a workshop for Committee Members to outline how the objectives within the Delivery Plan 2021-2024 would be delivered. The Chief Officer welcomed this suggestion and said that a workshop could be arranged for later in the 2023 year and that young people could be invited to the workshop to outline their perspective to the Committee.

Councillor Paul Cunningham referred to the Apprenticeship Framework and said that this was excellent saying University was not for everyone. He was pleased that this was being put forward as a qualification for young people to join the Youth Service via the Apprentice Framework.

In response to comments made by Councillor Bill Crease on the four recommendations and data management systems, the Chief Officer agreed that quotative data was very important for scrutiny to hold officers to account but was not the only way to evaluate outcomes. She felt it was the voices of the young people who would be vital in demonstrating how the service was having a positive impact on their lives.

In response to a question from Mrs Lynne Bartlett on the availability of a map of the County outlining the location of youth clubs, where partnership provision was located and how this linked in with anti-social behaviour, the Chief Officer confirmed there was such a map. The GIS mapping system was used for many of the Councils provisions and was currently being updated by the Senior Manager, Integrated Youth Provision and the Senior Manager, Youth Justice Service. She explained that mapping where the youth clubs were located and looking at the data for incidents of anti-social behaviour enabled the resources to be targeted in an effective way.

The Senior Manager, Youth Justice Service outlined the close working relationships with the Youth Services and partners in North Wales Police around issues linked to anti-social behaviour. He explained how the IT department were linking the information currently held with the GIS Framework within the Council. Both Youth Justice and Youth Services attended the Community Demand Reduction Partnership which was the Police led anti-social behaviour task group. The information received from this Group together with the information received from the Youth Justice Team enabled work to be undertaken with Youth Services, Flintshire Sorted and Youth Justice to look at developing outreach models to target those

resources where anti-social behaviour was located. Monthly meetings were held with the community beat sergeants in Flintshire North and South with data received at those meetings included to target services to the areas that needed it most.

Councillor Carolyn Preece spoke in support of the Upshot System which would save the Council money over the next three years.

The recommendations, as outlined within the report, were moved by Councillor Bill Crease and seconded by Councillor Carolyn Preece.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Committee approve the decision to replace the QES system with Upshot, allowing for more efficient and effective data collation across all IYP programmes, thus allowing improved monitoring, evaluation and learning which would lead to improved service delivery;
- (b) That the Committee endorse the facilitation of training for partner organisations, such as sports clubs and uniformed organisations, in order to grow the reach of youth work informed practice, further supporting the health and well-being of young people in Flintshire;
- (c) That the Committee acknowledge that progress has been made against the plan and that future revisions to the plan should be carefully considered by the wider IYP team in line with feedback from young people; and
- (d) That the Committee support the decision to begin the Quality Mark Accreditation process in the Spring, beginning at Bronze and following the key recommendations from this process, bring the action plan back to Cabinet to agree progression towards Silver and Gold.

40. MEMBERS OF THE PRESS IN ATTENDANCE

There were no members of the press in attendance.

(The meeting started at 14.00 p.m. and ended at 15.52 pm)

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Chair

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EDUCATION YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday 2 nd February, 2023
Report Subject	Forward Work Programme and Action Tracking
Report Author	Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview & Scrutiny presents a unique opportunity for Members to determine the Forward Work programme of the Committee of which they are Members. By reviewing and prioritising the Forward Work Programme Members are able to ensure it is Member-led and includes the right issues. A copy of the Forward Work Programme is attached at Appendix 1 for Members' consideration which has been updated following the last meeting.

The Committee is asked to consider, and amend where necessary, the Forward Work Programme for the Education Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

The report also shows actions arising from previous meetings of the Education Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee and the progress made in completing them. Any outstanding actions will be continued to be reported to the Committee as shown in Appendix 2.

RECOMMENDATION

1	That the Committee considers the draft Forward Work Programme and approve/amend as necessary.
2	That the Facilitator, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee be authorised to vary the Forward Work Programme between meetings, as the need arises.
3	That the Committee notes the progress made in completing the outstanding actions.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE FORWARD WORK PROGRAMME AND ACTION TRACKING
1.01	Items feed into a Committee's Forward Work Programme from a number of sources. Members can suggest topics for review by Overview & Scrutiny Committees, members of the public can suggest topics, items can be referred by the Cabinet for consultation purposes, or by County Council or Chief Officers. Other possible items are identified from the Cabinet Work Programme and the Improvement Plan.
1.02	<p>In identifying topics for future consideration, it is useful for a 'test of significance' to be applied. This can be achieved by asking a range of questions as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Will the review contribute to the Council's priorities and/or objectives?2. Is it an area of major change or risk?3. Are there issues of concern in performance?4. Is there new Government guidance of legislation?5. Is it prompted by the work carried out by Regulators/Internal Audit?6. Is the issue of Public or Member concern?
1.03	In previous meetings, requests for information, reports or actions have been made. These have been summarised as action points. Following a meeting of the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee in July 2018, it was recognised that there was a need to formalise such reporting back to Overview & Scrutiny Committees, as 'Matters Arising' was not an item which can feature on an agenda.
1.04	It was suggested that the 'Action tracking' approach be trialled for the Corporate Resources Overview & Scrutiny Committee. Following a successful trial, it was agreed to extend the approach to all Overview & Scrutiny Committees.
1.05	The Action Tracking details including an update on progress is attached at Appendix 2.

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	None as a result of this report.

3.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
3.01	In some cases, action owners have been contacted to provide an update on their actions.

4.00	RISK MANAGEMENT
4.01	None as a result of this report.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 – Draft Forward Work Programme Appendix 2 – Action Tracking for the Education Youth & Culture OSC.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Minutes of previous meetings of the Committee as identified in Appendix 2. Contact Officer: Ceri Shotton Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator Telephone: 01352 702305 E-mail: ceri.shotton@flintshire.gov.uk

7.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
7.01	Improvement Plan: the document which sets out the annual priorities of the Council. It is a requirement of the Local Government (Wales) Measure 2009 to set Improvement Objectives and publish an Improvement Plan.

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CURRENT FWP

Date of meeting	Subject	Purpose of Report	Scrutiny Focus	Responsible / Contact Officer
<p>Thursday 23rd March, 2023 2.00pm</p> <p>Page 15</p>	<p>Anti-racist Wales Action Plan</p>	<p>To outline how the Council is meeting the requirements of the Welsh Government Anti-racist Wales Action Plan in line with the development of the new Curriculum for Wales.</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Education & Youth)</p>
	<p>Theatr Clwyd Business Plan</p>	<p>To consider the Theatr Clwyd Business Plan for 2023-2029</p>	<p>Information Sharing</p>	<p>Chief Executive</p>
	<p>School Parking</p>	<p>To provide information on the traffic regulation process and enforcement provision (referred by the Environment & Economy OSC)</p>	<p>Information Sharing</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation) and Chief Officer (Education & Youth)</p>
<p>Thursday 11th May, 2023 2.00pm</p>	<p>Tackling Inequality</p>	<p>To outline how the Council supporting early childhood education and care, primary and secondary education and all forms of post-16 education, training and lifelong learning to ensure an equitable education system for all.</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Education & Youth)</p>
<p>Supporting Service Children in Education</p>	<p>To provide an update report to outline the priority actions of schools following the audit.</p>	<p>Information Sharing</p>	<p>Senior Manager – School Improvement</p>	

	Attendance & Exclusions	To provide Members with an overview of school attendance and exclusions and the role of the Portfolio's support services in this area.	Information Sharing	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
<p>Thursday 29th June, 2023</p> <p>Joint meeting with S&HC OSC - 2.00pm</p> <p>Page 16</p>	Safeguarding in Education including Internet Safety and Social Media	To provide an update on the discharge of statutory safeguarding duties in schools and the Education portfolio. To include information on Relationship and Sexual Education and how this was contributing to reducing harm.	Assurance Monitoring	Chief Officer (Education & Youth) and Healthy Schools Practitioner
	Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018	To outline the approach to the identification and commissioning of post 16 education for Flintshire young people.	Assurance Monitoring	Senior Manager – Inclusion & Progression
	Looked After Children in Flintshire	To provide an update on the provision for Looked After Children. And to provide an update on the challenges, positive working and how young people were supported through the pilot to provide funding directly to looked after children leaving care.	Assurance Monitoring	Senior Manager – Inclusion & Progression
	Supporting Refugees in Schools	To provide information and an overview of support service provided to support refugees in schools.	Information Sharing	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)

<p>Thursday 13th July, 2023</p> <p>2.00pm</p>	<p>Annual Report from Regional School Improvement Service, GwE</p>	<p>To receive an update on the support provided by the regional school effectiveness and improvement service, GWE and its impact on schools</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Education & Youth) and Managing Director of GwE</p>
	<p>Estyn Inspection of Adult Community Learning (ACL) within the North East Wales Adult Community Learning Partnership</p>	<p>To present the detailed action plan and next steps.</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Education & Youth)</p>
	<p>Council Plan 2022-23 Year-End Performance</p>	<p>To review the levels of progress in the achievement of activities and performance levels identified in the Council Plan.</p>	<p>Assurance Monitoring</p>	<p>Chief Officer (Education & Youth)</p>

INFORMATION REPORTS/BRIEFING PAPERS TO BE CIRCULATED TO THE COMMITTEE

Item	Purpose of information report	Month
Health & Safety in Schools	Information report on accidents during the academic year and the actions taken to support schools in achieving healthy and safe environment.	December
Parking Outside Schools	To provide information from the Highways Team on legislation around parking outside schools and the mechanism in place for joint working with the Police and Schools.	-
Policies for dealing with bullying in schools	To provide information on School Policies for dealing with instances of bullying.	-

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Items to be scheduled

- Healthy Schools report - to include overview of Healthy Schools Programme, Challenges of Pandemic, Design to Smile and public health risk of Vape use by pupils – **As agreed during the July, 2022 meeting.**
- School Meals Service - to include overview of structural changes since moving across to NEWYDD, central production model, plans for universal roll out of Free School Meals and use of processed food in school meals - **As agreed during the July, 2022 meeting.**
- Update to be requested from IT on issues with PSPA, National infrastructure challenges in Flintshire - **As agreed during the July, 2022 meeting.**
- Recycling School Uniforms – **Referred to the Committee from the Environment & Economy OSC.**

REGULAR ITEMS

Month	Item	Purpose of Report	Responsible / Contact Officer
February/ March	School Modernisation	To update Members on the progress made with School Modernisation.	Senior Manager School Planning & Provision
May	Attendance & Exclusions	To provide Members with an overview of school attendance and exclusions and the role of the Portfolio's support services in this area.	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
September	Self-evaluation on education services & learner outcomes	To update Members on overall service performance including Learner Outcomes.	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
June	Additional Learning Needs	To update members on the implementation of national ALN reforms in schools and the role of the Portfolio's support services in this area.	Senior Manager – Inclusion & Progression
July	Regional School Effectiveness and Improvement Service (GwE)	To receive an update on progress with the development of the regional school effectiveness and improvement service, to include a presentation from the Chief Officer of GwE.	Chief Officer (Education & Youth) & GwE Senior Officers
September	School Balances	To provide the Committee with details of the closing balances held by Flintshire schools at the end of the financial year.	Finance Manager
Annually	Learning from the School Performance Monitoring Group (SPMG) -	To receive the annual report on progress and learning from the SPMG.	Senior Manager – School Improvement;
Annually	Social Media & Internet Safety - now part of Safeguarding Report to the Joint Scrutiny Committee	To receive an annual report assurance/monitoring.	Healthy Schools Practitioner

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ACTION TRACKING FOR THE EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date	Agenda item	Action Required	Action Officer(s)	Action taken	Timescale
01.12.2022	5. MTFS & Budget Setting 2023-24 (Stage 2)	That the comments made by the Committee be collated and shared with Cabinet ahead of its meeting on 20 December, 2022.	Ceri Shotton / Sara Dulson	Comments from the Committee have been collated along with comments made at all Scrutiny Committee meetings in December and sent to relevant officers.	Completed
01.12.2022	6. Elective Home Education	That the positive comments on the support provided by the team be shared with them.	Jeanette Rock	Positive feedback has been feedback to the team.	Completed
01.12.2022	6. Elective Home Education	As outlined at recommendation (b), that a letter be written to the WG to encourage the creation of a national register database for children who were home educated.	Jeanette Rock	Letter sent to WG on 04.01.2022.	Completed
01.12.2022	7. Integrated Youth Provision – Delivery Plan Update	That a workshop be arranged with relevant officers to outline how the objectives within the Delivery Plan 2021-2024 will be delivered. Also suggested that young people be invited to the workshop to outline their perspective to the Committee.	Matt Hayes / Ceri Shotton	Consultation being carried out on possible dates for the summer 2023.	On-going

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EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday 2 nd February, 2023
Report Subject	Music Service Theatr Clwyd
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education and the Welsh Language
Report Author	Chief Officer (Education and Youth)
Type of Report	Operational

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update and overview of Theatr Clwyd Music Trust following its first 18 months of delivery, as set against agreed principles of transfer in 2019 from the Education Portfolio within the Council to Theatr Clwyd. This transfer was designed to initially protect, but also to further enhance, the delivery of music education services to the children and young people of Flintshire which was under threat due to increasing financial pressures on the Council.

The Theatr Clwyd Music Trust is now well established and despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, is making steady progress in achieving its ambitious business plan priorities.

The Trust is one of the key delivery mechanisms for the National Plan for Music Education which was established by Welsh Government in 2022. This ensures children and young people in Flintshire benefit from this important national initiative regardless of their financial circumstances.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1	That members note the developments of the Theatr Clwyd Music Trust, since its creation, including the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.
2	That members are assured that the Theatr Clwyd Music Trust is positively and actively delivering on the National Music Service Plan for the benefit of children and young people in Flintshire.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE THEATR CLWYD MUSIC SERVICE TRUST	
1.01	<u>Background</u> Flintshire Music Service, as a discretionary service within the Education Portfolio, had been under increasing financial pressure due to reductions in funding for local government and increasing pressures for the delivery of statutory services. The Music Service had a complex operating and financial method, non-equitable charging and lesson structure for both schools and parents which resulted in the cost of the tuition and charge to schools and parents not being equitable cross the county. There was also a heavy administrative burden on schools.	
1.02	As a benchmark, prior to the change of service model, income to the Music Service in 2019-20 via schools was £638k, of which £233k was notionally delegated funding agreed with the Headteacher Federations. The balance of £405k was paid by schools through parental contributions and school funds. There was no certainty about the level contributed by families for their lessons and the charges were not equitable across the authority.	
1.03	During 2018/2019, whilst Theatr Clwyd was still part of Flintshire County Council, significant work was done with the teaching unions representing the workforce within the Flintshire Music Service to TUPE them onto the Theatr Clwyd House Agreement. This offered more flexibility of working arrangements than was possible under the national model of School Teachers' Pay and Conditions. This flexibility provided greater opportunities to generate income to make the Music Service more sustainable. Without this approach there was a significant risk that the provision of music services to schools would have to cease.	
1.04	<p>This new model was adopted and agreed at the Council's School Budget Forum in late 2019. This was then included in the 2021 transfer of Theatr Clwyd into an independent charitable trust and trading group, with the creation of a dedicated organisation called Theatr Clwyd Music Trust.</p> <p>The new model was agreed based on the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High Quality Music Service • Value for money • Equitable and transparent charging structure • Reduce financial and administrative burden from schools • Increased choice for schools and parents 	
1.05	The headline summary of the changes are detailed below:	
	Flintshire Music Service	Theatr Clwyd Music
	Schools charged £53.20 per hour	Schools Charged £38.20 per hour
	Notional delegation of £235k in lieu of tuition hours	'Top slice' £250k to Theatr Clwyd

	Net cost to school estimated at £200k	Net cost to schools estimated at £150k
	One tuition choice Small group lesson of 30 minutes (numbers in group ranged from 2 to 9)	Four different tuition choices Group size less with two or three participants or individual lessons of 20 or 30 minutes
	Recommend Annual charge for families £132 per year equivalent to £4.40 per lesson The charging varied from school to school	Annual Charges for families £160 or £4.70 per lesson (3 per group, 30 mins) £245 or £7.20 per lesson (2 per group, 30 mins) £380 or £11.18 per lesson (Ind 20 mins) £570 or £16.76 per lesson (Ind 30 mins)
	Schools responsible for collating lesson requests and collecting monies for lessons	Theatr Clwyd responsible for collating lesson requests and collecting all monies
	Minimum 30 lessons per year	Set number of 34 lessons per year
	<p>Additionally:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools agreed to charge families the same price across lessons in line with Music Service guidance • Schools agreed to continue to fund eFSM learners wishing to participate in music lessons. <p>There is an initial five-year commitment to this arrangement to ensure security is given to the service during period of change and improvement.</p>	
1.06	<p>Over the next five years, Theatr Clwyd's Music Trust aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain and improve the quality and options of the Music Service • Continue to reduce costs for schools • Continue to reduce costs for parents • Increase choice for schools and parents • Ensure all families are charged the same across the county • Work towards a cost neutral model for schools • Reduce administrative burden on schools 	
1.07	<p><u>The Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic</u></p> <p>COVID-19 delayed the implementation of the new model. During the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic year, learners were offered to</p>	

	<p>continue their lessons free of charge; refunds for schools and families were passed onto schools. Lessons were a mixture of pre-recorded and live interactive online sessions.</p> <p>The academic year 2020-2021 was delivered purely online and the music teachers delivered from home so as not to contribute to the spread of the virus and pose further risks to schools. Numbers learning an instrument dipped below 400 despite lessons being offered at lower prices than previously and with no charge to schools. The significant losses to income for the Music Trust were recovered via the Welsh Government Local Government Hardship Fund.</p>
1.08	<p><u>September 2021</u></p> <p>A whole year after the planned implementation, delivery returned to schools with the new model. School engagement in summer 2020 was aimed at re-informing schools of the new model and asking for their help in sharing the new offer for pupils. New software was introduced which facilitated school and family communications, and this allowed us to lessen the administrative burden for schools, which had been significant. This was welcomed by schools.</p> <p>The service was fully operationally albeit with comprehensive risk assessments and mitigations due to ongoing COVID-19 guidance, but the positive impact on learner numbers can clearly be seen. During the first term numbers of learners steadily rose, and total charges to schools during this year (not including eFSM, GCSE, and A-level tuition) was reduced to £55k.</p> <p>The reduction in learner numbers during the 2020-21 academic year was most keenly felt in Connah's Quay, Holywell and Saltney. Engagement with eFSM learners across the authority was still considerably lower than in 2019/20 with just 42 receiving small group and individual lessons. Numbers of young people having small group and individual lessons was 975 with a further 105 receiving whole class tuition in Sealand, St Mary's (Flint) and Ysgol Mornant. There were 5 after school ensembles meeting weekly with 65 participants.</p>
1.09	<p><u>September 2022</u></p> <p>The second year of the new model has seen an increase of 10% in numbers receiving small group and individual lessons and the number receiving whole class experiences has remained at 105. In September 2022 the number of eFSM learners receiving small group and individual lessons was 76 which is almost double the number of eFSM learners last year, but is still less than 10% of total number of young people having music lessons. This does not compare favourably with the percentage numbers of pupils eligible for free school meals across Flintshire which is closer to 20%. There will be an ongoing focus with schools to increase the number of eFSM learners being able to access music tuition, which can be legitimately funded through the Pupil Development Grant funding schools receive directly for pupils entitled to Free School Meals. The number of ensembles has increased to 8 to include beginners and numbers</p>

	<p>participating are growing weekly. Currently, there are 81 participating in ensembles, an increase of 20% in 2021/22.</p> <p>The financial contribution from schools has increased to approximately £65k for the year, reflecting the increase in participation. School contributions are based on actual lessons given, rather than in the previous model where contributions were agreed and fixed at the beginning of the academic year. This ensures that schools' contributions reflect the actual tuition received. This fairer model is welcomed by schools.</p>																								
1.10	<p><u>Overview of Lessons and Pupil Numbers since 2020/21</u></p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Year</th> <th>Lesson Delivery</th> <th>Number of learners (Small group and individual)</th> <th>Number of learners (whole class and First Experiences)</th> <th>Number of Learners in Ensembles</th> <th>Charges to schools</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>2020/21</td> <td>Online</td> <td>397</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2021/22</td> <td>In person</td> <td>975</td> <td>105</td> <td>65</td> <td>£55k</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2022/23</td> <td>In person</td> <td>1160</td> <td>800+</td> <td>81</td> <td>£65k</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Year	Lesson Delivery	Number of learners (Small group and individual)	Number of learners (whole class and First Experiences)	Number of Learners in Ensembles	Charges to schools	2020/21	Online	397	0	0	0	2021/22	In person	975	105	65	£55k	2022/23	In person	1160	800+	81	£65k
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2022/23	In person	1160	800+	81	£65k																				
1.11	<p><u>Winter of Wellbeing Funding 2021-22</u></p> <p>As a response to the pandemic, Welsh Government made grant funding available to councils under the banner of 'Winter of Wellbeing' to provide a range of activities for children and young people to support their emotional and physical health. Some of this funding was directed toward music services. Theatr Clwyd Music Trust used this grant money to fund:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A rock and pop project in conjunction with the Royal Northern College of Music for 12 gifted young musicians which provided wonderful experiences, future music pathways and networking with industry professionals. 2. Free lessons for 15 weeks in Abermorddu, Bryn Deva, Caerwys, Leeswood, St David's High School, Ysgol Estyn and Ysgol Treffynnon. These were all schools that had tuition with us prior to COVID-19 but were either still having no tuition or a significant reduction on pre-COVID hours. Numbers of learners receiving tuition in these schools during this time was 165. Unfortunately continuation with the lessons was not sustained once the grant funding ceased to provide them free of charge. 																								
1.12	<p><u>National Plan for Music Education Wales</u></p> <p>Following the publication of a national report which outlined concerns about the demise of council music services across Wales due to funding pressures, and the negative impact this would have on children and young</p>																								

	<p>people's access to music tuition, and particularly those from disadvantaged backgrounds, Welsh Government responded positively.</p> <p>In May 2022 the National Plan for Music Education was announced with new money for music services across Wales - £13.5m over three years. The money allocated to Flintshire is approximately £230k per year to deliver on the key priorities within the national plan. There are 2 main strands;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Music in schools 2. Music outside of schools <p>There are nine programmes of work underpinning the strands including First Experiences, music for lifelong learning, health and well-being and improving equity, diversity and inclusion.</p>
1.12	<p><u>First Experiences</u></p> <p>In October 2022 the 'First Experiences' offer started with its core aim to ensure that every child and young person has an equal opportunity to play, sing, take part in and create music in primary schools. It also contributes to improving the health and well-being of young people and driving equity, diversity and inclusion. The Theatr Clwyd First Experiences offer aims to give every Year 3 pupil free instrumental/vocal lessons and the Music Trust initially piloted plans in 9 schools - Ysgol Bryn Coch, Ysgol Bro Carmel, Golftyn, Mountain Lane, Queensferry, St John the Baptist, Wood Memorial, Ysgol Terrig and Ysgol Derwen. Nearly 200 Year 3 pupils have been participating in diverse, creative and exciting musical experiences. The pilot schools and pupils have really welcomed this project.</p> <p>Teachers <i>'We loved our First Experience session, the children were immediately engaged in the movement and 'hello' song'</i> <i>'The hall was alive with excitement as they explored their very own Cornet'</i> <i>'The buzz of excitement after the session carried on throughout the day ...'</i></p> <p>Pupils <i>'I've asked for a violin from Santa'</i> <i>'It has helped my confidence'</i> <i>'Cornet helps me to stay calm and relaxed'</i> <i>'I like how it makes me persevere'</i> <i>'It makes me feel like a champion'</i></p> <p>The full roll out has just started and more than 500 Year 3 pupils are receiving tuition for the rest of the academic year with more schools being encouraged to take up this free offer. The engagement with schools has meant that all the pupils in Year 3 are able to access high quality musical experiences regardless of their ability to pay.</p>
1.13	<p><u>Music Services for Pupils with Additional Learning Needs</u></p> <p>An area of strong progress for the Music Trust is working with children and young people who have Additional Learning Needs. Previously there was limited interaction with the secondary specialist school Ysgol Maes Hyfryd and none with the primary specialist school, Ysgol Pen Coch. The previous</p>

model also made it difficult to integrate and differentiate for learners with ALN in mainstream schools.

The Music Trust has employed a singing/piano teacher who has significant experience of working with children with ALN to deliver this enhanced offer. A training programme has also been developed to extend the skills of the rest of the Trust’s Music Team when they are working with ALN pupils. This current delivery is at no cost to special schools and families and the number of young people disclosing ALN and having small group and individual lessons is 70. Here is a report from one class teacher:

“We work with a student who has a complex condition that affects many areas of his life, including weakened muscles. This student spends parts of his day being taken out of class to support his other targets and often favours quiet time and his own company. However, whenever he hears music, he wants nothing more than to be involved. Music is an inclusive activity which brings him back into the world of his classmates and frees him from his inhibitions and stresses of his daily life.

He has individual guitar lessons that have been beneficial not only for his confidence, which he has displayed by performing in front of his classmates, but also for his fine motor skills. He has gone from being unable to hold a guitar unaided, to delicately finger picking notes and positioning his fingers on the correct strings, something that we did not know whether he would ever be able to do. This has been a transferable skill, improving his handwriting as he has more control of his fingers and strengthened muscles. His posture has also significantly improved from engaging his core when holding this guitar, another benefit that has become apparent in his everyday life.

In a world that can be challenging for some, music brings connection to those around you, enjoyment of the little things and a chance to learn new skills when it doesn't feel like learning. I have no doubt that music has benefitted all of the students in my class, but none more than this student who above all else, wants to be included and have fun.”

1.14 Live Music Experiences

Through our partnership with Theatr Clwyd and the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama (RWCMD) we have been able to offer free concerts and shows in schools and offer discounted or free tickets to students to access some of the best of music in North Wales at venues including Theatr Clwyd and the newly acquired William Aston Hall. This supports the principles of equity of access for Flintshire children and young people to music events and promotes enjoyment, wellbeing and engagement.

Show	Price	Venue(s)	Attendees	Ages
Dionne Bennett, RWCMD Jazz – Blue Summer	Free	The ‘Mix’	22	14+

	Dionne Bennett, RWCMD Jazz – Blue Summer	Free	Flint High School, Castell Alun High School	350+	11 - 18
	'The Flying Bedroom'	Free	Ysgol Bryn Coch, Mountain Lane, Gwynedd CP, St Mary's Catholic Primary, St John the Baptist	650+	4 - 11
	Royal Welsh College of Music Brass Quintet	Free	Ysgol Estyn, Ysgol Derwen and Ysgol Glanrafon	500+	4 - 11
	Sinfonia Cymru	Free for student	William Aston Hall	55	7 +
	Strange Creatures	£4 (50% off)	The 'Mix'	53	4+
1.15	<p><u>Safeguarding</u></p> <p>Theatr Clwyd Music Trust takes seriously its responsibilities to keep people safe. All the team have safeguarding training regularly and all new members have training as part of their induction. A new policy is in the final stages of being ratified by Theatr Clwyd's safeguarding group, and given the significant amount of safeguarding expertise Theatr Clwyd team have through their partnership with Social Services, the safeguarding work for the Music Trust is the most robust it has ever been.</p>				
1.16	<p><u>The Future – the next two years</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and implement the strategy to improve equity, diversity and inclusion. • Promote the benefits of learning an instrument especially the positive impact on health and well-being. • Increase the number of eFSM learners participating in musical activities. • Increase the number of learners in all schools, but especially within the school consortia of Connah's Quay, Holywell and Saltney. • Develop our work in Specialist Schools and other settings. • Work with maintained and non-maintained nursery settings to ensure that children from the age of 3 can start their journey in and through music. • Increase the number of live music experiences for all children and young people in Flintshire. • Working with schools to reduce their contribution to lessons; aiming to be cost neutral within the next three years. 				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continue to empower the team through regular professional development to work with the diverse communities in Flintshire.
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2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
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2.01	No additional resource implications to Flintshire County Council.
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3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT
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3.01	<p>Service risks are recorded and monitored through the Music Service Trust's operational management processes and reported regularly to the Board of Trustees.</p> <p>The operations of the Music Trust make a significant contribution to Wales' Well-being Goals as outlined in the table below:</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Prosperous Wales</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Resilient Wales</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Healthier Wales</td> <td>Music is well documented as having a strong and positive impact on people's health and well-being.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>More equal Wales</td> <td>New model offers more equality of offer and cost across the county.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Cohesive Wales</td> <td>Music is seen as a way for people to connect, discuss, and understand other cultures and views.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Vibrant Wales</td> <td>A vibrant Wales is one of music, and working towards all young people having access to learning it is vital.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Globally responsible Wales</td> <td>n/a</td> </tr> </table>	Prosperous Wales	n/a	Resilient Wales	n/a	Healthier Wales	Music is well documented as having a strong and positive impact on people's health and well-being.	More equal Wales	New model offers more equality of offer and cost across the county.	Cohesive Wales	Music is seen as a way for people to connect, discuss, and understand other cultures and views.	Vibrant Wales	A vibrant Wales is one of music, and working towards all young people having access to learning it is vital.	Globally responsible Wales	n/a
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Globally responsible Wales	n/a														

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED/CARRIED OUT
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4.01	<p>To be carried out as follow up to 2019 consultations when the service model was changed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secondary School Consultation Family Consultation Learner Consultation <p>Ongoing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary School Consultation; Headteachers Federation and smaller delegation from Headteachers Federation Company Voice
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5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	None.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	<u>*National Plan for Music Education (gov.wales)</u>

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Aled Marshman, Director of Music, Theatr Clwyd Music Trust Aled.Marshman@theatrclwyd.com

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	<p>Winter of Wellbeing: Welsh Government funding to support the social, emotional and physical wellbeing of children and young people 0 – 25 years.</p> <p>National Plan for Music Education Wales: Welsh Government plan to support the implementation of the Curriculum for Wales whilst providing a strategic and sustainable approach to ensure a diverse and equitable music education is accessible for our children and young people from ages 3 to 16.</p> <p>First Experiences: programme of work from National Plan for Music Education Wales. Developed with the aim of simultaneously inspiring children and young people and providing professional learning support to classroom practitioners.</p> <p>Live Music Experiences: programme of work from National Plan for Music Education Wales. Experience is an integral part of learning in the Expressive Arts. The experiential aspect of music is important for our children and young people to explore rich, authentic experiences in the Arts, both in and outside schools and settings to learn and celebrate music.</p> <p>Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama: our National conservatoire; it provides specialist practical and performance – based training in music and drama, enabling students to enter and influence the world of music, theatre and related professions.</p> <p>TUPE: Protection of employment rights when an organisation is transferred from one employer to another.</p>

<p>Pupil Development Grant (PDG) – Funding from WG to schools on a per pupil basis to support the educational attainment of pupils entitled to Free School Meals where there is a greater risk of underachievement.</p>

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EDUCATION, YOUTH & CULTURE OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting	Thursday 2 nd February, 2023
Report Subject	Mid-Year Performance Monitoring Report
Cabinet Member	Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Education, Welsh Language, Culture and Leisure
Report Author	Chief Officer (Education & Youth)
Type of Report	Strategic

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Council Plan 2022/23 was adopted by the Council in July 2022. This report presents the mid-year out-turn of progress against the Council Plan priorities identified for 2022/23 relevant to the Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee.

This out-turn report for the 2022/23 Council Plan shows 59% of activities are making good progress. 70% of the performance indicators have met or exceeded their targets, 9% are being closely monitored and 21% are currently not meeting target.

This report is an exception-based report and concentrates on those areas of performance which are not currently achieving their target.

RECOMMENDATION

1.	To support levels of progress and confidence in the achievement of priorities as at mid-year within the 2022/23 Council Plan.
2.	To endorse and support overall performance against 2022/23 Council Plan performance indicators as at mid-year.
3.	To be assured by explanations given for those areas of underperformance.

REPORT DETAILS

1.00	EXPLAINING THE PERFORMANCE AT MID-YEAR 2022/2023
1.01	The Council Plan performance report provides an explanation of the progress made towards the delivery of the priorities set out in the 2021/22 Council Plan. The narrative is supported by information on performance indicators and/or milestones.
1.02	This report is an exception-based report and concentrates on those areas of performance which are not currently achieving their target.
1.03	<p>Monitoring Activities</p> <p>Each of the sub-priorities under each theme within the Plan have high level activities which are monitored over time. 'Progress' shows action against scheduled activity and is categorised as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RED: Limited Progress – delay in scheduled activity and, not on track • AMBER: Satisfactory Progress – some delay in scheduled activity, but broadly on track • GREEN: Good Progress – activities completed on schedule and on track
1.04	<p>In summary our overall progress against activities is:</p> <p>Progress RAG</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are making good (green) progress in 91 (59%) activities • We are making satisfactory (amber) progress in 53 (35%) activities • We are making limited (red) progress in 9 (6%) activities
1.05	<p>The activity which showed a red RAG status relevant to the Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee is:-</p> <p><u>EDUCATION AND SKILLS</u> Upskilling employees within the Education and Youth Portfolio through access to the GwE professional learning offer and other appropriate training opportunities Discussions held with the Senior Manager for Education and Youth Business Support and School Governance regarding the nature of support. Questionnaire to go out after HwB board meeting in November. Action Plan to be produced by April 2023.</p>
1.06	<p>Monitoring our Performance</p> <p>Analysis of performance against the performance indicators is undertaken using the RAG status. This is defined as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RED - under-performance against target. • AMBER - where improvement may have been made but performance

	<p>has missed the target.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GREEN - positive performance against target.
1.07	<p>Analysis of current levels of performance against target shows the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 39 (70%) have achieved a green RAG status • 5 (9%) have an amber RAG status • 12 (21%) have a red RAG status
1.07	<p>There are no performance indicators (PIs) which show a red RAG status for current performance against target, relevant to the Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee.</p>

2.00	RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS
2.01	There are no specific resource implications for this report.

3.00	IMPACT ASSESSMENT AND RISK MANAGEMENT														
3.01	<p>Ways of Working (Sustainable Development) Principles Impact</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Long-term</td> <td rowspan="5">Throughout all the Mid Year Monitoring Report there are demonstrable actions and activities which relate to all the Sustainable Development Principles. Specific case studies will be included in the Annual Performance Report for 2022/23.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Prevention</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Integration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Collaboration</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Involvement</td> </tr> </table> <p>Well-being Goals Impact</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Prosperous Wales</td> <td rowspan="7">Throughout the Mid-Year Monitoring Report there is evidence of alignment with the Well-being Goals. Specific strategic and policy reports include impact and risk assessments.</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>Globally responsible Wales</td> </tr> </table> <p>Council's Well-being Objectives</p> <p>The Council undertook a review of its Well-being Objectives during the development of the 2021/22 Council Plan and are currently being reviewed for the 2023-28 Council Plan. The updated set of Well-being Objectives are a more focused set of six. The Well-being Objectives identified have associated themes for which they resonate. See the full list below.</p>	Long-term	Throughout all the Mid Year Monitoring Report there are demonstrable actions and activities which relate to all the Sustainable Development Principles. Specific case studies will be included in the Annual Performance Report for 2022/23.	Prevention	Integration	Collaboration	Involvement	Prosperous Wales	Throughout the Mid-Year Monitoring Report there is evidence of alignment with the Well-being Goals. Specific strategic and policy reports include impact and risk assessments.	Resilient Wales	Healthier Wales	More equal Wales	Cohesive Wales	Vibrant Wales	Globally responsible Wales
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	Theme	Well-being Objective
	Poverty	Protecting people from poverty by supporting them to meet their basic needs
	Affordable and Accessible Housing	Housing in Flintshire meeting the needs of our residents and supporting safer communities
	Green Society and Environment	Limiting the impact of the Council's services on the natural environment and supporting the wider communities of Flintshire to reduce their own carbon footprint
	Economy	Enabling a sustainable economic recovery
	Personal and Community Well-being	Supporting people in need to live as well as they can
	Education and Skills	Enabling and Supporting Learning Communities

4.00	CONSULTATIONS REQUIRED / CARRIED OUT
4.01	The Reporting Measures are monitored by the respective Overview and Scrutiny Committees according to the priority area of interest.
4.02	Chief Officers have contributed towards reporting of relevant information.

5.00	APPENDICES
5.01	Appendix 1 - Council Plan 2022-23 Mid-Year Performance Monitoring Report.

6.00	LIST OF ACCESSIBLE BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS
6.01	Council Plan 2022/23.

7.00	CONTACT OFFICER DETAILS
7.01	Contact Officer: Ceri Shotton, Overview & Scrutiny Facilitator Telephone: 01352 702305 E-mail: ceri.shotton@flintshire.gov.uk

8.00	GLOSSARY OF TERMS
8.01	Council Plan: the document which sets out the annual priorities of the Council. It is a requirement of the Local Government and Elections (Wales)

Act 2021 for organisations to 'set out any actions to increase the extent to which the council is meeting the performance requirements.' Plans for organisations should be robust; be clear on where it wants to go; and how it will get there.

An explanation of the report headings

Measures (Key Performance Indicators - KPIs)

Actual (YTD) – the year-to-date performance identified i.e. by numbers, percentages, etc

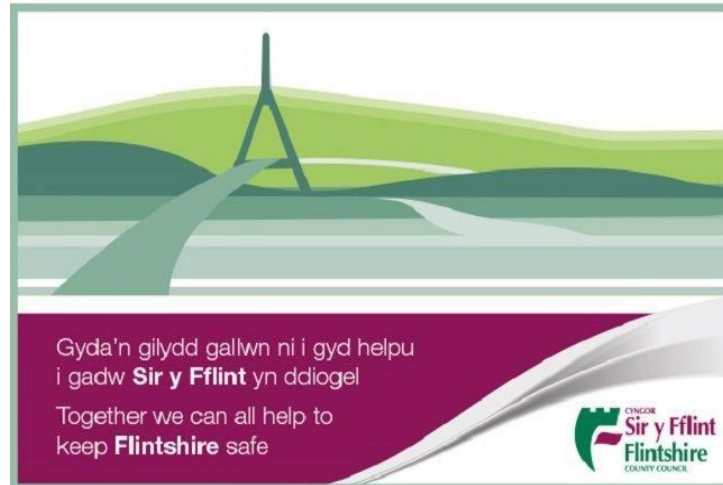
Target (YTD) – The target for the year to date which is set at the beginning of the year.

Current RAG Rating – This measures performance for the year against the target. It is automatically generated according to the data.

- **Red** = a position of under performance against target
- **Amber** = a mid-position where improvement may have been made but performance has missed the target; and
- **Green** = a position of positive performance against the target.

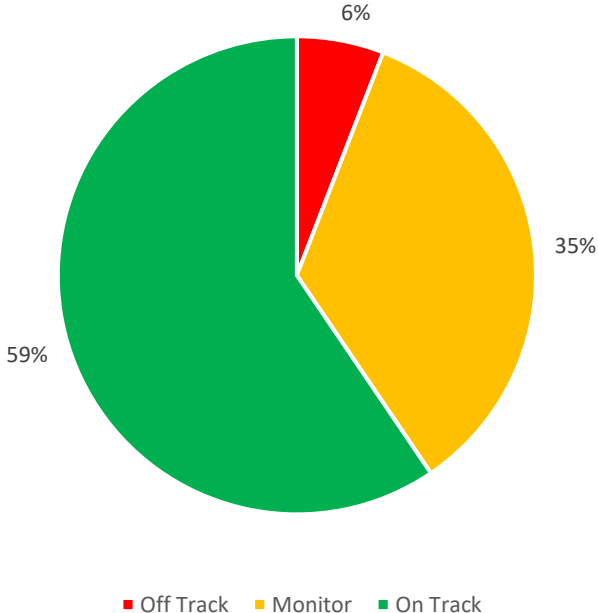
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Council Plan Mid-Year Performance Monitoring Report 2022/23

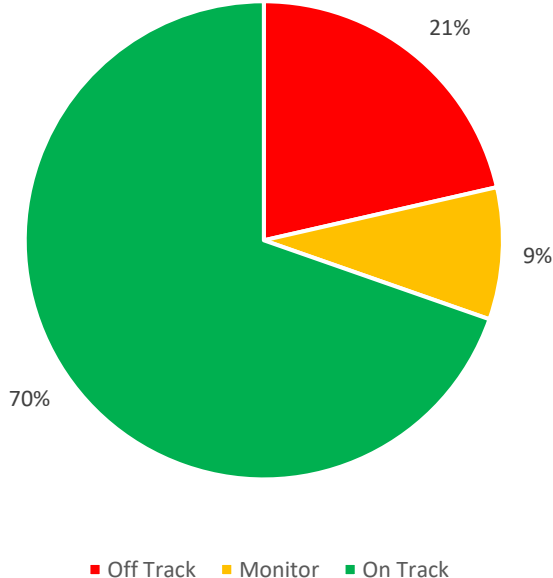


Analysis

Council Plan - Action RAG Status



Council Plan - Measure RAG Status



Key

- ▲ Red: Limited Progress – delay in scheduled activity and, not on track.
- Amber: Satisfactory Progress – some delay in scheduled activity, but broadly on track.
- ★ Green: Good Progress – activities completed on schedule and on track.

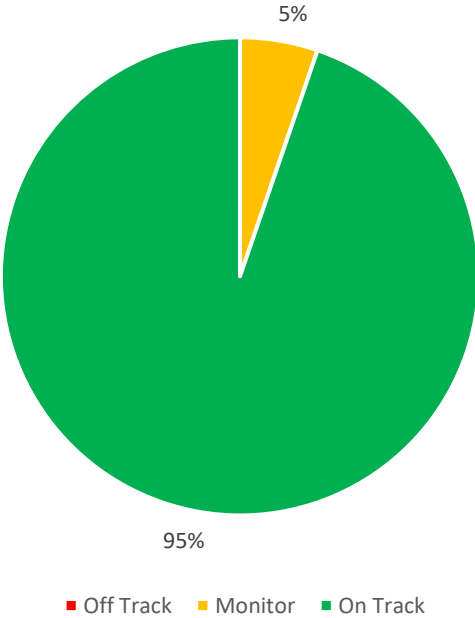
Measures Off Track

Priority	Sub-Priority	Measure	RAG
Poverty	Digital Poverty	Number of sessions provided	▲
Affordable and Accessible Housing	Housing Needs and Housing Options	Number of applicants rehoused via SARTH by All Housing Partners	▲
		Number of applicants rehoused via SARTH by Flintshire County Council	▲
	Social Housing	Number of Council Homes under construction	▲
		Number of Council Homes completed	▲
		Number of Residential Social Landlord (RSL's) homes completed	▲
		Total number of Mandatory Medium Disabled Adaptations completed	▲
		Average number of days to complete a Mandatory Medium Disabled adaptation	▲
		Total number of Mandatory Large Disabled Adaptations completed	▲
	Average number of days to complete a Mandatory Large Disabled adaptation	▲	
	Private Rented Sector	Number of inspections of HMOs	▲
Economy	Reducing worklessness	Number of individuals receiving support	▲

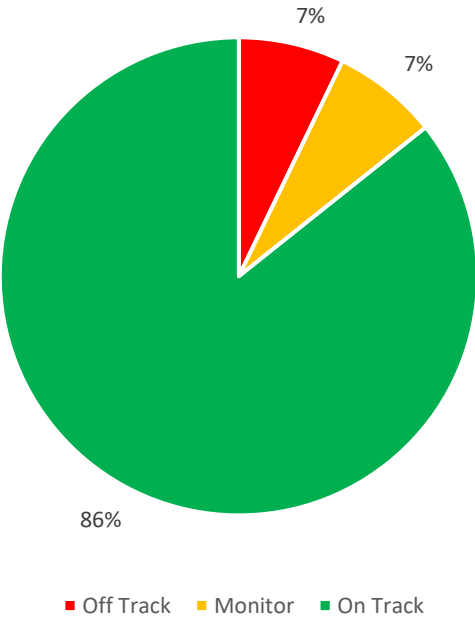
Poverty

Poverty Overall Performance

Poverty - Action RAG Status



Poverty - Measure RAG Status



Child Poverty 2022/23

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Comment
Encouraging take-up of the free school breakfast for year 7 pupils eligible for free school meals	50%	●	Work was undertaken nationally during the summer term to understand the potential barriers faced by schools in embedding this provision. Welsh Government have been evaluating the programme and refining the qualitative, quantitative and operational elements that can be measured and reported on to inform future plans. 9 out of 11 secondary schools are currently able to participate in the pilot.
Ensuring children have access to well-maintained outdoor play areas which offer a varied and rich play environment	80%	★	Aura Leisure and Libraries in partnership with the Local Authority continue to inspect, maintain and repair all Council equipped place spaces.
Increasing usage of online resources for children and young people	0%	★	Aura continues to invest in new digital resources for Children and Young People, including those to accompany the 2022 'Gadgeteers' Summer Reading Challenge and the Reading Well for Teens scheme, launched in October 2022. Please note: Usage figure provided by suppliers at the end of the reporting year.
Maintaining the network of seven libraries in partnership with Aura	100%	★	Seven libraries open.
Making the processes for claiming free school meals as simple and straightforward as possible to increase the percentage of take-up against entitlement	100%	★	Information about free school meals eligibility and application processes is available on the Council website. There is a dedicated email address and telephone number for any enquiries about applications. Schools are encouraged to share relevant information with their parent community. Our Connect Centres across the county can support families with the application process, including having an advisor sitting with the family to support them with their application. Officers continue to review the process to make the system more accessible.
Maximising the take-up of the school uniform grant	75%	★	Primary and secondary schools were asked to support the Revenue and Benefits team in publicising with parents the eligibility and application process for this grant. There was an increase in applications following this. FAQs were also available to advise parents. There is a dedicated email address and phone number for enquiries. Since April 2022, the Council has awarded 3,491 Uniform Grants. As a comparison we awarded 3,148 for the whole of last year (05/07/2021 - 03/07/2022).

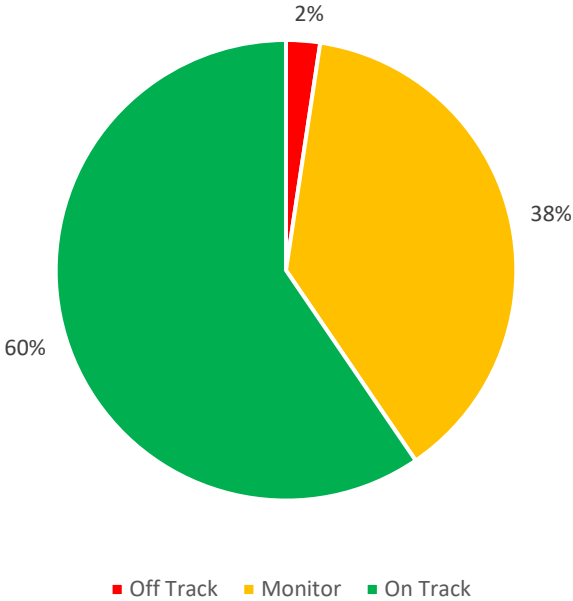
Child Poverty 2022/23

Measure	Measure Description	Actual	Target	Last Year	Performance	Performance Trend
CAU001M	Number of libraries open	7.00	7.00	6.00		
<p>Seven libraries open. Deeside Library reopened October 2021.</p>						
CEY013M	Percentage of secondary school offering the free breakfast to those eligible year 7 pupils	82.00%	50.00%	90.00%		
<p>Work ongoing to support all schools to participate in this important initiative. Welsh Government have also been evaluating the programme and refining the qualitative, quantitative and operational elements that can be measured and reported on to inform future plans.</p>						

Education and Skills

Education and Skills Overall Performance

Education and Skills - Action RAG Status



Educational Engagement and Achievement 2022/23

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Comment
Embedding the revised processes and procedures in relation to attendance and exclusion, using data to better inform and target interventions at both a pupil and school level	60%	●	The service models for the Engagement Services have been revised and shared with schools. Attendance and exclusion data is now generated and reviewed on a regular basis by the Inclusion & Progression Services and this is being used to target intervention with particular pupils/schools. Monitoring of the initial impact of the data review and service changes will take place in January 2023.
Maintaining support for settings and schools with the rollout of the revised curriculum for pupils from 3-16 which better prepares them for their future lives and employment	33%	★	This update reflects one term of the three terms falling within the reporting year completed to date. Progress is on track. All primary schools have implemented the new curriculum for Wales from September 2023. Support for curriculum development, including for Relationships & Sexuality Education (RSE) and Religion, Values and Ethics (RVE) is continuing through cluster meetings and workshops. All secondary schools are continuing to prepare for the rollout of the curriculum for Years 7 & 8 from September 2023.
School employees continuing to access the GwE professional learning offer and engage in cluster working	50%	★	All schools are engaging positively with the GwE professional learning offer, as identified in their bespoke school improvement and support plans. A detailed breakdown of engagement was provided to the Education, Youth & Culture Overview & Scrutiny Committee during October 2022.
Working with schools to support development and implementation of flexible and bespoke educational packages to improve attendance and engagement	65%	●	Finance has been delegated to schools to support the development of increased commissioning of alternative educational packages by schools. Officer roles have been revised in response to this to offer support with the identification of suitable provision. Termly meetings with schools are being planned by the Engagement Progression Coordinator which will further support the development of appropriate packages. The function of the Secondary Pastoral Leads meetings is also being reviewed to further support schools.








Digital Learning Opportunities 2022/23

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Comment
Continuing to increase the range of digital material hosted on the North East Wales Archive website and other digital services to encourage greater participation	50%	★	Series completed: enclosure awards and printed maps; Series in progress: quarter sessions rolls; shipping crew lists; Proposed: World War I soldiers index; wills; building control plans, Lowther College magazines. This represents a variety of records we consider would be popular.
Continuing to monitor schools' provision for learners who are 'digitally disadvantaged'	50%	●	Clear communication to schools regarding this, Audit to be carried out by end of November 2022 and any shortfall to be addressed by April 2023.
Embedding the delivery plan for Integrated Youth Services by maintaining focus on increased digital engagement	75%	●	Two county-wide consultations have been conducted post-Covid, both indicating that young people want a return to face-to-face delivery. We are assessing this and will keep the C-Card and Sexual Health offer online.
Increasing take-up of digital learning opportunities supported by Aura	0%	★	Aura continue to offer online learning opportunities to customers and the community. Free Learn My Way digital tutoring courses are available at all Aura libraries, as well as bespoke sessions to support people accessing the Aura Digital Loan Scheme, where people can borrow a device (with 'buy back 'option at the end of the loan period). Please note: Final figure provided at end of reporting year.
Providing community training for online learning platforms in a partnership with Aura and Adult Community Learning	50%	★	On target - learning opportunities offered online include autism awareness, safeguarding and mindfulness.
Providing digital art workshops based on collections at Gladstone Library, in an Arts Council Funded partnership with Gladstone Library and visual artist	100%	★	Completed in previous reporting year.
Supporting schools and wider education services to increase their digital offer for children and young people	75%	●	School support ongoing. Support brokered from Welsh Government and other partners. Collaborating with other regional Digital officers.
Supporting schools to maximise their available hardware via the national Hwb programme and to ensure sustainable funding plans in place	80%	★	All equipment on course to be delivered. Agreement waiting to go to Budget forum on allocations.
Upskilling employees within the Education and Youth Portfolio through access to the GwE professional learning offer and other appropriate training opportunities	25%	▲	Discussions held with the Senior Manager for Education and Youth Business Support and School Governance regarding the nature of support. Questionnaire to go out after Hwb board meeting in November. Action Plan to be produced by April 2023.

Learning Environments 2022/23

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Comment
Commissioning a contractor and start design and development process for Drury CP and Penyffordd CP	90%	★	Contractors have been appointed to commence design development for Drury CP and Ysgol Penyffordd CP schemes.
Consult on increasing capacity of Drury CP and Penyffordd CP schools through the School Organisation Code	80%	★	On track with completing the consultation process. Currently in objection period for both Drury CP and Ysgol Penyffordd consultation processes due to be completed by end of October 2022.
Increasing usage of community spaces in re-developed Flint Library and Wellbeing Hub	0%	★	Aura's Library and Wellbeing Hub at Flint continues to be well used by partners such as Remploy, North East Wales MIND and BCUHB to support people - examples of this work include employability coaching, 1 to 1 counselling, and group wellbeing activities. The Community kitchen on site is also to be used as part of the Warm Welcome scheme for Flintshire. Target 61.7%. Previous reporting year returned 75%. Please note: Final figure provided at end of reporting year.
Progressing the development of a new premises plan for the North East Wales Archive	50%	●	A refreshed premises plan is being finalised by the Archive Project Board ready for consideration by Flintshire and Denbighshire Cabinets in December 2022 with a recommendation to submit a revised submission to the National Lottery Heritage Fund (Wales) for their next funding application round in February 2023.
Seeking Council approval to progress B and C Wales Government 21st Century Schools Investment Programme	60%	★	On track with seeking approval for progressing Band B Sustainable Communities for Learning programme (previously known as Band B 21st Century Schools Investment Programme).
Starting construction of the proposed 3-16 campus at Mynydd Isa	90%	★	Flintshire County Council have completed the necessary approvals and are currently awaiting sign off from Welsh Government so that financial close can be achieved and construction can commence.

Learning Community Networks 2022/23

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Comment
Continuing to consolidate the joint working between Flintshire County Council and Denbighshire County Council through the North East Wales Archive to provide a sustainable and resilient service	50%		The formal process of developing a contractual arrangement for a joint archive service between Flintshire and Denbighshire County Councils has begun with a target completion date of the 1 April 2023. Officers from both councils have begun meetings to provide expert support to the development of the contract which is currently being drafted. Informal engagement with both staff teams has begun ahead of the statutory consultation process.
Developing a Delivery Plan for Adult Community Learning to increase engagement and improve skills within local communities	50%		Halfway through the delivery of the core learning delivery plan. Delivered a successful summer engagement programme to increase awareness of Adult Community Learning in Flintshire.
Developing a Supporting Learners strategy to increase levels of engagement and provide appropriate progression routes to further engagement, study or employment	100%		Supporting learners strategy developed and a comprehensive learner handbook produced and distributed to learners. Progression pathways have been included in the tutor handbook which is updated each quarter to ensure progression is mapped.
Expanding the adult learning offer to reflect national, regional and local priorities in order to provide the skills required through partnership planning	50%		All service delivery plans are aligned with the national priorities. Working much more closely with the Regional Skills Board to ensure Adult Community Learning (ACL) is represented on the Board and that ACL receives the data and intel available from the Region to inform delivery planning. ACL represented on the Economic Recovery Board to ensure local priorities inform planning.
Working in partnership with Aura to provide Alternative Provision to young people excluded from school to help gain meaningful qualifications	40%		Discussions are underway to develop and expand the suite of qualifications on offer through Aura to re-engage excluded pupils.
Working in partnership with Open University Wales to support and signpost library users to Open Learn courses and subsequent learning pathways with Open Learn Champions in each library	50%		On target - figure for mid-year only. Open Learn Champions in seven libraries and learners are being referred to Open Learn courses.
Working with Adult Community Learning and Flintshire Learning Recovery & Wellbeing Network Partners to share best practice and maximise opportunities for learning within the community with opportunities to be available in all Aura libraries	50%		On target - Aura Adult Community Learning have delivered 99 sessions to 283 learners in the first half of this reporting year.

Specialist Educational Provision 2022/23

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Comment
Developing a strategic proposal for the next phase of the Additional Learning Needs provision which increases the level of in-house provision and seeks to reduce the reliance on out of county provision	30%	●	The Welsh Government has provided additional grant funding to support the development specialist provision. Options are being explored with the specialist schools to utilise this funding by the end of the financial year to secure an increase in capacity.
Further defining and embedding the menu of outreach support and training to be offered to schools via Plas Derwen Pupil Referral Unit	20%	●	The new Plas Derwen head teacher took up post in September. Initial discussions have taken place regarding the potential offer.
Implementing Year two of the Transformation plan for children and young people with additional learning needs, in line with Welsh Government legislation and associated guidance	40%	●	The relevant paperwork has been developed and shared with parents and schools. The conversion process has been mapped out for the mandated pupils in line with Welsh Government timescales but will prove challenging to complete given the number of pupils involved.

Welsh Education Strategic Plan (WESP) 2022/23

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Comment
Continue to improve the Welsh language skills of employees in schools to more effectively support learners and the delivery of the curriculum	50%	★	An introduction to our language Continuum (Part 1) was delivered to Welsh leads from 54 English medium primary schools (61 teachers) in 2021/22. School leads cascaded information to other school staff, but where head teachers have identified a more intensive approach, the team is available to deliver the training to schools/clusters in 2022/23. Two schools requested and have received this intensive training with all staff present in September and October 2022. Also, Part 1 of the training was delivered to 12 schools (16 staff) in September 2022. The audience there were new staff or schools who were unable to attend this professional development the previous year. Introductory training relating to Cymraeg has been delivered to six NQT teachers working in the primary sector and six from the secondary sector (secondary was delivered by GwE colleagues). Members from the Welsh Advisory Service (WAT) are now visiting each of the primary NQT's offering bespoke 1:1 support. Clusters are currently identifying their priorities for developing Cymraeg, subsequently any further training will be delivered in response to their needs and reported on in the next quarter. WAT delivered training to nine staff from four Welsh medium primary schools focusing on the newly adapted digital resource to support latecomers in Flintshire attending Welsh medium education (funding provided via specific Latecomer grant funding). 50% (7/14) of teachers on the Welsh in a Year Sabbatical course, funded by Welsh Government, are teachers from Flintshire's English medium primary schools. Recruitment is currently taking place for the Spring term's intermediate course. Signposting for staff to access online language courses via bulletin. These courses are: i.) Self-study short course, 10 hours practitioners, ii.) Entry level teachers 120 hours, iii.) Short course, leaders 10 hours, iv.) Improving your Welsh short course 10 hours. It isn't clear how many Flintshire staff are accessing these currently as data is held by Welsh Government.
Continuing to increase the capacity and take up of Welsh medium education to achieve Welsh Government targets	50%	●	Welsh Government have approved the Council's Welsh in Education Strategic Plan (WESP) for 2022-2032. This has now been published. The take up rate baseline figure for September 2021 ahead of publication was 1,419 learners accessing Welsh medium provision across all phases. Information for parents about access to Welsh medium education has been refreshed on the Council website and on individual school websites. The Council has been successful in bidding for additional grant funding for supporting our immersion programme for latecomers to Welsh medium education.
Embedding the role of the Integrated Youth Provision Welsh language coordinator	100%	★	This is complete
Ensuring all digital and face to face youth and play provision has an increasing bilingual offer which supports the expansion of the Council's Welsh Language immersion programme	75%	★	Each club has adopted a Welsh corner and participated in a range of activities promoting the Welsh Language and culture, including entries for the URDD Eisteddfod.
Extending the range of youth services which can be delivered bilingually to encourage young people to retain and use their Welsh language skills into early adulthood	75%	★	Integrated Youth Provisions aims to normalize the use of the Welsh language through our services in many informal ways including signage within youth clubs (simple phrases, bilingual posters), half term visits to all youth clubs to have informal discussions with staff and young people, and promoting benefits of bilingualism for future career prospects.

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Comment
Maintaining Welsh Government Quality Indicator for Welsh Language resources in Aura libraries	50%	●	On target - funds allocated to ensure required target of 4% of total resource budget to be spent on Welsh material for libraries.
Providing targeted support and intervention to schools to raise standards and promote bilingualism	50%	★	Schools continue to promote bilingualism and raise standards via implementation of Curriculum for Wales. Siarter Iaith coordinator is working closely with newly nominated Welsh cluster lead to identify priorities for 2022/23. All Welsh Medium schools have responded to a questionnaire in order to identify needs. Welsh Advisory Service (WAT) have identified ten schools that should aim for the Bronze Cymraeg Campus award and five schools that should aim for the Silver award in 2022/23. These 15 schools were provided with good practice visits (Step 1) to other successful schools in Flintshire during 2021/22. Following verification, one of these schools has successfully been awarded the bronze award in October 2022. All target schools are in regular contact with WAT. They have or are in the process of receiving a school visit from WAT to monitor progress. Further schools are currently being identified for good practice visits (Step 1) during Spring 2023 and will subsequently be targeted for Bronze/Silver during 2023/24.

Well-Being 2022/23

Action	Percentage Complete	RAG	Comment
Consolidating the Inspire Youth Work Hospital Project which provides support to young people at risk of self-harming behaviour	100%	★	Delivery with inspire has now been consolidated to a new delivery method. Face to face delivery takes place in Wrexham, through appointments and referrals. Flintshire operates referrals in County as well as supporting young people through group sessions. This has enabled a greater number of young people to be triaged and supported.
Developing action plans based on the findings, particularly in relation to Emotional Health and Wellbeing	0%	★	On track to deliver successfully within national timeframe (Summer 2023). The action planning phase will take place in summer term 2023 after the audit tools has been completed by end of March 2023. Schools are engaged in the process and in regular communication on progress to date.
Improving awareness of trauma informed practice with schools and Education and Youth workforce	25%	★	Currently in discussion with Public Health Wales and YOT TrACE working group to develop an awareness training package that can be shared with schools and education and youth workforce.
Meeting the requirements under Wellbeing Whole School Approach Development Fund for employee training and pupil engagement	80%	★	The spending plan has been developed following input from the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Steering group and is being delivered in line with the defined timescales. Final monitoring against the grant requirements will take place at the end of the financial year.
Rolling out the National Framework for Embedding a Whole School Approach to Emotional Health and Wellbeing in all Flintshire schools	30%	●	During quarter one and quarter two, our priority has been promoting briefing sessions and update meetings to raise awareness of the Framework. These have been supplemented by regular emails and the development of a Teams PLC group where schools can access all the required documentation and keep up to date.
Supporting all secondary schools to complete the School Health Research Network survey in 2022. Developing action plans based on the findings, particularly in relation to Emotional Health and Wellbeing	50%	●	All secondary schools have undertaken the School Health Research Network survey during Autumn 2021 and the findings were published during quarter one in individual school reports. Schools in quarter two were offered for a one page profile summarising the report to be developed to support each school individually in celebrating positive aspects and identifying areas to develop. Quarter three is where we would anticipate schools develop an action plan.

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